"Union and Constitution."

"POSTER CLEAR THAT STANDARD SHEET."

The South-Western

BY L. DILLARD & CO.

Office—Corner of Texas and Market Streets,
IN WATSON'S BUILDING—UP STAIRS.

SHREVEPORT:

WEDNESDAY,.....JANUARY 24, 1866.

Thos. McIntyre, of New Orleans, is our only duly authorized agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements.

CLUB RATES.—For the benefit of *Clubs* we will furnish the SOUTH-WESTERN at the following rates for one year:
Five copies.....$20
Ten copies.....30
Here's a chance for our old subscribers to renew their subscriptions at reduced rates.

Now is the time for our country friends to make their purchases. Our merchants are well supplied with goods. Every description of country produce sells readily at remunerating prices. Our people are civil, the troops are civil, and whisky is plenty. Now if all that is not sufficient inducement to bring them in, why let them read our "price current," and that will do the work, sure. If they don't come then, it is *prima facie* evidence that they are flat broke, and we don't care a "kontinental kuss" if they don't come.

COLD-BLOODED MURDER.—Last Saturday, about half-past 11 o'clock, Mr. David Bright, a well-known resident of this place, met his death at the hands of one Wm. Simpson, in the Palace coffee house, in this place, under circumstances that make it appear a cold-blooded, heartless murder. The parties had been together all the forenoon, drinking rather freely, and apparently on good terms with each other. They had just been taking a drink at the bar, and Mr. Bright was in the act of paying for it, when Simpson drew a revolver and shot him through the heart. He fired two shots at him after he had fallen to the floor. Bright expired immediately. Not a word was spoken by either party, and God only knows what incentive Simpson had to commit this diabolical murder. Simpson, in making his escape, met a citizen, whom, at the muzzle of his revolver, he made get out of his overcoat and hat, which he coolly put on, and disappeared. Every effort has been made to find his whereabouts, but without success. Simpson formerly resided in Austin, and other parts of Texas, and is known as a desperate character. We have been informed that he passes with different names at different places. The city authorities have offered a reward of five hundred dollars for his apprehension. The following answers his description: about thirty years of age, heavy set, five feet, five inches high, black hair, heavy black whiskers, badly pox-marked face, and weighs about one hundred and thirty pounds.

Wanted—at this office—Two or three good practical Printers. The best of wages and steady employment will be given. Apply immediately.

We would advise all persons bringing cotton to this place, either for sale, storing, or shipment, to come well flanked with affidavits, to prove the ownership of the cotton. Although the law requiring this has been a force for the last six months, still some of the planters neglect to comply with the requirement. The consequence is, the cotton is shipped to the treasury agent in New Orleans, where it is much more expensive to prove property, pay charges and take it away. No matter if it is only their intention to store it at this place, it is the safer plan to have the "affidavies" on their side. They should also bear in mind that the revenue tax of two cents per pound is collected before the cotton is shipped, and they should come prepared to satisfy the government officials. Our country exchanges would confer a favor on their patrons by jogging their memory in relation to these matters. Tell them to bring all the money they have got, for what little cotton they have left won't begin to satisfy us.

For river news, cotton matters, &c., see third page.

GREAT FIRE IN JEFFERSON.—We learn from Mr. Taylor, editor of the Jimplecute, that Jefferson has been visited by a disastrous fire. The fire broke out about 12 o'clock last Saturday night, in the Violette saloon, destroying the City hotel, and all the block on which it was situated, except R. P. Crump's saloon. Also, the "News" office, and all the block attached. The loss in buildings is estimated from $40,000 to $60,000. The loss of dry goods was small by fire, but a vast amount was stolen. We have no further particulars.

We are pleased to learn that the military authorities have succeeded in arresting some fifteen of the marauders who paid a visit to Mr. A. Leonard's, as noticed by us in our last issue. They were colored troops on detail duty at this place, and were piloted by two confederate hands to Mr. Leonard's. These men are now receiving the punishment they so richly deserve, for their outrageous conduct.

STATIONERY, &c.—Messrs. Stevens & Seymour, 96 and 98 Common street, New Orleans, dealers in printing, writing and wrapping paper, school books, stationery of every description, fancy notions, &c., &c., are in receipt of a large and complete assortment of everything in their line, and fully prepared to fill all orders entrusted to them at the lowest prices. Having dealt extensively with this house for the past thirty years, we can conscientiously recommend it to all who need anything in their branch of business, as more prompt, responsible and fair-dealing gentlemen are not to be found in the country.

We are indebted to Col. Joseph F. Rusha, of the well-known firm of E. M. Rusha, dealer in foreign and domestic liquors, Nos. 54 and 56 Girod street, New Orleans, for a sample of choice rye whisky. Our merchants, and others visiting the city, in want of pure imported wines, liquors and cordials, will find it to their interest to give this old established house a call. They also deal in domestic liquors, of every description.

