The New Orleans Crescent.

SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 25, 1868.

INDUSTRIAL ITEMS, ETC.

English capitalists have £84,000,000 invested in East India railways.

A farmer in England sowed one peck of wheat to the acre, and gathered 50 bushels.

During the first six months of 1868, the city of Pittsburg consumed 15,000,000 feet of gas.

Lard oil was first made at Lexington, Ky., in 1832.

The Hebrew population of the United States is estimated at 300,000.

In London 10,000 dogs have been killed this season.

The wine crop of Portugal this year is about 40,000 pipes, against 45,000 in 1867.

Ten years hence, Houston, Texas, expects to be the great railroad center of the Southwest.

Rome, Ga., has shipped 162,156 pounds of dried peaches this season, valued at $15,225.

The public libraries of France contain 6,233,000 volumes.

A farmer near Philadelphia has raised a pumpkin weighing 138 pounds.

In 1866, China exported 4,328,000 pounds of raw silk, and 157,750,000 pounds of tea.

The library of Yale College contains 50,000 volumes.

Anson, Maine, has 23,000 sheep and produces more wool than any other town in that State.

The fire department of Chicago has about three and a half miles of hose.

San Francisco receives forty tons of soap-root per month from the mountains.

The aggregate product of gold and silver in the world in 1867 was estimated at $225,000,000.

The cotton crop of the Southern States last year was valued at $244,000,000 in currency.

Spain has nine national libraries containing 1,166,595 volumes.

The English government is establishing an oyster fishery on the coast of Ireland.

Chinese hemp grows in Kentucky to the length of sixteen feet.

One hundred railway trains leave Cincinnati daily.

Paris has 50,000 vagabonds out of a population of 1,800,000.

New York city has thirteen morning and nine evening daily papers.

Nearly 400,000 copies of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" have been sold.

An insect called the "coffee boner," is destroying the coffee plantations in Madras.

It is estimated that the gold mines of North Carolina are yielding about $500,000 per annum.

The manufacture of artificial teeth in Paris gives employment to 2000 persons.

There are 246 agricultural and horticultural societies in Canada West.

Elm bark is used for tanning in Norway; white willow bark in Denmark, and birch bark in Russia.

The German population of the United States is estimated at 1,300,000.

One establishment in New York employs 400 hands in the manufactory of billiard tables.

In North Carolina 23,000 colored children attended school last year.

Chestnuts of the new crop are selling in Louisville at fifty cents per quart.

The factories in Petersburg, Va., consume 8000 bales cotton per annum.

About 150,000 packing boxes are used annually by the New York dry goods dealers.

The trade between England and China amounts to $100,000,000 per annum.

A lady in North Carolina made ten barrels of wine from a scuppernong vineyard of less than half an acre, when only seven years old.

There are more than a hundred dog carts daily in operation in New York, collecting the swill from private and boarding houses to feed swine.

It is said the South this year, has a saleable crop of cotton, tobacco, rice and sugar worth $400,000,000.

A nugget of gold weighing 47 pennyweights, was recently taken from a mine in White county, Ga.

The private library of Capt. Hervey, of Oakwood, N. J., was recently sold at auction in New York for $12,367.

A large bed of gypsum has been discovered in Smythe county, Va., said to be more pure than that received from Nova Scotia.

During the week ending fourteenth October, there were 2000 cases of boots and shoes shipped from Boston for New Orleans.

Staunton, Va., has six churches, nine clergymen, 12 physicians, 24 lawyers, six flourishing female schools, and two classical male schools.

At a recent fair in Derbyshire, England, a premium was awarded for three cabbages, averaging 72½ pounds each.

A new kind of cotton, called "wool cotton," is being raised in Mecklenburg county, N. C., this season. It is said to be a superior article.

During the thirty-five years that the Cincinnati Orphan Asylum has been in operation, there has been in it 16,053 inmates.

Recently a plow-boy in Wisconsin turned up a nugget of nearly pure copper, weighing 432 pounds. No wheat in that field next year.

An advertising agent in New York lately made a contract for advertising amounting to $143,776 26. That advertiser will be rich in five years.

A contract has been made for the removal of the Frying Pan and Pot rocks in Hell Gate for $38,000.

The aggregate wealth of Great Britain, within the British Isles, is $36,000,000,000; that of the United States $14,000,000,000.

It is estimated that foreign steamships will receive, this year, $650,000 for carrying the United States mails to Europe.

The Erie Railroad Company, within the past few months, has laid down 9,000 tons of steel rail.

It is stated that the foreign steamship lines, during the time they have been running, have made $50,000,000 out of the business of this country.

In 1866, there were 15,672 foreign ships engaged in the China trade, of which 8,276 were English, and 3,602 American.

A beef packery, just going into operation at Shreveport, has received 13,000 empty barrels from New Orleans.

During the first six months of 1868 France imported merchandise to the amount of 1,738,000,000 francs.

Col. John Powell, of Coahoma, Miss., has invented a "portable power for sewing machines and churns."

