

Evening Telegraph

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AT THE EVENING TELEGRAPH BUILDING, No. 108 S. THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 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. Last March we entered into a special contract by which THE EVENING TELEGRAPH has the exclusive use of the news furnished in the afternoon by the Associated Press to its own members, the North American, Inquirer, Ledger, Press, Age, Record, and German Democrat, of this city, and the leading journals of the East, North, West and South; and hereafter THE TELEGRAPH will be the only evening paper published in this city in which the afternoon despatches of the Associated Press will appear.

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 complications in Europe, extra editions will be issued after this hour, and before the regular time for the early edition.

BUTLER AND BLAINE.

The proceedings of Congress are growing lively and entertaining. If the wise men at Washington cannot help, protect, or benefit the people, they have at least not lost the power of amusing the country. The farce performed by grave Senators which resulted in placing Cameron at the head of the Committee on Foreign Affairs has inspired the members of the House with a desire to make a display of their talents as sensationalists, and they succeeded wonderfully well in the grand set-to between Butler and Blaine. Of the two leading performers we scarcely know who won the highest honors. Butler is an old favorite, however, and he has made so many funny hits by his comical efforts to bully his Republican associates into an endorsement of his personal vagaries, that he will not be apt to receive full credit for his latest efforts; while Blaine gave new and unexpected proofs of his genius as a low comedian. Butler's greatness must be acknowledged when the American mind contemplates the strong points of his speech of yesterday—such, for instance, as his pertinacity in insisting that Blaine was a trick clown, his cutting allusions to the press gang, his declaration that he had replied to the request of the Speaker that he should go for the bill in dispute by saying "I will be — if I will," and his excessively funny remark that "for ways that are dark and tricks that are vain, I would name Speaker —." But despite all these magnificent points, and others equally striking, Blaine—especially when it is considered that he has hitherto, in the language of his rival, "only been speaking to the House through his wooden gavel upon a wooden box"—is entitled to a long and cheering round of national applause. The zeal with which he demonstrated, over and over again, that Butler was a — (the reader can supply the hiatus by selecting the favorite word in Greeley's Political Dictionary); the earnestness with which he dwelt upon Butler's gallantry in leading the forlorn hope for Jeff. Davis in the Charleston Convention of 1860; and the comical fervor he threw into the task he had confessedly assumed of "chastising the insolence of the gentleman from Massachusetts," were inimitable. Jefferson and Clark, or their great predecessors, Burton and John Drew, could not have performed the face of Debates in Congress in better style. Let no man say that the drama declines. It extends away from the narrow domains of the theatre to the amphitheatre of a mighty people, and the only thing left for Republican voters to regret is that they cannot, in reward for these splendid artistic exertions, vote for both Blaine and Butler, at one and the same moment, as candidates for the next Presidency.

THE NEW STEAMSHIP LINE.

The citizens of Philadelphia, no less than the projectors of the American Steamship Company, are to be congratulated upon the fact that all the bonds of the company have been taken, and that there is nothing to be done but to build the ships and get them afloat. This great enterprise, in which the whole city of Philadelphia and the whole State of Pennsylvania have the deepest interest, has been set on foot in a remarkably short space of

time, considering all the circumstances of the case; and with a line of first-class steamers running between this port and Europe, a stimulus will be given to business interests of every description which cannot fail to greatly augment the prosperity of Philadelphia.

The New York papers have sneered at and derided this Philadelphia steamship enterprise, but their sneers and derision have not concealed their well-grounded fears that if the Philadelphia steamers once commence to make their trips across the ocean, a death-blow will be given to the commercial prosperity of New York. Between the Tammany Ring, the Erie Ring, and a dozen other rings, with corrupt judges upon the bench ready to do their bidding, capitalists are beginning to think that New York is losing its attractions as a business centre. Philadelphia is now the manufacturing, and there is no good reason why she should not be the commercial, metropolis; and when the American steamship line is once in operation, the first great step will be taken towards making her such. The directors of the American Steamship Company have the necessary capital now in their hands, and it is to be hoped that they will commence building their vessels at as early a day as possible, and in every other way push forward with energy the great work they have in hand. The business men of Philadelphia of every class have gone into this steamship enterprise with a heartiness that augurs well for success, and if the interest which exists at present is maintained, success will be certain.

HON. HENRY D. MOORE.

