

THE WILMINGTON POST.

VOL. III.

WILMINGTON, N. C., SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 31, 1869.

NO. 321.

THE WILMINGTON POST.
PUBLISHED SEMI WEEKLY.
OFFICIAL ORGAN.

CHAS. I. GRADY,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION IN ADVANCE.
Per Year.....\$4 00
Six Months.....2 50
Three Months.....1 50
One Month.....50

RATES OF ADVERTISING:
Advertisements will be inserted at \$1.00 per square for first insertion and 50 cents for each subsequent insertion.
Ten lines or less, solid minio type, constitute a square.

CITY.

Oranges are arriving.
Peanuts are plentiful.
Bananas are coming.
The circus is coming.
Enforce the vagrant ordinance.

A Marshal-ed throng—Our "chain gang."
Can the prevailing mania for red dresses be termed the scarlet fever?

What is smaller than an ants mouth?
Why, its tongue of course.
Can a deceased lover be called a dead duck?

Can a small waist be called a waste of health?
Good girls are making slippers for their papa's.

The Street Railway is paying. That is, the conductors.

Our "protest" has not been treated as serious.

The Norfolk Dry Dock imitates "Our Manufacturing Interests."

The Cape Fear Building Association, will have an office at Abbottsborough.

Heinsberger sends us a copy of "Turners N. C. Almanac for 1870." Thanks.

Ex Judge Samuel J. Person of this city died yesterday morning at 4 o'clock.

Expressly express groceries by Myers, expressed to your houses. Dare we express more?

Better than he "used to was." Munson, who is still the *par excellence* clothier of the "State of N. C." for pamphlet "copy of Transactions at 16th Annual meeting."

The City and Superior Court, adjourned yesterday out of respect to the memory of ex Judge Person.

Why is the city editor of the *Standard*, a literary plagiarist? Because he is a Whitaker!

The Greensboro *Patriot* cries for wood due them. Let the editor commence with his cranium!

Ye Gods!—Charleston shippers refuse to ship through a Republican stevedore. And this the home of chivalry!

Greensboro follows in our wake, and advocates the establishment of reading rooms. Greensboro is not as *cerdus* as its name indicates.

Under the superintendence of Rev. Mr. Pierce, the city directory is being compiled; and we hope soon to announce its completion.

Take two letters from money and there will be but one left.—EX.

We knew a fellow who took money from two letters, and there wasn't any left.

A petition is in circulation protesting against the reappointment, by the County Commissioners of R. S. Waldron as Register of Deeds.

"Alec" Cummings, formerly city editor of the *Tribune*, and subsequently of the *Sun*, will commence the publication of a daily in Philadelphia soon.

HARRETT'S ARMY.—Members of the "Harrett Boat Club" are requested to meet in the editorial room of the Post on Monday evening, at four o'clock. Important business!

FORREST G. MOORE, Sec'y.

Many of our subscribers, during the next week will find the red cross on their papers. This is sufficient hint we hope for them to "come up to the Captains office" and settle!

DISGRACEFUL.—The streets unpaved; the sidewalks completely covered with refuse; filth and decaying leaves, the wharves crazy and infested with disease; and—well Durfee knows.

The arrival of Silas N. Martin in our city gives pleasure to hosts of personal friends. Mr. Martin looks well, and has recovered his health during his journeyings in the old world. "Strange countries for to sec."

Where are all the shootists that formerly flocked South about the fall of the leaf to engage in the pleasant pastime of popping "the birds of the air;" or mayhap diving into the deep with barbed hook after the funny tribes?

Our weather is of such a character that one may be excused for repeating with the old Athenian. "On these mild days the Gods strive at the Olympian grounds." Come out muscular Christians and with boat or ball show that manhood still remains.

The *Journal* recognizes our specialty of propagating manufactures here, by spicing our well-timed articles on "Our Manufacturing Interests." It reflects unbounded credit on the Post's enterprise. But then every scholar acknowledges his tutor! D'ye ken?

Whose is it? The body of a white child apparently about two days old, was found suffocated to death at the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad depot yesterday morning about 11 o'clock. Coroner Allen held an inquest, and the jury rendered a verdict in accordance with the fact.