LONGSTREET, OWEN & CO.—The Hazlehurst (Miss.) Copiahan has the following in relation to this new firm, the card of which appears in another column of our paper:

We call the attention of our readers to the card, in another column, of the new firm of Longstreet, Owen & Co., cotton factors, New Orleans. The senior partner is the well-known Gen. James Longstreet, who, having became a resident of New Orleans, has formed a copartnership with the Messrs. Owen, formerly with Geo. Connolly & Co., cotton factors, and since the war in the house of Roberts & Owen, which was dissolved on the 1st inst. The Messrs. Owen both served through the war in Gen. Longstreet's corps, in the famous Washington artillery, from New Orleans. One attained the rank of lieutenant colonel of artillery, and the other rising to command his battery. Both were wounded in battle. We predict for the new house immense success, and cordially recommend our friends to them.

By reference to our advertising columns, it will be seen that those who ship cotton to the house of Spyker & Sandidge, New Orleans, can have their drafts cashed, to pay government dues, at Johnson & Durr's, of this place, if so desired.

Generally speaking, sensible people trade with those who give them the best bargains. At least, that is said to be the reason why so many persons come so far to buy of E. & B. Jacobs. It is true that a "penny saved is a penny earned," then those of our Texas friends who trade with them must be getting rich. An invitation is extended to everybody to come and buy themselves rich.

Phelps & Co., have made another draw on the New Orleans market, in the shape of dry goods, groceries, wines, liquors, plows, trace chains, boots and shoes, &c., which they are selling low cheap that nobody else can stand.

Report.

...port, as assistant commis... of Louisiana, to major Gen. How... ...ished. It gives evidence of having ...prepared, and speaks of facts in a bold, straightforward manner.

Coming into office as he did, on the removal of the reverend radical, Conway, he made many judicious changes in the machinery of the bureau, which not only won him many friends in Louisiana, but made himself hosts of enemies among the radicals. Some of the radical journals went so far as to charge him with having sold himself to the "rebels," with disloyalty, &c. Although he held the office of assistant commissioner but one month, he done more for the mutual benefit of the planter and laborer than his predecessor did in six months. In this short time he removed many false impressions from the freedmen, inculcated by the doctrines of the Calahan school, and inaugurated a system alike beneficial to both classes.

His first work was to change the programme, which was, in his own language, as follows:

"In my administration of freedmen's affairs in Louisiana, I acted upon the broad, democratic idea that there should be the same code of laws for all; that every exceptional law or regulation for the black man is but a recognition of the spirit of slavery. The steps that I took were necessary to annihilate the distinction of that caste which sprang from slavery. Laws of the State made to govern the white man, while the freedman was in a state of slavery, surely could not be too hard for him when admitted to the benefits and penalties of the same. But there were men who had such a tender regard for the freedmen that, while they were willing that they should accept the benefits of State laws, cried down as an outrage any attempt to render him liable to the penalties of the same. Thus, when I attempted to show officially that the freedmen could be arrested as vagrants, or apprenticed in accordance with the laws that were equally binding upon all free persons, these men were ready to express great indignation at the wickedness and enormity of such proceedings. The idea was constantly held out to the freedmen that they were a privileged people, to be pampered and petted by the government. The effect was most pernicious. It not only gave them expectations that could not be realised, but prevented them from securing civil rights that the laws of the State conferred upon them."

The lack of harmony he found existing between labor and capital, he ascribes to the conduct of a few local agents of the bureau, whose acts were such as to destroy that confidence which should exist between those planters who were endeavoring to give free labor a fair trial and the freedmen who worked their fields. These acts, he says, are done through mistaken notions of kindness to the freedmen.

Probably the most important action taken by Gen. Fullerton while commissioner, and one that gave the most satisfaction to our citizens, was the bursting up of those special tribunals—the freedmen's court. His reasons for so doing we give in his own words:

"The next step taken by me was to direct that no more arrests be made by the officers of the bureau, and to abolish those tribunals of special jurisdiction known as freedmen's courts. I thought it better that, in cases where arrests were necessary, the officers of the bureau should call on the military officers in the vicinity to take cognisance of the matter. By doing so, justice would be equally obtained, and a disagreeable feature removed from the bureau. There are men in the bureau whose prejudice in favor of the black race go so far that they can hear only one side of a complaint, and whose zeal leads them, in many instances, to use the power of arrest that has been committed to them to the great detriment not only of the white man, but also of the black. Wherever a wrong is done the white man, the result is to create in his breast a proportionate hatred of, or enmity towards the blacks. These officers escaped all ill effects of such action except personal abuse, but the black man suffers otherwise.

