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AN OLD SUBJECT.

Certain questions seem to touch not in the General Assembly of this State, but in the whole public consideration, with an intensity and celerity which have written, One of them is the inevitable dispute as to official publication in the French. There was an echoing of this dispute on Tuesday in the proceedings of the House. The dispute, though of rather a mild form, will sufficient to be unpleasant and regrettable. Yet it need not be so at any time. Considered simply with a view to the most efficient results of conveyancing to all who are interested in general public information, then, it would be as little calculated to touch susceptibilities of language and produce passionate aberration, as it would be very of some prehension and adjustment. But, long ago it was suffered to become a question of feeling rather than one of substantial justice and utility. The official relation between the English language and the French language came to be regarded as the highwater or the low water mark, as the case might be, of the strength in the State of the Anglo-American, or of the French American element.

Hence, if it was proposed, for any reason, to extend the use of the French language, there were Anglo-American theoretically against the proposition as the clipping of a prerogative pride and presumption; and if it was proposed to curtail the same language, there were on the other side to be found, in the proposition, a spirit of disparagement and partiality, to ignore and overshadow the Franco-American element.

The antagonists in this controversy saw in every bill or resolution opposing or a legislative object or incident a convenient text for long and or pages of argument, such as the fellow-citizens of the Mississippi and Canada saw similar tokens in the biting of the thumb or some equally significant proceeding.

It was not denied by those who were for discontinuing the publication of the officials in the French language on the ground of needless expense, that the expense of publication in the English language was equally needless, as the official proceedings were not read in either tongue. But this is doubtless too sweeping an admission. It may be true that, as published, the proceedings may seldom be read. Nevertheless it would be well to have them generally read, if they would be if published in the French mode for accomplishing that purpose. If the French version of the journals, for example, were published with promptness, and in convenient form, and in real French, where readers be found that would be ease to meet with them, it would be in fact, as well as in name, a publication. It would give a public information, and could not, therefore, entail a needless expense.

The result of the discussion in the House, however, was one upon which both populations may be congratulated. The unanimous determination to individually postpone the further bill for disposing of the subject, in the hope of a compromise in the Senate language may be taken, we mean, as an element of general harmony and sympathy henceforth between populations who have on much reason to stand by each other in general confidence.

SPECULATION.

Lumber is moving and Shingles are in demand and sales effected. Why should planing stock and tile not be made of blue or pine impregnated by pumice with energy or other gas generated, just as bull wheels are now embossed, and as Mr. Bell's energy?

The Government of Texas.

In short time we shall have some account of the system of the Provisional Government of Texas, and the Legislature which succeeds that occasion. It may not be without interest to give the readers some account of the manner in which Prussia's system of Government is.

On Prussia's 18th, the Imperial dignity was revived in the person of Charles Louis Napoleon, the nephew of the Emperor and of Napoleon III., and whose heir is the Prince Imperial, who will be ten years old in March. In the event of his death, Napoleon III. would have to make heir, the succession to the crown of France would devolve on Prince Napoleon (Plon-Plon), son of Jerome, ex-King of Westphalia, and son-in-law of the King of Italy. The Emperor governs Prussia, in conjunction with a Senate, a Legislative body, and a Council of State. The Senate is composed of hereditary members of the Senate and the Corps Legislatif. He appoints the Senators, and chooses the members of the Legislative body from those of the Council of State. His allowance, as a Civil List, is nearly five millions of francs (5,000,000), of which the palaces, gardens, stables, and jewels belonging to the Crown, which cannot be alienated without the consent of the Senate.

The French Senate at present consists of one hundred and thirty members, including the French princes who become members at 18 and upwards, the Cardinals, the Marshals and Admirals of France, the bearers of office in the Legislative body, and every Senator (of 30,000 francs) a year, making the yearly sum total of 4,000,000 per annum. The Senate is understood to be the guardian of the constitution, which it may suspend, modify, and or variance, with its leading and principle, but which must be subsequently approved by the Senate of the nation. The sittings of the Senate are under a President and Vice President, appointed by the Emperor. Assembly, Senate is rather an Assembly than an active body.

