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OUR CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT, 1872

U. S. GRANT.

SUNDAY JULY 9, 1871.

MR. GEO. E. PARIS is our special agent, and is authorized to solicit subscriptions and receive payment of bills.

☞ Our readers will be as sorry to learn as we are to inform them, that the LOUISIANIAN no longer enjoys contributions from the valuable pen of J. Stella Martin Esq.

THE PICAYUNE ON COMMON CARRIERS.

SUIT AGAINST THE JACKSON RAILROAD.—Senator P. B. S. Pinchback (colored) applied recently to the President of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad for passage over their route in the Pullman palace cars, but was refused on the ground that the cars did not belong to the company, and they had no right to order the agents of the sleeping car company to receive Mr. Pinchback and his colored friends as passengers.

Whereupon the Senator indignantly proceeded to the Eighth District Court and has there entered suit against the Jackson Railroad for the utterly insignificant sum of $25,000, in which amount he esteems himself aggrieved and damaged.

The responsibility of common carriers has, we, believe, been pretty clearly defined by the courts of the land, and we fancy the senator will have his trouble for his pains.

A railroad or other carrier has a perfect right to say just where passengers shall sit, and just what portions of vehicles they shall occupy.

While they are bound to furnish equal accommodations, they are not obligated to have the same for all classes of passengers.

In Louisville, when it was decided that negroes should ride in the street cars with the whites, the companies at once built partitions in the cars, to separate the races, and the court held that this the companies had a perfect right to do.

In this case, however, of Senator Pinchback's the action is evidently brought against the wrong company.

The above from the *Picayune* of Thursday we copy entire, as it concedes all that we claim, which is that the responsibility of common carriers has been pretty clearly defined by law, and it is beyond doubt that they are compelled to furnish equal accommodations to all persons paying equal fare. If Senator Pinchback had purchased second class tickets for his family, the Company would undoubtedly have had a perfect right to assign them to a second class car. But such was not the case; he applied at the ticket office of the Company and on enquiry was informed that he could obtain sleeping accommodations, purchased his tickets with this understanding, paying that price which entitled them to the needed apartment, made every preparation for the journey, and was, days afterwards at the eleventh hour, denied the privileges.

The *Picayune* says he "indignantly proceeded to the Eighth District Court and has entered suit against the Jackson Railroad for the utterly insignificant sum of $25,000." Certainly he did. We understand your "utterly insignificant," old lady, and let us ask you how much would you have considered yourself aggrieved and damaged had you been in Senator Pinchback's place? Put yourself in his place, imagine yourself in his official position, encircled by similar surroundings, and if your prejudice don't lead you to conclude that he has "no rights" which carriers are bound to respect, tell us honestly, how much hurt you would feel, when you would be called on to endure, not only the indignity and chargin of having your family denied accommodations which you are able and willing to pay for, and which the next man of infinitely less financial, social and political importance might have for the mere asking, not only to find your family repudiated for causes beyond your control to remedy, but required also to drink the "bitter cup" of conscious humiliation in your own domain, where, of all places on earth, the impression is naturally created that there is nothing impossible for a husband or a father to accomplish for the comfort, happiness and security of his household? It all depends on "whose ox is gored."

We are not now contending against the separation of races in the same car, and therefore what they do in this respect in Louisville is irrelevant. But we may remind the *Picayune* that Mr. McComb is under manifold obligations here which perhaps the Louisville street car companies are free from; and unless we mistake the attitude which this conduct has compelled many to assume, there will come a time not very distant, when scrutiny of the terms of the contract under which the Jackson Railroad obtained it franchises, may result in a manner which, if it fail to secure to us those rights which we know are ours and which we "dare maintain," may at least render it impossible for a repetition of the indignity from the present controller.

A SHORT HISTORY AND ITS TEACHINGS.

The New York journals have been furnishing the public within the last week in substance, the following information.

