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THE COLFAX MASSACRE

AT ST. JAMES CHAPEL

THE COLORED MEN IN COUNCIL

ADDRESS TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Speeches by Governor P. B. S. Pinchback, Hon. C. C. Antoine and T. Morris Chester, Esq.

Although a limited notice had been given of the proposed meeting, the church was crammed to its uttermost resources, a large portion of the audience being ladies. The recent terrible massacre of a large number of colored men in the parish of Grant, who died while defending the courthouse and aiding the legally constituted officers of the parish in maintaining the public property against an armed mob of outlaws, was the occasion that called these people together.

The meeting was called to order by Hon. James H. Ingraham, who called General Alexander E. Barber to the chair. F. C. Antoine, Esq., and Captain Henry L. Rey were elected secretaries of the meeting.

The Rev. Mr. Harper was called upon to open with prayer the exercises of the evening.

T. Morris Chester, Esq., was then introduced, and spoke as follows:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen—We have assembled to night, not to praise our murdered dead, but to do justice to their memories. By a searching and accurate investigation into the circumstances attending the Grant massacre, we propose to reveal this hideous spectacle in all of its ghastliness, and, with the light of facts, to enable you to contemplate the assassins in the very attitude of their infamy. As guardians of the public peace and the majesty of the State, our brethren have been savagely slaughtered, after they had surrendered under promise of protection and safety, by men who are daily plighting their fidelity to our interests and soliciting us to entrust them with the administration of public affairs. On Easter Sunday, when the Christian world was chanting anthems in commemoration of the resurrection of the world's redeemer, when from every sanctuary the Gospel of love and peace was proclaimed, it was then that angels veiled their faces, and devils howled at the bloody and revolting scenes that were enacted on the banks of Red river. When I reflect over this and other unprovoked butcheries I must exclaim, like Jeremiah, in the agony of my soul: "Oh, that my head were as waters and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of my people!"

The blood of our brethren is crying from the earth for vengeance, but into the keeping of Him who has said "Vengeance is mine; I will repay it," I commit the fate of our murder. When we think over the bloody massacre in this city—how a colored convention was attacked and the unarmed delegates deliberately shot down without cause or provocation—when we reflect how our blood has crimsoned nearly every parish in the State, and with the full facts of this Grant massacre before us, we solemnly ask how long, oh! Lord, holy and true, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth!

As it is not my intention to make a speech, others being present for that purpose, I shall proceed to read the following statement of facts, in the form of an address to the American people:

Friends and countrymen—Tragic events recently occurring in this State, in the parish of Grant, sending a thrill of horror throughout the land, demand a comprehensive and impartial statement. Our people have again been barbarously massacred by the spirit of slavery, which is still cherished and fostered in the interest of Democracy, under the assumed designation of Fusion. Through its prevalence and popularity we are denied our constitutional rights all over the commonwealth. By means of its powerful sentiment we are wronged and insulted in person, without redress, and are frequently beaten and bruised without provocation or altercation. Since the rebellion over five thousand persons of color have been barbarously assassinated by the Democracy, in the gratification of its vindictiveness, in the parishes of St. Landry, Bossier, St. Mary, St. Tammany Washington, Tangipahoa, Jackson, Richland, Franklin, Claiborne, East Baton Rouge, Caddo, De Soto, Vernon, Jefferson, St. Martin, Morehouse, Sabine, Ouachita, St. Bernard, Rapides, Livingston, St. Helena, Natchitoches, Orleans and Grant. Our history before and since reconstruction has been that of a patient, laboring and hopeful people, silently and assiduously mourning over our fearful adversities and becomingly rejoicing over the triumphs of humanity and justice. In the exemplification of our patriotism, which embraces the whole land—our love of liberty, untainted by license—our fidelity to the material interests of those who have so grieviously wronged us—our continued and uninterrupted cultivation of the soil, which mercantile and commercial statistics will attest—in the midst of our reflections for oblivion and charity of unparalleled iniquities, and during the very deliberations of our councils, for a political union of all colors, upon an impartial basis in the interest of our beloved commonwealth, our people, in Grant parish, have been treacherously allured to a shocking slaughter by the Democracy, quickened by the spirit of oppression, which is stimulated and ramified by Mr. John McEnery and his seditious adherents. In vindication of truth, and in justice to the memory of those who have been so perfidiously assassinated and slandered, we present the following statement of facts from unimpeachable and occular witnesses, for the impartial judgment of mankind.

