

New Orleans Republican. OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NEW ORLEANS. NEW ORLEANS, MARCH 26, 1876.

Foot notes—The corn doctor's currency. A canary bird fair has been held in London.

Common sense is the best of all common things. A guitar is a sort of a hum drum instrument.

Marsh was a trump, but he has been played. It takes a deal of money to get into society.

Pendleton is a repudiator likely to be repudiated. The "Prodigal Son" is on exhibition in Buffalo.

It is a great treat for some men to go into a barroom. Poets will soon ask, "Why do summer roses fade?"

The ship of State receives valuable aid from a Bris-tow. An affected wisdom tooth is likely to turn out as a wise spher.

Pawn brokers will advance nothing on a temperance pledge. General Kilpatrick wishes a summons to take the Butterfield.

Eating-house cruisers find that ten cents is the usual pie-rate. There is nothing like a clergyman for solemnizing a marriage.

This year the theatres in Russia are allowed to keep open during Lent. When a jury has been drawn and quartered the court is ready to proceed.

The police jury of St. Tammany have enacted an ordinance taxing dogs. When a man is drowned he is drowned dead, and there is nothing more to do about it.

In unearthing frauds the Democrats are continually digging up men of their own party. Next to presence of mind absence of body is the best thing in case of a railroad accident.

The wickedness of making short weight candles has been discovered and punished in a Western town. The most acts of the weather were regarded as very eccentric during the flesh shower in Kentucky.

"Never name a child or a town after any man, until he's dead," and not then if the man has killed a President. New York has a new Shoe and Leather building, which will probably be a good hiding place for capitalists.

Chicago is determined not to be left behind in the centennial race, and is organizing a champion base ball club. It is said a quiet, self-possessed air is a passport of a gentleman, the world over, though it is not good on some railroads.

They may take from him his money, but they can not rob Daniel Drew of that peace of mind which comes from being a deacon. Since the death of a student from injuries received at play, President Eliot has decided to allow no more Greco-Roman wrestling at the Harvard College gymnasium.

The Southern Dramatic Club will give their first complimentary performance in the latter part of April, when they will play the beautiful drama of "Home Wreck." The president of the Board of School Directors announces that the salaries of teachers for the month of February will be paid at the City Hall on Tuesday afternoon.

With John Morrissey and Boss Kelly on one side of the canals and Tilden on the other, the Governor must see that his political low-path is very tortuous and uncertain. The Western Methodist notifies its readers that "obituaries of adults are limited to thirty lines—of infants to ten lines." The inference is that it takes more space to apologize for the life of a grown person.

This short dialogue is found in a Boston paper: "Hinnie has been to see me to-day," said little five-year old, "and she behaved like a little lady." "I hope you did, too," said her mother. "Yes, indeed I did; I turned somersets for her on the bed." Ferdinand Freilgrath, the German poet, died at Cannstadt, Wurtemberg, on Saturday, aged sixty-six. Besides his principal poetic works, published in this country some twenty years ago, he wrote many patriotic German songs during the Franco-Prussian war which became quite popular. He was also an extensive compiler and translator. Among his more important translations to the German are portions of the works of Shakespeare, Mrs. Hemans, and Tennyson, the whole of Burns' poems, and Longfellow's "Hiawatha."

A pleasing event at the Varieties Theatre last night was the presentation of a handsome pair of bracelets to Mrs. Henrietta Chanfran, the occasion being the anniversary of her birthday. The present came from the members of the dramatic company under her management, as a token of their respect and esteem for her as a lady, a manageress and an artist. Birthdays will come, though Mrs. Chanfran is still young and has not seen too many of them, and it is hoped she may see many more, and on each anniversary to come be as agreeably surprised as she was last night.

An item in the Mansfield Reporter illustrates the Democratic method of enlarging numbers. It says: "We were led into a very great error in our last, as to the number of federal troops recently landed at Couchatta. We are very glad that it was an error, and that the 239 turn out to be only thirty-nine, which we suppose in the eyes of our informant looked like about 2000 when he saw them landed. Small favors thankfully received and the smaller they are in this respect, the more highly will they be appreciated, and the more extended will be our sense of gratitude."

