BUSINESS NOTICES.

Piles or Hemorrhoidal Tumors, Internal or external—bleed, itch and ulcerate—Swayne's Ointment is an unfailing remedy for these distressing symptoms. Sold by druggists generally, and by DR. SWAYNE & SON, Philadelphia. Pa. Beware of counterfeits. Ask for Swayne's Ointment and take no other. Dr. SWAYNE'S Hair Tonic, for restoring the hair, is unsurpassed. Dr. SWAYNE'S Wash for the skin is a specific for all female ailments.

Rimy American and European Physicians prove the BOWES' WALY EXTRACT as a sure cure and a pleasant remedy for dyspepsia. Sold by druggists. Office, Parks, 109. BOWES & BUCK, 624 Arch street. Depot, 64 Warren street, New York.

STEINWAY'S PIANOS RECEIVED THE highest award at the Paris Exposition. WAREROOMS, Parks, 109. BOWES & BUCK, 624 Arch street.

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EVENING BULLETIN.

Friday, February 5, 1869.

THE STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE of the Republican State Central Committee met yesterday at Harrisburg, and fixed the 22d of June for the Convention to nominate candidates for Governor and Secretary of Internal Affairs. This will be rather a disappointment to our Democratic friends, who are extremely anxious to have the Republican ticket announced at the earliest possible day. The postponement of the Convention to June will enable Congress to complete its work upon the Constitutional amendments, and the determining whether the important question of universal suffrage shall or shall not enter into the political contest in Pennsylvania. Meantime there will be, of course, no active canvass among the friends of the various gubernatorial aspirants, and before June their relative strength in the State will have been definitely determined.

The Central Committee also took decided grounds in favor of the Metropolitan Police Bill, but the reports do not say which of the three bills now before the Legislature was recognized as *the* bill. We cannot too strongly urge upon our friends the necessity of full and broad-minded consideration of this question. Give us a Metropolitan Police, but do not give us any half-and-half measure that will be a reform only in name. Above all, retain the essential objections of the present system.

THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Select Council, as we have before said, has always maintained a perfect consistency in its attitude on the subject of the Public Buildings, and yesterday put a quietus upon the extraordinary attempt which we have lately witnessed to constitute a decision that had been deliberately arrived at by both Councils by large majorities and had been ratified by the Mayor. The question was ably argued by Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Hopkins. The remarks of the former gentleman were so well-conceived and so much to the purpose that we quote them briefly here. Mr. Hodgson, after referring to the misstatements as to insufficient size, said:

One other erroneous assertion, that the owners of populous shops determine the location, is equally false. No sensible man would act upon such an assumption. It is related in every commercial city in the country, and in this city it is well known that the centre of business has always naturally been adopted as the centre to all classes of the community greater facilities for the transaction of business. Concentration is always desirable, by not having great distance to travel, taking the time that should be devoted to business.

The question then arises, where is the centre of business? I reply, where is Girard House, Post Office, the new Appraisers' Building, Corn Exchange, banking institutions, importers of foreign merchandise, domestic dries, wholesale groceries, steamship lines, agents of various manufacturing companies of this city, and the chief buildings of our railroad and canal company since, in fact, everything connected with the commercial and manufacturing interests of our city. And just here it may be asserted, all the various interests blended too, so that no one interest would in so long as the Delaware Breakwater along the eastern front of the city, and it would never be removed unless, indeed, you can cause the river Delaware to flow in the neighborhood of Broad and Market streets. We have a great deal about the extension of the city westward, but not a word about its extension northwest, north and northeast, and all those portions of our city are connected with passenger railways, of the most complete kind, in the most desirable neighborhood of Independence Square; and in order to more fully carry out the care to reach Independence Square than to Penn Square, although the cross at the north and south roads do not give a symmetrical appearance, the south face to reach Penn Square. These are the facts and arguments which I consider the change demands by the ordinance of Common Council, and one made exactly in accordance with the wish of Select Council. I do hope and trust if Common Council chooses to turn a somersault, and so summarily change front, that member of the Select Council will not, by their votes, assist, or prove to our fellow-citizens that there is stability in our legislation; that we practice or cultivate policy; we not to be influenced by personal interests nor controlled by noisy clamor, but that we will perform our duty and always endeavor to legislate for the best interests of our fellow-citizens, without fear, favor, or reward: and if we fail in these hopes, or the ordinance now under consideration will be indefinitely postponed.

