New Orleans Republican.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE UNITED STATES

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NEW ORLEANS

THE DAILY REPUBLICAN

is published every day (Mondays excepted) at No. 94 Camp street. Terms: $12 a year; $6 for six months; $4 for three months—payable invariably in advance. Single copies five cents.

Office—No. 94 Camp street.

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SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

JACKSON, Miss., January 22, 1873.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN:

On Sunday evening last a large crowd assembled at the New Orleans and Jackson railroad depot, among whom were many prominent politicians, who had gathered together for the purpose of saying *bon voyage* to certain individuals en route for Washington, among whom your reporter noticed General George A. Sheridan and Messrs. Parker, Armstead and others, who proceeded to that city to give evidence before the congressional investigating committee.

After a brief repose your reporter made a visit to

THE STATE HOUSE,

which was receiving the finishing touches from the workmen in renovating and embellishing it for the reception of the Legislature. There were new carpets, new mattings, new varnished desks and a general appearance of newness all over, while behind the Speaker's chair appears a canopied tent like recess whose utility is not apparent.

Our next visit was to

THE CITY AND COUNTY JAIL,

a two-story brick building—the lower floor containing two bedrooms, as well as two cells, and the upper having four iron cages, heavily cross-barred, and each measuring about seven feet by six. In one of these we found Dr. Swan, alias St. Cyr, who freely answered such interrogatories as we put to him with reference to the raised warrants case. The Doctor is a pleasant, rather good-looking man, of about thirty-eight years old, with a copious growth of beard and moustaches, and evidently of liberal education and gentlemanly manners. He stated that he had been in irons until that morning, at the same time pointing to an enormous pair of shackles,

WEIGHING FOURTEEN POUNDS,

which had been constantly on his ankles, chaining them together, ever since his imprisonment. He remarked that it appeared very hard, if not vindictive, that while there were in these cages

FIVE MURDERERS,

not one of them was shackled, and such treatment was equally needless in his case. A dirty looking negro was confined in the same cage with him. Previous to his being brought to the jail he was kept in the Penitentiary

IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT,

and had been transferred by writ of habeas corpus. He says he was kidnapped from his home in St. Mary parish, Louisiana, where he has many wealthy friends, who would cheerfully have gone his bail to any amount. There are

NEITHER BEDS NOR BLANKETS

nor seats, nor bunks in any of the cages except two or three that have been left there by former prisoners, and the place

SWARMS WITH VERMIN.

Dr. Swan maintains that he positively knows nothing about the matter, and is an entire stranger to all the persons charged with it except Currie, and that this latter never mentioned one word about it to him. He has been in the South twenty years, and over twelve years in the vicinity of Jackson.

It if unnecessary here to repeat the proofs the prisoner gave as to his innocence of the charges against him, as they will, doubtless, be adduced at his trial.

Your reporter next interviewed Messrs.

CONSIDINE AND STEELE,

who are confined in the next cage. Three foul smelling and filthy looking negroes are locked up in the same seven by six feet cross-barred cage. These young men, also, although having heretofore enjoyed untarnished reputations, and holding responsible official appointments, and, although the law holds them innocent until proved guilty, have been

CONSTANTLY IN IRONS,

although vigilantly and securely imprisoned. Absence of bedding and seats, and lack of every comfort likewise, is the distinguishing characteristics in their case. They both strongly deny any guilt, or guilty knowledge of the warrant raising business, and their distinguished counsel Colonel Hooker, will doubtless subject the testimony for the prosecution to a searching cross examination.

THE FOOD

given to prisoners in this delectable bastile consists of a small piece of salt pork, and a ditto chunk of corn bread for breakfast and the same for dinner. Tea or coffee are unknown there as part of diet. No supper is furnished; neither are lights.

Having acquired this information, this reporter descended the staircase, and found in one of the bare cells before mentioned,

J. F. CUNNINGHAM,

who is charged with having received the box of forged State warrants sent him from New York. He was

HEAVILY IRONED,

and complained bitterly of the treatment to which he had been exposed. He appeared anxious to know how public opinion was disposed toward him, and when informed that people seemed to have no doubt of his complicity, was considerably agitated. It may be here stated that on the day after the interview a mixed jury was impanceled to try his case, Judge Fisher presiding in consequence of the illness of Judge Brown, Judge Potter, one of the oldest and most distinguished lawyers of the Mississippi bar being engaged for the defense. The case was then continued, and on Wednesday Cunningham desired to see Governor Powers, when he declared his desire to unburden his breast, and made

A FULL CONFESSION

of his complicity. He then obtained a promise that if his confession was used in court and proved valuable, he should not be prosecuted.