A congress of naturalists from all parts of Europe will meet at Vienna, Austria, the last of this month.

The marine losses during the nine months ending September 30, 1868, include 257 vessels, which, with their cargoes, were valued at $11,000,000.

A silver mine has recently been discovered in Tipton county, Iowa, which is said to be very rich.

It is estimated that the silver shillings in circulation in Great Britain would form a column eighty-seven miles in length.

Mr. Derby, the New York publisher, has a fruit farm at Aiken, S. C., from which he has averaged a net profit of $6000 for the last two years.

There are two paper mills near Lincolnton, N. C., owned by the Messrs. Tiddy, and one at Shelby, twenty miles further west, all doing well.

A statistician says a man stands sixteen chances to be killed by lightning to one of being worth a million of money.

A writer in the Prairie Farmer says the castor bean, in the Southern States, will net more money to the hand than cotton at 40 cents per pound.

A cranberry meadow in New Jersey costs from $250 to $800 per acre. The average annual product is 150 bushels cranberries per acre.

There are 360 religious newspapers in the United States. The only successful religious daily known is published in Montreal, Canada.

A New York paper says the cultivation of beet-root sugar will yield the farmer seven times as much profit as wheat, at present prices.

Lawrence, Mass., has 35,000 girls employed in the factories. They have a free reading room and a library of 5000 volumes.

During the quarter ending 30th September there was imported into New York books to the value of $318,734, and wines and liquors valued at $446,697.

In 1867, the island of Penang exported 2,262 tons of black pepper, 153 tons of white pepper, 228 tons of nutmegs, 12 tons of mace, 12 tons of cloves, and 217 tons of tapioca.

The exports from the island of Penang to the United States, in 1867, were 174 tons of black pepper, 150 tons of nutmegs, one ton of mace, and 53 tons tapioca.

A printer in New York has a steam engine of 150-horse power that runs 125 presses, prints 50 different newspapers, makes hoop skirts, binds books, and runs a mile of shafting.

The Annis Cotton Mills, at McMinnville, Tenn., which were burned by the federals during the war, have been rebuilt, and are now running 2016 spindles and 60 looms.

The highest price ever paid for a single book was £2200, paid for a first edition (Venice, 1471) of Boccacio's "Decameron," by the Marquis of Blandford.

The exports of tea from China and Japan this season, up to the 20th of August, were 84,500,000 pounds, against 52,000,000 pounds to same time last year.

The Australian colonies have 600,000 horses, 4,000,000 cattle, 38,500,000 sheep, and 4,000,000 pigs. The area of land under cultivation last year was 2,500,000 acres.

The exports of petroleum for the nine months ending 1st October, were 2,862,000 gallons. The stock on hand, in the oil regions, at that date, was 263,000 barrels.

A manufacturing company at Sandwich, Ill., which has been in operation sixteen months, recently made a dividend of 25 per cent. on the capital, as profit, and added $50,000 to the stock of the institution.

Ego.

For the New Orleans Sunday Crescent.]

There are persons who seem to revolve around the above word as on a pivot, without possibility of leaving it. Broach whatever subject you may, however distant you may deem it, they will speedily bring it back again to the all important I, and conjugate the verb I am, through all its moods and tenses—sometimes to your amusement, often to your disgust.

It was early in the fall of 184–, just after the close of the Mexican war, that I was thrown in company with one of these personages. I was one of quite a party of ladies going from the Crescent City to Louisville, under the escort of a young officer of the regular service. Handsome, gallant and brave, he had won any quantity of laurels, and seen steady service, told a good story, sang a good song, was full of anecdotes regarding the incidents of the war, and long before we reached our destination had won half the female hearts on the boat.

Starting from our Crescent City on one of the floating palaces that ply between here and St. Louis, we had to leave it at Cairo, and take a small boat, as the Ohio was very low. The change was very great, and it required all the fun and good humor of Capt. W., and the patience and good temper of the ladies to endure the irksomeness of cramped cabin, and little cribs of state-rooms, while the difference in the food was even worse to endure. In the party were two beautiful girls, a dashing widow and two or three matrons, young and pretty, chaperoned by Capt. W.'s mother, a noble looking old lady, well fitted to keep us all in order.

We got on the boat at early dawn, and at breakfast noticed that the attention of one or two strange gentlemen was attracted towards our party, and just before dinner Capt. W. came in and said that he had been introduced by the captain of the steamer to several gentlemen, who being unaccompanied by ladies, desired the pleasure of an introduction to the ladies and an admittance into the ladies' cabin. It so happened that Capt. W. was the only gentleman on the boat in company with ladies, and he had more than hands and heart full, with so many to attend to, and I suspect was somewhat smitten with the dashing widow, and therefore a little selfishly wished some of us off his hands that he might be more at her especial service. After promising his mother that he would introduce no one the captain of the boat would not stand sponser for, he went forward and returned accompanied by four gentlemen, who were respectively introduced as Judge T., Dr. S., Mr. M., and Dr. K.; a lawyer, two doctors and a merchant.

