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MATTERS IN MOREHOUSE

The Statement of Supervisor Grant

"THE LIE."

The *Picayune* having contained an article with the above heading, based on a supposed affidavit of F. M. Grant, supervisor of registration, he denies that he intended to swear to such a statement, and sent to that paper the following card:

NEW ORLEANS, November 17, 1876.

Editor Picayune:

I have seen in your issue of to-day what purports to be a copy of an affidavit signed by myself, which, upon reading in print, seems to convey an impression and bear a construction not intended by me when I signed it.

The facts are briefly these: Some of the prominent Democrats of Morehouse parish called on myself and others to sign some prepared statements which they alleged were merely to show that the statement of Governor Kellogg which had been published was erroneous so far as it alleged that the White Leaguers from Arkansas and Mississippi had patroled Morehouse parish, and also so far as it stated that the colored people were prevented from registering. I had no objection to making a statement of that kind, and I signed what upon a hasty perusal seemed to be a statement covering those points only.

I find, upon a careful examination of *what purports* to be a copy of my affidavit, that it may be interpreted to convey the impression that the parish of Morehouse *was not patroled at all*. This is not true, nor did I intend to convey such an impression. What I *did* intend to say was this: That *no White Leaguers from adjoining States* patroled Morehouse parish to my knowledge.

I further state that I intended to convey the impression, so far as *registration* was concerned, that I was treated courteously, and that I know of no intimidation used to prevent the colored people from *registering*.

In regard to the condition of affairs prevailing in the parish prior to the election, I will simply say that that is a matter upon which I have been called upon by law to report officially, and do not think proper to speak of it here, further than to say I have in making my report obeyed the law and performed my duty.

Very respectfully, yours,

F. M. GRANT,

Supervisor of Registration of Morehouse Parish.

[Copy.]

The Assessment Matter.

NEW ORLEANS, November 17, 1876.

Editor Times:

In your comments on the letter of Mr. Thompson, member of the Board of Assessors, charging irregularities in that body, which you published this morning, you unwarrantably associate my name with the affair and make some gratuitous insinuations in keeping with the treatment I have received from the *Times* ever since it has been in the hands of its present proprietors.

For your information, and as a matter of fact, I will state that Mr. Paris is not my brother-in-law, nor related to me even in the remotest.

In 1873, while acting Governor, I appointed Mr. George E. Paris a member of the board of assessors, on the advice and consent of Governor Kellogg; and, I may add, that every appointment made by me at that time had his sanction. So far as I have been able to learn, Mr. Paris discharged the duties of his office during that term honestly and efficiently, and was continued on the board up to the present by Governor Kellogg.

The good opinion I entertained of Mr. Paris when I appointed him has been strengthened by the fact that last year, when great complaint was made by the Property Holders' Association against assessments, Mr. Paris requested them to appoint a committee to accompany him in the examination of all complaints in his district, and for his uniform courtesy and fairness received a vote of thanks from that organization. I take this as presumptive evidence that Mr. Paris has continued during his second term as a member of the Board of Assessors to discharge his duties honestly and efficiently, which a fair and full investigation of the alleged charges will abundantly establish.

So far as your unjust insinuations relative to myself are concerned, I dismiss them with the contempt their pusillanimity merits.

P. B. S. PINCHBACK.

How the Old Man Takes It.

The New York *World* assures its readers that Mr. Tilden bears his trials bravely. On a recent evening his "door bell was rung continually" by callers. Charles Francis Adams had called, but even that interview did not discompose the Democratic candidate, for we learn that "of all present Governor Tilden acted and moved the least like one who had an issue at stake. He joked and chatted composedly with his guests." But coming to minuteness in getting at the feelings of the great man, the writer says: "During the day he re-read 'Paradise Lost.'" He had put away worldly things, hopes and ambitions, and "Milton's great epic apparently interested him more than the Southern dispatches he was obliged to read." The good man is a reformer.

The Philharmonic Society.

The New Orleans Philharmonic Society, which has been regularly organized and is successfully working under a constitution and by-laws adopted September 25, 1876, will give its third musical soiree at Grunewald Hall on Monday evening next. The active members of this society include the names of nearly one hundred of our best vocalists and instrumental musicians. The objects of the society are for the purpose of bringing together socially the musicians of the city and their friends, and for "the cultivation of music, as well as the development of the public taste for art." Similar societies in other cities have been very successful, and have afforded much gratification to the lovers of music, chorus singing in particular. There is musical talent enough in this city to give entertainments of the most agreeable character, as the soiree appointed for Monday will prove.

Amusements.

A grand "Our Boys" matinee will be given at the Varieties Theatre to-day for the benefit of our girls. After to-night the comedy will be withdrawn for the purpose of producing the great sensational drama of "Rose Michel."

There will also be a matinee at the St. Charles Theatre to-day, and an excellent variety entertainment in the evening.

POLITICAL NOTES.

