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CASA BY ANCHOR.

BY SLOCUS.

The boy stood on the burning deck,
There isn't any doubt;
And yet who saw him on the wreck?
Who really heard him shout?

Would he have stood and roasted there
With jollyboats so near,
And bragged about his fierce despair,
Nor walked off on his ear?

Why not give one good roar for oars?
Assail his pa for sail
To waft him toward the fishing shores?
Why stay aboard and wail?

What wonder, standing there he seemed
So beautiful and bright?
Who couldn't, while around him beamed
That lovely Titian light?

His pow-wow with his father I
Regard as tempting fate;
If he declined to early die,
Why stay there and dilate?

"Pa, can't you speak—a little piece!—
Just try a sneeze or cough;
My nearest kin, kin you release,
Or are you, father, off?"

And while his father slept below
The boy, he never stirred;
One of the "race" who never 'go'
Unless they "get the word."

He called aloud, "Am I allowed
Your leave to leave? Your son
Stands fire, you know, but don't you crowd
The thing; I'm toasted done.

"Of course I'll do what you desire,
If you're laid on the shelf;
I burn with ardor—but, this fire!
You know how 'tis yourself.

"Speak, father, I would be released!
I list your loving tones."
He knew not that his pa deceased,
Had gone to Davy Jones.

Upon his brow he felt the heat,
Yet stood serene and calm,
With only now and then a bleat,
Like Mary's little lamb.

The yards and spars did burn and snap
All in the wildest way;
Not e'en a shroud was left the chap,
And he the only stay.

There came a bursting thunder peal—
Good gracious! Pretty soon
Boy, ship, and anchor, flag and keel,
Went up in a balloon.

And when this sound burst o'er the tide,
The boy! oh, where was he?
Ask the winds, for none beside
Stayed long enough to see.

With mast and helm and pennon fair,
That acted well enough,
The sickest thing that perished there
Was that young sailor muff.

Now, boys, don't take a cent of stock
In Cas-a-bi-an-ca;
The spots from such a son they'd knock,
Our young A-mer-i-ca.

FROM MISSISSIPPI.

[Correspondence of the Republican.]

IUKA, Miss., August 28, 1871.

In this hilly portion of Mississippi the summer is fast passing away, and the trees are changing their green livery for the "sere and yellow leaf." The cotton fields around are beginning to look as if a small snow storm had passed their way, liberally depositing its whiteness to deck the green it found. This being the country of small farms and few bales, however, we do not find the farmers anxiously seeking everywhere for pickers. In the bottom lands of the State they are kept in an unenviable fix all the year round—first to get hands, next they are dreading that destroyer so fatal to King Cotton's glory, the worm, and no sooner are all fears of that over than it is discovered that more hands are needed to pick the crop.

During the first few years of freedom the negroes, unaccustomed to providing for their own subsistence, imagined when planting "on shares" that they commanded the same resources their masters had prior to the war, unlimited credit and entire benefit of the crop when sold. Laboring under this delusion, so natural to ignorance and inexperience, when the season for picking cotton arrived they usually, with very few exceptions, found themselves in debt for more than the amount of their shares, leaving them penniless and with no means of support until a new year should usher in a new contract and fresh supplies. Many losing all interest in the crop they had made, left and sought employment on adjacent farms as pickers, in order to get a little ready money, but guiltless of any intention to defraud their former employers, as they had never been taught the weight of moral obligations. The farmers, finding themselves losers by such a state of affairs, sought to remedy the evil, and by patience have succeeded in putting other plans in operation, accruing to their own advantage as well as to that of the negro. By making him a tenant of a small piece of land, giving him a year's rent, perhaps, for the cabin he builds on it, they place him in a position of responsibility, and his pride and natural ambition make him faithful to his trust.

He feels all a planter's glory in his little cotton field, and discusses, with their wonted pride, the bushels of corn he will make, the number of chickens his wife has raised, and exhibits with delight his fat hogs, and sleek, well fed cow and horse.

Iuka boasts of quite a variety of mineral springs, chalybeate, sulphur and alum being the favorites. These springs are situated in a low place, termed, in town parlance, "the springs lot," and are surrounded by many hills, each crowned by the cottage home of some worthy citizen. Truly, it is a town built upon hills, for they outnumber the famous seven of Rome in the days of yore.

When the heat and dust of city life become insupportable, the Memphians flock hither in crowds, and every house is filled with boarders. Heretofore there has been a large hotel for the accommodation of the gay and lively ones who delighted in bustle and dancing; but it will be remembered that it was burnt last winter, thus depriving the little town of a great convenience, as well as its chief ornament. Every evening the springs lot is visited by nearly every one in the town. It is a place of universal resort, and there you are sure of meeting many acquaintances and friends. Cups in hand, they stand chatting beside some favorite spring, welling up as cold as ice in its stone basin; or strolling beneath the beautiful trees, under which are many rustic seats. Afar off, in one corner, we see a large crowd, and under the trees a white pavilion covers the attraction, yclept the flying ponies. Old and young, men, women and children, everybody in Iuka rides on the tiny, swift little ponies. They furnish a cheap and universal source of amusement, and Iuka would scarce be itself bereft of its ponies.

Just here let me say that Iuka is indebted to New Orleans for another source of amusement, the "dancing platform." An enterprising Frenchman, Monsieur Terro, came here from your town and established a confectionery in the springs lot, building in front of it, under huge trees, a platform forty feet square, where all were free to bring their music and dance. One may well imagine that the fun-loving villagers appreciate this evidence of a Frenchman's knack of pleasing, and patronize his candy shop liberally.

