

# The Louisiana Democrat.

A. B. RACHAL

THE WORLD IS GOVERNED TOO MUCH.

(PUBLISHER)

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## The Democrat.

**TERMS:**  
THE DEMOCRAT is published Weekly, at FOUR DOLLARS per annum—Two DOLLARS and FIFTY CENTS for six months, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE! No subscription taken for a less period than six months. ADVERTISEMENTS inserted at the rate of ONE DOLLAR per square for the first insertion and FIFTY CENTS for each subsequent one. EIGHT LINES or less, (BREVIER) constitute a square. OBITUARY Notices, Marriages, Public Meetings, Cards of Thanks, etc., to be paid for as advertisements. PERSONAL CARDS, when admissible, charged double the usual advertising rates.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

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D. C. PAUL, Sheriff  
W. H. SIMONS, Recorder  
M. LEGRAS, Assessor and Collector

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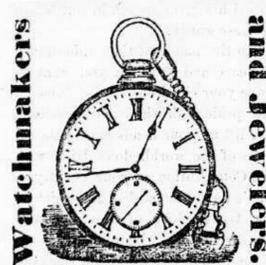
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J. M. BARRETT, Parish Treasurer

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E. R. BROSSAT, Second Ward  
M. ROGNAT, Third Ward  
M. LEGRAS, Fourth Ward  
W. W. WHITTINGTON, Fifth Ward  
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Published Every Morning and Every Evening, Except Sunday Evening.

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

1875. \$1.

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The Democratic Paper of New York

THE CHEAPEST AND BEST

THE POSTAGE PREPAID BY US.

Weekly World, One Year, One Dollar.

An extra copy to get-up of club of ten.

The Semi-Weekly to get-up of club of twenty.

The Daily to get-up of club of fifty.

ALL THE NEWS OF THE PAST seven days is given in the weekly edition of the World (Wednesday's), which contains, in addition to the news, many special features prepared expressly for it. The Grange department gives each week the latest news of the order and of the Patrons. The agricultural department presents the latest experiments and experiences of practical agriculturists, full reports of the Farmers' Club of the American Institute, letters from practical farmers, and interesting discussions of profitable farming. The page for the family furnishes interest and amusement for the fireside during the long winter evenings. Full and trustworthy live stock country produce, and general produce market reports show the state of trade.

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An extra copy to get-up of club of ten.

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The Semi-Weekly (Tuesdays and Fridays) contains all the contents of the Weekly, one or two first-rate Novels during the year, and all the cream of the daily World.

"THE WORLD" AND ITS WORK.

Those of our Democratic friends who desire to subscribe for a New York Paper will find none that equals The World in ability, or that so fearlessly and clearly advocates Democratic principles. In the news from all parts of the world, it is complete, and its editorials on all subjects are vigorous and logical. To the farmer it is invaluable: teaches him many things that tend to promote his best interests which he sorely needs his eyes opened to. The World is now doing a great work in behalf of the Democratic party, and should be fully sustained.—[Binghamton Leader.

A THOROUGH NEWSPAPER.

The World, in point of ability, enterprise and influence, stands at the head of the Democratic press in this country.—[Manchester Union.

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MAKER!

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again, I would respectfully

solicit the patronage of my friends and former customers.

All work in my line executed with neatness and DISPATCH!

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HORSES, HACKS and BUGGIES!

and will hire them, and feed horses at prices to suit THE TIMES—BUT FOR CASH ONLY. I guarantee entire satisfaction.

N. L. MCGINNIS, Superintendent.

March 14th

## Poetical.

THE FLAG

ON LOUISIANA'S CAPITOL, JANUARY 4, 1875.

BY EMMETT L. ROSS.

Go! tear your hateful ensign down, It mocks, it shames the Right; 'Tis but a flapping lie that shrouds Our Crescent homes to-night.

'Tis not the flag of Washington, The banner Key hath sown; 'Tis not the flag whose tattered folds O'er Chalmette's ramparts hung.

'Tis not the flag McClellan bore From Hampton to the Pines; 'Tis not the flag whose agris fell O'er Lee's surrendering lines.

'Tis not the flag of conquering host That waved o'er conquered braves In solemn witness to the truce 'Mid North and Southland graves.

'Tis not the flag our fathers loved; No! nor the Stripes and Stars That wake the schoolboy's martial fires In bursts of wild huzzas.