It is well known that in a fair election the parish of Grant is Republican by 300 majority. After the last general election the legal returning board made no returns of election for officers in the parish of Grant. The Fusion officers, claiming to have been elected, took possession of the offices under authority of the Fusion returning board. In January Governor Kellogg, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appointed a staff of parish officers, among them D. W. Shaw, a white Republican, sheriff of the parish. The parish judge appointed at the same time failing to qualify, Governor Kellogg, in February, appointed R. C. Register, also a white Republican, as parish judge. These officers repaired to the parish seat, the town of Colfax, and during the absence or abandonment of the offices by the Fusion claimants quietly possessed themselves of them. Rumors of an intention on the part of the pretended officers to capture the offices soon reached the newly installed authorities, and Sheriff Shaw summoned a posse for the protection of his office. That the principal portion of this posse should have been of colored men is understood by the fact that there were vastly more colored than white Republicans residing in Colfax and its vicinity. The usurping officers openly threatened that they intended to take possession of the offices if they had to kill every negro in the parish in doing so.

Evidences of the determined purpose to capture the courthouse, with the parish records, and get possession of the offices at any and all hazards becoming more and more apparent, the guard at and around the courthouse was strengthened and intrenched under the directions of the legal sheriff. The first attempt at violence was made near the end of March, when J. R. Hadnot, a member of the Fusion Legislature, with eighteen armed men, entered the town, leaving one or two squads at the entrances, for the avowed purpose of capturing the courthouse. Finding Sheriff Shaw's party prepared to resist them, they retired. For several days afterward armed bodies of men were seen at the approaches to the town, threatening and intimidating the people around. Persons in sympathy with them, and doubtless aware of their designs, and others apprehending riot and bloodshed, removed from the town, among them a Mr. Rutland, who removed his family across the river. And here we pause to correct a falsehood in relation to the alleged disturbance of the remains of his embalmed child. We believe it to be true that during his absence his house was entered by some robber, but in this instance it is more likely that the thief was white than black. It is not true, however, that this was done by any of Sheriff Shaw's posse, and from the most reliable sources we learn that the coffin was not in the least disturbed.

Excitement and apprehension were prevalent and every indication pointed to the probability of an attack on the courthouse by the Hadnot party at any moment. Early in April four men of this party rode into town, armed, and desired a conference with the parties holding possession of the courthouse and the offices. They were met and conversed with, but the conference was abruptly terminated by the report that some of the invading party had shot and killed one Jesse McKinney, an unoffending colored man. The next day a number of horsemen, armed, rode into town and were confronted by some of the sheriff's posse, colored and white, also armed. Some firing ensued when the invaders retired. No accidents on either side are reported by anybody. On Sunday, April 6, a large number, estimated at from eighty to 100 men, mounted and armed, and headed by Hadnot, again approached, and the women and children alarmed at the demoralization rushed into the town (Colfax). The sheriff's posse, which had been increased and strengthened, again confronted these men and a conflict ensued. It is believed that in this engagement, which lasted some time, there were persons killed and wounded on both sides, but no particulars have been made known. The attacking party once more retired and left the legal authorities in possession of the offices.

The condition of affairs had now assumed so important and threatening an aspect, and it having been known that several of the neighboring parishes were contributing men, arms, accoutrements and horses to the assailants, it was deemed advisable to dispatch several of the more prominent men, enlisted in the support of the proper authorities, to New Orleans to lay the serious condition of affairs before Governor Kellogg and appeal to him for immediate and adequate aid for the protection of the officers and the lives of the Republicans of Grant, against the bloodthirsty ferocity of the cruel men who threatened, not only the overthrow of the Republican government in the parish, but the destruction of the lives of the men engaged in supporting and defending it. Accordingly, Hon. William Ward, of the House of Representatives, R. C. Register, the parish judge, E. H. Flowers, and others, were conveyed some distance during the night, and by dint of cautious moving reached New Orleans in safety on Wednesday, April 9.

They lost no time in informing Governor Kellogg and other prominent and interested Republicans of the critical situation of affairs, but whether from the reports industriously and extensively circulated at that juncture, that the Hadnot party had abandoned their intention of persisting in the capture of the offices, or from a belief that things were not so bad as represented, or from the difficulties in the way of sending immediate relief, or from a combination of all these and other circumstances, it is correct to say that no support was sent to the beleaguered defenders of the Colfax courthouse.

The week passed away, as had the previous one, with feints and attacks and repulses, but with no decisive results, although in fearful and but too just apprehension to the colored people. The attacking force, in the meantime, emboldened by the immunity two weeks of unquelled lawlessness and riot had secured them, added to their numbers by recruiting from the neighboring parishes of Rapides, Winn, Natchitoches, Sabine, Catahoula and Caddo, and prepared for a savage and desperate attack on Sunday, April 13. Their apologists of the press all the time endeavoring to elude vigilance and allay the suspicion of the authorities by the statement that all was quiet and no danger was to be apprehended.

