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THE STATE HOUSE.

The very large number of persons of all conditions of society that gathered in and around the State House yesterday demonstrated the deep interest that was felt in the chief event of the day, which was the inauguration of Governor Kellogg.

A more beautiful day could not have been vouchsafed our people by a kind and merciful Providence for the performance of the important ceremonies that they were allotted to take in the presence of the constituted authorities of the State, than yesterday proved to be. The weather was clear and mild, and the sun's bright rays must have had a most cheering effect on all, for everybody we saw seemed to be in a happy mood.

Both houses of the General Assembly met at eleven o'clock. The Senate was called to order by President Harris. Shortly after a quorum had been announced a message from the House informed the Senate of the passage of a joint resolution providing for a joint session at half-past eleven o'clock for the purpose of inaugurating the Governor elect, Hon. William Pitt Kellogg. The resolution passed the Senate, and shortly afterward the Senate, headed by its President, retired to the House of Representatives to participate in the inauguration of Governor Kellogg.

At half past twelve o'clock the Senate returned to the Senate Chamber, and was called to order by President Harris. There being a quorum present, Senator Barber moved that a committee of three be appointed to escort Lieutenant Governor C. C. Antoine to the chair. This motion being adopted, President Harris appointed Senators Barber, Brewster and Butler said committee. Lieutenant Governor Antoine was then escorted to the chair and the oath of office administered to him by President Harris, who, upon retiring from the chair, addressed the new Lieutenant Governor as follows:

Allow me, sir, most cordially to congratulate you upon your elevation to the high and responsible office you are about to fill, and I sincerely trust that your administration may be eminently a successful one. In leaving the position to which I was called, and yielding the chair to yourself, sir, permit me to say I do so with nothing but the most pleasurable emotions.

Senator Harris then relinquished the chair, and it was taken by Lieutenant Governor Antoine, who addressed the Senate substantially as follows:

Senators—In assuming the responsibilities which devolve upon me as Lieutenant Governor and presiding officer of this body, I trust you will give me your assistance. I shall endeavor to perform the duties with impartiality and respect, and to preserve that decorum and dignity that so characterized the administration of my predecessor.

I now ask your indulgence to make a few remarks in regard to our late election. It was a notorious fact that the Republicans were largely in the majority in this State; that our political enemies, being blinded by their prejudices, discriminated against one part of their fellow-citizens. For the purpose of getting control of the State government they resorted to tricks, corruption and proscription, in order to defraud colored men out of their rights; but the Republican cause, having on its side right, justice and equity, prevailed over trickery, corruption and proscription. You will pardon me if I refer to myself. Our opponents have made a direct assault upon me, because my fellow-citizens chose to elevate me to the second position in their gift. But for all that I have no harsh feelings toward them, and will endeavor to discharge my public duties for the best interests of the whole people.

Immediately after the Lieutenant Governor had concluded his remarks, Senator Burch arose and offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are due, and the same are hereby tendered to the Hon. Albert B. Harris, as President of the Senate, for his dignified and impartial discharge of his duties as the presiding officer of the Senate.

Before the vote was taken on the above resolution Senator Ingraham spoke as follows:

Mr. President—I had prepared a resolution of a like nature to that just offered by the Senator from Baton Rouge, and had proposed to present the same to the Senate for its adoption. Having served three years, during which time we have had three presiding officers—Lieutenant Governor Dunn, Lieutenant Governor Pinchback and the late incumbent, Albert B. Harris—each of whom has ably presided over the deliberations of this body, but none with more impartiality than the gentleman to whom this resolution refers. He has at all times and under all circumstances reflected honor upon the position by his impartial, honorable and upright course; and in parting with him, while this Senate loses an able presiding officer, I am glad that this Senate does not lose the services of this gentleman.

Sir, it is seldom in the history of a deliberative body that there can be found no bitterness, no lingering enmities on the part of some of the members toward its presiding officer, and I point with pride and satisfaction to the fact that Senator Harris leaves the chair with a record such as but few presiding officers have ever earned, and that no appeal has ever been taken from any decision rendered by him, or any objection raised to the appointment of any committees, thus showing that he has at all times had the unbounded confidence as well as esteem of those associated with him in the Senate.

I therefore ask that this resolution shall be adopted, that this gentleman may carry with him the expression of confidence, respect and esteem of this body.

On motion, the Senate then adjourned until twelve o'clock to-day.

