



The South-Western

Office—Corner of Texas and Spring Streets,
SHREVEPORT.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1868.

THE MANFIELD TIMES asks us, if we had read its statement or rather did not believe its statement in regard to the "disaffection" of the Swedes? We had not seen the article of the Times, otherwise we would have understood the Pleasure, whose statement, without knowing or questioning its author, we assumed to be true, and expressed our sorrow for the fact.

ANTHONY'S CELEBRATIONS.—There was quite a number of patriotic celebrations throughout the parish. There was a Radical affair, we understand, at the arsenal, where cheap beer and cheap patriotism were furnished a delighted audience. At Noel's store there was a large gathering, which was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Barry and our old friend, John Jones—our John the Baptist. We understand there was a barbeque, a large attendance and several speeches at Spring Ridge. Among the speakers were Judge Jones and Major Moncreaf.

THE MINDFUL PUBLISHERMENT.—During the absence of its editor, Mr. Pratt, who is a member of the State Legislature, the conduct of this young and vigorous journal is confided to the able management of the Hon. H. A. Drew. In a short but significant and tasteful notice of this temporary change the Judge says, "The novelty of the new business would be of itself a source of inspiration. If we were younger men, and that in view of this inspiration, he can only draw on the strength of his political sentiments, which, as the Judge is a native and a most worthy native of the State, are true to its honor, its dignity and its ancient fame, and therefore, in direct antagonism with the new order of things, instituted by the Radical majority."

Articles from the South-Western have been copied in other quarters, with complimentary notices, as commending the abandonment of cotton culture by the Southern planters generally. Now, while we are extremely thankful for all compliments conveyed, whether they come left-handed or right-handed, or from any quarter whatsoever, still we feel constrained to explain that it has never been our purpose to inculcate upon our people in any manner the utter abandonment of cotton culture. It is only the variety of our products that we have felt compelled to press upon the attention of our farmers. For the cultivation of cotton negro labor is essentially necessary, and in God's name let that labor be applied. But our climate will generally produce other valuable products besides cotton, and we have wished to instill into the minds of our farmers, the inception of other enterprises which will gradually attract from the choicest regions of Europe, auxiliary labor, which will eventually add to our resources, and develop the valuable products of our soil. Do not abandon cotton, but gradually introduce such varied culture, as would, in the event of disaster, render you independent of Old and New England's supplies. This is the sum and substance of our teachings. It is our advice to our farmers, so far as we pretend to advise. When there is a failure in the cotton crop of this country all classes suffer: general depression reigns through every department; merchants, millers, milliners, ministers, teachers, editors, tradesmen and travelers simultaneously succumb. All go pell-mell, hurry-scurry into the depths of poverty and distress, and there they stay until some benign ray of light in the shape of a prosperous cotton season helps them all out together, and then they begin life anew, as renewed hoops. Now this is not the case in the North-western States, nor indeed in scarcely any other region under the sun. If the wheat crop fails in the North, she has a hundred things to fall back upon. There are hop gardens, and corn crops, and vintage returns, and the manufactures of whisky, and calicoes, and buttons, and domestics, nails, crockery, and so forth. It is this kind of self-reliance that we have thought to be the last resource left to the wretched kings of cotton. Do not abandon cotton; but gradually introduce such other articles, requiring a sparing outlay of time and attention as may in the end insure to your profit and advantage, whenever the exigency of the times shall seem to call upon your rainy day share. We shall from time to time, fall such hints as we think may prove valuable in assisting our farmers in rendering themselves independent of the one-culture, which has hitherto prevailed in this country.

