

**What of the Day.**

We still linger for tidings, such as may be relied upon, if only to dissipate the cruel anxieties which a state of suspense always engenders among a people. But we get nothing. Even Rumor begins to grow ashamed of her profitless inventions, and has transferred her trumpet from her mouth to her ear. She, who did nothing but prattle before, is now modestly content to listen. But we should not wait for news with folded arms. Whatever our hands can find to do, in our precinct, professions, labors and domains, to that we should address ourselves, regardless of coming events. It is very certain that we can not affect these events in any way by honestly working in our vocations. But it is equally certain that these events will operate materially to the hurt of those who wait for them in idleness. By counselling occupation to our people, however, we do not counsel any one to undertake any new enterprises, such as may be endangered by the caprices of the coming hour. Do not embark in speculations which contemplate permanent objects in the future. It is the day of small things, and much of the best occupation of such a period will be found in the simple duty of putting one's house in order. One should weed his garden, and not let the season escape him in which he should have his turnips and cabbages. We take for granted that he is already preparing to welcome his green peas to the table. But something may be done with his potatoes and beans of sundry kinds. Briefly, the grounds and garden should demand his care, and whatever of fencing and wall-building may be effected in our barat district, by the several proprietors, will be a gain to the property, and a service to the city. That the matrons and damsels will find their occupations full, we make no question. It is to their credit that they are so rarely to be seen in the streets, though our eyes are saddened at their absence. It is sweet and pleasant to think that they are busily employed at home, in loving domestic offices, contemplating the comfort of that more selfish race, who meanwhile perambulate the streets with the eternal question which so much vexed Demosthenes with the Athenians—"What is Philip doing?" "What tidings from the enemy to-day?" In other words, "When may we hope that the devil will look in upon us?"

**Important Communication.**

We are indebted to his Excellency the Governor for the following despatch, which he has received from Gen. Johnston. The great anxiety which is felt throughout the State, induced the Governor to give publicity without delay to the information it conveys. Its official announcement will appear in our next issue, in the proclamation of the Governor, with which will appear the letter of Gen. Lovell and other papers of interest connected with the communication between Gens. Johnston and Sherman:

GREENSBORO, N. C., April 30.

Forwarded from Chester May 1, 1865.

His Excellency Gov. A. G. Magrath.

The disaster in Virginia, the capture by the

enemy of all our work-shops, for the preparation of ammunition and repairing of arms; the impossibility of recruiting our little army, opposed by ten times its number, of supplying it except by robbing our own citizens, destroyed all hopes of successful war. I have, therefore, made a military convention with Gen. Sherman to terminate hostilities in North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. I made this convention to spare the blood of the gallant little army committed to me; to prevent further suffering of our people by the devastation and ruin inevitable from the marches of invading armies, and to avoid the crime of waging hopeless war.

(Signed,) J. E. JOHNSTON, General.

