

Evening Telegraph

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1871.

THE EVENING TELEGRAPH, from its original establishment, has been in the receipt of telegraphic news from the New York Associated Press, which consists of the Tribune, Times, Herald, World, Sun, Journal of Commerce, Evening Post, Commercial Advertiser, and Evening Express. The success which has attended our enterprise is, in itself, a sufficient evidence of the freshness, fullness, and reliability of the news which we have received from this source.

The earliest regular edition of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH goes to press at 1 1/2 o'clock, and the subsequent regular editions at 2 1/2, 3 1/2, and 4 1/2. Whenever there is important news of the progress of the European war, extra editions will be issued after this hour, and before the regular time for the early edition.

THE CENTENNIAL.

The consideration of the bill fixing Philadelphia as the site of a grand centennial celebration in 1876 was again postponed in the United States Senate yesterday. Mr. Conkling took the floor and consumed the morning hour by a frivolous speech opposing this measure, and after the morning hour had expired the Senate proceeded to discuss appropriation bills. The New York Senator announced his intention to continue a vigorous opposition to the Centennial bill, and as the session is rapidly drawing to a close, it is possible that it may be defeated by his contemptible course. We hope, however, that the highest legislative body of the land will not permit itself to be deterred from passing a wise, just, useful, and patriotic law by the machinations of a narrow-minded and spiteful Senator.

In the coming celebration it is also desirable that foreign lands, as well as the various sections of our own country, should be represented, that their congratulations may be mingled with our own, and that our citizens may hear alike from the turbaned Turk, the polished Parisian, the English exquisites, the German hero, the swarthy Spaniard, and from the natives of all hospitable and habitable lands, testimony of the effect of our example and tributes to our institutions. To secure such attendance the centennial must be invested with national importance, and notice of the character of the proposed exposition must at once be spread broadcast over the civilized world.

THE DARK WAYS AND VAIN TRICKS of the juvenile Ah Sins who recently pelted Mr. Seward's travelling party with stones are regarded by the New York Tribune as without excuse, "unless it be the fact that it is a palatable imitation of our own civilized way of treating strange Chinamen." The Heathen Chinese is distinguished by his capacity for doing things precisely as he sees other persons do them. But in this little stopping affair at Woo Chang our Celestial imitators rather failed to make the most of the example set them.

THE SIZE OF THE LEGISLATURE.

If we are to have a convention for the revision of the Constitution—and the demand for one is so universal that it is scarcely probable the Legislature will venture to adjourn without giving it heed—one of the most vital questions that will come before it for consideration will be that touching an increase in the membership of the lower house. To show the comparative size of the legislative bodies of different States, with the average number of the most numerous branch, we have compiled the following table, upon the basis of the recent census:—

Table with columns: State, Senate, House, Average Constituency. Lists various states including New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, New Jersey, and California.

New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, and Missouri are, in their order as stated, the five most populous States in the Union, and it will be seen that, at present, the legislative constituencies of Pennsylvania are somewhat larger than those of New York, and greatly in excess of those of the three other States named. The six New England States, with an aggregate population of 3,487,400, are divided altogether into 1275 representative districts, with an average population of only 2735; while Pennsylvania, with a population of 3,515,993, or some twenty-eight thousand more than all New England, is divided into but 100 districts, with an average population of about 35,160. The Senates of the New England States embrace in the aggregate 168 members, with an average constituency of 20,760, or but four-sevenths of the average constituency of members of the most numerous branch of the Legislature of this State.

Before the increase in the membership of the Illinois House, Springfield had as unsavory a reputation as any capital in the Union. Time alone will show whether or not the change is to effect a reformation in the legislation of the State, but the presumption is strong that it will. The Legislatures of the smaller New England States, and even that of Massachusetts, are models of political virtue by the side of those of Pennsylvania and New York. They are too unwieldy for the invariably successful manipulation of a majority in the interest of "rooster" and commission rings, too large to render it practicable for the lobby to "see" a sufficient number of members to insure the success of every iniquitous scheme of plunder that comes up. Stringent constitutional provisions prohibitory of special legislation have become a necessity throughout the country, and especially in such States as Pennsylvania and New York, but a large increase in the membership of our Legislature would prove an additional safeguard. The only objections that can be urged are the increased expense to the State in the item of salaries, and the impediment to the rapid transaction of business which is presented by numbers. But both of these objections are without real weight. The people of Pennsylvania can well afford to bear treble the present legitimate expenses of the Legislature, if by so doing they are relieved of the burden of illegitimate expenses to which they have been subjected for years past; while by every impediment that is thrown in the way of rapid legislation they will be the gainers in proportionate degree. The Senate of Pennsylvania should be increased to at least 75 members, and the House to not less than 300, and if the proposed Constitutional Convention fails to provide for such an increase, its labors will be practically useless. Such an increase would reduce the Senatorial constituencies to 46,880, or more than double the average in the New England States, and the Representative constituencies to 11,715, or nearly twice the size of those of Massachusetts. These constituencies would be by no means too small, and every year would witness their material increase.

THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

There is one point in the public buildings controversy in regard to which we believe that all parties are united, and that is that the present structures occupied by the courts and municipal offices are not only insufficient and inconvenient, but that in every respect they are disgraceful to a great and wealthy city like Philadelphia. Everybody is of the opinion that new buildings should be erected, and the only controversy is in regard to their location. In the neighborhood of the shanties which now do duty as court-houses and public offices are a great number of buildings, new and old, which are divided into offices for lawyers and others, which yield enormous incomes to their owners. In some of these buildings small rooms rent for as much as good sized dwellings do in other sections of the city, and, as a matter of course, the property-holders in the vicinity of the present collection of dirty little brick hovels which are attached to Independence Hall are exceedingly solicitous that if any new buildings are put up, they shall not be located where the present lucrative business of office-letting will be interfered with. For this reason, the most powerful in-

fluences were used to have either Independence Square or Washington Square chosen for the site, although there were objections of a most serious character to either of these being used for such a purpose, and although the city owns a magnificent piece of ground in its very centre which was set aside for a public building site by William Penn, when he prepared the plan of Philadelphia. The suitability of this site at the present day has been denied by few except those whom personal interest prevents from being impartial, but in order to silence all objections and to settle the whole controversy with regard to the location of the new public buildings in a manner satisfactory to every one, the Legislature ordered a vote of the citizens of Philadelphia to be taken. What that vote was everybody knows. An immense majority declared in favor of Penn Square, whereupon the advocates of the other sites, not satisfied to submit to the expressly declared will of the people, but imitating the example of the Southern malcontents who opposed the election of Lincoln, immediately set to work with renewed energy to accomplish their object in defiance of the wishes of a majority of their fellow-citizens.

The alleged pretext for war now is that the commissioners, by placing one large and elegant edifice at the intersection of Broad and Market streets, will block up those highways, destroy business and improvements upon them, and do all manner of other damages that the lively imaginations of certain newspaper writers and property-holders in the neighborhood of Sixth and Chesnut streets are able to invent. It is now demanded that the municipal offices and courts shall be distributed about on the four Penn Squares, although it does not need any argument to prove that it will be more expensive to build, and to maintain after they are built, four suitable structures, than it will be to put up one elegant city hall that will be a credit to a great and wealthy corporation like Philadelphia. Of course, four shabby buildings can be erected for less money than one handsome one, but unless the new building or buildings will be, both in appearance and in general arrangement, equal to all the demands of our numerous courts and public offices, we might as well let matters be as they are. Scarcely less absurd than this is the proposition now being made to purchase new ground contiguous to the Penn Squares upon which to place the public buildings, while the squares are to be left open and converted into a grand plaza. To purchase new ground when we already have all we want would be simply throwing money away, and those who really wish to give the city an architectural ornament that will be worthy of it should adhere unalterably to their determination to have the public buildings placed at the intersection of Broad and Market streets, and nowhere else. This location is the only proper one, whether we consider architectural effect, economy, or the convenience of the public officers who will occupy the new city hall; and it should steadily be borne in mind by every citizen that all this clamor about the intersection scheme comes from men who are determined if possible to prevent the erection of the public buildings anywhere else than in the immediate neighborhood of Sixth and Chesnut streets. It should be remembered that the same kind of clamor was raised against every great public improvement ever consummated in this city, and that it is this spirit of old fogeyism which gives Philadelphia the reputation of being behind the age in comparison with some other places. Let any intelligent citizen, who has no personal interest in the matter, go to Broad and Market streets, where the destruction of the trees will enable him to judge of the extent of the ground occupied by the Penn Squares, and ask himself the questions, Whether an imposing edifice at the intersection, with a roadway over two hundred feet around it, can possibly be the most magnificent improvement to both Broad and Market streets that could possibly be made? This is a matter that any man of common sense, whether he has the eye of an artist or not, can judge of for himself, and those who are not disposed to see a great public enterprise come to nothing in order that a little "ring" of property-holders may be benefited, should take some action to show the anti-Penn Squarites that they are carrying matters with rather too high a hand, especially when the vote of the citizens of Philadelphia last October is taken into consideration.