If the Matt Carpenters, Edmunds and Northern doughfaces generally had, in 1872 and 1874, investigated the laws of Louisiana and the outrageous persecution of Republicans in the same spirit of fairness and earnest desire to develop the truth as is shown by the delegations now here, all the present trouble might have been avoided. A mean desire to conciliate their late wayward brethren of the South led to a sacrifice of the just claims of Republicans and encouraged more determined aggressions upon their legal rights.

Mr. Redfield's statement to the Cincinnati *Commercial* that the Northern people will be slow to believe that 5000 white voters in the bulldozed parishes could intimidate 12,000 colored voters is a slurring over of the facts in a similar spirit. Had he explained that the 5000 whites were mainly veteran Confederate soldiers, united by a bitter hostility to reconstruction, controlling the wealth of the section in which they operated, and well armed; while the colored people were virtually unarmed, without military leaders or training, or even organization, the statement would be cleared of any apparent improbability.

It is most earnestly to be desired that the present "national jury" will show to the nation, in the most conclusive manner, the exact truth of our condition. Had this great duty not been put off so long, Mississippi, Alabama and other Southern States would have been saved to the Republican party.

There is much boasting over the popular majority which the Democratic journals figure out for Tilden. Such a majority should not be difficult to obtain with the Republican voters in half a dozen States disfranchised. Georgia, Texas, Alabama, Mississippi and one or two other States find no difficulty in furnishing popular majorities. Our distinguished Democratic visitor, General Chalmers, who has just been counted in as a Congressmen elect with 5000 majority, in a district which has heretofore given 18,000 Republican majority, ought to be able to tell all about Democratic popular majorities.

We hear a voice from Texas—nor is it "a still, small voice" or a stranger to us. We heard it quite distinctly in 1861. It finds vent through the Houston *Age:*

If Grant, Chandler and the other conspirators attempt to force him (Hayes) on the people whether or no, then revolution becomes the duty of the Democratic party, who have elected Tilden by a clear popular majority of 200,000 voters who will not consent to be disfranchised to satisfy the Radical Moloch. Either strict, fair, impartial justice or the sword.

The ballot boxes from Mound Station, Duckport and Delta were the ones stolen from the clerk's office in Madison parish. That at Waverly was seized by a party of armed and "mysterious horsemen," whom, as usual, nobody knows. The villains will profit little by their lawlessness, however, this time.

The following frank statements from the Natchitoches *Vindicator* we commend to the consideration of the Northern investigators of the spirit of Southern politics. They were published last November, and plainly indicate the spirit in which the Democracy went into the late campaign:

What carried Mississippi? Vigorous White League organizations and a white line policy.

The Ouachita *Telegraph* is respectfully referred to the result in Mississippi as an answer to the pertinent inquiry: "Who does the Baton Rouge committee represent?" Put it standing in your columns, brother McCranie: Eureka—white men; in bold English.

Will the colored Democrats, if any there be, put the latter in "their pipe and smoke it?"

In regard to the use of shotguns as an election argument by the Louisiana and Mississippi Democracy, the *Vindicator* intimates that too much mercy has been shown Republicans, and that even the pretence of a "peace policy" was a mistake. With a resolve to change all this in future, it concludes:

When the "time comes again," as it surely will, she (Natchitoches parish) will be in no condition to be upbraided for acts of mercy, which justice demands, should have been otherwise.

The Returning Board.

Nothing official has been made public relative to any future action of the Board of Returning Officers in regard to the filling of the vacancy. Speculations on the probable choice have no foundation except the general reputation of the gentlemen mentioned. It is stated that no Democrat would accept a position unless another vacancy was made, and a colleague of his political bias selected to fill it. As none of the members have manifested any intention of resigning, this determination may of necessity cause the selection of a Republican or the keeping open of the vacancy.

In regard to the admission of others than members to the sessions it is said a communication will be addressed to both political parties, suggesting the appointment of five representatives from each. This will be determined on to-day.

[Communicated.]

Small Pay for Valuable Services.

NEW ORLEANS, November 16, 1876.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN:

You had an article in your paper taken from the Vicksburg *Herald*, saying that the nurses who went from here to Brunswick during the late epidemic got $1000 each, which is not true. We only got $3 a day, and the mayor of Brunswick said that it was the doctors' fault we did not get $5 per day. I am one of the nurses and can testify to the trials we had to undergo at the side of the sufferers' bed from dawn till dawn again. Many a poor soul was saved by the untiring care of the nurse. The doctors were well paid for their "brief visits." Your article is doing us an injury, for many think we have made so much by our trip that we need nothing more. Please, sir, correct it, and you will oblige your humble servant,

ONE OF THE NURSES.

The Temperature.

The thermometer at Louis Frigerio's, No. 50 Chartres street, stood as follows November 17: At 8 A. M., 60°; at 2 P. M., 66°; at 6 P. M., 65°. Lowest point during the night of November 16, 54°. Rain the night of November 16 and day of the seventeenth, six-tenths of an inch.

