# THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH -PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1871

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#### STILIT OF TEN PRESS.

### Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics-Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph,

FRENCH TAXATION AND THE TERMS OF PEACE.

From the N. Y. Times

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The pecuniary indemnity which Germany demands of France is simply enormous, There is, after the declaration by M. Taters, no reason to doubt that it has been correctly reported. France has purchased peace, therefore, at a price which seems absolutely ruinous, and which, if ever paid, will give her the unenviable distinction of having the heaviest public debt in the world. At the beginning of 1870 the official statement of the public debt shows a total of \$2,600,000,-000. During 1870 three loans were contracted which, when capitalized, will amount at least to \$400,000,000. The war expenditure, which the nation has still to cover by a duly authorized loan, cannot be less than another \$200,000,000. Germany now demands \$1,000,000,000, and if France can borrow this at all, it will only be on such terms as must increase the capital of the obligation by one-half, and so make the indemnity actually reach the figure of \$1,500,-000,000. Suppose at the end of three or more, probably of six years, France should be able to pay this enormous bill, she will find herself in the possession of a national debt which reaches the alarming total of \$4,700,000,000.

We think it extremely questionable whether the money markets of the world will take up, even by instalments, the prodigious sam which the French negotiators propose to raise. The sensational offer which yesterday's telegrams attribute to Baron Rothschild is in the last degree improbable. To financiers the question has three elements, each mutually affecting each other. The first relates to the probable stability of the Government to be selected by the French people; the second, to the amount of the loan likely to be subscribed for by France herself; and the third, to the expansiveness of French taxation. Suppose a constitutional monarchy to be securely established in France, it is highly probable that the capitalists of the country would subscribe to the fall measure of their ability for a share of the national burden. The Orleanists are in favor with the commercial and moneyed classes, and would, in the estimation of these sections of the people, and probably in that of Europe at large, be credited with a larger expectation of existence than any republic, however moderate. It must not, however, be forgotten that the comparative facility with which the Empire raised money arose from its success in drawing out the heards of petty proprietors and tradesmen from the very unproductive places of deposit which still find favor with this class of Frenchmen. I is extremely doubtful whether either Orleanists or Republicans would have, for somtime at least, the same success, while the extent to which Prussian requisitions have depleted these private accumulations randers them at the same time less available, and will make their possessers inclined to and strong. It is an application of the hold on with more than accustomed tenacity old barbarous maxim that might makes to what remains. In an economical of view, a moderate republic might have this advantage over a monarchy, that it could push the reduction of the army and the fleet to a lower point. Neither of the a could, to any sweeping extent, reduce the cost of civil administration, and exist in France for a single day. The figure of tiftythree millions of dollars which we previously gave as the limit to which reduction of aunual expenditure could be carried, could hardly be exceeded by a monarchy, and could only be passed with some difficulty by a strong and moderate republic. The ultimate question must therefore be, what amount of fresh taxation can be borne by France without crippling her energies, and therefore defeating its own purpose? Take the most favorable view of the case, and assume that the annual expenditure of France can be reduced sufficiently to cover these three items of deficit; first, the ten or twelve millions of revenue which, even under the reduced territorial cession, will be lost to the national treasury; second, the per-petually recurring yearly deficit of some thirty millions, which formed so notable a character of the imperial budgets; and thiri, the large decrease in the taxable resources of France resulting from the war. Even under a supposition so favorable, and one whose realization will call for administrative energies of a very high order, there still remains an annual increase of at least ninety millions of dollars of interest on the \$2,100,000,000 of debt which the events of 1870-71 will be found to have added to the liabilities of France. The main sources of French revenue are "the land taxes, taxes on trade and personal property, post-office and customs, and excise and monopolies. Nearly twentyfive per cent. of the entire revenue is derived from what is called the registration and stamp duties, which are chiefly levied upon land in the indirect manner of a tax upon transfers, either by sale or testament, of real estate. Proprietors pay directly another nine per cent, of the entire revenue raised by the National Government in the form of Foncier tax, besides paying a similar amount to the local governments. It has been pointed out that, assuming the real estate of France to be worth six hundred and thirty millions of dollars, it is already directly taxed to the amount of ten per cent., and indirectly by the registration duties to another five per cent. That any more can be got out of it either by the local or National Governments, is hardly to be credited by any one familiar with the temper of the peasant proprietors of France. The excise duties on alcoholic liquors, and the tobacco and powder monopolies, yield about thirty-five per cent. of the entire revenue. The prospects of an available increase in this direction are also exceedingly meagre. The Post Office yields five per cent., and the customs eight per cent., of the total revenue. An attempt will doubtless be made to increase the income from the latter source, probably at the expense of the reciprocity treaties with England, Belgium, and Switzerland. The chief effect of this will probably be to enrich French manufacturers and to make the problem of living rather harder to the mass of the people, without having any appreciable result on the revenue. France has no income tax, but it has a personal and furniture tax, a tax on doors and windows, and a trade license tax, yielding between them eight per cent. of the entire revenue, which closely resemble it These are already considered heavy, and could not be increased without causing evasions that would defeat the end of making them more productive. In short, whichever way the French financier turns he flade a community already heavily burdened, and

