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THE NEW YORK PRIES

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COMPLET EVERY DAY FOR EVENING TELEGRAPH

JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

Suffrage in the District of Columbia.

From the Tribune. One of the disappointments of last session was the torpor of the Senate on the suffrage bill for the District of Columbia. Tae House early passed a bill to strike the word white out of the election laws. This was Judge Kelley's measure, and having been introduced December 5, 1865, was passed January 19, 1866, by a vote quite strong enough to confront an expected veto. Popular applause followed, as the popular will had demanded, this just act. In the Sepate, radical members manifested at first a disposition to press the bill to a vote. There could be no doubt that the North required it, for the loyal press was almost unanimous in its approval. Whether the bill could get a two-thirds vote might be doubted, but that it could command a majority was not denied. But for reasons never made known, the beneficent meafor more than a month, and then on the table of the Senate till the end of the session, without a vote. Thus did the Republican majority of the Senate assume a responsibility which they medit have transferred to the President. We m ght have transferred to the President. have lately heard that certain eminent radical Senators yielded to personal appeals, and that assumed party necessities in one or two States came to outweigh both the voice of the people aplittee in behalf of this act, and of the cry of justice long withheld from a proscribed race.

There was also a Senate bill which had been

intloduced on the first day of last session, but which had fared no better than the act which the House sent up. On the first day of the pre-sent session Mr. Summer tried to call up this bill and pass it, but his effort was checkmuted by a technical objection. It was then understood that some bill should be voted on next week—a bill which the friends of impartial suffage had a right to suppose would be a real and not a delusive measure. It is not a pleasant surprise to learn that the Committee have changed the bill into one of partial not impartial suffrage, and that to the qualification of manbood is added a requisition based on an artificial standard of intelligence. It provides that the elector must be able to read the Constitution and write his name. As it is known that that a large part of the colored population of the District entered it during the war, from Virginia, the restriction is practically a dis-franchisement of very many of its most loyal people. The Committee which interjects this limitation of the electoral franchise knows that it does not fall with equal force upon the two classes of population, although the distinction of color is nominally abolished. Here are white to whom schools have always been open. and black men, to whom it has been forbidden by law to learn the alphabet.

Until the legal disability has been long enough removed to tolerate a presumption of equal in-telligence based on equal opportunities, they are not left on equal terms nor endowed with equal rights by a law which imposes the same literary and clerical tests upon the two. The law deals with the franchise radically, establishing a basis of citizenship. Its gramers or supporters are bound to know with what elements they are dealing, but they have assumed a condition of things which does not exist, and constructed a statute which might confer equal rights upon some district in the moon, but confers very unequal rights on the actual existing district for which Congress has to legislate. The business of statesmanship is to adjust principles to facts; this bill ignores both. We are compelled to say of it, as Mr. Bright said of the expected Tory reform legislation, it will not be an honest bill. We do not believe Mr. Sumner and Mr. Wade approve it; they are both on record for an unrestricted franchise, and for practical, not fanciful justice to the btacks. Yet they are both on the District of Columbia Committee, and are not before the country as the indorsers of an arbitrary intelligence qualification for men in whom intelligence has very lately been a crime. The country will desire an explanation of the action of the committee before a vote is had, and Mr. Sumner or Mr. Wade will, we are sure, give the Senate an opportunity to vote on a suffrage bill stripped of the clauses which make Mr. Morrill's present measure unfit to become a law.

The United States, France, and Mexico. From the Times.