ANOTHER LETTER

A RESPONSE FROM THE DEMOCRATS

Courteous Regrets and an Implied Threat.

The following document was served last evening upon the Northern Republicans in response to their letter which appeared yesterday morning:

NEW ORLEANS, November 17, 1876.

To the Honorables John Sherman, Stanley Matthews, J. A. Garfield, W. D. Kelley, John A. Kasson, E. W. Stoughton, C. Irving Ditty, J. H. Van Alen, Eugene Hale, M. S. Quay, Will Cumback, E. S. Noyes, Job E. Stevenson, John Coburn, Lew Wallace, John Tuttle, M. A. McGrew, J. W. Chapman, William R. Smith, Abner Taylor, S. R. Raven, J. M. Beardsley, C. B. Farwell, Courtlandt Parker, Sidney Clark, J. C. Wilson:

GENTLEMEN—We are in receipt of your answer to our letter of the fourteenth instant, in which you inform us of your determination not to confer with us for the purpose of exerting such influence as we may possess in behalf of such a canvass of the votes actually cast at the recent election in Louisiana, as by its fairness and impartiality shall command the acquiescence and respect of all parties. We sincerely regret this failure of our attempt to secure the co-operation of all the citizens from other States in furtherance of the purpose which, as we supposed, had brought them hither at this juncture. We regret it all the more because your refusal to confer and co-operate with us appears to be based upon a serious misapprehension of the language no less than the spirit of our communication.

It can hardly have escaped your notice that our statement of the result to be attained by the co-operative action which we sought to bring about was a simple reproduction of the language of President Grant (at whose request, we understand, you are here) in his recent order to General Sherman. That language was deliberately used, no doubt, in view of the fact, about which, as we conceive, there can be no dispute, that the first and most essential prerequisite to an honest and just declaration of the results of the recent election in Louisiana is a fair and impartial canvass of the votes actually cast. And it seems to us that you do the President great injustice in supposing that in speaking of "votes actually cast," he meant to include votes *illegally* cast, as you certainly do us injustice by the imputation of a desire to insist upon so narrow and vicious an interpretation. In our judgment, the expression "votes actually cast" of necessity designates votes legally cast, and as a consequence of such votes only did we desire to secure a fair and impartial canvass.

We beg leave to say, therefore, that you are mistaken in the belief that we sought unduly to narrow the basis on which we invited your co-operative action. And you are no less in error in attributing to us a purpose to interfere with the legally constituted authorities of this State in the discharge of their duties—to claim rights and to arrogate to ourselves powers which we do not possess. In writing our letter we were fully aware that both the organization and the action, whether judicial or ministerial, of the Returning Board of Louisiana were beyond any authoritative control from without, and that it would be the height of arrogance and folly to attempt to alter the laws of a State of which we are not citizens, or to obtrude our interpretation of these laws upon those whose duty it is to administer them. But we had supposed, nevertheless, that there was an influence which might be rightfully exerted even by citizens of this republic who are strangers in this State; and we had taken it for granted that your presence here in response to the suggestion of the President was a recognition of this fact.

We had supposed that it was not improper for us to remind the authorities of this State, by our mere presence at least, that there are certain rules of fairness and justice which underlie all constitutions and laws, and upon whose observance must depend the acquiesence of the people of all parties in the declared result of the Louisiana election—rules such as these: That no one ought to be a judge in his own case; that the decision of any contest ought not to depend upon the mere arbitrament of one of the parties thereto; that before such a decision is made both parties ought to be fully and fairly heard; that all questions of law ought to be decided in conformity with its established general principles, and all questions of fact upon evidence duly presented and weighed under the rules which are of universal recognition in all the States of this Union; that the trial of all causes involving public interests at least ought to be public, and that all the proceedings resorted to for the purpose of determining the issues in the present electoral contest ought, by their manifest impartiality, to disarm the suspicion that the forms of law have been perverted into instruments for the violation of its spirit.

In this connection, we may be permitted to observe that, while undoubtedly, as you say, a sedulous inculcation and cultivation of the habits of obedience to the *forms* of law is vital to the preservation of constitutional liberty, it is no less important that a refusal to yield such obedience be not provoked by using these forms as means for subverting the very ends for which they were designed.

Without undertaking to question the sincerity of the belief which you are at pains to express, that you know of no reason to doubt that the Louisiana Returning Board will make a perfectly honest and just declaration of the results of the recent election in Louisiana, we deem it not improper to remind you that the very presence in this city of so many citizens from all parts of the Union at this moment seems to be evidence of a widely prevalent distrust of the action of this board, and that such distrust has this foundation at least, that the constitution of the board has not been changed since its returns were set aside by a congressional committee of which the Republican candidate for the Vice Presidency was a member.

And this distrust is not unnatural in view of the fact that, as we understand, one of the members of the Returning Board is a candidate voted for at the recent election; another, the holder of an office of profit and trust by appointment of the present executive of the national government, while all the members of the board are believed to be in affiliation with but one of the parties to the present political contest.

