Evening Telegraph

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 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. In March, 1870, 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 11 o'clock, and the subsequent regular editions at 21, 31, and 41. 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.

THE SAN DOMINGO QUESTION. A NOTABLE feature of the debates in the Senate on the San Domingo question is the disposition of the speakers on both sides to avoid committing themselves on the main issue. The controversy refers rather to the manner in which the negotiations have been conducted than to the merits or demerits of the proposed acquisition in itself. The defenders of the President are apparently disposed to await the report commission before they take bold and decided grounds for annexation; and if the rumor that this report will, on the whole, be unfavorable, proves true, a short and easy method will be furnished for disposing of the entire subject. By way of compromise, our Government might lease or buy outright the bay and harbor of Samana, and leave the rapscallions and revolutionists of the interior to continue their quarrels until sheer exdomestic haustion prompted all parties to seek our friendly intervention, or until, like Kilkenny cats, they devoured each other. The bay and harbor may prove useful as a naval station, and in the event of a war with a foreign power it would soon save to the Government infinitely more than its cost; while the practical value of the interior will depend greatly upon the varying disposition of a people prone to change, to idleness, and to revengeful demonstrations. We have got land enough, in all conscience, for present necessities: and if we are to acquire more, it had far better be unencumbered with a race of lazzaroni, robbers, or rebels.

IMPORTANT TO COAL DEALERS. A BILL has been introduced in the House of Representatives to regulate the weight of anthracite coal delivered by retail coal dealers in the city of Philadelphia, which is of considerable interest and importance to both dealers and consumers, as its object is to compel the dealers to give full weight. It provides that after the first day of July, 1871, the legal standard ton for anthracite coal shall be 2240 pounds, which will put an end to all differences of opinion between those who sell and those who buy as to whether the word "ton" means a long or a short ton-2240 or 2000 pounds. The bill divides the city into three inspection districts, and provides for the election of three inspectors by Councils and their appointment by the Mayor, who shall serve for two years. These inspectors are to receive \$1200 per annum. and it is made their duty to examine all the wagons and other vehicles used for the delivery of anthracite coal within their respective districts, and to ascertain by measurement or otherwise their capacity. Those wagons which will contain 2240 pounds of hard white ach Schuylkill coal, or fractional fourths thereof, are to be stamped by the inspectors in a conspicuous manner; and then the bill further provides that on and after the first day of July, 1871, it shall not be lawful for any cart, wagon, or other vehicle to be used for delivering anthracite coal within the city of Philadelphia unless stamped or branded by the proper inspector, and every person violating this provision will be liable to a fine of ten dollars. The bill also authorizes the inspectors to order any wagon used or by retail efforts to regain his lost throne.

coal dealers in delivering authracite coal to be brought to any scales within four hundred yards of the place where the coal shall have been loaded, and to weigh it both loaded and empty. If the inspector shall find that the coal is short of the proper weight, it will be his duty to inform the dealer of the fact and of the penalty incurred, which will be a fine of fifty dollars. The inspector's fee for stamping coal carts is one dollar each; the fine for using an unstamped cart is fixed at ten dollars, the fine for refusing to permit the inspector to weigh a load of a load which weighs less than 2240 pounds, or the proper fractional part thereof. The bill contains no provision with regard to the manner in which the penalties named in it may be recovered, but in every other respect it is an excellent measure, which ought to go through the Legislature without opposition. It is notorious that many retail coal dealers habitually give short weight, and that many are firmly convinced that two thousand pounds is a full ton, while the consumers are under the impression that twenty-two hundred and forty pounds is the legal weight. The bill now under consideration will protect honest dealers as well as consumers, and if it becomes a law it will do away with abuses which it is now almost impossible to reach.

COLLEGIATE HONORS FOR SALE. DUBING some months past the Provost of the University of Pennsylvania has been receiving from various persons in Canada and Europe letters inquiring whether the University would confer degrees in absentia, and at what cost. At first these letters were mysteries, but at last their origin was detected. It was ascertained that a hired agent of a sham university in this city-we will not advertise it by giving its address-was palming off upon over-anxious Europeans and Canadians degrees which they supposed to come from the University of Pennsylvania, but which in reality came from the so-called University above alluded to. It was also ascertained that two charters, one for a medical school and the other for a college, gave the power to confer degrees. Finally a reporter of the Press took the matter in han o, and his expose of the whole concerp, published last Thursday, proved the correctness of the information before obtained. The "dean" of the pretending institution was caught in a nicely-laid trap, and a letter from him to a clergyman in England, offering to confer any degree in the whole list for a certain price, was found in no way to exaggerate his willingness to make doctors-if paid for it.