THE LEAVENWORTH LAWRENCE AND GASTON RAILROAD.—We learn from the Galveston News that the Leavenworth, Lawrence and Gaston Railroad is now finished and in operation some thirty miles south of Leavenworth to Ottawa. At least fifty miles more is expected to be completed this year. For its completion to the southern limit of the State, the company has 100,000 acres of Kansas State lands. It is to receive one million of dollars from some of the counties through which it passes. The New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Mobile will meet the Texas Central in three years, and the Texas Central will meet the Texas Pacific in three years. The news says it has recently gone ahead of its present terminus about a hundred miles to secure 8,000 acres of rich land in the fine valley of the Neches. As the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad proceeds, this anxiety increases, as the great central West feels that without the connection with the Gulf it will be at the mercy of the Pacific Road. In fact, the relation of the West to the Gulf is a critical element in the combination which is to make the West the seat of empire, and that chief element is now represented by the Leavenworth, Lawrence and Gaston Railroad.

THE ACTIVITY exhibited by the people in other portions of Texas suggests the enquiry, why has no appeal been made to the people along the Pacific Road, west of Marshall?

WE presume the fact may be accounted for in the unsettled condition of the affairs of the Road, to the suits, judgments, and the sale. Perhaps, too, the new company should be allowed a reasonable time to prepare for the future extension. It is all important for the interests of the Road, that the work should be done early, and an intersection secured with the Central Road, as soon as the latter reaches or crosses the line of the Southern Pacific. We must make the connection, and thus link our way with Houston, Lawrence and St. Louis.

JUDOK MOISE.—The city papers of the 20th, announce the death of E. Warren Moise, in the 57th year of his age, after a long and painful illness. His many friends in North Louisiana will read this intelligence with profound sorrow. The event is, however, not surprising to those who saw his frail form and tottering step last winter. He was ever a man of great soul, and bore his affliction with a manly fortitude that still more endeared him to his friends. Among the many friends of the State, we know no one who was more worthy of his affection. He was a native of Charleston, S. C., but had been long a resident of this State. He was an honorable and useful public man.

Louisiana Legislature and Radical Respect of Popular Rights.

Our people are familiar with the usurpations of the Radical majority in Congress. They looked on in silent wonder at the slow but progressive march of the dominant faction; from its issue, as to reconstruction, with the President, through legislation professedly "outside of the Constitution," over his vetoes, and on through the memorable trial of impeachment, until the final passage of the omnibus bill, with the solemn plea to Alabama written on its face. They saw the Kentucky Democrats deprived of their seats; they saw an extra session of Congress legalize the partisan instructions of Gen. Sheridan, and repudiate the grave opinions of an Attorney General learned in the law. They remember the conduct of Sickles, the folly of Ord, and in this connection, they cannot fail to recall with gratitude, the generous clemency, as exercised by Gen. Hancock, nor can they forget these noble qualities which excited the almost universal admiration of the people, which a Radical majority in our own Legislature would exhibit, after the purification of accomplished reconstruction! Who could have believed, for instance, in April last, that the meek and lowly register, who had been sent here for registration purposes a few days before the election, would today be the honored Speaker of the lower House of the Louisiana Legislature? A man, without pretension to domicile or residence in the parish, and, for aught we know to the contrary, in the State itself; a man who was defeated for the Legislature by a clear majority of two hundred and sixty votes, by his Democratic opponents; whose brief sojourn in the parish terminated a few days after the election, by a mysterious and unregarded disappearance; and of whom nothing was heard afterward, until himself and his defeated colleagues gave notice to their successful opponents of an intention to contest the election, on the ground that their want of a sufficient number of votes to elect them, was due to the fraud, force and intimidation used to drive their dark colored supporters from the polls—of whom nothing was heard, we say, until his election to the speakership of the House of Representatives in the State Legislature, a stranger and a non-resident, defeated by this large majority, is allowed to take his seat without question, is, at once, promoted to the chair of the House, and the duly elected candidates from the parish of Caddo, men of age, experience and respectability, with the certificates of election in their possession, are coolly turned out of the door! Men of Caddo, pardon well over this step, over this visit, this hurried execution of a lawless purpose, to defeat your just rights, to deprive you of the representatives of your choice, merely to supply a place for a stranger to you, or if not an entire stranger, of one only known by his connection with a negro regiment, at one time, on duty here! Is this a specimen of the beneficent civil government, which we are to enjoy under the golden reign of consummated reconstruction? Men of Caddo, we were born freemen. We cannot as freemen submit to this disregard of our just rights. Why? What would submission avail, or, rather what would it not avail? Look now but one or two steps ahead; the next step, what is it? To disregard your choice of your parish officers; to install and commission a Radical sheriff, and all the other Radical candidates of the minority—this to defeat your will! And what next? A militia officer by needy scoundrels, to enforce, at the point of the bayonet, Tennessee fashion, these shameful and infamous proceedings. To this completion it will come at last, and it will speedily come, if by a calm and unflinching resistance to the usurpation of your rights, you do not bear our members have appealed, with success, to Gen. Beauchamp; and we now call upon our constituents elect, not to be taken by surprise, and hand over their offices on presentation of commissions. Refuse to vacate. We have yet courts, or the semblance of them, and must exhaust all civil remedies before yielding in this matter.