The resignation of the collectorship of the port of Philadelphia by Hon. Henry D. Moore is to be regretted for many reasons. It is not often, in the present condition of our civil service, that such important offices as the collectorships of our principal ports are filled by gentlemen of so much ability and integrity; and neither the Government nor the merchants of Philadelphia are likely to be better served at the Custom House than they have been during his administration. Mr. Moore enjoyed in the highest degree the confidence of the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, and the latter has frequently expressed his hearty satisfaction with the manner in which the Philadelphia Custom House has been managed since it has been under the direction of the present collector. The merchants and others who have been obliged to transact business at the Custom House will have occasion to regret Mr. Moore's resignation even more than his official superiors at Washington, and he will retire to private life with the hearty good wishes of all who have been brought in contact with him. The retirement of such a thoroughly faithful and competent officer is a positive loss to the country, as, under our present disgracefully loose civil service system, the chances are not in favor of a worthy successor being appointed. It is sincerely to be hoped that the President will endeavor to nominate for the collectorship of this port some gentleman who will enjoy the same amount of confidence that Mr. Moore does, and who will endeavor to manage the business of the Custom House in an equally efficient manner.

THE REGULATION OF THE PAWN-BROKING BUSINESS.

An act to regulate the pawnbroking business was recently introduced by Mr. Hagar in the House of Representatives, which, if it becomes a law, will undoubtedly break up the business of a great many receivers of stolen goods, and will afford a protection to the public which is greatly needed. This bill provides that every pawnbroker in the city of Philadelphia shall file with the Mayor every day at 10 o'clock A. M. a descriptive list of the goods deposited with him on the day previous; also that each pawnbroker shall, in addition to the license now imposed by law, pay into the State Treasury the sum of three hundred dollars, for which he will receive a certificate, stating his name and place of business, which he will be obliged to keep exposed or hung up in a conspicuous place in his shop. The penalty for each and every violation of this law is fixed at three hundred dollars, to be sued for and recovered before any alderman, one-half of the fine to go to the person giving information. The bill also provides that the percentage allowed upon pledged goods shall not exceed two and one-half per centum per month.

There are excellent and honorable men engaged in the pawnbroking business, who have never been under any suspicion; but the business is one that, from its very nature, requires legal supervision of a stringent character, especially as there are many so-called pawnbrokers who are nothing more nor less than receivers of stolen goods and the confederates of professional thieves. It is for the interest of the community that the business of these men shall be broken up, if possible, or, at all events, that they shall be placed under legal restrictions that will diminish their opportunities for harm. Mr. Hagar's bill appears to be admirably adapted for the object it has in view, and a great check will be placed upon the operations of dishonest pawnbrokers by the provision requiring all in the business to deposit every morning with the Mayor a list of the articles received by them on the day previous. This bill should meet with the approval of the Legislature and become a law as early a day as is possible.

The subscriptions to the bonds of the American Steamship Company were completed yesterday, the list of which is published in another column of this paper. The subscription of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND by the "Star Union Line" to close up the amount was praiseworthy and unexpected, as this company, together with the Empire Company, have been extending aid to Western roads by supplying cars for through trade, and these companies, or parties connected with them, have for two years past

been running steamer lines on the Lakes between Lake Michigan ports and Erie, Pa., by which the grain trade of Philadelphia has been vastly increased, and are just completing an extensive line of steamers to run between Erie and Lake Superior ports, to which will be added, on the opening of the Lake navigation, at a cost of not less than \$400,000, three new iron steamers—the India, China, and Japan—the finest vessels ever afloat on the Lakes, with carrying capacities and passenger accommodations unsurpassed, if equaled, on any water. This enterprise in itself almost equals the extent and risk of that of the American Steamship Company, for which the subscriptions have just closed. Without this lake connection with Chicago, Milwaukee, Duluth, and the Northwest grain region, the Duluth and American Steamship Company could not well be a success as a grain carrier to Europe.

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS.

The following communication from a member of the bar of this city explains very clearly the principle we have endeavored to set forth on several occasions, that a lawyer owes something to society and to abstract justice as well as to his client. We undertook to criticize a distinguished lawyer of this city for what we believed to be a substantial endorsement of the professional misconduct of a well-known New York lawyer—whose performances, by-the-way, have since been pretty thoroughly ventilated by one of his professional brethren—and for this we were taken to task by several ardent legal gentlemen who accused us of improper personality, but who nevertheless declined to discuss the main question. We contend that a noble profession is disgraced by the conduct of certain men who call themselves lawyers, but who operate upon the principle that they are bound by no rules of law or conscience in the prosecution of their business, and that all means are legitimate which will enable them to win a case. This idea has gained such a foothold in the legal profession that it is certainly high time the respectable lawyers of the country had combined to discountenance it. Such a performance as that of Messrs. William B. Mann and Lewis C. Cassidy in the Ficken case was a disgrace to the legal profession, and the respectable members of the bar will be obliged to suffer in public opinion in consequence, unless they do something to discountenance such things in the future. It is gratifying to know that many lawyers are fully impressed with the importance of relieving themselves and their profession from the odium which some recent events have tended to cast upon them, and we take pleasure in commending the following communication to the attention of our readers, as it expresses our views very forcibly.