The ladies were not sorry to have a little more of the male part of creation to wait upon us, as Capt. W. could not take charge of more than two at a time, and one of them was certain to be the widow, be the other who she might, and it was more pleasant to have a whole beau even if not so amusing, than a piece of one, be he never so agreeable.

Dr. K. fell to my lot that day to wait upon me to the table, and I speedily found that Dr. K. was of a little more consequence in his own opinion than any other august personage in the world. He soon informed me that his father was the governor of the State of ——; his mother and sisters were most beautiful and accomplished women; his family not to be surpassed, and not often equaled this side of the great pond; his residence in L——, noted for its beauty and elegance, and altogether the K. family and Dr. K., in particular, were not to be sneezed at. I pretended great interest in his conversation and "humored his folly to the top of his bent." It helped pass time, and then he was rather a new specimen of the genus homo to me at that time. I am not so young now as then, and have seen a little more of life. That evening the gentlemen spent in the cabin with us. We had some fine singing from the widow and Capt. W——, both of whom played the guitar, and had splendid voices. Dr. K. joined in with a good tenor, and then told us compliment after compliment that he had received on his voice from various notabilities. Finally, however, I succeeded in getting Capt. W—— started on his Mexican incidents and he told us some thrilling hair-breadth escapes from the guerrillas, and some of them were very narrow escapes indeed. He kept us fascinated and enchained until quite late, only interrapted by questions from Dr. K—— and remarks as to what *he* should have done under like circumstances.

After the gentlemen had bidden us good night we doffed our dresses, slipped on our dressing gowns, and, women like, gathered round the stove in the ladies' cabin to discuss at one and the same time a nice little lunch we had bribed out of the chambermaid, and our new acquaintance, Dr. K., came in for no little share of laughing comment, and I got nicely teazed about my attendant—he having selected me again to wait upon to the table because I listened so well, I suppose—and I was asked what I thought of "I, my and mine," as they dubbed him.

While laughing and chatting, some of us doing up our hair for the night, we were startled by the cry of "Murder! murder!" and, frightened almost to death, jumped up; some running to their state-rooms, some of us towards the doors leading into the main cabin, to try and find out what was the matter, for of course everything terrible we could think of came up—the boat on fire, men killing each other over the card table or at the bar. What was it? What on earth was it? At the door Captain W. met us, and bade us be quiet, as the cries were only caused by a gentleman having the nightmare. The revulsion of feeling almost threw some of the ladies into hysterics, but finally we all settled down, and the night passed quietly.

The next morning Dr. K. did not appear, nor did we see anything more of "I, my and mine," until we reached Louisville, for he had been the nightmare sufferer who had so alarmed the boat. On retiring to rest that night, he had taken the under-berth, dropping to sleep while his head was full of the tales told by Capt. W. He dreamed that he was in Mexico, and that he had somehow strayed out, and the guerrillas were after him. Just as a lasso thrown by one of them fell over his head, the occupant of the upper berth happened to turn over. His weight being great, the berth weak, it gave way, and down they came on poor Dr. K——, who, startled out of his frightful dream in so singular and so frightful a manner, could not collect his scattered thoughts sufficiently to realize where he was, and, thinking his dream a reality, commenced his cries of "Murder!" His screams and struggles, united with the oaths and remonstrances of his room-mate whose berth had given way, Capt. W. said was the most ridiculous sight he had ever witnessed; and the laughable spectacle he had made of himself so completely cut down Dr. K—— that he never left his state-room during the rest of the trip, and so I was cheated out of my beau; nor did he come to take leave of us when we landed. Poor man! it was too bad that his *amour propre* should be so wounded; but I always think of Dr. K—— and his downfall when I meet with a specimen of Ego.

CLAIRE.

[OFFICIAL]

STATE LEGISLATURE.

DEBATES OF THE SENATE.

In the Senate, on Tuesday evening, October 20, 1868, under a suspension of the rules the report of the committee on claims upon House bill No. 248, an act for the relief of Martha Waters, having been read:

Mr. Lynch—Mr. President, I dislike very much to oppose a bill of this kind, but I do not see how we can appropriate money in this way. I can see how gentlemen can put their hands into their pockets and assist such persons, but it is quite another thing to vote the money of the State. I am willing to contribute as liberally from my own pocket as I can for this lady, but I cannot support this bill. It is wrong in principle and sets a precedent which will be ruinous.

Mr. O'Hara—I will only remark, Mr. President, that this lady on the 30th of July lost all the money she had. She is a very old woman, and as regards the loss the committee on claims of the House examined the evidence and reported favorably on the claim. That is all I know about the case.

Mr. Lynch—It seems to me it would be competent for her to sue the city; it is for the city to pay, and not the whole State. I understand from a senator that she is now suing the city. Now, if it is necessary that she have money to prosecute her claim against the city let us put our hands in our own pockets and assist her. But it seems to me very unwise and impolitic to establish such a precedent.