We hear but little of politics in this quiet country town. Were it not for the REPUBLICAN's visits, one would scarce know that the Customhouse faction, with its high-handed measures and bold stroke for self-aggrandizement, was seeking to tear your State asunder, and revive the war time terrors with its bayonets and Gatlin guns.

The party split in Mississippi, it seems, reverses yours, since the Governor here heads the bolting party. Naught else should have been expected by the Republicans when they placed the "Forder of the Rubicon" in the gubernatorial chair, since it has been the distinguishing mark of his political career to "go back" on the party which gives him power. We may assume that he and Carter are kindred spirits. The "Alcorn money" is in circulation here, but a very feeble circulation it proves to be, for it is only taken by those who are compelled to accept it. Indeed, money does not seem to be so plentiful up here as in Louisiana, and we hear many complaints of the scarcity of it.

About four miles from town there is, we understand, a very fine millstone quarry. An old Scotchman is working it, but whether to any advantage we are not informed. It is the only one in the State, and should be very remunerative if properly managed. Near it is found the finest quality of potter's clay, and also several coloring clays which might be used with it to great advantage.

Like all Southern towns Iuka is agitated on the railroad question just now, several projected roads passing through Tishomingo hold out out hopes to the Iukans that they may possibly give their little town a lift by honoring it with their presence. We hope it may be so, for a kinder-hearted, more hospitable people are not to be found in the South than here. The approach of autumn is carrying off the visitors and ere long we shall see and write you what Iuka is like when it has sunk into the quiet of its winter existence. Adios. R.

THE WISCONSIN REPUBLICANS.

Platform of the Party.

At the Wisconsin State Convention, on the thirtieth ultimo, the following resolutions were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That we refer with patriotic pride to the history of the Republican party of the United States by its early response to the encroachments of slavery; by its patriotic devotion to the cause of the Union during the late civil war; by its emancipation, at the proper time, of an oppressed people from bondage; by its signal overthrow of disloyalty and treason; by its justice, firmness and magnanimity in guarding and securing the results of war, and giving and assuring to all citizens liberty and equality before the law; by its grateful and just provision for the nation's defenders; by its honor and good faith toward the nation's creditors; by its wise and liberal policy in granting homesteads to settlers and in aiding the development of Western States and Territories; by its successful advocacy of human principles of international law not hitherto recognized by the civilized world; by its peaceful settlement of our controversies with Great Britain on terms honorable, advantageous, and tending to secure permanent peace and concord between the two nations; by its judicious direction of our financial system whereby the nation was enabled to meet the emergencies of a great war, to furnish a sound and uniform currency, and to prevent the commercial depression, revulsion and disaster attendant upon civil strife, and generally by its successful administration of national affairs during the eventful years. It has proved on all occasions its fidelity to the highest interests of the country. A party whose career has thus been signalized at every step by great triumphs of human freedom and progress needs not to depart from the path of honor and duty in which its victories have been won; and we believe that upon its continued ascendency and steadfast adhesion to its cardinal principles the peace, prosperity and honor of the country depends.

2. That we regard the recent amendments to the constitution of the United States as just and wise articles of organic law, essential at the present time to secure constitutional liberty, and will use every effort to zealously uphold and enforce them; that under the constitution thus amended, the federal government possesses, and ought to exercise whenever and wherever necessary, sufficient power to protect every citizen under our flag in a free expression of his sentiments, the free exercise of the ballot, the full enjoyment of his property, and the absolute safety of his person.

3. That we greatly rejoice in the recuperation of the Southern States under the benign influence of free labor; that we urge upon those lately in rebellion not to retard the prosperity of the South by permitting lawlessness and violence; that we entreat them to take a bold stand for law and order, to assist the result of the war, and to co-operate with us in efforts to advance the prosperity of the whole country. And we hope that the time may shortly come when the persecution and outrage of loyal citizens shall wholly cease, and when political disabilities, imposed for participation in the rebellion, may be removed without danger to the rights of those who have remained faithful to the Union.

4. That we believe the prosperity of the country and the stability of its monetary system, as well as its credit and influence in the family of nations, depend on the maintenance of public faith. To that end we favor a continued reduction of the national debt, so steadily as to prevent depreciation of our bonds and currency; so gradually as not to burden too heavily the present industries of the country.

5. That, in our judgment, the most efficient and satisfactory means of using a larger portion of revenue to meet the obligations of the government, is from duties on imports; that such duties should be so low as to make sure of the amount required, and to fairly distribute the burden of taxation upon all sections of the country and all classes of people. A tariff for revenue is evidently indispensable, but it should be so adjusted as to be the least prejudical to all interests and to every class and section, and so as never to burden new interests that another may thrive; that the improvements of Fox and Wisconsin rivers is a work of vast importance to the State and nation; we again urge upon Congress to provide for its early completion; that we also call upon Congress to renew the grant of land to aid in the construction of a railroad from Lake St. Croix to Lake Superior, as an act of justice to the settlers of Northwest Wisconsin.

6. That in view of the present rapid settlement of country the residue of the public domain should be kept mainly for actual settlers. Homestead laws should be so modified that when honorably discharged Union soldiers and sailors claim benefits of some of the period of their service it shall be deemed a part of time of occupancy necessary to acquire title. Grants of lands to aid in building of railroads should be made where it is necessary to open the country up to settlement under such restrictions as will facilitate the occupation of public lands; that we favor every practicable reform in the public service, State or national, in the direction of greater purity, simplicity, efficiency and economy of administration; that the administration of our State affairs by our State officers, one and all, has been, in every respect, characterized by such ability, honesty and integrity in the discharge of their official duties, that it demonstrated the wisdom of the choice of the people who have thus honored them with responsible positions, and entitles them to the thanks, esteem and confidence of every citizen of this State.

