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POLITICAL NOTES.

The *Democrat* learns that the Democratic campaign in De Soto parish is being "vigorously pressed," "and all the voters are brought up to the clubs and *made to join them*."

We have information from from Tensas parish that a "rifle club" is being formed in each ward, "and all the white men are brought up to the clubs and *made to join them*."

For a white man to refuse to join these Democratic organizations in either parish is to incur social ostracism, if not personal contumely. Fair play, as against Republicans, is not thought of, and conservative, peace-loving citizens are coerced into a seeming acquiesence in the violent schemes of the bloody-minded White Liners. In these parishes the Democratic managers are evidently determined to have a quiet election, in accordance with the Baton Rouge pledges, even if not a single Republican ballot be cast. "How long, O, Lord! how long?"

Evidently Mr. R. H. Marr is no respecter of persons when the fires of eloquence pulsate his manly breast. The *Picayune* reports him as exclaiming to the Sixth District Democracy--

One glance over the land was sufficient to make it evident that the laboring men were growing poorer, while the office-holders grew rich upon the money plundered from the men who earned their living by the sweat of their brows. He did not desire to excite one class against the other, but wished to arouse indignation against the despoilers of the people.

On the same platform with the fiery orator sat the Democratic civil sheriff of Orleans, the Democratic Administrator of Commerce of New Orleans, and Democratic office-holders of high and low degree were plentifully scattered through the assemblage. What must have been their burning indignation at this terrible accusation. What chance have they for political preferment in the future when thus denounced to the people from their own party platforms?

Mr. Marr notifies General Nicholls that, if elected, he must not indulge in the luxury of providing for his own, not even his wife's relations, out of the public crib, and then digs his oratorical dagger into the midriff of some past Democratic Governor. His remarks do not in the least apply to any Republican who has ever filled the executive chair. Says the report of his speech—

What a glorious era would be inaugurated when Louisiana would have a Governor who would not put into office his brothers-in-law or his relations.

This is sound Republican doctrine and practice so far as the party in this State is concerned, and we hope it will continue in practice. But who is it the gentleman from the tenth ward is "going for?"

Big is the boasting and high the hilarity of the tenth ward "silk-stockings," for they have met the "short-hairs" in their own stronghold and forced a capitulation. The REPUBLICAN's readers have been informed that in the election for delegates to the parish committee a tie resulted between Messrs. John M. Weimann and Peter Blake, and that subsequently the "short-hairs" tried by snap action to run in their candidate—Weimann—but were checked by the imminence of a very ugly row. Since then, to use an expression with which they are familiar, they have "laid down the spools," and at a recent meeting Mr. Blake was declared to be the legal representative, and Mr. Weimann sent to the rear. Now for excitement among the "great German element."

We truly hope when Mr. Marr and other supporters of the Wiltz-Nicholls ticket declaim in favor of an open, fair and honest election that they are addressing convincingly their own followers, more especially their straight-out Democratic brethren of New Orleans. Before and after the recent party elections, and before the committee on credentials and the convention itself at Baton Rouge, the public is told such villainous stories of box stuffing, repeating and colonizing, that seem to render a discovery of the real expression of the will of the *bona fide* voters an utter impossibility. We sincerely hope, therefore, that the Democratic leaders will not remit their efforts to reform their supporters, for if they will so outrageously cheat each other for a mere nomination, what extremities of knavery may not be expected when only Republicans confront them, and the offices themselves are the stake?

We have told our readers how the leading citizens of East Baton Rouge and the Felicianas have permitted and encouraged a spirit of rapine and murder, directed against defenseless colored men, until it has grown into an evil of such power and magnitude as to be beyond their control, and that it even threatens to turn and rend them. We are now furnished proof that the fear of these "poor whites" and piney woods dwellers, who constitute the bull-dozing army, is on the increase, in the fact that several of the leading planters have secretly loop-holed their houses, not knowing what night the lawless plunderers they have fostered into strength, may attack.

Throughout this entire section the colored people are in a condition of abject fear and demoralization. The roads are deserted of travel, and no consideration whatever will induce a negro to leave his premises after dark. The terrorism is all pervading, and against it the presence of troops can have but little effect, while the civil officers are intimidated by threats and written warnings from performing their duties, or are refugees from their homes.

We expect to give some affidavits that will show beyond quibbling the dreadful situation of affairs, and enable General Nicholls to at once see where he may best inaugurate his missionary work of peace.

Mr. Marr bluntly tells the Sixth District Democracy: "The office holders grow rich upon the money plundered from the men who earn their living by the sweat of their brows." And this is solemnly uttered the day after 500 poor laborers are discharged by the city government, while its high-priced Administrators continue to lounge in their cushioned seats and serenely warrant for their big salaries.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN:

I served three years in the Confederate army, and I refused to vote for Frank Blair, and would sooner have voted for Grant than Greeley had I been under a compulsion to vote at all. So I am a Bourbon of the strictest sect, you see, but yet not such a fool as to spurn a little information from whatever source. I think you better able to inform me on the following points than any one else, and therefore it is to you that I apply: 1. What is Mr. Hunt's record and how does he now stand on the New Orleans Pacific railroad question? 2. Has Mr. Lusher ever given any pledge or has he ever spoken out frankly as to his position on the free and unsectarian school question?