The Corps Legislatif, corresponding with our Houses of Representatives or of the British House of Commons, consists of 282 members, elected by universal suffrage, in proportion of one member to every 35,000, in Paris, and one member to every 70,000 in the rest of the Empire, and receiving 2500 francs per month during the session, which lasts three months—a total of $225,000. No Minister can be a member of the Corps, but may receive any petitions. It votes or rejects the bills presented to it, and the taxes. It cannot amend a bill without the consent of the Council of State. The Emperor can dissolve it, at will, but a new one must be convoked within six months. Vice-President and the Legislative body have little more than the mere shadow of power.

The Council of State, nominated by the Emperor, consists of forty members, the salary of each being 25,000 francs. The members are removable at the Emperor's will. The Council of State is the legislative body, under the Emperor's guidance, and decides, under his auspices, all definitive laws. Besides the forty ordinary Councillors there are fourteen more, not attached to any particular department, and twenty-two extraordinary Counsellors—the whole pay of these seventy-six Councillors being $250,000 per annum.

There also are forty well-paid auditors, forty masters of requests, and a small brigade of secretaries and clerks. The Council of State is the Minister of the Emperor, and the guardian of the Prefects and the magistrates of the different State Departments—Finance, War, Marine, Interior, Colonies, Worship, Justice, Public Instruction, and Agriculture and Commerce. Each receives 100,000 francs—a Minister's total of $100,000 per annum.

It will thus be seen that the governing machinery of France is costly and cumbrous. The Senate is the Sanhedrim, the Legislative assembly published that year, note on number of paid functionaries in France at 100,000 persons, not including the army and navy and men employed in annual labor.

The Paris Universal Exposition.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The country seems to be alive to the importance of the Paris Universal Exposition, and it is not short, but a long one, and about, by the institution of a Commission. The State authorities are moving in the matter. The Governor of Missouri has appointed the Commissioner of Immigration Commissioner for Missouri, and it is predicted that all the States will adopt the same course. The joint resolution of the Senate and House of Congress, the invitation on the part of the United States, has been accepted by the President, and formally communicated to the Governments of Europe.

It is authoritatively stated that Prince Napoleon will resume the Presidency of the Imperial Commission, and everything will be done to make it the grand success of the age. As an national exhibition of the kind, until the 1st of March next, for filing applications, has been arranged. Forms of application with all information and regulations containing information, can be obtained by addressing, postage prepaid, J. C. Duely, Esq., of the Paris Exposition, Hon. Horace Greeley, Tribune Building, and No. 49 Park Row, Times Building, New York.

SENATOR SUMNER, OF OHIO.—The New York World says:

The re-election of Senator Sherman in Ohio is a substantial Conservative victory. The Radicals have put up against him Governor Morgan Morehead, who, as Governor, had a brush with Senator Sherman, because of his alleged complicity with the Copperheads. Mr. Morehead is a partially supporter President Lincoln's emancipation policy; that he has not voted always in favor of negro suffrage; and in fact that he had occasionally given some favorable votes. There is a good deal of significance, therefore, in his nomination, in spite of the candidates joined against him, and the exertions to effect his defeat. Ordinarily, however, this rather more than two Republicans would stand, and a number of them voted for Mr. Pendleton, a much abler and more popular man than Mr. Morehead, among the conduct of the Radical Senator of the House.

Senator Sherman's act exactly the kind of legislator a Democrat would choose, but he is generally sound on financial topics, will vote with us when the question comes up about free trade, and in every respect will suit us better than Senator Doolittle or Provost Marshal Brooks.

Dispatches to Frankfort about the Railroad Accident.—New York, Jan. 31.—News has just reached here that the train of Prussian mail passenger left Frankfort for Von Gotz on Jan. 5th, with 200 passengers from Gen. Manteuffel's division, and a large number of Bagdad by the United States troops, and it was not known whether the wife of Gen. Manteuffel or Von Gotz or Prince Alexander.

Dispatches from Washington, "The Sunday Star" announces that Mr. Crawford will not be interrupted by any one from the Senate on his return across the Rio Grande and into Mexico.

The Steam Industry Established in New York City, and edited by Wilde & Phillips, is one of the most important journals published in the country. It is now speculating to the death Mr. Wilde's reputation, and everything will be done to make it the grand success of the invention on the part of the United States. Its name appeared by the President, and formally communicated to the Governments of Europe.