"By virtue of the laws of the State of Louisiana, both under the new constitution and the old code, all free persons, without regard to color, are admitted in the State courts. The black man has the same right in these courts as the white. He can sue and be sued, and his own testimony can be taken in all cases whether the parties to the suit are white or black. In this respect the laws of the southern States are very liberal. Such being the fact, I directed that all freedmen's courts in the State of Louisiana be abolished, and that the cases then pending in the same should be transferred to the civil courts. I also ordered the provost marshal and agents of the bureau to appear in court in all cases where either freedmen were plaintiffs in suit or being tried, as attorney or next friend, that they should bring suits for them when necessary, and defend them when tried. These officers were also prohibited from interfering in any manner with the proceedings of civil courts. In cases, however, where the civil authority refused to offer relief to the freedmen, or refused to receive their testimony or hear their complaints, as they are bound to do by law, it was ordered that the matter should be laid before the nearest military commander, who would make arrests or take such action as the case required."

On his retiring from office, there were in the State 141 schools, with 10,000 scholars. The cost of these schools was from $17,000 to $20,000 per month. The funds in the exchequer were getting short, and would not keep them running longer than the last of this month.

Numerous complaints of corruption were made to him against employés of the bureau, which, upon investigation, were found not to be groundless. One of the clerks at his headquarters was discharged for accepting bribes from a citizen, though the general tells us he was solicited to retain him, as he was very useful in giving information as to the loyalty and status of citizens. It probably struck the general that a clerk who would accept a bribe from a citizen was hardly a fit voucher for his loyalty.

At the close of his report, the general speculates as follows in regard to the future prospects of Louisana:

"The only concern the planters at present appear to have on this question is: Will the freedman fulfill his contract for work, if we fully and fairly carry out our part of the agreement? They will not work next year as well as we may desire, but better than we have a right to expect. Men who have been suddenly freed, entertaining some false notions of freedom, and in some cases acting under bad counsel of both friends and enemies, are not apt to be at once energetic workers. Gradually the planters and freedmen begin to understand that, for the present, each is dependent upon the other. The planter must have their labor, and the freedmen must have the planters' wages until they can procure property of their own. I speak advisedly when I say that in five years from now, unless some new element of discord intervenes, the freedmen will work as well, and be in as prosperous condition, as any person can desire, and the rich and beautiful plantations of Louisiana will be far better cultivated and more profitable than ever in the past."

Many thanks to Stacey & Poland for a New Orleans paper of the 16th.

LOOSE COTTON.—The cotton factors of New Orleans have signed an obligation, pledging themselves not to employ any samplers, cotton presses or markers, who gobble up the loose cotton as perquisites. This is a move in the right direction, and, if successful, will stop a leak through which many a pound of cotton has disappeared. But it seems that the cotton factors are not to have it all their own way without meeting with strong opposition. The "cotton brokers' clerk association" have passed a resolution demanding one pound per bale as a perquisite, and say that they will not class, sample or mark cotton, when it is denied them. The young gentlemen are certainly very modest in their demand for only one pound, when they could, with the same propriety, have demanded the whole bale. But they are too sharp for that. All they ask is the pound known to their arithmetic—the devil himself only knows how much that is, avoirdupois. They have had this privilege of cabbaging cotton from the planter so long, that they have come to look upon it as an inherent right, and they appear determined to hold on to it. They have no more right to the loose cotton than we have. It properly belongs to the owner of the bale from which it was taken, and not to the man who was paid to sample it. They have just as much right to all the loose change in their employers pockets as they have for this cotton, and would no doubt "perquisite" a little if they had the privilege of sampling them.

ATTENTION, LOUISIANA MILITIA!—Governor Wells, through the adjutant general of the State, in general order No. 1, authorises regimental commanders of State militia to call out their commands for monthly parades, reviews, and inspections; to order out patrols; to authorise the formation of volunteer companies of infantry and cavalry, for the purpose of patrol and police; and to order into immediate service any portion of their commands, in case of any sudden or urgent danger.

COLORED SCHOOLS DISCONTINUED.—The editor of the Natchitoches Times has been shown an order from Gen. Baird, to the assistant commissioner of Natchitoches parish, discontinuing the colored schools after this month. The reason assigned is, that the exchequer is exhausted, with no early prospects of its being replenished. The teachers will be paid off up to the 1st prox.

E. KIRBY SMITH.—This gentleman is now residing with his family at Lynchburg, Va. After leaving this department, he went to Cuba, where he wrote to Gen. Grant, asking whether he would be considered as included in the capitulation and placed on parole. Gen. Grant replied in the most friendly manner, informing Gen. Smith that he would be paroled and placed on the same footing as other Confederate officers, should he return to this country. This letter, in some way, found its way into the dead letter office, whence, after the lapse of several months, it was forwarded to him. Immediately upon the receipt of the letter, he left for this country. Wonder if Gen. Smith made any more by taking the long route through Texas, gulf of Mexico and Havana, to Virginia, than the other officers and who quietly steamed down Red river on United States transports? If the United States government had anything against him for damages done on the other side of the river, he certainly atoned for it by his masterly inactivity on this side.

