SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics—Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

THE MONOPOLY CENTRE.

From the N. Y. World. Where better than in Philadelphia should the managers of monopoly meet in council? On its ideal hills rests the empire of protection. There lives protection's pope, whose infallibility is not questioned, although his temporalities, mainly consisting of coal-mines in Schuylkill, are obviously in dauger. There, too, is the great railway corporation whose grasp, if life and strength survive, seems destined to clutch the throat of the nation, and whose ruin, if ruin it be, will create a vortex whose destructive agitation will reach far away. Nominally a Pennsylvania corporation-for, unlike our Erie and its other broadgauge connections, it owes no allegiance beyoud the limits of a single State-it is really a congeries of corporations, extending from the Delaware far westward of the Mississippi, and administered by a purely local directory. But this is not all. If its feelers, its long and extending line of leased and subsidized corporations, and possibly legislatures, were directed only westward, there would be some semblance of policy and economy in what it is doing and what it was created to do-to empty Western produce into the lap of Philadelphia. But so paltry an end does not content the restless adventurers who control this enterprise. They disclaim the Union Pacific, the memory of Oakes Ames being too fresh; but they have a finger in one line of steamships to Japan and guarantee the bonds of another to Liverpool. And they are actually invading the South! What possible legitimate object can a company, incorporated to build a road from Philadelphia to Pittsburg and nothing else, have in buying up or building a railroad from Aquia creek to Richmond? This is restless exorbitance with a vengeance; and if we were to say or hint that it and the feverish irritability which is shown at any attempt at diet or restraint were sure signs of an approaching catastrophe, we should not be far wrong. It won't do to say that we, as New Yorkers, have no interest in this. Ours is the interest to see the Pennsylvania Railroad, giving us the shortest line to the West, a reasonable success. If it chooses to waste its surplus means or borrow more money in buying up New Jersey and making Philadelphia a way station, the greater is our interest. But above all has this community an interest in averting a financial catastrophe whose fearful eddies will know no narrow limit. That such a catastrophe will come unless the progress of this sort of adventure be checked we firmly believe. Let us look for a moment at this divergence into Virginia, and further South, for it is to reach Georgia. From Aquia creek to Richmond is a well-stocked, well-built road, administered under a local charter. To seduce this mature maiden was the first aim of the Philadelphia Lotharios. They offered to buy, and pay in bonds of their own, or in those of others guaranteed by them. There was no reluctance to sell, but an old-fash ioned, dogged, stupid sort of repugnance to

If uneasy lies the head which wears a crown. manifestly disturbed and restless is the slumber of the corporation whose pillow is stuffed with many charters and through whose curtains glare the glances of many creditors. Such is specially the case with this one, whose bed its late annual report describes as all thornless roses- At the annual meeting in Philadelphia the patient showed feverish irritation. A gentleman of the highest social standing, a former director, a stockholder— if not in his own right, as trustee for others offered a resolution of common inquiry. All he asked was "a clear and comprehensive balance sheet of the company's liabilities and assets." Great was the wrath thereat. The directors felt themselves insulted by this mean, business-like suggestion. It was asking Lord Avondale for his marriage certificate, or Daniel McFarland cross-examining Mr. Beecher; and the result was that, while the directory was dumbfounded by the sacrilege, their solicitor, the paid advocrte of the corporation, was put forward to snub and insult the recalcitrant stockholder; and he did it thoroughly, saying that "it was a simple impertinence," and the directors and their claqueurs cheered. Such things don't happen even in this demoralized metropolis. But what does all this prove? Strength, stability, the consciousness of unimpaired resources? Far, very far, from it. We have more than once recalled, in warning, the memory of the days of triumph and of woe which we read of when another Pennsylvania corporation-a pigmy alonside of this-domineered in its day of apparent strength, and died in agony. Mr. Hulme fared no worse in this year of grace than did a government director or a Jackson Democrat who dared to ask a question in Philadelphia thirty years There is the same hollow laudation, with one chosen specimen of which our words

take doubtful securities in payment. Such,

scheme failed. Fot to be foiled, "Briareus"

(as the Press felicitously calls the company)

put one of its idle hands on an old charter

from Alexandria to Richmond, and with the

other ninety-nine, or as many as could be

spared from holding the Legislatures of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Georgia, seized reconstructed Virginia at her capital.

She struggled, as Georgia had done before,

but in vain; and, as we are now advised, all

the needed legislation in that quarter has

been secured.

of warning cease:-"Here we have (says the Press) a corporation, Briszeus-like, holding within its iron hands the commerce of a continent, and bringing to our very doors the trade of the Orient. To-day there are owned and operated by the company thirty-six hundred of miles of railroads tributary te Philadelphia, which number will be shortly increased by the extension of the road to the Gulf of Mexico on the south and the Pacific Ocean on the West."

