New Orleans Republican.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE UNITED STATES

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS, DECEMBER 13, 1871.

Compulsory education—teaching an aristocratic fifty-dollar poodle to sit up and beg.

At the St. Charles Theatre this evening, Ben DeBar will appear as *Toodles* and the Chapman sisters in the burlesque of "Aladdin."

Messrs. Louis Stern & Brothers will sell to-day, at ten o'clock, at No. 16 Chartres street, eight hundred cases boots, shoes and brogans.

The leading article in the last number of the St. Louis *Journal of Education* is on "the prevention of crime," and it is full of most instructive lessons.

A political association, composed of returned soldiers and sailors, has been formed in Boston, and proposes to make its power felt in future elections.

An eminent medical man in India strongly recommends poultices of tea leaves moistened with hot water as preferable to other remedies in the first stages of bruises and scalds.

General John Tyler, Jr., formerly a confederate, and known as a writer for the last twenty-five years, has become associate editor of the Talahassee (Florida) *Sentinel*, an organ of the Republican party.

The Memphis *Appeal* for 1872 promises to be one of the best journals in that section of the South. Every department of the paper will be carefully edited and presented as an epitome of the world's doings.

Annie Johnson, tried and convicted before the First District Court for larceny, and sentenced to six months imprisonment in the Parish Prison, was yesterday pardoned on the recommendation of the Attorney General.

In the California Legislature the Democrats, having a majority of four in the Senate, will take the same action the Republicans did four years ago—removing the power of appointing the committees from the Lieutenant Governor.

We have received a copy of General Butler's examination of the provisions of the treaty of Washington, in which the author shows what, in his opinion, are the advantages we gained over England in the recent diplomatic joust.

The following appointments were yesterday made by the Governor: Effingham Lawrence, Bradish Johnson, Eugene Fields, N. Mahoney, police jury of Plaquemine; Paul Koerber, James Dennison, Valentine Ditz, William Mithoff, R. G. Gardner, police jury of Jefferson, left bank.

Wendell Phillips, in a temperance lecture at Worcester, said: "We have now no political party that dares to enforce the liquor law, but the children of the present generation would see a great uprising, that would wage a successful war upon rum, or their children would live in an empire."

The Chicago postoffice cat has a rival in a mouse which ran out of the vault of the Elgin Watch Company when it was opened, three days after the fire. A common dining chair has been exhumed from the ruins of the postoffice none the worse for the fire excepting a slight scorching on one side.

Mrs. J. S. Cannon, of Bryan, Pennsylvania, has commenced action against nine whisky sellers, and the proprietors of two buildings in which saloons are kept, in that place, for selling intoxicating liquors to her husband during his lifetime. The aggregate amount of damages claimed is $30,000.

Old John Robinson's museum, menagerie, caravan and circus will exhibit on Tivoli Circle lot, in three great monster tents, commencing next Monday evening. Matinee exhibition at twelve o'clock daily. One ticket admits the holder to the entire combination—menagerie, museum, caravan and circus. See advertisement.

Colonel Jack Wharton assures us that the editor of the *Louisianian* is in error in placing his name on the list of clerks of the Enrollment Committee of the House. He never belonged there, but was one of the clerks of the Committee on Private Land Claims, of which Representative Thompson was one of the members.

John S. C. Abbott has given the world some rather curious biographies, but the climax of all is his last effort to get Nero right. He has discovered that that gentleman did not fiddle during the burning of Rome, because he didn't know how, and because he was nearly a hundred miles away during the conflagration.

The Houston *Telegraph* says whenever a mule throws a Radical negro in Columbus, Georgia, the darkey exclaims, "You darned old Democrat!" This opinion about Democrats is not confined to the Radical negroes of Columbus, Georgia. It is the very general opinion of the country that the Democrats, as a body, are a very mulish set of fellows.