STEAMBOAT CAPTURED.—The Mobile Register learns from a gentleman just arrived from the Tombigbee river, that the fine steamer Lilly, with 1,000 bales of cotton and a full complement of passengers, was captured a few days ago at McIntosh's bluffs, about fifteen miles from the mouth of the river, by a large gang of desperate outlaws. After taking full possession of the boat, they run her to Karney's landing, where they landed all the passengers, and proceeded down the river with the boat and all its cargo and contents. None of the passengers were molested. It is altogether likely that they will take the boat up one of the tributaries of the Alabama and unload her at some point where they have a gang of confederates to remove the stolen property. This is certainly one of the boldest acts that has ever been committed in times of peace, and would be considered a big thing even in times of war.

NEGRO LOBBY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—The negroes of Cincinnati, in convention, resolved to send one of their number, John Jones, as a lobby member to congress. This action was taken at the suggestion, as it is understood, of the honorable Chas. Sumner, who is anxious that this class of citizens should bring all their "moral pressure" to bear on the present congress.

"STONEWALL" JACKSON'S WIDOW.—The pecuniary distress of this estimable lady are in a fair way of being speedily relieved. From all sections of the south we hear of movements being made to place beyond want the widow and child of the distinguished hero.

MECHANICS—The mechanics all over the Union are forming themselves into associations, and holding mass meetings for the purpose of inaugurating the eight-hour system. "Eight hours to work, eight hours to sleep, and eight hours to play," is their motto. Hope they will succeed, for eight hours per day is long enough for anybody to work, and just eight hours more than we want to put in.

We are again indebted to Blelock & Co., 120 Canal street New Orleans, for late northern papers and periodicals. Almost everything readable can be found at this house.

We had the pleasure yesterday of a visit from Mr. Taylor, of the Jefferson Jimplecute. He informs us that the Jimplecute is in a "weaving way," and that he is on his way to the city to lay in material—among other things, a power press. We are pleased to see this evidence of our cotemporaries success.

DOMESTIC ICE.—Last week we had the pleasure of a call from Mr. Bujac, of New Orleans. He visits this city for the purpose of disposing of the right for making and selling home-made ice, in the parishes of Caddo, Bossier and DeSoto. During the last season, these ice machines were thoroughly tested in New Orleans, and gave general satisfaction. A single machine will freeze 4000 pounds of ice every twenty-four hours. We should think that capital invested in one or two of these machines would pay good dividends in this place, to say nothing of the necessity of having a good supply of ice through the long summer days. We hope some of our public spirited citizens will look into the matter, and give Mr. Bujac a call. He is stopping at the Commercial hotel.

We take pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the card of Mr. Chauncy Ford, who has formed a business connexion with the firm of John P. Manico & Co., No. 128 Gravier street, New Orleans. The personal popularity and well-known integrity of Mr. Ford, in this community, will, no doubt, increase the business of this house. We take great pleasure in recommending him to our friends as a young man every way competent to discharge any duty that may be entrusted to him.

We are indebted to Mr. Chauncy Ford for a New Orleans evening paper, of the 16th.

THE TAX ON COTTON.—The following letter from the revenue collector at Baton Rouge, which we find in the New Orleans Times of the 16th inst., settles the question of where the cotton tax shall be collected, for the present:

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, U. S. INTERNAL REVENUE, Second District La., Baton Rouge, Jan. 12, 1866.

Gentlemen—In your issue of the 3d inst. there appeared, in the "On 'Change" article, a letter from Hon. Wm. E. Chandler, assistant secretary of the treasury, addressed to John Lonque, Esq., surveyor of the port of Memphis, concerning the tax on cotton, which you construed as an exemption on the part of the planters and others from the payment of the duty until the arrival of their cotton in New Orleans.

I have to request that you please notify through your columns planters and others interested in the shipment of cotton from this collection district, that no official instructions have been received at this office directing a discontinuance of the collection of the internal revenue duty; and until such instructions are received the tax will be collected as heretofore.

I am urged to ask this, inasmuch as the article to which I refer has caused much annoyance and trouble to both the shipper and officers of the department, and also because under the law, articles upon which duties are imposed by provision of the law when removed in fraud of the law, are subject to seizure by and forfeiture to the United States. While I have no disposition to obstruct or restrict the shipment of cotton by any planter in my collection district, it must be understood that I am personally responsible for the amount of assessed duties, and that every means possible and proper under the law, must be taken to collect the same.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your obedient servant, HENRY BAUSHER, Jr., Collector 2d Dist.

Should any of our readers be in want of a pair of boots or shoes, and desire to spend their money to the best advantage, we advise them to call upon J. B. Lewis, jr., on the corner of Texas and Spring streets. His assortment of gents boots and shoes, ladies, misses and children's bootties and shoes, is unequalled by any house in town.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCHES OF ALABAMA.—Major Gen. Thomas has issued an order removing the restrictions heretofore imposed upon the episcopal worship of Alabama. He takes occasion, in this order, to complain of and to traduce bishop Wilmer in a style that betrays rather more passion than the occasion calls for. The Nashville Union, in commenting upon the order, says:

The allegations against the moral and religious character of bishop Wilmer, contained in this order, we do not believe one word of. Under the peculiar circumstances of the case, it may have been proper to suspend temporarily the functions of bishop Wilmer; but to hold him up to the condemnation of all religious people, at this time, upon an imputation of *motives*, which we are satisfied never existed, is a Parthian arrow from the commanding general which he might well have retained in his quiver.