The diplomatic correspondence concerning Mexico, just furnished to Congress by Mr. Seward, throws a flood of light upon certain important questions which have for some time excited the public interest. It brings out in -fine relief the action of our State Department upon the most momentous subject it has recently had to deal with, and dispels the clouds of fiction and falsehood which have been raised during the last six mouths, and have been used as the means of assailing the foreign policy of the Administration. In the latter point of view, we find a special value in these documents; for almost up to the hour of their publication we had occasion to repel accusations of the most varied and variously false character—now charging Mr. Seward of conniving with Louis Napoleon in his Mexican schemes, and then of trying to plunge us into war with France in behalf of Juarez-now charging him with traudulent attempts to bankrupt his own country by assuming all the debts of the French invasion, and again accusing him of attempting to destroy Mexico by plundering her of half her domain-now charging him with a deliberate purpose of overthrowing the Monroe doctrine, and then with a greed of territory that could be satisfied with nothing less than the entire contment-now pretending to reveal the terms of a treaty which was chiefly intended to enrich himself through the Imperial treasury, and then telling about another scheme to secure the same purpose through Liberal bonds. We trust, since the official documents are

now within reach, that they will receive a careful study by the Tribune, Herald, World, and Evening Post, and that each of these journals will make such retractions of their recent charges as they may judge to be required by their own credit and by the justice due to the foremost of American diplomatists and states

We find information in these diplomatic despatches upon the three great topics of interest connected with this Mexican businessfirst, as to the recent conduct and future course of the French Government; second, as to the recent action and current policy of our own Government; and, third, as to the probable fortunes of Mexico herself, after all her misfor-

The French Emperor's policy has unquestionably appeared rather tortuous. He disliked exceedingly to renounce totally and forever his ceedingly to renounce totally and forever his grand Mexican scheme; he disliked still more to give it up because of what seemed dictation on our part; and he could not tolerate the thought of giving it up without saddling on other shoulders the whole or a part of the debt which he found had inured to him instead of the anticipated glory. The firmness of our Government compelled a decision on the main point; but the Emperor still thought he might find an opportunity of effecting an agreeable arrangement tunity of effecting an agreeable arrangement concerning secondary matters. This was hinted at, on several occasions, in verbal and other communications from himself and his minister; but we learn of no response having been given that offered him any ground of encouragement. When as late as last month it arrangement. when, as late as last month, it appeared that he was going to fail to carry out the first part of his stipulated arrangement—to withdraw a detachment of his troops in November—the subject was pressed on his personal attention by our Minister; and the Emperor, while attempting to show that he had been compelled to modify one point in his plan by military considerations, reiterated his determination to execute faithtilly his promises.

Mr. Seward, hewever, in a descritch which he tent by cable two weeks ago, after indicating the embaria-sment caused by the Emperor's the embaria-sment caused by the Emperor's course, demanded a specific statement in the matter, and assured him of the necessity of an early and entire discontinuance of foreign hostile occupation. To this we have not the formal reply which was received by our Government two days ago, but a semi-official de-patch has given the assurance that it was in all respects satisfactory, and the date of the departure of the last French soldier from Mexican soil has been given on the authority of the Emperor himself. We are sure the country will reloice at this definite solution which has at last been reached, and which relieves us from embarrassments that could not otherwise be peacefully settled.

olly settled. The most important despatch expository of the policy of our own Government towards Mexico, is in the form of instructions to Mr. Campbell, who left this city last month in company with General Sherman, as Minister to the republic of Mexico. This highly important document shows that the sole Object of the Campbell-Sherman "mission," which has excited so much remark in America and England, was to offer to Mexico such friendly assistance as might be in our power during the perilous period of her transition from foreign domination to constitutional republicanism. The non-intervention of this country in Mexican affairs is repeatedly proclaimed, and also its curnest desire for the freedom of action of the Mexican

Our hope, says Mr. Seward, is to see the people of Mexico "resume the conduct of their own affairs under the existing republican Government, or such other form of government es, being left in the enjoyment of perfect liberty, they shall determine to adopt in the exercise of their own free will, by their own act, without dictation from any foreign country, and of course without dictation from the United States." "It may possibly happen," continues the despatch, "that the President of the Republic of Mexico may desire the good offices of the United States, or even some effective proceedings on our part, to favor and advance the pacineation of a country so long distracted by foreign combined with civil war, and thus gain time for the re-establishment of national authority upon principles consistent with a republican and domestic system of government. It is possible, moreover, that some disposition might be made of the land and naval forces of the United States without interfering within the jurisdiction of Mexico, or violating the laws of neutrality, which would be useful in favoring the restoration of law, order, and republican government in that country,"