7. That the administration of President Grant has been wise and prudent. It has impartially executed, faithfully collected, and honestly applied the revenue; greatly reduced the public debt, and enabled Congress to lighten the burden of taxation. It has inaugurated a humane policy in dealing with the Indians—a favor alike to economy, civilization and peace upon our border. It has preserved and strengthened our friendly relations with foreign powers, and has advanced the honor and dignity of the United States among the governments of the world. It has at all times been deferential to the will of the people, and studious to promote the welfare it deserves, and receives our hearty approval.

Resolved, That we know no duty more urgent than to mature and enforce new safeguards for the purity of elections; to effect a thorough reform of the civil service.

New System of Planting.

[From the Sugar Bowl.]

Messrs. Cragin & Fisk, owners of the Magnolia Grove plantation, near Terrebonne station, fully realizing all the annoyances to which planters are subjected because of the scarcity of labor, which causes them to outbid each other to secure the services of a sufficient number of hands, have inaugurated the system of having cane made by the weight, they paying for it when it is delivered at the mill.

After they had finished planting last spring, they made the proposition to the hands that they would sell them the mules, plows, etc., on time—we believe to be paid in annual installments—and each family would be allowed to take as much land as they could cultivate, and the cane, when matured, should be cut and delivered at $1 50 per load; supplies to be furnished and charged to them. The negroes eagerly accepted the proposition, divided into squads, selecting one of their number as a leader, and went to work. Messrs Cragin & Fisk reserved the right of general supervision, and all agreed to obey the overseer; and in the event any squad got behind with their work, their employers had the right to have other hands to help them, at the expense of the negroes. Ditches are to be kept open in the same manner, and they are to make at least corn enough to feed the mules and themselves.

There are about forty negroes working in that manner, cultivating something like 400 arpents of cane and 200 arpents in corn. During the rainy season in May, when the crop promised badly, they became somewhat discouraged; but they finally laid by their crops in good order, and when we visited the place, on the sixteenth instant, and rode all over the fields in company with young Mr. Cragin, we were compelled to acknowledge that nowhere between Houma and the Station could a better crop be found. True, they have a large proportion of stubble, which, like stubble generally this year, is not good, but their plant cane is fine, and the negroes whom we saw are proud of their crop.

Now that the crop is made, the hands are busily engaged in cutting and hauling wood, for which they are paid the usual rates—one dollar for hauling, or two dollars for cutting and hauling.

During the rolling season they are to cut and haul just such proportions of the cane as their employers direct, and to put up for seed whatever they are told. In this case we anticipate trouble, for it will be difficult to determine the weight of the cane preserved for seed—in fact we did not learn whether the seed was to be each year furnished by the planter, or the men were to keep their own seed.

A pair of large platform scales will be put up near the mill, and each car will be driven thereon and the cane weighed. No doubt the weight of each cart will be marked upon its body, but in case of much mud adhering to the wheels it would undoubtedly have to be weighed twice. Before starting a cart will be properly loaded with cane, in the presence of all hands, and its weight shall be taken as a guide; after which every man will be credited with the weight of each load.

To prevent the hauling to the mill of the green tops of the cane, a man will be stationed near the cane-carrier, to watch each load dumped, and for every cane cut too high, the owner will be charged or "docked" fifty cents, which, it is thought, will settle that difficulty.

Of course, no squad can cut and haul the cane which they have made without assistance, so they must hire, or there will be hired at their expense, men to help them. It is thought that the extra work done in the sugarhouse at night, by the regular hands, will fully pay for the extra help necessary to cut and haul their cane.

This experiment is certainly a novel one, and we really hope that it may succeed; but of this we have very serious doubts. The colored people have not, as a general thing, ambition enough to make them successful cultivators on that system, nor foresight enough to know that they can not indulge in idleness, whenever they feel like it. True, the crop can be made by hiring others to assist them, in all emergencies; but in that event, in the end of the year they will find that they have nothing left, and of course will be much dissatisfied. We rather think that this season will satisfy all parties interested, judging from the present appearance of their crop, but we believe that system ultimately can only be successful with white men, or with the negroes after they have greater intelligence than this generation possesses.

It must be said, to the credit of Messrs. Cragin & Fisk, that they are working with the best possible intentions, and are determined to give the laborers all they earn—which can not be determined until after the trial is made. One year's experience will fully establish the value of cane by the weight, and they may be taking a step which will eventually benefit all sugar planters who are seeking intelligent and reliable laborers. We certainly hope the experiment may succeed, for the good of the country.

Alabama Claimants.

The following circular was issued from the State Department on the thirtieth:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, August 30.

Claimants who have not already filed in the Department of State their claims against Great Britain, growing out of acts committed by the several vessels which have given rise to claims generally known as "Alabama claims," are requested to do so without delay, in order that they may be taken into account in presenting the aggregate claims of the United States, to be brought before the tribunal of arbitration, which is to meet in Geneva, in the month of December next. It will not be necessary for claimants who have already filed their claims, sustained by proof, to take any steps under this notice, unless they may have additional proofs to file. No papers already filed will be withdrawn. The claimants must prepare themselves with proof of their claims. This department will, on application, forward to claimants a copy of the treaty and circular showing the form of proof that is advised by the department, in absence of all rules by the tribunal which will pass on the same. The early attention of claimants who have not already filed their claims is invited to this notice.

HAMILTON FISH, Secretary.

The department, in a notice to corporations of individuals, citizens of the United States, who have claims against Great Britain, arising out of acts committed otherwise than by confederate cruisers, between April 13, 1861, and April 9, 1865, inclusive, requests them to send forthwith to Robert S. Hall, State Department, Washington, a statement of their respective claims, showing name and residence of the claimant, nature and amount of the claim with a brief minor statement of time, place and circumstance of the transaction out of which the claim arose. It is expected the commissioners for the settlement of these claims will meet during the month of September.