The yeas and nays being ordered, the bill was passed—yeas 19, nays 5.

Mr. Anderson having, under a suspension of the rules, introduced a resolution appropriating one hundred dollars to A. W. Roberts, clerk of the judiciary committee, said:

Mr. President, I will state for the information of the Senate that this gentleman is the only clerk of a committee not provided for by an extra appropriation. His duties have been as arduous as those of any clerk of any committee. Therefore it is only a simple act of justice that he receive the amount of one hundred dollars.

Mr. Lynch—I disapprove of this whole thing, Mr. President, but if any clerks are to receive extra compensation, the clerk of the finance committee, Mr. Peralta, who has done more work than any other clerk connected with the Senate, is entitled to it.

Mr. Anderson—I move to amend that the clerk of the finance committee receive the same extra compensation.

Mr. Day—I move to amend that the clerk of the committee on contingent expenses receive the same extra compensation.

The amendments were adopted and the resolution passed.

A communication from the House, announcing the passage of House bill No. 154, "an act to authorize and require the mayor and Common Council of the city of New Orleans to issue bonds for the redemption of city notes, and the liquidation of other indebtedness," over the veto of the governor, was read.

Mr. Lynch—I call for an executive session.

Mr. Ogden—I second the call.

Mr. Foute—Mr. President, I protest. I rely, sir, upon your discretion and common sense, and your power as president of this Senate, to bring it to order.

The President—I will bring it to order as soon as the lobbies are clear.

Mr. Foute—Mr. President, I do not believe that the last moments of a session, when there are grave questions to be discussed, in which the people of the State and of our city are vitally interested, that debate should thus be cut off and spectators excluded. I wish, sir, to meet this question fairly and openly. I have heard it said, sir, that men are speculating upon this bill. Let it be so. Let us talk about it. I do not desire, nor do I think it just, that there should be a total suppression of debate. I want the doors of this Senate open. I am not ashamed, sir, of the opinions I express here. Sir, this bill has a history. We were deluded with the idea, if it was a delusion, that the city delegation could and would be sustained in doing something for the good of our people. We had clamorous petitions from policemen, and from various school teachers—they call them school marms, I believe, in New England. (Laughter.)

Mr. Whitney—What do they call them in Louisiana?

Mr. Foute—It does not make any difference where they are—they are the same. They are worthy of all consideration and respect. I do not care what they call them here or elsewhere.

Mr. Ogden—I second that. (Laughter.)

Mr. Foute—Now sir, we had petitions coming upon this Senate and to the House of Representatives, and they were appealing to all the authorities that could relieve them, these school marms were. After appeal upon appeal had been made, it was determined to refer these matters to the city delegation. They made me chairman of the city delegation. I declined it, because I thought I was not a financier. They insisted upon it. I then said: Gentlemen, if you will allow me to do this thing in the manner which I consider proper, if you will allow the committee to be instructed in these matters by able financiers of the city, I will act as chairman. They agreed to do so. I sent out then to my city friends. They came altogether, and we took from each man his idea of what was right and proper. Somebody in the House took from this bill the substantial portion, and they passed it before we could pass it in the Senate. They added some features and sent it down here.

The president called Senator Ogden to the chair.

Mr. Wittgenstein moved the doors be opened.

Mr. Foute—Mr. President, I desire to say here that I wish to act openly upon the governor's veto, and let us know how we stand upon this question. I ask the doors be opened. I am not ashamed of my vote upon this subject.

Senator Ogden (from the chair)—I must call the gentleman to order.

The yeas and nays being ordered on the opening of the doors, the motion was lost by six yeas, 19 nays.

The president resumed the chair.

The nominations of E. B. Mentz, for sheriff of St. Mary parish, vice H. H. Pope, deceased, and of J. H. Handy, for parish judge of St. Mary parish, vice Valentine Chase, deceased, were then confirmed.

The President—Does the Senate expect the executive minutes to be published with the other journals? If so, the injunction of secrecy should be raised. I think the Constitution requires them to be published.

Mr. Bacon—I do not know that the Constitution requires the publication of these long lists of yeas and nays on the confirmation of appointments.

On motion of Mr. O'Hara the injunction of secrecy was raised.

Executive session being raised on motion of Mr. Wittgenstein the veto message on House bill 154 was read.

Mr. Ray—Mr. President, I move that the Senate proceed to reconsider this bill according to the provisions of the Constitution, and upon that motion I call for the previous question.

Mr. O'Hara—I second the motion for the previous question.

Mr. Lynch—I hope, sir, the gentleman will not press this matter, but will give an opportunity for discussion.

Mr. Ray—I adhere to my motion for the previous question.

On motion of Mr. Lynch the yeas and nays were ordered, resulting yeas 10, nays 8, and the main question was not ordered.