It is as an adviser and as a director in such matters as are referred to in the previous sentence, that Lieutenant-General Sherman accompanies Minister Campbell, and the line of his duties is very well defined and his instructions sufficiently

We are sure that no fair man in Congress will find fault with this action of our Government on the Mexican question. We could hardly do less in behalf of the republican authorities whom we have always sustained and recognized; and yet what we have done may be of the very highest service to the cause of freedom and order in our sister republic.

This despatch, as well as others in the important series just submitted to Congress, shows that our Government has new ground for entertaining the highest hopes of the re-establishment of the Mexican republic. It believes that through the constitution forms of that country a Government may now be chosen by the people which shall give at least some prospect of self-assertion and durability, especially if it finds the friendly encouragement and support it ought to receive from the Government and people of the United States.

Congress and the New Epoch in the Government. From the Herald,

The national capital, with the reassembling of Congress, has become the central point to which the eyes of the whole country are now directed. The people of the North, after their emphatic judgment on Southern reconstruction as pronounced in the late elections, are looking to the two houses of Congress with hope and confidence, not unmingled with doubts and anxieties, while the unrestored people of the South regard the preliminary movements of the extreme radicals with fear and trembling. The Republican party, "like a giant refreshed with new wine," rejoices in its new lease of power, and seems disposed to exercise it to the fullest extent. This would be well enough if the guiding principles of the party were in all things the interest of the country and the good of the people. But unfortunately the spirit of vengeance against President Johnson, as we have already seen in various pitiful and ridiculous exhibitions, appears to enter too largely into the program me of both houses. The Republicans seem to be acting under the delusive idea that their first duty is the punishment of Andrew Johnson, chapter and verse, for his alleged manifold sins and transgressions. Such violent ultras as Stevens, Ingersoll, Kelley, Williams, and others of the House, and Summer and Chandler, of the Senate, would, in order to be revenged upon Andrew Johnson, reduce the Presidential office to a cypher and the President to a mere auto-maton; and in pursuing their chosen victim they seem to be controlled by something of that blin rage and fanaticism with which the ferocious Jacobins pursued poor Louis XVI to the guil-

It is against any such wild excesses that we would warn the controlling spirits of Congress. Here, however, lies the great danger to new parties rising into power from the masses of people over the ruins of hostile and oppressive aristocracies. In this view the blunders of the Jacobins were as bad as their crimes, and the follies of England's fanatical Puritans in their day of power became as obnoxious to the people as the usurpations and double-dealing treache ries of Charles I. With the overthrow of our late Southern institution of slavery and the slave power as the crowning result of our late civil war, a powerful and domineering aristocracy in our political affairs has been cast down and broken up with its idols; but still, neither the vengeance of the Jacobins nor the holy wrath of the snivelling Puritans is the policy for Con-

We have passed through the first stage of mighty revolution in the consummation of the work of tearing down the political fabric reared upon the justitution of African slavery. The second branch of the work—that of rebuilding our political system on the broad foundation-stones of universal liberty—is now upon us. Here we begin a new epoch, which will no more resemble the epoch down to 1860 than the English Common wealth resembled the mon-archy which it displaced. In fact, the change from the United Colonies to the United States of America was hardly greater than that which must inevitably follow the overthrow of Southern slavery, considering the causes and the collision by which it was destroyed. What, then, is the paramount duty devolving upon Congress? It is no longer the duty of tearing down, but the duty of building up again, and on the new foundations of the pending Consti-

tutional amendment. To this end, therefore, if the unrecognized States remain intractable, as now organized, let them be reconstructed by Congress as Terri tories on the basis of the amendment, after it shall have become part and parcel of the supreme law of the land in being ratified by three-tourths of the States recognized and represented in the Government. This ratification may be reached before the 4th of March, and with this term of grace accorded them the excluded Starzs may still be brought to that sensible frame of mind lately disclosed by Governor Patton, of Alabama, in favor of the amend-

