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ALEXANDRIA, LA.

Wednesday, May 24, 1876.

We are authorized to announce the name of

W. C. MCGIMSEY, ESQ.

as a candidate for DISTRICT ATTORNEY for the Ninth Judicial District, subject to regular nomination by the Democratic-Conservative party.

We are authorized to announce the name of

T. SPENCE SMITH

as a candidate for CLERK of the DISTRICT COURT, subject to the decision of the Democratic-Conservative Parish Convention.

We are authorized to announce the name of

MIRIES ROSENTHAL

as a candidate for RECORDER of the Parish, subject to the nomination of the Democratic-Conservative Parish Convention.

We are authorized to announce the name of

ALGERNON HILTON

as a candidate for RECORDER of the Parish, subject to the decision of the Democratic-Conservative Parish Convention.

On Thursday, in the District Court yet in session here, Fordham, Thorpe and Peterson, United States soldiers, were tried on an indictment for murder, found against them by the Grand Jury. The State was represented by the District Attorney, who with his usual zeal, energy and tact prosecuted the prisoners, whilst they were fortunate in being defended by J. G. White, Esq., who made in their behalf one of the best and happiest efforts of his legal career here. The Jury selected was entirely a white one and by far the most intelligent we have seen here since reconstruction, who returned a verdict of not guilty as to Thorpe and Peterson, and not agreeing as to Fordham. Ten were for his acquittal and two for bringing in a verdict against him of manslaughter. The Jury were thus discharged, and Fordham was to have been tried again on yesterday, and we venture the belief will be cleared. There is a great morale in this trial, in all its shapes, which at some future time we will have to notice and comment on freely.

The expenses in the way of script issued, which the Parish will have to protect, at the present term of the District Court, will foot up more than at any previous term, and though frightful to contemplate, still it keeps up at sixty cents on the dollar. Our Police Jury will again have to use their pruning knife and only allow such as are really legitimate and legal, they standing between us and all extortions. They are the Body who have financially stood up for the Parish's interests and we are justified in the belief that they won't let down in this important matter.

The varied house furnishing establishment of I. C. Miller & Co., have lately received and have on hand a large supply of all sizes of sauce pans, stew pans, kettles, etc., of a new make called granite iron. They fill up a long needed want in the kitchen and nursery, and all wishing such should lose no time in getting an assortment.

The District Court is yet on the ragged edge of its long session, and by this evening will close the criminal docket. By good work and willing intents it may get entirely through on Saturday evening and adjourn sine die, and then the Court can strut with her usual pomposity, trimmed off with her new and slick heaver.

A thrice told tale, when a good one never lingers, never tires. To it we must compare Levin's dual establishments, on which, like pure gold, there can be no discount. Continued trials and visits there must confirm all of the validity of our assertion.

The Radical Convention, to elect delegates to the Cincinnati Convention, will be held in New Orleans on the 30th of the present month. On the 27th of June the same party meet in the same city to nominate a State ticket.

We are once more forced to admit and make public, that Sam's Saloon is perfectly au fait in its two fold dispensations, good eating and good drinking.

THE CENTENNIAL.

The deed is done. The festal day has come and the Centennial Exhibition is opened. This great panorama which is to be at once an exposition of the growth during its first hundred years of the greatest nation on earth, and of the corresponding progress in art, science and civilization of the whole world, has begun its evolutions. The ceremonies and the success of the occasion were commensurate with the importance of the event. It was a gala day for Philadelphia, and a proud day for the bird of freedom. Probably such an immense concourse of people never thronged the streets of the city before, it being estimated that at least 260,000 were in attendance, the assembled multitude comprising citizens of nearly every country on the globe. The display of bunting and the flag decorations of the streets and buildings exceeded anything ever witnessed on any occasion before, lending an inspiration of beauty, life and gaiety to the scene.