Next in order your reporter visited

CAPTAIN DUNHAM,

one of the most prominent characters in this extraordinary case. He will be remembered as giving that damning testimony against Governor Warmoth before the congressional investigating committee as to the stuffing of ballot boxes in Algiers. The captain is an elderly man, and has suffered much from his confinement in jail, where he is held as witness for the prosecution. To our inquiries he observed a close reticence, merely remarking that his testimony would be given at the proper time.

The commissioners appointed by the Legislature for the purpose of locating

THE NEW PENITENTIARY

have fixed upon an admirable site known as the "Shotwell Place," situated about four miles north of Jackson, on the railroad. The land consists of five hundred acres, of which two hundred are woodland, and the remainder tillable. The commissioners have adopted the plans and specifications of Colonel Joseph Willis, the State architect for Mississippi, which will be found to reflect much credit on that able gentleman. The building will be of the castellated order, seventy feet in height, ninety feet in depth, and four stories high. It will have octagon towers at each of the four corners of twelve feet in diameter, which will stand eighty feet above the pavement, and give a magnificent appearance to the institution. We have no space for further details.

There will be a spirited contest shortly for

NEXT GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI,

as well as for other State officials, and so far as your reporter could ascertain from conversation with the wire-pullers, the slate will probably run thus:

For Governor—Adelbert Ames.

For Lieutenant Governor—Charles Caldwell.

For Secretary of State—Hiram R. Revels.

For Auditor of Public Accounts—Robert J. Alcorn.

For Treasurer—R. M. Flournoy.

For Attorney General—J. S. Morris.

This, of course, is mere speculation, but the result will not be far from as above stated.

THE LEGISLATURE

commenced their session on Tuesday, according to programme, when organization was the order of the day. Some obstreperous spirits evidently went prepared for a row, for

PISTOLS WERE DRAWN,

and oaths and epithets were freely bandied among the law-givers. On Wednesday matters seemed to have settled down, for committees were appointed, and the Governor's message was received and read. It will be found a remarkably able document, and well justifying the anticipations of the friends of Governor Powers as to his broad and statesmanlike views. Our astute confrere of the *Pilot* (which, by the by, under the able editorship of Messrs. Raymond and Whipple, is now issued daily), however, refrains for the present from reviewing that document—but we believe that few will be found to carp or find fault with it.

COSMOS.

The Sailor's Prayer for his Beloved.

[Written in a tempest at sea, in 1869, on the steamship United States, by her captain.—G. L. N.]

Father in Heaven! I do Thee implore
To hear my prayer above the tempest's roar,
Though human ear 'twould reach but half-mast high,
Thou'rt in the tempest, and can hear my cry.
Bless! Oh, my God! her whom I love so dear,
Her, whom Thou sent my lonely heart to cheer.
Lead her, Oh Father, in the narrow path,
That she may never know, or fear Thy wrath.
Bless her, for me, if I have ever done
The least thing worthy to be called Thine son;
And, after this, should she more blessings need,
Take from mine, Father! and lavish on her head!
Her frame is slight—mine strong enough to bear
Much more of trouble; I would crave her share.
Please! Father, do not let me plead in vain!
Her trial's mine, and I will bless Thy name.
And now, my God! enable me to say:
"Thy will, not mine, be done," from day to day.
My cares, as I am taught, I on Thee cast;
May her cares rest there too: 'tis all I ask!

AMUSEMENTS.

Academy of Music.

The last presentation of the burlesque of "Robin Hood, or the Maid that was Arch and the Youth that was Archer," will be given at the Academy this evening by the Lydia Thompson company. Of course the house will be crowded. To-morrow evening "Lurline" will be put on and run till Friday evening, when "Blue Beard" will put in an appearance again.

St. Charles Theatre.

Those who expected to sit through "Frou Frou" this evening, as presented by the Lingards, will be disappointed. The comedy of "Delicate Ground" will be produced for the last Lingard entertainment, followed by the Lingard sketches and the new comic opera of "Los Ladrones." To-morrow evening the celebrated Irish comedian, Mr. John Collins, in his great impersonation of *Rory O'More*, introducing among his popular songs "I'd Mourn the Hopes that Leave Me," the "Wearing of the Green," the "Crookseen Lawn" and "Widow Machree." Tuesday evening "Paul Clifford."

Varieties Theatre.

It is announced this morning that "Macbeth," with Miss Charlotte Cushman and Lawrence Barrett in the cast, will be produced at the Varieties Theatre to-morrow evening, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and for the Wednesday matinee. For Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings and Saturday matinee, "King Henry VIII.," with Charlotte Cushman and Lawrence Barrett in the leading roles.