"The Territorial Government here is not so much of a success as it was confidently predicted at the outset. It has been found that the rings which existed under the old form of government have full as much swing now as heretofore. Under this state of affairs various influential citizens of the district are now agitating the question as to whether it would not be better to petition the next session of Congress to repeal the territorial bill altogether.

It would seem that the only new feature which has been realized under the new order of things was a fatal tendency to recommend improvement. The Board of Public Works, in a recent report on the subject, recommended the adoption of plans for beautifying the city, which would have cost in the aggregate about $12,000,000.

Acting upon such suggestions the local Legislature has had introduced several bills which would have taken the entire valuation of the District to have carried them into effect. They were voted down *seriatim*, but only by a small majority. At last a bill was got before this body with a favorable report from a committee, which involved an expenditurs of about five millions. In the discussion which followed it was discovered that not only was this report a forgery, but that it contemplated the disbursing of this large sum of money without any degree of responsibility whatever. No one was to account for the way in which it had been expended, nor to make any record of its disposal whatever. Under this state of affairs property holders are naturally becoming alarmed, and are fast coming to the conclusion that it is better to be governed by a congressional committee than by an ignorant, unlettered and corrupt set of legislators."

It is well known throughout the country that this territorial form of government, which protects the rich and repudiates the poor man both as to his interest and his aspirations for position in society, could never have been adopted save through the disorganizing influences of colored people.

The invincible club of the 1st Ward of Washington City began the disgraceful and as it turned out, the disastrous work of bolting. They demoralized the colored voters by harping upon the tardiness attending all municipal settlements with laborers. But who does not see that these silly complaints furnished additional food for complaint? When capitalists found that they could drive the negro into a spirit of complaint against his best friends the capitalists who are generally conservatives, concluded to withhold all loans from the Washington municipality, which they knew would make the working men, nearly all colored people, complain the louder and longer against its republican mayor Mr. Bowen. This was the trick which robbed the colored man of influence and power in the district, and the chief tools in playing the trick were colored men. Whether they meant to do it or not is of little consequence now. They did it and it would seem that the poor white man who thought he was all right if he could get the negro out of the way, is now a greater grumbler than the negro at the injustices which capital is attempting to inflict upon labor in the District.

We have called attention to this subject because we think it contains a lesson for us. Here we have furnished us by Washington City the history of a useless bolt and the consequences of a disastrous split. That history and result have been repeated with slight variations in two Southern States, and it would appear that we stand in some danger of running into the same excesses of self-confidence.

Now we have three propositions upon which as journalists we shall always insist:

1st. We shall act inside of the party—never out of it. Neither designing foe nor defeated friends shall ever befool us as to who is the worst enemy of our race; we know it to be democracy, and we will remain steadfast in our purpose to lose the battle rather than win by the sacrifice of republicans, if they remain true to themselves.

2d. We prefer to be guided by the instincts of the colored people who constitute nearly nine-tenths of our party than to be influenced by the ambition, the antipathies, or preferences of any faction in the party. We shall not recognize factious behavior no matter from whom it emanates. The party machinery by which we have managed our affairs heretofore is still good enough for us and we shall inculcate the duty of our people in adhering to its authority and accepting its agencies.

3d. We shall bring every power we can command to the insuring of a fair, free open and acceptable choice of candidates by the majority of those who have the right to choose, whether in conventions or at the polls. This is our programme and as we know it to be just and sincerely believe it will be effectual, we commend it to every voter in the republican party.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.

The party convention, called by the State Executive Committee to meet next month, is arousing active and earnest attention in the ranks. It is a bright augury for the Republican party in Louisiana that so deep an interest is manifested by *all* its members in matters appertaining to its well-being; and victory must continue to perch upon our banners so long as this *esprit* shall be maintained, no matter what personal contentions may temporarily mar the general harmony.

From direct observation and intercourse we are enabled safely to assert that the Republicans of New Orleans are determined to send their ablest and best men to the Convention, and advices from the parishes are equally encouraging in this respect.