General Walker will ask Congress for $480,000 for the current fiscal year, to complete the work of the census. Of this, nearly $300,000 is wanted to pay marshals and assistants. The total expenses of the census to date are $2,807,600. The eighth census cost $1,982,000, but in proportion to the increase and work done, the cost of the present census is much less.

The little *Patriot* of the ninth instant says the general impression is that the mass meeting at Mechanics' Institute, on Friday night of last week, was a move in the right direction. If it is likely to result in a benefit to the Democratic party, the "general impression" among Democrats will undoubtedly be that it is "a move in the right direction." The little *Patriot* must possess its soul in patience. It can not know what is the general impression until the people have spoken.

According to the report of the signal service of the War Department, the thermometer yesterday morning, at seven o'clock, was 31° at Augusta, 31° at Boston, 20° at Buffalo, 28° at Cairo, 42° at Charleston, 31° at Chicago, 29° at Cincinnati, 55° at Galveston, 65° at Key West, 31° at Louisville, 34° at Memphis, 41° at Mobile, 26° at Nashville, 46° at New Orleans, 35° at New York, 32° at Omaha, 37° at Pittsburg, 27° at Portland, 40° at Savannah, 44° at Shreveport, 35° at St. Louis, 23° at St. Paul, and 45° at Vicksburg. Light snow at Portland, Maine. No storm elsewhere.

THE AMERICAN UNION.

The modern theory of government, as accepted and practiced by all organized communities on this side of the great waters, as well, indeed, as those which have been favored with a more advanced civilization on the other side, is that all just powers of government are derived from the consent of the governed. The United States of America is, perhaps, the only sovereignty that has yet been enrolled in the family of nations which has laid down its foundations and embedded its fundamental principles in the broad philosophy that the government under which we live has fully recognized the doctrine that all men are created equal. This being then the basis and groundwork of our society, let us look around us for a moment and discover, if we can, whether we are following its teachings and instructions to its ultimate results. In considering this question we must first examine our government in its individual and national character as unfolded in a a national point of view; when we speak of a national government we mean the government of the United States, without reference to the sub-divisions into State and municipal districts into which we find our great nation divided. Although the republic of America is divided up and sub-divided into many thousand different integral parts, yet we imagine there are now none who can justly lay claim to even ordinary information on the subject, who do not recognize the fact that all sovereignty, all nationality is primarily lodged in the national authority. It, then, being established and conceded that the only real sovereignty in this country belongs of right to the nation, to the people at large, we are freed from many of the difficulties that environ us in pursuing our investigation.

We suppose it will not now be seriously urged by any considerable number of the American people of any particular political bias that local or State authority can in any case be legitimately set up against the national authority. No class or body of men representing any peculiar phase or shade of opinion would be found bold enough to put forward the doctrine in any tangible form that any State, locality or district of the American Union could legitimately set up its own will against that of the nation. Any division or subdivision might set up a rebellion or revolt, but such rebellion or revolt would, whenever or wherever set up, under the established theory and doctrines of our nationality, share the fate of all rebellions. They would be successful only in case they showed themselves to be the stronger party. If on the contrary, as did the States which seceded and found themselves in rebellion in 1860, they proved to be the weaker party, without right, might or reason to sustain them, they must fail, and at last be controlled and governed by the legitimate national authority. The political authority or party organization which recognizes and enforces this broad national principle must, in the very nature of things, be the dominant and ruling organization of the country, as opposed to the party or factions which adopt the opposite theory as the groundwork of their political faith. Such is exactly the condition of political party organizations now in our great country. Just so long as the great Republican organization retains its integrity and continues to enforce and maintain the true theory, that the nation is supreme and the local divisions are subordinate, this great and growing country will increase, grow in strength, solidity and greatness, even without the aid of a great rival party organization having the same great aims and ends in view. For it is to-day a recognized and admitted fact that it has no rival political organization to counterpoise or counterbalance its natural tendency and proneness to a final dissolution.