On this memorable Sabbath several hundred men, headed by Hadnot and C. C. Nash, mounted and armed, for the most part with sixteen shooters, and carrying a small piece of artillery, which they had captured from one of the river steamers entered the town. Two of their company advanced in the direction of the courthouse bearing a white flag on a pole. They were similarly met by two from the courthouse. Mr. C. C. Nash, one of the invading two, demanded of Captain Allen of the courthouse defenders, immediate surrender, or he would give half an hour to get the women and children out of the way, declaring his intention to come into Colfax and have the offices, if he could get them alive, offering, however, to hurt no one if the defenders would lay down their arms and go home. He was reminded that it did not look much like it when they had killed several unoffending colored men at different times during their invasion, and further informed that the defenders did not feel safe in putting down their arms, and proposed to hold out if possible until they heard from Governor Kellogg, to whom they had dispatched special messengers. On the return of Captain Allen to his friends he informed them of his position and declarations, and his course received the approbation of the whole posse, the men all believing that the proposal of their assailants was a ruse to entrap them into disarming, that they might be incapable of retaliating in case of a massacre. And too well were their suspicions justified. About mid-day the attacking party opened fire with their field piece on the rude breastworks thrown up for the protection of the courthouse, and behind which the entire garrison was stationed, with no reply from the courthouse; but, after firing several shots ineffectually, the position was changed so as to enable the attacking party to throw shot inside of the breastworks. Several shots were fired, and one reached the neighborhood of the posse. A rush was then made by them for the courthouse, simultaneously with which a number of armed horsemen gave chase and overtaking the men before more than two-thirds could get into the courthouse opened fire on the fleeing crowd. The remnant of the posse, failing to obtain entrance in time, started down the road, making for a skirt of wood not very far off. They were hotly pursued and overtaken. Several ran into the river where all but two were shot while attempting to swim out of danger, a number rushed into a cypress pond up to their waists in water, and were there shot and killed, and their bodies lay festering and decaying there at last accounts, while those who were overtaken in the road were trampled and shot and killed. From one of the few survivors it is ascertained that about fifty men were murdered in this way.

While this was going on, the bulk of the attacking party concentrated their fire on the courthouse, receiving such responses from the defenders as they could give. The building being of brick, to dislodge the defenders the wooden roof was fired by one of the assailants, and not a colored man, as none were outside. No hope of further successful resistance appearing, a flag of truce was hung out from the burning building, and the firing ceased on both sides. The outside party approached the building, and told the defenders to come out, when the door was thrown open and they attempted to rush out to escape being roasted alive—many of them being on fire to the waist—but Mr. Nash blockaded their exit until he went in and took out some books and papers, and as he came out the posse rushed from the burning building, with blazing garments on, only to meet a savage and hellish butchery. It is estimated by eye-witnesses of the massacre that at least 150 men came out of the building, and it is known that only two escaped. The escaping men were overtaken, mustered in crowds, made to stand around, and, while in every attitude of humiliation and supplication, were shot down and their bodies mangled and hacked to hasten their death or to satiate the hellish malice of their heartless murderers, even after they were dead. [See *Times'* report.]

Not content with this destruction of human life, robbery was made to follow on the heels of murder, for while, according to the reports of their own organs, "not a single negro was to be seen for miles around" after the massacre, horses, mules, wagons, furniture, provisions, money, yea, even the clothes and shoes of the murdered men were taken and carried off, and this practice was being pursued for days after the massacre.

We would have the nation and the world to understand that the colored men who were massacred in Grant parish were in the discharge of an official duty, to which they had been legitimately summoned, as a posse comitatus, to protect from lawless miscreants the courthouse and parish records. In the struggle for office not a single colored man was personally interested, but the actual officials and pretenders were all whites. We only became a party to this unfortunate affair in obedience to summons by the legal sheriff of the parish, commissioned by Governor Kellogg, whose administration is sustained by the federal authorities. As conservators of the public peace in the performance of a public duty, in the direct interest of white Republicans, our people have been ferociously slaughtered in contempt of national and State authorities; and upon this hideous spectacle, with all of its revolting details, we invoke the dignified and retributive justice of the commonwealth, and the dispassionate judgment of the nation and mankind.

Such are the horrible facts which we are prepared to corroborate and verify with unimpeachable testimony. In all the versions of this fearful slaughter which have been published important facts have been suppressed or omitted, and deductions, unjust and prejudicial to us have been hastily drawn. The misapprehensions and conclusions of the press, so far as we have observed, that a war of races had been inaugurated in this State exemplify how superficial is its knowledge of the condition of the South in general, and the Colfax butchery in particular. There can be no war of races in this country between the blacks and the whites, for there may occur in the future, as in the past, an indiscriminate carnage of our men, women and children by the spirit of slavery, quickened by the plausible and hypocritical Democracy, who, with their facilities and means, hasten to justify the infamy by falsely designating it as a war of races. When, in the darkest day of our bondage, we endured horrible afflictions and atrocities, with death as our only hope of release, we not only showed humanity how to suffer, but we exemplified that high standard of Christian rectitude—peace on earth and good will to man. Being pacifically, religiously and patiently disposed, we never encouraged force to emancipate us from an ungodly bondage; and it is unreasonable and unnatural to fancy that we would now abandon our faith in the moral and political agencies which have accomplished wonderful transformations and are still progressing in the march of justice and reform.