The House yesterday was called to order at eleven o'clock by Speaker Lowell. The clerk called the roll and announced fifty-six members present and a quorum. After the introduction of a number of bills, which were read and referred to proper committees, Mr. Benham, of Carroll, introduced a concurrent resolution, which was adopted, providing for a joint meeting of the Senate and House of Representatives at half-past eleven o'clock, for the purpose of inaugurating the Governor elect, Hon. William Pitt Kellogg. The resolution was immediately sent to the Senate. Shortly afterward a message from the Senate informed the House that it had been concurred in. The clerk, on motion, was instructed to inform the Senate that the House was ready to meet in joint session. At half past eleven the presence of the Senate was announced, and the Speaker ordered the doorkeeper to admit Senators. Headed by their President, the Senators and officers of the Senate marched into the hall of the House of Representatives and took seats, and the joint session was called to order by President Harris, who, after announcing the object for which they had met, instructed the secretary of the Senate to call the roll of the Senate. The secretary did this, and reported twenty-three Senators present. The clerk of the House called the roll of the House and reported seventy one members present. The President of the Senate then arose and said, as there was a quorum of both houses present, he would invite the chaplain of the Senate to open the proceedings of the joint session with prayer. This being done in a very impressive manner, the President arose and instructed the joint committee to escort Acting Governor Pinchback and the Governor elect to the platform.

By this time the hall of the House of Representatives was crowded with ladies and gentlemen who had been favored with tickets of admission, and a band of music entering, some lively airs were played, and the scene became very animated. A very large number of the representative men of the Republican party were present, besides a large number of distinguished visitors and persons representing civil and military life. Among the latter were to be observed officers wearing the uniform of the United States service.

When the committee appeared with the Acting Governor and the Governor elect cheer after cheer were given in the most enthusiastic manner, and the band played the "Star Spangled Banner" as the chief actors were being conducted to the platform. The Governor elect was received by President Harris, who, turning to Chief Justice Ludeling, said:

I have the honor to introduce to you Hon. William Pitt Kellogg, the Governor elect.

Governor Kellogg then stepped forward and delivered in a firm and clear manner the following excellent inaugural address:

In assuming the arduous duties which devolve upon me as the chief executive officer of the State, I do so under a profound sense of the magnitude and importance of those duties, as well as the grave responsibilities I am to incur in discharging them. It is my purpose to devote my best efforts and whatever of ability I may possess, to perform faithfully all the duties and obligations imposed upon me by the constitution and laws of the State.

A retrospect of the history of Louisiana during the few years that have elapsed since the termination of the late civil war presents much that affords no gratification to the minds of her people. It is not to be concealed that no effective means have been adopted to supply the greatest needs of the people, or to restore the State to its legitimate condition of progress and prosperity. Possessing abundantly all the elements necessary to insure agricultural and commercial wealth and independence, the State, nevertheless, languishes in all her material interests. With impaired credit, diminished commerce and accumulated taxation, the embarrassments are serious and call loudly for relief.

Immigration to our borders has been slow and inconsiderable, notwithstanding all the advantages of soil, climate, staple products, cheap lands and facilities for commerce. Our great mart of commerce, the natural outlet of trade from the vast valley of the Mississippi to all countries of the earth, is weakened in its capacity to control its legitimate business and is forced into competition with cities of the interior less favorably situated for commercial competition, yet more blessed with material prosperity. Capital from abroad is but sparingly introduced here, where, under favorable circumstances, it would be highly remunerative to its holders and would be freely supplied. With these facts palpably before us, to what shall we attribute our stationary, if not retrograding condition? Political agitation may, and doubtless has, contributed in no small degree to this state of affairs, but this can by no means be assigned as the principal cause. The question forces itself upon us, have the resources of Louisiana been properly marshaled and her energies judiciously directed? A negative answer, I think, must be given. Improvident and unwise legislation, not to characterize some of it by more forcible terms, has been chiefly instrumental in involving the State in its present financial embarrassments. What are the remedies to be resorted to? They are plain and obvious. Rigid economy in expenditures, the abolition of useless offices, a strict accountability enforced against all public agents; in short, the adoption in the administration of public affairs of the same appliances necessary to restore the fallen fortunes of an individual. Honesty, industry and economy—upon these principles the people of the State demand, and they have a right to expect, their public servants to act. This demand, so far as the executive department and its influence extends, will be strictly complied with.

It can not be expected on this occasion that all topics of public interest will be treated in detail. A fuller consideration of the proper objects of legislation will be more in place in communications I may hereafter have to make to the General Assembly.

