

Evening Telegraph

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1871.

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 BILL.

On Saturday last the Centennial bill passed in the United States Senate, but it goes back to the House for concurrence in a very extraordinary amendment. Through the machinations of some of the foes of Philadelphia a proviso has been inserted in the bill that "no compensation for services shall be paid to the commissioners or other officers provided by the act from the Treasury of the United States; and the United States shall not be liable for any expenses attending such exhibition, or by reason of the same."

by the Commissioner in neglecting to advertise for proposals, and in rejecting the course of the Board of Indian Commissioners, contrary to law, has been to enrich contractors at the expense of the nation. It is evident that Colonel Parker is not the right man in the right place. No matter what may be his sympathies for the aborigines, he is unable to resist the pressure of the old Indian ring, especially when its demands are strengthened by influential politicians; and if the President wishes to make a complete reform he should transfer his favorite Commissioner of Indian Affairs to some other department at the earliest possible moment. It will require the sternest sort of white virtue to resist the pressure and antagonize the arts of the adroit white politicians who have, from time immemorial, made the Indian Bureau a convenient pretext for drawing funds from the Treasury for their own enrichment; and it is as vain to expect a civilized and educated Indian to perform this arduous task at Washington as it is to hope that the wild aborigines will be able to resist the wiles of the roving traders and trappers who have disseminated among the tribes the curses of disease and intemperance. The plain English of the report of the committee of the House of Representatives is, that Colonel Parker ought to be removed; and if the President wishes his well-meant efforts to effect a complete reform in the management of Indian affairs to be successful, he will not hesitate to dismiss him, and to send forth a Diogenes armed with a stick and lantern, on the difficult quest of discovering a thoroughly honest and incorruptible man to serve as his successor.

As a precaution against future frauds, whether Colonel Parker is retained in office or not, Congress should provide that hereafter no payments of money shall be made on the warrants of the Indian Bureau until the vouchers are certified by the Executive Committee of the Board of Indian Commissioners, composed of Mr. George H. Stuart, of this city, and other members of like standing. This additional check is necessary to enforce the existing laws and to protect the Indians and the Treasury.

THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF LAWYERS.

We have received several communications in reply to the article with the above title which appeared in this paper on Friday last, all of which protest against the references made to Judge Sharwood as being unjust in itself and as uncalled for by his letter to Mr. David Dudley Field. Our correspondents, in their eagerness to champion Judge Sharwood, have all of them lost sight of the real point at issue. The pamphlet of Mr. Field on "The Duties and Responsibilities of Counsel" and Judge Sharwood's endorsement of it both assert, what no sensible man will deny, that a lawyer has a right to defend a client of known bad character. It is certain that nothing has appeared in these columns even hinting at the idea that a lawyer may not accept a case from anybody, and if we do not go below the surface the Field pamphlet and the Sharwood letter may perhaps be considered as incontrovertible. The real accusation made against Mr. Field, however, was not that he defended men of known bad character, but that he aided them in the prosecution of certain villainous schemes, and that in so doing he exceeded the limits of his legitimate duties as counsel. In his pamphlet Mr. Field adroitly attempts to avoid the real charge brought against him, and his pamphlet is in no sense a suitable defense. It is scarcely possible that Judge Sharwood when he wrote his letter was ignorant of the nature of the accusation made against Mr. Field, and although he also avoids the real issue, the fact of his writing such a letter, under all the circumstances of the case, at least gives color to the supposition that he desired to defend Mr. Field against the attacks of those who declare that in becoming the mere tool of such men as Fisk, Tweed, and Sweeney he disgraced himself and his profession.

To leave Mr. Field to the tender mercies of the journalists and honorable members of the bar of his own State and city, we can illustrate our position in this matter by a reference to the "ways that are dark and the tricks that are vain" of certain Philadelphia practitioners. Not many weeks ago Messrs. William B. Mann and Lewis C. Cassidy, two well-known lawyers of this city, were busily engaged at Harrisburg in procuring a pardon for one Richard Ficken, a wealthy sugar refiner of this city, who, on the 14th of February, 1870, shot a boy named Arthur Curran, and then fled to Europe to avoid being punished for his crime. Ficken was willing to expend a large sum of money to cheat justice, and Messrs. Mann and Cassidy were willing to exert themselves to prevent him from being brought to trial. They found the Governor and the Attorney-General complaisant, and Richard Ficken was, without a trial, granted a free and unconditional pardon, for offenses of which he had never legally been pronounced guilty. Judge Sharwood having undertaken the defense of Mr. David Dudley Field, cannot he supplement his letter to that gentleman by giving a candid expression of his views on the conduct of Messrs. Mann and Cassidy in the Ficken case? We contend that these lawyers exceeded their legitimate functions when they attempted to prevent Ficken from being brought to trial by procuring from the Governor a pardon while the criminal was a fugitive from justice. The conduct of Messrs. Mann and Cassidy in the Ficken case is precisely analogous to that of Mr. David Dudley Field in repeated instances while acting as counsel for Fisk and the Tammany ring. Messrs. Mann and Cassidy had a perfect right to act as Ficken's counsel, and no one would ever have found fault with them for so doing, but they, the Governor, the Attorney-General and all others concerned in the Ficken pardon business were guilty of the offense of compounding a felony, and if the laws were properly administered they would be punished. It is a fair inference,

not from the wording of Judge Sharwood's letter, but from the fact of his writing such a letter at all under the circumstances, that he approves of Mr. Field's conduct in 1869, and that he also endorses Messrs. Mann and Cassidy for the part they took in the Ficken business. Judge Sharwood's learning and his high position he occupies as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania cannot shield him from criticism, and his defenders should remember that mere word quibbling will avail little in the court of public opinion. The inference we drew from Judge Sharwood's letter was a fair one under the circumstances, but if we have at all misrepresented his opinions as to the duties and responsibilities of counsel, we will be much pleased to receive from him an explanation of his real views on the subject.