I am going to vote the Democratic ticket, and I am going to scratch it. The query with me is—shall I replace the scratched name? Very truly, etc., BOURBON.

1. We presume the query in reference to Mr. Hunt's record extends no further than to his position on the railroad question. We have never heard any expressions of opinion from him, professional or otherwise, upon this subject, yet we will venture to say on behalf of our able candidate for Attorney General that, being a life-long Whig and true Republican, he is bound to concede to the majority of voters, without regard to property qualification, in any given jurisdiction the right to decide all questions of policy which can arise. No other source of sovereignty except the people is known to Mr. Hunt or any other Whig or Republican, and the only way to ascertain the true will of this sovereignty is by means of the suffrage. We take it, therefore, that Mr. Hunt is in favor of submitting the question of the proposed railroad tax to the people, and will abide the result. Whether he will vote to impose the tax or not we can not say. That is a question which every voter must decide for himself. No great principle of government is involved in it. But to deny the people the right to decide this question for themselves is virtually to disfranchise them.

2. Mr. Lusher has never, so far as we know, given any pledge on the subject, nor done anything to satisfy the people that he is in favor of full, free and universal education. There is a suspicion in the minds of a great many people that the Democratic candidate thinks a small amount of education, confined exclusively to white children, is sufficient for the general herd. Priests, physicians, lawyers and pedagogues are excepted. They can only be turned out by the academies, and the Peabody Normal Institute is just the thing for this purpose. While he was Superintendent of Education he permitted Mr. Rogers to keep up the city schools at the expense of the municipal treasury; but there was no attempt at education in the country. Nearly all the parish treasurers took the school money—for political purposes probably—and the Superintendent took no measures to prosecute them. He satisfied his conscience by reporting to the Legislature a year after the larcenies that the money in the country had been embezzled, and that was the end of it. He never built up any school system, and it may reasonably be doubted whether he has any policy on the subject of education worthy of the name. He is a good academician, but fails signally, both from education and habit, as an instructor of the whole people.

The Vermilion Homicide.

Since publishing the account of the affrays between Mr. F. R. King and Carl Schneider, of Abbeville, which resulted in the death of the latter, we have received the following note from a responsible and well known gentleman of this city.

While deploring the savage habit which turns nearly every dispute into a fatal quarrel, we can not discover that there was anything of a political character in the origin of this affair. The political standing of the respective parties had doubtless some influence on the minds of the dominant element of Vermilion after the tragedy, but there is no manner of doubt that the deceased did his full share of provoking the quarrel to a deadly issue. Had he succeded in killing King, he would doubtless have been lynched, which would have been wrong, as it had come by the joint conduct of both to the point when one or the other must fall, as each believed the other intended to kill him on sight. The communication explains the origin of the difficulty.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN:

In your issue of the fourth instant, I notice an article headed "Peace in Vermilion," giving an account of the difficulty between Carl Schneider and F. R. King, Esq.

The account is so grossly erroneous and injurious that I doubt not you will take pleasure in correcting it.

The history of the affair is succinctly as follows:

Schneider, who was a deputy tax collector, had made large purchases of property sold for taxes.

King was employed as lawyer to bring suits to set some of those sales aside. This greatly incensed Schneider against him. Some hostile language had passed between them. Some time after, without any further provocation, Schneider most unexpectedly commenced firing a revolver at King while his head was turned from Schneider. The latter continued firing, hitting King four times. So soon as King could get out of his pocket a little derringer pistol he returned the fire, dangerously wounding Schneider. Both parties had hardly recovered from their wounds when, on the night before the last rencontre, Schneider waylaid King on his way to his house, and he only saved his life by a rapid flight. The next day King shot him on sight.

So well satisfied is the community that it was a case of justifiable homicide that no writ of arrest has been issued up to the latest intelligence, nor is it likely that any ever will be issued.

A Few Little Relief Bills.

In the House of Representatives, last Monday, Congressman Levy introduced bills for the relief of William P. Moran, William T. Walsh, the estate of William F. Perkins, late of Van Zandt county, deceased; the heirs of William H. Whitefield, an alien some time resident of Sebastian county, in the State of Arkansas, and late of Utilla island, off Honduras, Central America, deceased.

In each case Representative Hurlbut, of Illinois, called for the reading of the bills, and they were referred, the first to the Committee on Claims, and the remainder to the Committee on War Claims, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Levy also introduced a bill for the relief of Daniel Edwards, a resident of the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee on War Claims, and ordered to be printed.

AT LAST.

