

National Republican

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C.

MONDAY MORNING — FEBRUARY 11, 1870
One Cor. 10th and D. near Penna. Av.
W. J. MURTAGH, Editor and Proprietor
We cannot undertake to return rejected manuscripts. Contributors will therefore present their work in type.

All communications, whether on business or for publication, should be addressed to W. J. MURTAGH, Proprietor NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, Washington, D. C.

RECEPTIONS.

Mrs. Grant's receptions will be held every Tuesday during the season, between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m.

SPEECHES BLAINE'S RECEPTIONS.

The receptions of the Speaker of the House of Representatives will be at his residence, 405 Fifteenth street, from 9 to 11 o'clock on each Friday evening of the season.

MRS. BLAINE'S RECEPTIONS.

Mrs. Blaine's receptions will be held every Wednesday of the season, between the hours of 2 and 5 p.m.

THE PLUTOMATIC COFFEE.

At the Russian Legation Madame de Catalogne will receive on Thursdays, from 2 until 5 p.m.

At the Argentine Legation Madame de Garcia will receive on alternate Monday evenings, commencing on Monday, January 2, and will be at home on Saturdays, from 2 until 5 p.m.

THE INTERNATIONAL FAIR.

On Friday last, Senator Hamlin called up the bill to encourage and promote the International Industrial Exhibition, which our citizens propose shall be held in this city next year. The tenor of the debate is doubtless familiar to our readers, and we have in it an additional evidence of what some people think of our energy and enterprise.

Perhaps it is a misfortune that a portion of the citizens of the United States should be affected, not with too much legislation, but with lawgivers who have not an abiding interest among us. The necessity for a territorial limit, over which Congress should have supreme control, was an argument in favor of accepting the original ten miles square, as the boundaries of the District of Columbia, as the permanent seat of government.

It has been said that the very object to be attained is an exemption from the tumult and trouble which a commercial city would inflict upon the guardians of the national honor. No one wishes to deny that for over half a century Washington city did not intrude its schemes upon the national legislature. It had none to offer, save those which were vastly more important to the comfort of the transient resident than for those whose permanent abiding place had been fixed, by lot or choice, within our territorial limits.

It is a fact that travelers judge cities by the accommodations it affords its visitors. Washington, and while we are upon the question of national liberality, it is well to incite our neighboring city, Georgetown—
we say these cities have been characterized as places of "rooms to let, madly streets, and miserable accommodations." In fact, the capital has been the butt of everybody's jokes, and all that was essential for an ephemeral fame was for a correspondent to waste his ink in depreciating the site, and crying down the advantages which the "permanent seat of Government" had found in their judicious eyes. So much for the past.

A admitting that it was most desirable the representatives of States and Congressional districts should have a snug place in some part of the country where they might assemble to discuss the weighty affairs of their people in the District of Columbia were only expected to keep boarding-houses, you know; and if there were paved streets and accessible avenues it was only for the benefit of those sent here by the votes of the real voting population of the country.

It is not possible that any one having intellect, genius, business capacity, or anything else, should reside here except the concentrated wisdom of the nation. This was in truth the prevalent idea before the war, and if it still lurks in the atmosphere of what remains of the District, if it still prejudices the opinions of the successors of those who voted liberal appropriations for the construction of our—*we mean, of course*—Government-buildings, whose fault is it?

Yes, whose fault is it? Not by any means the fault of the liberal-minded, public-spirited, patient, plodding citizens of the District.

The subject of this article—an International Industrial Exhibition—perhaps has nothing to do with the foregoing remarks. Of course it has not. Nothing can possibly be pertinent that has for its object the advancement of our prosperity—our *prosperity!* This District of Columbia, which in the list of forty-seven States and Territories, stands No. 27 in paying its proportion of the revenue tax. But then we have nothing to do with Congress, except as beggars.

The States which do less, contribute less, and send their representatives here to tell us in debate upon this question to encourage and promote the "International Industrial Exhibition," that we, the citizens of the District of Columbia, are impudent; we do not know what we want nor what we are about; that is, it is not only necessary but really an act of charity to check any enterprise the tax-paying and unrepresented citizens should devise. The Government, forsooth, must bear the whole burden of our gigantic schemes, and the people are already overwhelmed by the tax-burden.

Will the honorable Senators who plead so long for exemption take a little pains to compare the appropriations annually made for State and Territories that contribute less to the payment of the public debt than the District of Columbia—with the amount appropriated for our—*we mean, for their* benefit? Whose carriage traverses the streets, who commands more emphatically the condition of our city than the way we travel most easily and most unwilling to assist us?

Gentlemen, the citizens of the District of Columbia are not fools. Their education was not founded upon Congressional debates. Their means of gaining general information is not limited to the Congressional Library, the Smithsonian Institute nor the ponderous volumes of the *Globe*. If we, the people of Washington, Georgetown and county, desire to hold an International Exhibition within the limits of the District, at least do not refuse us the privilege.

It was said in the debate in the Senate on Friday that it would take two or three hundred ships to transport the goods from abroad, and that, in fact, the Government expends light grooms upon—*practically*, or something of that nature. Let us see. Two or three hundred ship-loads of freight would necessarily be carried through our streets to the place of exhibition, and when the great World's Fair was over the goods must be carried back again to the wharves, or, what amounts to the same thing, to the depot, or some other convenient point.