NEW ATTRACTIONS OF DOMINICA.

Among the other arguments in favor of the annexation of Dominica which are not usually set forth in formal speeches and official documents, her abundance of human monstrosities, as described by a newspaper correspondent who is now with the commission, is worthy of consideration. Nothing pays American showmen better than dwarfs, giants, double-headed girls, Siamese twins, skeleton men, fat women, etc., and they may well rejoice at the prospect of securing hereafter even greater novelties. The Roman matron immortalized herself when she said "these are my jewels" of her children; and Dominica has an overwhelming answer to all anti-annexationists in the assurance of the Tribune correspondent that she abounds in "big-headed children, children with a dozen or two fingers, and some without any, children with joints as big as their heads, and with legs bigger than their bodies, children overgrown and undergrown," and, most marvellous of all, "spotted children; that is, white children turning black, or black children turning white." Here's richness for you! What better card could an incipient Barnum ask for than a white child turning black, or a black child turning white—particularly if this interesting feat could be hurried up so as to be visibly performed in the presence of an audience? And then, think of children with joints as big as their heads and legs bigger than their bodies! What spectacle could be more gratifying to a refined and curious audience? There is even a more glorious vista than that opened in connection with the show business arising from the prospect of the annexation of Dominica. Ben Wade, in his speech to the Dominicans, assured them that if the destinies of the two countries were linked together, there was no man before him who might not aspire to be Chief Magistrate of the whole. Certainly not. Thus the bright hope is held out that Dominica will furnish a crop of Presidential candidates, as well as of human monstrosities, and it requires no extraordinary stretch of the imagination to suppose that these two great desiderata may even be combined in one and the same person. We may have, as an applicant for electoral suffrages, not merely a Dominican, but one of the Dominicans who is black and white by turns, and who would treat the country to alternate successions of African and Caucasian rule. When an election in one of the rural districts of South Carolina was pending, such a serviceable partisan leader might veil his countenance in sable gloom; while, on the other hand, when it became necessary to pacify the adherents of a white man's party, he might satisfy the most fastidious by assuming an Albino hue.

OBITUARY.

Thomas H. Burrowes. The President of the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania, Thomas H. Burrowes, LL.D., died on Saturday afternoon last at 4 o'clock, at his residence at the college, near Bellefonte, Centre county. He was in his sixty-seventh year at the time of his death. Under the administration of Governor Joseph Ritner, which lasted from 1855 to 1857, Mr. Burrowes was Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In the year 1850 he was appointed Superintendent of the Common Schools of the State, and he held this position with great honor and credit to himself and the schools under his charge until the year 1865. He was editor of the School Journal for a number of years, and only withdrew from its management at the end of last year, for the reason that his duties as President of the State Agricultural College prevented him from giving the necessary attention to the publication.

NOTICES.

THE LARGEST CLOTHING HOUSE IN AMERICA. WALKER & BROWN'S OAK HALL, S. E. COR. SIXTH AND MARKET STREETS.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25, 1871. All keepers of hotels, taverns, restaurants, and other places where liquor is sold, are hereby notified that if they refuse or neglect to make application for license, and procure the same, within the time prescribed by law, and who continue to sell, will be promptly proceeded against, as required by the provisions of the act of Assembly, FULMAN SHEPPARD, District Attorney.

CITY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, No. 218 S. FIFTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25, 1871. The act of Assembly approved April 20, 1869, requires that all keepers of hotels, taverns, restaurants, and other places where liquor is sold, shall make application at this office for license in the month of March only. The law in this respect will be strictly enforced. ALEXANDER McCURRY, THOMAS M. LOCKE, JAMES BAIN, City Commissioners.

A PERTINENT INQUIRY?

Have you SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY regularly upon your Centre Table? No! Then you have no time to lose if you would be in THE FASHION. Only \$3 a year. SCRIBNER & CO., No. 654 BROADWAY, New York.

LOST.

LOST.—NOTICE.—APPLICATION HAS BEEN made to the ST. NICHOLAS OIL COMPANY for the renewal of the following lost certificates of stock in said company, viz: Certificate No. 1245, for 200 shares, and Certificate No. 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, and 1250, each for 100 shares. All in the name of the undersigned, and dated April 20, 1866. WILLIAM P. JOHNSON, 2 1/2 1/2 1/2

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

CHEAP CLOTHES. Immense Ready-made Stock of Fine Goods. Send Your Orders. Custom Department. Clothing to Order. GREAT VARIETY AT ROCKHILL & WILSON'S Brown Stone Hall, 603 and 605 CHESNUT STREET.

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