We have never arrayed ourselves against our white fellow-citizens, unless voting the Republican ticket constitutes that offence. We were loyal to the government and fought for liberty, for which the rebels have never forgiven us, and never will as long as one of the present generation is left to poison the current of public sentiment. It is useless to disguise the fact that they are our vindictive and covert enemies, and would, if not restrained and deterred, in their stupid attachment and devotion for the relic of barbarism, heap up hecatombs of colored bodies.

Our only hope and safety is in the federal government's realizing the situation and acting with that promptitude and vigor which would in the future protect the innocent and deter the guilty. Should we in our fidelity to principles and patriotism—in the exercise of our manhood and citizenship—continue to incur the wrath of our oppressors without invoking from the national government a corresponding degree of protection, our annihilation is a foregone conclusion, unless we accept such terms as may be dictated.

We are well aware there is scarcely a white citizen of any condition in the State who will not, with apparent frankness, acquiesce in the results of the war. They will all pretend to rejoice over the downfall of slavery, and avow themselves in favor of the political rights of colored men; and yet, in palpable violation of the constitution and the laws, these very persons have created and perpetuated a public sentiment which excludes men of color from every public convenience and place in the State. We are denied, on account of our color, in the land of our nativity, civil rights, which, to the shame of American justice, we, aliens and black men, may enjoy all over aristocratic Europe, without a single abridgement, in common with humanity. There is a concealed influence and organized resistance against us on the part of these very persons, who so ostensibly and flippantly proclaim their adhesion in favor of equal rights of all men before the law.

Our greatest danger exists in the specious pretenses of our white fellow-citizens, and so long as the spirit of slavery is powerful enough to exclude us from our public rights, so long will it break our heads with impunity. Wherever our civil rights are denied, we are practically outlawed, and at any moment the luxury of slaughtering our unoffending people is likely to be gratified. Public attention may be directed through mischievous and unreliable channels from the cause to the occasion of the massacre, but we are confident that every thinking and discriminate mind will, upon reflection, grasp the facts and conclusions sufficiently to place the responsibility where it justly belongs.

While the hesitating and temporizing policy of the State government amid undisguised and overt acts of treason has been impolitic, unjust to its supporters and dangerous to the public peace, we must go further and look deeper for the direct cause of the Colfax massacre. It springs from the spirit of oppression which is openly and audaciously championed by Mr. John McEnery and his Fusion admirers, who heretofore possessed absolute and irresponsible control of our bodies and souls, which they are resolved to maintain in some form or sacrifice us in the attempt. We appeal to the government which made us free men and citizens, and especially to the administration of President Grant, which we assisted in placing in power, to protect us in our liberties and lives from the wrath of our Democratic neighbors.

The reading of the address was received with great applause.

President Barber then presented as a gentleman who needed no introduction to this audience, nor to the country—whose voice sounded the alarm in this very building—Governor Pinchback.

The orator, on advancing, was received with enthusiastic and long continued applause, and read from his manuscript as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen—The occasion which has brought us together to-night has cast a deep gloom over the minds and hearts of every lover of humanity in the land.

Two hundred human beings have been ruthlessly and brutally murdered in the parish of Grant by a remorseless set of men, in order to obtain a few parish offices.

Humanity stands horrified and aghast at the enormity of this crime, surpassing, as it does, the massacre of Fort Pillow and the New Orleans atrocities of 1866.

We come, with heads bowed down and our hearts bleeding over the sad loss of our fellow men, to present our case to the American people and rescue the memory of the murdered dead from the scorn and obloquy sought to be heaped upon them.

In the performance of this melancholy task, I might exclaim in the language of the immortal bard of Avon:

Give me no help in lamentation,
I am not barren to bring forth complaints.
All springs reduce their currents to mine eyes,
That I being governed by the watery moon,
May send forth plenteous tears to drown the world.

We have spared no labor in collecting from the most authentic sources the statement which has just been read of the origin, progress and end of this appalling tragedy.

From it two important facts are established:

First—That the men slaughtered in Grant parish were in the discharge of duties to which they had been summoned as a *posse comitatus* by the legal sheriff of the parish, and were acting as they supposed under the sanction of law and the protection of government.

Second—That the charge made that the conflict was a war of races is thoroughly refuted by the fact that the officers for whose defense the murdered men rallied are white Republicans.

It is important to set forth these facts that the country may understand the nature of this trouble and the attitude of the colored people; that the country may know that it was a conflict between authorized Republican officers on the one hand, and pretended Fusion officers on the other.

Our enemies, the apologists for and defenders of these outrages, in order to palliate the enormity of the crimes committed by the Fusionists, charge a conflict of race, and the violation of the rules of civilized warfare on the part of the colored people, in the Grant parish troubles.

