

FIRST EDITION

FRANCE

The Report of M. Devienne on the Senatus Consultum—The Influence it will exert in the Government of the Empire.

M. Devienne read his report on the senatus consultum in the Senate, August 25. The following are the concluding passages:—

To sum up, although on many questions various opinions have been expressed and maintained by several members, your committee unanimously proposes that you should join in the Emperor's initiative. Your committee awaits with confidence the loyal execution of these new resolutions, as well as the other measures announced by government in the *proposés des motifs*. This senatus consultum will have an inevitable influence upon the destinies of the country. It is an act which will make its mark in the history of the nation. The initiative of laws, the right of amendment, of interpretation, and of proposing *proposés des motifs* now admitted to belong to the elective chamber, the publicity of your debates, the intervention of the law and of the Senatus Consultum, in matters of high interest, are very considerable changes. Such measures should disarm the real or affected mistrust of those who pretend that the affairs of the country are not subjected to sufficient control. In such a situation, and when there exists more genuine freedom of speech and freedom of the press, if violence should be done, instead of diminishing, good citizens will doubtless understand that, just as in a given case they should aid the police against disturbances in the street, it is their duty to rise and be united against State rebels. However this may be, the legislation of 1852, so far as it is restrictive, is at an end, and now it is only justice to make a inventory of all that it has done for the country. After sixteen years' tranquillity it leaves French territory aggrandized, its personal property widely distributed, augmented by twenty milliards; its establishments of public charity of every kind considerably augmented; the most absolute liberty of conscience; new churches starting up in all directions; the sanitary state of our towns improved; our navy transformed; peace and respect for France maintained by 1,400,000 soldiers ready to march to the frontiers; and, lastly, the country conducted from a dictatorship to the most ample constitutional liberty. The generation of 1852 may say to that of 1859:—

This is what I have done. You may do better still if you consolidate the work which I have undertaken; if this you do, you will be able to inaugurate with a new-fledged sovereignty, will understand that tribunes are self-interested courtiers, whose flattery deceives nations as well as kings, that its true friends speak the stern language of truth—a language which, whether popular or not, power must listen to under the penalty of decay and downfall. The true characteristic of a great and free people is to be on its guard against chimerical promises, and dreams of impossible equality. Self-confidence and respect for the law, prudent hope, and calm reliance on the good faith of the citizen, and constitute at once his personal dignity and the greatness of his country. If, thanks to your efforts for the last sixteen years, France has recovered that prudent and fruitful liberty towards which the whole of the nation has longed, many rocks and quicksands—if you will hold the candle of political life which we hand over to you in such a way as that it may give light, and not be the means of a conflagration, then the ancients of the age will be happy to say, with patriotic joy—you have done better than we.

Your committee proposes the adoption of the senatus consultum in the following terms:—

Article 1. The Emperor and the Corps Legislatif have the initiative of laws. They have a right to sit in common assembly, and to speak whenever they see fit to do so.

Article 2. Ministers may be members of the Senate or of the Corps Legislatif. They have a right to sit in common assembly, and to speak whenever they see fit to do so.

Article 3. The Senate may, while suggesting the amendments of which it thinks a bill susceptible, send it back to the Corps Legislatif for reconsideration. It may in any case oppose the passing of a bill. No bill the passing of which is opposed by the Senate can be presented to the Corps Legislatif a second time the same session.

Article 4. The Corps Legislatif makes its own internal regulations. At the opening of every session it appoints its President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretaries.

Article 5. Any member of the Senate or Corps Legislatif has a right to address interpellations to the government. *Ordres du jour* may be adopted. The reference of the *ordres du jour* to the bureaux is of right whenever demanded by government. The bureaux appoint a committee, upon whose summary report the Corps Legislatif decides.

Article 6. No amendment can be discussed until communicated to government and sent for examination to the committee on the bill.

Article 7. The Senatus Consultum is presented to the Corps Legislatif by chapters and articles. The budget of every ministry is voted by chapters, conformably to the schedule annexed to the present senatus consultum.

Article 8. In future modifications of the customs a postal tariff made by international treaties will not be obligatory until sanctioned by a law.

