THE CENTRE REPORTER,

FRED. KURTZ.....Editor.

Centre Hall, Pa., Jan 23, 1873.

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Constitutional Convention.

We see by the proceedings of the Convention, thus far made known in the shape of resolutions and amendments offered and referred, many of them that would disgrace even the slang of a Union League, or the belchings of a Junta of pot-house politicians, and it convinces us, that the members of talents, intelligence, and statesmanship, in the convention, will be bored to death by the small fry that is seated among them. That there are questions of great importance that will come before them, is true, questions that will involve the rights of the state, such as the right of suffrage, and we hold that this is a conventional right, and that the present convention can enlarge, or restrict, or qualify it. Already do we find the worshippers of Ham's decendants are raising their impious hands to strike out the word "White' from the 1st section, 3rd article, of the present constitution, in servile obedience to the radical kites, whose talons they have affixed to the instrument signed by George Washington as its President, yeleped the 14th and 15th amendments. Will a majority of the convention permit the political sacrilege to be consummated? Will they permit these political Janizaries to disgrace our good old commonwealth by placing her alongside of Louisiana and the Pinchback governor, South Carolina and her negro administration? We hope not. The negro nor mulatto had no right to vote in our state under the constitution of 1776 or 1790. See chief-justice Gibson's opinion in Hobbs, et al vs Fox, 6 Watts Rep. 553. But these incendious gentlemen do not intend to stop here. The legislature in 1839 passed an election law, the 95 sec. declaring that, "No body of troops in the army of the United States, or of this commonwealth, shall be present, either armed or unarmed, at any election within this commonwealth, during the time of such election" &c., and they now intend to have inserted in the constitution a prohibition, preventing the legislature of the State from enacting, hereafter, any such law—thus recognizing the usurpation and infringement of the rights of the state by President Grant and his soldiers, in the late elections held in New York and in this state. So they go. But suppose that as a matter of grace and favor they should leave out the word "White" in the 1st sec. 3rd art. and insert it by declaring "that none but *White* freemen shall be elected as Senators and members of the House of Representatives," &c—this a majority of the convention have the power and right to do. Similar restrictions and qualifications are to be found in the laws and constitutions of several of our states. In New York a negro must be possessed of a freehold worth $250 before he can vote, while the white man is not subject to this free hold qualification. In Massachusetts none can vote who can not read the constitution and write his name, and in that state, and one or two others, they have imposed a capita tax on each foreign emigrant that is landed on their shores. But the qualification and restriction in the constitution of the United States is in point. The person elected President must be a native born citizen. But this qualification and restriction is not required of the person elected Vice-President. So in our state, if the negro is permitted, as a favor, to vote, this is no reason that he should be elected to office, or be an officer in the militia to command white men, or sworn as a juror to try white men, or be elected to any office of trust or profit in this state—and we think the convention will so declare in the constitution they will submit to the people for their approval.

Purchased Seats.

From the revelations of bribery almost invariably following the election of a United States Senator, now-a-days, one is led to conclude that few members now occupy seats in that once august body, made renowned by a Clay, Webster, Benton, Cass, Buchanan, and others, in the earlier and purer days of the republic, but what obtain their seats by bribery—purchasing their seats as men would buy cattle. Cameron is notorious the world over for buying his election, Patterson did it, the Credit Mobilier as now leaks out before the investigation, spent $10,000 to elect senator Harlan, from Iowa, and senator elect Caldwell, of Kansas, was elected by bribery, a committee to investigate his case, having witnesses before it which make out a clear case against him, of which the *Tribune* remarks:

The Investigating Committees now at work in Washington, if they do not take alarm at the multiplying developments of irregularity and wickedness, are likely to throw a flood of light upon certain mysteries of legislation which have long puzzled simple-minded people. Parliamentary debate, as we all know, has long fallen into disrepute at the national Capitol, or is valued only for its indirect effect upon public sentiment; and bills before Congress are really discussed, not in Senate or House of Representatives, but in the newspapers. The arts of promoting legislation are practiced secretly in the lobbies and corridors; and what those arts are, if the present investigations go on much longer, we shall all thoroughly understand.