In view of all this it is hardly necessary to add that the terms of our letter were not designed to prejudge the question whether the functions of the Returning Board were judicial or ministerial, or both, but simply to invite you to see, with us, that, whatever may be the character of these functions, they are openly, fairly and honestly discharged. And while we thus refrained from any attempt at stating or construing the laws of Louisiana, we deemed it equally irrelevant to the subject of our correspondence with you, to allude to the duties devolving upon officers other than the constituents of the Louisiana Returning Board under the laws and constitution of the United States. Whether, as you observe by way of illustration, under the constitution, the President of the Senate both counts and declares the votes of the electors of the several States, his duty being purely ministerial, and not subject to the control of Congress; or whether, as has been the practice for more than eighty years—a practice inaugurated by men, some of whom had been among the framers of the constitution—the votes are to be counted under the direction and control of the Senate and House of Representatives, is a question upon the discussion of which we deem it no part of our duty to enter.

In conclusion, permit us to say that, notwithstanding your refusal to co-operate, we still cherish the hope that the Returning Board, warned by the history of the past, and conscious that its actions are being observed by the whole nation, will discharge its delicate duties with such circumspection, fairness and impartiality as will give satisfaction to the American people. To this end we shall continue to labor. Should a different result follow the action of the board, we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that, while you have taken the responsibility of declining to act with us, we have done all in our power to avert the consequences which may follow.

Very respectfully,

John M. Palmer, Lyman Trumbull, William R. Morrison, Illinois; Samuel J. Randall, A. G. Curtin, William Bigler, Pennsylvania; J. R. Doolittle, George B. Smith, Wisconsin; J. E. McDonald, George W. Julian, M. D. Manson, John Love, Indiana; Indiana; Henry Watterson, J. W. Stevenson, Henry D. McHenry, T. H. Sherley, Kentucky; Oswald Ottendorfer, New York; J. B. Stallo, Ohio; Lewis V. Bogy, James O. Broadhead, C. Gibson, Missouri; John Lee Carroll, William T. Hamilton, Maryland; W. G. Sumner, Connecticut; P. H. Watson, Ohio; F. R. Coudert, New York.

Loquitur Lamar.

When last heard from, Lucius Quintius Curtius Lamar was mournfully muttering, "The order to the army to concentrate in New Orleans is a step towards the overthrow of constitutional liberty and the establishment of military despotism." Mr. Lamar's past record is such that no one can doubt the genuineness of his regret over the overthrow of that constitutional liberty which he has labored so hard to establish, but it seems to us that his remark is not exactly original. Very much the same thing was said when troops were called out in April, 1861; something of the same kind was remarked in regard to the emancipation proclamation, the sound was familiar at the time of the adoption of the amendments, at the passage of the civil rights bill, the enactment of the election laws, and in fact not more than two weeks ago we were told that the sending of troops into districts where there was likely to be trouble was a step towards the overthrow of constitutional liberty.

After so many steps have been taken, one would think that constitutional liberty must be pretty nearly on its last legs, but it would be hard to find a man who has been deprived of his constitutional liberty, or a privilege of citizenship which has been abridged or infringed. If we are to trust the accounts of election day, we have here and there prevented an enthusiastic citizen from chasing his fellow-citizens away from the polls, but we do not believe that the right to chase a colored voter from the polls, because he intends to vote the Republican ticket, is strictly guaranteed by the constitution. The right to chase a negro out of a hotel, to bounce him from a railroad train, or stone him while he walks in procession, has also been strongly insisted on, and practically illustrated by eminent constitutionalists in the State which Mr. Lamar represents, but the abrogation of these rights, even if facilitated by the presence of troops, is not a subversion of our liberties of which Mr. Lamar ought to complain.

But we are glad that Mr. Lamar has uttered his complaint, as it may serve to call attention to circumstances which Mr. Lamar may have forgotten. When Mr. Lamar sets himself up as a defender of constitutional liberty against the usurpations of the Cabinet at Washington, it is impossible not to remember that in the hands of Mr. Lamar, and in the hands of the party to which Mr. Lamar belongs, the constitution was as pliable as a whip lash. It not only gave to the negro no rights which the white man was bound to respect, but it recognized no rights of the free citizens which the slaveholders were bound to respect. Under Mr. Lamar's constitution a citizen was not protected in his opinions, in his correspondence, in his speech or in his property. A narrow and brutal State sovereignty stepped in and overrode the constitution. But when it was a question of the slaveholder's rights, the constitution worked the other way—the sovereignty of the State disappeared, and the divine right of slavery came in to make the fugitive slave law supreme in free commonwealths.