NEW ORLEANS.

There is no subject of greater moment to the people of this State than the prosperity of the city of New Orleans. As the metropolis of the State, the *entrepot* of the valley of the Mississippi, its interests are the interests of the State, and its credit is the credit of the State. The great need of the city is railroad connection placing it in closer relations with the east trade of Texas, as well as the trade of the distant portions of our own State, to which it is by right entitled. This great purpose it will be the duty of the Legislature to foster and encourage. Prompt action should also be taken to remove from the city many oppressive burdens imposed upon it by the legislation of the past. The city should have the control of its own finances, and not be compelled, as it now is by legislative enactments, to incur annually heavy and unnecessary expenditures, much beyond its current resources.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

I regret that we do not find more that is encouraging in the progress of internal improvements in the State. On this subject there can be no diversity of opinion. Before the war the policy of the Southern States seemed to be not to seek appropriations from the federal government for internal improvements, [illegible] comparatively small portion of the money appropriated by Congress for this purpose was expended in the South, while large appropriations went to the Northern States, where they were eagerly sought, and did much to develop works of great benefit to the commerce of those States. Since the war, however, many of the Southern States have in this regard reversed their policy. To Louisiana especially the national government has extended aid with a liberal hand. Large appropriations have been made by Congress for the improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi river, of Bayou Teche, the Atchafalaya, the Tangipahoa, Ouachita, Tchefuncta and Red rivers. One half of the estimated requisite appropriation for the removal of the raft from the Red river was passed during the last session of Congress. All these improvements, I am glad to say, are in progress or about to be commenced. Congress also appropriated a large amount of the public lands to aid in the building of a railroad from New Orleans to Shreveport. It is believed from present indications that at an early day the work will be entered upon and pushed to a satisfactory conclusion. Every effort should be made to secure the completion of this most essential work. The Legislature of the State during the past four years has largely subsidized a projected railroad from New Orleans westward to the Sabine. The early completion of this road and of the road to Shreveport is essential to the prosperity of New Orleans and the State at large; no effort must be spared to bring about this result. Legislative action is likely to be asked in regard to the New Orleans, Mobile and Texas railroad. Time, it is understood, is required and will be asked for by the company to enable it to fulfill the conditions and stipulations it entered into with the State. The benefits that the State at large, and New Orleans especially, are to derive from so important an enterprise are greatly prejudiced by the failure of the company to push on the work. Good policy requires that every proper facility asked by the company should be extended; but in making concessions the Legislature should exact a guarantee amply sufficient to indemnify the State against any future failure in the construction of the road. Much controversy exists regarding the real financial status of this road, and to the end that the precise condition of the company in all respects may be ascertained, I suggest that the Legislature authorize the appointment of a committee of citizens in whom the community have confidence to examine into the facts and to make an early report.

COMMERCE WITH MEXICO.

The allowance of a subsidy for a line of steamships between New Orleans and the ports of Mexico and Spanish America is a subject of vast importance to the State. A bill has passed the Senate of the United States, and is now before the House, looking to that object. There is apparently a growing disposition on the part of the general government to secure closer commercial intercourse with Mexico. Increased facilities of commerce by way of New Orleans, it is clear, will go far to attain this desirable result. I recommend that the General Assembly memorialize Congress to pass the bill now before them, or some other of like import.

THE LEVEES.

The State of Louisiana has a larger alluvial territory than any other State bordering upon the Mississippi, and hence has a greater interest than any of them in an efficient levee system. To restrain the waters of this mighty stream within its proper channel is an almost herculean task. It has long been conceded to be appropriately a national work. During my labors in a different department of the public service I was in a position to ascertain the views of the national legislature on this important subject, and I found them to be in consonance with this opinion. The Legislature of this State, however, by the incorporation of the Levee Company in 1871, having adopted on a very large scale a plan of its own for the construction and repairing of levees, the consideration of the subject by the national government was postponed. I recommend that the Legislature authorize the appointment of a committee, to be composed of citizens, fully competent to examine and report upon the character and sufficiency of the levees constructed and in process of construction by the company, and the degree of energy with which the work is being conducted, in a matter of such magnitude and importance, and likely to constitute so great a drain on the State treasury, it is all important that the people should know from the most reliable sources whether this gigantic undertaking is really to be successful, and confer upon the State the results promised. The public interest imperatively demands that no half way measures shall be tolerated in the execution of works for which the people so lavishly bestow their money.

FINANCE.

