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EDITORIAL NOTES.

Garibaldi's plan for improving the Campaign involves the construction of a canal, and he proposes that the 20,000,000 francs wanted for the fortifications of Rome should be spent on the canal.

The Italian government is seriously considering the adoption of radical measures for the suppression of brigandage, murder and other crimes in that country, which have hitherto been treated so leniently.

It is stated that coal abounds in the hills of Sir Darya county, Russia, but mostly occurs in nests containing but comparatively small quantities of the valuable mineral. Few large coal fields have hitherto been discovered.

Mlle de Murska has given one hundred and eighteen concerts since the 25th of September last, traveling nearly every day of the time in railway and other conveyances from point to point. Manager de Vivo says that, next to the lamented Parepa Rosa, Mlle de Murska is the most industrious artiste he has ever seen.

It is reported that Grant was greatly rejoiced at the first news of the election in New Hampshire, but when the true version came he was most cast down, declaring that "the more one relies on newspaper reporters, the more he will be deceived." Grant should bear in mind that the Radical papers which he patronizes lie too much to be relied on.

A bill had been made the special order in the State Senate of Tennessee which contains the following section: "That bachelorism is hereby declared a privilege, and every male inhabitant of this State over twenty years of age, being of sound mind enjoying good bodily health, remaining unmarried after the first day of May, 1875, shall pay a fine of ten dollars annually."

They have got a good thing in Michigan, if the experiments result satisfactorily. Illuminating gas of sixteen candle power is obtained from the burning of wood, or rather the gas made in the manufacture of charcoal is preserved and used. One cord of wood will make 35,000 cubic feet of gas. The cost of making it is said to be 18 cents per 1,000 feet. As the Detroit Tribune says, "It is cheaper than daylight." They are going into the charcoal business in Detroit.

In order that King Alfonso of Spain may have a regular court at Madrid, his eldest sister, the Infanta Isabella, is on her way to assist him in holding levees, drawing-rooms, &c. She is in her twenty-fourth year; was married in May, 1868, to the Count de Girgenti, brother of the ex-King of Naples, and is said to be clever as well as good looking. Her appearance in Madrid would at once annihilate the canard, apparently a production of New York journalism, which, a few days ago, declared that Alfonso was desirous of abdicating in favor of the Duke de Montpensier, his aunt's husband.

The Ohio Reform Convention proposes to urge the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution of the United States making formal recognition of the existence of Almighty God. The framers of the Constitution seem to have considered such a formal declaration an act of supererogation. But in these days of Radical progress, especially since the developments of the Beecher-Tilton case, it is deemed necessary that there should be a distinct recognition of God in the Constitution, in order that we may not lose all claim to rank among the Christian nations.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

YARBOURD HOURS, Raleigh, March 17th, 1875.

Dear Journal:

To-day has witnessed the consummation by the Legislature of the earnest labors and hopes of THE JOURNAL for the last seven months. Looking back over the long, and at one time, almost hopeless contest, it is with no little pride that I was able to be present to-day in the Hall of Representatives and be an eye witness to the fulfillment of our joint labors. Many were the hearty greetings I received in behalf of myself and my absent co-laborer, when the speaker formally announced that the bill calling a Convention had passed and was ordered to be enrolled.

Some time before the hour the Hall began to be crowded with visitors. Many of the fairest ladies of the city thronged the galleries, and the lobbies were crowded to overflowing. Promptly at 12 o'clock, the Senators entered the Hall, that body having adjourned to witness the scene. Not even a casual visitor could fail to have been impressed with the anxiety and concern which was stamped upon the brows of the members. It was evident that all were cognizant of the importance of the legislation which was about to claim their attention.

At 12 o'clock, the Speaker announced the special order. The Clerk read the bill in a clear, loud voice, and although every listener was perfectly familiar with its provisions, the most anxious silence was observed during the reading. The voice of the Clerk had hardly died away, before almost every Republican was upon the floor seeking recognition. One after another gave notice of amendments, fearing that they might be cut off under the operation of the previous question. But the friends of the bill had no disposition to prevent debate, and, upon motion of Mr. Oaksmith, five minutes were allowed to each to explain his vote, after the call of the roll had been ordered.

Mr. Wheeler, Republican, from Forsythe, offered a large number of amendments, which were voted down. Messrs. Mebane and Means announced on behalf of the Democrats that amendments should now be offered in a supplemental bill, as so many Senators had left, that to permit amendments in the House would defeat the measure.

Mr. Candler, Republican, of Buncombe, offered another batch of amendments, which he supported in a forcible speech. He announced that if his amendments were adopted he would support the bill.

Messrs. Dula, Norment, Munden, Hughes and Lloyd, plain and colored Republicans, in turn proposed amendments, but each was defeated. The Republicans having spoken and offered amendments to their hearts' content, Mr. Moring, of Chatbam, moved the previous question, which was ordered.