There is the purchase system, for instance, of which the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections is getting a pretty fair illustration in the Kansas case. Mr. Caldwell, it seems, wishing to be Senator, bought the Kansas Legislature out and out, as he might have bought a drove of hogs. The usual price of a member was $1,000; but if there happened to be a corner in the market quotations ran as high as $2,500, and some uncommonly conscientious gentlemen refused to sacrifice their integrity for less than $5,000. One member, being applied to for his vote, hinted that "he was a poor man" and struck a bargain at $2,000. It is painful to learn that although he voted according to agreement he never got the money. Mr. Caldwell's friends formed a committee of five, who used to go over the list of members together and devide the work. "Sometimes" (this is the confession of one of the five) "a member would report that a certain man had better not be counted yet, "as he was a little too high, but he thought "he could bring him down." And yet there seems to have been a competition lively enough to send prices up one hundred per cent in two days, and Mr. Caldwell had to pay roundly because he was 'a little slow" in coming to terms. A Mr. Carson testified that he had been "employed by T. J. Anderson, a friend of "Caldwell, to buy votes at $1,000 each; "that is, he was to have $1,700 for each "vote he bought, and he was to make all "the profit he could." Under this arrangement the honerable gentlemen were most unmercifully shaved. Mr. Carson paid only $1,000 for the wear and tear of the moral sentiments, and kept $700 for his own wear and tear of lungs and shoe-leather. One of the members who had taken the money afterwards returned it, having changed his mind, and Mr. Carson "kept it to pay for his own services." So little disguise was there about this business that the same Mr. Carson asked legal advice as to the possibility of taking a receipt from the members whom he bought, so as to insure delivery.

There is another system of lobbying, much less dangerous and less brutal than these dealings in legislative live-stock. It consists in "making friends," and the Credit Mobilier inquiry presents an excellent illustration of it. The Credit Mobilier was a doubtful company which made a great deal of money through the favor of Congress. It had obtained, as its chief managers tell us, all the legislation it wanted; but it was threatened with an investigation; it might at any time be ruined by unfavorable action in Washington; and if it wanted nothing else it wanted to be let alone. The trustees consequently put into the hands of Oakes Ames and Thomas C. Durant a thousand shares of stock to be distributed "where it would do "most good." These gentlemen (or at any Mr. Ames—we have not heard Durant's story yet) proceeded to place the stock in Congress. They asked no direct return for it; they only wanted to make friends by giving Congressmen a pecuniary interest in the affairs they were expected officially to examine. They did not give the stock outright; they only sold it at a third or a quarter of its value, and promised that every man who took it should have his money back, with ten per cent per annum additional, if he did not like the investment. That the Credit Mobilier was not molested in Congress after this, and that it was even benefited by subsequent acts, it would perhaps be superfluous to mention.

What difference is there in principle between these two methods of corruption? In both cases legislators accept a pecuniary consideration for their official action. In both cases they prove false to their public duty and become the paid agents of private persons or companies. The corruption in the Kansas system is the more gross and degrading, because it presupposes the loss of all shame; but the bribery in the Credit Mobilier case is nevertheless real, and the implicated Congressmen can only vindicate their honesty at the expense of their understanding.

New York city has fourteen murderers awaiting trial, besides Stokes, whose lawyers are making an effort to get a new trial for him. If Stokes gets through the meshes of the law, it would be an outrage to hang any of the others. If there is not law enough to hang him, there certainly is not to hang any other murderer.

John W. Geary issued 425 pardons during the time he was governor—many of these were for villains of the most dangerous kind, and heads of political rowdy gangs of Philadelphia. We trust the constitutional convention will place such restrictions upon the pardoning power that such abuses of it will be shut off.

Governor Geary will have a nice thing for himself after the close of his term. His legs are full of bullets, which struck him and lodged there during the war, so that his propellors now present veins of the richest lead ore, a lease of which has been obtained by a company of lead miners, from whom the governor will receive a bonus that will make him comfortable during the remainder of his days.

The Dominican government has presented President Grant with four asses. We think there are too many asses about the white house already and San Domingo hadn't need increase the number.

The temperance men of Mifflin have organized and intend to make a vigorous campaign against license at the approaching spring election.

Caldwell's Corruption.

HIGH PRICED LEGISLATORS IN KANSAS.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 12.—The Senate Committee on Elections this morning examined Ira Dusick, a member of the Kansas Legislature; C. W. Thomas, and James C. McDowell, the latter of whom testified that Thomas offered to sell him for Caldwell the votes of Steele, and other members of the Legislature. The Committee also examinied at great length L. T. Smith, Caldwell's partner in the banking business. Smith gave the details of the arrangemedt made before the Senatorial Election between Caldwell, Governor Carney and himself, by which Carney was to withdraw from the Senatorial candidacy for fifteen thousand dollars paid him by Caldwell. This amount was subsequently paid Carney by Caldwell in installments of ten and five thousand dollars respectively. Some time afterwards Smith gave Carney $7,000 to reimburse him for expenditures during the election.