The exercises of the opening were simple and dignified. A thousand men in uniform, freshly organized, studded the landscape as police. Two hundred and fifty jurors, whose expenses will be as many thousand dollars, were upon the grand stand waiting to begin their labors when the President of the United States should open the Exhibition. Nearly three times the number of States originally assenting to the sublime insubordination of Independence were represented by their Commissioners. The speeches were short and without indelicate individuality, and America, at peace with the world, produced the martial tunes of every great nation, which were cheered without discrimination by her multitudes. Beauty, as well as rank, graced the festive place. There sat near her husband the Empress of Brazil and daughter of the King of the Sicilies. The President's wife was a neighbor of the beautiful lady of the Spanish Minister. A Quaker poet wrote the hymn of pious gratulation: Our fathers' God, from out whose hand The centuries fall like grains of sand, We meet, to-day, united, free, And loyal to our land and Thee.

The grand basso voice of Mr. Whitney, of Boston, rose above the thousands of heads, producing an encore, while the tones of prayer from a Methodist Bishop fitly expressed the undiscouraged aspirations of the America of the second century. "May the new century be better than the past. More radiant with the light of true philosophy, warmer with the emanations of a world-wide sympathy. May capital, genius and labor be freed from all antagonism by the establishment and application of principles of justice and equity." One thousand voices accompanied the great organ. In the interlude the military bands boomed over the wide enclosure where the soldiery rested on their arms. Then there was a silent signal and shaken out from minaret and flagstaff along the vast profiles of the buildings a hundred banners of all nations blew in the wind. The Exhibition of 1876 was opened. Descending from the great stand, the President walked through the two principal buildings on the arm of the Director General, accompanied by his guest of Brazil and his family, and followed by the Chief Justice, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. Cannon saluted the advancing party, and before each nation's display of products the commissioners thereof bowed to the American officials. At the centre of Machinery Hall stood the giant engine, grim and silent, its doubled levers yoked to the mighty wheel which was to move all those miles of shaft and belting and start to life hundreds of machines of all descriptions, and thousands of spools, shuttles and spindles. The President having taken hold of the valve-lever of one engine and the Emperor of that of the other, both gave the turn simultaneously. In an instant the great wheel started to motion, and the obedient looms began their round of six months like an ark of machinery set afloat for a voyage to preserve the creations of man. Meanwhile the fring of one hundred guns on George's Hill and the music of the chimes of the bells in the towers had been signaling the approach of the grand finale. Then the vast assemblage dispersed as they desired, and the formalities were over until the Fourth of July brings more splendid pageants. By night the illuminated streets drew down their crowded aisles the resident and visiting thousands, and it seemed a Roman carnival in the Quaker City.

Mr. Kellogg still has cheek—he is now in Washington or elsewhere away from Louisiana, with his brilliant staff of "Generals," consisting of Tax Collectors, an Auditor, Assistant Attorney General, Port Warden, Tax Assessor et als, flourishing in grand uniforms, and wants the United States troops to do police duty for him and his layout.

OUR STATE TREASURER.

The recent decision of the Supreme Court, as rendered by old Talliaferro, in the suit of J. C. Moncreu vs. Antoine Dubuclet, comes home to us rightly now. It declares the Return Board to be the source of all official authority in the State and an absolute and final arbiter. The infamous Superior Court, whose Judge has recently died, dismissed the suit upon the following exceptions:

- 1. That there is in the relator's suit an improper joinder of parties, and an improper cumulation of different causes of action.
2. That there is no cause of action set up by relator's petition against respondents.
3. That there is a commingling of allegations in the petition, leaving it doubtful what cause of action the relator seeks to prosecute.
4. That if the object be to contest the election of Antoine Dubuclet, the respondents have no interest in the contest, that this court is without jurisdiction ratione materia; that the law does not authorize the contestation of the election of State Treasurer, and if he did the action is prevented by ten days.
5. That there is no cause of action against respondents, whatever may be the suit; that courts are without jurisdiction to inquire into their action as a Returning Board, or to prescribe their course of action; that the law prescribes their duty, and their acts are limited by their sound discretion under the law, and their findings are not subject to review by any court.

The decision surprises no one, and hence we must now, more than ever, have a sleepless eye to that Counting Board, for it is ready and ever willing to repeat such cheats and frauds as often as the people will remain passive to their acts.

The manner in which the Court disposed of the question must be convincing to all, who will read the following in Judge Wyly's dissenting decision:

"I will not impute to the General Assembly the lamentable weakness of giving a right and neglecting to furnish a remedy to enforce it. Nor do I think it proper for this court, invested with jurisdiction both of law and equity, to permit substantial rights to be lost for technical reasons or to decline to protect a citizen in a most valuable right simply because there is no statute prescribing the form for the action. In my opinion, if a right exists, the courts of the State, being courts of law and equity, can give adequate relief as required by the constitution."