Opera House.

The first of the series of Rubinstein concerts will be given at the Opera House to-morrow evening. At that time Anton Rubinstein, the greatest living pianist, will make his first appearance in New Orleans, as will also Henry Wieniawski, the world renowned violinist; Mlle. Louise Liebhart, the celebrated soprano; and Mlle Louise Oremeny, the favorite contralto. The second Rubinstein concert will be given Wednesday evening, the third Friday evening, and the only gala matinee Saturday afternoon. Seats can be had at the Opera House and at Grunewald's music store.

A sharp fellow shipped a barrel of petroleum to Alabama, bought ten acres of ground for $50, and then sold out for $50,00.

SAMANA BAY.

What the Members of the Company Expect to make Out of their Venture.

[From the New York Times.]

STATEMENT OF MR. SPOFFORD.

A representative of the *Times* last night called upon Mr. P. N. Spofford, the vice president of the company, and obtained the following information respecting the prospects of the company, and the probable effect of the purchase of Samana upon the commerce of the United States. Mr. Spofford has evidently been the principal mover in the enterprise, and, while unwilling to furnish information as to the immediate movements of the company, yet readily and kindly furnished the *Times* with the following interesting facts:

The purchase of Samana is intended to be but the precursor of the ultimate absorption of the entire territory known as the Dominican Republic, and, in Mr. Spofford's opinion, will be of vast service commercially to the trading community of the country, and politically to the whole of the United States. For many years considerable commercial connection has existed between New York and San Domingo. Many New York merchants hold landed property in Samana, while certain corporations have received valuable privileges from the Dominican government, and it was with the idea of uniting these various interests that the present company was organized. As has already been stated, the agricultural products are of considerable value, and as it has been found that many valuable woods, such as mahogany and lignum vitæ, grow in the island in great profusion, particular attention will now be directed to this branch of trade. Politically speaking, the possession of the island of San Domingo, which is the natural sequence of the present enterprise, will be of great importance to the United States. The island is in the most favored position of any in the Caribbean Sea, and is, indeed, the key to the islands of the West Indies. Upon General Grant's proposed purchase of the island in 1869, Mr. Spofford had much to say, and considered the subject to be one deserving of great praise. He considered that, comparing San Domingo, acre for acre, with the island of Cuba, it is vastly superior, both in its minerals and its agriculture. Many persons have been heard to say that the purchase of Cuba for $400,000,000 would be a cheap bargain to the United States, and he (Mr. Spofford) thinks that the purchase of San Domingo for $50,000,000 would certainly be a superior speculation, and yet when it could have been bought for $1,500,000, the project met with general condemnation, chiefly on the ground that the existing debt of the island—$1,500,000—would be found upon investigation to be very much greater. Mr. Spofford states that he has obtained the most reliable information upon this point, and is assured that the debt on San Domingo would be found to be somewhat less than was then stated, and the revenue arising from the proper government of the island would in a short time have entirely paid off the debt without any disbursement on that account whatever. The passage to Samana occupies from five to seven days, and the approach to the harbor, unlike that to Cuba and the other West Indian islands, is a remarkable easy one.

As to the harmony with which the government of Samana will be conducted, Mr. Spofford thinks that there is no occasion for uneasiness on that point, the Dominican republic having hitherto shown the greatest desire for friendly relations with the United States, as well as a most profound respect and admiration for the business character of the American people. Further than this, the latest advices received from there show the native merchants and business men of the entire republic looking forward with the most eager and joyful anticipations of their certain prosperity when taken under the protection and patronage of American enterprise and industry.

MR. HAZARD'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Rowland B. Hazard, secretary of the company, said last evening that he began negotiations for the scheme about three months ago. All that was done at that time were preliminary steps in the accomplishment of the enterprise. He saw the gentlemen who now form the company, and conversed with them upon the subject. Mr. Thomas W. Scott, of Philadelphia; Dr. Howe, of Boston, and Mr. Oliver Ames, of this city, were the first he visited. They entered enthusiastically into the scheme, as did the dozen other gentlemen who have associated themselves with them. Many merchants afterward wished to take shares, but there were none to dispose of, as they were limited.