**Vox Populi.**

"*Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?*" demands the satirist; and the question, in our country, may very well be applied to the people, who are, or should be, their own guards, and in whom the well-being and safety of the country properly abide. How shall we make them true to us, to one another, and to themselves? This is a question much more frequently asked than answered. We rely too much, as the mathematicians do, upon the virtue of numbers. We take for granted, as Miss Martineau does; that a majority must be right—forgetting, as we invariably do, that, at the beginning, and for a very obvious reason, the majority have been sadly wrong. They come right in the end, no doubt; but the doom of Jesus Christ, of Socrates, Galileo, and a host besides, sufficiently shows what the popular tendencies must be, in all cases of a novel character, and on the subject of truths and doctrines previously unknown or untaught. Nor is the case, in all respects, much better now, than at the period referred to. Persecution, if not so deadly, is scarcely less active to-day than it was yesterday. The expounder of the new faith, it is true, is not put on a gridiron, to test the merits of his doctrine over a slow fire; but there are a thousand other ways of despatching him by what is significantly called "public opinion!"—as if it was not public opinion that fried and flayed even in the days of Saint Bartholomew! This public opinion is a thing to be made and compounded, and it may be made good or evil. In no case is it a proper tribunal, since there is no sufficient reason why the tendencies of a mass should be made to supersede and take the place of justice, whose laws should come with equal emphasis and efficacy from the lips of an individual. We are unwilling to leave anything to public opinion, which the resort to a less flexible court will decide; and we are disposed to think that it is in consequence of so much being left to a tribunal which is as unstable as water, and as variable as the winds, that we make so little headway in our progress to the certain and the true. We are daily congratulating ourselves with our conquests and discoveries, as well in morals as in philosophy; and yet, Truth and Error still keep up their ancient controversy, and we do not see that the former gains much from her old enemy. If Truth does sometimes go ahead, Error comes close at her heels. If she gains in one spot, it is wonderful how much she loses in another; and let her, but give her self a moment's indulgence—let her venture to rest herself by the way side for a while—nigh what a hard chase her more restless and always ready rival will give her for the goal!

**Council Proceedings.**

COUNCIL CHAMBER, May 2, 1865.

Present: His Honor the Mayor and Assistant Mayor. Aldermen Bates, Blakely, Glaze, Harris, Hope, Leaphart, Stork, Waring and Wells.

The minutes of the 13th and 20th ultimas were read and confirmed.

Alderman Harris offered the following resolution, which was laid over until the next meeting:

*Resolved*, That owing to the embarrassed condition of the finances of the State and country, together with the difficulty of the State in meeting her own obligations, it would be unwise for the city to incur further liability with a view to reimbursement through the Legislature. It would involve the interest of the property holder by excessive taxation, and thereby force emigration; and to this end, that free rations be abolished at the end of two weeks from this date.

The matter of collecting taxes was deferred.

The Committee on Streets submitted the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee on Streets respectfully report that the streets, and especially the sidewalks, have, for some weeks past, in many places, been in an impassable condition, with fallen brick walls and other rubbish. Therefore, we recommend that the City Council take some measures to require all persons who have fallen brick walls on the pavement and streets to remove the same, or put them in some respectable shape, so as to give some life to the city, free public thoroughfares, and interest to themselves. We further recommend that all persons who have wells and privy sinks on their lots be required to cover safely the former with plank and the latter with earth, so as to preserve the health of the city.

ORLANDO Z. BATES, Chairman.

The following gentlemen were appointed on the Board of Health:

WARD No. 1.—H. R. Green, John LeConte and Jacob Levin.

WARD No. 2.—E. J. Scott, Jacob Hussang and H. C. Franck.

WARD No. 3.—Dr. John Lynch, C. J. Bollie and Dr. W. P. Geiger.

WARD No. 4.—Dr. A. W. Kennedy, Daniel Crawford and Wm. McGinnis.

The resignation of Alderman McKenzie was accepted, and an election ordered to be held at Dr. Geiger's office, on Monday, the 15th inst., to supply his place. The following gentlemen are the managers appointed to conduct said election: A. D. Hitt, Edwin J. Scott and Dr. W. P. Geiger.

The resignations of Strickland, Rollison, Brazil, Pollard and Drennan, (policemen,) were also accepted, and the Mayor appointed to fill vacancies until the next meeting of Council.

On motion, the marshals were directed to visit and search all places within the corporate limits of the city where liquor is sold, and destroy all they may find in such places.

The report of the Executive Committee was received as information.

The petition of Hugh Winter, (keeper of Sydney Park,) praying increase of salary, was laid over until the next meeting.

The following accounts were ordered to be paid:

Wm. Glaze & Co., for axes, iron wedges, &c.	\$670 00
Wm. Glaze, for expenses to Charlotte, going after city records.	469 00
John A. Moore, negro hire.	80 00
Ralph Nowell, shoeing horse.	40 00

Council adjourned.

A. G. BANKIN, City Clerk.