In my opinion where a legal right of a citizen has been invaded, or where there is a wrong, there is adequate remedy, and the courts are open to administer justice without denial and unreasonable delay. I believe there is ample power in the court to redress the wrong, of which the plaintiff complains. I therefore dissent."

Justice Morgan concurred in the dissenting opinion of Judge Wyly. In expressing his concurrence, he says: "I think that title to an office is a proper matter for judicial inquiry and that the courts of the State should be, and by the constitution are open for the trial of such issues. I think that the Superior District Court had jurisdiction over the matters in controversy between the parties, and that the suit should have been proceeded with. I therefore think that the case should be remanded."

There is no Parish in the State where "things" are as quiet and peaceable as in Rapides, and in no Parish are the colored folks more tractable and well inclined. We are glad to notice this, and hope the pestiferous few in the office-seeking line will let well alone. We believe our people here will make them do it, and hold them to strict accountability for every violation of these good deeds.

Prof. Charles Jager, the great New Orleans Brass Band leader, with four assistants, reached here Monday morning on the Bart. Able. He is here to play for the Fire Department in their grand parade, and at their Ball. We welcome the "Old Leader" to our Town.

Our Packet with a fine freight, a fair lot of people, and the Democrat's big assortment of late papers, reached her Alexandria home on time Monday morning. She leaves this morning, Crescent City-bound on her usual sharp time, 12 meridian.

The St. Mary, early on the morning of the 17th, put us out a bundle of St. Louis papers of the 14th. This beats all time in the paper line ever yet made here. So much for a Railroad bringing them two-thirds of the route.

The pupils of St. James Grammar School had a nice May Day Hop on Thursday night, and had really a pleasing and entertaining time of it. We heartily thank them for their kind souvenir to the Democrat.

One of the United States Companies of soldiers stationed here left for Natchitoches on the Bart. Able. The Company at Natchitoches will be down to-day on the same boat to replace the one mentioned above.

COMING TO LIGHT.

The Congressional Committee, now engaged in bringing to the broad glare of day the misdeeds of Radicalism for the last nine years, if for nothing else deserve our eternal thanks and praises, for writing into history what the people of the South have all along been stating. At the latest dates, they have on the stand one Edgar Seelye, who has been one of their chief inquisitors and main instruments of oppression, who at last tired of his masters, has proceeded to unload. So far he has made good time and made the fur fly at every jump. We append a condensed statement of his testimony, which will bear reading and recall to our people the old sores afresh:

WASHINGTON, May 16.—Major Edgar Seelye was before the Louisiana committee yesterday. His testimony was of a most startling and damaging character. He directly charges Morey with forging warrants for the arrest of citizens, with instructions to his satellites to keep them in jail until after the election. The witness also states that he was instructed by Morey to assassinate Isaac N. Glover. Seelye states that he had not the intention of killing Glover, but it appears that the intended victim was saved because a writ of habeas corpus required Seelye to remain with other prisoners. Morey, however, was convinced that he would kill Glover. He charges Jewett with issuing the writs of arrest when he had no commission. He said that Morey paid \$700 for his original telegrams and orders. He, however, had kept copies of the same which he turned over to the committee. Morey still owes him money on that job, but will not pay up.

Morey directed all the movements of the cavalry and infantry in the district. Whenever he had to go to any point he would order troops there, as he was afraid to move without a guard.

He testified also about Lowell's defalcation of \$68,000, during his administration of the New Orleans Postoffice. Lowell was arrested, together with his deputy and cashier, and they were held to bond in the sum of \$10,000 each. Morey wanted witness to steal the bond as the most expedient way of getting out of the scrape. The matter was subsequently compromised for \$7,000, which was obtained by assessing the bondsmen. John Madden paid \$2000 to John New, one of the bondsmen. Neither Lowell nor his clerks were ever prosecuted.