In the House of Representatives yesterday, the items in the deficiency bill appropriating \$500,000 to the New York Post Office and \$500,000 to the Boston Post Office encountered strong opposition from Mr. Farnsworth, of Illinois, who charged that fraudulent contracts had been given out for the supply of material, etc., for both these expensive edifices, and that while some of the New York members of Congress would derive a share of the money unnecessarily expended on the New York Post Office, a Massachusetts member was interested in the contract for supplying stone for the Boston Post Office. These are bold charges, but they do not seem to have seriously affected the action of the House. They were replied to by Cox, of New York, (whose chief defense was that enormous outlays had been made on the works at Rock Island, Illinois, which are located in Mr. Farnsworth's vicinity), and by Butler, of Massachusetts, who, in turn, was accused by Farnsworth of being not only concerned in the contract for supplying stone for the Boston Post Office, but also of using expensive mirrors belonging to the Government for the decoration of his private residence. Farnsworth alleged further that a \$10,000 Government mirror had been broken or lost while in course of transmission between a Government office and Butler's house. Innocent taxpayers may well open their eyes at such an accusation. They have supposed hitherto

that \$10,000 mirrors were reserved either for the decoration of palaces or for the homes of gentlemen of enormous wealth; and the allegation that they must pay for such expensive articles under any circumstances, though startling enough in itself, becomes decidedly sensational when it is heightened by the statement that they are used, lost, or broken in the service of a member of Congress. If, in addition to salary, mileage, and perquisites, the custodians of the national phrase make a practice of drawing dividends from the moneys they vote away and of decorating their houses with \$10,000 mirrors bought at the national expense, it becomes easy to understand why the Treasury must pay out annually from three to four hundred millions of dollars, and it becomes important to inquire whether honesty and economy are totally discarded as forgotten virtues.

EARL KIMBERLEY, the British Colonial Secretary, in discussing with the Canadian authorities the question of the Fenian raids, recommended that the Dominion should draw up a full and authentic statement of the facts for presentation to the Government of the United States, but thought it necessary to insert a caution that the document be so prepared that it could be "properly communicated to the Government of a State with which her Majesty is on terms of amity." The belligerent disposition of the Canadian functionaries, it seems, is fully appreciated in Downing street.

OBITUARY.

George H. Lauman, a prominent Pennsylvania politician, George M. Lauman, Esq., died yesterday in Reading, at the age of fifty-eight years. His native place was Middletown, Dauphin county, Pa. In 1839, when seventeen years of age, he entered a printing office in Downingtown, owned by George Pitt. He remained here for several years learning the business, and on becoming of age took an active interest in the internal improvements of the State, and became widely known as a contractor for the building of canals here and elsewhere. He afterwards became an active politician and at one time held the office of Flour Inspector of this port. He was engaged in the Mexican war, where he acted as quartermaster. For several years prior he has been in business in this city as a wine merchant on South Ninth street.

General Arnold Elzer. This gentleman died in Baltimore on Tuesday last. He was born in 1816, and graduated from West Point in 1837. He at that time bore the name of Arnold E. Jones, but since dropped the final designation. He served in the Florida war and during the Canadian border troubles. He was with the army sent to garrison Texas in 1845. He also served in the Mexican war, and received promotion for meritorious services at Contreras and Cherubusco. He took part with the army during the Seminole disturbances in 1833 and 1836. He was then on duty at Fort Monroe until 1861, when he joined the rebel forces against the United States.

NOTICES.

GOOD ALL-WOOL CLOTHING, GOOD ALL-WOOL CLOTHING, FOR MEN AND BOYS, SPLENDIDLY MADE OVERCOATS, SPLENDIDLY MADE OVERCOATS, AT WAXMAKER & BROWN'S, BEAUTIFUL STYLISH SUITS, BEAUTIFUL STYLISH SUITS, OAK HALL, EVERYTHING NEEDED IN THE WARDROBE OF ANY GENTLEMAN, THE LARGEST CLOTHING HOUSE IN AMERICA, WAXMAKER & BROWN'S, OAK HALL, S. E. COR. SIXTH AND MARKET STS.

WHY BE TROUBLED WITH COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, or other any Pulmonary or Bronchial Complaint, when a remedy so safe, thorough, and easily obtainable as Dr. Jayne's Expectorant can be had? Those who have contracted severe Colds may save their lungs from the dangerous irritation which frequently brings about Consumption, by promptly resorting to the Expectorant; and any one threatened with Throat disease will find this remedy equally efficacious in affording relief from obstructing phlegm, and healing the inflamed parts. Sold everywhere.