Governor Tilden's Letter of Acceptance.

The following is Governor Tilden's letter of acceptance:

ALBANY July 31, 1876.

GENTLEMEN—When I had the honor to receive a personal delivery of your letter on behalf of the Democratic National Convention, held on the twenty-eighth of June, at St. Louis, advising me of my nomination as the candidate of the constituency represented by that body for the office of President of the United States, I answered that, at my earliest convenience, and in conformity with usage, I would prepare and transmit you a formal acceptance. I now avail myself of the first interval in an unavoidable occupation to fulfill that engagement.

The convention, before making its nominations, adopted a declaration of principles, which, as a whole, seems to me a wise exposition of the necessities of our country, and of the reforms needed to bring back the government to its true functions, to restore purity of administration, and to renew the prosperity of the people; but some of these reforms are so urgent that they claim more than a passing approval.

The necessity of a reform in the scale of public expense, Federal and State and municipal, and in the modes of Federal taxation, justifies all the prominence given to it in the declaration of the St. Louis convention. The present depression in all the business and industries of the people, which is depriving labor of its employment and carrying want into so many homes, has its principal cause in the excessive governmental consumption under the illusions of a specious prosperity engendered by the false policies of the Federal government. A waste of capital has been going on ever since the peace of 1865, which could only end in universal disaster.

The Federal taxes of the last eleven years reach the gigantic sum of $4,500,000,000. Local taxation has amounted to two-thirds as much more. The vast aggregate is not less than $7,400,000,000. This enormous taxation followed a civil conflict that had greatly impaired our aggregate wealth and had made a prompt reduction of expenses indispensable. It was aggravated by most unscientific and ill-adjusted methods of taxation that increased the sacrifices of the people far beyond the receipts of the treasury. It was aggravated, moreover, by a financial policy which tended to diminish the energy, skill and economy of production and the frugality of private consumption, and induced miscalculation in business and an unremunerative use of capital and labor even in prosperous times. The daily wants of industrious communities press closely upon their daily earnings. The margin of possible national savings is at best a small per centage of national earnings. Yet now for these eleven years governmental consumption has been a larger portion of the national earnings than the whole people can possibly save even in prosperous times for all new investments.

The consequences of these errors are now accute public calamity, but they were never doubtful, never invisible; they were necessary and inevitable; were foreseen and depicted when the waves of that fictitious prosperity ran highest. In a speech made by me on the twenty-fourth of September, 1868, it was said of these taxes: "They bear heavily upon every man's income, upon every industry, and every business in the country, and year by year they are destined to press still more heavily unless we arrest the system that gives rise to them."

It was comparatively easy, when values were doubling under the repeated issue of legal tender paper money, to pay out of the froth of our growing and apparent wealth these taxes; but when values recede and sink toward their natural scale, the tax gatherer takes from us not only our income, not only our profits, but also a portion of our capital.

I do not wish to exaggerate or alarm; I simply say that we can not afford the costly and ruinous policy of the Radical majority of Congress. We can not afford that policy toward the South. We can not afford the magnificent and oppressive centralism into which our government is being converted. We can not afford the present magnificent scale of taxation. To the Secretary of the Treasury I said, early in 1865: "There is no royal road for a government more than for an individual or a corporation. What you want to do now is to cut down your expenses and live within your income." I would give all the legerdemain of finance and financiering, I would give the whole of it, for the old, homely maxim: "Live within your income."

This reform will be resisted at every step, but it must be pressed persistently. We see to-day the immediate representatives of the people in one branch of Congress, while struggling to reduce expenditures, compelled to confront the menace of the Senate and executive, that unless the objectionable appropriations be consented to, the operations of the government thereunder shall suffer detriment or cease.

In my judgment an amendment of the constitution ought to be devised separating into distinct bills the appropriations for the various departments of the public service, and excluding from each bill all appropriations for other objects and all independent legislation. In that way alone the revisory power of each of the two houses and of the executive may be preserved and exempted from the moral duress which often compels assent to objectionable appropriations rather than stop the wheels of government.

An accessory cause, enhancing the distress in business, is to be found in the systematic and insupportable misgovernment imposed on the States of the South. Besides the ordinary effects of ignorant and dishonest administration it has inflicted upon them enormous issues of fraudulent bonds, the scanty avails of which were wasted or stolen, and the existence of which is a public discredit, tending to bankruptcy or repudiation. Taxes, generally oppressive in some instances, have confiscated the entire income of property and totally destroyed its marketable value. It is not possible that these evils should not react upon the prosperity of the whole country. The nobler motives of humanity concur with the material interests of all in requiring that all obstacle be removed to a complete and durable reconciliation between kindred populations once unnaturally estranged, on the basis recognized by the St. Louis platform, of the constitution of the United States, with its amendments, universally accepted as a final settlement of the controversies which engendered civil war. But in aid of a result so beneficient the legal influence of every citizen, as well as every governmental authority, ought to be exerted, not a'one to maintain the just equality before the law, but likewise to establish cordial fraternal good will among citizens, whatever their race or color, who are now united in the one destiny of a common self-government.