THE CURRENCY AND ITS BASIS. The apparent impossibility of inducing all the Democracy to abandon the doctrines of Jackson, and the resolute purpose of many Western communities to demand unlimited issues of paper, have determined the Democratic caucus to ignore this issue, and grant a general dispensation to every man to take any sort or amount of money he can get. This is, perhaps, the cardinal principle of the hard money and anti-bank Democracy. That Jackson and Benton do not return to torment these recreant worshippers at the shrine of a paper Mammon establishes clearly the absurdity of those Spiritualists who claim that disembodied beings can revert to this earth upon due inducement or provocation.

We can imagine the divine guardians of the gates of Paradise refusing the resolute Jackson and the equally insatiable Benton, who demand a furlough just long enough to interview these traitors to the principles bequeathed them. It being against rules to grant such leave of absence, we may suppose the exasperated patriots appeared by the promise that William Allen's time will soon be up, and that they will be allowed the pleasant recreation of making eternity intolerable to him.

The Democracy content themselves with voting a repeal of the resumption act, which repeal they know will be defeated in the Senate. They will then tell the hard money Democrats that they would have collected specie enough by stopping three per cent on the legal tenders and customs receipts to resume even before 1879, while the flush money Democracy are told: You see how it is; we wished to repeal the resumption act, but bank notes might be plenty as tree leaves, but the Republicans prevented us.

As it appears to us, the Republican policy will be carried out. If the government can muster specie enough within the next three years, it will be easy enough to resume. If they are unable from war, pestilence, famine or other sufficient cause, to meet the obligation, they have only to repeal the law. If the brokers and money dealers' camp on the ground with sacks of greenbacks ready to export the specie so soon as the treasury portals shall be opened for payment, then it should be very foolish to open the portals, and we imagine Congress will say in simple time it is useless to do a vain thing. If the treasury must lose all its specie and reissue its circulation it will be better to leave the circulation as it is.

It would be a very easy thing for this government to command by purchase four hundred and fifty million dollars of gold. It could sell its securities and realize the amount; but no government and no credit could redeem its circulation every month, deliver the specie for exportation and comply with the obligation to furnish a national currency. We could be driven back upon the State and wild cat circulation with its counterfeit and discounts.

There is to our mind, however, a relief looming up in the unlimited production of silver and its consequent depreciation in value relatively to gold. May we not anticipate relief in that extraordinary fact? Germany, and perhaps some smaller powers have rejected silver as a material of national coin. Silver has not at present an exportable value except as a commodity of commerce. American subsidiary coin—halves and quarters—while of good standard, is not of a weight corresponding to similar coin abroad. Silver is "a precious metal." It is metal of lawful coin, as is gold and copper. If the fact, as alleged, shall be legally ascertained, the government may buy with its securities—exportable without duty, and if duly duplicated, perhaps without marine insurance—any amount of silver from Nevada and from Mexico. These securities, to the extent that Mexico annually exports silver, would be better sterling remittance than silver, for reasons stated. If the treasury of the United States shall find silver only valuable as the chance at home, it may safely take the chances that a circulation of not exceeding five hundred million dollars, can be protected with that amount of the precious metal.

We are satisfied that the superior portability of bank notes will make all business men prefer a bank note, convertible into silver, to the silver itself. Here in New Orleans there has been a time when silver would not be received on deposit. In Mexico to-day the use of silver in quantity is a personal burden. Our immense facilities of transferring values enable us to dispense with currency except for local commerce. The United States have a paper circulation of four or five hundred millions of dollars. It has a transfer of five millions annually by exchange, certificates of deposit and checks. If silver be not, then, exportable, there can be no risk that any chronic drain of silver could be established upon the national treasury. It drawn out the coin could be redeposited.

We make no suggestion that gold should be paid out at all, or in any proportion which would affect the national resources or circulation. The implied contract with the noteholder was, to pay a precious metal on demand. There would be no violation of that contract in spirit, to pay in silver or copper. The Bank of England is said, in the case of a run upon that institution, to have elected to redeem its notes in the "precious metal" of copper. It was a legal tender of which the holder could not complain, although it might take a paying teller two hours to pay out a hundred pounds in pennies.