From all the facts in the case it is established beyond question that the beleaguered party did not at any time violate the rules of civilized warfare, and I am satisfied that this charge has been made with a full knowledge of the fact that it is untrue, and for the sole purpose of prejudicing the minds of the people of the country against the colored people.

I would not for a moment be found attempting to sustain my people in the commission of a crime, and my knowledge of their temperament and disposition teaches me that they would not be guilty of the wrong alleged, for the obvious reason that they know too well what would be the inevitable result, owing to the immense disparity between the numbers of white and colored people in this country, and when I remember what Christian forbearance they have displayed under all the sufferings through which they have passed, and their magnanimous conduct during the late war toward their former masters, thus practically exemplifying the teachings of Christ, that "when we are smitten by our enemies on the one cheek we should offer to them the other, and when our cloak is taken away that we should not forbid them to take the coat also," I am driven to the conclusion that they would not have committed the offense charged to them.

That this unfortunate difficulty should have occurred is to be deeply lamented, for, in my judgment, it will seriously retard the consummation of that mutual confidence and respect for each other which should exist among the white and colored people, and is so essential to the future welfare and prosperity of our State, and that genuine reconciliation necessary to peace and good order and the establishment of good government.

That a large number of the good white people of this State disapprove and condemn the extreme and inhuman conduct of the Fusionists, I sincerely believe, and I earnestly hope that the volume of Louisiana's history will not be blackened by another such page, as all must see its damaging effects upon every interest of our beloved State, in confidence destroyed, bad blood engendered, labor demoralized, capital driven away, immigration estopped, and, in short, every avenue to the material advancement of the commonwealth endangered.

Confident that the colored people will so demean themselves as to commend them to the peaceful and law abiding citizens of the State and country. I ask in the name of humanity and common justice, that the guilty parties in this bloody business be brought to speedy justice. I appeal to the white people of Louisiana to dispassionately consider the awful consequences which are likely to result from their countenancing, even in the slightest degree, this spirit of violence, as from it one of two results must follow: A frightful exodus of colored people to other localities, in which they would feel secure of their lives and property, or a military government, either of which must be conceded by all would be detrimental to the interests of the State. I appeal to the State government to assert its power and vindicate the majesty of law. I appeal to the American people, press, Congress and the President of the United States to say whether our people shall be murdered in this wholesale manner for their allegiance to the Republican party.

I have endeavored to be calm and dispassionate in the preparation of these remarks, well knowing the awful responsibility that would attach to me if by any word I should stir up strife in this feverished community. I speak more in sorrow than anger, and am desirous of making an appeal to both races in the name of that enlightened christianity which should mark the day in which we live, in common work to prevent the recurrence of such sad scenes.

I had intended to make the few remarks on this subject that I have reduced to manuscript, and then stop. But I feel that I cannot. You all know that whatever remarks I am able to make are better if I do not write them first. But we are now at such a crisis that I thought it would be better if I put what I had to say on paper, for we cannot afford to be misrepresented by any of the press that have shown themselves willing to do so. But one or two remarks may not be inappropriate. We owe our hearty thanks to the Republican party, which has raised us to the position we occupy. We owe our thanks to the government which has sustained us; we owe our thanks to the people who have stood by us; we owe something to the administration, an expression of our confidence, which it has not yet received from us. I have heard complaints coming along the street to-night. I heard expressions from Republicans of dissatisfaction. Reports have gone forth that we are divided. We hear it said by our enemies that they have only to take advantage of our dissensions to triumph over us. Now, this terrible business in Grant parish has given you a taste of what we are to expect if the opposing party get into power. We owe it to ourselves to have it go forth to the whole country that all the people of the North may understand that we support the government of this State as one man.

We want it to go forth that we support Governor Kellogg. We want the whole people of the North to understand and know that the colored people of Louisiana are not safe in their lives and property except under Republican rule. When it goes forth that we stand in a solid phalanx around this government, and that we appeal to the people, to the press, to Congress and the President, then four days after Congress assembles it will take such action as will give the proper remedy. I have advocated peace and good will to all people of Louisiana. I have endeavored to bring the white and black together. I feel that there can be no peace in Louisiana until all the people are reconciled to one another. I believe this can be best and soonest secured by supporting the present government of Louisiana.

I believe this measure of an attack upon the regular constituted authorities of Grant parish was a preconcerted stratagem of McEnery and his seditious followers. I believe they hope for a new election, and they devised this means that they might strike such terror into the hearts of the colored people that they would not dare to come forth and vote.