This is well. It is a political necessity that our representative men—our party leaders—should counsel and advise together, and particularly so at this time, in view of the all-important contest before us for 1872.

It is the part of wisdom and safety to, in this way render secure a harmonious concert of action, confident and proud as we may feel in our well-earned honors as the "Banner State of the South." Therefore we see cause for rejoicing that this convention is so soon to assemble, and predict that much good will result from its deliberations.

In this connection it may not be out of place to state our conviction that the August Convention is no fit place for the display of such personal antagonisms as may exist in our party. We are fortunately blessed with Republican National and State Administrations, and as good Republicans it is our duty to sustain them. When the next Nominating Convention shall be called together it will be full time to demand an "account of stewardship," from such as may have been entrusted with responsibilities; but dissentions only could result from such an attempt at this time, and those participating would fairly lay themselves liable to be called disorganizers. We hope the people will consider this subject in its proper light when efforts are made to force irrelevant personal concerns upon their attention in the coming elections for delegates.

☞ "We are coming Father Abraham." One of the effects of the Congressional Act enforcing the fifteenth amendment will be that the Colored Voters of Kentucky will be enabled this fall to cast their ballots for the first time. It is estimated that there are about forty thousand "of us" in that State, who will be entitled to exercise this privilege.

☞ No. 79, 81 and 83.—If you desire choice articles in the grocery or the liquor line, pay a visit to H. R. Lehde & Co's extensive establishment at the above numbers on Baronne street and satisfy yourselves that we but do this accommodating firm justice in reminding you of them.

☞ PERSISTENT PROSCRIPTION.—The Supreme Lodge of the Knights of Pythias, at their Annual Session held recently in Washington D. C., among other things passed the following:

Resolved—That the Supreme Lodge re-affirm its former position and decision, that Lodges composed of colored persons cannot be formed under jurisdiction of this Supreme Lodge, nor can colored persons be admitted in any subordinate Lodge of this order.

MORE INDIGNITY.

EXPULSION OF MEMBERS OF THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE FROM THE PASSENGER CARS OF THE CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD.—

On Friday morning last, the conductor on this road, aided by Mobile policemen, compelled Hons. F. C. Antoine, Benjamin Geddes, and Wm. G. Johnson, members of the Louisiana State Legislature, to leave the passenger cars, and go into the smoking-car during their passage from Mobile to this City. These gentlemen inform us that when they were leaving here on Thursday morning, they were ordered into the smoking-car, but they refused to go, and the conductor happening on the spot at the moment, prevented further interference with them; and they went over to Mobile on the passenger car.

But when they attempted the next day to return in the same manner as they went, they were reminded that they were not in Louisiana, but in Alabama, where they would not be permitted to mix as they liked with white people.

There can be no question that our equal rights will not be conceded to us, by the Democrats. On the contrary, notwithstanding all their "bated breath" and "conservative" professions, they have contested every inch of right or privilege that our race has enjoyed, since the issue of the emancipation proclamation. There is not a particle of reliance to be placed on promises or pledges which may be made to us by them, they have been and are everyday proving to be delusions and snares." Evasions, subterfuge and tergiversation and violence withstand us at every turn, and our "inferiority" and unfitness for the enjoyment of equal rights is thrown up to us and flaunted in our faces, from quarters whence no such thing was looked for, and should never have proceeded. So much on the general question.

With reference to the quibble raised aginst the expelled representatives, that they were in *Alabama* and not *Louisiana*, implying that they on the one hand would be roughly treated, and on the other that the Company was absolved from its obligations to this State we have this to say *at present*, that we are all helpless, and admit the strength of our oppressors, and we must writhe under their mockeries and derisions; but as we proverbially are a patient race, we will bide our time and see who "laughs last."

CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES

TO THE REPUBLICAN PARTY CONVENTION.