Nothing is wanting but a service of plate. "I have my suspicions," says a great searcher into infirmity, "of testimonials. In my experience of life I always feel shy about them, and when a party gets one, somehow, look out to hear of a smash up next month. Absit omen ! I say again.'

FARM-WORK FOR WOMEN.

From the N. Y. Tribune. President Abbott of the Michigan Agricultural College states that the experiment of admitting women to the institution has proved in the highest degree successful. "They study," he says, "botany, chemistry, horticulture, surveying, and other branches. Their progress in study is exceptionally

rapid. Their work so far has been to prepare

seed for the ground, to transplant the lighter

tific agriculture as well as boys, and made fit to transact the head-work of a farm. Notwithstanding the inertness of the Southern women, it has long been no uncommon thing to find them intelligent and skilful planters. Some of the largest estates in Virginia before the war were under the management of women; and in Kentucky, among the most successful stock-raisers, who amassed large fortunes by sales to Government, were some half-dozen of the fair but shrewd sex. These women obtained their knowledge insensibly by home-training: but it is certainly as easily acquired by study as that of medicine or theology, and is surely a more wholesome and safer work. A woman may have a message from God to the world to deliver or not. She may or may not have the peculiar mental and physical skill to fit her for a surgeon; but the ground is always waiting to be tilled and seed to be planted. Besides, if her crops fail, she alone is the loser; she has tampered with the bodies and souls only of turnips and potatoes.

The very lowest grades of farm work ought to be open to women. There is a sort of chivalric horror in this country of a woman doing field work, whereas the fact is that half of the stout Irish and German women who come here have been used to it at home, and, with our own negro field hands, are among the few healthy women in the country. The soil is light; the instruments for lightening labor are in general use. If half the women starving in New York to-day over needle and wash-tub were put at outdoor work in the spring, they would find themsel ves better paid for less actually exhausting labor, and in stronger health than ever before in their lives. Our social structure is crowded, stifled we might say, with educated, idle young girls, without work, or lovers, or enough eat, crying out, "What shall do to be saved?" Ordinarily they betake themselves to lecturing or writing, on the hypothesis that because they want bread and butter they are qualified to be the world's teachers. A young man of their calibre, not fancying that idleness or discontent could anoint him with holy chrism, would go to a trade and become a respectable carpenter or blacksmith. These women, who fancy suffrage will give them healthier souls in sounder bodies, could find both if they chose in the skill, the head and hand-craft, the open air, the softening contact with Nature of this slighted farm-work. Many branches of it seem only suitable for a woman's nicer eye and defter fingers; the whole nursery business, from the care of seedlings, budding, grafting, to the final labelling and sales; the cultivation of the smaller fruits—especially the berries-seed-farms, the planting and sorting of herbs, all of which are the most rapidly profitable divisions of agriculture, are peculiarly fitted to women, and successfully worked by them.

We especially urge this matter on women with a small capital of two or three hundred dollars, and a family often of boys depending on them. Such women crowd the cities; they all invariably choose the same method of starving, viz., penny shops, where they will sell groceries or "trimmings," and come on the town every winter as beggars, while their children find the quickest road to perdition in the gutters. The wisest course for every such woman is to go West, take the quarter section of land waiting for her, and put the common sense which teaches her to buy soap and tape into the raising of corn and potatoes. Next best to that is the purchase of an on full examination, they thought the Penn-sylvania bonds, or guarantee even, and the may be had on the railroads running into New York for \$50 and \$75 per acre, and the raising of truck for the city market. She may not make a fortune, but she will fill her hungry children's mouths, keep them in pure air and pure influences, and give them a trade for life without expense.

MR. DISRAELI AND WAR.

From the N. Y. Sun. Although the press of this country may sometimes talk saucily and Congress vote impudently where England is concerned, our venerable parent has the most palpable assurances before her eyes that the United States entertain no warlike intentions towards her. We have disbanded our great armies, and sent all the people who composed them home to their work. In the arts of civilization which now engage them, such as railroad building, farming, manufacturing, mer-chandising, and steamboating, these great masses have already begun to forget that they ever were soldiers; and any reminder of the fact only serves to inspire expressions of hatred and disgust for war, rather than any desire to embark in it again.

