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WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 2.

The Northern Mail came through yesterday with the latest dates.

PUBLIC CORRUPTION.

We yesterday spoke of Senator Toombs, as we find in the Congressional Globe, delivered a speech, the course of which the following is reported:

Mr. Toombs: We speak of the corruptions of the Court of Spain, of France, and of other governments, with a great deal of truth, according to the accounts; but from my experience and observations, which have been somewhat extensive, I do not believe to-day there is a more corrupt a government under the sun than that of the United States.

Mr. Hale: Nor I either.

Mr. Toombs: And most of all its corruption is in the legislative department.

Such a bitter and humiliating acknowledgment, and yet we have no earthly doubt it is eminently true. Senator Toombs is in a position to know the facts. He is an ardent friend of the present administration, and a believer in its political predictions counsels and suppresses its avowal, he is compelled by the overwhelming sense of justice to the American Senate.

Corruption is the fountain head of the evil. Where that is poisoned, the venom runs through a thousand springs until the stream and rivulet is infected. The purity of morality throughout the country is necessarily influenced by that of the Government. Political turpitude cannot coexist with private integrity. If members of Congress can be bought and sold, and legislation be in some instances controlled by the basest motives, it is not to be expected that public officers escape contamination. High examples are contagious, whether for good or evil. Under the administrations of former Presidents the people were the highest, because every department of the government was immaculate. For years corruption has gradually increased, from rallied the halls of Congress, and spread thence in all directions among the people. Where culpability not only escapes punishment, but is palliated or pardoned, as in the instances of S. Marmaduke, we must expect to behold an epidemic of corruption, and fearful ravages over the land.

Corruption has recently teemed with accounts of frauds, swindles, defalcations, and robberies. In one instance a railroad president steals to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars, and another, a Trust Company president, with shameless and unblushing effrontery, as a third, a Secretary of State in Tennessee—robs the public treasury of the most colossal illustration of the degeneracy of the times is the unprecedented exposure of the condition of the La Crosse and Milwaukee Railroad affairs. The revelations obtained from it exhibit a universality of corruption unequalled in the annals of history. The company had an object to attain and the agency of the executive and other departments of the State of Wisconsin was indispensable to success. To advance the plastic and pliable nature of the material upon which they worked, they determined to bribe the Legislature of Wisconsin. With cool and premeditated precision they proceeded to fix the precise purchasable value to each which so favor was necessary to the consummation of their scheme. Gov. Barstow, governing the sovereign power of the State, was quoted at the high price of $5,000; the Senators did not stand quite so high, and were set down as vendible at $2,000; while the Representatives, of less influence, were contented with merely rewarded with the sum of $500. Besides these there were other State officers, lobby members, and others who were bought up; in fact the committee names the parties and the prices—Governor, Senators, Assemblymen, &c., the amount paid and the facts as incontrovertibly established. The sum expended by the Company to carry out this system of corruption exceeded one hundred thousand dollars.

Some of the infamy all minor ones sink into insignificance, as the lesser satellites of Mars do when surrounds Lucifer, recall and for the towering proportions of the Prince of Evil. But what caps the climax of shame and disgrace, is the fact that while the shivering exposure of the corruption of the Legislature of Wisconsin, it turned without taking any steps to prosecute and punish the parties who have made her name a hissing and a reproach. Thus, even more than we had before proved, to what a depth of degradation public sentiment has fallen. Corruption has fastened in Europe for our warrant, and rivulet is infected. The virus is in reality throughout the country,