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REVENUE.

He came to my house and stole my watch— This great scoundrel man with the saintly eyes, A noble heart that his face I knew— In mortal France beneath the sky.

He came again and stole my purse. And arched my chin and silverware. And the lady love for all mankind. That shone from his brow so meek and fair. Was a revelation unto me Of a better world that yet might be.

Again he came and he killed my wife. And butchered her babies before my eyes. With a trustful look in his face I then. As if he would not, ay, no! He bowed that fatal, royal head. And said my name, "and I were dead!"

Then he came with nitro-glycerine. And a box of strongest dynamite— The saintly man with the lion's eye— To show me to what I know no night. Like lightning I turned on the heads of him. And asked if he wasn't ashamed of his name!

AUGUSTE TONTBLANC.

THE NARRATIVE OF A WHITE LEAGUER.

(Translated from the French for the New Orleans Republican.)

We shall decline to state what accident placed this narrative at our disposal, and even withhold from publication a compliment due the skillful translator who has enabled us to present it in the American language. Suffice it to say that the narrative is a veracious exposure of the devices by which a zealous friend of the White League was enabled to get it by no means came up to the profession of the program—(Ed. REPUBLICAN.)

M. Auguste Tontblanc (pure white) took such interest in politics as might be sufficient to secure a "place." The "a" in this word is pronounced as in "architect." It signifies an employment with a salary attached. It is deemed more honorable than any wage labor, though the wages may be better than the salary. The "places" which M. Auguste had held were numerous, and comprehended almost anything from clerk in an auction store to collector for the "defense of Paris aid association," with miscellaneous services as clerk at election polls or copyist of a record. For the rest he had all the accomplishments, was a brilliant billiardist, a persevering chasseur and fisherman. He was an *ait* in the opera, had a fair baritone voice, and played passably on the piano. He was temperate in strong drinks, but the fire of his cigar like that of the Vestals never went out, at least while he was awake to keep it going.

In the organization of the city government he has been kept waiting in the most inexcusable manner. He had eaten up one small tenement inherited from the maternal succession, and was slowly nibbling the chairs and tables which he had removed into rented premises. He being unprofessional in any subordinate occupation, M. Auguste had much leisure in awaiting the result of the next election to follow the eviction of the usurpers. This might, like the end of the world as predicted by Miller, occur at almost any time within four years. It was, therefore, incumbent on those who expected to profit by that great event to keep their feet shod, and their loins girded, so as not to be out of the way when this official millennium should open.

M. Auguste was then occupied in standing guard for this millennium at the corner of Bourbon and Canal streets. It was called the "Lopez lookout," and at that point the auroral dawn of the official count of 1874 was expected to be first visible. His hours of watch were from 11 A. M. to 4:30 P. M., at which hour he went home to see what his little wife had provided for dinner, ready to resume his duty of awaiting the sudden end of the usurpation, for he well said it might come as any other thief in the night.

It was during this arduous term of public vigilance that M. Auguste first heard the *Blancs sans Noir* League spoken of. It was evidently a good thing. The whites in the city having a majority of votes were assured of every place in the city, with a fair chance for the monopoly also of those throughout the State. According to computation there would thus be about one salaried officer to every five white voters. To decide the incumbents a tombola was proposed, which would combine the pleasing excitement of chance with a conviction of perfect fairness. The tombola is a round table laid off in radial stripes, wider at the periphery, but terminating in a point at the centre. These pyramidal rays are painted of different colors. There is a narrow bar of iron which revolves on a pivot at the centre of the table. The iron bar is made to revolve rapidly around the circumference of the table, and he whose bar is placed on the same stripe over which the index of the iron bar rests gains the prize placed on the stripe.

It was proposed that upon these stripes should be placed commissions for various "places" varying in value from a door-keeper's chair up to the chief of a bureau. This was better than a former proposal in a Fusion convention to dispose of the nominations by lot. It harmonized all, and the White League would be harmonious—until after the tombola.

It was not long after admission that M. Auguste pronounced from the tribune his maiden oration. His theme was: "The blacks have caused all our misfortunes. They must be exterminated."

Then pending— Before there were blacks, said he, Frenchmen were laborers. Their introduction had relaxed the race energies. It has cramped the race resources. We have been ruined by their working in our places. Our men should play on the guitar instead of the harp and the washboard instead of the piano. Let us return all this. Let us drive the negroes into the jungle, seize again the weapons of labor which they have industriously taken and once more assert our manhood and our independence. *Martians*.