Mr. Lynch—I regret, sir, that at this late hour this matter is forced upon us. But I cannot keep my seat and see what in my judgment is a great wrong inflicted upon any portion of the State without raising my voice in protest against it. The veto message of the governor has just been read in our hearing. To those of us who have paid attention to that document its arguments must seem conclusive. I do not see how any candid man, having at heart the interests of the city, can vote to pass this bill over the veto of the governor. To me the arguments of his excellency are conclusive, and I fully agree with him in the declaration that it is difficult to conceive the provisions of a bill on this subject which could be more objectionable to the tax-payers of New Orleans than the one now before us. Let us examine it.

First—The bill may force the city to sacrifice one million dollars in six per cent. gold-bearing bonds in order to redeem the city money which was recently in circulation, but now held by speculators. No sane man, having an eye simply to the interests of the city yet without injustice to the holders of this scrip, would for a moment listen to a proposition to substitute for this money six per cent. gold-bearing bonds at a rate less than par. This could be done without the aid of any financial agent as contemplated in the bill, and thus $25,000 more would be saved to the city.

Second—This bill provides for the payment, annually, of $300,000 interest in gold. The city cannot afford to do this. With a fluctuating gold market, it is possible, nay, probable, that the whole tax levied, to be paid in currency, provided for in this bill, to pay the interest and create a sinking fund to retire the principal, will be absorbed by the interest alone. Is it possible to conceive of a more suicidal policy?

In the event the bonds cannot be sold at par, the mayor and financial agent are authorized to negotiate a loan; but there is no limit to this authority, either as to the amount, the security, or duration of the loan. Now as there are near four millions of this city money in the hands of speculators, with no prohibition in the bill to prevent its being received for taxes, what is to prevent these bonds, by sale of them when hypothicated for a loan, there being no limitation in the bill in this respect, from being sacrificed at even less than fifty cents on a dollar? I have nothing against the mayor. What little I have seen of him has impressed me favorably; but is it wise or prudent to legislate so loosely especially when there are such large interests involved? With indications around us in this city, and especially in and around this capitol, are we not highly culpable if we deny the mayor and his financial agent the benefit of the prayer, "Lead us not into temptation?"

Fourth—There should be some check on the mayor in appointing the financial agent, and, if a bond is at all required, it ought to be sufficient in amount to afford protection. A bond for fifty thousand dollars with a responsibility of five millions is certainly a most strange proceeding.

Fifth—This bill, with all the objections specified, has the additional insurmountable objection, that it fails to afford the needed relief to the city treasury.

I need not enlarge on this point, as the message just read puts it with such terseness and strength that no comments of mine will add to its conclusiveness. Besides, sir, I hold that this bill was killed so dead by a vote in the House yesterday that no legislative power possessed by us can bring it to life again. That we may get this point properly before our minds, I ask the secretary to read the official statement from the chief clerk of the House of Representatives of the action had in the House on this subject some thirty-six hours ago.

The secretary read the following:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
STATE OF LOUISIANA. OFFICE CHIEF CLERK,
New Orleans, Monday, Oct. 19, 1868.

To the President and Members of the Senate:

Gentlemen—I am directed by the speaker to state that House bill No. 154, an act to authorize and require the mayor and Common Council of the city of New Orleans to issue bonds for the redemption of the city notes and for the liquidation of other indebtedness—vetoed by the governor, was called up and reconsidered.

The speaker put the question: Will the House agree upon reconsideration to pass the bill?

Yeas and nays ordered, resulting as follows: Yeas 50; nays 27.

There not being two-thirds of the members voting in the affirmative, the veto was sustained.

Mr. Pierce moved to reconsider the vote.

The speaker decided that a vote upon the passage of a veto bill could not be reconsidered according to Barclay's manual, (page 191.)

Appeals from the decision of the chair were taken and withdrawn, and the motion to reconsider was withdrawn.

TUESDAY, October 20, 1868.

Mr. Pierce, of Livingston, moved to reconsider the vote whereby the governor's veto was sustained, and called the previous question.

Main question ordered.

Mr. D. H. Reese in the chair.

The speaker pro tempore decided the question in order.

Mr. Kent raised the following point of order:

That a speaker pro tempore could not reverse a prior decision make by the speaker of the House on the same question.

The speaker having resumed the chair, decided that the point of order of Mr. Kent, of St. Helena, was well taken.

Mr. Pierce and Mr. Dewees appealed from the decision of the chair.

Yeas and nays called, resulting as follows: Yeas 24; nays 49.

The decision of the chair was not sustained.

Then the vote to reconsider was put, resulting as follows: Yeas 48; nays 25.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

The speaker then stated that by order of the House he would again put the question to the House. Will the House, upon consideration, agree to pass the bill?

Yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows: Yeas 53; nays 19.

There being a two-thirds vote cast, the veto was not sustained, and the bill passed, and notice was ordered to be sent to the Senate.

WM. VIGERS,
Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.

I assert that when the speaker of the House of Representatives announced the vote which failed to pass the bill over the governor's veto, the whole matter then stood as if the bill had never been before either branch of the Legislature. If a bill may be reconsidered 36 hours after its passage or defeat, what is there to prevent its being reconsidered six months hence? Even if the bill was just what was needed, the only way to bring it before the Legislature again is to introduce it anew, and have it passed through its several readings regularly.