To the Editor of The Evening Telegraph.

In the last work of Fenimore Cooper, "The Ways of the Hour," calling attention to some of the social evils of the day, more particularly in connection with the administration of criminal justice, the types of two classes of lawyers are most strikingly and accurately portrayed.

Dunscomb, well known as a sound, reliable legal adviser, and respected as a high-toned, conscientious, exemplary lawyer, was averse to nefarious strife, and the perversion of law and justice for the sake of dollars and cents. The author represents him by his practice, by his mode of conducting and arguing causes, and by his intuitive sense of right and wrong, as a model lawyer—the type of a large number—while his antitype, Timms, is graphically represented as the type of a numerous class ready to serve or betray any cause for hire or gain. And Mr. Cooper, in illustration of the two classes, pointedly observes:—"The law is doubtless a very elevated profession when its practice is on a scale commensurate with its true objects. It becomes a very different pursuit, however, when its higher walks are abandoned to choose a path amid its thickets and quagmires. Perhaps no human pursuit causes a wider range of character among its votaries than the practice of this profession. In the first place, the difference in an intellectual point of view between the man who sees only precedents and the man who sees the principles on which they are founded, is as marked as the difference between black and white. To this great distinction in mind is to be added another that opens a still wider chasm, the results of practice, and which depends on morals. While one class of lawyers turn to the higher objects of their calling, declining fees in cases of obviously questionable right, and struggle to maintain their honesty in direct collision with the world and its temptations, another, and much the largest, falls readily into the practice of their craft—the world admirably suited to the subject—and live on encumbered and endangered not only by their own natural vices, but greatly damaged by those they might adopt, if it might be, ex-officio. This latter course is unfortunately that taken by a vast number of the members of the bar all over the world, rendering them loose in their social morality, ready to lend themselves and their talents to the highest bidder, and causing them to be at first indifferent, and in the end blind, to the great features of right and wrong. These are the moralists who advance the doctrine that the "advocate has a right to set as his client would act." While the class first named allow that "the advocate has a right to do what his client has a right to do, and no more."

The foregoing extract so accords with the two forcible and common sense editorials of your issues of February 24 and 27 on the duties and responsibilities of lawyers, that it is submitted for publication. Junius in one of his letters observes that "the indiscriminate defense of right and wrong contracts the understanding while it corrupts the heart." There is in the heart of every upright and honorable lawyer an intuitive sense of right and wrong which will irresistibly lead him to decline assistance in behalf of a bad man, or a bad cause, or of pretensions made available only by arts or technicalities. A bad man with a good cause is too much like a white blackbird.

The honest and reliable lawyer can never hesitate while guided by the principles inculcated by your editorials on this subject; and such a lawyer has no hesitation as to his duty and responsibility. "Take heed unto the thing that is right, for that shall bring a man peace at the last," is as applicable to the lawyer as it is to the man. COKE.

THE FINE ARTS.

Moran's "Land and Sea." One of the most interesting collections of pictures we have lately seen is now on exhibition at the gallery of James S. Earle & Sons, for the benefit of the sufferers from the late war in Europe. This cause should enlist the sympathy of every one, and we trust that the good ship may be heavily freighted with comforting necessities for the afflicted. Even independently of this noble and humane enterprise, such works of art should awaken unusual interest, for while each scene has some peculiar quality of special beauty, the subjects are most varied and interesting, and the arrangement of the threescore and fifteen paintings from the brush of Mr. E. Moran is so well managed that, after a visit among them, one feels as if he had travelled, without fatigue, far over the land and sea, among many scenes of refreshing loveliness and of soul-stirring sublimity. Not a few have expressed surprise that these diversified tableaux, forming so harmonious a panorama, should be the productions of one artist. Yet to the mastery hand of Mr. Edward Moran are we indebted for this delightful entertainment. A day or two ago a living picture, not in the illustrated catalogue, and a short critique, arrested the attention of visitors who lingered around the great painting of the life-boat. Two seafaring men stood before the picture, evidently much impressed by its spirit, and by many peculiar gestures and phrases they unreservedly expressed their approbation. But the refrain of their song, and the burden of their thought, was the simple expression, "That is nature."

We may enlarge as we please on the value of particular schools and styles; we may eulogize classic art; we may praise broad chiaroscuro, perfect drawing, and exquisite coloring; but what does all this avail if the work in question is devoid of the truth and the spirit which make mankind acknowledge it a transcript of nature? Surely to the correct artist who endeavors to interpret intelligently as well as carefully, there can be no higher laudation than "That is nature."

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