M. Tontblanc was applauded, as they say, with both hands, accepted the congratulations of his friends, and sat down with the heroic determination to abolish, not only slavery, but the negroes. Mr. Tontblanc had unconsciously passed far beyond John Brown or Theodore Parker. The resolution then pending—

Resolved, that we pledge ourselves, individually and for our families, that we will employ no pure negro, or mixed negro, race in any agricultural, commercial, mechanical or menial capacity whatever.

With the cry, "Abas les negres!" the meeting adjourned and resolved itself into—seven saloons.

There are few things which excite a man more than successful oratory. Coming out of any other sort of a fight, the combatants

must have some wound, bruise or strain, which pleads, with the cooling order of the combat, for repose. With the orator it is not so, there is no physical fatigue that begets that agile member, the tongue. It even runs more glibly for exercise. Mr. Tontblanc sped rapidly home. He merely delayed to *triquer* his glass with a few friends. It was a genial glass of absinthe. Arriving at home he rushed through the house as if he had been a jealous husband, which he had no cause to be since Mme. Clarisse was a most devoted and exemplary wife. As he stumbled over the chairs in his haste, Mme. Clarisse thought Pierre Bertin had a furniture wagon at the door. The appearance of M. Auguste was grand. It was as if Talma had come to play an engagement in the Crescent City, which is now indeed a city rather on the wane. "Clarisse!" exclaimed he, "embrace me! Awake our child that he may behold the devotion of his parents."

"Mon Dieu! Mr. Tontblanc, what does that mean? Is France at war? Do you expect to chastise those *maudites Allemands* to drive the barbarians beyond the classic waters of the Rhine? If so I will myself arm you for the combat."

"Heroic woman! no. The foe is nearer. The war will be without blood, but it will require much transpiration. A campaign of self-abnegation will be demanded. It will be a war in which men must toil and women devote themselves exclusively to culinary pursuits."

"Auguste, will you gain a place?"

"Perish the bliss. I have brain; I have muscle. It is for the plow, the spade; it is for toil." M. Auguste patted the flexor and extensor muscles of his arm in that manner which assures to Lydia Thompson much applause. The muscle was flaccid, but the will was of iron. M. Auguste was of the precise stature of Napoleon I. It had been often remarked by his grand-father, who had seen Napoleon.

Mme. Clarisse was puzzled by the demonstration. She examined the muscle. There was no uncommon development. M. Auguste resumed.

"Listen! The club has determined to exterminate the blacks."

"These r-r-s poured out of the ninth of May, Auguste, as if they had been several yards of very strong linen torn off from the parent piece."

"Oh, ciel! Auguste!"

"Listen! There will be no violence. The blacks will be exterminated by exile. They are to be decimated by discharge. They will starve and go where their government will give them rations. Louisiana will be purified of their presence, and we shall be free. The club has done this. My speech convinced them."

Mme. Clarisse was an excellent lady. She was frugal, dressed plainly, went to no public assemblies except to church, visited nowhere except in her own family. There are no more exemplary women than the class to which Mme. Clarisse belonged.

It was true she had a cook. Perhaps in the past six years she had fifty—one after another. Then she had a *démoulin* and a *bonne d'enfant* or nurse. How could she do without either of these? But she was a devoted wife and as she thought upon this Spartan resolution of M. Auguste long after that orator was muttering eloquent passages and demonstrating with emphatic gestures to an audience in dreamland, the excellent little lady made up her mind that she also would become an abolitionist.

The next day M. Auguste had reduced his plan to system. He would leave his house in charge of his younger brother. He would go to his uncle Aristarque de Moulinet, a planter of the White League of St. Landry. He would remit weekly the peas, beans and potatoes, which he might, could or should have cultivated. Besides there would come of poultry, eggs and sometimes of game and fish, which he would take in the intervals of toil. Dressed in his hunting suit, with his high boots and gun of two barrels, M. Auguste embraced his devoted wife, kissed his children and departed.

M. Aristarque de Moulinet had joined the White League, and was preparing to execute its decrees in good faith. There were two obstacles. His estate was incumbered by mortgage and some arrears of taxes, and his land was planted in cane, which must perish without constant labor. Owing to some misunderstanding about this mortgage, Messrs. Coutautes & Co. had declined to honor his order for some bulk pork and corn. In consequence he received unexpected aid in his political plans. Two colored families left his employ and engaged in cutting wood in the neighborhood of a provision depot, where they could earn wages and draw the rations accorded them by a sympathizing Congress.

