

POLITICAL NOTES.

First Democrat—"Well, Judge, your committee have done good work. I read the figures in the papers, and see we have got the d--d Radicals after all. The people are grateful, sir; the people are grateful."

Second Democrat—"Those majorities, I gessed as they are by distinguished men who once were Republicans but are now acting with the Democratic party, must convince, sir, the nation, sir, of the justice of our cause. I may say, sir, and without flattery, that Judge, the country is saved. Let's take a drink."

The Judge—"Yes, gentlemen, we have made a great advance. With proper care from now until 1878 we can elect a Legislature which will impeach Packard and his hireling crew, and restore us to our rights. Thank you, I will."

Three drinks are imbibed in silence, and at least two disgusted patriots temporarily withdraw from politics.

Of course there is no intimidation in Morehouse. The witnesses before the Returning Board have sworn so, and the Democratic organ has simply prayed for an opportunity to write an obituary upon the daring Republicans who testified to the contrary. But there is patriotism in Morehouse, and of a quality as fiery as Naab's. It is to be hoped it will be kept as well in hand, so that neither a deputy marshal nor a straight jacket will be needed for the editor of the Clarion. He fears that if General Nicholls should be deprived of the proud privilege of appointing tax collectors for Morehouse, that—

We are forced to believe that we are not living under a government for the people, but for the Republican party. Oh, spirits of Washington and Franklin! guide and direct us in this hour of our peril. We are goaded to madness, but may no mad act of ours cause us to forget the noble deeds of our revolutionary sires!

Insaker Gavitt's bomb-proviso is well matched here.

When there are distinguished visitors in the State, and the Democracy is on its good behavior as it were, what can be more irritating to the soul of an expectant patriot than for the young and untried bulldozer to exhibit his lively instincts in public. Jastrenski, the Democratic mayor, is the Herr Lengel of the Baton Rouge bulldozer menagerie; but this lion tamer had to come to New Orleans to testify to the peacefulness of his animals and the purity of the election, when they at once broke all bounds. On Sunday "the boys" were just hungry for a nigger or a Radical, and made the town hideous with their orgies and dangerous with reckless pistol firing.

A private letter from there says all decent people are disgusted and heart-sick with Democratic rule and that even the bulldozer's defender (the Advertiser) has been constrained to call a halt upon this vile lawlessness.

When the entire facts of the Louisiana election and the preceding campaign are given to the country, in the conclusive form they will be in a few days, and one which will furnish an army of half a million of men to defend Republicanism in this State if need be—it is not to be expected that the arraignment will be attacked. Not a bit of it. The Democracy will at once assail the characters of the witnesses, the Republican managers and the gentlemen who are the medium of developing the appalling atrocities committed already, and in anticipation, has the assault begun. The Times raises its voice in "bloody Caddo" in denunciation of John Sherman as "a country pettifogging lawyer," although he has served a dozen years in the Senate representing the great Buckeye State; Garfield is dubbed "a great man" with many sarcastic exclamation points; while Eugene Hale, Job Stevenson, Stoughton, Stanley Matthews, Governor Noyes and the remainder of the visiting Republicans are banished as "men of no reputation" and "mosty Grant's obscure friends." The same enthusiastic and enlightened journal can find no language too exuberant for depicting the manly virtues of Julian, Trumbull, Palmer, Doolittle and the other Democratic lights who are depended on to save Louisiana and the offices to the Democracy.

This sort of slobber may deceive a few narrow-minded Southern partisans, but intelligent people throughout the country will be reminded of the showman's famous ostrich who, when danger threatened, buried his head in the sand and whistled defiance at the foe through his tail feathers.

The bloody spirit of civil war seems to wholly possess the mind of the editor of the Houston Age. Texas is rather out of the line of march of devastating armies, which may make it rather safe and cheerful to walk at night there, but still such extracts as we quote are indicative of a spirit of hate to the government that conquered their former treason which is rife throughout the South. This is the Age's latest idea of the situation:

By the utterance of a single word, Tilden could lead a military power that would insure his own right and those of the millions of the Northern men who cast their ballots for him in the late election.