Gladly, Mr. President, would I pause here, fully convinced that the case is clearly made out, and satisfied that the veto of the governor ought to be sustained without hesitation on the part of any senator on this floor, who will not allow himself to be influenced by what may seem to be a present personal benefit to himself, to ignore or barter the interests of the State, or the city whose agent he is as a legislator.

I would not willingly say a single word that directly or indirectly would reflect upon the character or conduct of any one belonging to either branch of the Legislature or any department of the government. But a sense of duty to the city and the State compels me to probe this matter to the bottom and lay bare in all their deformity the influences brought to bear to secure the passage of this bill. A man who stood behind me just a moment ago handed me this note which I hold in my hand. He stated that it had been handed to him in the outer hall by the man whose name is signed to it, to pay for his influence in securing the passage of this bill. He further stated that he was not in market to be bought in this way and consented to my using this document as I deemed fit. I ask the secretary to read it for the information of the Senate, the city and the State.

The following note was then read by the secretary:

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 20, 1868.

I hereby agree to pay to bearer the sum of two thousand dollars out of the profits of H. B. 154, to be paid when bonds are sold and city money purchased. JNO. B. HOWARD.

Mr. Lynch—I have another document here which throws more light on this dark subject and goes to show the magnitude of the plunder and utter recklessness and wickedness of the means resorted to by those interested in the passage of this bill. This paper, you will observe, is signed, sealed and stamped in due form according to law. On its back is the indorsement "Jno. B. Howard." It was put into my hands by the worthy private secretary of the governor, who, although he may be poor, had the honesty to spurn the bribe with contempt and the manliness to put this document in my hands to be used as I thought proper. I ask the secretary to read it.

The following was then read by the secretary of the Senate:

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 15, 1868.

I, John Newman, of New Orleans, Louisiana, hereby agree with John B. Howard, attorney at law of said city, to pay to the order of said Howard one interest in the profits to be derived from the negotiation of $5,000,000 city bonds to be issued by the city of New Orleans under authority of the General Assembly, and for the redemption of city indebtedness, said interest not to be less than ($50,000) fifty thousand dollars, to be paid out of the profits of House bill No. 154, as soon as said profits are realized. This in consideration of legal services rendered in the preparation and management of said bill, and on condition of sale and negotiation by (said Newman) me as financial agent of the city of New Orleans.

JOHN NEWMAN.

"*Profits of House bill* 154!" Profits, sir, implies buying and selling. Buying and selling necessarily include the idea of *something bought and sold*. What is this article of commerce out of the profits of the sale of a certain indefinite quantity of which, this John Newman proposes to pay $50,000!! In the name of God where are we! In what age do we live!

"Can such things be
And overcome us like a summer cloud
Without our special wonder?"

Aye, and our scorn and supreme contempt!

Mr. Ogden—Will the senator allow me to interrupt him one moment?

Mr. Lynch—Certainly.

Mr. Ogden—Will the senator give the name of the gentleman who handed him the note?

Mr. Lynch—I believe his name is Mader.

Mr. O'Hara—I very strongly suspect that Geo. W. Mader was himself the author of the note.

Mr. Bacon—I have not the slightest doubt but that such things have been done, and the money paid!

Mr. Lynch—An honorable senator on this floor, whose character for truth and integrity is above suspicion, told me that on his way to this chamber a while ago $5000 were freely offered in the hall for a single vote. Another senator of equal integrity and veracity states that since this discussion began a slip of paper was put into his hand offering thirty thousand dollars for his influence in favor of this monstrosity.

I am called, sir, a carpet-bagger. If that term means that I have not always been a citizen of Louisiana, it is true. But here is my all. My interests are all identified with this State. Here is my home. I rejoice in all the State does through her representatives which is honorable and enobling; but as a citizen of the commonwealth I feel the blush of shame burning on my face as these deeds of dishonor and corruption are brought to light; and as a member of this Senate, I feel degraded at being brought in contact with such deeds of plunder and baseness.

I appeal to senators as they desire to preserve the honor and fair fame of our State abroad; as they wish to secure the respect of our citizens at home; above all, as they desire to cherish within themselves purity of motive, an honesty of action, vote so as to rebuke these men. Let us teach these Shylocks, these vultures on the body politic, these wreckers on human society, who prey upon the very vitals of the State, and who eat up and consume her substance without producing anything; let us teach them such a lesson by our vote upon this occasion, that they will never again dare approach us with their schemes of infernal and damning infamy! We owe to ourselves, we owe it to the Senate, we owe it to the State at large to reprobate and scorn the plots and the plunder of these Howards and these Newmans, whose very presence in and around this capitol to-night pollute the very atmosphere we breathe.

Mr. Braughn—I move that a committee of three be appointed to investigate this matter.