A clergyman of the English Episcopal Church lately startled his readers by preaching a sermon of extraordinary merit. A Boston lady cooled the enthusiastic admirers of the "pet parson" with the information that Dr. Channing, the Unitarian, was the author of all the "good things" our young divine had spread before his lambs.

The factions city editor of the *Standard*, devotes nigh a quarter of a column in gratuitously presenting the Post with a "local" article. But the obfuscated manner in which it is written compels us to decline. It is not a *standard* article; and we fear we would not be a *shit*-better than a fool to endorse it.

SERVICES AT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.—The Rev. Edward Ignatius Taylor, formerly a member of the Anglican Church, will preach in the Catholic Church in this city, at morning service, at 10 1/2 o'clock to-day.

All Saints' and All Souls' Day, Monday November 1st, is the feast of All Saints, and is a solemn holiday observed by all Catholics throughout the world. The services on Monday will be at 7 and 9 A. M., with evening service at 5 P. M., as usual.

GAME! BLAZE AWAY SPORTSMAN!—Along the river, game of every variety darkens the shadow of the swamps and marshes. "Canvass" "Sumner" and "Mallard" ducks tickle the "coo" of the huntsman, and fall in hundreds before the unerring and remorseless rifle. Lover of the sport to the breach!

Mr. Edron.—The *Star* in its overreaching efforts to throw obloquy on everything Republican, makes a *false statement* when it says that Mr. Dupong was appointed a Timber Inspector upon my recommendation. It is well known that I opposed the appointment at the time it was first made.

Yours, &c.,
Geo. Z. FRENCH.

The journalistic veteran of the *Standard* is pleased to congratulate the humble Postman on his knowledge of the *beau sec*. Now we do not wish to be vain, but had we the *advantages* W. W. possesses in the shape of an ugly chief as dull as Pike, and a *private* door to our sanctum—there would be no end of fun and frolic going on all the time we were not engaged in reading billiard, and punching old Pike's nose for intruding on our preserves. "A hint is as good, &c."

AND NOW, AGAIN!—The Wilmington correspondent of the *Fayetteville Eagle*, thus looks with jaundiced eyes, and melancholy leer on the erudite Judge of our Superior Court:

In the Superior Court Room, I saw Judge Russell, rolling his owl like eyes down upon such immaculate gentlemen as the Devanes, Holmes, Ashe, Cutlar, Stedman, Empie, and others, and wearing the air of a man who presumed to suppose that he was a fit embodiment of Justice. When will impudence receive its fitting rebuke? When will learning and excellence receive their reward?

The existing harmony among all members of the Republican party in this city is a subject for congratulation among lovers of free institutions. The masses of our people, although uneducated, are fast becoming self taught, sufficiently to know all the duties of a citizen. The Post has assisted in this great work, and among the proudest recollections of its conductors will be the fact, that the children of the Republic and the "wards of the nation" have been educated through its honest efforts to the full stature of manhood.

"A FLOWER BORN TO BLUSH UNSEEN."—In the City Hospital, there exists, probably unknown to the thousands comfortably provided in our midst: a bright, black eyed girl of seven summers. Three weeks ago, this tender offspring, now thrown upon a cold and unfeeling world, was orphaned by the death of its mother. Will not some sympathetic hand, and kind heart take this more than outcast to its home while yet "untouched by sorrow, or unsoiled by sin." God will reward the kind one. What answer?

THE REGISTER'S OFFICE.—There are many applicants for the place made vacant by the death of Mr. Anderson. The appointing power is in the hands of the County Commissioners, and the Republicans who placed Messrs. Keys, Hewlett, Garris and Wilson in position have a right to demand that none but a Republican be made Register.

The following names are mentioned as being in the field and anxious for the Register's office: Messrs. Woodford, London, Wood, McQuigg, Dudley, Ireland, Higbie and Walden. The last named gentleman having recovered his health can once more hold office.

THE COMING FAIR.—We have been the recipient of a polite invitation to the "Cape Fear Agricultural Association Fair," with presentation of ticket of membership. We are extremely grateful for the thoughtful act, and will endeavor to "look in" during the progress of the exposition, daily. And here, we take advantage while scriawling, to all our brethren of the press visiting us, and will endeavor to make their stay comfortable while in the city.

The fair commences on the 10th of November, and those who contemplate exhibiting articles should "push things." For the benefit of those curiously inclined we would say, that everything presents a flattering prospect for an enlivening, brilliant and successful consummation of the wishes of the Association.