If the duty shall be assigned to me, I should not fail to exercise the powers with which the laws and the constitution of our country clothe its chief magistrate, to protect all its citizens, whatever their former condition, in every political and personal right.

Reform is necessary declares the St. Louis convention, "to establish a sound currency, restore the public credit, and maintain the national honor;" and it goes on to demand a judicious system of preparation by public economies, by official retrenchments and by wise finance, which shall enable the nation soon to assure the whole world of its perfect ability and its perfect readiness to meet any of its promises at the call of the creditor entitled to payment.

The object demanded by the convention is a resumption of specie payments on the legal tender notes of the United States. That would not only restore the public credit and maintain the national honor, but it would establish a sound currency for the people. The methods by which this object is to be pursued, and the means by which it is to be attained, are disclosed by what the convention demanded in the future, and by what it denounced in the past.

Resumption of specie payment by the government of the United States, on its legal tender notes, would establish specie payments by all the banks, on all their notes. Official statements, on the fifteenth of May, show the amounts of the bank notes were $300,000,000, loss $20,000,000, held by themselves. Against these $280,000,000 of notes, the banks had $111,000,000 of legal tenders, or a little more than fifty per cent of that amount; but they also had on deposit in the Federal treasury, as security for those notes, bonds of the United States, worth in gold about $300,000,000, available and current in all the foreign money markets. In resuming, the banks, even if it were possible for all their notes to be presented for payment, would have $500,000,000 of specie funds to pay $280,000,000 of notes without contracting their loans to their customers or calling on any private debtor for payment. Suspended banks undertaking to resume have usually been obliged to collect from needy borrowers the means to redeem excessive issues and provide reserves. A vague idea of distress has before been often associoted with the process of resumption; but the conditions which caused distress in those former instances do not now exist. The government has only to make good its promises, and the banks can take care of themselves without distressing anybody.

The government is the sole delinquent in the legal tender resumption. The amount of the legal tender notes of the United States now outstanding is less than $370,000,000, besides $31,000,000 of fractional currency. How shall the government make these notes at all times as good as specie? It has to provide, in reference to the mass which would be kept in use by the wants of business, a central reservoir of coin adequate to the adjustment of the temporary fluctuations of international balances, and as a guarantee against transient drains artificially created by panics or by speculation. It has also to provide for the payment of such fractional currency as may be presented for redemption, and such inconsiderable portions of the legal tenders as individuals from time to time may desire to convert for special use or in order to lay by in coin their little stores of money.

The coin in the treasury available for this reserve, to gradually strengthen and enlarge that reserve, and to provide for such other exceptional demands for coin as may arise, does not seem to me to be a work of difficulty. If wisely planned and discreetly pursued, it ought not to cost any sacrifice to the business of the country. It should tend, on the contrary, to a revival of hope and confidence. The coin in the treasury on the thirtieth of June, including what is held against coin certificates, amounted to nearly $7,000,000.

The current of precious metals which has flowed out of our country for eleven years, from July 1, 1865, to June 30, 1876, averaging nearly $76,000,000 a year, was $832,000,000 in the whole period, of which $617,000,000 were the product of our own mines. To amass the requisite quantities by intercepting from the current flowing out of the country, and by acquiring from the stocks which exist abroad without disturbing the equilibrium of foreign money markets, is a result to be easily marked out by practical knowledge and judgment with respect to whatever surplus of legal tenders the wants of business may fail to keep in use, and which in order to save interest will be returned for redemption, they can be either paid or they can be funded. Whether they continue as currency or be absorbed into the vast mass of securities held as investments, is merely a question of the rate of interest they draw. Even if they were to remain in their present form, and the government were to agree to pay on them a rate of interest making them desirable as investments, they would cease to circulate, and take their place with government, State, municipal and other corporate and private bonds, of which thousands of millions exist among us.

In the perfect ease with which they can be changed from currency into investments lies the only danger to be guarded against in the adoption of general measures to remove a clearly ascertained surplus—that is, the withdrawal of any which are not a permanent excess beyond the wants of business. Even more mischievous would be any measure which effects the public imagination with a fear of an apprehended scarcity in the community where credit is so much used. Fluctuations of values and vicissitudes in business are largely caused by the temporary beliefs of men, even before those beliefs conform to ascertained realities.

The amount of the necessary currency at a given time can not be determined arbitrarily, and should not be assumed upon conjecture. That amount is subject to both permanent and temporary changes. An enlargement, which seemed to be durable, happened at the beginning of the civil war, by a substituted use of currency in place of individual obligations.

