

New Orleans Republican. OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE UNITED STATES

NEW ORLEANS, NOVEMBER 2, 1875. The Indian summer comes in good season. A four-in-hand is worth two in the brush.

Milkmen should go West. Montana has a Milk river. If you have no coal to shed prepare to buy it now.

Julia Ward Howe is inquiring. "Is Polite Society Polit?" Noah's efforts to save his family made him a party-ark.

Forethought is the idea which comes before you think about it. Joaquin Miller lectured in Washington recently on "Literary London."

Mr. Pedestrian Weston is lecturing. He walks right away from his subject. There is a skeleton in every household; and all families have their pull backs.

One cause for thanksgiving is found in the fact that the turkey crop is not a failure. It is certain that Russia will be represented at the centennial exposition. Yes, Czar.

Of twelve States holding elections this year, before to-day, eight have gone Republican. The New Jersey farmers complain of adulterated guano. Nothing could be meaner.

Betting on elections is a criminal practice. You are abetting the enemy, whether or not you aid him. Booth can play Hamlet with one arm better than most actors who have the use of both arms.

States can be carried Democratic by Associated Press agents, but they do not always stay that way. Horse car poetry has appeared in some of the New York papers. It is the vehicle of very little thought.

Guibord will be buried again on the eighteenth instant, and it is hoped he will be planted effectually. Miss Cecilia Cleveland has written a book called "A Sigh." It will soon be heard before the public.

There is a general complaint of the scarcity of fifty cent currency notes. Many persons have only two bits. Bridgeport is pleased with the prospect of becoming the winter quarters of Mayor Barnum's circus and menagerie.

Dr. Hays, the arctic explorer, is a candidate for the Legislature in New York. He wants all voters to go to the polls. General Banks takes no part in the Massachusetts campaign. Because he is not a candidate he claims to be neutral.

Clara Louise Kellogg was so anxious to leave Hartford on a recent Saturday night that she paid \$100 for a special Providence train. A fly hit on the eye of a Baltimore man lately when the young man was passing a lady. He winked, and was sorry for it afterwards.

Goldsmith wrote, "She Stoops to Conquer"; but that was before the days of pin-back skirts, in which there can be no stooping for anything. Scissors hands show great discrimination in their editorial work. The good things they take without credit, but they mention the source of the failures.

Charles Francis Adams, Jr. is in favor of a uniform system of keeping railroad accounts; one that will enable stockholders to know how much a road earns. The government of France is prosecuting a newspaper for saying that "the constitution is an uncertain regime, established by a group of persons without authority."

Ben DeBar will give two benefit performances in his theatre at St. Louis to aid Professor Tracey in collecting specimens of the products of Missouri for display at the centennial exposition. Hard times cut away the luxuries of life first. Boys should learn trades or business connected with things that are necessary. There is more honor in making shoes than in selling kid gloves and perfumery.

The brave anonymous writers who are always wanting newspapers to give people jobs, are requested to go out and give their own jobs. Stab-in-the-back writers are not particularly agreeable sort of people. The Tico theories have developed a large number of small weather prophets. None are more accurate than was Hogg on sheep. He said "when you see sheep turn their tails to the wind, a storm is coming."

A new slop song is called, "Tell me, Mary, how do you like the new men, and with me, and work hard for a living." Or, "Buy a ring and stop eating onions." The Winchester Repeating Arms Company has used the Gatling Gun Company for infringement of patent rights, and the weapon which has made thousands worse off than the "Two Orphans" will get in court.

The New York Commercial Advertiser says, "Judge Winchester has been appointed to the bench in Morehouse, Louisiana. He says all this crime must end and shall be put a stop to." This must refer to Bustep, the parish seat. The man who will invent an adjustable button hole—one that can easily be detached from a coat collar, and left in the hands of the politician who button-holes his victim—will make his fortune, and do a good turn for busy humanity.

The Pennsylvania Gazette notices that Mr. George R. Jackson has been appointed commissioner of lands for Florida in and for the State of New York. The appointment is considered a wise one, but unless having a present mind there is something very peculiarly peculiar about it.

OUR CUBAN POLICY. We take the liberty to infer that the report on the policy of our government toward Spain on the question of Cuba is semi-official. We infer this because the style of communication is more compact and definite than that of the associate editorials, and because the text of the dispatch conveys information which could not well have been obtained outside of the State Department except by surreptitious means. If there be no contradiction then by the department we shall assume the dispatch to be authentic.