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THE AMNESTY PROCLAMATION and its Effects. It is with unfeigned pleasure that we publish in our issue of today the Amnesty Proclamation of the President. It was so generally expected, indeed, that the Southern people would have been greatly disappointed had it failed to make its appearance on the anniversary of our independence. It will go far towards a reconstruction of fraternal feeling; towards renewing the attachment to the Union; towards creating a national sentiment in the South, that will add strength to our republican institutions. As a proof of the spirit and heart of the Executive, it contrasts nobly with the miserably proscriptive policy of the Legislature in Department. As an act of generous clemency, it cannot fail to evoke the warmest gratitude of our people, who will call down blessings upon the head of our president, not only for his own sake, but for the sake of the citizen embroiled under the three following classes: 1st, His rights of person; 2d, his rights of property; 3d, his rights of political rights. We sometimes use the phrase "religious rights," but these do not constitute a distinct class, as they are, under the American Constitution, included under those rights which guarantee freedom of speech and of opinion. The same provisions which secure political rights, such as freedom of speech and of the press, secure religious freedom.

THE AMNESTY PROCLAMATION affects the first of the above enumerated class of rights, as follows: All persons are forever freed from prosecution for any act already under presentment or indictment. We know of but few cases of this kind. The most important and prominent being that of the late President Lincoln, and his participation in the proceedings of this body. The undersigned, therefore solemnly protests against this proceeding for the following reasons: 1. That if the amnesty proclaimed by the President is to be a provision to be applied to the President of the State, it is in all respects subject to the control of the military authorities, and the Hon. O. J. Dunn, a military appointee, must necessarily be governed by the orders and instructions emanating from military headquarters, and in ignoring the foregoing orders, the President of the Senate has transgressed his authority, to the great dishonor of the State. 2. That if the government be permanent character, and possessing all the attributes of a civil government, then the constitutional provisions must govern, and the only oath that can be lawfully required, is the oath of allegiance to the Constitution. 3. By exacting the test oath sixteen Republican Senators were put in possession of the Senate, who then proceeded to organize and to appoint a Committee on Reconstruction, to pass upon the credentials of Democratic members, in violation of military order No. 121, and article 159 of the constitution, which prohibits any legislation until the adoption of the new constitution. 4. That in appointing the temporary officers of the Senate, the President assumed to exercise an authority not authorized by law, and in direct violation of Art. 26 of the Constitution, which limits his powers to the appointment of judges, and the filling of vacancies. 5. That by refusing to recognize the right of the undersigned to participate, the President officer permitted the adoption of a committee report assailing one of our members, and to give to such a committee, upon purely ex parte evidence, by a majority vote of the Senate, notwithstanding the fact that he was called to the attention of the President by one of the Senators, and that the undersigned had been invited to attend the proceedings of the Senate, and to present his protest against the illegal proceedings of the Senate and its presiding officer upon the journal.

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The Peaceable Condition of the South.