It varies with certain states of business; it fluctuates with considerable regularity at different seasons of the year. In autumn, of instance, when buyers of grain and other agricultural products begin their operations, they usually need to borrow capital or circulating credit by which to make their purchases, and want these funds in currency, capable of being distributed in small sums among numerous sellers. The additional need of currency at such times is five or more per cent of the whole volume, and if a surplus beyond what is required for ordinary use does not happen to have been on haad at the money centres, a scarcity of currency ensues, and also a stringency in the loan market.

It is in reference to such experiences that in a discussion of this subject in my annual message to the New York Legislature, of January 5, 1875, the suggestion was made that the Federal government is bound to redeem every portion of its issues which the public do not wish to use. Having assumed to monopolize the supply of currency and erected exclusions against everybody else, it is bound to furnish all which the wants of business require. The system should possibly allow the volume of circulating credits to ebb and flow according to the ever-changing wants of business, should imitate as closely as possible the natural laws of trade, which it has superseded by artificial contrivances. And in a similar discussion in my message of January 4, 1876, it was said that resumption should be effected by such measures as would keep the aggregate amount of the currency self-adjusting during all the process without creating at any time an artificial scarcity, and without exciting the public imagination with alarms which impair confidence, contract the whole large machinery of credit and disturb the national operations of business.

Public economies, official retrenchments and wise finance are the means which the St. Louis convention indicates as provision of reserves and redemption.

The best resource is a reduction of the expenses of the government below its income, for that imposes no new charge on the people. If, however, the ill providence and waste, which have conducted us to a period of falling revenues, oblige us to supplement the results of economies and retrenchments by some resort to loans, we should not hesitate. The government ought not to speculate on its own dishonor in order to save interest on its broken promises which it still compels private dealers to accept at a fictitious par. The highest national honor is not only right, but would prove profitable. Of the public debt $985,000,000 bears interest at six per cent in gold and $72,000,000 at five per cent in gold. The average interest is five and five-eighths per cent.

A financial policy which should secure the highest credit, wisely availed of, ought gradually to obtain a reduction of one per cent in the interest on most of the loans. A saving of one per cent on the average would be $17,000,000 a year in gold. That saving, regularly invested at four and a half per cent, would in less than thirty-eight years extinguish the principal. The whole $1,700,000,000 of funded debt might be paid by this saving alone without cost to the people.

The proper time for resumption is the time when wise preparations shall have ripened into a perfectability to accomplish the object with a certainty and ease that will inspire confidence and encourage the reviving of business. The earliest time in which such a result can be brought about is the best. Even when the preparations shall have been matured, the exact date would have to be chosen with reference to the then existing state of trade and credit operations in our own country and the course of foreign commerce and the condition of the exchanges with other nations. The specific measures and the actual date are matters of detail, having reference to ever changing conditions. They belong to the domain of practical administrative statesmanship. The captain of the steamer about starting from New York to Liverpool does not assemble a council over his ocean chart, and fix an angle by which to lash the rudder for the whole voyage. A human intelligence must be at the helm to discern the shifting forces of the waters and the winds. A human hand must be on the helm to feel the elements day by day, and guide to a mastery over them. Preparations are every thing Without them a legislative command, fixing a day or official promise, fixing a day shows they are worse—they are a snare and delusion to all who trust them; they destroy all confidence among thoughtful men, whose judgment will at last sway public opinion. An attempt to act on such a command or such a promise without preparation would end in a new suspension. It would be a fresh calamity prolific of confusion, distrust and distress.

The act of Congress of January 14, 1875, enacted that on and after January 1, 1879, the Secretary of the Treasury shall redeem in coin the legal tender notes of the United States on presentation at the office of the assistant treasurer in the city of New York. It authorized the Secretary to prepare and provide for such resumption of specie payments by the use of any surplus revenues not otherwise appropriated, and by issuing in his discretion certain classes of bonds. Mere than one and a half of the four years have passed. Congress and the President have continued ever since to unite in acts which have legislated out of existence every possible surplus applicable to this purpose. The coin in the treasury claimed to belong to the government, had, on the thirtieth of June, fallen to less than $45,000,000, as against $59,000,000 on the first of January, 1875, and the availability of a part of that sum is said to be questionable. The revenues are falling faster than appropriations and expenditures are reduced, leaving the treasury with diminishing resources. The Secretary has done nothing under his power to issue bonds. The legislative command and the official promise fixing a day for resumption have thus far been brrren. No practical preparations toward resumption have been made. There has been no progress; there have been steps backward. There is no necromancy in the operations of government. The homely maxims of everyday life are the best standards of its conduct. A debtor who should promise to pay a loan out of a surplus income, yet be seen every day spending all he could lay hands on in riotous living, would loose all character for honesty and veracity. His offer of a new promise or his profession as to the value of the old promise would alike provoke derision.