I will tell our opponents that they never can get possession of this government so long as they show such a spot on their record as they have shown in Grant. When I went out in the last campaign they told me they would beat us. They said "we have got the registration, we have got control, we have got Warmoth." "Yes," I said, "you have got Warmoth—but he's beat." [Laughter.] "Why, how can he be beat?" "I don't know," I said, "but I have an abiding faith in a merciful overruling Providence, that will not permit such a calamity as his victory," and he was beaten. I don't know how, and they will stay beaten until they learn some sense. A large number of white people feel just as sad as we do, but unfortunately for them they dare not come out and express their opinion. They are ground down in a slavery worse than ours was. They are where we were before the war, and I believe we will now have to go to work and emancipate them. They make the disgraceful admission that 5000 carpet-baggers rule the State; that these 5000 control the 65,000 colored, and through them, the 70,000 white voters! Now isn't that worse than any slavery we ever endured? Now, why is this? It is simply because they haven't got any sense. Why don't they come out like men and say, come with us; we will do right by you; take one-half the offices and the protection and rights you are entitled to. It might be done. Just think how close we were together last fall; how near we came to working in unison. But we are not to be brought together by such outrages as this of Grant parish. Just as I think I have got my people and the white people together, then they go and do something that sunders them and drives them wide apart.

We have met here to-night to mourn over our fallen kindred in that Christian spirit which we have always manifested, and we must conduct this meeting with that dignity and forbearance with which our wrongs should be treated.

At the conclusion of Governor Pinchback's address the president introduced Lieutenant Governor C. C. Antoine who made a brief address. He indorsed the address which had been read, and spoke of the living witnesses who had convened with him who had stood within two hundred yards of the courthouse where 150 of their brethren had been shot down while engaged in their sworn duty. He briefly reviewed the principal events since the election and previous to the massacre. He related the history and facts of the efforts at compromise, showing that the failure was due to the Democrats. Now, it was necessary for Governor Kellogg to vigorously enforce the laws.

Senator Ingraham then moved the adoption of the address.

President Barber called on all those in favor of the address to rise and all arose, and the address was adopted unanimously.

Senator Burch moved that 10,000 copies of the address be printed for distribution. Carried unanimously.

William G. Brown, Esq., then moved that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to Governor Pinchback, Governor Antoine and T. Morris Chester, Esq., for their patriotic and eloquent addresses, which was carried.

On motion of Mr. Brown, the meeting then adjourned.

VIOLENCE AND THREATS IN LAFOURCHE.

Letter from Hon. William Murrell.

A letter from Mr. Murrell, the pure-minded representative from Lafourche, informs us that his life has been threatened by the violent asserters of the "inalienable rights of manhood" in his parish, and that his color and presence are offensive to those who are on a strike for the "privileges of self government." Mr. Murrell inquires of us if a "Republican has any right to protection," to which we answer, undoubtedly he has, and add that forces are already moving against the evil doers. His letter contains the following:

The spirit of 1860 (when the people of this State were rabid against the probable election of Mr. Lincoln) has developed itself fully in Lafourche, and we are watching it.

Fortunately, the colored people of Lafourche are not surrounded by such numerous foes as were their murdered brethren of Grant.

The Ku-Klux Arming in St. Mary.

We learn from a private letter from St. Mary parish, that the unterrified are being organized into military companies ostensibly as constabulary; but from the fact that many of their officers hold commissions from McEnery, the late would-be Governor, it is easy to guess at the nature of their intentions. They are armed with Winchester repeating rifles, and parade the town of Franklin and suburbs in squads of fifties, openly defy the courts and threaten the lives of Republican officials.

Railroad Accident.

The train on the Jackson railroad, due in this city at twelve o'clock yesterday, was detained until eight o'clock last evening, having run off the track at Terry station. The accident was caused by a misplaced switch. No one was hurt, but the engine was badly damaged.

Chamber of Commerce.

L. U. Reavis, Esq., will lecture before the Chamber of Commerce on Friday evening. Mr. Reavis comes to us with a national reputation, and his discourse will be replete with facts and suggestions of interest and value to our people.

The Temperature.

The thermometer at Louis Frigerio's, No. 50 Chartres street, yesterday stood as follows: At 8 A. M., 67°; at 2 P. M., 78°; at 6 P. M., 76°. Lowest point during the night of April 21, 60°.

CANTON MATTINGS CHEAP AT HOLMES'.—The stock of these goods now for sale at D. H. Holmes' great dry goods house on Canal street, is one of the most beautiful ever brought to this market. Together with the finest qualities of white and checked, it comprises several entirely new patterns, which are both elegant and durable. Go and look at them, for mattings are by far the best coverings for floors in this climate, as they are as handsome as carpets, fully as lasting and far cooler.

SCHOOL BOOKS AND STATIONERY.—Mr. Robert J. Harp, agent, No. 112 Camp street, has on hand a very large stock of all the most popular school books, as well as all the standard works in the language. His stock of stationery will also be found to be one of the most complete in the city.

A Danbury man imagined himself a hen, and while under the influence of the conceit, sat down on a dozen eggs and hatched out an Italian sunset and a circus poster. His wife removed the debris with the ball end of a broom.