A country which has survived the constitutional encroachments of the Democratic party, and which has survived the attempt of the Democratic party to enforce its constitutional views, need not be alarmed at a movement which has been frequently tried, and which has never produced any other result than the enforcement of law and order. It must be a delicate constitution, indeed, which would be injured by exposure to so slight a risk, and, if that is the worst Mr. Lamar has to dread, he may sleep in peace. After his practical exposition of constitutional liberty, one would think that, for decency's sake, he would keep silent for the rest of his life, and allow the defense of the constitution to fall into the hands which were not reddened with the guilt of its attempted overthrow. His reappearance as the defender of the constitution is so grotesque that, even if there were cause for alarm, no one would be willing to believe it on his statement, and, if he is honest in his apprehensions, the best he can do for his cause is not to let his allegiance openly appear. Patriotic citizens who see Mr. Lamar on one side of a constitutional question may easily be excused for taking the other side, and for refusing to rally to the defense of liberties which are defended by him.—*St. Louis Globe Democrat.*

Tilden on Florida.

In September last, says the Jacksonville *Union*, Mr. George F. Drew, and Dr. Payne, of this city, met in New York and sought a financial interview with Governor Tilden. The New York *Tribune* of the tenth instant furnishes the following amusing account of the result:

It is well known that about a month and a half ago the Democratic State Committee of Florida sent an agent ta this city to represent to Mr. Tilden the importance and the possibility of carrying Florida for the Democratic ticket. The delegate was unacquainted with Governor Tilden or any of his immediate representatives in the national or State committee, and requested a Democratic lawyer of prominence who has a room in the same building in which Mr. Tilden's headquarters are placed—at No. 59 Liberty street—to introduce him to the Democratic managers there. The lawyer endeavored to do so during an entire day, but received answer from the headquarters that it was impossible to spare the time to see the gentleman from Florida. The latter felt rebuffed, but called the next day and finally had an interview with some person connected with the Democratic headquarters at No. 59 Liberty street. He explained to the gentleman the importance of sending certain important documents and a large amount of funds to Florida, claiming that the State could be carried by an energetic effort for Mr. Tilden. It is understood that the reply was given that Mr. Tilden's managers (probably including "Duke" Gwin) did not need the vote of Florida; that it was hopelessly Republican; that Mr. Tilden was glad that it was, and hoped that it would go Republican because the cry of a "united South" was already doing injury, and that a "united South" was what Mr. Tilden deprecated in this campaign as dangerous to the nation. He dreaded as much as any patriot could the idea of there being a united South against a united North; that issue had been tried once in this country, and Mr. Tilden did not wish to renew it. It was not politic to have a united South. Mr. Tilden could afford to lose Florida, and, it was added, he could spend his money to better advantage in Wisconsin, which had ten electoral votes, while Florida only had four.

Mr. Bayard Taylor says he entertains a high regard for the successful paragraphist, but can not find language sufficiently harsh to condemn the would-be funny writers whose "fun" consists in making light of the sufferings of others. The practice of ridiculing mothers-in-law he condemns as a bad one.

COURT RECORD.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1876.

United States Supreme Court.

The following is of November 13:

No. 933, of 1875. The Selma and Meridian Railroad Company et al., appellants vs. the Louisiana National Bank of New Orleans et al.—The motion to rescind the order docketing and dismissing this cause, and leave to docket the same was argued by Mr. P. Phillips in support of same, and by Mr. T. J. Durant in opposition thereto.

Superior District Court.

H. W. Soares vs. George B. Johnson, State Auditor.—Injunction against drawing any warrants on appropriation act No. 110, of 1874, till petitioner's warrants are paid, issued on bond of $2000.

State ex rel. Hoey & O'Connor vs. J. G. Brown, Administrator of Public Accounts. Mandamus to pay judgment obtained under name of C. E. Girardey & Co. made peremptory.

George C. Norcross vs. William Bauer & Co.—Tax title on property purchased of A. S. Badger, collector of the Fourth District, April 6, 1876, confirmed by Auditor's deed October 28, on which possession is prayed for. Cause to be shown November 22.

A. M. J. Chapman vs. New Orleans, St. Louis and Chicago railroad; J. J. Morgan vs. same.—Plaintiffs say that on Sunday, February 13, 1876, they bought tickets for Amite; that they received excursion tickets in place of regular tickets; that the conductor, John A. Hawkins, refused them, and they were put off in the wilderness between Kennerville and New Orleans; that in a terrible thunder storm on a dark night they were compelled to walk to New Orleans, and to "coon it" over the bridges, and claimed $5000 damages. Judgment given for $1000.

F. J. Herron vs. city of New Orleans.—Petitioner alleges that since he was appointed recorder of mortgages, January 20, 1873, he has paid $2420 for rent of building; that the city is responsible by law for the amount, and prays judgment for it.

Superior Criminal Court.

INFORMATIONS.

Carrying concealed weapons—John Leary and Thomas Kilkela.

Assault, etc., upon a police officer—James Casey and Dan Horrigan, assaulting Officer W. H. Hawkins, October 7.

SENTENCED.