The Iowa City *Tribune* relates how a horse got even with a cruel hostler: "A few days ago the hostler struck it an unprovoked blow. Three or four days afterward, as the hostler went into the stall, the horse, watching his motion, placed itself in an appropriate attitude, and keeping an eye out for the exact time, threw his foot into the hostler's face with just force enough to make it tinkle and then ache. For the time being they were even, the hostler being too much hurt to retaliate at the time. Their relations were friendly some days. An altercation occurred shortly after, however, of a severe character. The hostler, while taking the air with the horse, became dissatisfied with some of its ways, and gave it a blow, whereupon the horse took his forearm in its mouth, and, holding it with a firm grip between the incisors, bent him over until he lay upon the ground; then, without letting go his 'hold,' picked him up again; then downed him, then picked him up, then shook him to and fro, then shook him again, then laid him down and picked him up, and followed that discipline with another shake. When, after repeated shakes and the leveling discipline, the poor fellow finally succeeded in extricating his arm, it was severely mangled with the teeth of the vicious chastiser, and the aid of a surgeon was called in requisition to dress the wounds."

Experimental Results on Refined Oil—Collins' Petroleum Compound.

We copy the following, for the information of our readers, from the Titusville, Pennsylvania, *News:*

Since the discovery of crude oil up to the present time, great improvements have been made in perfecting the apparatus necessary to be used during the process of distillation. The nature of crude petroleum has been to chemists and pratical reaners a study for years. To actually determine the matter, mineral or otherwise, of which its component parts are composed, has been their aim and object, and with but little success. To control its gaseous nature by distillation they have succeeded, and yet more or less hydrogen gas remains in the oil after the refining process is completed, and different samples of oil taken out of the same barrel or tank containing refined oil has been found to differ materially in the amount of hydrogen contained, and a difference also in the actual temperature to determine the burning point, or at what heat refined oil will ignite when coming in contact with a flame sufficiently near to ignite the gas and set fire to the body of oil. Our newspaper exchanges are continually recording accidents, destroying life and property, occasioned by the explosion of oil lamps and oil cans. It certainly is a foolish proceeding for any person to pour oil out of a can on hot embers, much more so on a fire, with the least particle of flame arising. To all such persons who kindle their fire in this manner, we would advise them to abolish the plan altogether, or to have a small tin cup expressly for this purpose, and pour a small quantity into the cup and then on the kindling. We do not advocate this plan, as we consider it a dangerous one at the best.

Mr. Collins, the inventor of the compound bearing his name, has favored us with a recital of some of his experiments; and to many of which we have lately been an eye witness, as well as others. Mr. Collins claims that the ingredients composing his compound, are by a chemical process known only to him, rendered of a very low temperature, and perfectly and entirely carbonized, and when used in a lamp neutralize the explosive powers the oil may contain. He claims a chemical process is in operation, yet undiscernible to the observer, every time a lamp is refilled, for sixty days, when the operation ceases by reason of the compound having lost its strength. We are sure that the light obtained is all he represents, both for brilliancy and steadiness, as well as the absence of smoke, or smell, no odor, but that of hot air, is discovered. We have seen a sample of oil, the igniting point of which was one hundred and eight degrees, into which a compound was placed, and in three days the igniting point was raised to 114°. Another sample raised from 110° to 118°. A gallon can, to our own knowledge, containing oil of 110°, was, by the action of this compound, raised to 118° in ten hours—although Mr. Collins claims action in five minutes on one pint. The gravity of this oil in the can was 49°, and it decreased to 45°. These experiments prove that no flame arising from a burner on a lamp containing this compound can ignite any gas which may arise on the surface of the oil by means of heat—the bottom of a lamp being cool, and suction through the wick, commencing at the bottom, is cool until coming to the top of the wick, when the heat, causing ignition, generates a flame. This compound certainly does affect the oil to such a degree as to render a lamp containing it safe.

A pint of kerosene obtained at Dr. Thompson's drug store was experimented with, and the following result: Temperature 72°, gravity 46°, point of ignition 112°, time 13 minutes. A compound was put into the bottle containing the above oil at 3:45 P. M.; bottle agitated for two minutes at 4 P. M.; commenced testing at 4:09 P. M.: flashing point 104°; 114° point of ignition, at 4:16 P. M., an advance of 2° fire test in 30 minutes.

On benzine, a most volatile substance, as everybody knows—so much so that the mention of its name strikes many with horror—can be reduced in gravity. A sample shown us of 70° and evaporating, put into a bottle containing a compound, and tightly corked for three days, lost 5°. We advise everybody that uses oil to give this compound a fair and just trial, and satisfy themselves of its actual merit. Clean out your lamp thoroughly, put in a compound, and fill up with oil, use also a new wick, and watch the result carefully.

Dionysius the Younger.

The most notable sovereign of ancient times who retired from business was the powerful Dionysius the Younger, of Syracuse. His father's vices had made the Sicilian throne unsubstantial, and his own bad life had further weakened it. Plato, the sage, and Dion, the king's cousin, were the only favorites at court. Seeing how the monarch was failing in business, fearing everybody, and living miserably, they kindly advised him to resign sovereign power, and retire with his large fortune. Their advice was answered by selling Plato as a slave, and banishing Dion from Sicily. The latter returned with a force of Grecians and drove Dionysius from his capital. He recovered his throne, but was soon driven into perpetual exile by Timoleon, and made his home in Corinth. There he turned schoolmaster, and taught a class in grammar in the public square. Dirty and ragged, and addicted to low vices, he hung around the surgeon-barber shops, where he made merriment for the customers by his coarse wit, and earned a few pence by assisting the matter. He was often seen before drinking and eating in saloons without money to purchase indulgence, and was almost daily before the magistrate as one mixed up in street rows. Finally he became an assistant of the priest Cybele, soliciting alms for the temple, the goddess, and the servants; and like a street mountebank, he tucked up his sleeves and his robe, played the tambourine, and danced until out of breath, and then passed his cap round for a collection.