Mr. Ogden—The reputation of the Senate is at stake. I second the motion to investigate this matter.

The motion was adopted, and the president appointed Messrs. Braughn, Lynch and Bacon.

Mr. Braughn—Will the president appoint the committee to investigate about that note?

The President—I have appointed the committee: Senators Braughn, Bacon and Lynch.

Mr. Braughn—I move the committee be allowed to retire.

Mr. Bacon—Mr President, there's a rule of this Senate that committees shall not sit during the session of the Senate. Besides, sir, I do not want to be put out of here and take two votes from sustaining the veto to one against it.

Mr. Jewell—I move that they, at the same time, investigate the document in the governor's office.

Adopted.

Messrs. Braughn and Lynch, of the committee, then retired from the Senate.

Mr. Poindexter—Mr. President, I think the senator from Carroll failed to prove that any senator has been influenced by wrong motives in this matter. Now I do not see why such a question should come up before the vote is taken on this bill. I never have heard such expressions from any senator before, and I do not know what to make of them. I think the vote should be taken before he pretends to question the motives of any senator upon this floor.

Mr. Bacon—Mr. President, I do not arise with a view of expressing myself upon the demerits of this bill. I have fully stated them heretofore. I do not wish to impugn the private or personal character of the mayor of this city. He is a gentleman whom I have long known, and I have for him the highest respect. I believe him to have honest intentions, but I am unwilling to place in his hands such power as this bill gives him. I am unwilling to see the city of New Orleans taxed to pay in gold with interest for notes which are worth only sixty cents on the dollar, not merely to pay them in full at that rate, but to allow the bonds of the city to be paid in gold, to be sold at a discount of twenty per cent., in order to meet the interest. The bill which was proposed in the senate at first, and which, to my surprise, was withdrawn by the senator in whose hands it was confided in order that this one might be introduced, and come down here. That bill was fair and right, and provided that the bonds of the city of New Orleans, bearing eight per cent. interest in currency should be given in exchange for these city notes at par, with no cost of a financial agent and no discount upon these bonds to go into the hands of the holders of these notes.

Sir, when that bill was first proposed in this Senate, a senator who was not interested in New Orleans, who had no business or employment in New Orleans, paid no taxes in New Orleans, and I do not know whether he pays taxes anywhere, moved that New Orleans bonds might be at 80 cents on the dollar, and moved to strike out the clause which the House had put in that the person who sold these bonds should be appointed by the mayor *by and with the advice and consent of the Board of Aldermen*, and when, sir, we had placed in the bill a clause providing that in a short time these notes should be brought in and exchanged for bonds, and for the taxes collected in United States currency—so that by it what was due by the city to its employés might be paid in such bonds as they could use—this clause was stricken out and in that shape it was sent to the House.

Now, sir, what has been the motive for this extraordinary action? I will not say. I have but one opinion, sir, in my own mind, whether I express it or not. But, sir, I desire to say on this last day of the session of the General Assembly of 1868, that I do not charge this dishonesty solely upon Republicans! I say, Mr. President, that the Republicans of this State are not alone tainted with dishonesty. I say so as a Democratic senator, representing a Democratic district of this State. Sir, it is as dishonest to offer a bribe as to receive one, and it is as dishonest for a Democrat to receive a bribe as for a Republican.

Mr. President, some time ago when another bill had been passed through this Senate, and through the other House, of which every one is ashamed, I offered a resolution here touching that and other things, in which I asked an investigation into the subject. But, sir, it was shoved out of the way, and was never permitted to come up again. Now, sir, I do not wish to speak at length upon this bill; but I wish to say that if dishonesty is to be charged upon the General Assembly of 1868, I, for one, shall not charge it to the Republican party alone.

Mr. O'Hara—Mr. President, I do not wish to speak of the merits of this bill, but to throw as much light as I can upon this great bomb shell or firebrand that has been thrown into our midst by the senator from Carroll. I am as well satisfied, sir, as a man can be, that the man who reported it knows nothing about it. Fifteen minutes before I came in the gentleman who presented that note to Mr. Lynch, came and begged be to sustain the governor's veto. He said nothing to me then about any such note, and the reason I think the note came from, George W. Mader, is that I saw him pass up the aisle with it in his hand. The next moment the note was exhibited by Mr. Lynch, proposing to pay $2000 to a senator for sustaining the bill. Now, I ask any senator who knows Geo. Mader, what is the amount of his influence in this body—whether he could influence the tenth part of a vote? No such character as this shall prevent me from voting according to my conscientious convictions, let whoever may say that I receive two thousand or a million dollars for supporting any measure. I claim to be as honest as any man, and I claim the right to vote as I see fit. Just because this firebrand has been thrown in upon us—because they have dared to impugn the honesty and integrity of those who support this measure, for that very reason I am more inclined than ever to vote to pass it over the governor's veto.