Next in order will properly come the reconstruction of our financial system, and the settle-ment of our unsettled foreign accounts on * basis of treaty stipulations adapted to the rank and dignity of the United States among the great nations of the earth. Here is a line of policy upon which the Republican party may reconstruct itself so as to withstand successfully

all hostile political combinations for twenty years to come. No better evidence could be given the South of the uter helplessness of the disjointed Northern Democracy than is afforded in the fact that, with all the assistance vouch-safed by the Administration, it was more dis-astroughy defeated in all the late elections than even in the second election of Abraham Lin-colo, as a peace party in the midst of the war. Conviction, therefore, must speedily come upon the South with the Northern ratification of the amendment; and the other ways and means to a successful exercise of its power by Congress will not be found in the persecution or prosecu-tion of President Johnson, but in the recon-struction of our financial and foreign affairs.

Will Flour be Lower !

From the World. The notion prevalent in certain quarters that the price of flour and grain is to become very high during the winter, is not borne out by the statements of the quantity of grain in the country. On the contrary, there appears to be every reason for lower prices than those which now obtain, both as regards the present and the future. A letter from our Chicago correspondent contains some very interesting statistics bearing upon the subject, a portion of which we reproduce in this connection. The following table shows the quantity of grain received at Chicago from the first of January to the first of December, as compared with that received dur-

ing the corresponding months of last year:-Flour, barrels. 1866. 1,710 810
Wheat, bushels. 11 493 495
Corn, bushels. 32 809 794
Oats. 9 984,181
Rye. 1 643 000
Barley. 1 489 600 1865. 1,120,702 9 020 981 24 868 972 12 984 198

It will be noticed that, with the exception of oats, the receipts of grain this year exceed those of last year. Allowing five bushels of wheat to a barrel of fiour, ithe number of bushels of wheat received at Chicago for eleven months in 1865 and 1866 was respectively 14,624,491 and 20,045,045, and a comparison of the two shows an increase this year of 37 per cent. Such facts as these are arguments in themselves, and clearly show that no good reason exists for the present high price of flour or for apprehending that it will be still higher. Estimating five busnels of wheat to the barrel,

is before, it is ascertained that the total quantity of grain and grain in flour received at Chicago during the months specified in 1865 and 1866, was respectively 54,677,303 and 65,951,913 bushels, the increase this year being nearly 20 per cent. This does not look like a scarcity in cereals, nor forebode high prices for them during the next few months. The conclusion, therefore, is irresistible that, under the ordinary operations of trade, the prices of cereals must tend downwards.

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larket street. Market street.
Enoch Lewis, late Gen. Sup't Penna R. R.
Andrew Mehrsley, S. W. corner of Third and Walnut. G. C. Franciscus Gen. Agent Penna. R. R. Co.
Thomas K. Peterson, No. 3036 Marset street,
W. W. Kurtz, firm of Kurtz & Howard, No. 25 S.
Third street.

1829-CHARTER PERPETUAL Franklin Fire Insurance Co.

PHILADELPHIA. Assets on January 1, 1866; \$2,506,851'96.

LOSSES PAID SINCE 1829 OVER \$5,000,000.

Perpetual and Temporary Policies on Liberal Terms. Charles & Bancker,
Tobias Wagner,
Samuel Grant,
George W. Richards,
Isaac Lea,
CHARLES M. BANCKER, President,
EDWARD C DALE, Vice-President,
JAS, W. MCALLISTER, Secretary protein, 72 ti2 Charles & Bancker, Tobias Wagner, Samuel Grant, George W. Richards, Isaac Lea,

0 V

The Girard Fire and Marine Insurance Company

HAVE REMOVED TO THEIR NEW OFFICE,

HESNUT and SEVENTH Streets. PHILADELPHIA.