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BYTELEGRAPH.

(For the New Orleans Press.)

FROM WASHINGTON.

CHAIRMAN OF MILITARY COMMITTEE FAVORS REDUCTION OF THE ARMY BELOW 50,000.

Conference of Senior Generals—Speculations Thereon.

PRUSSIAN GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED TO DISCOURAGE LABOR CONTRACTS AND IMMIGRATION.

Constitutional Amendment from Reconstruction Committee Passed by 120 to 46.

Attack on the President by Mr. Stevens—He Says that When the President Has Done Would have Lost a British King His Head.

DISASTROUS EXPLOSION OF AN ENGINE ON THE JACKSON RAILROAD—8 KILLED AND 6 WOUNDED.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

COMMERCIAL, RIVER AND OTHER NEWS.

New York, Jan. 31.—The *World's* Washington special says Gen. Thomas gives a very cheerful account of affairs in Tennessee. He will probably be called upon to give evidence before the Reconstruction Committee.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says on Monday next new money orders will be opened in many Southern cities, including Richmond, Charleston, Savannah and Mobile.

New York, Jan. 31.—The *Herald's* Richmond correspondence says efforts are making in the Virginia Legislature to declare the election of Senators Underwood and Sagar illegal. Gov. Pierpont and John Minor Botts are touted of as their successors.

New York, Jan. 31.—The ship Chinchah has arrived from San Francisco.

Washington, Jan. 30.—The House Military Committee is still engaged in maturing the bill for the increase of the army. Gen. Schenck, the Chairman of the Ways Committee, favors the lowest possible standard; even below fifty thousand, if possible.

New York, Jan. 31.—The *Herald's* Washington special says the conference of the senior Major Generals causes the most extensive speculation as to the results. Among the most practicable theories is that these Generals have been summoned to give their united views concerning the Southern country and the necessity for garrisoning the South with troops. It is supposed the President is principally desirous of obtaining the opinions of the Generals and that Congress will adhere to its original idea of delegating sub-committees to make a trip of observation through the disturbed States.

The receipts of Internal Revenue these January last reach nearly two hundred millions.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The House Committee on consequence have a proposition before them to change the emoluments of collectors of Customs to a reasonable sum; for, if there is in salary and perquisites having made from fifty to one hundred dollars per year.

Boston, Jan. 31.—The action of the military court martial at Boston, relative to the alleged kidnapping of Mormon emigrants in Boston, in the summer of 1864, will shortly subsequent first the publication of very interesting letters to the President Minister, at when instance the court was appointed.

It is probable the Prussian Government and other States will prohibit the making of any more labor contracts, and otherwise impede emigration to this country. The attention of Congress will be called to the matter.

Cincinnati, Jan. 31.—About thirty soldiers, of Company B, 13th United States Cavalry, was lost on board the Miami.

Col. Roberts and Gen. Sweeny arrived here last night.

Aurora City, Jan. 31.—The engine Salem exploded this evening in front of the city post, killing one and a half north of the city, killing Col. Forne, the conductor, J. Dinge, the engineer and a fireman, and wounding Jas. Lennon, a brakeman and three others.

The engine is a total wreck.

Washington, Jan. 31.—In the House Mr. Stevens, from the Committee on Reconstruction, reported back the Constitutional amendment with modified by striking out the words direct taxes and excluding the apportionment to representation.

Mr. Stevens, in supporting the resolution, spoke of the President as having put forth a proclamation or command on the very time Congress was legislating on the Constitutional amendment.

Mr. Stevens said this was in direct violation of the privileges of this body, and centuries ago would have cost a British King his head.

Mr. Smith called for the reading of the paper to which Mr. Stevens referred. The paper was then read, being the reported conversation between the President and a distinguished Senator on the subject of the amendment.

Mr. Stevens said that if three-fourths of the House voted for the pending amendment it would not require the signature of the President.

The House rejected Mr. Schenck's amendment. The House then voted on the resolution reported from the Reconstruction Committee with the following result: yeas, 120; nays, 46.

The Speaker saying that two-thirds having voted in the affirmative it passed.

Washington, Jan. 31.—The House passed a bill for the relief of widows and orphans of soldiers in the Revolutionary war.