Its dissolution if immediate, and before others could be formed with equal potency, would, therefore, work inevitable calamities and cause untold woes to the countless millions who would thereby be plunged into inextricable anarchy. But, can this take place so long as a majority of the American people are true to themselves and to the principles which have made them what they are.

We would, therefore, admonish the Democracy with all its isms to hastily disband its shattered forces: dismember its organization entirely; ignore the name by which it has heretofore been known; bury all its tradition that may be said to be good, or even plausible; consign all the treason and treachery with which it has been of late so deeply infused to infamy and oblivion; in a word rub out everything and start anew under a new name and creed. By doing this the perpetuity of free government is secured, popular confidence is restored, and this great nation moves forward to the fulfillment of her destiny.

SIMULATED GRIEF.

It would be interesting to ascertain today, if that could be done to a nicety, how the committee of fifty-one feels since its members have assumed the onerous position of taxpayers for the first time. They are now in a position to sympathize with the "hewers of wood and drawers of water," because they have at last achieved the honorable distinction of being assessed something for the public good, perhaps, which they can not shove off on somebody else. The twenty-five dollars which the members of the committee taxed themselves in order to raise a fund for their treasury can not be added to the price of the goods which they intend to sell this week, without costing more labor than the amount will pay for. If the public will run over the names of the committee it will discover that there is hardly a genuine taxpayer to be found in the number, because the trader, commission merchant, factor, wholesale dealer, broker or other active business man never pays a tax or a license that he does not at once charge to his customers. Take the merchant as an illustration, and all his expenses in the way of rents, licenses, taxes, clerk hire, drayage, freight bills, traveling expenses, commissions to drummers, gas bills, water rates, charities, etc., are counted up in advance and added to the cost of his goods, and charged for against the purchaser. He is not out a dollar, but it is added to his expense list and charged in the cost of his merchandise, with interest at the rate of ten per cent, and the annual profit is counted upon all these sums. Merchants usually estimate that their capital, which means not only their personal labor, but all the outlay to which their business is subjected, must pay them from ten to twenty-five per cent profit each year; and, from the beginning of the business season, on the first of October, to its close, about the first of June, they continue to pile up profits on every dollar which they spend. Consumers pay the gross expenses of every business house in New Orleans; and they pay interest to the merchant on every dollar which his business costs him in the shape of taxation, lisenses, insurance, rent or other outlay.

As most of the committee of fifty-one are men of business, it is plain then that they are not taxpayers. And since they are not of the class that bear the burdens of which they make such loud complaint, it was only just and proper that they should tax themselves a small sum in order that they might really feel the evils of taxation. This is not the first funeral at which onions have been used to produce red eyes.

LAYING OUT WORK.

While the committee of fifty-one was sub-dividing itself into minor inquisitions, why did it omit to apportion a lively portion of itself to investigate and report upon the amount of debt which the present city government had to assume on behalf of the elective administration which it superceded? This is a department of curiosities that ought not to be left without being looked into; for the committee will want the entire facts about the origin of our public burdens before it can make up a judgment as to who is to blame. The people of New Orleans are entirely ignorant of what preceded the existing order of things, for, previous to the installation of the present government, the official proceedings gave but a very meagre detail of what was done, and who did it, in the municipal government. At present, the entire working of the corporate authorities, and the reasons for the same, are fully disclosed in the official publication made regularly in these columns every Wednesday morning, even the minutest appropriation being mentioned and advertised to the public before being made, accompanied by the remarks of the Administrators as to its justice and propriety. This is amply sufficient information as to the later appropriations by the Council, and the committee can hardly improve upon what Mr. H. C. Clarke has done in the matter of explaining the details of the corporate authorities; but as to the old proceedings, and how the government was run in the good old Democratic days, we are at such a loss to tell that we can not withhold the suggestion that the committee of fifty-one ought to investigate and discover to the public the secret thereof. How was it that the old City Council left the school teachers in arrears eight months, the street laborers four months, the public wharves unbuilt, the streets uncleaned, schoolhouses out of repair, the courthouses full of cobwebs, the municipal hall in a mess, and every other interest in disorder? If the committee of fifty-one will go to the bottom of those troubles and expenses that were bequeathed to the present Administrators, we shall take off our hat while their report is being read, and our present distrust that they are playing a little game of politics may give place to the belief that they are really working in the interest of reform. Which will be a pleasant discovery, gentlemen, or we mistake ourselves very greatly.