The attention of the vast crowd, which had wandered during the discussion, was again riveted to the proceedings. All was doubt and uncertainty. The friends of the bill feared that the absence of Messrs. Jetton, Mecklenburg and Moffitt of Randolph, would hazard its passage, as their votes would necessarily be counted in the negative. Messrs. Blythe and Trivett, Republicans, were absent. The latter would probably vote for the bill, as he had been instructed to do so. One hundred and fourteen members only responded to their names, and eighty of these must vote in the affirmative to secure the passage of the bill.

Speaker Robinson called attention to a rule of the House which only gave the Speaker a vote in case of a tie, except in elections. In this case he claimed a right to vote as one of the Representatives of the people, and directed the Clerk to call his name. He responded in a distinct voice, which was greeted with applause.

When Mr. Atwater, of Orange, was called, he announced that both he and his colleague had been opposed to Convention, but their own views and those of their constituents, he felt assured, had undergone a change. He voted aye. Mr. Barnhardt, of Caldwell, was the first Democrat to vote aye. This surprised the friends of the bill, as they were not prepared for it. Mr. Bettis, of Cleveland, was the second Democrat to vote in the negative. Mr. Candler, Republican, of Buncombe, failed to respond. Mr. Eatman, of Wilson, was the third Democrat to vote in the negative. He was without instructions, but he believed his constituents were opposed to the call, and, as an honest representative, he must vote nay. Messrs. Foote, of Wilkes, and Glenn, of Yadkin, did not respond.

Mr. Griffin, of Nash, voted in the negative, being the fourth Democrat. He did not believe the measure was expedient, and his people were unprepared for it. Feeling his responsibility and duly sensible of the unenviable position he was placed in he must vote against the bill.

Mr. Haner, of Chatham, announced in behalf of himself and Mr. Moring, his colleague, that they had uniformly opposed the call of a Convention, but their recent visit home had shown them that their constituents were now favorable to the bill and they would vote in the affirmative. Messrs. Hurley, of Montgomery, and Jessup, of Cumberland, voted in the negative, being the fifth Democrat, recording their votes against the bill. Mr. Latta, of Orange, briefly gave the reasons

for the change of opinion so long entertained against the measure, and voted in the affirmative. Mr. Meyer, of Moore, made the seventh Democratic voting nay.

When the name of Mr. McKee, the very able representative from Cumberland was called, he rose and addressed the House with evident emotion. He had been consistent and persistent in his opposition to the Convention-movement, as his duty to his constituents demanded. He believed it to be unwise and inexpedient. He had hoped the people would continue to exercise that patience with which they had borne the evils of the present Constitution so long. He thought he could see the light breaking in the east, and soon he would be able to call an unrestricted Convention. But while he had opposed this measure he was willing to abide by the decision of two-thirds of his party friends, and when they spoke he would cast aside his personal preferences. What was he to stand up here and resist the will of the great Democratic party. He voted aye amidst the loudest applause.

Mr. Means, of Cabarrus, was proud to record his name in the affirmative. It was the proudest vote of his life. Mr. Mendenhall, of Guilford, did not respond to his name.

Mr. Mitchell, of Franklin, had opposed the bill, but he had no apologies for voting for it. His party needed his vote and he cheerfully gave it.

When Mr. Richardson, of Columbus, responded aye, he was greeted with applause. He had been one of the most efficient and determined opponents of the bill. The distinctness with which he voted was an eloquent announcement of the motives which prompted his course.

Messrs. Page and Stevenson, of Wake, briefly stated the reasons which had led them to change their opinions, and each voted for the bill. Mr. Stevenson had not seen the necessity of the call, and had believed that we would hazard too much. We had better bear the ill we had than to fly to those we knew not of. He trusted that the God who ruled the universe would so direct the action of the General Assembly in this matter as it would redound to the honor, glory and grandeur of North Carolina.

The affirmative vote of Mr. Stowe, of Gaston, who had been persistent in his opposition, called forth the hearty plaudits, of his friends. A truer man or a more faithful representative does not live.

As the call progressed the Democrats continued to vote aye, until the name of Mr. Walker, of Tyrrell, was called. He voted nay making the eighth Democrat.

When the Clerk had completed the roll, but seventy votes were recorded in the affirmative, ten less than the vote necessary, to pass the bill. The most intense excitement now prevailed. The friends and opponents of the bill were active. The bustle was silenced by the gavel of the Speaker. The Clerks were busy summing up the vote. A painful silence pervaded the hall. Was the measure indeed lost? Slowly Mr. Meyer, of Moore, rose and addressed the Speaker. The silence was broken, and happily, too. There was no mistaking his intentions so plainly written over his honest and determined face. He said that he had been heartily opposed to the call of a Convention, and a majority of his constituents supported him in that opposition. The matter was left to his own judgment. He felt now that it was useless and would be hurtful to hold out longer in his opposition. He was as good a Conservative as any gentleman upon that floor, and desired as much to uphold and support the organization of that party. There could be no complaint upon the part of the anti-Conventionists of the manner in which they had been treated by those favoring Convention. First, they had obtained a majority, then two-thirds, then three-fourths, and to-day they had shown that nine-tenths were in favor of the bill. He had no idea at this juncture of abandoning his party organization, on the heels of the passage of the Civil Rights bill, and join the Republicans. He changed his vote to the affirmative. The hall resounded with applause in response to this announcement.

