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EVENING BULLETIN.

Wednesday, December 4, 1867.

THE CONTESTED ELECTION CASE.

The contested election case, now before the Court of Common Pleas, is one of the most important ever tried in that Court. Already, in the very opening of the evidence, a revelation of rascality has been made which must convince honest men of all parties that the ballot-box has become the merest toy in the hands of Democratic politicians, under whose manipulations it is made to produce just such majorities as they see fit. Documents, conducted as the one now contested was, are the merest farce, and the whole community, irrespective of party, is interested in breaking up the outrageous abuses which have been boldly engrafted upon our elective system by bad and unprincipled men.

It is already in evidence that six or seven professional thieves were taken by Alderman McMullin to the polls, in a body, and voted without being on the list of officers, and without challenge or examination. A single specimen of this sort serves to give the public an insight into the relations which exist between officers of the law in the Fourth Ward and the professional criminals of the same locality. In the same election division, 298 men voted whose names were not on the Assessor's list. The law requires that when a man's name is not upon the Assessor's list he shall swear or affirm that he is a citizen of the United States, that he has resided in the State for one year, and that he has resided in the Division in which he offers to vote for ten days. He must also produce a voter who can swear or affirm that he has known the voter to have resided in the Division for ten days. Not a single voter was sworn, or voucher produced in this Division during the day. Inspector Nicholson swears that he made frequent attempts to ascertain the qualifications of voters, but in vain. The judge, one Philip Madden, who cannot write his own name, but signs the election papers with a mark, over-ruled all such attempts by the easy decision that it was "all right," and in the case "that was the end of it." The official list of voters was seized by this accomplished and competent judge, who sat upon it all day, to prevent the inspector from referring to it.

The case was resumed yesterday and the evidence continued to show the same whole sale purpose of fraud. It is a source of general regret that the case is not to be pushed more rapidly. It is understood that the petitioners are fully prepared to prosecute the examination without delay; but if only one day in a week is allowed to the hearing, much time will be consumed before the case is settled. There is a well-founded uneasiness in Democratic circles already. The counsel for the defendants, Mr. Selkers, pathetically complained, yesterday, that "the petitioners had occupied two days of the public time;" but those two days have been spent, simply, to give the public a slight insight into the method by which the Democratic candidates were elected at the last election. It is perhaps sufficiently notorious that elections in such localities as the Fourth Ward are the most shameless farces, but it is most important that this fact should be legally proved. The gravest interests of the city and of the State are put in jeopardy by these outrages upon public morals, and there is not a decent man among the hundred thousand voters of Philadelphia who will not rejoice when this system of lawless rascality is broken up. The present occasion appears to be a most propitious one. The evidence is clear and strong; the District-Attorney has taken hold of the case with that determined vigor which, in Mr. Mann's case, is generally the precursor of success; the moral sense of the community is aroused to the necessity of arresting the same fraudulent proceedings; and there is the feeling everywhere that now is the time to strike a blow at the corrupt system by which men like Alderman McMullin and his boon companions,—many of them in far higher offices than that of a Fourth Ward alderman,—have been able to neutralize and defeat the votes of honest and respectable citizens.

THE CRETAN SUFFERERS.

The Relief Committee for the suffering fugitives from Turkish persecution has been organized, and makes its appeal to the people of Philadelphia, in another column of today's paper. The committee comprises a number of our prominent citizens, who have volunteered their services in a cause which cannot fail to enlist the practical sympathies of the community. The committee makes its appeal in such eloquent terms that it is almost useless to add anything, by way of enforcing the claims of these poor people upon the good will of the civilized world. Philadelphia is never behindhand in any good work, and the remoteness of the field will not prevent a generous response to the cry for help that comes from 30,000 destitute women and children, driven from happy homes by the savage barbarities of the Turk. Philadelphia owes it, not only to the cause of humanity and of civilization, but to her old well-earned fame, to send such liberal aid in money, clothing and other supplies as will testify that she heartily sympathizes with the cause for which the Cretes are now so nobly battling, and on account of which these heart-rending tales of distress are coming to us from the shores of Greece. The following letter from one of the Greek missionaries, recently received, gives some faint sketch of the desperate state of affairs among these unfortunate people:

ATHENS, October 5, 1867.—*My Dear Mr. Hoskins:*—I have often thought to write to you but for one thing or another I have not yet had it filled my wish. You know the Cretan cause and your connection with the Cretan Relief Committee makes it necessary that I should write to you a line. I have already written to the committee both in Boston and New York, but as yet have not received a reply, as it is not time yet. I would not now take up other time or space, telling you matters you are already aware of, but will proceed to the chief object of this letter.