These are intrinsic evidences that the government of the United States has decided to act definitely upon this important question. This anomalous condition of affairs has existed in Cuba for more than six years. The resistance of the Cubans has ascended from the low grade of a tumultuous insurrection to civil war, and that portion of the island which claims to have a congress—if not the Congress of Cuba—with an executive and an army, is now, according to the law of nations, and even the text of the press dispatch, a "civil war." The government of the United States may, then, acknowledge the belligerence of Cuba without just cause of discontent on the part of Spain. The recognition of independence is a question of more moment, and is surrounded with further complications. The government of "Free Cuba" does not extend over the whole island. It is doubtful whether the republicans represent the majority of the present subjects of Spain on the island. To predicate independence of the whole island, unless a majority of the legal voters shall assent, would be an anomaly in our policy, which has always respected whatever form of government a people may prefer. This is, no doubt, "the complex elements of domestic and foreign policy" to which the dispatch refers.

To our mind the solution of this difficulty has been obvious in the recognition of the State of Free Cuba with the boundaries which that autonomy may claim and defend. This our government might do under the precedent of Texas and of other States and colonies upon this continent. History is filled with similar instances of protection afforded a fugitive State by foreign nations, and the recognition and guarantee of modern Greece in her revolt from the Turkish empire, by the three greatest powers of Europe, would alone close the mouths of those powers against a similar intervention on the part of the United States. The great equity which moved Russia, France and England to send their fleets and soldiers to the aid of Greece was the cruelty of the Turks toward the Christians. The government of the United States has to renege against the re-establishment of a despotism. After the adoption of a republican rule over Cuba, and the maintenance of slavery in one part of Spanish dominion after slavery had been abolished in another and adjacent part of her dominions (the island of Porto Rico). The dispatch adverts to the perpetuation of despotism and slavery as inconsistent with the harmony of the republican system of America. Has the State department considered that these republican States are, in common with others, contributing directly to maintain these two obnoxious systems? Spain has imposed "a war tax" of from ten to twenty per cent, in addition to her tariff on foreign productions. It is plain, therefore, that Spain collects from the United States and other nations a sum of money to enforce her system over her refractory subjects. Every dollar, then, which American flour, or pork, or steam engines, or plows, or cotton cloths, pay upon this extra tax, is a direct tribute to maintain a despotic government and the institution of African slavery. The United States has a right to protest against any such exaction or application of its money.

In offering to the department the suggestion of recognizing the independence of Free Cuba, if such a suggestion will facilitate the action of the government, we but remind the department that other West India islands are divided between different jurisdictions, and the two States of Free Cuba and Slave Cuba, or East Cuba and West Cuba, would but make a territorial and political division which exists in Hayti.

It may be, however, that the government may go in on the broad ground that the present or prospective condition of Cuba, under the royal government of Spain, is incompatible with our interests, and that such a government ought to be abated as a nuisance and a bad example; then we are prepared, on behalf of the white and colored Republicans of Louisiana, to tender the government a measure of support and co-operation. We can also report for a large part of the opposition, which, many months since, adopted resolutions of sympathy with Cuba. These were the spontaneous expressions of Americans who felt for the woes of a people pursued to the death for a love of freedom, and these men can not be controlled by any orders of political leaders here or elsewhere. We can also answer for the languishing interests of our Western produce merchants, whose export trade, whether foreign or domestic, is falling off in an alarming manner. Already are the plantations along the river and Western railroads receiving their Western goods dried, while the heavy duties on such products has almost stopped their export from the port of New Orleans. Our foreign exports of flour in 1874-5 was just about half that quantity. "The export to Cuba in 1874-5 showed a large falling off." Within the past eighteen months Messrs. Glover & Odendahl state a falling off in our export trade of more than one hundred and twenty thousand barrels. In the month of October there was exported from New Orleans to Liverpool five hundred barrels of flour, and to Cuba 15,124.

These are but titles in comparison to what would be the trade with independent Cuba if we had a trade with that republic

based on reciprocal and reasonable rates of duty. We can not regard the simultaneous publication of our naval resources as entirely irrelevant to the possible events which may grow out of a new departure in our Spanish relations. Should our government, therefore, adopt any special or general policy which shall lead to the establishment of an autonomy in Cuba in harmony with the sentiment of republican America, we can conscientiously assure it the cordial support of the Republicans of Louisiana, and at least the acquiescence of the suffering commerce and patriotic co-operation of the merchants of our city.