Another Democratic Senator.

WASHINGTON, January 17.—The committee on elections decided to-day to give the seat from Florida to Niblack, democrat, who contested the seat of Walls, negro and republican. Walls has held the seat since the beginning of the present session of congress. It now appears that he never had any right to it.

Bloody election riots have occurred in the City of Parana, Brazil, and many persons killed.

The Surveyor General's Report.

The report of Col. R. B. Beath, Surveyor General, for the year ending November 30th, is before us. The receipts paid into the State Treasury, during the year, were $48,155.48—a little less than for the year 1871, but about the average of yearly receipts since the passage of the act of May 20, 1864 which so greatly stimulated the patenting of lands. The stimulus given by that act seems to have reached its maximum in 1780, since which time the applications for parents have diminished. The act of last session, requiring County Surveyors to notify the owners of unpatented lands of the amounts of the liens held against them by the State has been put into operation. This plan has been adopted to avoid the harshness of bringing suits without notice, which could have been done at any time, and it is believed will go far toward closing up the unfinished business of the Department. Special lists were made out for each county, and embraced 1,492 tracts and 58 town lots, covering 321,470 acres, against which the Commonwealth has liens for unpaid purchase money and fees amounting to $100,000. Many of the County Surveyors have reported, and generally have been quite successful in finding the tracts and the owners. They uniformly report that owners will voluntarily settle, and thus avoid compulsory collection on the part of the State. The liens against lands not embraced in the special lists amount to $500,000, thus showing an aggregate due the State from unpatented land of $600,000. The Survey or General appreciates the importance of speedily closing up the accounts of the State against unpatented lands, and suggests to those who know their land to be unpatened, the propriety of paying off their liens without waiting to be notified by the County Surveyors. By doing so, they will save costs, and the accumulation of interest on the liens. The Surveyor recommends an increase of the fees for making connected drafts, copies of records, etc., as the revenues from this service do not pay the expense. He asks the fees to be increased so as to make the office at least self-sustaining.

The Chicago *Times* holds the following views on currency and banking:

A Washington telegram says that the House Committee on Currency and Banking have agreed on a bill "for free banking, without authority to issue circulating notes." This means, probably, that the committee have agreed on a bill extending all the privileges of the existing banking law, except the privilege of issuing circulation, to all who may wish to avail themselves thereof. This a step in the right direction. If banking privileges are to be granted by the general government at all, there is no reason why they should not be granted equally to all. There is no propriety or justice in creating and maintaining a banking monopoly, any more than there is justice or propriety in creating and maintaining a railroad or a hotel monopoly. The banking and currency committee seem to perceive, however, that it will not extend the privilege of issuing circulation to all who may desire it. They seem to perceive that if banking were to be made free in this respect, there would be great danger of extreme inflation, with all its attendant evils. But if they can perceive this, why can they not perceive that the currency privilege is one which ought not to be granted at all? The government ought to grant no favors which cannot be granted equally to all who may desire them. Government ought not to create and foster monopolies of any kind. It ought not to say to the public, "You may enjoy all the privileges conferred by the banking law, except one, and that the most valuable one; that one must be reserved for the exclusive benefit of those who now enjoy it." If a privilege cannot be freely extended without detriment to the public interests, as it clearly cannot be in the matter of issuing circulating notes, then it ought to be withheld entirely. But our law-givers don't believe in shaping legislation in accordance with principles, and therefore they will see no impropriety in making banking free, except in so far as they prefer to have it remain a monopoly.

PRESIDENT GRANT AT HORACE GREELEY'S FUNERAL.

When President Grant declined an invitation to a dinner in Washington in order that he might attend the funeral of Horace Greeley, many kind things were said of him by the news paper press of the country. It seemed to be regarded as a piece of self-denial greatly to be commended, and we are sure that all the admirers of his excellency will be sincerely glad to learn that he got a good dinner in New York, with wine in plenty, and that he got all these good things without paying for any of them. Shortly after Horace Greeley's body was deposited in the ground the Fifth Avenue Hotel sent the following bill to the Board of New York Aldermen:

FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL,
New York, Dec. 4, 1872.