We should, then, favor— 1. Act of resumption in 1879, repeatable or suspended if the necessities of the treasury demand it. 2. The early redemption of the fractional currency in American silver coin of equivalent denominations. 3. The purchase, if commercially proper, of silver enough to redeem five hundred million dollars of currency. 4. Resumption exclusively in the "pro-

rious metals" of silver, copper and nickel. This will, in our opinion, appease the betrayed and wounded manes of the old hero and his champion, because they will know that it is the best means of preserving the character and credit of that Union which was, we fear, much dearer to them than to some of their political successors.

A MEXICAN ELECTION.

The ancient, and apparently normal, mode of deciding the choice of rulers in Mexico appears to be in full operation. Where in the United States nominating conventions assemble, in the sister republic a military aspirant organizes an army. Where our politicians squeeze the officer, holder or punish merchants with business ostracism, the Mexican candidate seizes on a customhouse and imprisons a dozen merchants until they pay ransom. Sometimes a shopkeeper is shot to impress a salutary conviction upon the minds of contumacious contributors. The election may turn on the adherence or desertion of soldiers, or the compromise of the aspirants, as was formerly done upon the basis of Tacubaya, upon a convention among the leaders of three revolutionary armies. This convention resulted in placing the Dictator Santa Anna in the imperial chair.

We pretend to no knowledge of the political issues between the two parties contending for the government of Mexico, and intend not even the intervention of opinion in the domestic affairs of that republic.

To judge the administration of President Lerdo by the peace and influx of foreign capital, which has appeared under his government, we should have supposed him entitled to the gratitude of a people saved from the foreign domination and the renewed civil war, and allowed to pursue their labors without military conscription.

To consider the great service rendered to freedom by the overthrow of a religious establishment which held such control over the mind, conscience and capital of the nation, we would suppose that the secularization of property, with the development of education and employment, might have incited the people benefited to stand by a policy so palpably productive of good.

We are satisfied that the present administration is more satisfactory to the people and government of the United States than any other save that of Juarez and perhaps Arista, which has administered Mexican affairs for the third of a century past.

It is not probable that the favor of the United States would strengthen the Lerdo administration with the adherence of the imperial or church parties. It may even exasperate them to be told that the government is in favor of the "American robbers." Of course nothing that we can say will have any weight, or even access, to the minds of those intent on the overthrow of republican administration and the substitution of ecclesiastical rule and military autocracy. We call this "union of Church and State." We do not know that such a design exists, though we can not see why the voters should be under arms, besieged and besieger, unless the peaceful theory of the present republican administration is to be overturned.

Should such a change of principle be mediated and carried into effect we have the right to point out some consequences to us inevitable, and important to the United States as well as to Mexico.

The American people sympathize with civil and religious freedom. Under its recent sway in Mexico they have established lines of commercial service, and sent capital, enterprise and travel into Mexico. They have proclaimed the same border policy on the Rio Grande as on the St. Lawrence. They have taught that the reciprocal investment and intercourse of the Americans and Canadians has kept the peace, and has protected Canada from the conquest which any one of a half dozen States in the Union could effect. They have maintained an expensive army on the frontier, and have patiently put up with invasions and violence far greater than that which was regarded as the cause and commencement of the war with Mexico. This much to prove that our government and people do not wish the territory of our neighbor, but that we value her success and friendship more than silver mines or coffee plantations.

If, however, readers of Mexican history will cast their memory back they will find that imperial despotism cost the Spanish government the rich province of New Spain. The Chinese exclusion of foreigners, with the robbery, imprisonment and exile of innocent citizens of other countries, with the proclamation of republican principles by the revolutionists of 1812, enlisted American sympathy. It attracted American aid. Those who consider the achievements of Nuna with his American soldiers, and the liberal aid of the American people, may estimate the force of American abhorrence of despotism, and the value of American aid to those who struggle for freedom.