Burglary—Bill Davis, alias Chicago Bill, convicted, November 2, of burglary at the house of O. M. Redon, on Rousseau street, August 9, one year in the Penitentiary.

Larceny—David Foy, three months in the Parish Prison. Accused was charged with embezzling, October 4, $18 50 from William Miller, withdrew his plea of not guilty and pleaded guilty to larceny, which was accepted.

First District Court.

INFORMATIONS.

Obtaining money—E. W. Tostrick, James M. Pratt, William Sachs.

Assault and battery—Joseph Imenez, Martha Johnson, Mary Louise Leah, Frederick L. King, Leah Ann Rupert, William Shelton.

NOLLE PROSEQUI ENTERED.

Petty larceny—Joe Robinson alias Dago Joe.

MISTRIAL.

John Dejan—Severing from the soil of another the produce thereof.

SENTENCED.

Assault and battery—Emile Moran, $25; Millie Bailey, costs or five days.

Second District Court.

Successions of Theo. Volz and Barthelmy Morrere opened.

A Remarkable Letter from a Notable Man.

Mr. John C. Hamilton, of New York city, son of the great American statesman, Alexander Hamilton, wrote a letter to a friend in this city (Mr. W. K. Rogers), under date of November 6, in which he says: "I have just seen Thurlow Weed. He tells me that he is extremely anxious about this State. A letter from the chairman of the State committee of Louisiana, just read to me, is positive of our success there. Chamberlain is confident as to South Carolina, and if we carry Oregon, those two States and Florida, we shall prevail. In some aspects which I will develop as to the future, I would not regret such a result as losing New York. It brings before the country two great facts—intimidation at the South, and frauds unexampled at the North. Then you will see that an amendment to the constitution proposed by my father is the only effective remedy." The amendment, we believe, was to have the presidential vote cast by single districts instead of by States. Mr. Hamilton proceeds: "If we lose the electoral vote it must and will be remembered that we shall have lost Mississippi by mere intimidation. The last census proves this. And should Tilden be elected because of the loss, the precedent of the Democrats in 1839 as to the vote in New Jersey for members of Congress will be a telling one." Mr. Hamilton then makes some reflections upon the supreme value of the national idea to the republic, and concludes with the noble words: "I feel that I would die as John Brown did rather than surrender our government to Southern or any other rebels."

This noble old gentleman is now eighty-four, still with one of the brightest and most vigorous intellects of our time. He writes a firm, dashing hand, full of character, suggestive of strength, rapidity and vigor.—*Ohio State Journal, thirteenth.*

How an Elector Once Went Back on His Party.

Should Governor Tilden or Governor Hayes be elected by a majority of one, or even of three or four in the electoral college, there will be no little anxiety regarding the lives and health of the individual electors, who, by their votes, are to decide who is to be President of this great and glorious country. In connection with this thought a historical fact of considerable interest at present is brought to mind, which shows that in the year 1821 a presidential elector chosen by the Democratic party in New Hampshire changed his vote, went back on his party, and voted against the party candidate in the electoral college. The presidential elector referred to was ex-Governor William Plummer. The candidate of his party was James Monroe, then President of the United States, who was running for a second term. In November, 1820, the party was successful, and the Democratic electors were chosen to a man in every State in the Union, among them Mr. Plummer, from the Granite State. The electoral college met on February 14, 1821, and the vote was unanimous for President Monroe, with one exception. To the surprise of everybody, ex-Governor Plummer voted for John Quincy Adams. The latter, in his "Memoirs," says he was surprised and mortified that Governor Plummer should have cast his vote for him. He had thought that, of all the electors, none were more certain to vote for Monroe than Governor Plummer. Another writer has averred that Plummer's motive for voting against the candidate of his party, was that he did not wish to have the vote unanimous for any President after Washington. No comment on his action in the papers of the day can be found. Whatever may have been his object, it may be safely asserted that his action provides a historic precedent which would be sufficiently striking to seriously agitate a candidate whose success depended on a majority of one in a vote of 369.—*Boston Globe.*

Demanding the Keys.

On Saturday night last W. H. Russell, jailor, reports a party of men demanded of him the jail keys for the purpose of releasing Ed. Hathaway, in confinement for shooting several colored men a short time ago on Bayou DeSiard. Russell informed them that he did not have the keys, when they lelft, promising to return at an early day. Colonel Hale being called on by Mr. Dobson, deputy sheriff, promptly furnished a guard. Steps have been taken to guard the jail hereafter.—*Monroe Intelligencer.*

BY TELEGRAPH.

WASHINGTON.

Cabinet Meeting.

WASHINGTON, November 17.—The Cabinet meeting to-day was attended by all the members, and appears to have been an interesting session. There was considerable talk about the condition of affairs growing out of the election, and of the complications that have received public attention since that time, though it is not known that any action was taken by the Cabinet of a character that might be remarked of very special importance.

After the adjournment the members of the Cabinet repaired to the office of the Attorney General, somewhat in advance of Judge Taft, who remained at the executive mansion in order to perform necessary business attending the pardon of Mr. McKee.