This argument is well put. We regret to see that Mr. Barlow, who, in December, took a different view, stated that the Commission "had reported that Independence Square was not large enough," when the fact is, the committee reported exactly the reverse, and that the area was abundantly large. After giving every Department all they asked for *on the most liberal estimate of space needed*, (and no Department would be likely to ask for more than ample space,) it was found that the plan proposed allowed one third more than this.

An absurd statement has been published that the proposed plan would leave but a strip of ground 14½ feet wide. It must be a bad case indeed that needs such distortion. The truth is that the new buildings and those of the old, which it is proposed to let stand, will leave more than half the surface of the square free.

Even, however, if this were otherwise, and the Square was smaller than it is, it is the right place for the buildings. Fortunately, it possesses the requisites to such a position.

It is difficult to fill out, as yet, the precise estimate of this movement in Councils to defeat the popular will. Like all such movements, it is probably composed of mixed elements. Private interests have undoubtedly been brought to bear up in this question, in some cases, while, in others, a part of the stubborn opposition comes from a fixed obstinacy, and, in still others, from an inability to comprehend the question in its proper relations.

The record of this whole proceeding must be kept accurately before the people. Councils, having ordered the erection of the Public Buildings on Independence Square, a Commission was immediately organized, which was well selected, and went to work energetically and impartially for the people, as expressed in private and through the press generally. Thereupon an opposition was started, which first manifested itself in Commission fossil, on the part of one of the *ex officio* members, and was then developed in Common Council, where, by some unexplained influence, a majority was obtained to remove the site to Penn Square. This action aroused a universal indignation, and a universal curiosity as to the causes which had produced this sudden change. The people, however, looked confidently to Select Council to counteract this retrograde movement, and they have not been disappointed. That body yesterday refused, by a very decided vote, to lend itself to this unpopular act of Common Council, and so the matter stands as it was before the change.

The debate, yesterday, brought out the whole weakness of the Penn Square argument, and added new strength to that in favor of Independence Square, and we have every trust that the opposition, which certainly assumed a very factious attitude yesterday, will be withdrawn, and that the Commission will be allowed to go forward in good faith, and with the hearty support of the municipal authorities. Mr. Stokley's threat of continuing the appropriations and refusing to confirm any contract except for buildings on Penn Square was probable made in the heat of a rather excited conversation, and is too inconsistent with all ideas of official dignity or propriety to be attributed seriously to the President of Select Council. It was not uttered, as stated in the *Ledger*, as a part of the regular debate, but rather as a colloquial reply to some remarks from Mr. Fox. We have heard similar threats made in private, by other members of Councils who have been unable to get hard to defeat the erection of the Public Buildings; but as no gentleman would jeopard his standing before the people by the open avowal of any such factious ideas as these, they should not be allowed undue weight when expressed in the heat of conversational discussion.

There are several points in the arguments of the Square advocates which are too absurd to be permitted to pass unnoticed, but we must defer reference to them to another occasion.

PATENT OFFICE SWINDLES.

The old English laws made a distinction between petit larceny and grand larceny, which prevails still, in modified forms, in all countries deriving their laws and customs from England. It is under the head of petit larceny that the swindling must be classed which is reported by a Congressional Committee to be practiced in the Department of the Interior, in its purchases of stationery. To be sure, the Government is swindled annually out of many thousands of dollars, by the patent methods of the Patent Office. But other swindles that go on just as openly are counted by millions, and these are entitled to the courtesy of being called cases of grand larceny. The report on the frauds in the stationery contracts, and the proceedings thereupon in Congress, were published in this paper yesterday afternoon. After all, the swindles reported are so small by comparison with many others, that they seem almost too petty and contemptible to be made the subjects of Congressional action.