Mr. Hazard said that one of the theories of the company is that whichever way the Cuban rebellion may terminate, it will result in the destruction of the island for many years to come. The Spaniards will burn and destroy everything before they quit the country, should they be forced to do so. Cuban merchants will naturally be attracted to San Domingo at once, on the establishment of a good and stable government there. A large Cuban firm has already made preparations to remove its business there. It is a better coffee and sugar country than Cuba, and her vast forests of logwood, mahogany and satin wood, gold mines out of which the Spaniards 300 years ago worked $20,000,000 of gold, mines of copper, and mountains of pure bazalt, which shine like snow in the sunlight. With all these great resources, San Domingo has no appreciable population to develop them. Emigration is expected to the island from New England and other parts of the country, and the skilled colored laborers are to receive every inducement to make it their home. One of the recommendations of the scheme is believed by the company to be the sparse population of the country. It is only 120,000, and President Grant, in his message, said that investigations of the government commission sent there had satisfied him that it was capable of supporting 10,0000,000 of people in luxury. The company anticipate that Samana Bay will be the great metropolis of the tropics. It has an almost unparalleled harbor, and the largest ships can float at ease in its waters. It is now a United States naval station, and a large dry dock is shortly to be built by the government. Samana will be made a free city, without import or export duties. This, it is believed, will attract the exchange business of the whole island system of the Caribbean sea and Spanish main. The company's ships, with Samana bay as the great centre, will exchange the productions of the tropics for the manufactures of Europe and America free of duty. The company have now only one steamer, the Tybee, which has been purchased from the Spoffords; but it is understood that it will soon construct several large and first class iron steamships, and it is thought that the Pacific Mail and Brazilian and New York Steamship Companies will make Samana bay a coaling station and depot. A veteran expressman, interested in the company, will also probably organize an express company from Samana to all American and island ports. Thus do the inaugurators of this scheme expect to build up, not only a flourishing city, but a State with a government modeled after the best forms, and administered for the benefit of all who chose it as a place of residence. The governmental idea will be republican. Some portions of its plan have already been fully decided upon. That portion for charities, correction and education is after the model of the plan adopted in Massachusetts. The whole of this department will be placed in charge of Dr. Samuel B. Howe, of Boston, who, with his wife, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, will reside permanently in San Domingo. Mr. J. Warren Fabens, formerly Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States to San Domingo, has been appointed Governor of Samana, and is now at his post. Among the projected improvements in Samana is a large hotel which is to be built and furnished with all modern improvements. The company have, in San Domingo, four-fifths of the island of which it forms a part in its possession. The other fifth is under the dominion of the negro government of Hayti. The latter government has a dense population of about 500,000. Its bad climate and the ignorant and savage nature of the Haytians are well known to our people. The company do not expect any trouble with Hayti, and do not intend to absorb it, as has been alleged. There is no idea entertained of forming a black republic. The company will be forced, it is believed, to borrow more than the purchase agreed upon—$20,000,000—to work out its plan to full success. No stock will go on the market, it is thought, however, as it is considered too valuable by the holders. The men who compose the company, Mr. Hazard is of the opinion, are so eminent for financial and intellectual abilities that they can not fail to make a good government.

Burning Corn—Transportation Wanted.

[From the St. Louis Democrat.]

The first statements which reached the Eastern papers from the West to the effect that corn was being burned up for fuel because railroad companies charged so much for carrying it to market that it became of no practical value to the farmer, were received with many doubts; and some journals did not hesitate to pronounce the whole statement a romance of the prairies. Some of the more thoughtful ones, however, resolved to ascertain what sort of foundation the story rested upon, and accordingly dispatched correspondents to various corn centres of Iowa, Illinois, Kansas and Missouri, and are not only convinced of the thorough genuineness of the statement that corn was being freely used by the farmers for fuel, but that manufacturers absolutely buy corn in vast quantities and burn it in their furnaces! One of these papers states that its correspondent in Central Iowa writes that corn is a drug there at twelve and a half cents. In some other sections of that State it is even cheaper, so cheap, indeed, that it is used, where timber is scarce and dear, for fuel. In some instances it has been economically used for fuel in manufactories. Such facts as these are well calculated to arouse the impatience of the people at the failure to realize cheap transportation. While such use of an important article of food may, perhaps, be justifiable under certain emergencies, as, for instance, where the supply is so superabundant that there is, practically, no other use for it, and where fuel is scarce and bears an exorbitant price; yet in a world where there are hungry people and all the food produced is needed for human sustenance and comfort, the habitual burning of corn as fuel can not be heard with indifference. In a country like ours we may know that it implies something wrong in management, and the first impulse toward investigation will naturally be in the direction of our transportation. Corn that can be bought in Iowa at ten to twenty cents per bushel, costs sixty five to eighty cents by the time it reaches the seaboard markets, the difference of fifty to sixty cents representing the transportation and incidental charges. Thus, if an Iowa farmer has 500 bushels of corn which he desires to send to the seaboard, it will cost him about the home value of 400 of them to get the other 100 to the purchaser.