With the undoubted cause for irritation and excitement which exist in the unreconstructed States it is a marvel how the Southern people keep so quiet and peaceable. How, with a feeling of freedom at once so palpable, and inheriting a repugnance to military oppression which the war of the Revolution developed and nurtured, we have seen them sitting quietly down for the past three years and peacefully discussing the merits of the Government. Government claims their military dictators with all the facility of a prestidigitator, simply a "Hi, presto!" being all that is required to displace a Sherman and install a new set of military despots. How, with a feeling of freedom at once so palpable, and inheriting a repugnance to military oppression which the war of the Revolution developed and nurtured, we have seen them sitting quietly down for the past three years and peacefully discussing the merits of the Government. Government claims their military dictators with all the facility of a prestidigitator, simply a "Hi, presto!" being all that is required to displace a Sherman and install a new set of military despots. How, with a feeling of freedom at once so palpable, and inheriting a repugnance to military oppression which the war of the Revolution developed and nurtured, we have seen them sitting quietly down for the past three years and peacefully discussing the merits of the Government. Government claims their military dictators with all the facility of a prestidigitator, simply a "Hi, presto!" being all that is required to displace a Sherman and install a new set of military despots.

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The Amnesty Proclamation and its Effects.

It is with unfeigned pleasure that we publish in our issue of today the Amnesty Proclamation of the President. It was so generally expected, indeed, that the Southern people would have been greatly disappointed had it failed to make its appearance on the anniversary of our independence. It will go far towards a reconstruction of fraternal feeling; towards renewing the attachment to the Union; towards creating a national sentiment in the South, that will add strength to our republican institutions. As a proof of the spirit and heart of the Executive, it contrasts nobly with the miserably proscriptive policy of the Legislature in Department. As an act of generous clemency, it cannot fail to evoke the warmest gratitude of our people, who will call down blessings upon the head of our president, not only for his own sake, but for the sake of the citizen embroiled under the three following classes: 1st, His rights of person; 2d, his rights of property; 3d, his rights of political rights. We sometimes use the phrase "religious rights," but these do not constitute a distinct class, as they are, under the American Constitution, included under those rights which guarantee freedom of speech and of opinion. The same provisions which secure political rights, such as freedom of speech and of the press, secure religious freedom.

THE AMNESTY PROCLAMATION affects the first of the above enumerated class of rights, as follows: All persons are forever freed from prosecution for any act already under presentment or indictment. We know of but few cases of this kind. The most important and prominent being that of the late President Lincoln, and his participation in the proceedings of this body. The undersigned, therefore solemnly protests against this proceeding for the following reasons: 1. That if the amnesty proclaimed by the President is to be a provision to be applied to the President of the State, it is in all respects subject to the control of the military authorities, and the Hon. O. J. Dunn, a military appointee, must necessarily be governed by the orders and instructions emanating from military headquarters, and in ignoring the foregoing orders, the President of the Senate has transgressed his authority, to the great dishonor of the State. 2. That if the government be permanent character, and possessing all the attributes of a civil government, then the constitutional provisions must govern, and the only oath that can be lawfully required, is the oath of allegiance to the Constitution. 3. By exacting the test oath sixteen Republican Senators were put in possession of the Senate, who then proceeded to organize and to appoint a Committee on Reconstruction, to pass upon the credentials of Democratic members, in violation of military order No. 121, and article 159 of the constitution, which prohibits any legislation until the adoption of the new constitution. 4. That in appointing the temporary officers of the Senate, the President assumed to exercise an authority not authorized by law, and in direct violation of Art. 26 of the Constitution, which limits his powers to the appointment of judges, and the filling of vacancies. 5. That by refusing to recognize the right of the undersigned to participate, the President officer permitted the adoption of a committee report assailing one of our members, and to give to such a committee, upon purely ex parte evidence, by a majority vote of the Senate, notwithstanding the fact that he was called to the attention of the President by one of the Senators, and that the undersigned had been invited to attend the proceedings of the Senate, and to present his protest against the illegal proceedings of the Senate and its presiding officer upon the journal.

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