For particulars address J. A. Engelhard of this city, Secretary of Executive Committee.

PERIODICALS.—MAGAZINES.—Van Nostrand's *Engineering Magazine*, for November is again welcomed to our sanctum. Every Engineer, Architect, or any person interested in the mechanical arts should subscribe for this excellent periodical. Its November article on "Steam Boilers" can be perused with profit by every person without regard to profession. Published by D. Van Nostrand, New York, \$5 per year.

Appleton's: that gem of New York weeklies is again before us. Each number seems to increase in vigor, brilliancy, and artistic merit. The thirty-second number has, besides seven beautiful illustrations of the New York charity institutions, an eight page "art supplement" of the ancient gardens of the East.

Die Motenwelt. This eclectic ladies fashion magazine, with its handsome engravings and parti colored plates lays dazzling our eyes as we write with its brilliant rainbow colors. Its neat, pretty and desirable.

Frank Leslie's Ladies Magazine. This bright monarch makes happy our social usual, are above criticism.

The dancing season has opened gayly and balls are of daily occurrence. Passing by halls devoted to the sports of Terpsichore you can hear music burdening the air and catch the cheerful voice of the caller as he cries "hands around" when they proceed to hand "um around. Dancing is an exercise that seems peculiarly adapted to the juvenile leg, and it is only in rare instances that you find a person past middle life that is addicted to it. Occasionally, however, there is one whose love for it, age and considerable quantity of rheumatism are unable to quench. We have one in our mind's eye now who used to attend "dancing school" every winter with us young ducks, whose head was white as snow, but whose dancing was as buoyant as that of any of the young folks. With him "old age never cooled the Douglas blood."

It was noticeable, however, that he wasn't quite as *buoyant* the next day and he limped a little, though he stoutly denied being affected by the night's dancing.

The following is the amount of State Taxes paid by the Insurance Companies of this city to Sheriff Schenck, for the months of July, August and September, 1869. Said returns and premiums having been made under oath:

Phoenix	\$5 82
Home	28 25
City Fire	29 05
Union Fire	17 58
Merchants & Mechanics	16 05
Manhattan Life	19 10
Widows & Orphan's Friend	19 49
North American Life	16 29
Underwriters	23 78
Etna	28 25
World Mutual	17 16
Equitable Life	137 29
Security Marine	52 66
Atlantic Fire	10 61
Phoenix	28 25
Hartford	39 13
International New York	16 54
Connecticut Mutual Life	101 31
New York Life	52 66
Piedmont Life	35 42
North American Fire	12 04
Monumental Fire	19 02
James River Fire	7 55
Jefferson Fire	4 98
Insurance & Savings' Fire	5 78
Washington Fire	5 78
Security Fire	27 66
Security Marine	52 66
Liverpool, London & Globe	9 00
Etna Life	68 82
	\$899 95
	44 50
	\$845 45

I hereby certify that the above return is correct.
J. W. SCHENCK, JR.,
Sheriff New Hanover Co.
Wilmington, N. C., Oct., 1869.

BONDSMEN FOR THE OFFICERS OF THE "CUBA."—The following are the gentlemen who have become security for the appearance of the officers of the "Cuba" named in Commissioner Rutherford's decision. H. C. Brock, J. A. Mebane, J. M. McGowan, N. M. Stevenson, J. C. Baumar, and D. M. Buie M. D.

THE "CUBA" AGAIN!—Promptly at noon yesterday, Commissioner Rutherford appeared in his seat, and delivered the following decision in this remarkable case:

THE UNITED STATES VS. THE OFFICERS OF THE STEAMER "CUBA."—In this case the defendants, twenty-five in number, are charged with a violation of the 3d section of the act of Congress of April 20th, 1818, known as the Neutrality Law. The charges being: "That they did fit out, arm, and equip the steamer 'Cuba,' a certain ship or vessel called the 'Cuba,' with intent that the said vessel should be employed in the service of the people of Cuba, to evade and counteract the prohibitions of the laws of Spain, a country with which the United States is at peace."