President Grant and Party,
Dr. to Darling, Griswould & Co,

Board and parlor, 1 day, 6 persons	$48 00
Fires	$2 00
Meals served in room	16 75—18 75
Carriages—$4, $2	6 00
Wine	19 00—25 00
	$91 75

When the above bill was received the Hon. Jenkins Van Schaick, who had the honor of riding with President Grant in Mr. Greeley's funeral procession moved that the bill be paid and the motion was adopted. The amount thus expended was ordered to be charged to the account of "City Contingencies," and that was the end of it. We have no camments to make.

The Insurance Commissioner of Massachusetts has just made a report to the Legislature of that Commonwealth, which shows the losses of home and foreign companies by the Boston fire to be as follows:

Companies.	
Massachusetts, mutual $5,737,879	
Mass., joint stock..... 30,018,225	
	$35,756,104
Maine	532,500
New Hampshire	8,500
Rhode Island	1,122,038
Connecticut	2,982,375
New York	7,460,687
Pennsylvania	2,710,500
Ohio	260,000
Illinois	51,268
Wisconsin	55,500
Minnesota	23,000
California	75,000
Foreign	4,864,458
Total	$35,901,957

Of the 187 companies taking risks in Boston 72 succumbed to their losses, and of the 115 which survived about 30 have been compelled to reduce capital or call for assessments ranging from 20 to 75 per cent. Notwithstanding this havoc 28 new companies have been authorized since the fire, and 7 have commenced operations.

Constitutional Convention.

Philadelphia, Jan. 16.—Hon. Wayne MacVeagh, Chairman of the Committee on Legislature, presented the report of said committee, which was laid over for printing. The following are the essential points thereof:

The report submitted by Mr. MacVeagh proposes biennial instead of annual sessions of the Legislature, and a carefully prepared oath that the members have neither given bribes to obtain their election nor taken bribes to influence their official action.

The scheme of apportionment is based upon the system in the reformed Constitution in Illinois (that is, the cummulative system) and it is believed that it will never secure a fair districting of the State, without permitting the State to be divided and "gerymandered" to suit the convenience of the Legislature or of political parties.

The compensation of members of the Legislature is fixed at $1,200 for each period of two years, without allowing any further sums as members of committees or perquistes of any kind.

Elections for members of the Legislature are to be held only once in two years. Senators holding for four years, and Representatives for two years.

REDUCTION OF POSTAGE.

The House Post-Office Committee unanimously authorized General Farnsworth, the chairman, to prepare a bill to reduce letter postage to 2 cents, and require prepayment on all printed matter except on weekly papers circulating in the counties where they are printed; these to be unaffected by the proposed bill. An estimate from the Post office Department shows that $1,300,000 are annually lost on account of postage on printed matter being uncollected or confiscated by postmasters.

NAPOLEON'S OBSEQUIES.

Sixty Thousand Spectators Present—Modesty of the Prince Imperial.

London, January 16.—It is now estimated that there were sixty thousand persons in Chiselhurst yesterday.

Many of the stores in London and throughout the country were partly closed during the funeral.

While the Prince Imperial was returning from the chapel, he was saluted with the cry of "vive l' Empereur!" In reply he exclaimed, "The Emperor is dead! Vive la France!"

Berlin, Jan. 17.—The number of emigrants who left the port of Bremen for the United States last year was 80,000. The emigration from Hamburg during the same time reached the unprecedented figure of 59,600.

A boiler exploded in a factory at Charleroi, Belgium, yesterday morning, killing eleven persons and wounding a large number of others, some very seriously.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Papal Allocution on the Italian Spoliations and the German Encroachments.

The Document that was Suppressed in Germany.

[*From the Catholic Review of 14th inst.*]

The following important document is a tranlaction of the Papal allocution addressed by the Pope to the Cardinals in the Consistory of December 23. It has already attracted profound attention in Europe, and is this morning published for the first time in America. It will be remembered that the publication of this allocution in the German Empire has led to the prosecution of several Roman Catholic journals.

Allocution of our Most Holy Lord Pius IX., by the favor of Divine Providence, Pope, delivered 22nd, December, 1872, to the Cardinals of the Holy Roman Church, in the Palace of the Vatican.

