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THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 1871.



OUR CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT, 1872.

U. S. GRANT.

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It will be remembered that a couple of weeks ago a dispute arose at a military picnic at the City Park, between Captain R. Rey, of the Second Regiment Louisiana Militia, and Police officer Cartwright, on duty there, resulting in threatening attitudes, contact, and an appeal to arms, which, however, the opportune appearance of Col. Jas. Lewis, of the above regiment prevented any bloody consummation.

The police officer appealed to Recorder McArthur, charging the Captain with "assault and battery," and the Recorder after examination has sent accused to the First District Court for trial.

On Tuesday last we enjoyed the pleasure of a call from Elder Thomas of the Bethel Church, and T. Morris Chester Esq. Mr. Chester enjoys the benefits of a liberal education, possesses a highly cultivated mind, and is a Barrister of eminence. He will shortly deliver a lecture in St. James Chapel, of which we will give due notice.

On Monday evening last there was a Grand Concert at the Mechanic's Institute, by the "Crestiani Comedians." Mr. A. P. Williams presided at the piano, with his usual ability. The songs, dances and jokes of the minstrels created a great deal of merriment among the guests, and some of the performances were received with rapturous applause.

The lady singers, Misses M. Anderson, Katie McKay, and others acquitted themselves in a highly creditable manner.

The entertainment lasted till 11 P.M. when the concert being over, the centre of the spacious hall was cleared, a band of music made its appearance and the lovers of the dance went in with their accustomed relish, and kept up the enjoyment till a late hour.

THE ROMANCE OF THE NEGRO.

This is the title of an article in the Galaxy for October, 1871, from the pen of EDWARD A. POLLARD. The writer thinks that "there has been a Lost Theory, as well as a Lost Cause for the South in the late war." That is to say, the South given over apparently to judicial blindness, drilled in the school of Thomas Carlyle and other negro-haters, even advocated the doctrine of the humanity of slavery, inasmuch as the negro if freed and left to take care of himself was bound to degenerate to barbarism, become the easy prey of every known and unknown calamity, until utter extinction would be his lot. And as they were not desirous of seeing "the poor negro" so fade away and perish, they charitably held him in the only condition which they conceived he could live in. The South was even willing to evidence the sincerity of their devotion to the interests of the negro to the extent of fighting for him, and they fought, and fought, but they lost the negro. Their education and their proclivities, drove them to some extent to expect a speedy fulfillment of the vaticinations of these seers, and their bitter unrelenting caste prejudice induced them to so ardently desire the extinction which they were taught to believe would ensue, that they blinded themselves to every other consideration, and deliberately set to work all over the country to disseminate the most silly reports of the "fast thinning ranks," and in some localities where disease and death were not hastening on the process of extermination, they were even called in pretty extensive requisition, and so the work went bravely on--ever and anon checking the negro-phobist with the prospect of a happy providential riddance of she negro. But, says Mr. Pollard:

Those who have been looking for the providential riddance of the negro, and have been constructing mortality tables to suit themselves, must have been rather surprised, waking up some morning not long since, to read in the newspapers an outgoing from the United States Census, our *ne plus ultra* of statistical information. We are there given to know that since 1860 the negroes of the South, despite the experiences of the war, have increased nearly ten per cent. (or more exactly speaking 9.7 per cent.), and that in the United States of to-day there are not less than five millions of black people! We can no longer shut our eyes to what we may be unwilling to believe.

The day for prophesying for the black man of America a fate similar to that of the red man is past. The fact, welcome or unwelcome, must be accepted that this race, in numbers already a considerable nation, of characteristics different from the white man's, is being mixed into the society and political system of America, and is working out there an experiment attended by the circumstances of a peculiar romance. A comparatively small number of Africans, brought across the seas from their native wilds, grown up into a people of millions, trained in the harsh school of slavery, but a school whose benefits are that the negro is brought to his present capacity for an experiment more hopeful than has ever yet been made for his true civilization, are to be displayed to the world not only as a new test of the social and political system of America, but as a last supreme effort to take off a reproach that has lain for ages on the African, and to meet the prejudices against him in a new arena, and under auspices that have never been offered before. It is the apparition of a new figure and actor in the civilized world; a great historical and ethnological problem to be solved anew; a condition of things sprung out of the dramatic circumstances of a great war; a sudden transformation that exceeds the surprise of fiction; a new prospect dawned on what had been before supposed the most hopeless and melancholy outlook of history--the regeneration of the African; an intense study already commenced of this hitherto hopeless race, as of one suddenly becoming interesting; the discovery, so to speak, of the negro as a unique, poetical character, issued out of circumstances the most unpromising, yet already displaying capacities and virtues that have captured the observation and interest of the world. In this romance the writer desires a share, as in a great event of history that has happily occurred in his times and generation, a crisis and a scene with which Providence has allowed him to be contemporary, and of which he is scarcely content to be an idle spectator.