AGED FREEDMEN IN VIRGINIA.—A Richmond correspondent of a New York paper writes as follows in relation to helpless and infirm freedmen:

Col. Brown, assistant commissioner of freedmen, having received information that it was contemplated by many citizens of Virginia to turn out of doors, on the 1st prox., all helpless and infirm freedmen, has called the attention of superintendents to previous instructions on the subject.

The owners will be required to provide for their former slaves who are helpless and dependent on them for support, until the overseer of the poor of the counties to whom they belong shall have made arrangements for their care and support.

Gen. Howard approves the order, and states that any citizen who attempts to turn out of doors helpless and infirm freedmen will be immediately reported by name, that his case may be laid before the president for his action.

TRANSIT THE TABLES.—The freedmen of Columbus, Miss., are giving a series of concerts and tableaux, to which white folks and children under ten years of age are admitted at half price.

United States and Mexico.

There are so many conjectures afloat in relation to the course it is thought that our government is going to pursue towards Mexico, that it is difficult to arrive at a true version. The following from the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Times, is the latest and probably the most truthful:

The public are shamefully swindled in regard to affairs in Mexico and our relations with France. In the first place, because the marquis de Montholon went to New York a few days ago, to attend to some private business, it has been stated that he has left the capital on account of the offensive nature of the recent proceedings of congress in relation to Mexico, and that before he left he informed Mr. Seward that the French legation would be withdrawn from Washington in case a minister should be accredited to the Mexican republic. In the next place, industrious efforts have been made to create the impression that Napoleon is anxious to "retire gracefully" from the Mexican business, and that he will withdraw from Mexico all the French troops, "in a little while." Thirdly, it is stated that a coolness has sprung up between Maximilian and the government of France; that the former is satisfied that he can get no further assistance from Napoleon; that he feels his throne to be tottering; that he is convinced that he must abdicate at no distant day; that he has already begun to send his valables to Europe, and that the empress Charlotte's jewels have already been sent over. It is stated, too, that the instructions given to Mr. Lewis D. Campbell, the newly appointed minister to Mexico, require him to hunt up Juarez wherever he may be found; to remain with him and his fortunes wherever he may be driven; and that he will carry to Juarez, from Mr. Seward, the assurance that the United States government will soon compel Maximilian to leave Mexico.

I assure your readers that there is no truth in any of these reports. The relations between the United States and France are of the most friendly nature, and there is no probability that diplomatic relations between the two countries will be suspended. I have very high authority for saying that the emperor Napoleon is quite satisfied with what has been done in Mexico, in pursuance of the plan which he formed in 1861 and 1862, and of his instructions to Gen Forey in 1862; but that he does not intend to retire from Mexico, but to continue his relations with Maximilian, the same as heretofore. I have the same high authority for saying that the French government proposed to Mr. Seward, some months ago, to withdraw from Mexico all the French troops now there, if our government would assure Napoleon that our former policy of neutrality towards Mexico would be continued, and that as soon as those assurances are given, the troops will be withdrawn and not till then. I have received every week, for the last five weeks, intelligence direct from Mexico, from the most intelligent and trustworthy sources, and I know, from this and from other sources of information, that the relations between the French government and that of Maximilian are the same as heretofore; that Napoleon continues to send considerable bodies of French troops to Mexico, 6,000 having landed at Vera Cruz, Bagdad and Matamoras during the last three months alone; and that the provisions of the treaty between Napoleon, Austria and Maximilian, which requires 10,000 Austrian troops to be sent to Mexico, 2,000 every five years, are being really complied with.

Nor is there the least intention, on the part of the administration here, to interfere with Maximilian's government. The appointment of Mr. Campbell is a tub thrown to the whale. It was made from the same motives, and with the same end in view, as Mr. Logan's appointment. Our foreign affairs, under this administration, are managed exclusively by Mr. Seward, precisely the same as they were under the former administration. Mr. Seward sees the necessity of making some concession to the strong feeling in favor of the Monroe doctrine, which has recently found such emphatic expressions in congress; and therefore he caused Mr. Campbell to be appointed in place of Mr. Logan, who declined. But the appointment of Mr. Campbell is not the fact upon which the public should fix their attention. The great point to be ascertained is, why did Gen. Logan refuse to accept the Mexican mission? That is the important point; and on this point the readers of the Times shall not be in the dark.