VENERABLE BROTHERS: The just and merciful Lord, whose judgements are inscrutable and whose ways are not to be scanned, permits this Apostolic See and the whole Church in union with it to groan under a long and crual persecution. Our and your condition, venerable brothers, has not been changed, but rather is daily aggravated since the occupation of our provinces, and especially since, two years ago, this glorious city was withdrawn from our parental rule. The experience of our yoke has taught us how correctly, from the beginning of this persecution promoted by the machinations of wicked sects and perpetrated and carried on by their disciples at the head of public affairs, we frequently in our allocutions and apostolic letters have asserted openly that the sovereign rights of our secular princedom were attacked with so much force for no other reason than that so a way might be laid towards abolishing, if that could be done, the spiritual authority in which the successors of Peter are glorious, and to obliterate the Catholic Church, and the very name of Christ himself, living and reigning in it. Very clearly indeed has that been shown by the hostile acts of the sub-Alpine Government, especially by those iniquitous laws by which even the clerics, torn from the foot of the alters and deprived of their immunity, have been summoned to the military service; by which even bishops have been deprived of the right of teaching youth, and their seminaries have been closed. Still this purpose of theirs shall be made still more clear by us. In this very city the religious congregations are disturbed under our own eyes, are violently driven out from their houses and the property of the Church subjected to an enormous tribute and handed over to the disposition of the civil authority. Even now there has been proposed in the Legislative Chamber, as they call it, a law not wholly dissimilar from that which, notwithstanding our protests and solemn condemnation, has already been put into execution in other parts of Italy, which must extinguish, even here in the centre of Catholic faith, the religious congregations, and confiscate the goods of the Church and offer them at public auction. But this law—if, indeed, we can honor by such a name a decree so repulsive to natural, divine, and social right—is much more iniquitous and criminal in Rome and the adjacent provinces. It injures more deeply and sorely the rights and possessions of the universal Church. It attacks the very foundation of the true social civilization, which the religious orders, with unceasing labor and equal courage and constancy, have promoted and perfected, not only in our territory, but which they have brought and still bring to foreign and barbarous nations, despising difficulties, dangers, losses, even life itself. In fine, this law attacks the rights and privileges of our Apostolate, since if the religious houses were obliterated or notably reduced, and the secular clergy reduced to destitution and gradually diminishing in numbers owing to the military conscription, not only here as elsewhere would there be wanting those who should break the bread of life to the people, who should administer the sacraments to the faithful who should teach the young and strengthen them against the innumerable snares daily laid for them, but the Roman Pontiff would be deprived of those aids which, as the universal master and pastor, he so much needs for the government of the entire Church. The spoliation of the Roman Church would include those treasures which have been gathered here and placed in this centre of unity by the generosity of all Catholics rather than by the gift of our own people. And so those treasures which were brought here for the use and increase of the universal Church will be impiously converted to the use of others. Scarcely had we learned that one of the ministers of the sub-Alpine Government had signified to the Legislative Assembly his purpose of submitting to it a law of this kind than we exposed its monstrous character through a letter of the sixteenth day of June of this year (1872), addressed to our Cardinal Secretary of State, and we commanded him that he should make known to the ambassadors of the foreign princes near the Holy See this new danger impending over us. Nevertheless, as the threatened law has been proposed, the duty of our apostolate requires that we should renew with a louder voice the expostulations already made in your presence, venerable brothers, and before the universal Church. Execrating this nefarious crime, in the name of Jesus Christ, whose vicar we are on earth, we condemn it by the authority of the holy apostles Peter and Paul, and by our own, together with any scheme of law which shall arrogate to itself the power of disturbing the religious orders in Rome and the adjacent provinces, and of depriving the Church there of its property and disposing it for the benefit of the treasury or otherwise. We therefore pronounce invalid whatever is done against the rights and patrimony of the Church. We declare absolutely void and null any acquisition, by any title, of the stolen goods, against alienation of which this Apostolic See will never cease to protest. Let the authors and supporters of this law remember the censures and spiritual punishments which, ipso facto incurred, the apostolic constitutions inflict on the invaders of the church, and pitying their souls bound by these spiritual chains, let them cease to lay up treasures of anger against the day of wrath, and of the revelation of the just judgement of God.

The very bitter grief with which we are afflicted, on account of these and the other injuries wrought against the Church throughout Italy, has been not lightly increased by the cruel persecutions to which it is subject elsewhere, especially in the new German Empire, where not only by secret machinations, but also by open force, they attempt to subvert it from the very foundation, since men who not only do not profess our holy religion, but do not even know it, claim for themselves the right of defining the dogmas and rights of the Catholic Church, and while they disturb her they have the audacity to declare that they do her no injury. More-over, adding calumny and derision to injury, they do not hesitate to attribute this cruel persecution to the fault of the Catholics, forsooth, that their prelates and priesthood together with the faithful refuse to prefer the laws and will of the civil empire to the holy laws of God and the Church, and to abstain from their religious duty.