"How came you to lose the great inheritance from your father?" Dionysius was asked.

"Because he did not bequeath me his luck," was the reply.

Bad luck is the usual scrape-goat for such sinners. He died, it is said, of excessive joy on hearing that a tragedy of his had been awarded a prize at a public competition. No funeral rites honored the bankrupt monarch.

A Washington correspondent says: "A poor Senator like little Adelbert Ames, of Mississippi, would not marry a poor man's daughter, nor would he have an ignorant wife. So he would exchange his Major-General's commission and the dignity of the senatorial robes for riches, wit and beauty. And he has got them all in Miss Butler. The lately married daughter of Chief Justice Chase, is another case in point. Miss Chase had a high social position, and unusual talents and brilliancy. Her husband was a nice, good-looking, matter-of-fact manufacturer in Rhode Island. I do not mention Miss Kate Chase Sprague, for her husband's social circle was as high as her own. The case of Mr. Hageman, of New York, an extensive merchant, who recently married Miss Fenton, is another where money sought position." We have the best of reasons for believing that love was at the foundation of all these marriages.

In London the editors of the morning dailies all go to bed early. Though the Tory party may triumph and come into power at twelve o'clock on Thursday night, their organ, the *Standard*, will have nothing to say of it editorially before Saturday morning. The other day when the army bill was rejected by the Lords, the *Daily News* was asleep, and came out two days later with an article censuring Mr. Gladstone for suffering twelve hours to elapse before he "put his foot down." The fact was, that Mr. Gladstone had been to Windsor and captured a royal warrant before the *Daily News* was well awake.

A Mississippi paper publishes what purports to be an accurate copy of an original letter written by a teacher in that State to the father of one of his pupils. We quote a few sentences: "The industry of his diligentliness at school were very up Rightly. He is by all means a diligent Scholar. You are not aware of what Kind of a Scholar This Boy will make for a short time going to school, he has a moral character And also he has the appearance of a hero, especially such men as we now need. I will venture to say that in the length of twenty-four Months he would make a States Man and well drilled for Business such as would be required of him to attend."

MEDILL AT COLUMBUS.

Discussion of Finances.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, August 31.—Hon. Joseph Medill addressed the Young Men's Republican Club to-night. Reviewing the Ohio Democratic financial new departure, as set forth by General Ewing, he contrasted the financial plank in the State platform with the plank in Vallandigham's platform, showing that while the latter was to return to the ancient faith of Democracy, and willing to pay the national debt, the former means repudiation. Not the least remarkable thing connected with this new financial departure is the fact that only the Ohio Democracy have taken it. The Democratic organization in no other State, West or East, South or North, are advocating in their platform the payment of the debt in irredeemable rates, or a material expansion of this distinct currency. The Ohio Democracy must think they hold a mighty good hand to play this greenback game alone. The effect of General Ewing's scheme would be to destroy the value of the currency. A note or a bond, said the speaker, is worth to the holder that in which it is to be paid, provided the maker is known to be solvent and punctual. If it calls for gold, wheat, cattle or iron, it is worth what they are worth; if it calls for chips or chaff, it is worth so much, no more; if it is to be paid in another promise, and that promise is redeemable only in the first promise, then it is worth nothing, because it is merely wind redeemable in wind. The interest on such a bubble bond might as well be thirty or thirty five per cent as three per cent, as it will cost the maker no more to pay any rate of bubble interest.

It is obvious that the authors of the Democratic financial plank have discovered the science of political economy, and treat the experience of mankind with contempt. They coolly and contendedly brush away and reject the universal conception of the difference between capital and credit, value and promise, money and notes, the nature and functions of gold, and that which gives value to a promise to pay. They leave entirely out of sight payment and redemption, and teach that the federal government has the power to stamp actual value on that which in itself has none that it can put forth: an almighty fiat that will transform an airy nothing into an equivalent of all values, or give that which is now worthless the purchasing power of solid coin. The Democratic convention propose to make the greenback read something like this: "The United States promise to pay the bearer ten dollars, payable at the Treasury of the United States at Washington." But this promise is made in a Pickwickian sense, and is never to be redeemed in any tangible substance, especially not in gold or silver. This is the idea, whatever the form of words may be. It is impossible to conceive any scheme more preposterous. The speaker then considered the questions of political economy and finance involved in the propositions in the light of experience and accepted principles of the world, to show how the proposed new departure is at variance with all these, and what the effect would be on the business of the country. He said the Democratic financial plank sets forth this reason for paying the bonded debt in new issues of irredeemable and, as I have shown, worthless notes, namely: that the public creditor is entitled to be paid in the same currency he loaned the government; that when he loaned greenbacks he should be paid in greenbacks, unless the contract otherwise provides, and when he loaned gold he should be paid in gold. General Ewing, who heartily indorses this proposition, seeks to create the impression on the public mind that the government only realized forty per cent of gold value for its bonds, therefore the present holders, regardless of what they paid, should be forced to yield them back upon receiving forty per cent of what they call for. This he showed was a misrepresentation of facts. During 1861 the currency was at par, and the first $150,000,000 of greenbacks issued under the act of February 25, 1862, realized to the government almost par. The first issue of bonds, the sixes of 1881, realized nearly gold value to the government. The amount sold was $283,000,000, and the average realized during the four years of war was seventy-two per cent. It is true, at one period only forty per cent was realized, but that was during the darkest period of the war, in 1864, when the Democrats in the national convention declared the war a failure and by their acts tried to make it no longer possible to deal with the original purchasers of bonds; and as most of the present holders paid between ninety cents and par for them, I desire General Ewing, or some one, to rise and explain what they mean by the expression, "paying bondholders in greenbacks."