A SMALL AFFAIR.

The capture of Saltillo is a very small affair to be made so much of in the United States. Revolutions in Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon never disturb Mexico, as these States are too widely separated by mountains and deserts from the heart of the country to have any influence in deciding events at the capital. Saltillo is a small city in Tamaulipas, and its defense or fall is of no consequence except to its own people, who generally have to pay the expenses of the party that obtains control over its public square. It has been lost and won forty times, and its present occupants are more eager to obtain possession of the city of Matamoras than they are to assail President Juarez. Trevino will now assemble his battalions and march upon Matamoras, in order to obtain possession of the customhouse at that point, which is always the objective point with all the Rio Grande rebels. Once in charge of the customhouse he will offer terms to Juarez, and then peace will follow. Mexico feels toward her northern provinces as England is said to feel toward Canada—that it would be a good thing to get rid of them, for they are always creating trouble and making expenses without affording any benefits in return. She usually lets them fight their own local quarrels to a settlement, without interfering on either side, satisfied that when the row is over the victors will acknowledge the supremacy of the central government, and be loudest in their professions of loyalty to "God and liberty." When Diaz takes some city of the size of Jalapa, Puebla, Zacatecas, San Luis or Guadalajara, in one of the central States, then it will be time to apprehend danger to Juarez.

THE ZONA LIBRE.

President Grant resents the right of Mexico to regulate her own affairs, to her own disadvantage, in such a way that it must prove very offensive to the Mexicans. The free zone in the Rio Grande was established to prevent smuggling from the United States into Mexico, and it has performed its work. It has never facilitated smuggling into the United States, for the Mexican officials are too anxious to collect their own revenues to allow goods to leave the free zone without paying the Mexican tariff, which is higher than our own. All this clamor about the free zone is made in the interest of smugglers, and if the President does not know this, let him send some trusty man to the Rio Grande to investigate the matter. With the free zone in force, Matamoras commands a large Mexican trade, that legitimately belongs to her. Without it, she would fall into decay, and the commerce that now goes through her streets without defrauding either government would be transferred to Brownsville, from whence goods would be smuggled through the bonded warehouses to the interior States of Mexico. The free zone is an honest institution, protecting the interests of Mexico, and doing no injury to the United States about which we have a right to complain. It is the only protection Mexico has against smuggling, and it is a kind of safeguard against rascality in our own revenue department on the Rio Grande. The President can investigate this matter to his better information if he is not seeking for a cause of quarrel with Mexico.

GOOD NEWS FOR TEACHERS.

Notwithstanding the fact that the city of New Orleans has been unable to contribute its share of the expense for keeping up the schools, there is now a fair prospect that no more than two months' pay will be due the teachers on the first of January.

We publish in another place the apportionment made by Superintendent Conway for the quarter ending the first of December, 1871. The total amount to be disbursed foots up over eighty-three thousand dollars, of which New Orleans will receive enough to pay two months.

The salaries for November and October will be paid on Saturday. On the first of the new year, therefore, the pay for September and December only will be in arrears.

The State Superintendent has, with the advice and consent of the Governor and other State officers, managed the school fund judiciously, so that the educational institutions, now numbering about seven hundred in the country and sixty or seventy in the city, have been maintained, with a large increase in the daily attendance. We are informed that this increase in this city amounts to fully thirty per cent.