crease with an increase of resources A more scientific distribution of taxation is possible, but an increase under the present conditions can only be very partial and very questionably productive. This is a fact which the administrators at home must be at ouce prepared to face, and which the lenders abroad are not likely to lose sight of. The borrowing power of France depends absolutely upon how this fact is disposed of, and whatever indemnity she may agree to pay, it will only be under the most enlightened Government that there is the slightest possibility of her being found able to do so.

### HARSHNESS OF THE TERMS OF PEACE. From the N. Y. World.

The ruthless severity of Germany in her treatment of her prostrate victim is almost universally condemned by the press of this country, and so far as the cable has yet given ns the means of judging, it is equally reprobated in Eugland. It is unworthy of a great and magnanimous people, like the Germans, and confirms the general opinion of the hanghly arrogance of Bismarck and the despotic selfishness of his imperial master. Bat it is quite accordant with their known character that, in the hour of triumph, they "feel power and forget right."

The march though Paris is a trivial thing in itself; but, being trivial, it might have been forborne. It can bring no advantage to Germany, and tends to exasperate a brave and sensitive people. On every ground of expediency it is impolitic, for it interferes with that submissive acceptance of the terms of peace which is equally for the interest of Germany and of France. It is a mere display of triumphant insolence, as insulting to the fallen as it is profitless to the victors, and alike repugnant to heroic magnanimity and Christian civilization. What possible good can it do anybody thus to pour vitriol on the wounds of bleeding France, and rake the embers of national animosity? The true rule was aptly expressed in one of Jefferson's terse phrases in our immortal Declaration of Independence-"enemies in war, in peace friends." If Germany desires relations of friendship with France now that the war is ended, why should she make this exasperating display of triumphant insolence, of no advantage to her and a pestilent embarrass. ment to the French authorities intrusted with the preservation of peace in the conquered city ? We allude to this barbarous parade because it exemplifies the spirit of the conquerer, and displays the arrogant temper which has dictated the terms of the treaty. If Germany will not spare France a bumiliation which is of no advantage to herself, she of concse has not been considerate or magnavimous in exacting more substantial penalties.