If, therefore, the idea of March should witness a usurper thrust upon the country, or General Grant seizing on the government, it is expecting too much of the nation to believe that these outrages on popular rights will not be followed by a terrible, bloody and general war—not between sections, but parties—and wherein every county a battlefield. In spite of the wishes of every good citizen to the contrary, it looks as if the republic were on the brink of civil conflict, to be followed either by a total disruption of the government into fragments, or its erection into a strong, central, military despotism.

The old scheme of the "Empire of Texas" looms up strongly in the closing sentence:

The idea that a naturalized citizen is not eligible to the rights conferred by Louisiana citizenship until the lapse of a year from the time of receiving his national papers—raised by certain candidates in an appeal to the Returning Board—is to receive a final solution, we are informed.

A member supposed to be elected to the Legislature on the Democratic ticket, and who became naturalized just prior to receiving his nomination, will be contested by a Republican on the grounds of illegitimacy. This will furnish a legislative opinion of the point in dispute.

A coroner claiming election on the Democratic ticket will, perhaps, be called upon to test his rights in the courts on the ground that he became a citizen but a few weeks prior to his so-called election. This will permit of a conclusive judicial decision of this interesting and important question.

Mr. Sothen treated a large audience at the Varieties Theatre last night to a new personation of character in a play never before acted in this city. The hero in "A Horne's Nest," played by the star, is a wealthy young man of England, a thoroughly good fellow, who is surrounded by all sorts of people who believe they are successfully playing upon him, imposing upon his good nature and politely robbing him. There is a blistering, threadbare old General who sells *Spoonbill* what is supposed to be worthless land; a broker who makes him take diamonds thought to be worthless; a fortune teller who tells him he is swindling the young man at betting on the wrong horse; a young snob who borrows money and proposes to marry his niece; a man-hunting widow who makes up her mind to marry the rich young man whether he will or not. These people are given loose reins and invite themselves to be at home in *Spoonbill*'s house. He stoops to conquer, or rather appears the fool to fool his tormentors. There is about him only one true friend, his pretty cousin, and she believes him to be half a fool, with his old intervals. But the General's land turns out to be a fortune in holding a coal mine, the diamonds are real and valuable to the surprise of the broker, the right horse wins, the money borrower is humbled and does not get the young lady, the widow is emboldened, and *Spoonbill* sets the whole crowd by the ears. The comedy, or rather farce, is full of puns and good things from beginning to end. It is full of dinner table talk and was concocted by Mr. H. J. Byron and Mr. Sothen himself in their merry moments. The comedy appears to have been commenced in the middle and written both ways. Those who want a plot in a play will look for the motive which induced *Spoonbill*. They will say why did he not kick the pests out of his house and be a man in the first act. The only answer to that is that if he had been sensible at first he would have spoiled a very amusing comedy. There is no plot to it, and no motive for the action except amusement. In the last act is a neat bit of comedy acting which rises above the general level of the piece. It is the love scene between *Spoonbill* and his cousin Carrie. In this Miss Linda Dietz shows herself to be a charming little actress who ably second Mr. Sothen's happy acting. "A Horne's Nest" will make an excellent audience laugh to-night, and on Wednesday "David Garrick" will be played, and then "Home," Thursday.

Professor M. Hartz, the wonderful magician, and his accomplished lady, a superior pianist, entertained a fine audience last night at Grunewald Hall. The professor's tricks are all new and completely mystify those who see them. His entertainments will continue for two weeks.

The great Herman, a magician who needs no introduction to our readers, will perform at the Opera House on Saturday night for the benefit of those who lately suffered by fire in this city.

Next Monday the little folks will have a chance to see a fine circus, and older folks will gladly renew acquaintance with the actors of the saddest arena. The masses are generally better pleased with circuses than with dramatic entertainments, perhaps because of the two classes of performers they see more and hear less of the bareback actor. Howe's London circus is coming, and with it Sanger's English menagerie. The riders, tumblers and jokers of the one are agile, skillful and funny; the animals of the other are plentiful and moral. The ring will be canvased on Rocheblave street, near Canal, and the great show will show one week.