As the misgovernment of the Spanish monarchs enlisted American assistance for the independent republicans, so the despotism of Santa Anna, who repealed the constitution of 1824, and proclaimed his hatred of American principles, cost Mexico the grand State of Texas. The anti-republican feeling inculcated by Santa Anna, with a natural treachery, made him forget his capture and liberation at San Jacinto and forced a war with the United States. The result of this war was the loss of the mines and territories of New Mexico and California.

The American sympathy with Juarez, the republican, against Maximilian, the invading usurper, produced the acknowledged effect of republican success. Should the revolutionists defeat the republican administration, and install a government on the basis of hostility to republican principles, there would be

no American interference or intervention. Every people on this continent have a right to be governed according to their own choice, provided they do not import a monarch from Europe to govern them. The only danger to Mexico may be that a despotic government may come in conflict with the ideas of its republican neighbors and there may be a further "rectification of the frontier," which is the phase, we believe, when the model monarchies of Russia or England occupy the territory of a neighbor on the justification of a war forced upon them by the neighbor.

The United States, and its people are the friends of Mexico and of her people. They will not only abstain from invasion, but they will not permit any foreign power to invade Mexico, and fix upon her a foreign government. So long as she respects the principles of a republican government, Mexico is safe in her chosen autonomy. When she departs from those principles, her people may perhaps have the advantages of republicanism assured to them, without the danger of a military campaign for the election of President. We deprecate these consequences of a departure from republican principles by Mexico, but we perfectly believe, and confidently predict them.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTEES AGAIN IN HOT WATER.

The annoyance consequent upon too much executive patronage comes to the Governor again from Baton Rouge in the shape of a fresh attempt on the part of some of the citizens to oust his appointees. While we do not approve of the habit, which has become quite fashionable in some places, of removing men from office by resolutions that have been carefully prepared beforehand and adopted at a meeting called for the purpose, we are nevertheless satisfied that the officials of Baton Rouge are not altogether blameless. In their case there is something more for an inciting cause than the proverbial itching for office on the part of the Democracy. Abuses, neglect of duty, ignorance and incapacity have been openly and specifically charged upon several of the officials, and as we believe, for good reason and on substantial grounds. A committee of citizens from that place waited on the Governor last winter for the purpose of asking him to make some changes, but as he was for the moment sorely pressed by the political friends of the petitioners on the impeachment business, he was compelled to postpone consideration until a time when he would have more leisure.

Latterly, the trouble has been revived, not violently, as yet, though force may be resorted to if "the people" meet with any opposition; not regularly, for the same persons who met in Pike's Hall, and called themselves the people, are not clothed by law with authority to remove officers and fill vacancies. The meeting, therefore, whether great or small, had no more authority to accept resignations than the seventy masked men had to kill John Gair. And the assembly at Pike's Hall was composed simply of usurpers and law breakers whose avowed purpose was to correct one wrong by committing another.

A letter was also received yesterday from St. Martin, written by a representative Republican, making very serious complaints, and referring to grave charges against Taylor Despit, tax collector of that parish, and his deputy, Louis E. Lalorie. We cite this case, in connection with the Baton Rouge trouble, to show that dissatisfied with the republican officials is not confined to the Democrats of the localities in which they discharge the duties of their positions. And though it may be true that a jealous political enemy is ever on the watch to find fault, and magnify trivial errors into grave delinquencies, and assign totally irrelevant reasons for amotion from office of Republican officials, yet we can not deny that in many cases there has been very good cause for dissatisfaction. Duties have been neglected; some incumbents of offices in country parishes habitually spend the greater portion of their time in this city, leaving their offices practically vacant for weeks and months at a time—or to be run by deputy; while, in other cases, no effort is made to please and conciliate the people with whom they come in official contact.

