THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1871.

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1871. THE FALL ELECTION. Among the officers to be elected by the citizens of Philadelphia in October are two of her most important municipal officials-the Mayor and District Attorney; and the politicians have been busy for months in making arrangements to control the conventious which will nominate the Republican and Democratic candidates for these positions. Three years ago the present incumbents obtained a considerably larger vote than their associates on the Democratic ticket, and they owe their election to their personal popularity. As they will probably be renominated, the Republicans, if they desire to be successful, should profit by the lesson of the last campaign, and make nominations which will command pot only the full party strength, but win votes from the opposing organization, and thus make assurance doubly sure.

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The Mayor of Philadelphia is not endowed with as much control over her municipal affairs as is, in some respects, desirable, but he is nevertheless entrusted with many responsible duties, and it is highly important that he should possess excellent administrative abilities, an unblemished character, unimpeachable integrity, earnest devotion to the interests of the city, and a thorough comprehension of the workings of her complicated system of government. A Mayor gifted with strong personal influence could often render great service by his recommendations in matters which he cannot fully control; while in the important department which is particularly under his exclusive control, the police, he can render immense service by skilful and faithful attention to his duties, or do a great deal of injury by selecting inefficient officers and by tolerating their delinquencies. It would be no easy task to select from the Republicans of Philadelphia a man who, above all others, would be singularly well fitted for the arduous and in some respects peculiar duties of Mayor of this city, but the best efforts of the party should be made to ensure such a selection, and a candidate should be chosen in whom the city as well as the party could justly impose implicit confidence.

The office of District Attorney is scarcely less important. In some respects it is even more important than that of Mayor. Everything relating to the administration of the criminal law depends, in a large measure, upon him. If he is tainted with corruption, or closely affiliated with any class of evil doers he can give a broad license to orime, and permit his favorites to go unpunished, despite their commission of many glaring offenses. In one sense justice should be blind, but this is only as between man and man, and not in the bad sense which would prompt an official chosen to institute criminal proceedings to wink at any class of dangerous or outrageous offenses. The Republican party should be very careful to avoid the nomination of a candidate who, from any reason, would be indisposed to discharge his full duty without "fear, favor, or affection." No sort of entangling alliances between district attornies and any c'azs of crimina's should be tolerated or countenanced. Every good citizen comprehends the importance of keeping the courts pure, and as an indispensable step towards this end it is essential that the prosecuting officer who represents the sword of justice should be above suspicion and beyond reproach; that he should, in short, be as wise as a serpent yet as innocent as a dove.

IT is reported from Washington that the Joint High Commission has practically concluded its labors, the general basis for a soltlement of all the matters in controversy between the United States and England having been agreed upon, and the delay in reduction of the conclusions of the commissioners to the form of a treaty or convention being occasioned by the non-arrival of the final response of the British Government to the communications submitted to it by its commissioners. The commission is reported to have agreed that the adjudication and award of the Alabama claims shall be left to a commission of jurists; that the question of the ownership of San Juan Island shall be submitted to the arbitration of some friendly powers, while the fishery question and the navigation of the St. Lawrence will be settled by a treaty. How far the conclusions of the Joint High Commission will be satisfactory to the people of the United States cannot be determined until all the details of the convention are made known; but it is sincerely to be hoped that the Senate will exercise a jealous care that our rights are not sacrificed to British obstinacy, as they have been on previous occasions. We are in a position to insist that our demands shall be complied with to the fullest extent, or else that matters shall remain in their present unsatisfactory condition until the English Government is ready to come to terms. The English are far more anxious to arrive at a settlement than we are, and there is no reason why we should not avail ourselves of all our advantages, especially as we have demanded nothing but what we are strictly entitled to. The San Juan difficulty grew out of a characteristically impudent British attempt to interpret treaty, by which they practically gained everything worth having, in such a manner as to obtain more than they were entitled to under its provisions; and the only settlement the United States should consent to is the total relinquishment of all British claims to the island. We have already yielded more in this quarter than we ever should have done, and there is no necessity whatever that we should yield this point or even submit it to arbitration. With regard to the Alabama claims, the

THE JOINT HIGH COMMISSION.

proposed settlement may be satisfactory and it may not. If the English Government acknowledges its responsibility and agrees to pay the bill, a commission of jurists may perhaps with propriety pass upon the validity of the several claims and award the amounts due to the sufferers, but an arbitration will not satisfy the people of the United States any better now than it would have done in Reverdy Johnson's great dinner-eating days.