Judge Billings was occupied yesterday in the United States Circuit Court in endeavoring to complete the panel of jurors. Twenty-four only were obtained.

The Supreme Court yesterday rendered a few important decisions. Among them is the Earle and Garvey case, where the accused get a fifth trial on the ground that the confession should have been proved to have been voluntary instead of calling on the defense to show it was compulsory. The private market men in the case of Barthe have gained their point, and may hold the injunctions against them. Numerous points of practice are settled, and two of them appear rather strict and harsh.

Jackey Club Races To-day. The races to-day, to commence at two o'clock, will be, first, a two mile dash for three year olds; the second a mile dash, handicapped; the third race, two mile heats. The pool selling last night was quite brisk. For the first race, Henry Owens and Clemmie G brought \$100, Donagh \$25, and Uncle Tom \$10. For the second race Redmond sold for \$60, Cornelia \$15, Falmouth \$5 and Port Leonard \$1. In the third race General Harvey appears to be the favorite two mile horse. Pool buyers paid \$70 for Harney, \$15 each for War Jig and Fair Play, and \$5 each for Whipaw and Quinine. They were sold many times over in different pools, with but little comparative variation from the above rates. A better attendance is looked for at the races to-day.

The Board of Returning Officers have been hard at work, and probably endeavor to finish yesterday, though they should probably the result of the election to-day. As is patent to everybody who carries a fair and well-balanced mind in his head there are many points that require careful consideration and much deliberation that justice to all may be attained.

A large amount of outstanding bonds, on which application for funding has been made, not having been acted on, the holders have become impatient, and addressed the Governor on the subject in a public letter. That it may be determined whether their claims are just or not, a session of the board will be called in a few days.

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Something About One of the Members of the Abe Hewitt's Retaining Board. Mr. George B. Smith, one of the "five Democrats" who have taken an interest of late in the affairs of Louisiana, seems to have made a record before his advent here. The editor of the Petersburg (West Virginia) State Journal seems to be well acquainted with him, and adds to the complimentary notice of the Times a few comments in the issue of November 30:

The Hon. George B. Smith, of Wisconsin, will be assigned to the position of Returning Officer in the State of Louisiana, at this time. He has the highest character for integrity and patriotism, with a very large experience in public affairs. He has a national reputation, and is a well known and highly respected political manager. In the North-west, where Mr. Smith is best known, any statement he can make in regard to the case which has become such an important one will be accepted without question by the leaders of both the great political parties.—New Orleans Times.

The Times should not itself believe in the exaggerated panegyric. We happen to be familiar with and were personally cognizant of a bit of the early history of the Hon. George B. Smith, when he was Democratic Attorney General of Wisconsin twenty years ago, and as such officer, a member of the State board of canvases. The contest for Governor that year was between the Democratic candidate, John Barstow, Democrat, and the Republican candidate, John Barstow, Democrat. Barstow was fairly elected by the people, but the day before the State board was to meet "supplemental" returns, unauthenticated, were received from seven, seven, seven, unauthenticated and uninheritable regions in the pinnacles of North Wisconsin. Those supplemental returns, which were forwarded to the then assistant Secretary of State, Dr. Hunt, gave large majorities for Barstow. The State board, however, did not receive the certificate. Barstow appealed to the Supreme Court, when the fraudulent character of the supplemental returns was clearly proven. Barstow was declared the victor, and the mandate of the court, Barstow, being Governor at the time, and acting under the advice of his Attorney General, the Hon. George B. Smith, immediately swarmed the Capitol park and building. Barstow's friends gathered around him as a posse comitatus, and commenced drilling. A conflict seemed imminent. Barstow intrenched himself in the Capitol, receiving his meals and sleeping there, a la Station during the night. Barstow yielded, disbanded his militia and gave up the office to the mandate of the court. Barstow, being Governor at the time, and acting under the advice of his Attorney General, the Hon. George B. Smith, immediately swarmed the Capitol park and building. Barstow's friends gathered around him as a posse comitatus, and commenced drilling. A conflict seemed imminent. 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