PIANOS.

Steinway & Sons' Grand Square and Upright Pianos. Special attention is called to their Patent Upright Pianos, With Double Iron Frame, Patent Resonator, Tubular Metal Frame Action, etc., which are matches in Tone and Touch, and unrivalled in durability.

CHARLES BLASUS, WAREHOUSES, No. 1006 CHESNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

PIANOS AND ORGANS. GEO. STECK & CO.'S, BRADBURY'S, HAINES BROS., MASON AND HAMLIN'S CABINET ORGANS, GOULD & FISCHER, No. 923 CHESNUT STREET, No. 1018 ARCH STREET, J. E. GOULD, WM. G. FISCHER, AT BRECHT, RIEKES & SCHMIDT, Manufacturers of Grand and Square Pianos, etc., and a large assortment of fine Organs, Locks, and Trunks. Every instrument is warranted and prices moderate. WAREHOUSE, No. 610 ARCH STREET.

CUMBERLAND NAILS \$4 50 Per Keg. These Nails are known to be the best in the market. All Nails, no waste, and cost no more than other brands. Each keg warranted to contain 100 pounds of Nails. Also, a large assortment of fine Organs, Locks, and Trunks. Sold Bronze, suitable for first-class buildings, at the great Cheap-for-Cash Hardware Store of J. U. SHANNON, No. 1099 MARKET STREET.

COTTON—MIDDLING FAIR and MIDDLING Gulf, Alabama and Uplands, samples, clean stain, etc., for sale by WILLIAM M. GREINER, No. 109 CHESNUT STREET.

SNOWDON & RAIL'S COAL DEPOT, CORNER S DILLWYN and WILLOW STREETS.—Lehigh and Schuylkill COAL prepared expressly for family use at the lowest cash prices.

MALT LIQUORS. ENGLISH AND SCOTCH ALES AND Brown Stout. Just received, in store, fresh invoices of Guinness' Extra Brown Stout, Robert Younger's Sparkling Edinburgh A.C., McEwan's English Ale, Bass & Co.'s East India Pale Ale, Ailsopp's Pale Ale, all in due order. E. BRADFORD CLARKE, (SUCCESSOR TO SIMON COLTON & CLARKE,) S. W. Corner BROAD and WALNUT, 131 thurstelup PHILADELPHIA.

CLOTHING. FAR BEYOND COMPETITION. RICHER FABRICS, BETTER GOODS, MORE TASTEFUL STYLES, BETTER WORKMANSHIP, CHOICER SELECTIONS, NEATER FITS, FINER TRIMMINGS, LOWER PRICES, Than Anywhere Else.

The Winter stock of the Great Brown Hall is going! going! going! going! CHEAP! CHEAP! CHEAPER THAN EVER!

ROCKHILL & WILSON, GREAT BROWN HALL, 603 and 605 CHESNUT STREET.

HABILEMERE'S No. 324 CHESTNUT ST. HARLES STOKES & CO. UNDER THE CONTINENTAL HOTEL PHILADELPHIA, PA.

1871. SPRING. 1871. OUR NEW STOCK is now rapidly coming in, and is replete with striking beauties of Design and Color, Every desirable style of goods in the market, Being represented liberally in our ASSORTMENT.

WATCHES, JEWELRY, ETC. THE NEW YORK WATCH COMPANY'S WATCHES, (Factory, Springfield, Mass.)

In presenting their Watches to the American public, we do so with the knowledge that in point of finish and time-keeping qualities they are superior for the price to any Watch made in this country. For sale by ALEX. R. HARPER, Successor to John M. Harper, No. 308 CHESNUT STREET, SECOND STORY, (3rd 2nd up) Salesroom of the American Watch.

FINANCIAL. DREXEL & CO., No. 34 SOUTH THIRD STREET, 12 1/2 4p BELOW EXCHANGE.

American and Foreign Bankers, DRAWS EXCHANGE ON LONDON AND PRINCIPAL CITIES OF EUROPE. DEALERS IN Government and Railroad Securities, Drexel, Winthrop & Co., Drexel, Hargis & Co., No. 18 Wall Street, No. 5 Rue Scribe, New York, Paris.

LOOKING GLASSES, ETC. FOR LOOKING-GLASSES, RELIABLE AND CHEAP. JAMES S. EARLE & SONS, No. 816 CHESNUT STREET.

COPYING PRESSES. Just received, a Large Assortment of the Latest Styles COPYING PRESSES. WM. M. CHRISTY, Stationer and Printer, No. 117 S. THIRD STREET, Opposite Girard Bank.