But it is well to make a beginning of the exposure of petty frauds, and the House Committee report on the frauds in the Interior Department deserves attention and respectful consideration, because it seems to be the first critical and candid exposure of a very vile and criminal practice, which seems to have been growing up for years, under successive heads of the Patent Office, each one adopting the bad habits of his predecessor and improving upon them, claiming still to have had precedent and example to justify his own especial swindles. In the course of the investigation of these swindles must have reached a good many hundred thousand dollars, and although this may be a small sum for a nation that can luxuriate in a debt of seventy hundred millions, it becomes important when it is considered as a specimen among many others, some of them probably ten or a hundred times larger. It may serve as a lesson for the big swindlers, the perpetrators of the grand larcenies constantly committed by the various "rings" upon the property of the American people.

The committee thus has reported upon the Patent Office swindles has done part or its duty very well. It has exposed the methods of the swindles, and it has reported a resolution against paying certain prices to certain contractors. But the most important duty of the committee has been neglected. It advises no measures for the trial and punishment of the thieving public functionaries who have been allowing these swindles, and who have probably been participators in the profits as well as in the crimes of the contractors. Let Congress unite on punishing such officers, and perhaps a way may be opened for reaching and punishing those who engage in or tolerate the grand larcenies that are daily going on at Washington.

THE THIRD AMENDMENT CONTESTED SLAVERY.

As this case nears its close the Democrats are struggling hard to secure the judgment of the public. Mr. Moffet's grand *coup d'état* has been reserved till now. He called three witnesses to show that the Republicans drove out the election officers in the tenth division of the Nineteenth Ward. This week, Mr. Longstreth, the counsel for the contestant, called several witnesses, who completely disproved the whole story on which the Republican case was building. Mr. Addis, the Republican judge, was the duly elected officer whom the law designated as the proper person to serve, and the police were only called in to remove a man who claimed to act as an officer contrary to law. The election was conducted fairly, and not a voter was kept from the polls. This explodes the last hope of Mr. Moffet's friends. Each day Mr. Myers is adding to the proof of the gross frauds committed against him, and no doubt remains that he is entitled to his seat.

PASTIMES AND POLITICS.

A great deal of change has been expected upon the appointment of twenty-seven additional hands in the pasting and folding department of the Legislature. Very much of this chance is entirely misdirected, as any one will see who will take the trouble to give his personal attention to the amount of work required to be done and to the fact that *seventy-two male* are made up daily at Harrisburg, and that the documents must be handled and mailed in time for each of these. After a careful inspection of the subject, with the benefit of the thoroughly reliable testimony of General Schlidge, we are convinced that the remedy for the evil complained of lies, if anywhere, not in a reduction of the force, but in a reduction of the amount of documents. If the constituents of the Legislature would agree to get along with a smaller quantity of Legislative literature, it would require less money to print, and fewer hands to distribute it. But with the present work to be done, we doubt if there is any unnecessary force employed.

The *Pittsburgh Commercial* makes a partial suggestion on this point. It proposes that this work shall be done by the boys from the soldiers' orphan schools. This plan is perfectly feasible and would save the whole expense. A detail of boys of fifteen years of age, of any number required, could be made by Colonel McFarland, to serve for one month and to be relieved by a second and third detail. These boys are well disciplined, and would do the work well. The temporary detachments from their regular studies would be of no serious consequence, and they would be paying back to the State the whole amount of the interest on the annual appropriation now made for the support of the schools. The boys would be under the immediate supervision of the Superintendent of Soldiers' Orphan Schools, whose headquarters are at the Capitol, and we have no doubt that the plan would work well, and be a great saving to the State.

The *Press*, this morning, says that "no one will deny that the boys cannot do the work." We do deny this, as the work is light, and the boys are a sturdy, healthy set of young fellows. There would be no difficulty on this score, and we are surprised that our neighbor should suppose that an American boy of fifteen cannot fold and paste a newspaper.