Article 9. The legislative relations between the Senate and Corps Legislatif, and with the Emperor's Government, will be settled by imperial decrees. The constitutional relations between the powers are regulated by a Senatus Consultum.

Article 10. All provisions contrary to the present Senatus Consultum are repealed, and particularly articles 8 and 13, the second paragraph of article 24, articles 29 and 40, the fifth paragraph of article 42, the second paragraph of article 43, article 44 of the Constitution, articles 3 and 5 of the Senatus Consultum of 15th December, 1852, and article 1 of the Senatus Consultum of December 31, 1861.

It will be seen that the changes made by the committee are in the original proposition, are slight even verbally, and of infinitely small importance substantially. The only alterations worth mentioning are in articles 5 and 11. The Senate claims to have an absolute veto upon a bill without giving reasons.

An intoxicated New Yorker was knocked down by the cowcatcher of an engine in Hartford, Conn., on Monday, and the engine tender passed over him. The train was stopped, and the conductor hastened back to pick up the dead body, but the drunken fellow was found to be very lively and outside the track, having by some means been thrown out between the tender and baggage cars, and the first words he spoke were—"I'll make you pay for scratching my ankle in this way."

THE SABINE.

Was there a Mutiny on Board?—Reported Arrival of Three Witnesses to the Outbreak in Boston. The Vessel Ordered Home.

The N. Y. Sun this morning prints the following special telegram and an appended explanation relative to the reported Sabine mutiny. We give it for what it is worth:—

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—The cable telegrams which reported the discovery of a mutiny on the Sabine at Cherbourg were true. The statement that seven of the mutineers were hanged is untrue. The frigate Sabine has been ordered home on account of this mutinous conspiracy among her crew.

Three witnesses, sent by another vessel to avoid being tampered with, have arrived in Boston. These facts have leaked out at the Navy Department to-day.

The Sabine was on a fancy cruise with the graduating class of midshipmen, some sixty odd in number. Her commander is Captain John G. Walker, a nephew of Senator James W. Grimes, of Iowa. Secretary Borah and Admiral Porter sent her out to please Senator Grimes, though the midshipmen and men were very much wanted in the West India squadron, where vessels are without sufficient crews.

None but sailors were engaged in the conspiracy. The crew is to take place at the Brooklyn Navy Yard after the arrival of the Sabine.

The Cable Reports of the Mutiny. The despatch from the State's Washington correspondence is a partial corroboration of an Associated Press despatch which was sent from Paris on Monday, August 29.

That despatch asserted that a desperate conspiracy had been discovered on the Sabine, then lying in the port of Cherbourg. It stated that some of the crew, to revenge themselves on the officers, attempted to set fire to the powder magazine, and to blow up the ship. It also asserted that the conspirators had proceeded so far in their designs as to light a fuse communicating with the magazine. The plot was frustrated by a cabin boy, who discovered the burning fuse and put it out. An investigation was made, and the mutineers were arrested. The despatch further said that twenty-two sailors were implicated in the plot, and that they were placed in irons. As printed in the *Sun*, the despatch concluded thus:—"Seven have been condemned to death, and to be hanged at the yardarm." The New York papers, receiving the same despatch, printed it. "Seven men have been condemned to death, and hanged at the yardarm."

On Tuesday, August 30, the Navy Department at Washington telegraphed that no official information in reference to the mutiny and execution had been received. The *Sun* promptly telegraphed to Paris, through the Associated Press, for further information, but received no reply on that day.

It was not until Wednesday, August 31, that the report was denied. On Thursday a Paris despatch was printed in all the papers, contradicting the whole story, in the following hazy despatch:—

PARIS, Aug. 31.—A note from the American Legation contradicts the report which prevailed here on Sunday, that a dangerous conspiracy had been discovered in Germany. The despatch of August 29 asserted positively that a desperate conspiracy had been discovered, while the telegram of the 31st speaks of it as a report which prevailed in Paris on Sunday. We judge that the main points of the first report were true. The despatch was printed wrong in every journal but the *Sun*, which asserted that the men were "to be hanged," and not "were hanged."