Seelye applied for immunity, and if he is granted that, will make terrible disclosures. He is now afraid of criminating himself, but is safe guarded he will expose the mysteries of fraudulent pay-rolls in the Customhouse, how the Government money was paid out to political leaders for election purposes, and generally tell all he knows about the dark doings in that stronghold of corruption called the New Orleans Customhouse.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Edgar Seelye was again on the stand. He testified that Morey had assisted in robbing the mails for the purpose of intercepting political correspondence and suppressing the commissions sent to Democratic Supervisors of elections, and that Beckwith had refused to prosecute the mail robbers who had been arrested. He says that Casey and Souer offered to pay him \$150 cash and \$150 a month to go to Canada, in order to get out of reach of the committee, which he refused to do. About transactions in the Customhouse he refused to go into particulars for fear of criminating himself, but the Committee will see that he be granted full protection and immunity, and he will let the monstrous cat—tail, claws and all—out of the bag.

Mr. Kellogg and most of his chiefs have been to Washington, and while there have talked of "troops here again" and all that sort of old played Radical mischief. We may as well tell our people at once, that they have nothing to expect from that quarter, and that all the old machinery is again on rehearsal to be once more turned against them, and that now, more than ever, we must rely on our own resources, with the aid and assistance we can surely get from the colored masses in Rapides. We are glad to know that they have cut their political wisdom teeth and make no bones in so expressing themselves. In the coming contest we feel secure in believing and stating that fully one third of the colored voters will go with their white friends, and cut loose from their old plagues, the carpet-bagger and the scallawag.

At the coming election in No. 3 and the St. Mary, have our thanks for late papers.

JOHN A. MATRIN, the oldest New Orleans lawyer, and with all a good citizen and upright man, is dead.

LA CHERISE ROUGE.

The Returning Board organ here, on Saturday, showed its bloody hands and raised to the top of its jackstaff the scarlet underwear of its damned and doomed party. This was done in publishing in full from the New Orleans Republican a false and sensational account of a riot near Bayou Sara, which the directors or stool pigeons of that concern could but know were false, scandalous and libellous. They had all the other New Orleans Journals with full accounts of the same affair, giving it from the commencement and truth fully. But their accounts did not suit the tastes and views of the Organ, so they had to blaze forth in sensational head letters the falsehoods of their head centre at New Orleans. The whole affair is told in a few words, which the Gazette could have as easily published, as we now write it. Thirty armed negroes rode up to the store of an old German, on the Woodville road, and asked for a party, naming him, who proved not to be there. The armed force wheeled hurriedly off and delivering a volley into the store, killed the old merchant, and wounded his clerk, a colored man. The news of this foul murder was soon spread, and soon the whites armed and equipped, started in hot pursuit, and in a short time came up with some up the negroes, two of whom they captured, and justly and sans ceremonie hung them to the first tree.

The last we can hear of this same murder, we glean from the following special to the New Orleans Times, which is no doubt the sequel of it:

VICKSBURG, Miss., May 16, 1876.

A special to the Herald says: "A hundred and fifty armed negroes broke into a store about twelve miles west of Woodville, and robbed it of all ammunition, shoes, saddles, etc. The sheriff of the county hearing of the disturbance issued a proclamation commanding them to disperse, which they disregarded."

To-day he summoned a posse and on coming up to the negroes again ordered them to disperse. The negroes defied him and fired on the party. The fire was returned and a sharp skirmish ensued, resulting in a victory to the posse. It is thought that twenty negroes were killed and several wounded. No further trouble apprehended."

This week we have an announcement for a District nomination; gradually the gap is filling up; and we shall soon have ample good material to choose from, that is we mean the nominating Convention. Though we have no special favorites, still we must endorse the qualifications and fitness of W. C. McGimpsey for the office for which he announces himself as a candidate. We are for our nominated ticket, as opposed to Radicalism, and shall fight on that line till doomsday.

ACQUITTED.—Daniel W. Shaw, who some time since stated had been indicted in the Parish of Grant for murder, arrested here and then had a change of venue to our Parish, has been tried by a jury of his peers and found "not guilty" as charged in the indictment. We hope and trust this puts an end to the charges and aspersions made against the old man, ceases persecution against him, and stamps him before his fellow-citizens an innocent man, as the Jury have declared him.