Unless this evil can be speedily remedied, by means of more ample transportation facilities, there is danger of a serious check to agricultural development. During years of prolific crops, like the past year, millions of bushels of grain are destroyed and wasted at the West, because it can not be got to market for a reasonable sum. This condition of things has at length arrested the attention of the representative men of the country, and the inquiry has already been instituted as to what means ought to be adopted to cheapen transportation.

The railroads have grown to be stupendous monopolies, and tax the people of the whole country and of all classes more heavily than the federal government can venture to tax them. A railroad that costs twenty millions inflates its stock to forty, fifty or sixty millions, and then demands tolls from the traveling public and rates of freight from our farmers and merchants to pay interest on the inflated or watered stock. This is a more burdensome and iniquitous tax than the government imposes, and goes far to retard the development and business of the country.

The *Democrat* recommended one remedy, a year ago, which, if extensively applied, would help to lighten the now enormous load which is imposed upon both producer and consumer through excessive transportation charges levied by the railway companies of the country. That remedy is to construct a narrow gauge double track line of railway extending from this city to a convenient point east of the Ohio river, and there branching out into fingers like the human hand, each finger representing a double track line to some prominent seaboard city, such as Portland, Boston, New York, Baltimore, Norfolk, etc. This line should be equipped with fully 30,000 cars for freighting business. It should run no express trains or special passenger trains, but should draw one or more passenger coaches on each freight train, and, if the business required it, a train should leave each way every hour. No red lines, blue lines, white lines, green lines, or other outside corporations should ever have a right of way over its track. All freight should be shipped on the same day it was received at the depot, and kept moving right along until its destination was reached. A grand trunk line of this kind, and managed with a view of moving freight expeditiously and economically, would win all the business it could attend to, and make money upon its cost of construction.

Mexican Railways.

[From the New York Evening Post.]

We have before us Mexican journals to the fourteenth of December. Large preparations were made for opening, on the first of January, the railway from Vera Cruz to Mexico, with ceremonies and rejoicings suited to an event which forms the beginning of a new and more prosperous commercial era for the Mexican republic. With the opening of this important channel of trade, the newspaper press of Mexico is to have the advantage of receiving telegraphic messages sent from Matamoras to Mexico, containing the news from the United States, and from foreign countries, without charge. The line of telegraphic wires between the two Mexican cities is now almost ready for working, and we shall soon have the news of the day from the Mexican capital almost as soon as from New Orleans.

As to the rival projects of Rosecrans and Plumb, contemplating among other things, a connection between the City of Mexico and the Pacific ocean, they remain much as they were. A grant was made to General Rosecrans on the tenth of December, 1870, of authority to construct a railway with several branches, one of which was to form a connection between Mexico and the Pacific shore. This authority was to expire with the close of the year 1872, unless security should be given to the amount of $200,000 for the construction of the proposed railway within a certain fixed period. At the last session of the Mexican Congress, General Rosecrans applied for some important modifications in his charter. The application gave rise to an animated debate, and Senor Ramon G. Guzman delivered an able speech against the modifications in which he warned the country against conceding further privileges to a company which, while offering to undertake a work involving such vast expense, had not yet found means to furnish the promised security of $200,000. The Rosecrans scheme, however, had powerful partisans, and perhaps might have obtained a majority of votes in Congress had not one of the journals favorable to it attacked the President of the republic and his Cabinet, insinuating that they were bribed to favor the projected railway of Mr. Plumb and to throw obstacles in the way of the Rosecrans project. It was to no effect that General Rosecrans disclaimed all responsibility for these insinuations. They prejudiced his cause in such a manner that the Congress rejected the bill allowing the proposed modifications, and left him with the charter on his hands retaining the form it which it was first granted.

Since this happened it is reported that General Rosecrans has offered the security of $200,000 required in his charter of 1870. But the Mexican Minister of the Interior is required to decide whether the security is of a satisfactory nature, and we have not yet heard of his decision. Indeed, it is very doubtful whether the security has been offered since General Rosecrans and his associates are apparently not disposed to push their project in its original form.

Meanwhile the Mexican Congress has, by 124 votes against 10, adopted a resolution directing, in substance, the executive to receive all propositions relating to the construction of the railways within the republic, and to enter into arrangements for their construction with those companies or individuals whose schemes are preferred; subject, however, to the decision of Congress, which may afterwards ratify or reject the contracts so made. All those whose schemes have been rejected by the executive are to have the right of appealing to the Congress.

The English company which has just built the railway from Vera Cruz to Mexico is inclined, according to rumor, to enter the lists as a competitor for the line from Mexico to the Pacific, and only waits for the arrival from France of one of the eminent capitalists concerned in the Vera Cruz railway, to decide whether it will make proposals to the government.