Gen. Logan was appointed November 14. He was selected because he had identified himself with the Monroe doctrine, and was prominently before the public as an advocate of its enforcement, even by force of arms, if necessary. The democratic press everywhere throughout the country hailed his appointment as affording a sure indication that our policy toward Mexico would be changed, and that our government intended now to take an active stand in favor of the Mexican republic. Gen. Logan himself believed so. But I ascertained, and stated before the end of that month, that he was mistaken, and that, when he discovered that fact, he would refuse to accept the mission. The event has confirmed this statement. On the 8th inst., he had a long interview with the president and secretary of State. For some days previously Mr. Seward had been urging him to accept the appointment. The time had now come when he must decide. He frankly expressed his desire to go to Mexico, if he could be assured that our policy towards that country would be changed. But he declared his unwillingness to go, unless the government intended to extend some substantial aid to the liberals. He was informed that our policy of neutrality toward Mexico would remain unchanged for the present, and he at once and peremptorily refused the mission. What transpired at this interview was kept a profound secret for ten days, and, in the meantime, the public was informed almost daily that Gen. Logan would probably accept. But, on the 21st inst., the Intelligencer announced the appointment of Mr. Campbell, "in place of Mr. Logan, who declines."

Now who can believe that the policy of the administration, on an important question of foreign policy like this, has changed since the 8th of December? Depend upon it, that policy is unchanged. But Mr. Campbell is a different man from Gen. Logan. I believe him to be a man of ability, and a gentleman who would not disgrace the diplomatic service of the country. But he is not particularly distinguished as "a Monroe doctrine man," and his appointment does not carry the weight that Mr. Logan's did. And he was spoken of, only a few weeks ago, by an able and usually accurate Washington correspondent as a hanger-around bar-rooms and saloons, and as a man who had already outlived his influence. What is the precise nature of his instructions, and what his course will be, I am, as yet, unable to say. Your readers may be assured, however, on two points: 1. That there is nothing in his instructions which will lead the liberals in Mexico to expect any aid from the United States, or that will bring about hostilities between the United States and France; and, 2. That the reasons which impel the United States to appoint a minister to the Mexican republic are so well understood at Paris that this appointment will not affect the diplomatic relations between the United States and France.

CHARGE TO A GRAND JURY.—Judge Abel, of New Orleans, in his charge to the grand jury of the parish of Orleans, uses the following pertinent language in relation to the freedmen and their would-be philanthropists:

Men with regular and laudable employment seldom resort to crimes to supply their real or imaginary wants. All true friends of good order and the colored people will teach them the necessity of obedience to the laws, constant and persevering industry, honesty and morality. There are two schools of philanthropists, professed friends of the negro, that appear to be as irreconcilable with each other as they are mischievous to the country and ruinous to the best interest, happiness and contentment of the colored people.

One school teaches them that they are eminently qualified to exercise the right of franchise. The other that they are too ignorant to do their own business, and that it requires a bureau at the expense of millions to do it for them, and that they cannot even be trusted to make a contract for a year's wages. I believe a contract for this purpose must contain nineteen articles, about as pliable as many as the moral law, and must be approved by the bureau, or is void. And yet these people are called freemen. This contract analyzed, will, I think, show a most galling slavery. Hired at exorbitant wages, the money-making sharper will make the poor African strain every nerve; indeed, under a contract so exacting, he cannot well do otherwise. If these people are really free, they should be permitted, under the laws of the State, to contract for themselves, and not hired to the highest bidder from year to year.

Reared by the side of the negro, and for more than half a century observed his habits and considered his capacity, I am of the mind that he is capable of contracting, with a view to his own comfort and best interest, and that many of them are intelligent, well behaved, and sufficiently considerate to vote wisely; but the same stern public necessity that excludes wealthy and intelligent foreigners for five years, and rich and talented women entirely, will, with a thousand-fold force, exclude the African. The admission to that high privilege to millions of negroes who are not only ignorant but many of them stupid, would be a drawback to civilization, a reproach and disgrace to republican government. They would be dupes of arch and wily politicians, or the dangerous instruments of power for wealthy, violent or roguish demagogues. It is said by their professed friends that they will be protected by the bayonet. If bayonets, or, in other words, military rule, is to govern this country, it needs not the addition of negro votes to sustain it. Shunned as they are by their pretended white friends, borne down by the wealth, influence, polish and refinement of a superior race, they can look for nothing but extinction, virtual re-enslavement, or a separate nationality.

The judge disposes of Gov. Wells' secret organization, in the following terse and emphatic manner:

Gentlemen, the intimation by Gov. Wells that he has information that secret organizations exist in this city and State dangerous to good order, would induce me to charge you specially on the law of treason, were I not fully satisfied that Louisiana is as free from the imputation of that crime as any State in the Union. I trust that the information received by Gov. Wells, relative to the existence of secret political organizations dangerous to the peace of the State, is not well founded; and if it should be so, there is no penal law on our statute books denouncing it as an offence.

[illegible] of the Alex Sentinel [illegible] papers.

Later from Mexico.