The financial condition of the State is a subject of profound solicitude, and will be discussed in future communications. The funded debt of the State, as reported by the Auditor, amounts to $21,801,800; the unfunded debt, including certificates of indebtedness, Auditor's warrants, and amount due the fiscal agent, amounts to $2,291,607 90, and the interest on the funded debt amounts to $1,572,153 14 annually. The revenue to be derived from the present rate of taxation, licenses, and other sources for the current year will be sufficient to pay all the necessary expenses of the State government, to pay the interest overdue, and that which will become due on the funded debt during the present year, to pay the legislative expenses, and to provide for the redemption of the past due bonds. There is no good reason why the rate of taxation, after the current year, should not be steadily reduced. The delinquent taxes amount to $3,028,917 21, due on the assessments of 1870 and 1871. These taxes should be paid, and the requisite legislation should be had to secure their collection. From the best evidence obtainable it is evident that the delinquent list is in a great measure composed of those who are most able to pay. The poor man pays his taxes and the rich should not be exempt.

If the taxes now due were paid the future and necessary expenses of the State would be provided for, and the State would be put upon a cash basis. The policy of drawing warrants when there is no money in the treasury to meet them is most pernicious. A State warrant, in contemplation of law, is a check, and should not be drawn unless there is money in the treasury to meet it.

No appropriations whatever should be made except such as are actually necessary to carry on the State government, and to observe full faith with all the holders of State obligations. There must be rigid economy in the expenditures of the General Assembly, the expenses of which ought not to exceed $200,000.

TAX COLLECTION.

The laws regarding the manner of assessing and collecting taxes, both of the State and the city of New Orleans, should be carefully revised, and one system of assessment should serve for both city and State. The rate of assessment on property in the country parishes and in New Orleans is unequal. This unjust discrimination should not continue. The compensation received by tax collectors and assessors, especially in the city of New Orleans, is exorbitant, and I recommend that it be reduced. There has been, during the last two years, a shameful neglect on the part of tax collectors to account for their collections, and in many cases the securities furnished have proved worthless. Some effective measures should be at once taken to remedy this evil.

EXECUTIVE PATRONAGE.

The executive is invested with a large amount of patronage—in my judgment, too much. It would be better for the executive and better for the State if a large proportion of this patronge were remitted back to the people to whom it properly belongs. The dispensing of patronage is at once a most delicate and responsible task. Party services, doubtless, when honorably performed, entitle an applicant to consideration, but the claim should also be founded in capacity and integrity. Feeling myself responsible in a great measure for the good conduct of every public officer, I shall hold each to a strict accountability for the faithful and proper discharge of his official duties.

RELATION OF CAPITAL AND LABOR.

In a republican government such as ours, where all power is lodged in the people, and the will of the people is expressed through the ballot box, it is absolutely essential that that will should be freely and fairly expressed. The right of suffrage is the highest immunity of citizenship, and this right should be sternly guarded. Under a system of law according equal political justice to all, securing the individual rights of every person, it is to be regretted that there is a disposition to prevent the newly enfranchised citizen from freely exerting his right to vote. This is calculated to engender antagonism between capital and labor. Labor and capital were in the same hands before the war. They have now become divorced by the enfranchisement of the colored men. How can antagonism be avoided? The solution is easy. Give every laborer the opportunity to acquire capital by fair means; see that the law protects him against imposition; see that his wages are faithfully paid. Urge him to husband his earnings and invest them in some permanent form. The moment a man owns a house and lot or an acre of ground he becomes a capitalist in interest and so will become a capitalist in sentiment. Protect him in that interest; above all, protect him in the exercise of the ballot, the guarantee and safeguard of his rights. In this way antagonism between labor and capital may be avoided, and the object which more than any other I desire, will be attained—harmony between the races.

THE LATE ELECTION.

The late general election in this State is likely to become a matter of public investigation, and I have therefore but few words to say on the subject.