I have carefully reviewed the testimony given on the examination, and considered the arguments of counsel, and the cases cited in support of their positions, and am of the opinion that two acts are shown to have been committed, within the limits of the United States, from which an intent to violate the Neutrality Laws can be inferred. These were, First, The enlistment of the witness, James Gordon Jr., by D. M. Monro, one of the defendants; and second, the act of taking on board a cargo of coal from the schooner James P. McDermott, the testimony of all the witnesses unite in showing that the coal was taken on board the "Cuba" while she was lying in Long Island Sound, inside Montauk Point, and therefore clearly within the limits of the United States, and though she was not then under the command of any of the defendants, she was at that time under the command of the "Cuba" at the time she received the arms, stores and men, from the "Petrel," the "Charter Oak," the "Only Son," the "Martha Washington," and the "Virginia Seymour." I believe that she was more than a marine league from land, and without the jurisdiction of the United States.

The evidence as well of the prosecution as of the defence, shows that some of these defendants, were merely passengers on the vessel, who had taken passage at a foreign port, and that others had joined her on the high seas, and that these persons had exercised no command and had no control over the vessel or its crew, until after the arms had been put on board, and the coal shipped, and not until the "Cuba" was on the high seas, and beyond the limits and jurisdiction of the United States.

It is claimed by the defence, that as no proof has been offered by the prosecution, that the United States is at peace with Spain, this being a material point of the charge, the prosecution is not to take judicial notice of the fact, and that the prosecution having failed to prove it as a fact, that the whole charge falls to the ground. With this view of the case I cannot agree. The public relations, created by the United States, with foreign countries, are judiciously noticed by the Courts of the United States, and the fact that peace exists between the United States and Spain, is a public matter affecting the whole people, and need not be proved.

Much has been said by the prosecution and the defence upon the duties of a Commissioner acting as a Committing Magistrate, the prosecution taking the ground, that it was the province of the Commissioner merely, to inquire into the matter, and ascertain, if the offence charged had been committed, and if the fact appeared, it was then his duty to hold for trial any person or persons whom there was probable cause to believe had committed the offence. It would be, probably cause, must of course rest entirely in the discretion of the Commissioner, whether the offence charged against him to the great annoyance and expense attending such proceedings, on slight evidence, which creates only a suspicion against the accused, and where it is evident that a jury would not convict.

The defendants Edward Higgins, Thomas L. Dornin, G. W. Read, F. J. McNulty, E. Valente P. Ingraham, G. W. Dubose, R. Somers, H. S. Cooke, A. Mason, Antonio Munoz, Wm. H. Robinson, Stephen Kamey, Joaquin Aquilar, John Mulley, and W. J. Fabery are discharged. The defendants David A. Tellair, D. D. Munroe, C. Nicholas Esling, R. H. Gibson, W. D. Phillips, Louis French and John Lynch, will be required to give good and sufficient bail in the sum of five hundred dollars each, for their appearance at the next term of the District Court of the United States for the Cape Fear District, North Carolina, to be held at the United States Court Room in the city of Wilmington, on Monday, the first day of November, 1869; to answer any indictment that may be found against them, and in default of finding bail as aforesaid, they are committed to the City Jail.

The defendants David A. Tellair, D. D. Munroe, C. Nicholas Esling, R. H. Gibson, W. D. Phillips, Louis French and John Lynch, stand committed for trial.

ALLAN RUTHERFORD,
United States Commissioner,
for the Cape Fear District
of North Carolina.

After the delivery of the decision, counsel for the Government, moved for the discharge of the officers committed, on their own recognizance; but the Commissioner denied the application. The United States District Court will meet in this city Monday morning and the "case" will immediately be presented for adjudication. The government witnesses were committed to custody of Marshal Neil.

OUR INSTITUTIONS.
No. 2.

THE CITY HOSPITAL.
Hospital: The very word seems surrounded with an atmosphere of love, of kindness, of charity and peace! How grateful should a city feel that it has a refuge or asylum for helpless infancy or decrepit senility. Surely, without irreverence we can rightfully term them "gifts of God."

Well, gratifying a long cherished desire, we set out for this handsome little edifice on Thursday last, resolving to spare not the pen in chronicling anything that we deemed an abuse, or a culpable neglect. And to the honor of the Physician be it said: "The saddening wreck of unpracticed hand, and And deadening odors of stilled air," are unknown within the polished white corridors and the immaculate beds adorning the neat wards on the several floors. The building is composed solely of brick, of three stories in height and of a rectangular semi-Arcadian, semi Gallic architecture, and covering an area of probably 100x50 feet.