Messrs. Jessup, of Cumberland, Walker, of Tyrrell, and Branhardt, of Caldwell, promptly followed this example, and were greeted with manifestations of approval.

Mr. Norment, of Robeson, called upon the gentleman from Guilford, (Mr. Mendenhall) to record his vote. Mr. M. would have been glad not to have voted on this question. He did not see how he could vote for the measure, and would not be deterred from doing his duty by the party lash. He had usually approved the acts of that party with which he had generally acted, but upon this question he could not. He voted in the negative.

Mr. Hurley, of Montgomery, now announced a change of his vote briefly but pointedly.

Mr. Griffin, of Nash, in a speech of much feeling and ability, placed himself in line with his party.

The record now showed that seventy-six members had voted for the bill and four more were necessary. A long and anxious silence again prevailed, and all was confusion. The Clerks were busy correcting their record, and the fate of the bill was still uncertain. Minutes seemed hours so great was the anxiety in regard to the result. The vote of Mr. Foote, of Wilkes,

broken in as a relief, and in a speech of marked ability assigned the reasons for recording his vote in favor of the bill. He, too, was greeted with applause by the friends of the measure.

Mr. Eatman, of Wilson, rose calmly, and said he knew the great responsibility resting upon him. He probably held in his hands the destinies of the bill. He was prepared to meet every responsibility, which as a representative of his people, devolved upon him. His mind was made up. His vote might be fatal to himself and his party, but sink or swim, serve or perish, he would cast his destinies with those of the great party in which he had been reared and to which he belonged. If he was to go forth to his political death he believed he could meet his fate manfully. He did not desire to escape from any fate to which his party was destined. He would cheerfully die with it. He recorded his vote in the affirmative.

Mr. Glenn, the gallant young representative from Yadkin, now took the floor. He was cordially greeted. In a speech of great sense and good humor he recorded his vote in favor of the bill. Seventy-nine votes had now been cast in the affirmative: Mr. Candler, of Buncombe, and Mr. Bettis, of Cleveland, rose simultaneously. The Speaker recognized Mr. Candler. He had endeavored to have this bill amended, but had failed. He desired it to be understood that he was a Republican, and had no idea of abandoning his party. He appreciated the wants of his people and those of the entire State, and he believed their welfare demanded a change in their organic law. He had deprecated the feeling now existing between the political parties in North Carolina, and hoped to see the day when a better condition of affairs would exist. He voted in the affirmative, being the only Republican voting for the bill, and thus decided its fate. This announcement was followed by the wildest excitement and congratulations.

As soon as order could be restored Mr. Bettis claimed the attention of the Speaker and changed his vote, leaving Mr. Mendenhall, the only Conservative, in the negative.

This ended the contest with the record standing eighty-one in the affirmative and thirty-three in the negative. The Speaker announced that the bill had passed its second reading.

The third reading of the bill was ordered, and Mr. Moring demanded the previous question, and the voting proceeded quietly and rapidly, interrupted by the senseless efforts of Lloyd, Moore and Glenn, negroes, to violate the rules of the House, in order to show their temper. Hughes, ordinarily a well-disposed and intelligent negro from Granville, was allowed a few minutes, and abused it by an ugly attack upon the Democrats. He was promptly called to order by Mr. Barrett, of Pitt, and ruled down by the Chair.

Upon the third reading the vote was a repetition of the other vote, and the Speaker announced that the bill having received two-thirds of the votes of all the members of that branch of the General Assembly had passed its third and final reading. Mr. Means finished the work by moving to reconsider and to lay that motion on the table, which was adopted and the bill ordered to be enrolled.

Mr. Gash, of Transylvania, moved that the House adjourn until 10 o'clock to-morrow, as he felt as if he would be violating the Sabbath, if another session was held that day. The motion prevailed, and amidst general good feeling and congratulations the members and the vast throng left the Hall, all impressed with the importance, for the weal or woe to the State, of the legislation which had just been perfected.

CONNECTION.

In the JOURNAL special telegram from Raleigh recording the vote on the final passage in the House of the Convention bill, it was stated that Mr. Smith, of Hyde, was absent when the vote was taken. This was an error, as that gentleman was present and voted aye. It was Mr. Smith, of Anson, who was absent.

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