The Ranchero, of Matamoras, Mexico, of the 5th inst., contains the following

Yesterday several officers and men from the federal side of the Rio Grande crossed at Clarksville, during the day, and took up quarters in Bagdad, apparently for the night. Shortly after midnight, the guard at the ferry, and along the river were surprised, captured and disarmed by thirty above mentioned. Such lighters as were at hand were immediately taken possession of, and with them early the entire military force at Clarksville crossed over, in two separate bodies, making in all one 400 men, mostly negroes.

The garrison of Bagdad, consisting about 175 men, was completely surprised and captured. The commander of the post and the captain of the port were taken prisoners while in their beds. It is said the latter was killed, and the former made his escape. Of the truth of this there is some doubt.

Upon taking possession of the town, the work of pillage and plunder was immediately inaugurated. Every lighter in the place (some fifty in number) was taken possession of, and as rapidly as each warehouse could be gutted, the contents were loaded up and immediately crossed over to the American side.

The gunboat Antonio was called on to surrender; she answered their demand with a broadside, which scattered the filibusters in a hurry. Shortly after, a second demand of the same nature was made, which was answered in the same manner and with a fatal result. She is on her way up the river. An Austrian sergeant on the Antonio was killed. At daylight the French men-of-war in the harbor opened fire, compelling the filibusters to take refuge in the upper part of the town. At last accounts the filibusters were in possession of the town.

The deaths are reported to be thirty on each side. It is stated that the filibusters were under command of one Col. Reed—that one R. Clay Crawford being at Brownsville, upon receiving information of the capture of Bagdad, started for the scene of action post haste. Mexico, the invader, is on your soil with proposes hellish and plots damnable! Let him be women with bloody hands to a hospitable grave!

FROM THE RIO GRANDE—The Matamoras correspondent of the New Orleans Times, under date of the 4th inst., gives the following interesting items:

You have probably heard ere this of the occupation of Monterey by the French. Monterey appears to be of considerable importance to the opposition force outside its walls, but of no use to them in possession of the city, except to levy "forced loans" and then evacuate; when the other party enters and takes possession, continues the same game, and so the game goes on—sport to the "sons of Mars," but mortal death to the pockets of the unfortunate citizens.

Indeed, so alarming has the state of affairs become in Monterey that the better portion of the population are removing from the city to San Luis Potosi, taking with them their specie and all valuable movable goods. Not unfrequently these parties are waylaid by roving bands of guerrillas or deserters from either party, robbed of all they possess, and sometimes murdered because they do not have more to give these cool-blooded cormorants. I need scarcely state that with this state of affairs in Monterey, business in the city is almost entirely destroyed, the inhabitants living in a perpetual "reign of terror."

We have just heard the news here of Juarez, Negrete and other generals and officers of the liberal army crossing the Rio Grande into Texas at Egle Pass. This news has caused considerable excitement and no little speculation among the imperialists as to the cause of this important visit on the part of president Juarez and some of his most distinguished officers to your soil. From the actions and conversation, it is easy to see that it "bodes them no good;" and to tell you the truth, I am a little uneasy myself about this movement, and believe that Washington is their destination.

The night before last a affair of a very serious nature occurred, which may result in a declaration of war from one power or the other on either side of the Rio Grande, if not immediately attended to. I refer to an exchange of shots across the river, in which it is stated that one or two persons were wounded. It appears that a shot was fired from the American side, when the pickets on this side immediately discharged their pieces.

As might be expected an answering volley rang from the "yankees," which was kept up by the parties for some time, until the fair terminated by "authority." At first it was supposed here that one of the American pickets fired at one of the "imperial" pickets, but news arrived yesterday from over the river that a party of Gen. Crawford's command, acting under his orders, were in the act of embarking for this side, for the purpose of capturing a gunboat moored near the city, and that a musket was accidentally discharged, which sulted as described above, and of course frustrated the intended capture of the gunboat.

I learn also that several of the parties engaged in the affair were arrested Gen. Weitzel's order.

MILITARY INTERVENTION.—It will be recollected by our readers that some two months ago, we published a condensed account from the Jefferson papers of a conflict between the civil authorities of Marion county, and the military authorities, growing out of the arrest of Mr. Robertson, a government treasury agent, by the former, and his subsequent rescue, in open court, by the latter. The matter was referred to Gen. Canby, who, we learn from the New Orleans Times, of 10th inst., sustains the action of his subordinates. The following letter from I. O. H. Burbridge, places Mr. Robertson all right the premises:

OFFICE SUPERVISING SPECIAL AGENCY TREASURY DEP'T, THIRD ARMY, TRADE DIVISION, New Orls, Jan. 8, 1866.

To the Public—The New Orleans Times of December 30th, ult., copied from the Trans-Mississippi Bulletin, published at Jefferson Texas, the orders of major J. Cilligman, commanding military district of northeastern Texas, at Marshall, addressed to the district court of Marion county, Texas, in session at Jefferson, ordering the release of R. L. Robertson, a duly authorised agent of the treasury department of this agency, who was held in custody of said court under three separate indictments charging him with felony, found by the grand jury of said county; also, the refusal of honorable P. W. Gray, judge of said court, refusing compliance with said orders, and copy of order read in open court by Gt. J. B. Jones, commanding post at Jefferson, on the occasion of the military release of Messrs. Robeton and Carolan from said custody.