Briefly, I charge that the pretended election claimed for the fusion ticket is utterly without foundation in truth or justice. I charge this, although the late Governor of this State, through the instrumentality of registrars and commissioners of election specially selected and designated by him for that purpose prevented, by previously concocted stratagems, many of the Republican voters of the State from registering and voting. The various stratagems and evasions resorted to I am prepared to establish by the fullest proof. I charge that promises of offices were made to secure fraudulent returns, and that ballot boxes in numerous instances were opened and tickets changed. I affirm that the Republican party carried the State by the actual vote cast, and that an attempt to show a different result was made even after the election by means of robbing and stuffing ballot boxes. It can and will be proven that the canvass was entered into by the fusion party, headed by the late Governor, with the avowed purpose of carrying the election against General Grant and the Republican party, by the adoption of any means necessary for the purpose. I am prepared to show that partisans supporting the fusion ticket frequently declared during the canvass that the success of that ticket was certain, irrespective of the ballots cast, declaring that the Governor had the election all in his own hands; that he could elect or "count in" any candidate he pleased. I am prepared to show that the obstacles thrown in the way of the Republican voters of every class were especially directed against one class of them, on account of their color and previous condition, it being notorious that, with very rare exceptions, the voters of that class favored very decidedly the Republican ticket. All these charges I am prepared to maintain. My opponents failing to receive any countenance from the different legal tribunals, both State and federal, that have been appealed to, have resorted to the novel experiment of sending abroad a traveling committee, aided by eminent counsel, to exhibit indignation before the people and, if possible, obtain their sympathy by ex parte statements and concealment of the real facts of the case. They indicate a desire that an investigation be had. I have at all times expressed my readiness to join them in this. I would not hold an office to which I did not believe myself to be elected. I desire that the fullest investigation may be gone into of this whole controversy, to the end that the action taken by the courts and by the national administration may be vindicated.

In taking the solemn oath of chief magistrate, it is with a sincere desire to do all in my power essential to secure the peace, prosperity and fullest development of the State. To this end I ask the aid and sympathy of all good citizens. Fellow-citizens, I have a right to expect your earnest cooperation, and I invoke the generous smiles of an overruling Providence.

After Governor Kellogg had concluded the oath of office was administered by Chief Justice Ludeling, administered to him the oath of office, and he received the congratulations of many friends, while the band continued to discourse good music. These congratulatory demonstrations over, the President of the Senate announced that Governor Pinchback would deliver a valedictory address, and thereupon our worthy retiring Governor spoke as follows:

GOVERNOR PINCHBACK'S ADDRESS.

To the President and Members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana:

The present occasion is one of great interest, marking, as it does, the passing away of one administration and the inauguration of another.

It is not necessary or expected on this occasion that I should say much, but there are some things that may be appropriately uttered by me at this time.

As the Lieutenant Governor of the State, at a period when the political complications were remarkable and grave, I have been called under the constitution to perform executive functions.

The lines within which I could legitimately act were not very accurately or satisfactorily ascertained, and it has required all the discretion, wisdom and nerve that I could command to ascertain and perform my duties to the citizens under the circumstances.

The inherent difficulties of the case had been largely aggravated and increased by causes collaterally and incidentally operating against me as Acting Governor. I have performed my executive duties in the face of bitter antagonisms of race, and when the temper of the times was unfriendly to a charitable judgment and the quiet execution of the laws.

In addition to this, some of the parties acting in conjunction with me, and from whom I expected support, have not only failed to give me a hearty support in the discharge of my delicate duties, but have indulged in hypercriticism upon what they have been pleased to call my indiscreet exercise of power.

Holding my position only for a few weeks, and under circumstances anomalous and embarrassing in the extreme, it was neither possible nor desirable for me, intentionally and for my own purposes or otherwise, to do either unwise, unjust or ungenerous things toward the people of Louisiana.

My time of service now expires, and my brief administration, with its mistakes and whatever of good I have been able to impress upon it is before the country, and I am content to abide the verdict that the people, irrespective of party, and when the passions of the hour have passed, may render upon my official acts.

In surrendering my position to the gentleman who is entitled to the office of Governor under the law, permit me to say that the political condition of our State is so disturbed, and the situation surrounded by so many embarrassments as to have attracted to us the attention of the whole country. It is not improper to say that probably a fair conclusion would be, without going into details, that the success of neither party in its entirety would cover all of the individual equities involved.

Under the most favorable settlement of our difficulties some portion of our citizens would feel aggrieved and some good man would feel that he had suffered a wrong; the evils that are upon us and the difficulties that surround us are neither imaginary or superficial, but real and grave, and any settlement, however reached, must be so comprehensive and thorough that the public prosperity may be advanced by securing good will among the citizens and the public content; any adjustment that stops short of this is a delusion. We must not only be right, but we must impress the community so thoroughly that we are right, that they will be content.

To accomplish this work the administration now to be inaugurated must be catholic in its spirit and wise and discreet in its action.

I now have the honor to formally surrender the office of Governor, with the hope that while you will administer the government in the interest of *all* the people, your administration will be as fair toward the class that I represent as mine as been toward the class represented by you.