ON THE PLAINS.

A Terrible Journey of a Canadian in the West in Search of Work.

On the fifteenth day of last December a man named Andrew Peters left his home in Canada, and came West in search of work. Upon arriving in Omaha, he proceeded to Plum Creek, on the line of the Union Pacific railroad, and upon reaching that place he wished to go to the farm of a man living eight miles from the village. Not being acquainted with the country he inquired the way, and was directed to go across the creek and follow a certain line.

On the twenty-fourth day of December he started on his short journey, but having but little idea that in so short a distance he would stare death in the face. After proceeding about four miles he made the alarming discovery that he had suddenly lost his way in the blinding, drifting snow, which had swept away all traces of the road and all the landmarks upon which he depended, the wind having arisen after he had set out from Plum creek.

Then his wanderings began, he hoping all the time that he might accidentally observe some friendly habitation where he could gain shelter and information. Three days and three nights he thus wandered about, without food, without rest, and with but poor protection against the biting cold and the piercing winds. He at length sank into insensibility, and remained in that state he does not know how long; but it could not have been any great length of time, for he was aroused by something that seemed to warm him up, and upon opening his eyes he discovered a large Newfoundland dog licking his face and hands. In an instant hope returned to him, and gathering all his energies; he made an effort to get upon his hands and knees, and succeeded. The dog then commenced jumping around him in a playful manner and set up a joyful barking, and then made a short run as if to indicate to Peters that if he would follow him he would lead him to a place of safety. Peters began following the dog, sometimes upon his hands and knees, and at other times at a hobbling gait. After proceeding about half a mile, he discovered a farm-house in the distance, which he finally reached.

He was taken in by the farmer and his son, and, briefly telling his story, he received their kindest attentions. He pulled off his boots, and as they did so portions of the flesh of his feet, which were frozen, came off with them. The first and third fingers on his left hand, and all the fingers, thumb and palm of his right hand, and his left ear were also terribly frozen. The farmer and his son gave him all the assistance in their power, but there was no doctor at hand, and consequently they could not do much.

The farmer's son bought Peter's boots, as he had no further use for them, and then brought him to Plum Creek, he having determined to return home. He had but little money, but with the amount realized from the sale of his boots, and other little sums collected for him, and with a supply of provisions given him by the inhabitants of Plum Creek and the passengers, he managed to reach this city yesterday afternoon on the Union Pacific train from the West, after having suffered untold agonies. It is not likely that he can survive.—*Omaha Bee.*

Blackmailing and Whisky Frauds.

[From the Chicago Tribune.]

CINCINNATI, January 18.—The testimony taken yesterday before Florence Ball, register in bankruptcy in this city, revealed striking complications in certain revenue matters hereabouts. The revelations come from an investigation instituted by the government seeking to reopen the case of bankruptcy of P. Schwab, of Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio. Schwab was a distiller during the war, grew rich, failed, and a few days ago was adjudged a bankrupt. The government seeks to prove that he did not return all his property, and calls witnesses to show that last June, a short time before he was adjudged a bankrupt, he had a sum of several thousand dollars which did not appear among his assets. In the June term of the United States Court, in the case of the government against the Plank Road Distillery, to recover $300,000 for alleged failures to make proper internal revenue returns came up, and judgment was rendered against the government. Before the case came up Mr. T. P. Saunders represented to the United States district attorney that he had information that would enable the government to gain the Plank Road Distillery case. This was early last spring. Between this time and the day of trial, a meeting at the St. Nicholas Hotel took place between P. Schwab, J. Williams, T. P. Saunders and W. P. Pate, the latter representing himself as a friend of James W. Goff, who was supposed to own an interest in the Plank Road Distillery. This was near the middle of June. It was then supposed that all of these parties, except Pate, the friend of Mr. Goff, would be called by the government as witnesses. Six thousand dollars were counted out, and put in an envelope and distributed to these witnesses in case the government failed in the case against the Plank Road distillery. When the trial came Saunders was in St. Louis sick. The district attorney sent one of his assistants to take his testimony. His evidence did not pan out as the district attorney had expected. Saunders stated that certain written documents which would throw light on the subject had been turned over by him to his attorney in Cincinnati. When the officer returned to the city with the deposition, he found that Saunders' lawyer, who had the documents referred to, had been employed by defendants. The government did not, therefore, get the benefit of them. The following is that portion of the official record of the testimony of James Williams before the register yesterday, in reference to the bargain and contemplated disposition of the money at the St. Nicholas conference. Saunders and Schwab had their interview, and arrangements were entered into by which the money was counted out, $6000, and put into a package, to be deposited with Mr. Roth in his safe at the St. Nicholas, until a certain lease against Goff and others, then pending in the United States court, was decided. Mr. Schwab gave Saunders $500 at the time in money. Witness says further: "I understood that the package containing $6000 in greenbacks was the one deposited, and I saw it counted by Mr. Saunders. The money was to be divided when Mr. Goff was acquitted. The envelope was then to be opened, and $4000 was Mr. Saunders', $1000 for Schwab, and $1000 for myself. The reason why the package was not called for is that we have never been able to get Schwab to meet us here. He said he did not want it opened until Mr. Pate was willing. That permission was obtained by an order from Mr. Pate on P. Schwab. I told Schwab I had a letter. He promised to meet me here, but he has disappointed me from day to day. Mr. Saunders has been here twice to get it opened. He was here last week for that purpose. He resides in St. Louis. I can not tell where he is now."