M. Auguste alighting from the train had walked some miles, and presented himself to the family, surprised, but gratified by the visit from their cousin who lived in the city. He was followed by his dog, a fine animal who could not however, distinguish between domestic bird and those *feroces natures*. He even interrupted the scene of welcome by pronouncing upon a maternal *uncoucy*. Bessie received a far less cordial reception than M. Auguste.

The heroic determination of the visitor was known and applauded. There was the mule of the hewer of wood and drawer of rations Joe Brown, turned out to graze. The traces, blind bridle, back band and collar, hung in the stall. There was the plow, the hoe, even the cane knife, of the departed Joe Brown, ready for the volunteer. It was of providence this inspiration. Mr. Auguste breakfasted. He stuck his pantaloons into his grand boots. There appeared a good deal of room between the legs of the Auguste and the leather of the boots. He departed with his uncle M. Aristarque for the field. It was with the song called *partout pour la Syrie*. Napoleon departed for Egypt humming *Mahrouk s'en va-t'en guerre*.

The mule was invigiled with some corn and suffered himself to be lead and hitched into the plow. The operation was that of the buggy at which M. Auguste had often assisted. He had also driven on the shell road.

To use the slang phrase at the theatre, "We could do that all night." There was a difficulty, however, in plowing cane. The mule must pursue an exact line. It is not so easy as driving on the shell road. M. Auguste cut into the cane. The head man, a negro of much experience, explained and aided. It was not exactly that for which M. Auguste had come to the country; to be directed by a negro. The cries which M. Auguste addressed to the mule were not understood by that untutored brute. They were chiefly such as the Gasconne milkmen use, or epithets which the parquette some-times employs to salute a singer in opera who has made a *quack* or a *fiasco*. The misunderstanding resulted in a conflict of races. The "mule and the brother"

her grandfathers were to be reared padding and to assure her daughter—not addressing herself to M. Auguste—what would implore Pere Hildebrand to offer special prayers that the roofs of houses in which dwelled impatient pagans should not fall in and demolish the inmates, or if such a calamity should occur, that the children should by miracles escape it and that their mother should be from home. M. Auguste made no reply, but taking his *fusil a deux canons* and calling his faithful dog, he departed to the swamp, since which controversy *la belle mere* had never been near the house when M. Auguste was at home.

She contented herself with the invocations of le Pere Hildebrand as stated. She was however recalled and assumed command and her orders were, in military parlance, respected accordingly. But she had very few orders to obey her orders. Madame Clarisse executed the wishes of her husband *a rigueur*. In this she was somewhat assisted by the extremely slender capital left her with which to conduct the experiment of voluntary labor. Being in arrears to the colored cook who ungratefully needed a dress, of her colored nurse, who arrogantly expected a pair of shoes, both of these insubordinate domestics hypocritically professed a great liking for Mme. Clarisse, but set up the absurd excuse that they could neither go bare-foot nor naked. An atrocious washwoman had taken the family work at so much per month, actually made an insurrectionary mouth at having to wash and iron a few dirty dozen of things, which the *belle mere* had cast into the family washing, and for which all compensation was denied with bitter invectives by Mme. *La Belle Mere* and an intimation of doubt whether a pair of stockings had reported with the rest of the garments.

It was an active day when these *mandites domestiques* left. There was little cooking done, the baby being indisposed, was rocked about thirty miles of lineal distance, while the washing was indefinitely postponed. Mme. Clarisse wept at intervals. Her manner declaimed against the folly of M. Auguste in becoming an abolitionist, and recounted the number of servants which her papa had in attendance at the Belle Chasse plantation.

There came a knock at the door, and a lady entered. It was Mrs. Benson, an American lady, the wife of a lumber dealer, inhabiting the shores of the New Canal. She came around to ask if Mme. Clarisse could tell her anything about Sarah Doff, who wished to take her washing. Mrs. Benson was particular who came into her yard, besides she would not employ the woman if it interfered in any way with Mme. Clarisse. Mme. *La Belle Mere* addressed some angry words in French, but her daughter answered that the woman was a good washer, and as far as she knew honest; that she could have no objection to Mrs. Benson employing her, of course. The more so that her husband and herself had determined not to employ any more colored servants. Mrs. Benson looked at the frail little lady and her practiced eye noticed the forlorn and uncomfortable *menage*. She said in a kind, motherly way, "Times are hard, and we must all do what we can. This is new to you, Madame, but I was born in Connecticut and raised in Ohio, so you see I have always had to do exactly what you have undertaken to learn. So you must let me help you all I can. I will come over to see you, and whatever I or Mr. Benson can do for you while your baby is sick and your husband away, you may count on. Now, let me come and do a right good day's work with you. You will get through with all your chores, as we called them in Bosrah, and have a good start at housekeeping without a 'help,' as we call servants in Ohio."