After Governor Pinchback concluded his address, the President of the Senate announced that the Senate would retire to the Senate Chamber, and that body immediately withdrew.

The House was called to order at half-past twelve o'clock, and immediately after adjourned until 12 M. to-day.

Immediately after the adjournment of the House the new Governor was surrounded by a host of ladies and gentlemen, who claimed the privilege of shaking him by the hand and congratulating him as Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A Dispatch.

Last evening, just as the Odd Fellows' Hall Legislature was about to adjourn, a dispatch from Washington was read, which gave some of the members temporary comfort. It was read in the Senate and House, and in substance was about as follows:

WASHINGTON, January 13.—The House of Representatives has passed unanimously a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether Durell has usurped authority not conferred by the laws, and if so, to prepare articles of impeachment.

The names of Messrs. Wheelock and Baker were signed to it.

The recipients are welcome to all the consolation they can gather from it.

Mr. W. D. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, the member who introduced the resolution, has an excellent memory, and can not possibly forget his experience in Mobile, when he was mobbed shortly after the war closed for making a Republican speech.

HIDES, SKINS AND FURS.—In almost every village in the interior of this State an industrious and intelligent person can collect enough of these articles to net him a handsome living if he would bale them up and ship to Mr. John H. Wilkinson, Jr., wholesale dealer and commission merchant, No. 29 Peters street, near the Customhouse, whose specialty is this line of trade. He buys or sells on commission everything in the way of hides, skins, furs, moss, wool, tallow, beeswax, etc., and we advise our country friends to make him shipments, as he is a gentleman of liberality and integrity.

INTERESTING REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION BY THE SHERIFF.—Attention is called to the sale at auction, to be made this day at noon, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, by the sheriff of the parish of Orleans, of a lot of ground, with the buildings and improvements thereon, situated in the Third District of this city, at the corner of Peters (or Levee) and Pauline streets. For particulars see advertisement.

A good time is in store for our friends in the river towns. We understand from Sam H. Joseph, of Old John Robinson's great show, that the management of this mammoth combination has purchased a steamboat, and will visit the towns and villages on the Mississippi and its tributaries, leaving this city on the nineteenth instant.

A strip of land on Pearl street, Boston, six inches wide, was sold last week for $845. It was 180 feet long.

BY TELEGRAPH.

LATEST NEWS FROM ALL POINTS

THE LOUISIANA QUESTION IN CONGRESS

AN ANIMATED DISCUSSION YESTERDAY

Atlantic and Great Western Canal

DEATH OF MAJOR M. W. CLUSKEY

HONORS TO THE EX-EMPEROR

SCENES AT CHISELHURST

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FUNERAL

EARTHQUAKE IN INDIA

FIFTEEN HUNDRED PERSONS KILLED

MISSOURI SENATORIAL NOMINATION

MASS MEETING AT MATAMORAS

PROTEST AGAINST ZONA LIBRE

MEETING OF THE INDIANA LEGISLATURE

GOVERNOR HENDRICKS' MESSAGE

CONGRESS.

Speech in Behalf of the Atlantic and Great Western Canal—James River and Kanawha Canal.

WASHINGTON, January 13.—The speech of General Dubose on Saturday, favoring government aid in behalf of the Atlantic and Great Western Canal, attracts general attention. The burden of his argument was against the unconstitutionality of the aid which is asked, and furnished facts and figures showing that the work was a national necessity.

The friends of the James River and Kanawha Canal have a hearing before the Committee of the House to morrow.

On motion of Mr. Hubbard, of New Hampshire, the rules were suspended so as to allow the proposition offered by him today in regard to the Pacific railroads to be in order as an amendment to the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill.

Mr. Sargent moved to suspend the rules to enable him to offer as an amendment to the same bill a proposition directing the Attorney General to institute a suit of equity against the Pacific railroad companies to ascertain whether they are in default to the government.

Without coming to a vote on it, the House at 4:45 P. M. adjourned.

WASHINGTON.

Two Judges Change Places—Ohio Constitutional Convention.

WASHINGTON, January 13.—Judge Humphries, district judge here, and Judge Busteed exchange places. Both resigned, and were nominated to each other's places.

The reported consecration of a Protestant church within Rome is premature. The ceremony was over a corner stone.

The bill for a constitutional convention in May, for Ohio, became a law on Saturday.

Dispatches from west of Chicago report a thaw with drizzling rain. Many have been frost a dead. A fuel famine is apprehended.