The Fire Department of our Town, on their maiden celebration and procession will, we are certain, have a gala day and night of it. At the present writing we cannot state particulars, for we must go to press before it comes off. The whole Democrat office belong to the bully Hooks, who with the glorious Pacifics form the Department, hence it would be a useless rebellion on our part, to deny them the full meed of pleasure and recreation they so richly merit. This is our good and legal excuse for no account of the affair in this issue.

SCOTT GORDON, the colored Democratic speaker, who visited us in 1868, has been here again on his mission of good to his race. He had a good rally at the Town Hall on Saturday night and plainly gave his experience to the assembled crowd. He is yet true to his conservative notions and fights Radicalism with his accustomed vim and earnest.

We ask the special personal, by every one getting the present number of the Democrat, of the article headed "Last Ditches", from that able Democratic Journal, the New Orleans Democrat. We heartily endorse every line of it and wish it to be considered our leader for this week.

JOHN A. MATRIN, the oldest New Orleans lawyer, and with all a good citizen and upright man, is dead.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, May 12, 1876.

EDITOR DEMOCRAT—

THE GREAT UNKNOWN,

to whom Mr. Blaine has so frequently referred as the man who will be suddenly sprung upon the Cincinnati Convention by the Grant clique, is now known to be Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, now Minister to Paris. Grant owes his advancement in life to Washburne, and is determined to secure him the nomination if possible. It was Washburne's wish that his name should not be mentioned too early as a candidate. He is very unpopular with his party, and he knows it, and was therefore afraid to give his legions of enemies time to kill him off by showing his absolute unfitness for the Chief Magistracy. Grant let the cat out of the bag the other day, however, while "in his cups," and stated that all his influence in the Cincinnati Convention will be used for his early and steadfast patron. But the President forgets that his influence, even with the rapsallions of the Republican party, has been steadily and rapidly on the wane, ever since it has been regarded as a fixed fact that he has not the ghost of a chance of being re-nominated. There are dozens of men in the Republican party who will have more personal influence on the delegates to Cincinnati than U. S. Grant; and it is more than probable that the Convention, scared by the earnestness and evident purpose of the distinguished leaders of the "Liberals" and "Reform Republicans" will throw overboard all the old party hacks, and take up such a man as G. W. Curtis or Geo. F. Hoar. The friends of the several

DEMOCRATIC ASPIRANTS are all apparently hopeful. Those of Mr. Bayard are especially enthusiastic, and make up in real and hard work for their lack of numerical strength. But the number of his friends is growing larger week by week—I should rather say his political supporters, because all who know the able and courteous Senator are his friends. The friends of Mr. Justice Davis, of the Supreme Court, are working actively for that distinguished gentleman, under the direction of Mr. John D. Defrees, an honest man, an able wire-puller, and a personal rather than a political friend of Mr. Davis. The admirers of Mr. Hendricks, it is unnecessary to say, are working vigorously for him, and are determined to do their best to secure his nomination. The Southern members of Congress, however, appear to be all Tilden men, and the friends of the other candidates do not hesitate to say that there is a growing feeling that his nomination may come to be considered a party necessity, by the time the St. Louis Convention meets. It does look that way now. It is difficult to see how we can elect a President without the aid of New York. Again, if the Republicans throw overboard their hacks, and select some man of irreproachable character, and with a good reform record, which it is quite likely they will do; the Democrats must put forward a man who has distinguished himself as a reformer and a practical public economist.

GRANT'S CHOICE FOR THE PRESIDENCY. A confidential friend of President Grant said, to-day, after imbibing to the extent of half a dozen glasses of lager, "Do you know who is going to be nominated at Cincinnati?" The immediate answer from nearly a dozen persons present was "Blaine." "No, sir" was the reply. "Well, then," said several of his auditors, "Conkling, or Hayes." "Not right yet" said the President's friend; "you will have to go lower down in the alphabet. The name of the man who will get the nomination begins with a 'W,' which his name is Washburne, the present Minister to France." An incredulous laugh greeted this assertion. "Well, gentlemen," was the reply, "I am willing to bet \$1000 against \$100 that Washburne is nominated." "But why do you think so?" queried some one. "Why do I think so?" was the response; "because the old man wants him nominated. You know as well as I do that Washburne made General Grant never deserts his friends." "But how about Conkling?" was the next query. "It is reported that he is Grant's favorite, and that Grant is using his influence in Conkling's behalf." "O, that is all gammon," said the President's friend; "the President may seem to favor the nomination of Conkling, but is really doing all he can to secure the selection of his friend Washburne. Mark my words! Either Washburne or Hayes will receive the nomination at Cincinnati. An arrangement is already made by which Conkling is to throw the vote of New York for Washburne in case he sees no chance of his own nomination. Blaine will of course lead off on the first few ballots, but a compromise candidate will finally be

selected, and his name is Washburne."