It is a good thing for the honest people of New York city, that amid all the corruption, rascality and imbecility of a Democratic government, they have one piece of a criminal court who is not afraid to do his duty. For years past, crime has increased with frightful rapidity in that city, simply because the worst outlaws were either the political friends of the law officers, or could bring sufficient pressure to bear upon them in other ways, to effect release or procure merely nominal punishment. This reign of the scoundrels reached its climax when Mr. Rogers was savagely murdered, in broad daylight, upon the public thoroughfare, in the alarm, and the press raised a hue and cry, so that vigilance committees were talked of, and men began to consider seriously whether the law of self-preservation did not demand violation of farcical legal forms. But Judge Hackett has found a readier and more effective solution of the problem. He has undertaken to prove that New York law has terrors sufficiently great to compel witnesses to tell the truth. Yesterday he sent one gentle burglar to prison for forty years; two pickpockets were sentenced to twenty years each; while lesser scoundrels received awarded penalties equally severe in proportion to their offences. One of the felons was a man of such unexpected character as to be fainted. This is better than Vigilance Committees. Severity will not entirely prevent crime, but it will check it. If men know that Judge Hackett will look them up for life, if they come into his court, they will be more careful to keep out of his honor's way. Knowledge of the absolute certainty of punishment will be apt to induce deep and sound thought in the mind of the felon who contemplates crime.

The only danger now is that Governor Hoffman, elected by fraud and by the votes of the dangerous classes, will be true to his party theories, and pardon the victims of outraged law. But if the executive does not abuse the pardoning power most shamefully, Judge Hackett can continue his good work which he has certain knowledge that it is conferring an inestimable benefit upon his fellowmen. If there is any gratitude in New York he will be entitled to warm praise as a very bold and very efficient reformer.

Beverly Johnson's lodylism to the East Indian people that set themselves to work to bamboozle him was enough to create a prejudice in the minds of candid and high-spirited Americans, against any treaty he could negotiate on the subject of the Alabama claims. A careful and deliberate examination of this treaty has proved that any such prejudice would have a good foundation. But there is a very strong prospect that the Senate will reject the treaty for much better reasons than mere prejudice. The debate upon the treaty, while apparently very fair on its face, may be construed in such a way as to amount to a virtual abandonment not only of all claims for the Alabama depredations, but of the very principle on which those claims were made. It has been very cleverly devised to get the Senate to endorse Johnson; but it is a treaty not fit to be confirmed, and we rejoice at the prospect of its prompt rejection by the Senate. General Grant will send another Minister to England, who will not let himself be carried all over the Kingdom to be plied with roast beef and champagne, and to make after-dinner speeches totally misrepresenting the feelings of Americans towards English men. He will be instructed to insist on the fair settlement of the claims of American citizens against England, and to devote himself exclusively to that business. Then a treaty may be expected that can be ratified by the Senate.

For seventeen years the EVENING BULLETIN has been steadily engaged in educating our people up to the idea of a Paid Fire Department, and, at last, there seems to be a practical approach to this great reform. Councils yesterday appointed a Joint Special Committee to take the subject into consideration, and we trust that its labors will be wisely directed and speedily successful in bringing about this important measure. It will require good judgment and strong nerve to accomplish the desired end, but the great popular will is undoubtedly on the side of the reform, and Councils will be heartily sustained in giving us a Paid Fire Department.

CLOTHING

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THE LARGEST CLOTHING HOUSE,
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I'll ride on the new VELOCIPEDE.

It goes with the tearingest sort of speed;
The tearing, new VELOCIPEDE.

So easy it moves, like a centipede,
If you carefully drive the VELOCIPEDE.

It's cheaper than paying for horse's feed;
For it eats no oats; the VELOCIPEDE.

A peaceable, quiet kind of a steed,
Is that queer machine, the VELOJIPEDE.

Or while or spar I shall have no need,
When I straddle the swift VELOCIPEDE.

'Tis a horse of a novel sort of a breed;
Come jump on the new VELOCIPEDE.

But it's hard to manage; it is, indeed;
The ridiculous old VELOCIPEDE.

And I'll tumble down, if I don't take heed,
And break my bones, the VELOCIPEDE.

And I'll buckle my shins, and my noses will bleed,
When I tumble off the VELOCIPEDE.

Put, after all, I believe I'm agreed
To try again the VELOCIPEDE.

And so the Velocipede I'll drive
To "six-hundred-and-three and six-hundred-and-five."

The busiest sort of a busy hive;
Where the folks are all the time alive;
Making and selling the finest clothes
That ever were worn by human beings on those
Who think they need such a curious steed
As the new-y invented VELOCIPEDE.

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