We are satisfied that the Convention which will assemble August 9, will not approve the action of the State Central Committee in assuming to receive the credentials of the delegates. It is a principle grounded in the common law of Republican Institutions that all deliberative bodies shall judge of the qualifications of their members. Therefore we cannot understand by what authority the committee has ordered the credentials to be sent to them.

The State Committee has no power to say who are the properly accredited members of the convention which will become immediately upon its assembling, the official head of the party.

We recognize the State Committee. We recommend that all of its orders be obeyed, but we earnestly suggest to the Republicans in the various parishes to transmit a set of credentials to the Convention itself, by the hands of the delegates. And when the delegates assemble let them proceed to organize, and determine who are the properly qualified members of the Convention.

THE CITIZENS' GUARD is casting its "bread on the waters" in a manner really affecting. Yesterday morning on entering our sanctum we found no less than six copies of its last issue on our table. Struck "all of a heap" at this unusual journalistic compliment, we hastened to see what was up, and behold our amazement to find that it was just half as lavish in its paragraphs on the LOUISIANIAN, as it had been in the number of copies sent us. No sooner had we run over one than we lighted on another, till we reached the third. We hurry over them in order. Number one needs no comment. On number two in which the *Guard* takes "the liberty" unwarranted, to emphasize, by *italicising* a portion of our remarks on the reception given three weeks ago to Senator Kellogg, we have to say that if the *Citizens' Guard* can afford to sleep over a paragraph in our paper for two weeks, and wait till a democratic paper perverts our plain statement, and then to take it up and give its readers the benefit of the rehash of a dish originally unfit for food, and they can enjoy it, we have no objection in the world to its serving the mess. But we decidedly object to a deliberate turn being given to our remarks, because it inures a perversion of our animus. We chronicled a fact of which we supposed Senator Kellogg would not be ashamed. We knew as well as the *Guard* that the Senator "did worthy service" for the Carriers, and the mention of the fact, simply betokened the carriers' appreciation of such "service."

Number three purporting to be a satire on our remarks with referance to Gov. Dunn, exhibits the *Guard* writer in the depth of grief over us. Its affliction at our defection or its unconcern of current mundame affairs, some how keeps it almost invariably "behind the age" or else in some sudden start from somnolence, its runs "ahead of time". Two issues since we penned a paragraph in allusion to the quarrel between the Governors, and in our last we published "what we knew" about the matter. The former paragraph has just reached the *Guard*, and having a fit to go for the *Louisianian*, straightway he makes at us, distorting our advice and impugning our "moral vision".

It is the misfortune of certain characters to be incapable of ingenuousness, or direct vision, or manly appreciation of honest motive. And we really advise the *Guard* to desist from attributing motives, or making undignified insinuations, because it fails to recognize the motives of others. If you propose, brother, to tilt with us, we have no objection to the "keen encounter," but you must observe the rules of chivalry. The *Guard* is freely entitled to all the capital it can manufacture out of the notable paragraph.

REPUBLICAN PARISH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We are reliably informed that the State Central Committee has, in several country parishes, assumed to appoint Parish Executive Committees.

This is a mistake which must be immediately remedied. Each parish undoubtedly has and should exercise the right of electing its own representative Committee in the way it thinks best, and no outside parties can properly interfere—much less should they be allowed to appoint said Committee.

It should be elected by the Clubs of the parish, or by the Republicans of the parish in mass meeting assembled.

Evidently no Republican State Convention can recognize any Parish Committee claiming to exist by any authority outside of the Republicans of its parish. Where there are no regular Parish Committees we urge their immediate election by the people.

☞ ANOTHER HOMICIDE. The community has again been horrified. Another victim has been sacrificed to the Moloch of revenge. Two or three days ago a gentleman in the prime of life and the enjoyment of health, was shot dead in his office, in the middle of the day, while engaged in his business, at the New Orleans National Bank. An arrest was made, an inquest was held, and elicited that a long standing and bitter feud existed between the deceased Mr. Raney and Mr. Boyd now prisoner. The gist of the quarrel, or rather the immediate cause of the fatal contact consisted in Mr. Rainey's speaking of Mr. Boyd as "a swindler and a cheat," and refusing to retract the accusation when called on, on Thursday last to do so.