While it is not yet known what the object of the conference at the Department of Justice meant, it is safe to believe that it is for the purpose of consulting important legal authorities in the library of that department upon matters that received consideration at the meeting.

Unsatisfied Curiosity.

Two members of the Cabinet are quoted to the effect that there was no question before them of a political character upon which to base action. No action was taken or recommendation made. They simply had a free and a somewhat excited talk over the situation. Their opinions are much divided as to what is going to happen.

Pardoned.

William McKee, of the whisky frauds, has been pardoned.

Marine.

The ship United States, from Newberryport, Massachusetts, for San Francisco, burned off Cape Horn. Crew saved.

Naval.

The Tallapoosa leaves the navy yard Monday for Port Royal with Admiral Porter, Vice Admiral Rowan, Rear Admiral Davis, Chief Engineer King, and Naval Constructor Eastby, to visit the naval stations on the Atlantic coast with a view of closing one or more of them.

THE SITUATION.

New York Gossip.

NEW YORK, November 17.—The *Herald's* New Orleans special says: The gold rates here to-day are ten per cent above New York. The banks are calling in all their call loans, particularly on State and city securities. Poor people are drawing their money out of the banks and putting it in gold. Still, there is no sign of anything serious.

The *Herald's* Tallahassee dispatch says: The official returns continue to come in, without, however, changing the estimate I sent you two days since, giving the State to Tilden by from 400 to 700 majority. A prominent Federal officeholder reduces Tilden's majority to 229, but I can not vouch for his figures.

The *Tribune's* New Orleans dispatch says: The latest returns of the election in Louisiana received in this city show that the Republican majorities are in the aggregate smaller than they have been supposed to be.

Florida.

TALLAHASSEE, November 16—Midnight.—A number of Northern Republicans here concede the State to the Democrats for Governor by about 400 majority, but claim a small majority for Hayes. The Democrats still claim the State has gone for Tilden, as well as the State ticket (with two counties yet to hear from), by 105 majority. Returns are all expected in this week and the canvass will begin early next week. A large number of prominent Democrats are here.

South Carolina Supreme Court Decision.

COLUMBIA, S. C., November 17.—The Supreme Court to-day issued an auxiliary order instructing the Board of Canvassers to proceed in strictly ministerial duty—canvass returns and submit the same to the court. The Board of Canvassers, just met, have decided to admit five gentlemen of each side to witness the canvass. The result will probably be reached to-night.

Gone Home.

The Supreme Court having control of the Board of Canvassers, Senator Randolph, Montgomery Blair and Hon. G. V. Fox returned North to-day.

The Canvassers at Work.

No final decision is made by the Supreme Court in the matter of writs of mandamus and prohibition against the canvassing board, but the court has granted an intermediary order authorizing the canvassers to aggregate the statements of the county election commissioners and ascertain who have received the greatest number of votes, and they will certify the result to the court. This is entirely in the line of the writs asked for, and confines the board to the ministerial duty of canvassing the returns. Under this order the board are at work, a committee of Democrats and Republicans being present. They will first canvass the vote for presidential electors.

NEW YORK.

Billiards.

NEW YORK, November 17.—The billiard match last night for $1000 and the Delancy medal, 500 points, between Albert Garnier and Joseph Dion, was won by Dion by 105 points.

Methodist Missionary Labor.

The Methodist missionary committee this evening appropriated $55,000 for the Indian branch, $8000 for the Bulgarian branch, $16,000 for the Italian branch and $20,000 for the Mexican branch. Compared with last year's appropriations they show a decrease of over ten per cent.

FOREIGN.

A Winter Campaign.

LONDON, November 17.—The *Standard's* Vienna correspondent says: The Porte, in view of a winter campaign, intends to keep 40,000 men in Montenegro and Herzegovina, 40,000 on the borders of Greece, and 80,000 to watch Servia.

Russian Arrangements.

Correspondents say the entire contingent of the Russian army has been sent out of the Polish provinces for service in the field. Russian garrisons remain in Warsaw and other Polish cities.

A number of Russian officers who intended to quit Belgrade have been ordered to remain.

British Preparations.

The *Standard* says: Great activity prevails in Woolwich arsenal. An imperative order was issued yesterday that the production of rifle ball cartridges be increased to 2,000,000 per week. The usual quantity manufactured weekly is 500,000.

The Press Association reports that the authorities of Devonport Dock Yard have received orders to prepare the ironclad turret ships Cyclops and Hydra for immediate service.

Soldiers on furlough in Ireland are ordered to join their regiments.

Reuter's military intelligence, dated Chatham, November 16, represents that the company of royal engineers which was recently placed under orders for foreign service is now undergoing a course of instruction preparatory to embarking.

Failed.

Hamilton & Co., colliery owners, have failed. Liabilities £600,000.

The Question of Conference.