The St. Louis platform denounces the failure for eleven years to make good the promise of the legal tender notes. It denounces the omission to accumulate any reserve for their redemption, and it denounces the conduct which, during eleven years of peace, has made no advances toward resumption, and no preparations for it, but instead of that, has obstructed resumption by wasting our resources and exhausting all our surplus incomes; while professing to intend a speedy return to specie payments, has annually enacted fresh hindrances thereto, and having first denounced the barrenness of the promise of a day of resumption, it next denounces that barren promise as a hindrance to resumption. It then demands its repeal, and also demands the establishment of a judicious system of preparation for resumption.

It can not be doubted that the substitution of a system of preparation without the promise of a day, for the worthless promise of a day, without a system of preparation, would be the gain of the substance of resumption in exchange for its shadow. Nor is the denunciation unmerited if that improvidence which, in the eleven years since the peace, has consumed $4,500,000,000, and yet could not afford to give the people a sound and stable currency. Two and a half per cent on the expenditures of these eleven years, or even less, would have provided all the additional coin needful to resumption.

The distress now felt by the people in all their business and industries, though it has its principal cause in the enormous waste of capital occasioned by the false policies of our government, has been greatly aggravated by the mismanagement of the currency. Uncertainty is the prolific parent of mischiefs in all business. Never were its evils more felt than now. Men do nothing because they are unable to make any calculations on which they can safely rely. They undertake nothing because they fear a loss in everything they would attempt. They stop and wait. The merchant dares not buy for the future consumption of his customers. The manufacturer dares not make fabrics which may not refund his outlay. He shuts his factory and discharges his workmen. Capitalists can not lends on security they consider safe, and their funds lie almost without interest. Men of enterprise who have credit or securities to pledge will not borrow. Consumption has fallen below the natural limits of a reasonable economy. Prices of many things are under their range in frugal specie paying times before the war. Vast masses of currency lie in the banks untouched. A year and a half ago the legal tenders were at their largest volume, and the $12,000,000 since retired have been replaced by fresh issues of $15,000,000 of bank notes. In the meantime the banks have been surrendering about $4,000,000 a month because they can not find a profitable use for so many. Of their use the public mind will no longer account. It suffered enough from illusions.

An insincere policy increases distrust; an unstable policy increases uncertainty. The people need to knew that the government is moving in the direction of ultimate safety and prosperity, and that it is doing so through prudent, safe and conservative methods which will be sure to inflict no new sacrifice on the business of the country. Then the inspiration of new hope and well founded confidence will hasten the restoring process of nature, and prosperity will begin to return.

The St. Louis convention concludes its expression in regard to the currency by a declaration of its conviction as to the practical results of the system of preparation. It says:

"We believe such a system, well devised, and, above all, intrusted to competent hands for execution, creating at no time an artificial scarcity of currency, and at no time alarming the public mind into a withdrawal of that vaster machinery of credit by which ninety-five per cent of all business transactions are performed, a system open, public, and inspiring general confidence, would, from the day of its adoption, bring healing on its wings to all our harrassed industries, set in motion the wheels of commerce, manufactures and the mechanical arts, restore employment to labor and renew in all its natural sources the prosperity of the people.

The government of the United States, in my opinion, can advance to a resumption of specie payments on its legal tender notes by gradual and safe processes tending to relieve the present business distress.

If charged by the people with the administration of the executive office, I should deem it a duty so to exercise the powers with which it has been or may be invested by Congress as best and soonest to conduct the country to that beneficent result.

The convention justly affirms that reform is necessary in the civil service—necessary to its purification, necessary to its economy and its efficiency, necessary in order that the ordinary employment of the public business may not be a prize fought for at the ballot box, a brief reward of party zeal instead of posts of honor assigned for proved competency, and held for fidelity in the public employ. The convention wisely added that reform is necessary even more in the higher grades of public service. The President, Vice President, Judges, Senators, Representatives, Cabinet officers; these and all others in authority are the people's servants. Their offices are not a private perquisite. They are a public trust.

Two evils infest the official service of the Federal government. One is the prevalent and demoralizing notion that the public service exists, not for the business and benefit of the whole people, but for the interest of the office holders, who are, in truth, but the servants of the people. Under the influence of this pernicious error, public employments have been multiplied. The numbers of those gathered into the ranks of office holders have been steadily increased beyond any possible requirement of the public business, while inefficiency, peculation, fraud and malversation of public funds, from the high places of power to the lowest, have overspread the whole service like a leprosy. The other evil is the organization of the official class into a body of political mercenaries, governing the caucuses, and dictating the nominations of their own party, and attempting to carry elections of the people by undue influence and by immense corruption funds, systematically collected from the salaries or fees of officeholders.

The official class in other countries, sometimes by its own weight and sometimes in alliance with the army, has been able to rule the unorganized masses. Even under universal suffrage here it has already grown into a gigantic power, capable of stifling the inspirations of a sound public opinion and of resisting an easy change of administration, until misgovernment becomes intolerable and public spirit has been stung to the pitch of a civic revolution.