Mme. Clarisse was weak and discouraged, so she expressed her thanks and said she would be glad of such neighborly advice. *La belle mere* was excluded from this conference by reason of her not being well up in her English.

"You see," said Mrs. Benson, beginning the lecture on domestic economy, "it's easy to keep house, but you must always begin the evening before."

Mme. Clarisse looked up from her sleeping baby.

"Your wood, your water must be in place before you go to bed, the furniture must be set in place, the clothing laid out, or put away, the books and the needle work arranged, and everything fixed for a good start. We used to make our own bread, that requires attention, even to getting up at night to see if it was all right. After all this, and before covering the fires and putting out the lights you may read a chapter of the good Book for all, though it's well to have some one reading something while the rest work. I have known everybody get the children's geography lesson that way, and sometimes there would be grand disputes about grammar or spelling, and the old ones properly laughed at for not knowing as much as the children. But any way, clean up everything, plates, dishes, forks, saucers, and put everything in its place at night, and then it is really surprising to see how little work you do need. As soon as you dress—you may ought to be up and out a little before you, so that your wood will be in the stove handy—you first put on your water and let it come to a boil. You will want coffee, may be an egg, and warm water to wash up everything. You may work up your dough, cut out your biscuits, fry your meat, and as you come and go you can spread the cloth and put on the breakfast things. The children will help with the rest, but make them fix themselves tidy and clean; then make them help. There may be pigs or chickens to feed, but always set the children down by the fire to run over their lessons, even for a few minutes, for you don't like your children to be behind the others by waiting on you. There is not time for long prayers in poor families, but always before meals the old man should ask a blessing, and if he is out of the way the woman should do it. But I don't know if that's your way. Then the children are off to school, or at work for you or for themselves; always give them something to do at home, if you have to pay them for it. That's our way. It makes a man of a boy and a woman of a girl."

"You can then lay out your day's work. Preparations must be made for dinner, vegetables must be pared, peeled and washed; meat, or soup, that requires time, must have the start. The sooner in reason you can get your dinner off your hands the sooner you are free. Your folks like late dinners and set long at table. No doubt it is a friendly way but its hard on the housekeeper. Two good square meals with a little tea, apple sauce, cranberries, bread and butter, for such as like it, will bring your day round. You will have time to cut

the grass called the *oote*; also, where fanged serpents, my friends assure me, infest the fields, crawl into the houses and drop from the beams upon the weary and unwary *ouvrier* (laborer), and when, as my parain (God father) mentions, panthers and bears issue suddenly from the *cyprines* and great *coups* of persons not *cyprines* weight. It is but just to dear Mother to say that she holds these stories in contempt, and exhorts me not to interrupt guests should remain permanently a farmer than abandon a resolution he has once taken. Ah, these mothers are Spartans. Is it not so, dear Auguste? Yet think never heard of it. Mamma said that you could bear much rather than place the impediment of a straw in the path of our redemption, and use your own beautiful figure, is "allowing draining of the exhausted pelicans." You have conspired the *oote* has culminated, to compel me to recall you to my side. From time to time after your departure persons called with notes, bills and demands against you. I was convinced that it was the man of the exhausted pelicans, especially the man of the saloon and him of the billiards. Mamma said gentlemen were often careless of such bills, but I would not know I grew quite intimate and acquainted with the path of our redemption, and use your own beautiful figure, is "allowing draining of the exhausted pelicans." You have conspired the *oote* has culminated, to compel me to recall you to my side. From time to time after your departure persons called with notes, bills and demands against you. I was convinced that it was the man of the exhausted pelicans, especially the man of the saloon and him of the billiards. Mamma said gentlemen were often careless of such bills, but I would not know I grew quite intimate and acquainted with the path of our redemption, and use your own beautiful figure, is "allowing draining of the exhausted pelicans." 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