

# The Daily Journal.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

FRIDAY, FEB. 3, 1875.

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Up to latest advices there had been 20,504 persons arrested in Paris for participation in the insurrection of the Commune.

Eugenie is said to be wasting away with consumption, and her friends are anxious that she should travel. She is said to have "aged" very much the last few months.

The President of the Kansas Agricultural College complains that not one graduate of that institution has become a farmer since 1867.

The Evangelical Review of Calcutta states that 5,000 converts to Christianity were baptised in India during the year 1873, and 1,000 in Burma.

The official number of French electors registered on the latest lists is 9,549,640 for the whole country, or a falling off on the previous lists of 241,955 electors.

The sleighing and skating carnival has commenced at St. Petersburg, and there is much gayety of the good, old-fashioned, harmless kind. The court balls at the palace will soon begin, and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar will do their best to make their guests happy.

The Shah of Persia has given Herr Falkenhagen, a Russian subject, a concession to construct a railway from Tabriz to the Russian frontier. If this line is carried out, it will be extended to Trifid, and become the first railway connecting Asia and Europe.

Thus the New York Tribune. "The Georgia protest against the recent military outrage in New Orleans is no less emphatic than those that have come from other States; but its most significant and commendable feature, is the utterance of a Southern Legislature, in its condemnation of all forms of lawlessness, coupled with an appeal to the oppressed people of Louisiana to suffer still in patience, looking only to legal means of redressing their wrongs."

A most wonderful and formidable volume, which has been twenty years in preparation, has just been issued by an enterprising London house. It is entitled the "Mercantile Directory of the World for 1875," and comprises over 3,000 quarto pages. It contains a register of all the principal business firms throughout the world, and appears to have been compiled with great care and accuracy, and is brought down to the latest possible date. The United States and Territories are well represented. The volume also contains a glossary in six different languages of commercial terms, names of trades, etc., and is well classified so as to render reference easy and ready.

The United States Circuit Court in New York has been recently engaged in defining judicially the question "What is a Bologna sausage?" In June, 1872, Congress passed an act making changes in the tariff, which among other matters, provided that Bologna sausage should be imported free of duty. An importer subsequently brought into New York a large quantity of sausages, and at the Custom House they were claimed as "prepared meat," and a duty levied of thirty-five per cent. This duty, amounting to about \$2,000, was paid under protest, and a suit brought against the Collector to recover it. The importer alleged that "Bologna sausage" was in reality "dried sausages," and consequently, his importation being "dried sausages," it ought to be classed as "Bologna," and admitted free. The Court, after considering the question, agreed to this definition, and declared that the duty had been wrongfully levied. Judgment was given the importer, and the duty ordered refunded.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.  
RAZON, N. C., February 3, 1875.

My Dear Journal:

The City Bill, as your readers already know, passed the House of Representatives on yesterday, after a long and tedious fight. All of our New Hanover negroes spoke, Brewster, Lloyd and Moore, and like their colleagues in the Senate, Mr. Cantwell, they voted to represent the white people of our city and county. It was a speechlessness to be remembered, but one can be witness to the more patriotic than that of Mr. Cantwell when the bill was on its passage before the Senate, for the reason that while the poor negroes excited pity because of their ignorance and want of opportunity to know better, Mr. Cantwell could lay claim to no such exemption.

The negroes claimed that the bill did violence to the wishes even of the Democratic party in Wilmington—that it was the work of only a few people of that party, &c. Bill Moore even went so far as to say there were two factions in the Democratic party in Wilmington, one headed by the Johnson and the other headed by the Star, that the Journal favored, and the Star opposed the bill, then before the House. They were all, we believe, constant and repeated in their declarations that there was a division in our party in reference to the matter, but there was no Democrat here to voice for the truth of their statements, no one credited them, and the bill passed by a strict party vote.

With the government of the city of Wilmington in the hands of a Board of Aldermen controlled by a majority of competent and proper men, and the administration of the criminal law in the hands of an unpartisan and impartial solicitor and an unpartial and impartial judge, the people of Wilmington and of New Hanover generally will experience a degree of peace and quiet and law and order which they have for long years been strangers. The law abiding men of the city have it in their power, by lawful, peaceful means, to control the municipal governments. If they fail to do so it will be because they lack the will.

It certainly was not my intention to do Mr. Waring any injustice and I have done him any wrong I am ready most cheerfully to restore him four fold." The Senator is certainly correct in saying he has been friendly to Wilmington, and will, I am sure, appreciate any undue sensitiveness when he considers how gallantly it is for white men to live under negro rule and the repugnance we feel at having such a man as Edward Gurnell as our representative even in name. The wonder is that white men can control themselves at all under such circumstances.

And just here it may be well enough to correct an error into which the Star has fallen in reference to the time when the first Board of Aldermen to be elected under the new law shall enter upon the discharge of their duties. The Star says that time will not arrive until August next. If the text of the present Board until August had been expressly repealed. If, therefore, the repeal shall be effectual the new Board will go into office immediately upon their election and qualification. So the Star spoke a little too confidently. It is true, however, that there is a question of law involved just here, and it was to ensure an honest adjustment of that question, by the advice of the best legal counsel, that this section was put in the Bill making it a misdemeanor, punishable with a fine of two thousand dollars and imprisonment in the Penitentiary for two years, in case any Alderman of the city shall refuse to surrender his office after its expiration by due course of law. Two years imprisonment in the Penitentiary, after conviction before an unpartisan Judge, with the certainty of an unpartisan Governor before that time, for illegally holding over will, I think, ensure the employment of the very best legal talent by the present Board. There will be no blushing on either side, nor any violence, nor any force used. The question is one purely of law, and one that the present Board will decide rightly at very great peril, for it will be seen the Judge has no discretion in the matter, but upon conviction will be compelled to inflict both the prescribed fine and the prescribed imprisonment. It was to put the matter precisely in its present condition that the term of office of the new Board was made to begin "when the term of office of the present Board of Aldermen shall expire by operation of law," that the act of extension was repealed and that the penalty for illegally holding over was inserted.

The best opinion here, I think, is that the Legislature will take no step in the direction of free trade in money. If any change is made in the present law, in regard to money, it will be to make the penalties more severe, and possibly to lower the rate of legal interest. The question has been much discussed, but the end has not yet been reached by any means. Nor do I object to this, for I am not one of those who clamor about discussion in Legislative bodies. Discussion does not half as much harm as the want of it. It is from the want of discussion that we have so much crude, imperfect and injurious legislation. When laws are made without debate and critical examination of their provisions, legislation, as a general rule, amounts to little less than legislation, in which one man votes for his neighbor's bill because his neighbor will vote for his bill. Certainly no important measure ought to be passed without thorough and full examination and discussion. And how can it be determined whether or not a measure is "important" without examining and discussing? One of the poorest tests of the inefficiency of a legislative body is that based upon the number of bills it passes.

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