All right-minded men are of course anxious to have the various matters of controversy between the two countries definitely settled at as early a day as is possible; but as the disgraceful conduct of the English Government and some of the most influential members of its ruling classes got that country into difficulty, the United States is not bound to make any concessions for the sake of peace and harmony, but is entitled in absointe justice to demand a compliance with its terms before there can be any settlement. We make these remarks not to prejudge the work of the High Commission, but to put the public on their guard against being deceived by soft words and specious promises. The conclusions of the commission should be rigidly scratinized by the public as well as by the Senate, for there must be no more misinterpretations of treaties and no more opportunities for misunderstandings such as have occurred with regard to San Juan Island and the fisheries.

sgo as 1865 it was said not only to have made the round of land and sea, but to have become regularly established as a national song of Ger-It was not, however, until many. the ex-Emperor Napoleon III made his reckless assault upon the nationality and unity of Germany, that "The Watch on the Rhine" was taken up by the whole Fatherland, and re-echoed through the fairest portion of France by her armles, until It had almost supplanted "What is the German's Fartherland?" and "I am a Prussian." The peculiarity of the struggle into which Germany was drawn by the unprovoked assault of France gave a singular significance to the words of the song, and contributed to its surprising popularity, both at home and in the field. Peculiarily appropriate to the great issue at stake as it was, Prince Bismarck did not exaggerate its influence upon the spirit and endurance of the army in the words referred to above.

sure of reward for his inspiriting and patriotic strains. His name was on the lips of every son of the Fatherland, Queen Augusta caused a medal in his honor to be struck and presented to him, and on the occasion of a visit which he made to Berlin in December last, he was the recipient of a grand ovation in which all the choristers of the Prussian capital joined.





THE COAL TROUBLES.

THE coal troubles are not yet over, but it is to be hoped that a settlement cannot be much longer delayed. One of the promising signs of the times is the fact that, although the miners who had commenced working in one of the mines near Scranton were served with "coffin notices" (which means that they were threatened with death if they presumed to continue at work), a large and enthusiastic mass meeting of citizens was held, at which resolutions were adopted declaring that the working miners must and would be protected at all hazards. A powerful reaction is apparently being developed against the terrorism which has hitherto rendered the decrees of the W. B. A. omnipotent, and it is high time that means should be discovered to prevent that organization, or any other in this Commonwealth, from compelling thousands of men to spend months in idleness. The umpire to whom the question of the employment of threats and force to interrupt mining operations was submitted was clearly and positively against such dangerous, damaging, and infamons tyranny; and if law and order are enforced on this one point, coal operations will soon be resumed at many works. Whatever else may be done, or left undone, in the adjustment of the existing difficulties, the principle should be universally enforced that violence cannot and must not be resorted to to stop work. Such proceedings involve a wanton and outrageous attack upon the labor as well as the capital of the coal regions, and at the same time impose unnecessary and onerous expenditures upon all coal consumers, and the men who make such attacks should not only be cut off from all sympathy, but punished as dangerous oriminals. The impunity with which they have committed similar outrages heretofore has so much emboldened them that they have virtually established as the common their mob rule law of the coal regions; but this sort of common law should be broken up now and forever, and the authorities should vigorously sustain those citizens who avow their readiness to protect industrious miners. It is a disgrace to the State that she should permit any combination to force men to be idle when they wish to be at work; and before the W. B. A. talks about "principle," it should learn to respect the fundamental principle which directs that all men should be allowed to earn their daily bread by daily labor.

OBITUARY.

Carl Wilhelm, Composer of "The Watch on the Rhine."

The last mall from Europe brings intelligence of the sudden death of Carl Wilhelm, whose name will go down to posterity as the composer of the music of "Die Wacht am Rhein," the grand national anthem which played such a conspicuous part in the recent struggle between Germany and France, and which, Prince Bismarck is reported to have said, aided the Germans in the late war more than a well-equipped army of one hundred thousand men.

Herr Wilhelm retired one evening a fortnight ago in excellent health, and on the following morning was found a corpse, his sudden death having been the result of apoplexy. He was born at Schmalkalden, in Thuringla, in 1815. From his father, who was an organist by profession, he received his first instruction in music, his studies being continued at Cassel, in the years 1834-86, under Baldewein and Bott, and also under the celebrated maestro, L. Spohr. He further devoted himself to the study of his art at Frankfort-on-the-Main, under Aloys Schmidt, an admirable master of the plano-forte, and at Offenbach under Herr A. Andre, as teacher of counterpoint. In 1841 he began life as a teacher of music at Crefeld, where his talents were fully appreciated, and where he was soon elected director of the Singacademie for mixed chorus and of the Liedertafel. By his exertions the latter society was raised to a degree of excellence equalling that of any other in Germany. For twentyfour years Wilhelm taught music at Crefeld, and during this period he published about one hundred compositions, nearly all for the planoforte, and many of which have enjoyed great popularity. Continued ill-health enforced retirement from his duties as a teacher and director, and finally, in 1865, he was obliged to return to his native town, where he continued to reside up to the time of his death. After his retirement he produced but one noteworthy composition, a magnificent chorus for male voices, entitled "Wache auf, Deutschland" ("Wake up, Germany"), which has for its re-frain the characteristic line "Not a foot's breadth of German soil shall ever become French.

"The Watch on the Rhine" was composed by Wilhelm in the year 1854. The authorship of the words, for some time after the outbreak of the recent war, was in dispute, but it was eventually proved satisfactorily that they were written by Max Schneckenburger, a prosperous merchant of Burgdorf, who was born at Thalhelm, Wurtemberg, in 1819, and died in 1819, several years before they were set to the stirring strains of Wilhelm. "The Watch on the Rhine" soon attained general popularity, and as long

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