The first step in reform is the elevation of the standard by which the appointing power selects agents to execute official trusts. Next in importance is a conscientious fidelity in the exercise of the authority to hold to account and displace untrustworthy or incapable subordinates. The public interest in an honest, skillful performance of official trust must not be sacrificed to the usufruct of the incumbents. After these immediate steps which will insure the exhibition of better examples, we may wisely go on to the abolition of unnecessary offices, and finally to the patient; careful organization of a better civil service system under the tests, wherever practicable, of proved competency and fidelity.

While much may be accomplished by these methods, it might encourage delusive expectations if I withheld here the expression of my convictions, that no reform of the civil service in this country will be complete and permanent until its chief magistrate is constitutionally disqualified for re-election. Experience having repeatedly exposed the futility of self-imposed restriction by candidates or incumbents, through this solemnity can only can he be effectually delivered from his greatest temptation to misuse the power and patronage with which the executive is necessarily charged.

Educated in the belief that it is the first duty of a citizen of the republic to take his fair allotment of care and trouble in public affairs, I have for forty years as a private citizen fulfilled that duty. Though occupied in an unusual degree during all the period with the concerns of government, I have never acquired the habit of official life. When, a year and a half ago, I entered upon my present trust, it was in order to consummate reforms to which I had already devoted several of the best years of my life. Knowing, as I do, therefore, from fresh experience, how great the difference between gliding through an official routine and working out a reform of systems and policies, it is impossible for me to contemplate what needs to be done in the Federal administration, without an anxious sense of the difficulties of the undertaking. If summoned by the suffrages of my countrymen to attempt this work, I shall endeavor, with God's help, to be the efficient instrument of their will.

SAMUEL J. TILDEN.

To General John A. McClernand, chairman; General W. B. Franklin, Hon. J. J. Abbott, Hon. A. J. Spannhorst, Hon. H. J. Redfield, Hon. F. S. Lyon, and others of the committee, etc.

McPherson's Hand Book.

Mr. Edward McPherson announces that his Hand Book of Politics for 1876 is now in press and will be issued about August 15. The value of this work is well known to all interested at all in politics. It is understood that this issue will be found still more serviceable than the previous editions. Mr. McPherson's great experience in politics and excellent judgment have long since made him a standard authority.

The work for this year will contain, as usual, a list of the members of Congress, full accounts of the most important acts of that body, noteworthy decisions of the Supreme Court, constitutional amendments of the United States and the several States, messages and acts of the President, important public letters, all matters relating to finance, transportation, civil rights, foreign policy, the public debt, revenue and currency, the State elections and a large number of valuable statistical tables. A complete index will add to the value of the work.

When published it will be found for sale at the REPUBLICAN office at the publisher's price, $2 50.

Republican Parish Executive Committee.

The regular meeting of the above named committee was held last evening at Mechanics' Institute.

Present—Colonel James Lewis, president, in the chair; Charles A. Baquie, secretary, and the following members: Anderson, Bruce, Bush, Creagh, Capla, Claiborne, Devezan, Duhart, Dibble, Falls, Garstkamp, Green (fifteenth ward), Green (sixteenth ward), Howard, Johnson, Labostrie, Pinson, Sayers, Vigers, Wilson, Wright.

A quorum present.

Mr. Dibble, on behalf of the campaign committee, submitted a plan adopted by said committee for the conduct of the parish campaign, which was adopted and recommitted, to be put in operation by the campaign committee.

After the transaction of other business of minor importance, the committee adjourned to meet again on Friday, August 11, at 7:30 P. M.

It Forgets.

The *Pic.'s* big melon was raised in this State. We never receive any favors from Kansas City.

In the superfluity of gifts which our popular neighbor receives, it has forgotten the splendid salmon that was sent it by some admirer from "the Columbia river, in California."—*Sic—Pic.*

A doctor was found hovering about a laundry waiting for a job of cholera curing, because he had heard that Wing Loo's head was queue cumbered.

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONGRESS.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, August 4.—The Committee on Military Affairs reported the House joint resolution to provide protection for the Texas frontier on the lower Rio Grande, with amendment. Placed on the calendar.

Also, Senate bill authorizing the employment of Indian scouts. Passed.

Mr. West introduced a bill for the relief of persons having claims against the United States under the provisions of the captured and abandoned property act. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Jones submitted a resolution requesting the Secretary of War to notify the Senate whether the hostile Indians sent to St. Augustine, Florida, to be imprisoned, were permitted to go at large, and by whose authority these savages are permitted to go at large in that place. Laid over until to-morrow.

Mr. Davis, of West Virginia, by unanimous consent, called up the report of the Committee on Finance, made some weeks since, upon a resolution submitted by him in regard to treasury discrepancies, and spoke at length on that subject.

Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, said the remarks of the Senator from West Virginia ought not to go to the Treasury without some brief reply.

Mr. Boutwell followed Mr. Sherman. During the debate Mr. Thurman asked if the books, not having been changed, were erroneous to this day.