The first thing that impresses the visitor on entering, is the quietness that reigns through the whole building, not even broken by the Matron's tread. To the left

on the entrance, is the Dispensary Department. And here are arranged Macbeth's imprecation, that he fain would have canines feast upon, and likewise Romeo's cherished potion that arrayed the fair and gentle Juliet in robes of spotless white. But a truce to sentiment! This little laboratory of "undefeated care" has within its sanctified confines a piece of ulcerated bone, which Dr. Wimsont extracted from the leg of one of his patients, preserved in alcohol—that is the particle of bone—not the patient! Oh, no! This bone has an interesting history as it was taken from the sufferer, when several prominent surgeons pronounced it impossible, and moreover, that amputation was the only safe and sure remedy. Here are bottled snakes of rattle, and of glass. Now, no joke is intended we conscientiously affirm, but we cannot help it. Can the surgeon tell us how a glass snake incarcerated in a glass jar, would not jar against the glass, and consequently jar a snake already jarred? How can we get out of that? We cannot and therefore betake ourselves to

WARDS K. AND L.
And here are several cases of typhoid and bilious fever; though most all rapidly recovering. The unfortunates were seated chiefly on their beds, quietly perusing the contents of several newspapers, and the scene indeed is one we never shall forget.

With what resignation yonder sufferer with glassy eye, quivering lip, and pallid features looks up to us as we enter. Ah! casual reader, might not a poor, distracted mother, away off in her needy, humble cottage be praying now for the return of that wasted frame? But that voice is weak, that hand is paralyzed with inexorable disease, but the heart beats gladly and joyously at first returning strength, and in a few weeks what a scene will be enacted at the cherished fireside! We draw the curtain on this picture and with your kind permission reader, we take your hand and lead you to

WARDS J. AND H.
These are the females wards, and are on the next floor above. We therefore ascend the broad iron staircase; and the soft creaking of the hinges, and the weirdly musical, but hollow death-like coughing of the invalids told us that the grim demon Consumption, kept watch here. Ah! reader, here lingers even hollow-eyed Despair, and seductive Hope, who live but in the shadow of a moment, and like a thought expire! Here lies, in all the misery and remorse of fatal habit, the victims of opium. It only needs to listen to the body-racking cough; witness the hollow cheek; the skeleton hand; and the spectral eye to tell a tale of slavery to the greatest curse under heaven.

Approaching this woman gently, we asked her regarding the treatment she received at the hands of the surgeon. articulating the half suffocated words, "The coughing pains you I suppose?" "Yes sir, very much, especially in cold weather; but still I must be content." "So; we left this bed, and quietly wended our way to the couch near this sufferer, and here we greeted the person upon whom the successful surgical operation was performed of extracting the bone spoken of above. And here came the same reiteration we had heard in the other departments. "What! the doctor sir! Oh! he is like a father to me; and I don't care where I say it, behind his back, or before his face." Alas! we deeply sympathize with the surgeon, with such a family. 'Tis great, but it seems that the duties are not ungenial to him. Lightly leaving these disciples of Lazarus and Job, we emerged from here and descended to the

KITCHEN AND LARDER.
In these rooms, savory meats, and the delicious odor of luscious chops and steaks, trying under the careful hand of a neat and tidy caterer delighted our olfactories. From this to the "larder," where neatly arranged shelves groaned under the weight of fresh beef, bread, onions, milk, syrup and butter. And *en passant*, we would bear humble testimony to the rigid discipline, and effective organization manifested here, so well mirrored in the coteremporaneous departments.

We turned in mingled regret and happiness from the scene of the hospital; regret, that a murmur should ever disturb the serenity of its security and existence; happiness, that sympathy and pity with their unsoiled hands, and untainted breath stand "Ministering angels here!"