The first despatch says that the crew wished to revenge themselves upon the officers. What the officers did to provoke this terrible revenge is unknown. As the vessel was on a pleasure excursion, it is possible that the cabins and other portions of the ship had been enlarged and refitted to give the officers plenty of room for enjoyment, as was the case with the *Talia*. Perhaps the men being crowded to the wall for accommodations.

The records of the navy show that twenty-seven years have elapsed since a mutiny of any magnitude took place on board a United States vessel. In 1842 the United States brig Somers, Commander Mackenzie, sailed from New York with despatches for the coast of Africa. On the voyage home, and when near St. Thomas, it was discovered that Midshipman Spencer, a son of the then secretary of War, had formed a plan to seize the vessel and convert her into a pirate. Several arrests were made, an investigation was held, and the seamen and the midshipman were executed. The case caused a profound excitement at home, and the officers inquired under the command were tried and his action justified. An attempt was subsequently made to indict him for murder, but the Judge charged the jury that it was not competent for a civil tribunal to take up a case pending before a Naval Court.

WILMINGTON.

A Democratic Dodge Knocked in the Head—The Result of the City Election. The Wilmington Commercial of last evening says:—

"The election of city officers passed off yesterday very quietly, but though there was but little excitement the result shows that a much larger vote was polled than in any election before at a city election. The total number of votes cast for Mayor reached 3770, or deducting the 169 votes of the new Ninth ward, 3601, against 2780 in 1868. This great increase is doubtless owing to the new law, which gave the vote to the qualified electors at State elections the right to vote at city elections. As compared with the vote at the general election in 1868, in which the qualifications of voters was the same as in that of yesterday, the vote is a light one. For then, without the new Ninth ward, there were 4127 votes cast in the old five wards. The result yesterday proves Wilmington true to her old and well earned record as the only unflinchingly loyal city in any of the former slave States, as it results in the election of the Republican majority in the City Council, and the city's representatives in the eyes of the law. The Democrats elect three city officers—President of Council, Treasurer and Assessor—the only fruit of the iniquitous 'Nine Wards Bill.'"

The following was the result of the election in detail:—

For Mayor. Joshua S. Valentine, Rep. 1910
Joshua Simms, Dem. 1890

Valentine's majority 20
For President of Council. William Canby, Rep. 1822
William Bright, Dem. 1952

Bright's majority 130
For City Treasurer. Joseph L. Kilgore, Rep. 1840
James McCabe, Dem. 1530

McCabe's majority 36
For Assessor. Washington Mason, Rep. 1822
Lewis McCall, Dem. 1952

McCall's majority 131
With regard to the ward elections, the Commercial says:—

"In the First ward Mr. Plunkett came within six votes of being elected a member of Council for two years, and we understand that he will contest his opponent's seat on the ground of the

THE COAL-MINE HORROR.

Scenes and Incidents About the Avondale Pit—How the Miners Endeavored to Shut Off the Choke Damp and Gases—Awful Situation of the Breach in their House.

From special reports sent from Avondale yesterday we extract the following:—

Within the Pit. About 5 o'clock this morning the first door of the roadway was broken in and the miners were found there. Their situation was awful; fathers lay stiff in death with arms about their sons. Some were kneeling as though in prayer; strong men were hand in hand with their fellows. The pickaxes and shovels, which they had used in making an embankment to prevent the entrance of foul air, lay one side. It seemed then that they had had a few days, when in an agony they fell in one another's arms, suffocated by the deadly damp. In another chamber every man was a gas, and they had stripped themselves of clothes to use them in filling up crevices and cannes. One man had pushed a part of his garment into an aperture, when a gust of the gas rushed through and strangled him to death. Wagon loads of coals line the road, and litters filled with sheeted dead pass along the line every few minutes. The men were so weak that an inquest is held, the dead are exposed for recognition, and when one is identified, the Justice calls out his name and home; his friends take the body and carry it to their houses.

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The weeping women and loudly-weeping children stand in the streets, and the Provision Committee, and the police and hucksters, and the unemotional miners, make it painfully obvious that the present is a time for business, the solemnity of the place is not about that which impresses the spectator.

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