Would that the guides of public affairs, taught by a long experience, might be persuaded that none of their subjects would with greater exactness than Catholics render to Ceasar the things that were Ceasar's, and this precisely because they desire religiously to render to God the things that are God's.

The civil authorities of some of the cantons of the Swiss republic appear to have entered upon the same path as the German empire in deciding on the dogmas of the Catholic faith in favoring apostates and interrupting the exercise of Episcopal authority. The government of Geneva, although bound by a solemn treaty to guard and protect in its territory the Catholic religion, has in the past years enacted laws injurious to the authority and liberty of the Church, and more recently has suppressed the Catholic schools, has banished religious orders, and deprived others of the right of teaching. Lately it has endeavored to destroy the authority which for many years past our venerable brother Gasper, Bishop of Hebron, legitimately exercises, and to deprive him of his parochial benefice it has even gone so far as to invite, by public solicitation, the inhabitants to schismatically subvert the ecclesiastical government.

Not less grave is what the Church suffers in Catholic Spain from the hands of the civil power. We have learned that a law concerning the endowment of the clergy has been proposed and ratified, by which not only are the solemn treaties and conventions broken, but absolutely every rule of right and justice is trampled under foot. This law which is calculated to increase the destitution and servitude of the clergy and to augment and increase the evils done to that illustrious nation, in these later years, to the injury of faith and ecclesiastical disciplin, by a deplorable series of acts of the Spanish Government, has called for the just and emphatic complaints of our venerable brother the Bishop of Spain, as it now calls for our solemn expostulation.

Sadder things are also to be told of that small but impudent band of Armenians who, especially at Constantinople, have endeavored by audacious fraud and violence to overwhelm the much greater number who remain faithful in their duty and faith. Belying their Catholic name, they continue in opposition to our own supreme authority and their legitimate Patriarch, who, expelled by their artifice, has been compelled to fly, and exile, to us. By their craftiness they have found favor with the civil power, so that, nothwithstanding the exertions of our Legate Extraordinary sent thither to arrange this affair, and our own letter addressed to the most serene Emperor of the Turks, by force of arms they have converted to their own use some of the Catholic churches; they have assembled in a caucus (conciliabulum) and have appointed a schismatical patriarch, and have succeeded in depriving the Catholics of the right which they always up to this enjoyed through public agreements. Concerning these troubles of the Church we shall perhaps deal more explicitly if our just protests are despised.

But amongst so many causes for grief we rejoice, venerable brothers, that you can be consoled, as we ourselves have been raised up from our affliction, by the constancy and indefatigableness of the bishops of these regions and elsewhere; bishops who, girt round the loins in truth and clad with the breast-plate of justice, and closely bound to this chair of Peter, frightened by no dangers, cast down by no affliction, both singly and in a body, by word and writing, by expostulations and pastoral letters, together with their clergy and faithful people, bravely and with alacrity defend the rights of the Church, of this Holy See, and of themselves. They restrain unjust violence, refute calumnies, discover plots, defeat the audacity of the impious, and show to all the light of truth. They strengthen the good, and they oppose to the assaults of the enemy attack them on all sides the strength of a compact unity. To us, afflicted with so many evils of the Church, they afford a most comforting consolation and a powerful help which will certainly be greater if they take care that the bonds of faith and charity in which their minds and affections are joined should daily become closer. To secure this, let no one think it inopportune that those who, with the authority of metropolitans, preside over the ecclesiastical provinces, should confer with their suffragans in the best manner that circumstances will permit on those measures which mutually unite and strengthen them all in one mind and sentiment, and let them prepare themselves to undergo with a unanimous effort the difficult contest against the assaults of the impious.

The Lord has truly smitten us, venerable brothers, with his sword, hard, great, and strong; the smoke of his anger ascends and the fire burns from his face. But will God cast us away forever, or will he not be appeased? No! for the Lord does not forget to have mercy, and he will not stay his mercies in his anger, for he is mighty to pardon and he may be propitiated by those invoking him in truth, and he shall pour out on us the riches of his mercy. Let us endeavor to appease the divine anger in this acceptable time of the advent of our Lord. Humbly walking in newness of life, let us go to the King of Peace who is about to come to announce peace to them and good will. The just and merciful God by whose mysterious purpose we are permitted to see the sorrow of our people and the sorrow of our holy city, and to sit there when it is given into the hands of the enemy, he will incline his ear to hear; he will open his eyes and see our desolation and the city upon which his name is invoked.