It will be the duty of the next General Assembly to provide more adequate means for raising money for the city school fund. No one, who is not half barbarous, or wishes his neighbor's children to grow up in ignorance, will consent to have our school system destroyed, or even impaired. But, unless something is done during the coming session to relieve the schools from the financial embarrassments which appear to have become chronic, such results may be expected. It has become fashionable of late to complain of heavy taxes, but we hardly suppose any man of common sense will seriously object to contribute to the support of our public schools.

A VERY CORRECT PICTURE.

The committee of fifty-one will find the following picture of themselves in the *Bulletin* of yesterday morning. For accuracy of description it is excellent:

And now the chief authors of this city's financial ruin, and of this people's deplorable condition in respect to commerce and industry, confront the public, and say that they have known all along the secret of a wise and satisfactory administration of both State and city affairs, and that it is for them alone to make matters all around right and tight, and so work out the redemption of both State and city. In other words, they tell us that functionaries who have only been busy heretofore in undoing, should be and must be entrusted with our salvation.

As New Orleans has been in a chronic state of ruin ever since we can remember, it is a pity that some of these volunteer statesmen had not before come to the rescue. When the Irish refused to let Americans vote without seeing the ballots the condition was deplorable; when the latter would not let the Irish vote, it was doubtless much worse; but when the secessionists compelled every white man to vote for Jeff Davis or leave the State, it gan to grow interesting. By which system these old wire pullers expect to redeem the city (which means, of course, to give themselves a place) we are not informed. Evidently the present fashion of voting does not suit them. They can neither control the suffrage of the people nor prevent them from voting. This is intolerable, of course, and a revolution is demanded. A war (of words) is imminent.

We desire to remind the *Bulletin*, in a whisper, that Dumont is not a State Senator. Of course we do not desire to be overheard in our prompting. We do not want to expose our neighbor's ignorance to the world. He is worse than Dumont himself, who wrote a card to tell what he did not know, while the *Bulletin* man writes a column about what he thinks he knows, and at the same time knows nothing about it. So, all that fine writing, that exquisite flash of wit, that biting sarcasm concerning the unimpeachable veracity of Senators, goes to protest because Dumont is not a State Senator, but merely a willing witness who comes forward and says he did not hear a certain conversation between Packard and Senator Butler.

Senator Blair presents a resolution inquiring into the reasons that justified the President in declaring martial law in South Carolina at the same time that the Senate is perplexed as to what disposition to make of certain witnesses who refuse to give evidence about the existence of the Ku-Klux in South Carolina because it will criminate themselves. Possibly the refusal of these witnesses may be accepted as an answer to Senator Blair's resolution.

A great many Democratic papers are publishing prospectuses for 1872, which is a decided annoyance since we thought that they intended to quit with the present year. It is a pity that such venerable old organs as the *Missouri Republican* and the Memphis *Appeal* do not know their time to die is at hand.

Mr. Alexander H. Stephens was told that there were four hundred thousand Republican voters who would not support Grant next year if there was a "proper man" nominated against him; whereupon the lively ex-president of the so-called at once decided that the Democratic party could win the next fight, because it would obtain these votes. About three hundred newspapers are now engaged in the effort to convince Mr. Stephens that these Republican voters are not prepared to accept his man as the "proper candidate" that they are in search of. He has not seen the point of departure yet, but with the flood of light that is being thrown upon the subject, it is highly probable he will discover his error, sooner or later.

Little Wallie F, of Greenfield, was recently presented a toy trumpet, to which he became greatly attached. One night, when he was about being put in his "little bed," and was ready to say his prayer, he handed the trumpet to his grandmother, saying, "Here, gran'ma, you blow while I pray."

It is the style nowadays, when an engagement is broken off, for the lady not to return the presents given her by her *fiance*, or even the engagement ring, which they keep as an Indian keeps a scalp, as a trophy of former victories.

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