The cession of territory and important fortresses was expected, and is accordingly acquiesced in by the public opinion of the world on the same principle that men accept accomplished facts. But the cession is nevertheless exacted on false pretouses. It is not necessary to the future security of Germany, who was strong enough to defend herself before, and is now doubly strong by the consolidation of her empire and the prostration of her neighbor. She has taken Alsace and the fortresses, not because she has anything to fear from France, but only because she is covetons right. We do not dispute the right; but it is the right of conquest, that is to say, the right of the strong to pillage the weak. Gormany would not distrust her ability to defend hersel if the fortune of war had not given ber this advantage. In the address which Napoleon made to his soldiers when he went the front to take command in the latter to part of July, he said: -"The war which now commences will be long and hardly contested, for its theatre will be places bedged with obstacles and thick with fortresses." This was uttered at a time when the Emperor had complete confidence in his army and in the victorious sufficiency of his military preparations, and may therefore be accepted as a proof of the great defensive strength of Germany with her former boundaries. If her means of resistance against France were so formidable when France ranked as the first military power of Europe, the same "places hedged with obstacles and thick with fortresses" would be surely adequate for defense against a crippled and dabilitated nation. Germany has not taken Alsace and the French fortresses because they are necessary to her safety, but because her sword is sharp enough to defend her rapacity. A nation so strong should scorn the cant about future security, and say with honest arrogance that she dismembers France by the right of conquest. There is always something respectable in truth, and an honest avowal of real motives. The pretense that the heavy money exaction is meant as an indemnity for the expenses of the war is also a sailing under false colors. The money exaction is in truth nothing more nor less than an extreme exereise of the right of conquest. We do not dispute the right of conquest: it is unquestionably a part of the laws of war. But Christian civilization and modern public opinion have outgrown the barbarons code, and it is for this reason that Germany seeks to gloss over her conquest by canting pretenses. Quite apart from conquest and indemnity, she is a great gainer by the war. It has raised her to the first rank among European nations. It has covered her with a military splendor which Germans will regard as their proudest boast as long as Ger many exists as a nation. It hedgesher about with a formidable prestige which protects her against future assaults. It has reduced her most powerful neighbor to an inferior rank. It has enlarged the area and consolidated the strength of a great nation. If Bismarck, the shrewdest statesman of Europe, had it in his power to restore the status quo of the 1st of July, by accepting a full money compensation for all the expenses since incurred, he would scorn and deride the offer. There is not a statesman in Germany, there is not a statesman out of Germany, who does not believe that this war is worth to that country ten times its cost. The additions which its successful prose cution, its resplendent blaze of victories, its grand domestic consequences in the unitication of Germany, have made to national strength, dignity, and prestige are incalculatle. The pretense, therefore, that Germany needs a money compensation to make her whole for injuries done her by France, is ridiculous. The simple truth is that, finding herself able to oppress and despoil her sub jugated victim, she uses her power without scruple and without mercy. She 'feels power and forgets right"-or, at least, forgets generosity and truth, for her exactions are not generous and are made under canting false pretences. We could respect her more if she holdly avowed that she stands simply on the right of conquest which belongs to her by the laws of war. When, it may be asked, has any victorious one whose tax-paying power can only in- | nation ever forborne to take full advantage of | cents per bottle.

the right of conquest ? We answer, that the United States once set an example in this respect, which invests with great moral authority the condemnation which our people pass upon the spoliation of France. In our war with Mexico we took its capital, as Germany has taken the capital of France. Mexico lay prostrate and belpless at our feet, as France lies at the feet of Germany. By the right of conquest we could have taken as much territory as we pleased, and Mexicn could not have resisted. We wanted territory, but we did not extort it by the mere exercise of power. By the treaty of peace we purchased New Mexico and California, paying for them their full value, paying as much for them as President Jefferson gave for Louisiana and all the magnificent territory which stretches between until the the Mississippi river and the Rocky Mountains. Moreover, we stipulated to pay claims of our own citizens against Mexico amounting to nearly four millions of dollars. So far from execting a money indemnity for our military expenses, we paid for the territory we acquired all that we ought to have give n for it if Mexico had made a free sale in time of peace. Our forbearance and magnanimity present such a contrast to the rapacity and extortions of Germany, that the moral reprobation expressed by our people cannot be turned against themselves. Having contributed to raise the standard of international ethics by our example, we cannot stultify ourselves by abjuring in theory the generous forbearance we have exemplified in practice.

THE PROPOSED DARIEN SHIP CANAL -THE NEW ROUTE.