Of course such an iniquity should not be tolerated a single day longer than necessary. The Legislature should revoke these muchabused charters without delay. Our police should make a descent on the premises, for a museum of immoral and absolutely obscer specimens helps the financial department of the enterprise; and every citizen should do his share to excite a proper public feeling. When we think how many incompetent, if not utterly dishonest, fellows are turned loose upon the community with a degree of M. D. for which they never studied an hour, and thus empowered to injure for life, or even kill, such simpleminded persons as may come to them for advice, we can see easily how grave a responsibility rests upon every decent man in the community. Such doctors of medicine (yesterday, perhaps, clowns or stable-boys) are generally the wretches who by their lewdness decoy young men and women into sin, and then kill the former by quackery and the latter by malpractice. But for such men and a few like-minded, though regular graduates-the terrible crimes of pre-natal murder and infanticide, which so disgrace our age more than any preceding one, would be comparatively rare. To sell a strictly honorary degree is base enough: to traffic in the lives of our fellows is a crime against society, and should be punished as such.

If this scandal upon our city's fair reputation continue, we must expect to hear of suspicion and doubt attaching to the glorious fame of Philadelphia as the mother of medical schools in the United States. The English clergyman spoken of above, perhaps too ready to believe ill of anything American, says:-"I cannot understand how such a respectable university as that of Philadelphia should issue degrees through an agent in London. * * * This system of agency is most discreditable, and, for the honor of both our countries, should be stopped." Itching for a degree, yet fearing that he was being humbugged, though be knew that the University of Pennsylvania was too "respectable" to make a trade of its honors he still writes in this vein. The medical diplomas of Philadelphia's two great schools, the University and Jefferson, are recognized all over Europe. The city owes it to itself to keep Philadelphia's diplomas always recognizable.

THE debate upon the anti-Ku-klux bill has fairly commenced in the House of Representatives, and the people may expect to be fully enlightened in regard to the state of the South by the lower branch of Congress, while the upper branch is disposing of Dominica. All this may be well, but the substantial interests of the people of the Northern States ought also to be occasionally looked after; and if the Government has any blessings to bestow, a small share of them should be vouchsafed to those who have saved and maintained it and who bear nine-tenths of its burdens.

NAPOLEON III does not relish the idea of retiring to private life. He thinks that due regard for the welfare of his "poor people" will require him to take an active interest in the public affairs of France. Like the playedout politicians of America, his thirst for power, instead of being cured by his downfall, remains as strong as ever, and the remainder of his life will probably be spent in

IE THE STATE SENATE the groundwork was laid yesterday for a grand oyster war between the noble Commonwealths of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, by a resolution offered by Senator Dechert, which was appropriately referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. If we must have another fight, we know of nothing so well calculated to awaken martial ardor as the threatened loss of the Pennsylvania o a er crop in the Delaware Bay. Let us have no division into parties of hardshells and softshells, or half-shells and wholeshells, on this momentous subject, but march coal is fixed at ten dollars, and fifty dollars is | to the front with a stern resolve that not a the penalty for sending out into the highway | single lu-cious bivalve shall be surrendered to the grasping Jerseymen.

OBITUARY.

Augustus Becker, Journalist. A prominent German journalist, Augustus Becker, died in Cincinnati on Sunday last. He was born in 1814 in Hesse-Darmstadt. In 1835, when he was a young man, he was imprisoned for eight years for alding the revolution which broke out in Frankfort-on-the Main. When released he went to Switzerland and edited several radical republican papers. He was afterwards the ed or of a paper published in Germany, and supported the revolution of 1848, for which he was presecuted by the Government. He emigrated to this country in 1854. He went to B it more and edited the Weeker for awhile, but in 1856 removed to Cincinnati, where he had charge of two papers. He served during the war as chaplain, he having studied theology in Germa y, being originally intended for the Church by his father, a Lutheran clergyman. In 1864 he was again in Baltimore, engaged upon the Wecker, and afterwards again removed to Cincinnati to start an entirely new journal, the Volksblatt. In 1869 he became editor of the Courier, the most prominent German Republis can paper, upon which he was engaged until a few months ago, when his health broke down and he was obliged to forego all work.