Brown & Jakes' paper mill, at Amsterdam, New York, is burned.

LOUISIANA.

The President's Report—Judge Durell—Resolution of Inquiry—Resolution Offered by Mr. Sheldon—Animated Discussion—Reference to Judiciary Committee.

[First Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 13.—The President sent to the House of Representatives to-day, in answer to the resolution of that body of the sixteenth of December last, a mass of papers upon the subject of Louisiana political affairs furnished by Attorney General Williams. The papers embrace copies of the report of judicial proceedings, correspondence by mail and telegraph, memorials and other matters, nearly all of which have heretofore been before the public.

The following telegram from General Emory, dated New Orleans, January 11, to the Adjutant General's office, closes the correspondence:

"As Mr. Kellogg has been declared by Governor Pinchback, and the Legislature which he recognizes, as the Governor elect of Louisiana, I presume it is intended by my instructions that I shall also recognize him, and shall accordingly do so, unless otherwise instructed. I addressed letters to the General commanding the army on the eighth and ninth, but they may not reach in time for action. The situation is becoming more complicated, and in my opinion, the use of troops simply to keep the peace cannot lead to a satisfactory or permanent solution of the difficulties here."

The report of the Attorney General, alluded to by the President in his message, does not accompany the papers.

[Second Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 13.—The House adopted a resolution for an inquiry into the conduct of Judge Durell, of Louisiana.

An animated discussion occurred in the House on a resolution offered by Mr. Sheldon, of Louisiana, for the appointment of a joint select committee on the Louisiana troubles. It was opposed by many of the leading members on both sides of the House, and advocated by others. Finally a resolution offered by Mr. Garfield, of Ohio, was adopted in its stead, refering the whole matter, with a message from the President thereon, to the Judiciary Committee.

[Third Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 13.—Mr. Beck, of Kentucky, moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill repealing the law for the iron-clad test oath. Lost—yeas 123; nays 66; less than two-thirds in the affirmative.

Mr. Sheldon, of Louisiana, moved to suspend the rules and pass a concurrent resolution for the appointment of a joint select committee of Senators and Representatives to inquire into the election of State officers and members of the Legislature held in the State of Louisiana on the fourth of November, 1872, and to report the result of their investigation to the houses of Congress; also, whether as a result of that election there is any legal and established Governor of Louisiana, and if there be two sets of persons or organizations claiming to be the government, which of them should be recognized by Congress, with power to send for persons and papers and take testimony in Washington and Louisiana.

Pending the vote on the resolution, the rules were suspended so as to allow an hour's debate. Mr. Sheldon opened the debate by a statement showing the necessity and propriety of the investigation proposed. He said that it was due to the President of the United States, who had been unjustly attacked for his action in the matter. It was due to Judge Durell, and it was due to the Republicans of that State and to the people of that State. If there had been corrupt and extraordinary proceedings there, the masses of the people of both parties were entirely innocent of them.

Mr. Eldridge, of Wisconsin, suggested that Durell did not claim to be acting as a United States judge, but as "the vicegerent of Almighty God, sitting to dispense justice."

Mr. Sheldon—He is a United States judge, nevertheless. I do not say whether he has done right or done wrong. I pass no opinion on his action. If right, let him be vindicated. If wrong, let him abide the consequences of his actions. I therefore propose this investigation in no party, but in the spirit of peace and good government.

Mr. Butler, of Massachusetts, opposed the resolution, arguing that the investigation would not be closed before the close of this Congress, and that the proper course would be the passage of a bill now before the Judiciary Committee for the appointment of a commission charged with having a new and a fair election in the State of Louisiana. He argued that neither the Warmoth nor the Pinchback governments had any legal standing.

Mr. Farnsworth, of Illinois, replied to Butler's argument, and supported the resolution. Before Congress could take the ground that there was no State government in Louisiana, it would be necessary to turn out the men now sitting as Senators and Representatives from that State.

Mr. Butler—The State had a government when they were admitted.

Mr. Farnsworth—But their office ceases as soon as the State government ceases.