Are greenbacks, worth forty per cent, to be tendered to the holders of bonds that originally realized the government ninety-nine per cent, or eighty-six or seventy or any other sum above forty per cent? How is the present holder of a bond, who paid par for it, to be forced to receive a note worth forty or fifty cents on the ground that it was sold in 1864 for that amount? By what process can the government impart to one irredeemable note the commercial value or purchasing power of forty per cent, and to another fifty, seventy, eighty, ninety or one hundred per cent? for, unless this can be done, the whole proposition falls to the ground. Is a greenback ten cents on the dollar to be considered as payment for a bond costing holders the ninety-eight per cent General Ewing had paid? He said that an increase in the currency will establish a moderate and nearly uniform rate of interest. The speaker said a greater financial fallacy never was uttered by man, entitled to a respectful hearing. The proposed bonds, not being paid in gold or other valuable thing, will be nothing more than one form of irredeemable notes. This issue will inflate the currency just the same as an issue of notes. Inflation always increases the rates of interest, as all experience has demonstrated. Before the war the ruling rates of interest were far lower than after the inflation, and a consequent depreciation set in. The inflation causes an expansion of prices, and while the watering process goes on dealers seem to gain large profits. This stimulates speculation, and there is a reckless rush to borrow money. The dealers advance their rates on account of the extra demand, and the probability that the principal will be paid in a less valuable currency. This inflation always results in high rates of interest. A contraction, on the contrary, if not too sudden produces a reduction of interest rates, because, as the dollar becomes more valuable, fewer dollars will transact the exchanges of the country, and the chances of being repaid in a better currency make capitalists anxious to loan money on the best attainable terms.

Attempted Suicide in a Sleeping Car.

We noticed a few days since the suicide, or attempted suicide, of a passenger in a sleeping car on the Mississippi Central railroad last Monday evening, when somewhere this side of Humboldt. The Memphis *Avalanche* of the thirty-first ultimo contains the following report of the affair:

Monday night last, as the southward bound train on the Mississippi Central railroad was leaving the upper depot at Jackson, a passenger named Pierre Ladieux, got up from his seat beside his wife, who was sleeping at the time, and entered the saloon at the end of the car. Before leaving his wife he took a heavy shawl and arranged it carefully about her so as to exclude the night air.

After being in the saloon a few minutes, the door was thrown violently open, and Ladieux, in scant raiment and covered with blood, made his appearance. He seemed wild, and as he brandished a razor crimson with his life blood, he uttered a series of incoherent yells. A ghastly, gaping wound extending across the neck, two cuts on the arm, and as many slashes across the abdomen were the visible results of his attempt at self-destruction. Several gentlemen who were passengers on the train succeeded in disarming him after a short struggle.

By this time the train had arrived at the lower depot, where the man was put off so as to secure medical assistance. No sooner was he on the platform than, breaking from the gentleman who had him in charge, he threw himself upon the track, and declared his intention to kill himself. It was only by main force that he was carried to a hotel, when Dr. John Fenner was summoned and dressed the wounds. Jealousy of his wife is the supposed cause, as he repeatedly said: "She," pointing to his wife, "is the cause of it." That lady, a handsome brunette, said that he was subject to temporary fits of insanity, and thinks that he was laboring under one of these when he made his desperate attempt at death. They had left Chicago Monday morning, and were on their way to New Orleans, where her husband was engaged in business. They had been married for a number of years, and had always lived happily together.

A money belt, which was fastened around his waist was cut completely through. This probably saved his life, as but for it the razor blade would have entered his bowels and caused death. At the time he had six hundred dollars in gold in the belt, all of which was either lost through the seat or flung from the window by the crazed man. Since that time about three hundred dollars of the gold has been found and returned to Mrs. Ladieux. Yesterday morning the wounded man was resting easy and will probably recover.

A dispatch to the St. Louis *Republican* relates to the same affair, but gives a different account of it:

MEMPHIS, August 30.—A shocking suicide and attempted wife murder occurred at an early hour yesterday morning, on a passenger train of the Mississippi Central railroad, near Holly Springs. A Frenchman, name unknown, who was en route to New Orleans with his wife, attempted the life of the latter, by cutting her throat. She escaped, however, and screaming roused the other passengers in the sleeping car, who, upon going to his berth, found he had cut his own throat from ear to ear, and died soon after. No cause is assigned for the act.

We find still another version of the result of the attempted suicide in a sleeping car:

MEMPHIS, August 30.—On Monday night, shortly after the train for New Orleans, on the Mississippi Central railroad, had left Jackson, Tennessee, the passengers in the sleeping coach were startled by a female voice crying murder. In a moment all was confusion on board, but the cries were resumed. The passengers rushed to the berth from which the screams issued, and found a lady covered with blood, and by her side her husband in the last agonies of death, slashing about with a razor, with which he had cut his own throat and then attempted to kill his wife, but owing to the loss of blood he was unable to do so. His wife could give no reason for the deed. She said they were French, and resided in New Orleans, and had been spending the summer East, and were on their return home. The body of the suicide was interred at Holly Springs.

"I Direct a Verdict, and that Makes a Verdict."