It has been our misfortune on several occassions to be called on to chronicle similar outrages on the peace and security of this community, and to-day we have again to lament the reckless appeal to the last resort, in a case where other remedies are ample for satisfaction. We are no apologist for unbridled and irresponsible indulgence in language or conduct, by any one; but neither are we the tolerators of cutting a man's throat, or driving a bal through his vitals, for a venial offense. There is now another life involved, and we refrain from any remarks tending in the least to prejudice the public mind.

It is time, however, that the places of education, the press, the forum, the pulpit and the Bench, unite in lifting their voices long and loud, "in season and out of season," against the reckless and unnecessary appeal to weapons of certain death. We can see no effectual remedy for this monstrous evil, but in the change of sentiment and feeling in the members of the community; and we can see no shadow of the chance of a change but from the moulders, the guardians and the directors of public opinion and public morals. Into whatever factions, or races, or religious sects, our City and State may be broken up, there is this one common vantage ground on which all lovers of peace, and security may meet and combine against the prevalence of life taking, so common in this section of the country.

☞ PICNIC. On Thursday last there was an excellant pic-nic at the Oakland Course, under the auspices of Mrs. Jas. Lewis and the Misses Stackhouse, at which there was quite a gathering of friends for enjoyment. Although it was warm enough in the sun, it was very enjoyable in the shade, and there being enough of that from the overspreading trees, and the spacious stands, the company gave themselves wholly to fun and frolic. A fine band was in attendance, and the lovers of dancing, amused themselves to their hearts content. The amusements lasted till evening when buggies &c., coming in requisition we returned to our Rosinante and sped our way homeward, delighted with our entertainment, as we are confident all were who attended it.

The thanks of all interested are cheerfully tendered to Mr. Bright for his kind loan of the grounds.

☞ THE FELICIANA REPUBLICAN not long since published a serious charge against the State Superintendant of Education, Hon. T. W. Conway. The last issue of the *New Orleans Journal*, goes for the writer in this wise:

REESE AND STERNBERG'S CALUMNY.

Such of our readers as may chance to see the journal edited by the above named worthies, will find in its last issue an article reflecting on the private life of one of the editors of this paper. Its weakness and absurdity are redeemed from contempt only by the intense villainy of the purpose by which it was inspired. Our first impulse was to allow it to pass unnoticed with a feeling of scornful pity for beings so abject as to revenge their disappointed avarice by an attack which could accomplish its aim only as it should destroy the peace of a family. The falsehood which flares out on its face, stamping every sentence as a lie, and the absurdity of the charges made, deprive the calumny of its power to injure, yet to be silent when men, however base, assail private character might be misinterpreted. We, therefore, overcome our loathing for the miserable slanderers sufficiently to brand their attack as an unmitigated falsehood—the blackest lies from beginning to end; and to thus publicly stamp the authors of those falsehoods as cowardly traducers, who seek to avenge their merited expulsion from the office of school directors by assailing the honor of another.

This much for the present; in the near future we shall afford this brace of calumniators an opportunity for vindicating themselves at the bar of a criminal court, unless, in their present endeavors to hide from those whom they have been defrauding, they succeed also in evading the officers of the law.

OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Louisianian.

MOBILE, ALA., July 7, 1871.

DEAR LOUISIANIAN:—

The once glorious Fourth has gone by without the least excitement or notice taken of it. No salute was fired, not one public building displayed their colors, no display on the streets except by a few of our colored citizens who formed in procession and marched to Holly's garden where they enjoyed the balance of the day in various amusements, winding up with a grand ball at night.