Mr. Ray—Mr. President, I had not intended to make any remarks upon this bill, believing that every senator had considered the matter so thoroughly and maturely that any argument would be useless to change the opinion or votes of any senator, and being very unwell, I had supposed that the shortest way was to come square up to a vote without argument. But, inasmuch as senators have undertaken to argue in favor of the veto message of the governor, and have indulged in some very strong invectives against the bill, I deem it my duty to make some explanation.

Now, Mr. President, let us look at this bill. Neither of the senators who have spoken have undertaken to explain it. I want to look at it in a plain, practical, common sense light, and see if the faults exist which have been charged. If I understand the matter correctly, between 1861 and 1863, about five millions of city notes were issued for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the city government. These notes bore no interest. It was exactly the same as if a loan had been made, without interest, to pay the indebtedness of the city to those who were rendering it service. Now, what would have been the situation of affairs, if, instead of issuing these notes, the city government had gone out into the market to borrow money to defray its expenses? Does any one suppose it could have been obtained at a less rate of interest than six per cent., or eight per cent., or even ten per cent.? I take it that this five millions of dollars is as honest a debt as the city ever contracted. It is held by all classes and conditions of people here—school teachers, policemen, laborers. There are scarcely any of my acquaintances here but hold more or less of this paper. This currency was established by the city for the purpose of paying an honest debt, owed by the city without interest. It is not held altogether by speculators, as gentlemen would have us believe. I will wager that not one-half of it is so held. It is in the hands of all grades of society, and they received it for the labor they performed. It is a debt contracted in good faith. Now, sir, in consequence of no provision being made for taking up this debt, it commenced declining in the market, first to 2 per cent. discount, then 5, 10, 20, and so on, until not more than 60 cents on the dollar could be got for it. Three millions out of this five millions remain unpaid, the majority of which is in the hands of those who received it for their services; and we are upbraided and reprimanded by the governor and those who sustain his veto, because we desire, by means of this bill, to raise money to pay an honest debt! Why, sir, the governor's message advocates flat repudiation when it says that because this money is in part held by speculators they should be compelled to take bonds at their face, the value of which would not be more than 60 cents on the dollar! What is that but repudiation? If you give me your note for money loaned you, and you are not able to pay it when it is due, and I choose to sell it at a discount to some gentleman who has money, is that any reason why you should repudiate the debt? Or are you justified in attempting to take up that note by another note which is not worth more than sixty cents on the dollar? I say it is repudiation on the part of the Legislature to force the holders of these notes to give them up for less than their face. I shall never vote for such a proposition as that, and I am surprised that while the senator from Carroll who supported the Senate bill as it was originally passed, should so strenuously oppose this bill.

Mr. Lynch—I did not support it.

Mr. Ray—I was under the impression the senator did support it. However, that makes no difference? What does this bill propose to accomplish. It authorizes the State to issue five millions of bonds bearing 6 per cent. interest in gold, and authorizes the sale of these bonds for the purpose of raising money to pay this debt, dollar for dollar, as it is their duty to do, even if it does cost them one or two millions to accomplish it. The idea of compelling a man to receive anything less than the face of the obligation he holds, is a kind of financial policy and morals I do not understand.

[Some disturbance here arose at the door of the Senate.]

The President—The sergeant-at-arms will put that man out!

Mr. O'Hara—Mr. President, I desire to explain that this man, George W. Mader, came to the door of the Senate and called for me, and when I went to the door he offered to strike me, and when I resisted he pulled out his revolver.

The President—If the senator will keep his seat there will be no such disturbances.

Mr. Ray—Now, Mr. President, when we look at this bill from a plain business point of view we see none of that injustice about it which gentlemen would have us believe. Let me recapitulate. The first section authorizes an issue of five millions of six per cent. bonds. Subsequent sections provide that they shall not be sold at less than eighty cents on the dollar, and that the money shall be used dollar for dollar to retire this city money. Is not that a fair, straightforward proposition?

The policy of the governor, as laid down in his message, is to repudiate this debt. Is the great city of New Orleans to repudiate an honest debt? To say to those who taught her schools, or cleaned her streets, or performed any other service, at the current price, and received in payment this money at par, you must take in exchange bonds which are only worth sixty cents on the dollar, and lose the interest entirely. It is disgraceful in principle and ruinous to the credit of the city to repudiate a cent of this debt. Better to pay it three-fold.

Now as to the cost of negotiating these bonds, I do not know what they can be sold for. I am not in the financial circle. But gold-bearing six per cent bonds, if they are taken to Europe, with a property of $140,000,000 to back them, will, in all probability, sell for more than eighty cents on the dollar; possibly at par. This bill has no double-trigger work about it; it is a plain, honest proposition. It has been before the Legislature—the essential features of it—for two months past. I myself have talked about it with men connected with the city government, and men that I know owned property, and until recently I have never heard a single objection to it.

Now, sir, a word or two about "influences" brought to bear, either to defeat or to pass this bill. I know nothing about those influences. No approach has been made to me by anybody, nor have I heard of anything of the kind until here on this floor to-night. But I undertake to say here that there is no Legislature in