A remarkable case in the recorder's court of Watertown, New York, is reported in the Watertown *Daily Times*. The title of the case was "The City vs. George B. Phelps," and it related principally to a ditch in front of the defendant's residence. The recorder said that he should hold that the city had a right to make the gutter without any petition, and that the defendant had no right to fill it up. Mr. Starbuck, defendant's counsel, said meekly that he would go to the jury on that matter, whereupon the recorder asked: "What is there to submit to the jury?" Mr. Starbuck replied properly, and the recorder remarked: "There is no question for the jury, except whether the defendant put the dirt into the gutter. I shall direct this jury," he continued, after some little remonstrance by Mr. Starbuck, "to find a verdict against the defendant for twenty-five dollars." "Do you so direct them?" asked Mr. Starbuck; and the recorder said: "I do."

There was an awkward pause, the jury saying nothing. "There don't seem to be any verdict yet," suggested Mr. Starbuck. "There is no occasion," said the recorder, "for them to say anything. I direct a verdict, and that makes a verdict. The jury have nothing to say about it." Mr. Starbuck again remonstrated. "The proposition," he said, "is too plain to be debated, that you have no power to order a verdict, and that the jury are not bound by it if you do order." "I know," said this remarkable recorder, "there used to be some such old fogy decisions, but that is a long time ago, and I won't follow them."

Recorder: There is no need of discussing it any further. I order the jury to find a verdict.

Mr. Starbuck: I take it you will have to get them to do it before you can render a judgment.

Recorder (firmly): Gentlemen of the jury, hearken to your verdict as the court has rendered it: you say you find for the plaintiff a verdict of $25!

No response was made by a single juror.

Mr. Starbuck: The jury don't seem to say any such thing.

Recorder: There is no occasion for them to say anything; I direct a verdict and shall enter a judgment on it.

Mr. Starbuck: You must first get your verdict. You have no such thing. One right is certainly left me; I demand that each juror be called by name and asked the question if he finds any such verdict.

Recorder: Gentlemen of the jury you are discharged.

Mr. Starbuck. (as the jury were dispersing): Gentlemen will come, back to their seats a minute. Mr. Phelps has called them here and will pay them.

Whereupon the jury returned, received their fees, and thus ended the proceedings.

The *Commercial Advertiser's* Saratoga correspondent got into a sweet mess the other day. He landed at the depot in the night. He got mixed up with twenty-five married ladies, seven spinsters and four girls, all waiting for their husbands, cousins and lovers. By accident these women mistook him for their "owns." And—but let him tell how it was himself.

Now, a dear, sweet, liquid eyed brunette threw her arms wildly around me, "O, Eugene, why did you not write oftener?" she sobbed, and then she sank sweetly on my bosom. I said, "weep not, Julia," and then I kissed her sweetly twenty-two times. It was delicious. It made me think of my first wife and my college days at Yale. A ponderous maiden now approached—dressed *decollete*, hair *a la pompadour*. She took me in her arms and whispered, "O, Charles, did you bring my beautiful dog—did you!"

"Madame, my name is not Charles, and I hate dogs. I'd kill every d—d—d—," but she fell fainting at my feet.

"A sweet golden-haired blonde now took my hand. She pressed it gently, saying, "Dear Albert, I know it is you, and I am so glad to see you! You won't dance with Lizzie Smith, now, will you? Now, do promise me!" I said I wouldn't. Then she held her cheek close to mine. It was so hot with love's young hope and pure, sweet affection. We were very happy. None but a wicked man would have brought sadness to this sweet, pure young heart—full of confidence, warm with virgin affection, and beautiful with splendid girlishness.

"Do you still love me, Albert?" she whispered.

"Undoubtedly," I remarked.

"How much, darling?"

"A heap."

"O, I am too happy," she murmered, as she twisted her fingers in my auburn hair, and held me in a sweet embrace.

The most sensible strikers we have yet heard of are the factory girls of Lowell. They have resisted their employers, but unlike many men, do not propose to sit down waiting for their demands to be complied with, and in the meantime exist on the charity of their sympathizing laboring friends. They have issued an adress concluding in this manner: "We are working now at our notice—can turn our hands to almost anything—don't like to be idle, but determined not to work for nothing when folks can afford to pay. Who wants help? We can make bonnets, dresses, puddings, pies, stew, fry, knit, roast, make butter and cheese, milk cows and feed chickens, hoe corn, sweep out the kitchen, put the parlor to rights, split wood, kindle fires, wash and iron, besides being fond of babies." The factory owners should hold on to the girls who are as sensible as these have proved themselves to be.

E. E. Hale, at the recent celebration in honor of Miles Standish, being called to respond to the toast, "Rose Standish, the type of American women," said that "the women who came out in the Mayflower solved the problem of emigration. All efforts to colonize this country had failed until they came. The men who came out before did not succeed because they left their homes behind. The Puritans succeeded because they brought their Rose Standishes with them."

Refrigerated Beef Cargo.

[From the St. Louis Democrat.]