PIUS IX.

"THE LOST ARTS."

LECTURE BY WENDELL PHILLIPS

(*Concluded.*)

Ancient Master Artisans.

Taking the metals, the Bible in its first chapters showed that man first conquered metals there in Asia, and the wonder is that on that spot to-day he can work more wonders with those metals than we can.

One of the surprises that the European artists received when the English plundered the Summer palace of the King of China, was the curiously wrought metal vessels of every kind, far exceeding all the boasted skill of the workmen of Europe.

Mr. Colton of The Boston Journal, the first week he landed in Asia, found that his chronometer was out of order from the steel of the works having become rusted. The London Medical and Surgical Journal advises surgeons not to venture to carry any lancets to Calcutta, to have them gilded, because English steel could not bear the atmosphere of India. Yet the Damascus blades of the Crusades were not gilded, and they are as perfect as they were eight centuries ago.

There was one at the London Exhibition, the point of which could be made to touch the hilt, and which could be put to a scabbard like a corkscrew and bent everyway without breaking, like an American politician. [Laughter.]

Now, the wonder of this is, that perfect steel is a marvel of science. If a London chronometer-maker wants the best steel to use in his chronometer, he does not send to Sheffield, the center of all science, but to the Punjaub, the empire of the seven rivers where there is no science at all.

The first needle ever made in England was made in the time of Harry the VIIIth and made by a negro, and when he died the art died with him. Some of the first travelers in Africa stated that they found a tribe in the interior who gave them better razors than they had, the irrepressible negro coming up in science as in politics. The best steel is the greatest triumph of metallurgy, and metallurgy is the glory of chemistry.

The poets have celebrated the perfection of the oriental steel, and it is recognized as the finest by Moore, Byron, Scott, Southey, and many others. I have even heard a young advocate of the lost arts find an argument in Byron's "Sennacherib" from the fact that the mail of the warriors in that one short night had rusted before the trembling Jews stole out in the morning to behold the terrible work of the Lord. Scott, in this "Crusaders"—for Sir Walter was curious in his love of the lost arts—describes a meeting between Richard Coeur de Lion and Saladin.

Saladin asks Richard to show him the wonderful strength for which he is famous, and the Norman monarch responds by severing a bar of iron which lies on the floor of the tent. Saladin says, "I cannot do that," but he takes an eider-down pillow from the sofa, and, drawing his keen blade across it, it falls in two pieces. Richard says:

"This is the black art: it is magic; it is the devil; you cannot cut that which has no resistance;" and Saladin, to show him that such is not the case; takes a scarf from his shoulders, which is so light that it almost floats in the air, and tossing it up, severs it before it can descend. George Thompson told me he saw a man in Calcutta throw a handful of floss silk into the air and a Hindoo sever it into pieces with his saber. We can produce nothing like this.

Egypt's Mechanical Marvels.

Taking their employment of the mechanical forces, and their movement of large masses from the earth, we know that they had five, seven, or three mechanical powers, but we cannot account for the multiplication and increase necessary to perform the wonders they accomplished.

In Boston, lately, we have moved the Pelham Hotel, weighing 50,000 tuns, 14 feet, and are very proud of it and since then we moved a whole block of houses 22 feet, and I have no doubt we will write a book about it; but there is a book telling how Dominico Fontana of the sixteenth century set up the Egyptian obelisk at Rome on end in the Papacy of Sixtus V. Wonderful! Yet the Egyptians quarried that stone and carried it 150 miles, and the Romans brought it 760 miles, and never said a word about it.

Mr. Battersen of Hartford walking with Brunel, the architect of the Thames tunnel in Egypt, asked him what he thought of the mechanical power of the Egyptians, and he said, there is Pompey's Pillar, it is 100 feet high, and the capital weighs 2,000 pounds. It is something of a feat to hang 2,000 pounds at that hight in the air, and the few men that can do it would better discuss Egyptian mechanics.

Take canals, for instance. The Suez Canal absorbs half its receipts in cleaning out the sand which fills it continually, and it is not yet known whether it is a pecuniary success. The ancients built a canal at right angles to ours, because they knew it would not fill up if built in that direction, and they knew such an one as ours would.