From the N. Y. Herald.

From our special correspondent accompanying the Darien Isthmus Exploring Expedition, under Commander Selfridge, United States Navy, we published yesterday (with an accompanying map) some very interesting letters, descriptive of the new ship canal route discovered between the Gulf of Darien. on the Atlantic side, and the Gulf of San Miguel on the Pacific. From these letters we are strongly drawn to the conclusion that the great problem is solved, and that, perhaps, a few years hence, our trading vessels between New York and San Francisco, by crossing the Isthmus from the Galf of Darien, will entirely cut off and save the long, tedious, and dangerous circuit of Cape Horn and the South Amercan Continent. We have heretofore regarded the Nicaragua

route as immeasurably the most feasible, the most inviting and the most advantageous of all the isthmus routes proposed for a ship canal. Between New York and San Francisco it is over a thousand miles shorter than the proposed Darien route; and a British engineer, Captain Pym, Royal Navy, after a careful exploration of the Nicaragua route, has estimated that a ship canal, with locks, may here be opened between the two oceans at the small expense of about twenty millions of dollars. The dividing plateau (that occu-pied by the great Lakes Nicaragua and Managua) is only three hundred feet above the sea level. The distance between Lake Nicaragua and the Pacific is fifteen miles, which by this route is all the canal excavation that will be absolutely necessary; for from the outlet of the lake on its eastern side (the San Juan river) the river, by locks and dams, may be made navigable to the Atlantic for the largest ships all the year round. Louis Napoleon (the present exile at Wilhelmshohe) was so fascinated with the commanding advantages of this route that he said the power which, with a ship canal, shall hereafter hold those two lakes, Nicaragua and Managua, will hold a dominating naval and commercial position in the West equal to that of Constantinople in the East-that, in short, the little town of Massaya, between those aforesaid lakes, is destined to be the Constantinople of America. A glance at the map of North and Central America will be sufficient to convince the intelligent reader that Louis Napoleon, in his enthusiastic admiration of the Nicaragua route for a ship canal, was not far out of the way. But, notwithstanding the fact that Commodore Vanderbilt, with his California line of heavy draught steamships, has shown that the harbor on each side of this route is sufficient for practical purposes, neither of those harbors is all that could be desired. The harbor of San Juan especially is shallow, open, and exposed, and that on the Pacific side is too contracted for the purposes of a continental isthmus canal and its great squadrons of commercial ships which, with and after the opening of the canal, will always be gathered at both ends of the line. The new route discovered by Commander Selfridge at Darien amply meets all the requirements of a deep, capacions, and secure harbor at both ends of the line, and, we think, too, of a canal without lockages. The Gulf of Darien, on the Atlantic side, and the Gulf of San Miguel, on the Pacific, each leads into a deep, capacious, and secure harbor, and thence into a navigable fresh water river. It is thought that, although from the mouth of the Atrato river, on this side, to the mouth of the Tuyra, on the other side, the route will probably not exceed one hundred and twenty-five miles, the extent of the route to be excavated will not exceed fifty miles, and that the summit level of the dividing ridge to be overcome will be less than three hundred feet above the sea, or say two hundred above the present river navigation. The men of our exploring expedition lead us to these estimates from a preliminary reconnoissance of a single route between the waters of the Atrato and the Tuyra. Each of these rivers has numerous branches interlocking in the sinnosities of the slender backbone of the continent in that quarter, and it is believed that a still lower connecting depression than that discovered will be found. But the route indicated as reported will do. We conclude from our correspondent's details of it that it is available for a ship canal by a through cut, at less than half the cost of the Suez Canal. In other words, we estimate that a ship canal by the Darien route indicated, whereby a ship may sail straight through from ocean to ocean without lockage, may be excavated at half the cost required to open the Suez Canal. We have great hopes of the complete success of this exploration of the route suggested, and with its success the dullest landsman will begin to comprehend the advantages of St. Domingo as the half. way house between New York and the Gulf of Darien.