Our Committee, being organized long after the other relief committees and having the Ottoman name, has raised the expectations of the people very high. The English Committee, which has just now closed its operations for the lack of funds, had spent nearly £50,000 before the American Committee had been formed; besides the declarations of freedom of the Americans, during the late civil war, led the people to expect many things from us, and now when we go among them unable to meet the demands, we feel tried in the highest degree.

A month ago, as you know, the foreign vessels began to bring refugees to Athens. The people who come are those who, for a year or more, were wandering on the mountains, like goats, and lived like the beasts—their crops destroyed, their goods plundered, and their houses burned up; so they come hungry, ragged, and with nothing to sleep upon. Many of them sicken at once; with others, on arrival here, all fear passes away and all excitement subsides, and nature at last gives way to disease and often death. Many, of the most, are obliged to remain in the state they come for weeks, and even months, before they can be aided. My heart aches to recall the sights I saw in my visits. Last week I found a family of six souls, with two children lying upon a stone floor. "For God's sake, sir," said she, "give me a mat to put under my children!" and at the same time rolled thick and fast. Next door on a floorless stable, with neither bed nor mat, were twenty-two souls living; there they slept upon a heap of shavings, covering themselves with sacks for warmth. I have seen them thus exposed to sicken and die, a sight to make the iron heart. I have seen old man digging holes in the ground and filling them up with shavings for beds. An old woman, sick with the fever, was lying on a board, and covered with a straw mat; without shirt and half-naked, because the only shirt she had was hanging up to dry. No pen can describe, no tongue can tell the wretchedness of these people. The sufferings you have sent us have done much to mitigate the misery, but the wants are great, the winter is on us, and fifty thousand souls must be clothed warm: most have no more than a slight tunic or two; most than a ragged dress to cover them up at night. Help, or else they will all sicken and die like sheep.

My brother, let not your mind rest, nor your tongue stay till, Cry aloud to all your, Cut out the Colleges do expecting? Ambrosi has done its duty. Harvard will do its own, if it has not already done it. Yes, call too on the colored people, they will not refuse.

Gain a victory at Crete is a victory for the right of freedom and of life, not at Crete, but in the whole Turkish. A victory that will emancipate millions of white slaves. YOURS,

GEO. CONSTANTINE.

Mr. Constantine is a Greek, educated at Amherst College, and was a Missionary at Athens, Greece.

Neither Charles I, James II., or Louis XVI. ever uttered a bolder defiance to the people and their lawful representatives than Andrew Johnson hints at in his late Message. Hitherto he has insulted Congress in his private conversation, but now, in a State paper of the importance of an annual Message, he plainly indicates that he would resort to outright revolution in the event of certain impending contingencies. It will be borne in mind that these extreme measures are threatened, not in defence of any great constitutional principle, or even in maintenance of the prerogatives of the Executive, but simply in the interest of men who waged wicked war upon the nation, and who are only aggressive and defiant because those who conquered them are magnanimous and forbearing. The experience which the American people have now passing through affords a splendid vindication of the wisdom of the framers of our Republican institutions. In little more than a year at the most, Andrew Johnson will lawfully retire from the lofty position which he disgraces, and he will at once sink into a condition of obscurity and contempt far deeper than that which awaited Tyler, Pierce and Buchanan. We can afford to bear and forbear a little longer, and we can see the enemies which other outraged peoples brought upon themselves in shaking off the oppressions of the Stuarts and the Bourbons.