Those Republicans who have accepted Governor Kellogg's commission to collect taxes, preside in courts of justice and discharge police duty owe the Republican party, the laws and the State, through their representative, the Governor, some duties. They ought to be able to sustain their position by virtue of their own good conduct, and thus add strength to the appointing power. If the Governor finds that he has appointed weak and corrupt men who can not stand alone, but must be constantly bolstered up, he owes it to himself and party to accept their resignations and try a new lot. Office-holders in the country should realize that they have more to do than win the favor of the executive. They must deserve the confidence of their immediate neighbors, for though the Governor may appoint the weakest and most shiftless vagabond in the parish to an office, the strongest man can not hold on unless he acts justly. Doubtless too much dependence has been placed upon the power and disposition of the Governor to defend weak officials against their Democratic enemies. It will not do to steal a hundred dollars, and by paying one dollar out for party purposes, to charge the whole largesse up to the account of the party. Neither will it answer to discharge the duties of a public office in such a manner as to lead people to suppose the incumbent feels quite independent of them. Practically all officials are removable in one way or another if they incur popular ill will through acts of injustice. The Governor himself is no exception to this rule, and came near being unjustly, but not illegally, suspended from office last winter. In a pure democracy the people are directly supreme; in a republic, which

is a modified democracy, there is no limit to the duties which the people may impose upon their agents. And when Democratic city officials object to submitting a question to a vote of the people on the ground that "the rabble" are not fit to pass upon it, they make a most serious mistake. This same "rabble," so contemptuously spoken of, is the highest power in America. It is above all rights of property, respect for religious opinion and all law, for it makes constitutions and laws, sets up idols and again dashes them to destruction.

We apprehend that some of the officials in the country parishes have lost sight of these elementary truths, and have accustomed themselves to look over the heads of the people in contempt, directly to the Governor to uphold them in whatever they may do. This conduct weakens both the Governor and themselves, and defeats, so far as it is in their power to do so, all the good contemplated by the laws which have placed so much unwelcome power in the hands of the executive.

Unless the Baton Rouge officials are really social and political outcasts, they should attempt to rally a popular counter sentiment in their favor. A dispatch from Baton Rouge to a city paper sets up the preposterous claim that "the people of this city met at Pike's Hall," etc. Of course, Pike's Hall can not hold the people of Baton Rouge. If it could, and the dispatch were correct, there would be none to rally at a meeting in defense of the conduct of the officials. However this may be, the unfortunate objects of the popular displeasure seem to be quite without commitments at home, and whenever they get into trouble turn their eyes to the Governor, as though they instinctively felt that he is the only one with the power and will to protect them—in fact their sole constituent. We grant his aid is powerful, but it is altogether inadequate to save them unless they can first gain the approval of at least a respectable minority of their immediate neighbors—the people whose affairs they assume to administer.

THE DISTILLERY SCOUTS.

The scouts who have penetrated the camp of the enemies of revenue fraud have been driven in, and report that all their vigilance has been unsuccessful. One of them says, "While the latter"—the district attorney—

Was promanaging about the courtroom the reporters eluded his argus eye, and entered into the sanctum, all access to which he guards with the most zealous care. The "argus eye" elicited no further information than an intimation by the supervisor that—

The trials would begin as soon as the district attorney found it convenient to fix the cases. Even this caustic rebuff to the whisky scout—

Was terminated by the arrival of the district attorney who, in his usual brusque manner, requested the reporters to clear the stage, which they did, leaving the revenue combination in quiet possession of the scenery, properties, etc.

Why, we would ask, this distrust of the reporters? Why this pertinaacious and almost surreptitious creeping into a room in the absence of those who had forbidden access? We are compelled to infer that it has been because the government officers, in performing that duty so dear to the Democratic heart, have deemed it a duty, like the Democratic House committees here and at Washington, to the public interests to keep their proceedings to themselves until ready to act. They have therefore deemed a premature publication of those purposes detrimental to the objects of public justice. Will not the reporters see the propriety of such reticence in one case as in others? There would seem no such restriction in going into the camp of the indicted and making public the steps taken to resist the investigation. A sketch of the remarkable avidity with which buyers of old paper affect the waste books of merchants; the singular indifference to history which permits a merchant to sacrifice for a few cents the archives of his business; the peculiar propensity of fires to consume such commercial records, and the melancholy inability of merchants to rescue these records from the consuming element—these and other topics might occupy the philosophical reporter with great advantage to the reflective public. The whisky scouts seem at present driven in, and they can not either avow a revenue officer at the hotels, nor effect a decent lodgment in their office at the Customhouse, we apprehend public interest in the purification of official and mercantile morals must rest content until the district attorney may "find it convenient to fix the cases."