NORTHEAST CORNER

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON

GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY. Capital and Assets, \$16,000,000. Invested in United States, \$1,500,000. Total Premiums Received by the Company in 1865, \$4,947,175. Total Losses Paid in 1865, \$4,018,250

All Losses promptly adjusted without reference t

ATWOOD SMITH. OFFICE, General Agent for Pennsylvania. No. 6 Merchants' Exchange

PRILADELPHIA

DROVIDENT LAFE AND TRUST COMPANY
OF PHILADELPHIA

No. Ill south Foulth street.
INCORPORATELD 3 MONTH 724, 1865.

CAPITAL 8160 60°, PAID IN.
Insurance on Lives by Yearity Premiums; or by 5, 10°, or 5 year Fremiums, Non-torielture.
Endownells, payable at a titure age, or on prior decease, by Yearity Premiums, or 10 year Fremiums—both classes Non-torielture.
Annuities grainted on invorable terms.
Term Fo it les. Children's Endowments
This Company, while giving the insured the security of a paid-up Ca, ita., win divice the entire profits of the Life business among its Foincy holders.

Moneys received at interest, and paid on demand.
Authorized by charter to execute Trusts, and to actus Executor of Administrator. Assignee or Guardian, an in other fiduciary capacities, under appointment of any Court of this Commonwealth or of any person or) ersens, of bodies politic or corporate.

SAMUEL R. SHIPLEY, RICHARD CADBUBY, HERMIAH HACKER, JOSHUAH MORRIS, T. WISTAR BROWN, W. C. LONGSTRETH, CHARD WOOD, CHARLES F. COFFIN.

SAMUEL R. SHIPLEY, RICHARD CADBUBY, HENRY HAINES, T. WISTAR BROWN, W. C. LONGSTRETH, CHARD WOOD, CHARLES F. COFFIN.

SAMUEL R. SHIPLEY, ROWLAND PARRY, President, D. B. TOWNSEAD, T. WISTAR BROWN, W. C. LONGSTRETH, CHARD CADBUBY, HENRY HAINES, T. WISTAR BROWN, W. C. LONGSTRETH, C. CHARD CADBUBY, T. S. Medica Examiner, Legal Advisor, T. Legal Advisor,

DIRE INSURANCE EXCLUSIVELY .-- THE HEE INSURANCE EACLUSIVELY,—THE
PENNSYLVANIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY-Incorporated 1825—Unarter Perpetual—No 510
WALKUT Street, opposite independence Square.
This Company favora-1ly known to the community
for over forty years, continue to insure against loss or
camage by the on Public or Private Buildings, either
permanently or for a limited time. Also on Furnitary,
Stocks of Goods, and Merchandise generally, on liberal
terms.

terms.

Their Capital, together with a large Surplus Fund, invested in the most careful manner, which enclies them to offer to the insured an undoubted security in the case of loss. Daniel smith, Jr., John Devereux, Daniel smith, Jr.,
Alexander Benson,
Isaac Harlehurs,
Thomas Robbins,
Daniel Haddook Jr.
DANIEL SMITH, Jn., President,
3305 WILLIAM G. CROWELL, Secretary.

HGENIX INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPOIA.

INCORPORATED 864—CHARTER PER: ETUA'. No. 224 WALNU! Street opposite the Exchange. In addition to MARINE and INLAN' INSURANCE, this Company insures from loss or damage by Flate or liberal terms on buildings, morehandise; furniture, etc., for imited periode, and permanently on buildings, by deposit of premium.

The Company has been in active operation for more than SIX. Y YEARS, during which ad losses have been promptly adjusted and paid.

Diffectors.

DIRECTORS. John L. liedge, b. B. Maheny, John T. Lewis, William S. Grant, Robert W. Leaming, D. Cark Wharton, John L. liedge,

b. B. Mahény,
John T. Lewis,
Williams, Grant.
Robert W. Leaming,
D. Cark Wharton,
Eamuel Wilcox,
JOHN WUCHERER, President SAMUEL WILCOX, Secretary.