Mr. P. is astonished at the little knowledge the slaveholders of the South had of the real character of the negro. The explanation of facts dissipates any marvel. The negro was regarded as possessing one attribute above a monkey, and that was speech. It never entered into consideration that he was a man possessed of vast capacities, and of peculiar excellencies. But yet as instances of genius, flashes of manhood would occasionally appear, every precaution was taken to close every avenue of enlightenment, and measures resorted to, to crush out every spark of individuality and self.

Mr. Pollard, who was himself a slaveholder, says he broke through the trammels, he overcame the mountain obstacles to association even to the least extent with the negro, and even in those days he "commenced the study of the negro

as a man." The result of his study of this new volume convinced him that the negro was endowed with not only the essential attributes of manhood, but that he possesses "virtues to assign him to a high place on the roll of humanity."

The refusal to recognize this by the South, their determination to fight it out on the line of negro fitness for freedom and self-control, for civil and political equality, in the face of the thousand and one extenuations of their merits is what Mr. Pollard so aptly terms a "Lost Theory." The blind unreasoning and unreasonable opposition to the assumption by the negro of those duties and privileges, the enjoyment of those rights and immunities which belong to man, is what Mr. Pollard condemns. He considers it fixed beyond all dispute that the negro is free, is here in the midst of this great and growing nation, is adding to his numbers by a natural increase, is conducting himself in a manner to both deserve and command the respect of the nation, and is therefore entitled to that consideration which these things call for.

He says "of slavery, as a thing of the past, there is a view which has not been developed by controversial ingenuity, and which is chiefly valuable as affording an admirable ground of reconciliation between parties which have so long and bitterly discussed the peculiar institution," and we may add the negro and the Southerner.

We will pursue this vein of thought in our next.

EXECUTIONS.--On Saturday last the condemned murderers of Frank Menteth, in St. James Parish, John Williams, Noel alias Madison Hampton, and Alfred Decaroux were executed in public, near the spot where the murder was committed. A large number of persons were present, and the doomed men exhibited signs of repentance for their bad act.

The papers report an outrageous proceeding on the part of the sheriff, to the effect, that he not only brought out a prisoner confined on the charge of murder, to witness the executions, but that he taunted the unfortunate man with the reminder that a similar fate certainly awaited him, and that was the reason why he brought him out to look at them. A more heartless proceeding can scarcely be conceived; and the bare mention of it is sufficient to draw down the execration of the just and the humane. Let justice certainly be done, but there is no necessity for, and no efficacy in, cruel tyranny.

THE WEBER CASE.--Mr. D. A. Weber who was arrested in this city a few days ago, on the charge preferred by Auditor Graham of forging speaker Carter's name to a warrant amounting to \$2,546 for printing the laws of the last session of the Legislature in the *Falciana Republican*, has been released on \$3,000 bonds by Recorder McArthur.

The circumstances as far as they are revealed, show that Mr. Weber had obtained the signatures of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor, and desired that of the Speaker. He entrusted his warrants to some friends, and they were returned to him signed as by the Speaker. Mr. Weber claims to be entirely innocent of any knowledge, of any fraud, or of any intention to commit one. It is certain that somebody signed them, and we hope that further developments will place the responsibility where it belongs.

Ex-Secretary of State Geo. E. Bovee has gone into Court to recover possession of his office from which he was suspended by Governor Warmoth. The case is now before the Eighth District Court and is conducted by the Attorney General of Counsel for Mr. Bovee. Elsewhere we publish the answer filed by the present incumbent. Sept. 27 was being specially appointed to try the case, which will doubtless turn on the authority of the Executive to suspend a constitutional officer. In this aspect it will be a highly interesting trial, although the *Picayune* of last evening says, "the opinion is prevalent at the State House that the application will be rejected by the Courts."