'Tis not the flag that erstwhile draped Our altars, hearths and walls—Memento of the peace that reign'd Unbroken in our halls.

Go! tear it down, 'tis Tyrant's flag, Its folds are stained and wet; With blood of citizens who fell By ball and bayonet.

'Tis Despot's flag, its ghostly folds Hang sullen to the breeze; The very wind themselves refuse To wait such folds as these.

The vultures brooding o'er the scene Their circuits wider make, And sicken'd, quit the foetid rag And leave it in their wake.

The sun behind the clouds is hid As if it would deny Its faintest ray with which to light That mockery in the sky.

Yes, tear it down, and lay its folds Forever 'neath the soil, Nor curse us more with mockeries And Tyrant's rule and rod.

Let this be done, and we will raise Our standard where it hung; And notes of joy will ring the air By patriot voices sung.

No North, no South, no East, no West, One fate, one flag for all, And we will yield the palm to none At common country's call.

REPORT

OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS

ON AFFAIRS IN LOUISIANA.

THE ACTION OF THE RETURNING BOARD PRONOUNCED ARBITRARY, UNFAIR AND WITHOUT WARRANT OF LAW.

In view of the exigency that now exists in the affairs of that State, and of the delay of weeks which must elapse before that testimony can be written out and printed, your committee has determined to state the conclusions at which they have arrived, so far as they are unanimous in reaching their conclusions. The committee undertook no investigation of the election of 1872. Much evidence has already been taken by other committees of Congress upon that question, and the time allowed both for their action and for the session of Congress seemed to be too short to call for their then entering on that investigation.

They announced this conclusion, and that therefore they would first proceed to an examination of the acts of the Returning Board of the State in respect to the elections, and then to an inquiry in reference to the White League. The law provides that the board shall consist of five persons, representing all parties. It consisted at the opening of their last session of five Republicans—upon the resignation of one (Gen. Longstreet) Mr. Arroyo, a Conservative, was chosen to fill the vacancy.

After protesting against the action of the board in secret session, he resigned before the conclusion of their labors, and his place was not filled; so that your committee think the law as to the constitution of the board was not complied with. The election laws of Louisiana provide for a supervisor of registration who appoints his own deputies for each ward in New Orleans, and for one supervisor of registration for each parish in the State. These officers were all appointed by Gov. Kellogg.

In addition to these supervisors, the Police Jurors, the local authorities of the parishes, appointed three Commissioners of Election for each parish in the parish, and there were also two United States Supervisors appointed by the District Judge of the United States for each poll.

The law further provides that in case of such violence, intimidation or corruption at or near either poll, either during registration or election, preventing a fair, peaceable and full

vote, the Commissioners of Election, if the occurrence was on election day the Supervisors of Registration, if on a day of registration, should make a full verified statement of the occurrence, forward the same with and annexed to the returns; and further provided that when the Returning Board, in canvassing the returns, should come to any poll where the returns were accompanied by such a protest, they should not canvass, count or compile the statement of votes from such poll until the statement from all other polls had been canvassed and compiled.

The Conservative counsel objected that the board on reaching the returns from such protested polls read and became informed of those returns before laying them aside to take up the other polls. They insisted that the purpose of the law was to prevent the commissioners from knowing what the result at the polls protested against were in order that when they came to examine the poll protested against they might do so without being biased by knowing what was the result returned, and they objected that in these cases of protest the board had proceeded to read the returns, add up and compile them, and then defer their determination of the case after having acquired knowledge of how the returns protested against would affect the election.

On the other hand the Republican counsel insisted that such a course was impracticable; that the object of the law in deferring any determination of the results of the polls protested against until the returns from the other polls were canvassed, was merely to enable the board to ascertain whether the result of the disputed returns would affect the election, however decided, so that if they would not, the board might be spared the labor of considering this protest.

Your committee have not found it necessary to come to any determination upon that question. The election embraced but one State officer. The chief struggle was over the election of members of the State Legislature and Parish officers, and in these elections local and personal considerations, as well as national or State politics, entered. The returns by the Commissioners of Election, compiled and forwarded by the Supervisors of Registration, gave the Conservatives a majority of 29 members, out of a total of 111 members.