PECULIARITIES OF VISION.

If one reads a treatise on ophthalmic malformation or disease, he will wonder that any one enjoys sight at all; but among all the abnormal deformities there is one case which excites our admiration. A boy in California could not see an object within reach of his hand, but developed a power of vision to which the localities and even the inhabitants of the moon were perfectly obvious. "These eyes," says a commentator, "seem so constructed as to observe objects at a distance of two hundred and forty thousand miles, while the same eyes are afflicted with an inability to perceive objects close at hand."

We do not choose to discuss the phenomenal phase of human vision with any parade of optical science. It may be explained on the strictly abstronomic defects which Newton believed, and Dolland remedied by a mechanical device. We will not mortify the reader by any display of science which he may find in the proper authorities. Our object is to call the attention of the scientific world to the fact that the Democratic press of New Orleans possess the miraculous peculiarity that while it can not perceive the violation of revenue laws now under investigation under its own eyes, it sees with preternatural sharp-

ness of vision the guilt of those Republican officers, who, at the most distant parts of the Union, have been charged with similar violations of law, and even looks into the secret intents of the heart, and excites public indignation against Babcock, McDonald and Belknap even before trial, and even continued this imputation upon Babcock and the President, the prosecutor, after the acquittal of Babcock before a jury. So intently and exclusively were these far-seeing eyes fixed upon some of the distant offenders that the remarkable exit of Tweed, the Democratic centennial thief in open day, under escort of his Democratic jailors, excited little attention, and may not be known to many of these Democratic leaders even to the present day.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

At some risk of "crowing before he is out of the woods," our lively friend Collins, of the Louisiana State Register, puts in his claim to almost exclusive credit for certain alleged successes in regard to the jetties. He attributes the improved favor shown by the city dailies toward Mr. Eads' enterprise, to "a careful reading of the State Register," primarily, and secondarily to "a laborious examination of the jettty system. We cheerfully offer our services to our contemporary for the purpose of putting him on the record on the side upon which he seems to wish to stand. When he and Captain Eads shall have overcome all opposition and subdued all the hostile influences, including the hitherto uncontrollable forces of the sea, the memory of his gallant and spirited conduct will be a handsome legacy for him and his posterity. It will be a proud day for Collins when he can point to a "huge Leviathan," drawing maybe thirty feet of water, gliding gracefully over South Pass bar, with almost as much room for her keel as the clouds afford for her masts, and say—"the State Register did this—did it alone—only assisted slightly by Captain Eads and an appropriation."

NOTICE.

HALL OF HOME HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY No. 1, Sixth District, New Orleans, La., 1876. The active members of the above company are hereby ordered to assemble at the TRUCK HOUSE, fully equipped, on FRIDAY, March 31, 1876, at 7:30 A. M., sharp, to participate in the annual parade of the Fire Department, Sixth District.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE LOUISIANA SAVINGS BANK AND SAFE DEPOSIT COMPANY OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

At the close of business, Friday, March 24, 1876.

RESOURCES.

Table with 2 columns: Resource and Amount. Includes Loans and discounts, Stocks, bonds and mortgages, Real estate, Safe deposit vaults, Expenses and taxes paid, Due from distant banks and bankers, Domestic exchange, Exchanges for Clearing House, Cash on hand.

LIABILITIES.

Table with 2 columns: Liability and Amount. Includes Capital stock, new, Capital stock, old, Surplus fund, Other undivided profits, Due distant banks and bankers, Individual deposits, Partnership, Time certificates.

I certify the above statement to be correct. JOHN S. WALTON, Cashier. EDWARD CONRY, JAMES JACKSON, J. H. KELLER, Directors.

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Office Board of School Directors, City of New Orleans, Sixth District, No. 39 Burgundy street, March 26, 1876. Payment of salaries, etc., for the month of February, 1876, will be made at the City Hall, on THURSDAY, twenty-eighth instant, at 12:30 P. M. HENRY C. DIBBLE, President. H. A. OORBIN, Secretary. mh26 21p