The New York *Times* strongly objects to Mr. Ashley's saying that he always believed that Presidents Harrison, Taylor and Buchanan were poisoned, and poisoned for the express purpose of putting Vice-Presidents in the Presidential office,—and that Mr. Johnson had a guilty knowledge of Mr. Lincoln's assassination. The *Times* is very satirical upon Mr. Ashley; but it is not particularly logical or argumentative. If there had never been a Southern rebellion, and if Abraham Lincoln had not persisted in a belief opposed in the cause of the rebellious South, generously might protest against the suspicion of foul play in the cases of the death of Presidents Harrison and Taylor. But the fact of the National Hotel poisoning being intended to reach the life of James Buchanan, taken in the view of making John C. Breckinridge President, is so clear that it only needs the direct evidence to establish its entire truthfulness. There is something too much of this eager desire to palliate the crimes of men who waged wicked war upon the nation when less direct means of accomplishing their devilish plans failed, and to D *Times* is becoming prominent among the advocates of merciful consideration for foiled traitors, and the unscrupulous and slurrers of all men who have shown an earnest love for the Union and accorded it a hearty support in the hour of its peril.

On the principle that where there are two evils, the least should be chosen, Mayor Hoffman was yesterday re-elected in New York. Of course there was no hope of the election of Mr. Darling, the Republican candidate, and Republican voters doubtless exercised a large influence in keeping New York out of the hands of that most unscrupulous of demagogues, Fernando Wood. Hoffman, with his Tammany backers, is a bad enough indification for this worst of ill-governed cities, but, Wood and Mozart are far worse, and Gotham is to be congratulated upon having escaped from the fire even though it has to remain in the frying-pan.

In a country where rank is unrecognized, titles are an absurdity. If a man is honest and well-behaved, he will be recognized as a gentleman, and all the titles that can be invented will not add to his excellence or improve his social position. The bad habit has become fixed of calling all members of Congress "Honorable," and everybody knows that in many cases the epithet is wholly inappropriate. Mr. Buckalew, United States Senator from Pennsylvania, did a good thing yesterday when he moved to strike out the word "Honorable" prefixed by the clerks to the names of all the Senators in the Senate Journal, and the motion was adopted. It is pretty generally believed that there cannot be a Congress the members of which can be considered to be "all honorable men." To designate them as such is a silly piece of flunkeyism, of which, as a people, we ought to be ashamed. When men like John Morrissey are designated "Honorable," there can be no honor in the title. The Senate has done a good thing in ordering it to be omitted from its records. Let the House do likewise, and perhaps, after a while, the people and the press will discontinue the abuse of a very respectable word.

The new Republican paper at Harrisburg, called "*The Daily State Guard*," has reached its third number, and the promise of the prospectus is fulfilled. It is handsome, well-arranged and well-edited. Its proprietors, Messrs. Dunglison, Forney & Kauffman, are practical men, of experience as well as intelligence, and they will make a paper worthy of the seat of government.

MUSICAL.

CARL SENTA'S ORCHESTRAL MATINEES.—With great judgment and consistency Mr. Senta has omitted the usual Symphony from his programme of the Ninth Matinee, for the Piano-forte Concerto takes most fairly the place allotted to it. The class to which the Symphony belongs comprehends the quartette, quintette, sextette, etc.; also, the Sonata and Concerto, which all have the same style, but are diminutives of the Symphony. Modern composers sometimes have essayed the place of the Concerto, which, although a sort of piece not without fault, has the advantage of showing the talent of the player, and intuitive scale, and is accompanied properly by a full orchestra. The overture to the *Magic Flute*, the one selected for this occasion, is considered by the best critics to be one of the most beautiful among pieces of its kind from whatever point of view it may be examined. In fact, an inimitable masterpiece, which will forever be the model of overtures and the despair of composers. Everything is united in this fine work; variety and magnificence in the opening; variety in the themes; variety in the method of reproducing them; profound science in the plan and in the details; striking instrumentation in an interest constantly increasing; and a conclusion full of fire.

The Mendelssohn Quintette, in the hands of Mr. Jarvis, will meet with full justice in the rendering, his facile fingers giving a pure command of all the difficulties of the instrument.

HAUSMANN'S CONCERTS.—The appearance of Mr. Hermann tomorrow night in *Faust* is drawing earnest attention to Mr. Hebelmann's fine operatic concerts. There is already an active demand for tickets, and there is a prospect of a brilliant audience.

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