THE FINE ARTS.

Moran's "Land and Sea " Mr. Moran's pictures, "Land and Ses," seventyfive in number, have been removed from Messra. Earles' galleries to Scott's new auction rooms, No. 1120 Chesnut street, where they are on free exhibition until the time of sale, Thursday evening at 756 o'clock. As Mr. Moran has made up his mind to leave us, to settle permanently in New York, the pictures must be disposed of, and the sale, Messrs. Earle assure us, will be peremptory. Among so many fine things we could not fairly notice particularly any particular ones, but any one is a great example of the artist's work. We might call attention to Nos. 76 and 77 on the catalogues, by J. T. Peele, of London, an old friend of Mr. Moran, which he has included in his sale, as they were in his possession at the time he dismantled his studio. They are charming English game subjects, entrusted to him to be sold for the benefit of Mr. Peele's aged father, who is blind, and entirely dependent upon his sons. Under these circumstances, they should command readily the price the artist desired for them-\$450

HEAVY DEFALCATION.

Disappearance of a Patted States Revenue The Savannah Republican of the 25th inst

has the following:—
Yesterday it was found that Major J. H. Gould, the United States Revenue Collector for this district, had left for parts unknown, being a defaulter to the Government in a sum estimated at from \$75,000 to \$100,000. information from parties connected with the office and from other Government officials in the The departure had been so well concealed that even the subordinate officers themselves knew not where Major Gould was to be found.

Elongated faces of bondsmen were to be seen on the street, but not desiring to add to a great grief, we hesitated to ask where was the collector. Yesterday morning the facts appeared patent, and the answer was repeated from almost every lip, "gone where the woodbine twineth." The actual loss will fall heavily upon his bondsmen, three of whom, in a desire to aid a deserving official, generously consented to hold up his honest hands while he fought against traduction and poverty, and who are now se-riously injured by his default. Gould was a

Mason, and, more than ever, will be rebuked in conscience for doing that which brings discredit upon the brotherhood. Connected with the above facts is the further fact that the Supervisor of Interna- Revenue has also mysteriously disappeared, and it is supposed in official circles that the Collector and the Supervisor of Revenue are twins in this de-

livery of the Treasury to so large an amount.

Major Gould evidently took the western train on Thursday morning, after having obliterated all traces which would lead to his destination. His family have also left the city.

A Solemn Protest Against Annexation to Ger-The following is a portion of a protest that was unanimously adopted, emanating from the municipality of Metz:—

One of the greatest barriers that stands between two nations is the diversity of languages. Taking only the positively practical side of the question, how can a foreign administration be implanted among a population which does not understand its idion? For at no time has the German language been spoken in Metz. In going back to the epoch of the middle ages, when the free city of Metz was by a slender the attached to the German empire, her language, literature, records of public and private acts, the names of her writers and inhabitants were exclusively French. When the league was conexclusively French. When the league was con-cluded between certain German princes and King Henry II, Metz, with T ul, Verdun and Cambral, was cited as one of the four imperial cities which was not of the "Germanic language." It is not becessary to say that the same conditions have ex-isted for the last three centuries.

isted for the last three centuries.

At the last census of 1836, it was proved that of 47,242 lobabitants 44, 67 belonged to the French nationality. There were in M. tz only 1741 Germans, including the subjects of the Austrian Empire. We may further add that among the leading portion of the community, in spits of the vicinity of Germany, the study of the German language has never met with sympathy, and that a very small number of perions speak or even understand that language.

The incorporation of this province into Germany, which, by her language and institutions, is comwhich by her language and institutions, is completely after to us, would result in the overthrow of all our interests. The population of the city is composed of magistrates, public and adulaterial officers, pensioners of the Stab, proprietors, merchants, and workmen. Annexation would be a terri-le blow to the fortune, affections, and even the very existence of the very existence of the se people.

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