SEWING MACHINES. THE WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE, For Sale on Easy Terms. NO. 914 CHESNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

DRY GOODS. 1871. BLACK SILKS "AT THORNLEY'S," EIGHTH AND SPRING GARDEN STS.

Having got through with our annual stock-taking, we now open up a splendid stock of "BLACK SILKS" very much under regular prices, and of most EXCELLENT QUALITY. Good Black Gros Grains for \$1.50, Rich Black Gros Grains for \$1.75, Very Rich Beautiful Silks for \$2.00, Heavy, Smooth, Soft Pique Silk, \$2.50, Sublime Quality Rich Lyons Silks, \$3.00, Superb Black Silks, Queenly, \$3.50, Most Magnificent Black Silks for \$4.50.

We know that the above goods cannot be excelled in the "UNITED STATES" for quality and cheapness. We also offer a full line of colors in Best Kid Gloves, Every pair of which we warrant, and if through any mishap they rip or tear in putting on, we at once give another pair instead.

JOSEPH H. THORNLEY, NORTHEAST CORNER OF EIGHTH AND SPRING GARDEN STS., PHILADELPHIA. Established in 1853. 727 CHESNUT STREET. 727

POPULAR PRICES FOR DRY GOODS, STRICTLY ONE PRICE. ALEXANDER RICKEY, 9 10 1/2 taha No. 737 CHESNUT STREET, CHINA, GLASSWARE, ETC. \$200,000 WORTH OF CHINA, GLASS and EARTHENWARE TO BE CLOSED OUT, REGARDLESS OF COST. Gay's China Palace, No. 1012 CHESNUT STREET.

Are obliged to close out their immense stock, in consequence of the building they occupy having been sold. The entire stock must be closed out by the 1st of April, as they are obliged to vacate the premises by that time. Below we quote prices of a few leading staple goods. Fancy goods are at a still greater discount from former prices. White French China Dining Sets, 12' pieces, \$13.00, White French China Tea Sets, 44 pieces, \$7.75, 5 one China Dining Sets, 95 pieces, \$6.75, Stone China Tea Sets (cups with handles) 44 ps 3.50, Stone China Tea Sets (cups with handles) 46 ps 3.50, Stone China Cups and Saucers, per set 12 pieces 50, Stone China Dining Plates, per dozen, \$4.00, Table Tumblers, per dozen, \$5.00, Table Goblets, per dozen, \$7.50, Glass Tea Sets (4 articles), per dozen, \$4.00, Bohemian Colored Sets, 2 Bottles and Pad Box 90, Bohemian Liquor Sets, 6 Glasses, Walter and Bottle, \$9.00

An endless variety of Fancy Goods, at an immense reduction from former prices. 36 cases of Parian Marble, Lucca and Majolica Ware, all new designs, just landed from steamer Helvetia, will be included in the sale. Goods to go out of the city will be packed and delivered to transportation office, free of charge, and insured against breakage to destination. SHOW ROOMS OPEN TILL 9 O'CLOCK AT STORE FIXTURES FOR SALE 2 1/2 10t

HOLIDAY GOODS. Spring Horses, Rocking Horses, Children's Carriages, BOYS' SLEDS, WAGONS, VELOCIPEDS, Etc. Etc. H. J. SHILL, Factory, No. 226 DOCK Street, 12 1/2 4p BELOW EXCHANGE.

GROceries, ETC. Choice New Crop Teas AT REDUCED PRICES. FINEST OOLONG, JAPAN, AND YOUNG HYSOON TEAS. Just received, which we now offer at a great reduction in prices, in half chests, 10 lb. boxes, and at retail. Fine Old Mocha, Java, Laguayra, and Rio Coffee, at greatly reduced prices. Owing to the late reduction in Government duties, we can now offer to our customers a large assortment of FIRST-CLASS GROCERIES at low rates.

WILLIAM KELLEY, N. W. Corner TWELFTH Street and GIRARD Avenue, 11 10 taha PHILADELPHIA.

MARBLE WORKS. H. S. TARR & SON'S MANUFACTORY OF Carved and Ornamental Marble Work, GREEN Street, above Seventh, 1 1/2 30 m PHILADELPHIA.

JOSEPH H. CAMPION (late Moore & Campion), WILLIAM SMITH, RICHARD B. CAMPION, SMITH & CAMPION, Manufacturers of FINE FURNITURE, UPHOLSTERINGS, AND INTERIOR HOUSE DECORATIONS, No. 349 SOUTH THIRD STREET, Philadelphia, Nos. 216 and 217 LEVANT STREET, Philadelphia.