There is no direct evidence as to the disposition of the envelope with the money. One opened before the register contained worthless bits of newspapers.

Here is the full testimony of Peter Schwab, copied from the official record: Peter Schwab in his testimony said: "The package now shown me is the one I handed to Mr. Roth in the first week in June, 1872. The contents of that package are a lot of papers—newspapers. There is no money in it. I have no objections to the Court opening it. It was agreed that we then should be present when opened. There was another package like this, containing money. It was to contain $6000, but this is not that package." The witness states, of his own accord: "Along about in the spring of 1872 I had been annoyed a great deal about the blackmailers. I had a suit in the United States court against me as principal, and Vandeverer and Reuth as bondsmen on a whisky bond. Williams, the last witness, had previous to that and at the time followed me up, and said that he could beat that case, and that he could get on the jury whenever he wanted to, and for money he would do it. So I had him challenged off the jury, and said nothing to him. After that he still hung around, and when I came to the St. Nicholas Mr. Williams was there looking for me. So Williams told me one day what a big case he, Mr. Stous, and Mr. Simpson and others had worked up in the Plank Road distillery, that of a P. Williams, and told me how he walked out one night through the mud and saw Mr. Hageman and others out there, and that that was a big case, and a good deal of money in it, and wanted me to join in with them and blackmail the party. He told me there was big money in it, and I could get these parties to pay it, and that I would see the parties and see how much we ought to tax them. I set a day when I would be down. I met Mr. Williams the same day at the St. Nicholas, and Mr. Saunders was there also. I then asked Mr. Roeth for a room, and told him what I was going to do. Called Mr. Roeth's attention, and said look at these blackmailers. It would do me good if I could expose these gentlemen. So I fixed up this package and told Mr. Roeth I was subpenaed as a witness in the case, and when I got on the stand I would expose it all. I was not examined as a witness, and then went back and told Mr. Roeth that I was sorry that I could not expose the parties. I never gave Mr. Saunders $500 or any other sum. PETER SCHWAB."

The facts thus revealed will certainly make lively work in the United States Court here.

A National Government.

[From the Federalist.]

It is now nearly one hundred years since the people of the colonies were recommended to organize themselves into governments of such form as should "best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular, and to America in general." In pursuance of this recommendation, various State governments were formed, which, up to a certain period, tolerably well answered the purposes for which they were created. That period, however, is now certainly passed. No observant man can doubt for an instant that the happiness and safety of the people and the nation has quite passed beyond the influence of the State governments. Lobbies and legislative rings hold the former, while the latter has no existence whatever; the nation being neither happy nor safe, but overtaxed and menaced with many serious dangers, among which tyranny and usurpation are not the least.

We are now become too numerous a nation, with too many great and conflicting interests among our people, to remain longer safely under the present loose form of administration, and if Congress fails to exercise the powers entrusted to it by the people, they will surely be grasped by usurpers—for wielded they must be by somebody.

There are now outstanding some three thousand millions of federal, State and local debts, upon the basis of which stand probably ten times as much corporate and private indebtedness. This entire fabric of credit is affected by the feebleness of our federal government and its neglect to afford safety to person and property through a sound and rigid administration of civil jurisprudence. The interest on this immense sum of credit will now probably average seven per cent, and amounts to over two thousand millions a year. With an improved administration of justice it would fall to five per cent, and save the nation six hundred millions a year in interest.

Moreover, there is too much reason to fear that a considerable portion of the debts due by the States and municipalities will either be repudiated or suffered to be protested on maturity. This is a national question, in which every man in the country possesses an interest, for such an occurrence will be sure to affect the credit of every State, corporation and individual in the Union. The United States government can not afford to let the paper of any of the States go to protest, and should be prepared with measures to avert such a disaster. These measures should provide that when a State fails to pay its indebtedness or the interest thereon, the United States shall do so, and re-imburse itself by relegating such State to the territorial condition, and assuming control of its finances, which it may administer after the manner of a receiver.