A telegram from Constantinople says according to reliable information, an extraordinary Cabinet counsel will be held here to-morrow to definitely decide respecting the question of a conference, the British Cabinet having renewed its energetic demand on that subject.

The Shrewsbury Cup.

The Shrewsbury cup was won by Brother to Royal George, Miss Lizzie second, Lady Madden third.

The Czar Speaks Again.

Reuter's dispatch from St. Petersburg says the Czar, in addressing his Generals and officers at the close of a review at Tsarskoe Selo on Wednesday, said: "Gentlemen, let us wish the best success to the commanders of our armies." The Czar's words were received with enthusiastic cheering.

Suspension of Freight Traffic.

All freight traffic has been suspended since yesterday on the railways between Warsaw, Terespot, Kio and Brest, Moscow and Brest, Tamboff and Saratoff, Groese and Searizyn, Charkoff and Nicolaieff, and Moscow and Kasleff.

England's Policy—Her Troops to Occupy Constantinople, and Hold It Against Attack.

An editorial in the *Pall Mall Gazette* concludes: English jealousy and English suspicion are thoroughly aroused. Any overt act on the part of Russia in the direction of her suspected aims, would deepen this suspicion into active hostility, and not only leave the government free to act against Russia, but in certain contingencies compel it so to act.

The *Times* to-day, in its financial column, says one of the rumors on the Stock Exchange yesterday was that Lord Derby had withdrawn from the negotiation on the Russian question, and the Cabinet had ordered the occupation of Constantinople by the British forces, so that there would be no conference, but immediate war. This rumor is probably the foundation of the statement which the *Financier* makes editorially to-day: "We can state, not officially, but very confidently, the course the British Cabinet have resolved upon if Russia invades Turkey. In such a case a British army corps will immediately occupy Constantinople and defend it against all attacks. It is calculated that not more than 25,000 troops are needed, and British engineer officers are already making a survey for a thorough defense of the Turkish capital."

[NOTE.—The latter statement probably grows out of a Reuter telegram from Constantinople on the fourteenth instant, stating that government officers of the corps of royal engineers had arrived at this city.]

The *Financier* says: England's object is not to participate in a war between Turkey and Russia, who may fight out their quarrel, whether in Asia or Europe, but to protect Constantinople and the Dardanelles from seizure by the Russians. England would simply hold Constantinople in pledge, temporarily, on behalf of the other powers and the world at large. As soon as a neutral State was formed on the Bosphoros, or such other arrangement effected as Europe may ultimately determine on for the wardenship of the Dardenelles, England would willingly withdraw. Thus, the ministerial policy is perfectly clear and free from future entanglements. It has a distinct object of vital importance to British interests, and beyond that object the government will not go. The foregoing in all probability has no better foundation than the Stock Exchange rumor before mentioned, which the *Times* merely repeats without comment; but it shows the current of opinion here among the supporters of the ministry. But there is a strong division in public sentiment about the course the government ought to pursue.

The Stock Exchange.

The London and Continental Stock Exchanges were flat to-day, and international stocks, such as Russian, Turkish, Egyptian, Hungarian and French, declined considerably. Consols were remarkably steady throughout, closing at their best point for the day, but everything else suffered from the threatening aspect of political affairs.

The Times Advocates Co-operation with Russia.

The *Times* continues to advocate co-operation with Russia in enforcing upon the Porte satisfactory reforms, and has a powerful leading editorial on the subject to-day, in which it cites intervention in Syria in 1860, and the French occupation of the Lebanon by the acquiescence of all the treaty powers, and shows that military interference in Bulgaria would have an exact precedent, and that as the Porte yielded to European control of her internal affairs, then she would do so in the parallel case now presented. The organs of the Liberal party strongly oppose any action in a sense hostile to Russia. The *Standard*, *Telegraph* and *Pall Mall Gazette* do not believe that England can remain neutral.

The *Post*, while strongly anti-Russian disposed, believes Russia has abandoned the idea of demanding or seizing material guarantees for the execution of reforms, or of insisting upon autonomy in the sense of infringing on the independence of Turkey. It thinks, therefore, that the conference may arrive at an arrangement satisfying Russia's legitimate demands, while respecting equally the legitimate susceptibilities and the independence and sovereign rights of the Ottoman empire.

The Late Hurricane.

WASHINGTON, November 17.—Edward Conway, United States consul at San Juan, Porto Rico, reports to the State Department, under date of the second instant, the following information regarding the hurricane in that island, previously referred to. Its effects, the consul writes, have been most disastrous, the vortex having passed over the center of the island from east to west. This terrible storm has destroyed all that it has found on its way, tearing up trees, blowing off roofs, and causing great damage to the cattle.

The greater part of the coffee crop is lost, as well as that of rice and other small products. All the sugar cane plantations have suffered more or less, especially those whose canes were full grown. The new canes, although bent to the ground, may return to their former position, and it is considered that a large deficit will not be apparent in the next crop. Forty-six vessels were lost and injured on the coast of the island.