There were magnificent canals in the land of the Jews, with perfectly arranged gates and sluices. We have only just begun to understand ventilation properly for our houses; yet late experiments at the Pyramids in Egypt show that those Egyptian tombs were ventilated in the most perfect and scientific manner.

Again, cement is modern, for the ancients dressed and jointed their stones so closely in buildings thousands of years old that the thin blade of a pen-knife cannot be forced between them. The railroad dates back to Egypt. Arago has claimed that they had a knowledge of steam.

A painting has been discovered of a ship full of machinery, and a French engineer said that the arrangment of this machinery could only be accounted for by supposing the motive power to have been steam. Brahma acknowledges that he took the idea of his celebrated lock from an ancient Egyptian pattern. De Tocqueville says there was no social question that was not discussed to rags in Egypt.

Old Hints of New Things.

"Well," say you, "Franklin invented the lightning rod." I have no doubt he did; but years before his invention, and before the muskets were invented, the old soldiers on guard on the foyers used Franklin's invention to keep guard with; and if a spark passed between them and the spear-head they ran and bore the warning of the state and condition of affairs.

After that you will admit that Benjamin Franklin was not the only one that knew of the presence of electricity, and the advantages derived from its use. Solemon's Temple, you will find, was situated on an exposed point of the hill; the temple was so lofty that it was often in peril, and was guarded by a system exactly like that of Benjamin Franklin's. [Laughter.]

Well, I may tell you a little of ancient manufactures. The Duchess of Burgundy took a necklace from the neck of a mummy and wore it to a ball given at the Tuileries, and everybody said they thought it was the newest thing there. You have heard of what is called the Estruscare, and the Italians spent their lives in trying to find out the secret; and it has come down to us and our day, and we do not know either.

The old novels of Walter Scott were three thousand years before the popular tales of Eastern Asia Russell Lowell says: "There was a town in Vermont so corrupt that the inhabitants had to sleep in the walls at night." [Laughter.] Well, he had this opinion. A Hindoo princess came into court, and her father seeing her said. "Go home, you are not decently covered—go home;" and she said, "Father, I have seven suits on;" but the suits were of muslin, so thin that the king could see through them.

A Roman poet says: "The girl was in the poetic dress of the country." I fancy the French would be rather astonished at this. Four hundred and fifty years ago the first spinning machine was introduced in Europe; I have evidence to show that it made its appearance 2,000 years before.

Well, I tell you this fact to show that perhaps we don't invent just everything. Why did I think to grope in the ashes for this? Because all Egypt knew the secret, which was not the knowledge of the professor, the king, and the priest.

Their knowledge won an historic privilege which separated them from, and brought down the masses; and this chain was broken when Cambyses came down from Persia, and by his genius and intellect opened the gates of knowledge, thundering across Egypt, drawing out civilization from royalty and priesthood.

Modern Knowledge Utilized.

Such was the system which was established in Egypt of old. It has been 4,000 years before humanity took that subject to a proper consideration, and when this consideration was made, civilization changed her character. Learning no longer hid in a convent or slumbered in the palace. No! she came out joining hands with the people, ministering and dealing with them.

We have not astrology in the stars serving only the kings and priests; we have an astrology serving all those around us We have not a chemistry hidden in underground cells, striving for wealth, striving to change everything into gold. No, we have a chemistry laboring with the farmer and digging gold out of the earth with the miner. Ah! this is the nineteenth century, and of the hundreds of things we know, I can show you ninety-nine of them which have been anticipated. It is the liberty of intellect and a diffusion of knowledge that has caused this anticipation.

When Gibbon finished his History of Rome he said: "The hand will never go back upon the dial of Time, when everything was hidden in fear in the dark ages." He made that boast as he stood at night in the ruins of the Corsani palace, looking out upon the places where the monks were chanting; that vision disappeared, and there arose in its stead the Temple of Jupiter,

Could he look back upon the past he would see nations that went up in their strength, and down to graves with fire in one hand and iron in the other hand before Rome was peopled, which, in their strength, were crushed in subduing civilization. But it is a very different principle that governs this land: it is one which should govern every land; it is one which this nation needs to practice this day.

It is the human property, it is the divine will that any man has a right to know anything which he knows will be serviceable to himself and to his fellow-man, and that will make art immortal if God means that it shall last.

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