The Press.

PHILADELPHIA: TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1860.

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"THE TARIFF BILL."—We are compelled, in consequence of the pressure upon our columns, to defer the publication of the second article on this subject until to-morrow.

The Portuguese in Japan.

The Portuguese, not only discovered Japan, and were, of course, not only the first European nation to engage in Japanese commerce, but also planted Christianity in the Empire, which was finally extirpated, however, by the bloodiest persecution, in which, Kœmpfer attests, the Dutch, who banished all Christian observances themselves for the sake of gain, cruelly aided.

The Portuguese were the earliest adventurers on the Indian Ocean in quest of commerce, and they prosecuted their trade all over the East as far as the Empire of China. In 1542, a Portuguese merchantman bound to China was driven by a storm on the hitherto unknown Islands of Japan, and came to anchor in Bungo, one of the nine provinces of the island of Kiusia.

Whatever the Portuguese trade may have been, meanwhile, it was not permanently established until 1549, when their merchants settled in the country. They had trading posts at Bungo, Firando, and, lastly, at Nagasaki. They intermarried with the wealthiest Japanese Christians, were free to travel wherever they pleased in the Empire, and their trade was prosperous beyond precedent. They exported, Kœmpfer informs us, three hundred tons of gold annually, and had the Portuguese trade continued twenty years longer, Macao, the entrepot of the trade of Portugal with Japan, would have been as rich, says the same historian, in gold, as was Jerusalem in the days of Solomon.

The golden harvest was cut off by the Imperial edict of 1637, which was caused partly by the pride and insolence of the Portuguese themselves, but for the most part by the machinations of the Dutch, who were anxious to supplant them. "The whole race of the Portuguese, with their mothers, nurses, and whatever belongs to them," was thereby banished forever, although they maintained themselves at their factory at Desima, to quote the words of Kœmpfer, "with much ado," until 1639.

Thus the trade of Portugal with Japan and Christianity, which was introduced into the Empire contemporaneously with that trade, under the auspices of the heroic, saintly Xavier, fell together, for the decree which banished the Portuguese denounced death against "any person propagating Christian doctrines, or even bearing the title of Christian," and "offered a reward for the discovery of every priest, as well as of every native Christian."

The Prince de Joinville.

This gentleman, third son of the late Louis Philippe, ex-King of the French, arrived at Boston from England, last Thursday, and is now in Washington. He visited this country in 1841, on which occasion the late Eleazer Williams invented or dreamed the story that he (the Prince) had communicated the fact that he (Williams) was the real Louis XVII. of France, whom Louis Philippe was to provide for, handsomely, on signing and sealing a renunciation of his royal rights! The *New York Herald* says, "He possesses a large private fortune, which he inherited at the death of the Prince de Bourbon, the last of the race of the Condes." But here, as usual, the *Herald* is incorrect. The Prince de Condé, also Duke de Bourbon, died in August, 1830, and left his immense fortune—not to the Prince de Joinville, but to the Duc d'Aumale, his younger brother.

Public Amusements.

Mr. Maxwell had a very good house, at Walnut-street Theatre, last night, upon which we congratulate him, because he deserved it. Young Hubbard, and another celebrated Mr. Sherwell appeared to-night in the play of *Ingomar*, in the drama of *The Hunchback*, and in the farce of *Miss Betty Hilliard*. Young Hubbard is something like Forrest in a young man's taking character. The last except if it which we saw was Mr. Jesse Anderson's. Here the actor was a middle-aged young gentleman, over half a century old, and much too stout to have been fair *Bertha's* father. We also saw here a *Pauline* whom the author, Bulwer, must have made very attractive. This evening, on the stage, the hero and the heroine are of a suitable age. We have good hope of Miss Wilson, and accordingly the mortality of Mr. Sherwell.

Mr. Ridgway Smith's name appeared beneath