Mr. Kerr, of Indiana, regarded Butler's propositions not only as untenable, but as monstrous. No one could deny that Louisiana has a constitution that was republican in form. It had been organized under congressional dictation, and the Republican party could not go back so soon on its own offspring. It had been made by the people of Louisiana, and after a manner it had not been overthrown by the people of Louisiana. It has been overthrown alone by the lawless conduct of one man, aided by many others equally as bad, and revolutionary in character, and as infamous of purpose. That one man was an officer of the federal government, not of the State government at all. It was the judge of a United State District Court in Louisiana who, without one single scintilla of legal right or authority, undertook to step between the people of Louisiana and the result of a legal and constitutional election held in that State, and to put it in the power of a combination and clique there to take control of the State government by overruling the popular will. They all knew that the infamous Pinchback government was not elected by the people of Louisiana, and did not claim to have been so elected.

It was for the purpose of setting aside the judgment of the people that that infamous judge gave the hand of the federal powers to a combination of lawless men. It has been said by Mr. Sheldon that this investigation was due to the President of the United States and to Judge Durell, which meant that the object was to whitewash these men who had interposed lawlessly to overthrow a rightful, and constitutional, and regular government of a State. He (Kerr) was opposed to all such whitewashing propositions.

Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts—What remedy does the gentleman propose?

Mr. Kerr—The remedy is as clear to me as the sight of the sun. It consists alone in the federal government keeping its hands of lawless power off the people of Louisiana, and suffering them to go on in the exercise of their own power under the constitution in reorganizing and establishing order in their own State.

Mr. Smith, of New York—Suppose the presidential election had turned on the vote of Louisiana, would we not have civil war in every State of the Union?

Mr. Kerr—I do not see any necessity for civil war arising out of these Louisiana troubles, except for the lawless interference. It is true that if this lawless interference had not taken place first on the part of the federal judiciary in Louisiana, and then on the part of the administration, the electoral vote of Louisiana would not be a case for President Grant. But now what is the remedy? Take off the lawless power and give back to the people the right to control their destinies within the letter and spirit of the constitution of the United States.

Mr. Stevenson, of Ohio, opposed the resolution, admitting that there were no less than five committees in the two Houses that had now jurisdiction over the question. There was the Ku-Klux committee, which was, or is supposed to be, in existence; there was the select committee which was sent to Louisiana last winter, and there were the two Election Committees and the Judiciary Committees. If matters went on as they were going, Congress would have to keep up a standing committee on Louisiana.

Mr. Farnsworth asked Stevenson how the Committee on Elections could get jurisdiction on the question.

Mr. Stevenson replied that a vacancy for a member of the House had been filled at the last election, and that the contest for the seat was now before the Committee of Elections. He went on to argue against the resolution, urging that something should be left to time, the great healer; that Louisiana should be left to take care of herself, and that Congress should be done with this everlasting question of reconstruction. Let them (said he) construct themselves somewhat. If they can't have peace, let them have trouble somewhat. I would not much care if some of those violent rascals down there should cut each others' throats.

Mr. Cox, of New York, supported the resolution. He wanted the facts to come out. He wanted no exparte statement by the executive. He wanted to have both sides of the question, so that Congress might be able to determine the proper course to be pursued.

Mr. Pollard, of Vermont, argued that however much information Congress might get on the subject, it would not authorize any action by Congress. It was a mere question of contest as to the result of an election. If Congress were to interfere, then whenever there was a contest in any State, Congress would be called upon to interfere to decide the question. It was purely a judicial question, and the duty of both sides was to resort to the judicial tribunals of the State. One side in the contest had done so, and had got a decision in its favor. It was not for him to inquire whether that decision was right or wrong. It was the duty of the executive to see that the people of Louisiana did not get into civil war and anarchy, and that he had done.

Mr. Sheldon said that Judge Durell had never passed on the question of the Governorship, as there was no controversy about it until to-day when the inauguration of the Governor would take place.

Mr. Poland replied that the decision of Judge Durell was *prima facie* a decision in favor of one side. The President had done just exactly what was his duty by saying to the people of Louisiana that they should not get into civil war on that question, and he would use the power of the government to keep the peace there.

Mr. Hale, of Maine, supported the resolution, and argued that the carpet-bagging governments in the Southern States had brought disgrace on the Republican party, and might have brought defeat to it in the last elections but for other overpowering considerations. The Republican party, however, would be responsible in the future if anarchy and corruption were maintained in the Southern States. He, therefore, wanted solemn and fundamental action in this matter.

Mr. Bingham, of Ohio, supported the resolution.

Mr. Scofield, of Pennsylvania, opposed it because he thought that all the important official facts in the matter were already understood and were, he presumed, contained in the message from the President, which had been handed to the Speaker since the opening of the debate. He sustained the action of the President as being strictly in the line of his duty.

Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, opposed the resolution, stating that he was more troubled with explaining facts than with

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