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONTROLLER GREEN IN CONTEMPT

CARLISTS COMMITTING DEPREDATIONS

BEER FERMENT IN FRANKFORT

EPSOM SPRING RACES

THE DUTCH IN SUMATRA

EPISCOPAL CONVENTION IN MEMPHIS

SNOW STORM IN NEBRASKA

Men, Women and Children Perished

UNITED STATES CONSUL DROWNED

O'KELLY IN NO DANGER

FROM THE MODOC COUNTRY

THE KILLED AND WOUNDED

NEW YORK.

Controller Green to be Punished for Contempt—Bond Robbers Remanded—Condition of the Money Market.

NEW YORK, April 22.—At the general term of the Supreme Court it was ordered that a process be issued to punish Controller Green for contempt. Green must pay the dock commissioners a gross sum, without a detailed statement of its uses. Judge Brady dissented.

Charles G. Hampton, who was arrested yesterday with $50,000 worth of railroad bonds, belonging to Colonel Phillips, of Pittsburg, was committed to await requisition from the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Arrived—Westphalia, Clyde, Manhattan and San Salvador. Arrived out—Assyria and Halsatia.

Twelve thousand immigrants arrived at this port last week.

Wall street is now having the calm which follows a storm. A gratifying feature of improved feeling is the mania for mercantile paper. The paper brokers are reporting a large business, one firm having yesterday sold $516,000 at very reasonable rates. Currency is coming back from the interior in large amounts, and legal tenders now form an important part of the receipts. The May interest on the public debt will probably begin to come out without rebate on Thursday or Friday, the effect of which on the bank reserves will be favorable.

On call loans secured by stock collaterals the rates up to the time of writing have ranged from 7 @ cent gold to 1-32 @ day, with most of the business at 1-64 and interest. There are vague rumors that money will again be made stringent before the final return of the market to steadiness. But these rumors, in view of the large currency receipts, are discredited in bank circles.

Gold opened at 117½, advanced to 117¾, and has since fallen to 117⅛@117½. On gold loans the rates have ranged from "flat" to 1 per cent for carrying. Foreign is up another ⅛ for sterling, leading drawers are now asking 108⅛ for sixty day bills and 109¾ for short sight or demand. A good many bills are making against bond shipments to Europe, but the demand for short sight is now active to cover maturing sterling loans. Government bonds are strong, with a good demand from foreign bankers and from syndicate people.

The only sales of Southern State bonds at the first board were $11,000 Georgia sevens at 90, and $5000 Missouri sixes at 93¾. The stock market, after quickly rebounding from the depression of last week, is dull and steady, and speculators are canvassing the chances for immediate future. It is conceded that stocks are in stronger hands than ten days ago, and that what are called the Leavy men of the street, who have not all been in harmony for nearly a year, are large holders.

Later.—In the money market there was a hardening tendency for call loans, and some business was transacted at 1-16 @ diem, but the bulk of the loans were at 1-64 @ 1-32. Exchange was stronger early in the day, when the leading bankers advanced the rate to 8¾. This advance checked the demand, and the market closed dull and weaker. The closing business of the day was at 8½. Gold opened 117½, advanced to 117¾, fell to 117⅛, rallied to 117¾, and again closed at 117¾@117⅞. Loans were from 1 to 16 for carrying.

NEW YORK, April 22, Evening.—Money hardening, 1-64@1-32. Sterling closed dull at 8¾. Gold closed at 117¾@117⅞. Governments closed strong at a fraction advance in sixes of 1868. Tennessees strong; others very dull.

FOREIGN.

From Paris—Presentation of Plate—Disorderly Carlists—Beer Fermenting in Frankfort—Epsom Spring Meeting—Losses to the Dutch in Sumatra—O'Kelly in No Danger—United States Consul Drowned.

MADRID, April 22.—Some of the soldiers of Don Carlos yesterday made an attack on the alcalde of Figueras, in the province of Gerona. A number of the people of the town armed themselves and rallied to the support of the authorities, and succeeded in driving off the insurgents.

Differences have arisen between the government and the permanent committee of the Assembly, growing out of the appointment for the former of Senor P. J. Y. Margill to act as president during the absence of Senor Figueras. The committee claimed that the government, in making the appointment, has exceeded its powers.

HAVANA, April 21.—Mr. Fred Roca, United States consul at Manzanielle, was drowned on the fifteenth instant while on a fishing excursion.

A severe drought is prevailing in the vicinity of Santiago de Cuba, and the poor people are suffering from the insufficiency of water.

O'Kelly's case continues. But little has been elicited against or for him. General Ceballos told the English consul that O'Kelly's life was in no danger.

The case causes little talk now, as everybody is convinced that O'Kelly will be banished from the country at the conclusion of his trial.

The official acts of Captain General Pieltam are anxiously awaited by both the Spaniards and Cubans.

The *Gaceta* publishes a decree returning embargoed properties belonging to the loyal wives of disloyal husbands.

