THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1871.

Evening Telegraph

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SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1871.

THE GAS LOAN BILL. In the debate on the Gas Loan bill at the last meeting of Common Council, the broad doctrine was laid down that "the Supreme Court had decided that Councils have no control over the Gas Trustees. They ask for money, and the Councils have nothing else to do but to give it to them," the penalty of a refusal to acknowledge this doctrine being a neglect to supply rural districts with gas. Under this ruling it is not so strange, after all, that the Gas Ring controls the city, nomicandidates for office, enriches nates its favorites, charges extortionate prices for gas, swells the municipal debt, and, after overtaxing individual citizens in detail, makes annual levies, ranging from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, or even larger sums, upon the City Treasury. Since all this is done under color of furnishing ways and means for supplying the city economically and regularly with gas, let us be devoutly thankful that no similar machinery has yet been put in operation for supplying anything else; for if a few more such rings were permitted to fatten on the public, the city would become uninhabitable. The only wonder is that all our grasping politicians do not make desperate struggles for entrance into the magic circle; but perhaps the frequency of the gas loans, when rightly construed, means that it is being rapidly widened.

Common Council has been paralyzed by the doctrine that the citizens and tax-payers of Philadelphia have no rights which the Gas Trustees are bound to respect; and the only hope left for effective resistance to this extraoidinary theory of the existing relations between the sovereign people and their usurping servants rests now in Select Council. If they can be made willing slaves of the ring, we may expect loan bill to follow loan bill, gas works to be built up or torn down for frivolous and insufficient reasons, unnecessary expenditures to be multiplied, and the system of rigid accountability-without which there never was and never can be, in popular governments, a pure and honest administration -contemptuously set aside. Old legends tell of slaves of the lamp, and the prosaic facts connected with the Gas Trust indicate a determination to convert the citizens of Philadelphia into subservient subjects of the Gas Ring. It remains for Select Council to decide whether such a scheme is to be successful.

THE daily reports by cable telegrams of dreadful scenes in Paris and of French confusion, frightful as they are, seem tame when compared with the detailed descriptions furnished by mail correspondents. The once gay capital seems to be under the control of men whose highest ambition is to re-enact the worst horrors of the first Revolution. Order, law, common sense, and religion are subverted by a new Reign of Terror. The most terrible crimes are again perpetrated in the name of liberty, and the professed champions of freedom are guilty of the most dreadful and varied acts of tyranny. A body of lunatics sudder ly turned loose could not act more desperately and illogically, and the only consoling feature of the rule of the Commune must be sought in the fact that its inefficiency, recklessness, stupidity, and criminality must necessarily lead to its destruction. The amazing part of the situation is the continued inability of France and the better part of Paris to educe order-out of this chaos. Can it be that the gay city of criminal indulgence has not yet sufficiently explated her past

be followed by absolute destruction ? OBITUARY.

Joseph W. Scott.

Colonel Joseph W. Scott, a distinguished member of the New Jersey bar, died at New Brunswick on Thursday night. At the time of his death he was the oldest lawyer in the State, having been licensed as an attorney in 1801 and as a counsellor in 1804. He was a prominent member of the Order of Freemesons, and was Grand Master in New Jersey from 1830 to 1534. He was also a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, and was president of it for many years. Colonel Scott was an eloquent pleader, and was especially successful in criminal cases.

offenses, and that a long list of miseries are

yet reserved for her? Must a prolonged

siege, famine, pestilence, and fratricidal war

Lucien Moreau.

Lucien Moreau, an American citizen who fell during the late Franco-Prussian war while fighting for the French cause, was a descendant of Marshall Moreau, and was born in Louisiana about 1824. In 1854 he was a follower of Lopez in his Cuban expedition, but managed to escape the fete of that adventurer. He subsequently participated in the Nicaragua raid of Walker. During the Rebellion he fought in the ranks of the Louisiana Tigers at Bull Run, and afterwards became attached to Stonewall Jackson's command as a scout. Afterwards he wos in J. E. B. Stuart's cavalry. During the recent European war Moreau was an officer of franco-tireurs, but when or how his death occurred is not known;

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THE INDIANS.

REPORTS from New Mexico and Arizona give distressing accounts of Indian outrages, and it is said that the conduct of the savages indicates a determination on their part to utterly annihilate the whites. The Indians in the section referred to have always been considered the most bloodthirsty and least tractable of any upon the continent, and if they have actually determined upon a grand summer campaign against the whites, harrowing scenes of blood will be enacted between now and next winter which will certainly not make the philanthropic labors of those who desire to civilize the red men more easy than they have been. The military assistance demanded by the people of New Mexico should be granted, and the present force of United States troops in those Territories largely increased, so that the savages may at least be held in check and taught that they cannot murder with impunity. While the efforts of the Christian people who are laboring for the welfare of the Indians are worthy of every encouragement, no false notions of philanthropy should be allowed to interfere with the prompt and severe punishment of the savages if they persist in amusing themselves by murdering and outraging the whites upon the Western plains; and it is better that the whole aboriginal race should be annihilated than that the progress of civilization should be impeded in order that they may be permitted to use the tomahawk and calping-knife at pleasure. It is gratifying to see, however, that those who have interested themselves in the Indians are, in spite of the many difficulties against which they are obliged to contend, endeavoring resolutely to achieve as great results as are possible. The entrusting of the purchase of Indian goods to the Executive Committee of the Indian Commission, instead of leaving the matter entirely in the hands of Commissioner Parker, was an important move in the right direction, for which Congress is entitled to credit. The committee appointed by the President, which consists of Measrs. George H. Stuart, of Philadelphia; John V. Farwell, of Chicago; Robert Campbell, of St. Louis; and William E. Dodge, of New York, met yesterday in New York to open bids; and the result of their appointment, and the assurance of honest dealing held out by it, were opparent in the reception of bids from some of the best and most responsible houses in New York, Philadelphia, and other cities. Many of the houses now offering to supply Indian goods have never been able heretofore to obtain any consideration for their bids, and have of late declined to submit any, for the reason that fair and honorable treatment could not be had from the Indian ring. The committee is composed of gentlemen of unimpeachable character, and as one of the principal sources of trouble with the savages has been in the swindling practices of the agents who purchased and distributed the goods promised by the Government, it is to be hoped that the reform now being inaugurated will result in permanent benefits to both white and red men.

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RESPECT.

ings, at Scott's New Gallery, Thursday, May 11. A pertion of the collection now on exhibition at EARLES' GALLERIES, No. 816 Chesnut street. A few fine class pictures by Philadelphia and New York artists have been added to the sale, and all will be on exhibition at Scorr's GALLERY for one week previous, from May 4 to 11. Sale positively without reservation.

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