Mrs. F. E. W. Harper is lecturing here with great success. She has given us two, and is billed for the third. The first was a perfect oration, the Editor of the *Register* was present by invitation and was so well pleased that he gave her the benefit of a column of favorable criticism, the result of which gave her a large audience comprising almost as many whites as colored, equally exceptable as the first. I think she has dropped the woman's rights question, and that very wisely.

There was a novel point in law, raised in the mayor's court last week, viz: two white men attacked a colored man in the post-office building, and gave him a severe beating; they were arrested and brought before his honor the Mayor. They took exception to the jurisdiction of the mayor's court on the ground that the assault was made on the territory of the U. S. (P. O. building) Mayor Horst sustained the plea, and discharged the prisoners. The post-office is not in Mobile but on U. S. Territory—Bah it was only a nigger that was hurt.

I was much surprised, yet pleased to meet the pleasant face and shake the welcome hand of our friend this morning, Hon. F. C. Antoine who is over here on a flying visit accompanied by Hons. Benjamin Geddes and W. G. Johnson, all looking the picture of health, reminding me of my native home and those many friends left behind, particularly the portion of the community whose bright eyes and pleasant faces cause us to believe that there is a heaven here below.

This is a very dull place at present; every branch of business is at a stand, there is very little cotton in the market consequently there is none moving; we are still having very bad accounts from the country, cotton and corn looking very poor. Still your well wisher.

EX WHAMP.

THE MYSTIC BEAUTIES OF FREEMASONRY.

The five Mystic Points, or points of Fellowship are among the most beautiful of the Mystic Beauties of Freemasonry, and may be thus explained:

1. From the friendship manifested toward each other in these mystic points, Masons are naturally led to a faithful discharge of those duties which charity and brotherly love delight in; and should at all times, and on all occasions, be ready to manifest the sincerity of our hearts by cheerfully administering to the wants of every fellow-creature in distress; to strew flowers in the path of misery, and sprinkle compassion over the rugged thorns of adversity, is not only gratifying to every enlightened mind, but pleasing in the sight of Him from whom all goodness springs.

2. Therefore, forgetting injuries and selfish feelings, we should be ever anxious to press forward in well-doing, always having in remembrance that we are sent into this world to aid, support, protect, and mutually assist each other. It behooves us as men, as Masons and brethren, to be swift in the exercise of mercy and benevolence; to save, to strengthen, support and assist a fellow-creature. To be the friend of indigent merit, to wipe the tear from the afflicted's cheek, to soothe the miseries of a deserted, helpless human being, is magnanimous indeed! But it is obsolete, and but little known in modern practice.

3. As the good things of this life are partially dispensed, and some are opulent while others are in distress, we should testify our zeal for the welfare of every individual—to advise the ignorant, relieve the needy and comfort the afflicted are duties that fall in our way almost every day of our lives. Riches alone do not allow the means of doing good; virtue and benevolence are not confined to the walks of opulence. The rich man from his many talents is required to make extensive works under the principles of virtue; yet poverty is no excuse for an omission of that duty, for as the cry of innocence ascends to Heaven, as the voice of babes and sucklings reach the throne of God, and as the breathings of a contrite heart are heard in the regions of immeasurable dominion, so our prayers are mutually required for the welfare of each other.

4. Let us seriously reflect on the real danger which awaits those who deviate from the paths of rectitude, which admonishes us to be true to our trust and never, through malevolence or wantonness, betray that confidence which a fellow-creature may have reposed in us, by betraying his secrets; for that, perhaps, were to rob him of the guard which protects his property or his life. Elegant speculations are sometimes formed to float on the surface of the mind, while bad passions possess the interest of the heart. But the tongue of a Mason should be void of offense, and without dissimulation, speaking truth with discretion censuring with moderation, and never exceed the bounds of right reason; maintaining a heart free from vice, locking up secrets, an advocate in the cause of virtue, and communing in charity and brotherly love.