The decree says that if husbands are still conspiring or are in the insurgent ranks their wives are to receive $1000 per annum. The same amount is granted to the destitute wives and children of disloyal husbands from the proceeds of the joint property surrendered by the insurgents. They are to be placed in immediate possession of such property, provided the product thereof does not exceed $1000.

Should it produce $2000, there is also a condition that it shall not be sold or mortgaged for two years. Properties producing more than the above amount must remain in charge of the government, who will give the owner $3000 annually, provided the parties reside on Spanish territory.

FRANKFORT, April 22.—The rioting in this city yesterday was caused by an advance in the price of beer. Disorderly demonstrations lasted until midnight, and the troops were pelted with stones several times. During the evening sixteen breweries were wrecked by the rioters, and there was much plundering. During the conflict which took place twelve persons were killed and forty wounded. One hundred and twenty of the rioters were arrested.

LONDON, April 22.—The Epsom spring meeting commenced to-day. The city and suburban handicap was won by Mornington. Cremorne was second and Bertram third. The betting just previous to the start was forty to one against Mornington, nine to two against Cremorne, and twelve to one against Bertram. Twenty five horses ran.

THE HAGUE, April 22.—The Minister of the Colonies to-day informed the Chamber of Deputies that the Dutch losses, during the campaign against the Atcheenese on the Island of Sumatra, were seven officers and thirty-eight men killed, and thirty-five officers and three hundred and eighty-three men wounded.

PARIS, April 22.—The authorities of the auditor's office have seized the property of M. Janvier de la Motte, and will hold it until he has rendered his accounts to the government.

A dispatch from Algiers says that four insurrectionary chiefs have been executed.

Hon. E. B. Washburne, United States Minister, to-day presented to Baron de Itajuba, Brazilian ambassador, on behalf of the American government, two cases of silver plate in recognition of the ability and impartiality with which he discharged his duties as a member of the Geneva tribunal of arbitration. Baron de Itajuba, in reply to the remarks made by Mr. Washburne, acknowledged gracefully the compliment bestowed upon him by the United States government. Hon. R. C. Schenck, American Minister at London, was present on this occasion.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Episcopal Convention at Memphis—Agassiz—First Train for a Week on the Burlington and Missouri Road—Men, Women and Children Frozen to Death—Tweed in Canada—Extensive Conflagration—Gas Men Striking in Cincinnati—The Modoc War—Casualties—Ground Breakers for the Texas Road at San Diego.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 22.—The women and children were removed before the massacre of the peace commissioners. The Modocs appear intrenched in a neighboring cave.

Eleven dead and one live Modoc were found in the lava beds to-day, making sixteen Modoc warriors dead. Six United States soldiers and one civilian were killed and eleven men wounded. When the cavalry returns the red fiends will be attacked.

Dispatch No. 20 says: Nothing has transpired. The troops are awaiting the return of the cavalry and Warm Spring Indians.

Later.—Heavy and steady firing is going on at the head of the Long cave, where the troops were attacked by Indians coming down for water.

The following is an additional list of the killed and wounded in the battle of the sixteenth at the lava bed: Private J. M. Jones, First Cavalry, finger of right hand shot away; Private H. P. Meakens, Battery E, Fourth Artillery, flesh wound in right leg; Private William Cunningham, Battery E, Fourth Artillery, flesh wound in small of the back; Robert A. Dallas, Indian, shot in calf of the leg; Private Harmon, Battery E, Fourth Artillery, shot dead on field and scalped; Private Connard, Company G, Twelfth Infantry, wounded in calf of the leg, Sergeant Morgan, Battery E, Fourth Artillery, shot through the head and died on the field.

Ground was broken for the Texas Pacific road yesterday at San Diego, a large assemblage being present. The directors say that the road will be completed by 1876.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The State Department has instructed the American Minister to Austria to inquire into the reports of the purchase for restaurant stations and commissionerships to the Vienna exposition.

CINCINNATI, April 22.—An extensive fire at Owingville Bath county, Kentucky, last night, destroyed the livery stables of James Stone and J. A. Lee, dry goods stores of W. H. Dougherty & Co. and G. W. Barnes, saddlery shops of Henry Scott and James Franklin, law office of Nesbit & Judge, and several dwellings. The loss is not stated, the insurance is light. The fire is believed to have been the work of an incendiary.

Thirty nine of the forty three stokers at the gasworks struck for more wages and fewer hours of labor. New hands have been engaged.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 22.—The first train for a week on the Burlington and Missouri railroad arrived to-day. The storm was the worst ever known. Men were frozen to death within two rods of their houses while trying to get their stock under shelter. Many women and children were frozen. The destruction to horses and cattle was great. The gallies on the railroad are filled with snow as hard as ice.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., April 22.—William M. Tweed is at Kingston, Ontario.

BOSTON, April 22.—John Anderson, of York, has deeded to Professor Agassiz Penekez island for the proposed natural history school.

MEMPHIS, April 22.—The Episcopal convention of the diocese of T