I incline to think there may be a good deal of truth in all this. It is far from certain that the Republican candidate who leads on the first few ballots will be the successful one, as the history of nominating conventions show. Seward distanced Lincoln by a respectable majority on the second and third ballots in the Republican Convention of 1860, and yet Lincoln was finally chosen. The race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong; and consequently Blaine must not be too sure of his nomination at Cincinnati. As for Conkling, he stands no earthly show of the nomination. It is barely possible that he may secure a complimentary vote from the delegates from his own State; but even that is by no means certain. As for his being the choice of the President, the idea is simply ridiculous. Conkling is consequently an able man; but he is excessively egotistical and arrogant in his manner, and is the very last man in the world for a man of Grant's caliber to "tie to." Fellows like Rufus Ingalls, Phil Sheridan and Robeson are more to Grant's liking; and although he may seem to be on friendly terms with the high-toned New York Senator, there can be no doubt he would prefer that some one else should be nominated at Cincinnati. Be this as it may, Grant's present influence over his party is exceedingly limited. As a candidate, he has dropped out of sight altogether; and, in the sunset of his power, is almost deserted by those who, a year since, were proud to be counted among his friends and defenders.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION was first suggested in 1869, and the proposition was received with general favor from the start. During that year delegations from several States went to Philadelphia to confer with the Centennial committee which had already been appointed by the city councils. The movement took form when Congress in March, 1871, passed a law providing for an international exhibition, the appointment of a Centennial commission, &c. The international feature of the exhibition was opposed by many members of Congress, and by none more earnestly than Senator Sumner, who urged that the exhibition should be distinctly American, as its main object was the celebration of a great national anniversary in which the monarchical governments of Europe had no sympathy and should have no part. The last speech of his public life, delivered in the United States Senate, was an earnest protest against this feature of the bill. In 1873, Congress created by law a Centennial Board of Finance, with authority to raise subscriptions to the amount of \$10,000,000, in shares of not more than \$10 each, for the purpose of erecting suitable buildings. Pennsylvania, through her legislature, contributed \$1,000,000, and the city of Philadelphia \$500,000. Since then, liberal contributions from many of the Northern and Western States have been made in aid of the project, and the present Congress appropriated \$1,500,000 for the same purpose.

TREBLE

R. P. HALL & Co.: Gentlemen—Please send me one dozen bottles of your Stealin Hair Renewer. Our "bald and gray" do not want to be out. My mother is a living recommendation of the results from the use of the Renewer. Being almost seventy years old, and having worn a wig over thirty years, it seems a miracle to those who have known her so long so bald, and what little hair she had being perfectly white; now her wig thrown aside, her hair grown out, and a smooth glossy brown as in girlhood. Hoping you may long continue to pour blessings on the heads of the afflicted, I remain, yours truly.—[Extract from a letter from Mrs. J. C. Aldrich, Wauson, Fulton Co., O.]

Such evidence, with the endorsement of the great chemists of New England, Dr. A. A. Hayes and S. Dana Hayes, should satisfy any one, which of the preparations produce the best results.

Crossing the desert is generally an eventful episode in life; whether it be as pilgrim to worship the prophet's shrine at Mecca, or as a part of a caravan of merchants, the dangers of the destructive storm, attacks of predatory robbers and the agony of dying from thirst are depicted on reaching one of those parched deserts, an oasis. Partaking of that which regenerates, they meet their future difficulties with recruited strength and renewed energies. So with modern life, dangers from disease threaten all humanity, but if we make use of a remedy which alleviates acute attacks of sickness, thus preventing their becoming chronic, we shall realize that necessary rest and refreshment in traveling life's desert which has been discovered in the Home Steer each Bitters.