The recent arrival at Philadelphia of a cargo of 880 quarters of fresh beef from Texas has created quite a sensation in that city. Directly after the arrival of the vessel the hatches that had remained sealed from the moment the vessel had left Texas were opened, and the uppermost quarter was lifted out for inspection and found to be as fresh and sweet as when it was packed away. By an arrangement of a huge ice box in the after part of the vessel, and a huge fan, a current of air was kept continually passing over and permeating between the layers of beeves, and they maintained thus an avarage temperature of thirty-six degrees. Five hundred pounds of dainty fish, caught in the Gulf of Mexico, were found to be as firm and perfect as when placed in the refrigerator. When it became known that fresh Texas beef was being sold at ten cents a pound, half the rates charged in the street market, a great rush of people was once made to take advantage of the rare opportunity. The captain of the vessel at once transformed a portion of the fore deck into a well appointed meat-stand, and secured a corps of carvers, who are now, and have been since this temporary meat shop was opened, industriously engaged in attending to the hosts of customers constantly pressing forward for the cheap Texas beef. The scene was an interesting one. Rich and poor crowded forward to be served, calling for quantities from a pound to a quarter, and while waiting were prolific in their encomiums upon its good quality and its cheapness, and their riddance from the "butcher monopoly," which they have been compelled to support for so long a time. The new enterprise bids fair to give a decided impetus to stock raising in Texas, and the time is likely not far distant when semi-weekly vessels will arrive loaded with fresh beef from that section. The experiment has been tried at a season of the year during which its success might have been reasonably doubted.

The Deacon's Retort.

The deacon was not very much behind, if the following story is true. In a small town on the Schuylkill river there is a church in which the singing had run down. It had been led many years by one of the deacons, whose voice and musical powers had been gradually failing. One evening the clergyman gave out the hymn, which was in an odd measure, rather harder than usual, and the deacon led off. Upon its conclusion the minister rose and said:

"Brother B—— will please repeat the hymn, as I can not pray after such singing."

The deacon very composedly pitched into another tune, and the clergyman proceeded with his prayer. Having finished, he took up the book to give the second hymn, when he was interrupted by the deacon gravely getting up, and, in a voice audible to the whole congregation, saying:

"Will Mr. —— make another prayer? It would be impossible for me to sing after such a prayer as that!"

The Piute Indians are said to be in a state of starvation from the disappearance of fish in the streams, and of pine nuts in the forest, which is being rapidly leveled by the white man's ax. The Indian gets hungry and steals; the white settler retaliates, and the result is a general outbreak of half-starved wretches, who are swept away to make room for civilization. It seems to be one of the inevitable points in civilized progress that the inferior race—the race that refuses to keep step with the general societary movement—must perish. In spite of all that philanthropy has yet devised, the poor Indian has gone down. Will the Chinese and Hindo follow? Will civilization, in its second cycle around the northern hemisphere, only repeat the bloody history of the past?

A colored clergyman in Maryland, who seems to have been gradually losing control over his flock, has struck upon a very ingenious method of punishing backsliders and regaining his influence. A few days since an old woman died in Sumter county, in that State, who had at one time been a member of his congregation, but had fallen so far from grace as to have ceased to attend the regular service of the church. The pastor attended her funeral, and as a fearful warning to her surviving friends, ordered the remains to be interred with the head downward. He then preached a sermon over the closed graved, and terrified his hearers by declaring that the spirit of the deceased had already gone to the infernal regions, and that theirs would follow, on their heads also, if they did not immediately reform their lives. The device really has the merit of originality, and promises to work as well as did that of the Chinese priest in Nevada, who saw his charge casting longing eyes on a hog pen, and prevented them from despoiling it by representing that one of the animals was possessed of a devil.

In a small country town resides a clergyman who is the pastor of a small flock who esteem him very highly, and whom he is fond of catechizing. A few days since, while taking a ramble through the village, he stopped at the house of one of his parishioners, and after the usual salutations had been exchanged, the conversation ran as follows:

"Well, Mrs. W——, can you tell me how Adam fell?"

The lady commenced to smile audibly, and finally replied, "Why, my dear doctor, you're not serious!"

"Very serious, indeed," responded the doctor.

Mrs. W——, whose husband's name happened to be Adam, replied: "Well, well, you have it, doctor. You see Adam went to climb over the fence to go to Deacon M——'s for a bottle of whisky, when an oar lying on the ground took his foot. Over Adam fell, and barked his shin; and that's the truth of the matter."

It is announced in the Paris *Journal* that the names of two of the streets in Paris are to be changed. A great many persons desire that Paris should give the names of great men to its streets, instead of names that are obliged to be changed at every change of government. The street "Tenth of December," lately street "Fourth September," and more lately Blanqui street, is to be called Morse street, from the name of the inventor of the electic telegraph. It is well known that this street leads from the telegraph at the Grand Hotel to the telegraph at the Bourse. Berlin street is changed to Alexander Dumas street, in remembrance of the author of "Monte Christo," who for a long time lived in the street Amsterdam, at the head of Berlin street.

Grace Greenwood tells the following story to the New York *Times:*

Chicago newsboys are preternaturally clever and wide-awake. I remember one of the most diminutive of the guild coming on to the train as I was sorrowfully departing from the city, one morning, in war time, and offering to sell me a copy of your Democratic namesake, and I said, speaking after the manner of a dark complexioned Republican, "Why, my poor little fellow, where will you go to when you die, if you sell that naughty paper?" He turned his curly red head as he answered, "Oh, the good place, I reckon—for I sell rather more *Tribunes* than *Time-es*."

Among the most interesting of the "relics of crime" garnered in New York city is a wire window ladder, the like of which has never before been seen. It is about ten feet long when stretched out, made of steel wire about a quarter of an inch thick, with cross steps of polished wood about six inches long. The burglar gets into the room over the one which he wishes to enter, fastens the hooks to the window sill, drops the ladder outside, and runs down to the window below. Having gone through the apartment, he runs up his ladder, pulls it in, and folds it up into such a compass that he can pack it in a small hand-bag.

An American captain reports that while entering the Straits of Gibraltar he was met by the English naval squadron. He did not know exactly what to do, but the squadron itself ended the difficulty by gracefully dividing into starboard and port divisions, and leaving him a clear passage through their centre. As he sailed by, each ship in the fleet courteously dipped its ensign and fired one gun, and various American airs were also played.