The wear and tear on the pavements, the prospect of ruin, if such a thing were possible, our beloved Pennsylvania Avenue, so fresh from the prairies of the late "on-pleasantness," when some wagons ground the boulders to powder—no, two or three hundred ship-loads of freight, each not less than five thousand tons burthen, must not be suffered to pass over our "unpeeled streets."

Just think of it! We cruelty to animals, what has Bergé to offer in the name of humanity that can transcend this wonderful consideration for our "unpeeled streets?" And think, too, of the car loads of freight the world would add to our share to the horrid. The streets would be overtaxed, the people of the District would be overtaxed, visitors would be overtaxed, them, as a consequence, there would be renewed attack on the miserable condition of the national capital, and we do not want foreigners to come here and behold our awful plight. Distance lends enchantment to the view."

It is related that a dog once attempted to drink from a pond over which a venerable goose stood sentinel. For this impudence of the canine species, the anger bird threatened vengeance. What right had the dog to quench his thirst at that spot. After some cackling the dog concluded the goose was not aught to much, that the water was stagnant, and not fit to drink. He determined, however, to taste and went his way, confirmed in the opinion first entertained. The goose, from a prominent place, asked if his dogship was satisfied. To which he replied that he was, but no thanks were due to the guardian of the pond. The water had become stagnant with age, and nature was too sensible to refresh such a detestable locality.

The Senator from a Western State said Washington was sick, and wanted doctoring. Too true—sick from the overdoing of quacks. But what is the use of complaining. We are not competent to take care of ourselves, and of course not intelligent enough to determine the cause. Why should we argue? What amount of reasoning, what presentation of facts could convince the incredulous that our people desire to hold the Exhibition in Washington, or that we are able and willing to pay the expense?

Whatever respect we may have for the good-will of our friends, the Senator who considers it an evidence of his regard for our welfare that he opposes the bill, does not evince the kind of sympathy that will make Washington a respected city among the capitals of the nations of the earth.

PERSONAL.

General T. J. Reynolds, military commander of the Fifth military district, declines the use of his name for the Texas senatorial. A conviction of right and a sense of propriety, he says, precludes him from existing circumstances. Hon. William A. Howard, of Michigan, who was tendered and declined the Chinese mission, is in the city, as his old quarters, the St. James Hotel.

Acting Governor Lee, of Wyoming, has appointed Mrs. Caroline Nell and Mrs. Estelle Moorees justices of the peace for Sweet Water county. It had none to offer, save those which were vastly more important to the comfort of the transient resident than for those whose permanent abiding place had been fixed, by lot or choice, within our territorial limits.

Colonel John Mosby is a candidate for county judge at Faquier, Virginia.

A lady of New York to whom Mrs. Stowe sent her "Vindication," with the compliments of the author, returned the volume with the endorsement: "Life is not too short—excuse me."

Rochester is said to suffer from "diseases of the neck." Dr. Napoleon favors amputation of the diseased part.

General McClellan is to deliver a series of addresses to the members of the National Guard regiments in New York city next month, on discipline and the acquisition of military knowledge.

Margaret Stuart, of Philadelphia, has struck Billy Pitterson for \$15,000 in a breach-of-promise suit.

Admiral Buchanan has become a resident of Mobile, Alabama.

WALL'S OPERA HOUSE.—An over-crowded grand affair in a performance, then "the 'Boo Stoops to Conquer'" was a complete as well as successful one. But were that popular manager with us a week longer, and Goldsmith's sterling comedy again to be produced, we would enter our salons prepared against the style in which it was represented on Saturday night, and would bigamously remove a scene or two, and then begin to act the play again. The curtain would be drawn, and the audience would be seated in a navy where they were assured at non-combatants and civilians, to the manifest detriment of the public interests and the peril of the health of the troops, or of the humbug rank and file. There has consequently ceased to be an inducement to the best men to choose the public in preference to the merchant service, and of course the naval officers have refused to continue in a navy where they were assured at non-combatants and civilians, to the manifest detriment of the public interests and the peril of the health of the troops, or of the humbug rank and file. This will enthrall a multitude of ancient prejudices, which have grown bitter with age and action, and which have found expression in every Department and in every branch of the service. But it is difficult to see how the reforms infringe any absolute rights, or will tend in any way to the injury of the sailors. On the contrary, it is evident that the removal of the cause of contention once removed, a new era will begin, an era of healthy subordination, of good-will, to the lasting benefit of the whole navy. We earnestly hope that the bill will be passed, and that it will be a positive divisor of a mutual vexatious question.

The question is also attracting attention on the other side of the Atlantic, and in this connection we clip the following from the London *Army and Navy Gazette*:

BRIDAL PRESENTS.

STERLING SILVERWARE, RICH PAIR FANCY GOODS, PEARL AND DIAMOND JEWELRY.

Also a general assortment of new and elegant goods, designed especially for BRIDAL PRESENTS.

W. W. GALT & BRO., Jewelers, 1017 Pennsylvania avenue, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets.

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