THE DEATH PENALTY. Governor Kellogg having signed the warrants for the execution of two atrocious murderers, and having in contemplation, providing no extenuating circumstances are shown, the signing of four more, most strenuous efforts are made to save the forfeited lives of these outcasts. The legal way to secure a remission of the death penalty, or the modification of a less severe sentence, is to obtain the approval of the judge and district attorney who tried the case, and a recommendation from a majority of the jury who convicted the criminal. This is not prescribed by statute, but it commends itself to common sense and common law, under which our criminal proceedings are conducted, has been described as the concentrated result of centuries of common sense. But criminals, especially those who have been convicted, seek other means of relief, and rely, in general, on sympathy. Those in this State now deserving of hanging are no exception. Their friends have been working hard for them. There is no law to save them, no common sense in their favor, and no one who knows the circumstances of their crimes will say a word for them. Therefore the emotions are called in, and such representations have been made that a denatation of clergyman have called on Governor Kellogg at his house and solicited the remission of the death penalty in all cases, but were most solicitous in the case of Coleman. This man killed his room mate and child, and after he had given the first wound, which would inevitably have proved mortally, walked around his prostrate victim and emptied at each step another chamber of his revolver, to the last shot. They also asked clemency for the Nicholsons, who enticed a poor peddler into their clutches, killed him for his poor pack and scanty funds, and afterward hacked his body to pieces, the effects being found in their possession. The adulterous couple in the parish of Ouachita, who together killed the husband of one, that they might indulge in illicit love, and together concealed the body under logs in the bayou, that mortal eyes might not see the horrid ax wounds in the head, were also pleaded for by this delegation. Abolish the death penalty was their argument. How these charitable devotees of religion reconcile their conduct with law and the protection of society is a matter between them and their God.

It reminds one of a celebrated case in an Eastern State in which memory and tradition must serve, as dates are not at hand. One York, a negro of immense physical proportions, committed a murder so foul that consideration for the crime overstepped the bounds of reputation and aroused sympathy. Like Jesse Pomeroy of our latter day, it was easy to find those who believed so wicked a man could be reformed, and, by manly-arguments, the soft-hearted Governor was induced to commute the death sentence to imprisonment for life. In prison the man was guarded as best the keepers could. They and the prisoners were afraid of him. Silence is the rule, though daily intercourse in the shops and yards prevents the demoralizing effects of the solitary confinement of Pennsylvania. For two years the man was quiet; then, without warning, he raised his manacled herculean wrists and smote the convict beside him, to whom he had never spoken, and who could have done him no injury, to the death. This was wickedness in the abstract, and as such, to be studied. All the sentimentalists of the Commonwealth, Wendell Phillips at the head, besieged the Governor, and the result was some extra work, some severe confinement, some deprivation of privileges for York, and things went on the same as ever. In a few years this remarkable study for philanthropists killed a keeper without any cause or without any chance for escape. He only did it for the sake of killing. The old pleaders came out in force once more, and York was not hanged. But he killed no more men. How it was avoided, the absence of records prevent being shown.

But here to-day in Louisiana, where the first essential of the constitution is the first regarded, are clergymen seeking the release of men convicted of the most heinous of crimes. Two men murdered a man for money, a man and a woman committed murder that they might not be disturbed in adultery, the murders of the others are characterized by an utter lack of humanity. Do these clergymen commend their motives?

GOOD LORD, DELIVER US! From such Democrats as Jarvis Lord, Senator of New York, and his associates, we beg to be delivered. We do not hesitate to say that his friends, like those of Tweed, have been effected with the co-operation of politicians calling themselves Republicans. We repudiate all such members of the Republican party. The difference between ourselves and the Democracy in this respect may be shown by the manner in which they refer to the now notorious fact that all the chief monopolies in Louisiana are in Democratic hands. It is alleged that the Democrats are innocent of these monopolies, because they were purchased, as alleged, of a Republican Legislature. We condemn and punish the Republicans who so

gully of such frauds, but the Democracy throws the entire responsibility for such a monopoly upon the men who sold it. This is very much as if a man induces the confidential clerk of a merchant to commit a forgery, but where the man gets away with a large sum. Democracy would acquit this receiver entirely, and pile all the blame upon the clerk, who had been so weak or dishonest as to sell his trust.

But we wish to inform our readers, and we hope there may be Democrats among them, of how certain New York Democrats have plundered the State treasury. Upon what authority shall we affirm this? Not upon that of a Republican paper. It would be denied by the Democracy. We could not find anything more than the report of facts in a Democratic paper. We will, therefore, take from the New York Tribune, an account of the Lord swindle. The Tribune is neither Republican nor Democratic. It can, therefore, expose Lord & Co. with impunity. Here is the Tribune's version:

It is interesting to hear again—as readers of the Tribune heard long ago—that a committee of the canal board, consisting of Messrs. Robinson, R. M. Pratt, Sweet and Jackson, four of whom are members of the present board, awarded \$119,000 extra compensation to George D. Lord on vouchers which they only received after the fact. This transaction, compared with the omission of duty for which Messrs. Beach and Richmond have so severely criticised, was as Mount Washington to an ant hill. No mandatory act ought to have compelled these men to connote a swindle so barefaced as that of Mr. Lord and his business so profitable to the contractor, estimated the excess due the contractor at \$33,000; Behn, engineer, and partner in the dredge, put it at \$5,000; George D. 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