Mr. Boutwell replied they were in some respects.

Mr. Thurman asked what would be said if the accounts of the Bank of England should show a discrepancy of $200,000,000? It would not stand in confidence in England one hour. And what confidence could the people of this country have in the accounts of the treasury if they are not kept so as to show the true condition of all business? The Senator from West Virginia (Mr. Davis) was entitled to the gratitude of the country in this matter. If this was the mode of keeping books in the treasury, it deserved the most careful consideration of a special committee to see if they could not be kept satisfactorily.

Pending the discussion, Mr. Hamlin demanded the regular order, and the Senate resumed consideration of the House bill establishing post roads throughout the country. Adjourned without action.

House.

The river and harbor bill, as it passed the Senate yesterday, was reported. A motion to concur failed; the motion to refer to conference committee prevailed,

Messrs. Hereford, of West Virginia; Reagan, of Texas, and Conger, of Michigan, were appointed as committee on conference on the river and harbor bill.

The Committee on Military Affairs submitted a report in the matter of contract for soldiers' headstones. The report declares that the contract was irregular, and it reflects somewhat severely on Secretary Belknap, but recommends no action. Ordered printed.

Mr. Garfield made a great speech on the political situation. He expresses his regret that he had not been able to see Mr. Lamar's speech in the *Record*, but still it had been so clearly stated, and so logically connected, that he could scarcely err in commenting on it. The speech was an earnest attempt to make progress in the direction of a return to good feeling, and in so far it met his (Garfield's) earnest concurrence. The gentleman had complained of two great evils and obstacles to reform; first, the generally corrupt state of public administration; second, the seriously corrupt state of the civil service. He had contended that that corrupt state of affairs was buttressed and consolidated by an enormous army of 100,000 office holders, and 100,000 expectants of office. The deductions of the speech were that the Republican party was incapable of effecting the great reform needed, and that therefore the Democratic party ought to be brought into power in the coming election. This had been the main logic of the speech. Mr. Garfield admitted that some of the premises of the speech were correct. With most of them he could not concur, but admitting that all the premises were correct, he denied that the conclusion was logical. He should attempt to show that the good which he (Lamar) sought was not to be secured by the ascendency of the Democratic party at this time. He had noted one striking omission in the logic of the speech, and that was it made no attempt to prove the fitness of the Democracy to accomplish the needed reform, and without that proof of fitness the argument, of course, must be an absolute failure.

Mr. Garfield spoke over two hours, and at the close of his effort, prominent among the members who offered him their congratulations was Mr. Lamar himself.

Mr. Lord, of New York, from the Judiary Committee, reported back, with an amendment, what is known as the Blaine school amendment to the constitution. As reported it is as follows:

Art. 16. No State shall make any law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, and no money raised by taxation in any State for the support of public schools or derived from any public fund therefor, nor any public lands devoted thereto, shall ever be under the control of any religious sect or denomination, nor shall any moneys so raised or lands so devoted be divided between religious sects or denominations. This article shall not vest, enlarge or diminish legislative power in the Congress.

The last sentence is the one added by the Judiciary Committe.

Mr. McCrary, of Iowa, a member of the Judiciary Committee, favored the original proposition, but opposed the substitute as a nullifying clause. It amended the constitution and denied to Congress all power to legislate on it afterward.

Mr. Lord advocated it, and said that Mr. Blaine had stated to him over and over again that the amendment as drawn by him conferred no legislative power whatever on Congress.

The House proceeded to vote on the resolution, and it was adopted—Yeas 166, nays 5. The members voting in the negative were: Messrs. Blackburn, Bradford, Caldwell, of Alabama; Clark, of Kentucky, and Forney.

Adjourned.

WASHINGTON.

Payment of Alabama Claims.

WASHINGTON, August 4.—Payment of the awards of the Alabama claims commission made since January 1, will commence on the fifteenth. Bonds to the amount of $2,000,000 will be put on the market on the tenth instant for this purpose.

Cabinet Meeting.

There was a full Cabinet meeting to-day, with the exception of Mr. Morrill, who is indisposed.

Fast Mails to be Restored.

The post route bill is amended by the Senate Postal Committee to provide for the renewal of fast mails.

Nomination.

Alman M. Clapp, public printer.

At Last.

The Committee on Banking and Currency this morning, by a vote of six to four, instructed their chafrman to report a bill to the House repealing the resumption act.

The vote in the Banking and Currency Committee for the bill repealing resumption (associated with it the resolution known as Gibson's, for a commission to report at the next session of Congress), stood: Yeas—Messrs. Cox, Payne, Gibson, Haymond and Burchard. Nays—Messrs. Wike, Townsend Kasson and Eames. Absent—Mr. Hubbell.

A Loyal Husband Vindicates His Slandered Wife.

Ex-Attorney General Williams came before the whisky committee, asking to make a statement regarding what he called an

[CONTINUED ON FOURTH PAGE.]