In only three instances were there any protests accompanying the returns. The Returning Board was in session for many weeks. As finally announced their findings gave, as Gov. Kellogg reckoned it, fifty-three members to the Republicans and fifty to the Democrats, of whom, however, one was regarded as not a "staying" Democrat. The board made no decision as to the remaining five seats.

The public sittings of this Returning Board were attended by the counsel of the Republican and Conservative State Committees. Objections were received from the counsel of the respective parties to the returns from different polls. The objecting party was generally allowed to produce affidavits to support the objection and the other party to reply by affidavits. A day was fixed when these proofs were to be closed. After these public sessions the board went into private, or, as they were called, executive sessions, where the proofs and matters in dispute were discussed, and a decision arrived at.

The minutes of the board are very meagre. They contain little more than a record of its meeting, going into executive session, and its adjourning, and some formal public orders. They contain no minutes whatever of the proceedings in executive session, and furnished, therefore, little light upon the findings of the board.

The Parish of Rapides chose three members to the Legislature. The returns elected all three Conservatives; when the proofs closed the only paper filed with the Returning Board was the affidavit of the United States Supervisor that the election was in all respects full, fair and free.

It was not known in the Parish that any contest existed against these members. They left their homes and proceeded to New Orleans to be present at the opening of the Legislature—no intimation of contesting their seats or objecting to their election having been given by

their opponents. At one of their last sessions the Returning Board declared all the Republican members elected from that Parish.

When the papers of the Returning Board were produced before your committee, there was found among them an affidavit by Mr. Wells, the President of the Board, declaring that intimidation had existed at certain polls in that Parish, and that the returns from these polls should therefore be rejected. The counsel for the Democratic Committee testified that they had no opportunity to contradict the statements of this paper; that they had never seen or known of it before, and that upon an examination of the papers before the Board when the proofs closed, it was not among them.

The counsel for the Republican committee reserved the right to make an explanation upon this point, but offered none. The affidavit was dated the blank day of December, 1874. It appeared that Governor Wells was not himself in the Parish on the day of the election, and though at the opening of their first session your committee declared their intention to examine into the action of the Returning Board, Governor Wells never came forward as a witness. At the close of our proceedings, leave was asked that his deposition might be given in. This was declined and Mr. Wells was invited to appear before the committee, but he never came.

Leave was also given for taking his testimony by commissioner if he declined, but was not availed of.—Your committee are, therefore, constrained to declare that the action of the Returning Board in rejecting these returns in the Parish of Rapides and giving the seats for that Parish to the Republican candidates was arbitrary, unfair and without warrant of law. If the committee were to go behind the papers before the board and consider the alleged charge of intimidation upon the proofs before the committee their finding would necessarily be the same.

It was asserted in Gov. Wells' affidavit that the McEnery officials had usurped the offices of the Parish, and thereby intimidated voters. Immediately after the 14th of September, when the Kellogg authorities in New Orleans were put out by the Pennsylvania authorities, certain changes took place in some of the Parishes.—When the news from New Orleans reached these parishes the McEnery officials demanded their places of the Kellogg officials, and they were at once given up.

When the Federal Government intervened and unseated the McEnery authorities, the Kellogg officials demanded and received back their places, but in Rapides some time seems to have elapsed before the Kellogg officials took their places back. Indeed, the McEnery register of deeds was still acting as such when your committee was in New Orleans, the Kellogg register never having come to re-claim the place, which was said to be worth nothing now in Rapides.

The Kellogg clerk was Mr. Well's son. Having yielded his place to the McEnery competitor in September, he does not appear to have reclaimed it, and he was accordingly sent for after the election to come from his residence, some miles distant, to sign the returns of the election, which he did. Your committee are at a loss to see in their action any intimation of Mr. Wells; still less of the electors of the Parish.

It so happened that the Parish was taken as a sample Parish of intimidation; many witnesses from which of both parties were examined with reference to it. They show beyond question that there was a full, free, fair and peaceable election and registration there. There was no evidence of any intimidation of voters practiced on the day of the election, although it was asserted that intimidation of colored men before the election had been effected by threats of refusal to employ them, or to discharge them if they voted the Republican ticket; no evidence either of discharge or of refusal to employ was produced.

Certain witnesses, themselves every one office holders, testified generally to such action, but hardly any one was able to specify a single instance in which he had heard any EMPLOYEE so THREATENED or DISCHARGED, or knew of any employee

(CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE.)