The celebrated Silver Plating for coating table forks, spoons, larders, mountings, or any article of copper, brass, or German silver, and almost any metallic articles. The process is simple and thickness may be increased as desired. Price 25 cents, 50 cents and \$1 a bottle. Address all orders, B. ALEXANDER, 1307, Sanson street, Philadelphia, Oct 31

OUR GROCERY EXPRESS.
IS NOW RUNNING TO ALL PARTS OF THE CITY
DELIVERING FAMILY SUPPLIES
immediately on receipt of the order.
HOUSEKEEPERS
will find this a GREAT CONVENIENCE, saving much valuable time of servants.
OUR DRIVER
will also receive orders when put in writing—and return and deliver goods as soon as they can be put up.
Goods delivered in wet as well as dry weather.
GEORGE MYERS,
11 and 13 Front St.
Oct 31

STATE.

The old *Standard* office is being demolished.
Greensboro has a pear weighing nineteen ounces.

Over one thousand bales of cotton await shipment in New Berne, Friday.

The Wilkes County Court term opens on the second Monday in December.

The steamer E. S. Terry, which ran aground at New Berne on Thursday, is again afloat.

Superintendent S. S. Ashley and J. W. Hood addressed the citizens of Goldsboro on "Education," on Friday.

The Methodists of Goldsboro have postponed their grand entertainment to the 2d and 3d of November. We wish it success.

The Baptist Convention of North Carolina holds its thirty-ninth session in New Berne, commencing on the 10th of November.

In Raleigh there are numerous persons, arriving daily from Orange county, seeking refuge from the Ku Klux. How long will this exist?

Visitors to the Baptist State Convention in New Berne on the 10th prox., will be forwarded both ways on the A. and N. C. R. R., for one fare.

Judge Brooks, of the United States District Court now sitting at New Berne, sentenced Thos. H. Vinson, Friday to five years imprisonment at Albany Penitentiary New York for passing counterfeit money.

The Conference of the M. P. Church will meet in Mt. Pleasant Church 5 miles North of Thomasville, in Davidson county on Wednesday the first day of December next. T. H. PEGRAM.

ANOTHER KU-KLUX OUTRAGE.—A few days ago a colored man named Lewis Johnson, living on Blount's Creek, Beaufort County, a carpenter by trade, had just returned from his day's work, about 8 o'clock P. M., washed and as he went to the door to throw out the water some unknown person shot him and his whole family; some of them very seriously. The gun was loaded with bristol shot, and besides hitting Johnson, some shot passed him and hit his wife and child who happened to be in range inside the house. Johnson is a hard working inoffensive man and no cause but pure "cussedness" could have actuated the cowardly assault. We will give further facts in the case as they develop themselves. *New Berne Times*.

Asheville was crowded with visitors on the 14th instant; the attraction being the meeting of the Western N. C. R. R. Gen. Jos. C. Abbott presided. The annual report of the President, G. W. Swepson, was approved. The Chair appointed General Thos. L. Clingman, Hon. A. H. Jones and A. T. Davidson a committee to address the people of the State through a circular, setting forth the interest of the State in the early completion of the Western division of the road.

As directors of the road for the ensuing year, the following gentlemen were announced by the Chair duly elected, having received a majority of the entire stock represented, to-wit:

G. W. Swepson, Thos. L. Clingman,
Jos. C. Abbott, W. W. Rollins,
R. M. Henry, A. H. Jones,
J. R. Ammons, G. W. Gabagan,
G. W. Dickey, A. T. Davidson,
M. S. Littlefield, Jos. Keener.

The road is in excellent condition and the new organization gives unusual satisfaction.

POSTINGS.

Peabody is dying.
Geary is in Washington.
Lotta has Auburn locks.
Senator-elect Cooper is 15.
Bismarck drinks Carlsbad.
Earthquakes are fashionable.
Stray dogs are a nuisance.
Hickory makes the best fire.
Fra Diavolo hats are the thing.
Beecher Stowe is convalescent.
Badeau is *be-dering* the "Life of Grant."
Soda and lemon juice makes blonde hair.
Three thousand six hundred and forty-two languages spoken.
One hundred and sixty-eight tons of coal supplies congressional stoves.

Mrs. Andrew Johnson is gradually expiring.
Mocking birds are the glutious of ornithology.

Lake City, Florida, has no barber. Bareberous.

Anna Dickinson is "White Sepulchering" in Philadelphia.

One thousand and five hundred yards of carpet covers the hall of the House of Representatives.

The Columbia *Phoenix* attempts to prove Chas. Sumner once a slave trader. Would it take much to prove the falsity of the charge?