Our navy has been sold and scattered to the four corners of the earth, till we have only enough good vessels left to serve as pleasure yachts for our more puffy naval officials. Our seaboard fortifications remain uncompleted, and the most languid attention is paid to all complaints of the indefensible condition of our long line of seacoast. The whole course of legislation since the close of the slaveholders' Rebellion has been directed to the end of extinguishing our whole military and naval establishments; and we undertake to say that it would be difficult to point out a mode in which this praiseworthy result could have been more rapidly and thoroughly accomplished than that we have employed. Our army of a million has gone down to a few squads, numbering perhaps 30,000 in all; and these are no more than sufficient to do police duty on our Indian frontier. Without an army, without a navy, and most inadequate coast defences, and not the slightest effort anywhere to supply our deficiencies, we think England must see-and all the world besides-that of all things that the United States are now anticipating, a foreign war is the furthest from the public thought.

If any evidence could establish the fact that

this country will not commence a war with any power unless it is first attacked, this which we have now cited would seem to be conclusive. We commend it to Mr. Disraeli's attention, in the hope that it will allay his nervousness. For from his late utterances, it would appear that he thinks our wordy philippics and our Congressional indiscretions must be the forerunner of hostilities between Eng-

land and America. For ourselves, we believe in nothing of the sort. And, notwithstanding Mr. Disraeli's intimations, we do not believe England intends to wage war against us with a view to mend our manners, of which the Tory leader so much complains. Thus we are not ruffled at his observations, and shall refrain from retorts so easily framed out of the Parliamentary reports of exultant malignity so often manifested during the late joint contest of the slaveholders and Mr. Disraeli's party in England to destroy the Government of the

United States. There is an abiding conviction in the American public mind which tempers the wrath it has felt toward England for this grievous offence. This is, that we have no need to come to blows with her to secure the with-

reason why girls should not be taught scien- to every observer that England could not tific agriculture as well as boys, and made fit successfully contend with us for the protection of an acre of ground on the continent by force of arms. That this belief is shared by Her Majesty's Government, its whole line of policy and course of conduct for the past five years strongly attest.

Fully recognizing this state of facts, the American becomes placid in view of the future, which he is generally in no indiscreet haste to realize. Every day rapidly increases the great disparity in the military power of the two nations on this continent, and renders more and more clear the coming event. It is thus that our Uncle Samuel is led to perceive the folly of thinking of any appeal to arms to get rid of British power in America; and so he sees his army dissolve and his navy go to decay with composure, knowing it will not perceptibly postpone the day of triumph over British rule in America.

Senator Howard's late resolution offered in the Senate, declaring that we should insist on the cession of British America in the high commission, was nothing but a buncombe proceeding. That distinguished Senator retires on the fourth of March, and this was his Parthian arrow. He acts on the maxim of Sir William Temple, that no man should return home from public service without striving to have some good hits at his back for his constituents. But the resolution re-

flects no considerate opinion in any quarter. The questions of withdrawing the British flag from Canada, and of the cession of that country to the United States, are separate and totally different questions. We might ask for the former, nay, insist upon it, and yet be a long way from annexation. Annexation involves the exercise of popular rights, the right of the people to choose their own government; and it could only be accomplished by the violation of our own most highly-cherished theory of government, with-out the assent of the people themselves who are to be annexed. As a government based on republican principles, we cannot agree to a barter and sale of provinces and people with-out reference to their own opinions and desires. Unpeopled territory we may acquire; but beyond this we may not go, except for high reasons of state, such as do not now attach to the acquisition of Canada.

This question must therefore be necessarily deferred to some future high commission, to which Canada and the United States can alone be parties. It is an undercurrent which involves a perception of this fact, along with the others we have referred to, that is the true source of such utterances as Mr. Disraeli's, and of a good deal more of the same sort, as well as of sundry explanatory British and Canadian criticisms on the aims, objects, and powers of the commission soon to assemble. Its deliberations and conclusions will involve a recognition of facts and anticipations that Englishmen do not relish, and would avoid, while they yet see they are inevitable. This accounts for and must excuse the irritabilities of which Mr. Disraeli's remarks are an example. Aggravated by one thing, they yet discourse angrily upon another. Such is human nature.

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On the petition of DANIEL S. NIPPES, of Upper Merion Township, Pennsylvania, administrator of Albert S. Nippes, deceased, praying for the extension of a patent granted to the said Albert S. Nippes, on the 21st day of April, 1867, for an improvement in C. rinding Sawa.

Grinding Saws.

It is ordered that the testimony in the case be closed on the 21st day of March next, that the time for filing arguments and the Examiner's report be limited to the 31st day of March next, and that said petition be heard on the 5th day of April next. Any person may oppose this extension.

SAMUEL A. DUNCAN, Acting Commissioner of Patenta.

MATS AND CAPS.

plants, prune shrubbery," etc. Here is a drawal of her flag from the American conticareer for all grades of women which has common sense to commend it. There is no this country are so great as to make it palpable was drawal of the season. Chisnut it is country are so great as to make it palpable street, next door to the Post Omea.

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