

the general financial stringency prevailing for the last few years all over the country has affected more or less every railroad...

During the summer of 1875 a number of prominent citizens of New Orleans represented to me that if the parties in interest in a suit pending in the United States Circuit Court between the State and the Mobile and Texas Railroad Company...

THE TEXAS PACIFIC LAND GRANT. When serving the State in the United States Senate I introduced Senate Bill No. 617, to aid in the construction of a telegraph line from Marshall, San Diego, on the Pacific coast, to New Orleans.

I regret to say that, like other parties, the company to whom this was accorded a grant which, in Western State, would be sufficient to build the whole road—has remained inactive.

The Texas Pacific Company completed their road to Fort B, Texas, thus giving an uninterrupted communication of over 300 miles west of Shreveport, connecting with the int of Texas by other lateral railroads.

The Senator, and a member of Congress from this State, have recently introduced into each house of Congress bills which I understand provide for the securing of the payment of interest on bonds to be issued by the company to amount of \$40,000 a mile upon the upland main line of the Texas Pacific road...

During the summer of 1 year the New Orleans and Pacific Railroad Company was incorporated under the laws of the State. This company has thus far manifested an energy, enterprise and vitality in commendable contrast with the supineness of other companies heretofore incorporated by act of the General Assembly with great powers and subsidies.

Table with financial data including 'Total deficiency for 1876 to be provided for' and 'Total estimated cost of public schools'.

The deficit of the present bureaucratic arm of city government was early made apparent. In presenting his objection to the very first budget made under the new charter, Mayor Flanders pointed out that there were virtually seven Councilmen for each Administration...

There are many items of city expenditure which it is in your power largely to reduce. To enumerate a few, the Parish Prison and City Workhouse should be consolidated, and the maintenance of the prisoners should be intrusted to the city.

For the adjustment of the debt of the city, I recommend the appointment of a board of five persons, who should be clothed by legislative enactment, with full power to negotiate with the creditors of the city...

The test of the control and management of the Metropolitan Police is one upon which your body, constituted as it is, will probably not agree. In the present condition of public sentiment, and with the present situation of parties in the General Assembly it is scarcely probable that the one party will be willing to yield entirely to the other party...

The total bonded and floating debt of the city of New Orleans on June 30, 1875 was \$23,388,900.89. The taxable value of real and personal property in the city is \$124,582,002.

Table showing 'Total bonded and floating debt of the city of New Orleans on June 30, 1875' with columns for Year, Amount, and Interest.

The estimated revenues of the city, from all sources, including a direct tax of a half per cent, for the current year, is \$2,349,182.72.

the State constabulary, comprising over 100 men, at a cost of \$132,735 per annum, and who when necessary do police duty. In New Orleans during the same year the police appropriation was \$600,000, and the actual cost \$599,813.

The immense area over which the city of New Orleans extends (over forty-seven square miles), increases the difficulty and expense of the police system.

From these facts, it will be seen that the expenses of the police department have been steadily reduced; that they are proportionally lower for the current year than the cost of the police of other cities, and very much less than the cost of previous years in this city.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS. I transmit herewith the report of the State Superintendent of Education, giving the details of the workings of our public school system throughout the State.

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which are derived the means of preserving public order, and of educating the children of the State. The proposition to suspend the police and school tax, aside from its palpable violation of existing laws, and the tendency that such a proposition, if carried out, would have to bring the State government into collision with the city government and to arouse anew those political animosities and complications which, happily for the success of the hoped-for legislative reforms are now dormant, strikes directly at the poorer classes, who are unable otherwise to supply it, and deprives them of a vital want they can not otherwise supply, the education of their children, while it indirectly affects every material interest of the city.

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net be made available in their existing condition without a large outlay of money for which there was no authority of law, and even with such an outlay, would in all probability fail to render the institution self-sustaining for some years to come.

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