The creation and control of corporations by the States, and their assumption of power over the local affairs of the municipalities have become evils which are also of national interest, and also demand the interference of Congress. Railway and insurance corporations, quite as much as banking houses, demand the protection and supervision of a government amenable to the whole people instead of to only comparatively small communities thereof. In short, all corporate bodies, except those of strictly local nature, should be created and governed by the people at large—the only government that can hold them in check, restrain their excesses, and, in turn, protect them from State legislative "strikers."

The control and management of harbors, anchorages, wharfages and quarantines essentially national subjects, but now prostituted to the greedy appetites of remorseless State officials, and in fine, the supervision of all those matters in which are bound up the "happiness and safety of America in general," should at once be assumed by Congress in the name of the people.

Organized anarchy is the only term that correctly describes the condition of our people to-day, and such a condition calls for immediate relief. We must have liberty, security and justice; and since the States have failed to afford us these inalienable rights, if there existed no other reason, the federal government is bound to do so in their place.

It is not capitalists who are most concerned in a resumption of its latent powers by the United States government, but the poor and the lowly; for capitalists can and do purchase legislation and administration from the faithless officials of the States and municipalities, while the poor can not, but instead, are saddled with the burdens to which such partiality consigns them.

To our aid in the glorious work we have begun, we invoke every lover of his country—every man who takes pride in the old flag, and would defend it against the cancer of State sovereignty and State corruption as he would against manlier foes in arms. We would organize the materials with which to reconstruct the almost forgotten lines of our temple—the temple of American freedom and American happiness—the federal Union.

Boutwell's Plan and Sherman's Proposition.

This is a special to the St. Louis *Republican:*

NEW YORK, January 21.—The *Times'* close relations with the administration gives its treasury news an official air. It says it has information from Washington that Secretary Boutwell will not be disturbed by Congress in his present discretion over $44,000,000 in greenbacks held in reserve for treaty emergencies, nor be opposed in the renewal of the syndicate.

It says also that Sherman's bill for a conditional specie payment next January has not the slighest chance of passing Congress, and his resolution concerning the use of any part of the $44,000,000 in greenbacks has gone on the calendar of the Senate to remain there for the balance of the session. "Some of our neighbors," continues the *Times*, "in their virtuous indignation at the action of the administration in avoiding a threatened money panic by the use of discretionary power over the $44,000,000 in greenbacks, are kind enough to apologize for Mr. Boutwell because of his absence at the time from Washington. This is wholly gratuitous. The truth is the relief then afforded was from President Grant himself."

Guns, Fishing and Sporting Tackle.

The many old friends and customers of that accomplished gunsmith, Mr. L. Gerteis, will doubtless be pleased to learn that he has again opened an establishment in his old line. His present place is at No. 130 Common street, where he designs keeping the best kind of a stock of guns and rifles, sporting and fishing tackle, and, in fact, everthing in his old line. He will also devote particular attention to altering muzzle-loading fowling pieces into breach-loaders, and parties intrusting work to him can rely upon its being done in the most workmanlike and perfect manner. His reappearance in his old trade will be doubtless hailed with joy by many a veteran sportsman who had bewailed his absence.

[Communicated.]

That Bill.

That bill saved us from the vindictive power of "the most intelligent and highly respectable." At first we thought they were really sincere in their promises, and honest in their endeavors to better the condition of affairs. But it seems we were doomed to disappointment, and thank God the disappointment has resulted in saving us from destruction. For as we all know now, the asseverations of "the most intelligent and highly respectable" were made only to deceive. They thought by multitudes of promises to darken the light of opposition, and thus ride rough shod over the alien Yankee and unsuspecting negro. We see those moral people shake hands with wickedness, and bow before immorality, fraud and corruption, for the purpose of securing the key to power, that they might, "when the right time comes, drive the carpet-baggers to their Northern dens as fogs are driven away by the morning sun." The highly intelligent and truly "respectable" preached reform and the advantages of a government representing the whole people, but for reasons of their own they forgot to reform, and attempted to give us a government representing "the oldest and best, and highly intelligent" only. Their idea of representing us was in striking out or disregarding the laws that protected us, and they intended to do with us as they would have us done unto, "seize upon us by the throat and hurl us to destruction." They loved reform much, but they loved $75,000 muchly. "This people" desire to be heard in the government of their country, but they refuse to hear the voice of 70,000 of their countrymen, equally interested in its welfare. Does "this people" forget that this country belongs to the whole American people, especially to that