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## REDEMPTION OF CIVIL BONDS OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

TREASURY DEPATMENT,) SACRAMENTO, February 1, 1871. Whereas, There is on this day in the State Treasury the sum of twenty-eight thousand (\$23,000) doliars which, under the provisions of an act of the Legislature of said State entitled "An act to provide for the paying certain equitable claims against the State of California, and to contract a funded debt for that purpose," approved April 39, 1860, is set apart for the redemption of Civil Bonds (of said State, issued under the provisions of said act, notice is hereby given that

#### SEALED PROPOSALS

for the surrender of said Bonds will be received at this Department for the amount above specified

10TH DAY OF APRIL, 1871. at 11 o'clock A. M.

No bid will be entertained at more than par value, and a responsible guarantee must accompany each proposal, which must be indorsed "Sealed Proposals for the surrender of Civil Bonds of 1860," Said bonds will be redeemed and interest paid in

gold and silver coin of the United States, and must be surrendered within ten days after the acceptance of the proposal for their redemption. A. F. CORONEL, 2 14eod t4 10 State Treasurer. REDEMPTION OF STATE BONDS. STATE OF CALIFORNIA, )

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, SACRAMENTO, Feb. 1, 1871. Whereas, there is on this day in the State Treasury

the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand (\$250,000) iollars, which, under the provisions of an act of the Legislature of said State, entitled "An Act to provide for paying certain equitable claims against the State of California, and to contract a funded debt for that purpose," approved April 28, 1867; and a'so under the provisions of an act amendatory of said act, approved April 27, 1860, is set apart for the redemption of Civil Bonds of said State, issued under the provisions of said first mentioned act, notice is hereby given that

#### SEALED PROPOSALS

this Department for the amount above specifical, until the 10TP DAY OF APRIL, A. D. 1871, at 11 o'clock A. M.

1	No bids will be entertained at more than par
	value, and a responsible guarantee must accompany
	each proposal, which must be marked "Sealed Pro-
	posals for the Redemption of Civil Bonds of 1857."
	Said bonds must be surrendered within ten days
	after the acceptance of the proposals for their re-
	demption. A. F. CORONEL,
	2 14 cod t 4 10 State Treasurer.

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#### EIGHTH at So'clock P. M. Tuesday, March 7, 1871, Rev. E. D. G. PRIME,

Subject\_"Around the World\_How to Go\_What o See-What it Costs." Tuesday, March 21, 1871, Rev. A. A. WILLITS,

D. D. Subject—"Sunshine." March 28

Subject-"Sumbline." Tuesday, March 28, 1871, Rev. ALEXANDE 3 REED, D. D. Subject-"Haly, as I Saw it." Tickets for the course, \$1; single tickets, 50 cents; to be obtained at Gould & Fischer's, No. 923 Cres-nut street, and at the door on the evenings of the becomes lectures. 2 28 m6 7\*

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> SEMI-MONTHLY LINE TO WILMINGTON, N. C. The PIONEER will sail for Wilnington on Fri-day, March 10, at 6 A. M. Returning, will leave Wilnington Saturday, March 18. Connects with the Cape Fear River Steamboat Company, the Wilmirgton and Weldon and North Carolina Railroads, and the Wilmington and Man-

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day of March next 1968 7 W. M. LARRABEE, Secretary. fires?

JOHN DUFF, Vice-President. JOHN DUFF, Vice-President. JOHN M. 8, WILLIAMS, Treasurer, E. H. ROLLINS, Secretary, UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY,

SEARS' BUILDING (POST-OFFICE BOX No. 2311.) BOSTON, Feb 4, 1871. The annual meeting of the stockholders of

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY will be held at the office of the company in BOSTON, on WEDNESDAY, the Sth day of March, 1871, at 10 o'clock A. M., to elect officers for the ensuing year. OLIVER AMES 2 14 t3-8 President Union Pacific Railroad Co.