The action of Mr. R. L. Robertson in relation to eleven bales of cotton seized by Jacob Harring, and two bales of tithe cotton claimed by W. F. Connell, for which said indictments were found, was strictly in line of his duty, entirely correct and official, and fully authorised by my instructions to him. After examination into the matter, I have ordered him to return to his agency.

The action therein of Messrs. O. A. Carolan and Chas. D. Carter who was also indicted, was under written orders of Mr. R. L. Robertson, and also has my approval.

A. H. BURBRIDGE, Supervising Agent.

OHIO.—Gov. Anderson, of Ohio, in his message to the legislature, denounces the detention of Ohio volunteers "as police guards to oversee the political reforms in the south." "Still less," says he, "were they enlisted to be marched to the Rio Grande, in order to menace or assail Maximilian, or any other despot." He speaks in virtuous and vindictive terms of Mr. Davis, and argument against the Monroe doctrine.

CHEERING.—The National Intelligencer, of third inst., says it is with great pleasure that we announce the fact, that the present will soon be enabled to crown his great work of conciliation, by a proclamation, declaring that the states whose powers have so long been in abeyance have resumed their proper functions as members of the Union, and that the *Union is restored.*

JUAREZ IN SAN ANTONIO.—The Houston Telegraph, of the 6th, derives information from the San Antonio Herald of the 1st, that Benito Juarez, former president of Mexico, had arrived in the latter city. He came down from Eagle Pass, in company with Gen. Negrette and two other general officers of his staff. The purpose of his visit to San Antonio, the Herald says, is not made known.

DRAFTING IN MEXICO—Maximilian has established drafting in Mexico. The time is six years, and those liable are between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five. The clergy, teachers and some other classes of people are exempt. Persons drafted can commute for four hundred dollars.

THE APPEARANCE OF CHARLESTON.—The following, from the Charleston Courier, would indicate that that important city is again a thriving condition:

On every street and throughfare the marks of energy, industry and enterprise are plainly visible. East Bay, six weeks ago, was most barren of open business places, while now it next to an impossibility to rent a building covered with a roof. Owners of buildings are actively engaged repairing damages occasioned by fire and water and long before the repairs are completed applicants are received to occupy the premises. The same holds good with Meeting, King and other principal streets. There is a great demand for stores and warehouses all over the city. In order to meet this demand, it will be necessary for measures to be taken towards restoring the burnt district to a habitable condition. The rents in Charleston are increasing daily, which is another evidence of enhanced business activity. Stores which three months ago could be obtained for $500 per annum, cannot now be had for less than $1,500 and $2,000 for the same term.

Artemus Ward, the showman, is lecturing in Mobile to crowded houses.

Canadian Affairs.

We extract the following interesting items from the Canadian correspondent of the Cincinnati Enquirer. It would look as though a storm were brewing up that way:

BRITISH COERCION OF THE COLONIES.

The history of political parties in the colonies, and the result of the recent war in the United States, has at last opened the eyes of the British government to the fact that if she would retain her hold upon the north American colonies she must consolidate her power, and build up a government that will rival the United States, under a monarchial form of government. Here we find it now her declared policy to bring about this consolidation of interests in spite of all opposition. With this end in view, she proposes to sell to Canada the Hudson bay territory, and add it to the consolidated power. In this she displays her cunning, for she sees that unless something of this kind is done that the United States is destined to absorb Canada first, and then her other north American colonies one by one, until she will not have a foothold left upon this hemisphere.

THE INTERESTS WORKING AGAINST THIS SCHEME.

This declared policy of England has at last fully aroused the colonists, and the lower provinces are manfully battling for their rights. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and prince Edward's island have emphatically condemned this scheme as oppressive and tyrannical, and now we find the seeds of revolt raising up in lower Canada. The French people, who in 1837 rebelled, are fully aroused. The order of the "Sons of Liberty" is extending all over the province. They are contributing their means and establishing their organs, which wage a fierce war upon British domination and coercion. Already the order numbers about 50,000 good men and true, who, if forced into confederation, will rebel as certain as they did in 1837 against British oppression and wrong. This order is rapidly revolutionising lower Canada to annexation to the United States as the only safeguard against confederation with upper Canada and a certain ruin to themselves.

THE OTHER PARTIES IN SYMPATHY.

In the rebellion of 1837 the Irish population joined hands with the loyalists against the French and upper Canadian patriots, and materially assisted in putting down the rebellion. At the present time we find matters reversed. The Fenian movement in the United States has extended to these colonies, and to-day we find the Fenians of Canada and the French Canadians, whom they fought in '37, standing on the same platform—destruction of British power in Canada, either by gradual absorption or by annexation to the United States. The Irish Fenians and the French Canadians form fully one-half of the whole population. They are pretty thoroughly organised, and number in their ranks many able minds.

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