MANTOWN, AND NORRISTOWN RAIL-ROAD COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 13 The Board of Managers have declared a d of THREE PER CENT. on the Capital Sto able, clear of tax, at the Office of this Compa 12 Philadelphia Exchange, on and after the	uvidend ck, pay-
the 20th inst., and remain closed until the March. A. E. DOUGHER 2 13 m 5t Trea	

TREASURER'S OFFICE, ST. JOSEPH and Denver City Railroad Company.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Jan. 25, 1871. The interest and coupons due Feb. 15, 1871, on the first mortgage eight per cent, (S per cent.) gold bonds of the St. Joseph and Denver City Railroad Company will be paid at the office of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, in the city of New York, upon presentation and application, on and after that date, free of Government tax. THOMAS E. TOOTLE, Treasurer.

THE ENTERPRISE INSURANCE COM-PANY OF PHILADELPHIA. COMPANY'S BUILDING, NO. 400 WALNUT STREET. }

January 2, 1871. ) The Directors have this day declared a dividend of THREE PER CENT. on the capital stock of the Company for the last six months, payable on de-mand, free of all taxes. ALEX. W. WISTER,

1 2tf Secretary. THE UNION FIRE EXTINGUISHER

COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA

Manufacture and sell the Improved, Portable Fire Extinguisher. Always Reliable. D. T. GAGE,

No. 118 MARKET SL, General Agent. 6 30 tf BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYR.\_THIS SPLEN. did Hair Dve is the best in the world, the only true and perfect Dye. Harmless-Reliable-Instan-taneous-no disappointment-no ridiculous tints-"Dees as teentain Lead nor any Vitalie Poison to in-jurcts, Hair or System." Invigorates the Hair and leaves it soft and beautiful; Black or Brown. Sold by all Druggists and dealers. Applied at the Factory, No. 16 BOND Street, New York. [4 97 mwf9

INSTEAD OF USING COMMON TOILET Scap at this season of the year, use "Wright' Alconated Glycerine Tablet of Solidified Glycerine." "Wright's

It softens the skin, prevents redness and chapping by cold, and beautifies the complexion. For sale by Druggists generally. R. & G. A. WRIGHT, 16 fmw26t No. 624 CHESNUT St., Philad'a.

#### PATENTS.

INITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WASBINGTON, D. C., Jan. 21, 1821. On the petition of DANISL S. NIPPES, of Upper Merion Township, Pennsylvania, administrator of Albert S. Nippes, deceased, praying for the exten-sion of a patent granted to the said Albert S. Nippes, on the 21st day of April, 1857, for an improvement in Lathding 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. BAMUEL A. DUNCAN, Acting Commissioner of Patenta, 9 10 20t

MATS AND OAPS.

WARBURTON'S IMPROVED VENTILATED and easy-fiting DRESS HATS (patented), in all the improved fashions of the season, CHESNUT Street, next door to the Post Office, rpi

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and all interior points of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, etc. The first-class Steamship FALL RIVER, Captain Hinckley, will sail on Thursday, March 2, at 12 o'clock, noon, from Fler 8, North Wharves, above

Arch street. Through bills of lading to all principal points in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, etc., etc. Rates of freight as low as by any other route. For freight or passage apply on the Pier, as above. WM. A. COURTNEY, Agent in Charleston.

FOR NEW YORK DAILY\_VIA DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL EXPRESS STRAMBOAT COMPANY. The CHEAPEST and QUICKEST water commu-nication between Philadelphia and New York. Steamers of this Line will commence loading on or

about March 10, leaving daily as usual, from first wharf above MARKET Street, Philadelphia, and foot of WALL Street, New York. Goods forwarded by all the lines going out of New York North, East, and West, free of commission. Freight forwarded on accommodating terms. JAMAS HAND, Agent,

No. 119 WALL Street, New York.

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M. ELDRIDGE & CO., Agents, Alexandria, Va. DELAWARE AND CHESAPEAKE

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LEO, Captain Dearborn, from Pier No. 16 Rast River.

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