A BIRTHDAY.--We really enjoyed the company of that congenial gathering of friends, on Thursday evening, drawn together to celebrate the twenty-six anniversary of the residence of our genial friend Mr. Geo. E. Paris on this planet. Many happy returns of the day and friend George.

J. HENRI BURCH.

"Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit."

Never did a more appropriate proverb from the pen of "the wise man" occur to us than the above, when we had perused the column devoted to the Editor of this paper, by the *Grand Era*; and we beg to assure the reader that no other earthly consideration could induce us to notice to-day the vapors, the idle, impotent threats of the inflated and consummately arrogant Mr. Burch.

The suggestions of common sense, and the intimation of friends whose judicious counsel we highly value, had brought us to the conclusion that it were discreet to quit a contest in which victory to us would be attended with no honor, and defeat would be eternal disgrace. Our readers cannot have failed to observe that latterly all of our labors, *Grand Era*wise, have been directed with the view of aiding our unappreciative friend in his editorial sphere. We deeply regretted to find a colored man entering a field of such vast usefulness, a sphere of such lofty and lawful ambition, a department pre-eminently an educator to the modest but industrious aspirant, with so little appreciation of the situation, but with a reckless aptly illustrating the poet's satire, that "fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

We embraced opportunities to make profitable suggestions--we administered mild rebukes, and lastly we admitted a scourging to our columns. That pride which "goeth before destruction" and that "haughty spirit" which precedeth "a fall," has prompted resistance and suggested retaliation for our pains. This our experience teaches us to let alone, the freshest will run off.

Like every other incapable, Mr. Burch, in his wrath, indulges in language with which he is most familiar. Our predilections and our habits preclude us from entering into competition with Mr. Burch for the palm, in the use of billings-gate and vulgarity, which, like "a sweet morsel," roll so smoothly from his editorial lips.

In the exercise of our discretion we, by request, inserted an article in our paper, it has given Mr. Burch offence, and he says that the statements are false, and he deviates a little from the line of rectitude when he says we knew them to be untrue. We had a perfect right to believe assertions made over an authentic signature; and although the *Grand Era* subsequently denied the charges, the *Iberville News* of September 14, contains letters repeating the same charges, and repudiating the principal part of the pretended letter from "Jerry Williams." Our course in reference to the whole matter will be dictated by the issue of the contest as between Mr. Burch and the *Iberville* folks, and not for an instant by the childish threat of complaining us to one of the proprietors of our paper, who Mr. Burch knows, never was, and is not the editor of the *LOUISIANIAN*. And it occurs to us that a successful escape from the horns of a dilemma which seems to us to threaten our doughty friend, will require as much attention as he can bestow on the subject. We neither specially value Mr. Burch's smiles, nor fear his frowns. The approval of his pigmy mightiness adds no cubit to our stature; and his rod in *terrorem*, when the responsible editor comes home is silly. Poor fellow! we mock your threats, and defy you to procure the faintest scintilla of a change in the attitude which W. G. Brown has assumed towards J. Henri Burch in this matter. We have no animosity in the dispute, and will wait developments.

THE DANALDSONVILLE CHIEF.--A new Republican paper, and neatly got up, has just put in its first appearance, and we gladly place it among our exchanges. Mr. Linden E. Bentley is the proprietor and editor. Mr. Bentley is well known as the talented young editor of the *St. James Sentinel*, which position he recently resigned in consequence of a difference of opinion between himself and the proprietor. The salutatory of the *Chief* as may be expected merely reiterates its editor's well known sentiments, and pledges the consecration of every editorial ability he may possess to make his paper valuable. The first number is lively and well arranged, and we wish it a prosperous career.

The New Orleans Times has this to say with reference to the accusations against Governor Warmoth by Mr. Walsh:

In justice to Governor Warmoth, we feel bound to publish the following emphatic denials of certain imputations made against him in Mr. Walsh's card, published in Sunday's *Times*. In doing so, we think that all such charges ought to be either proved or abandoned, and that no citizen or public official ought to be subjected to dishonoring accusations unless upon evidence amounting at least to a showing of probable cause:

But Mr. Walsh is correct in the estimate he puts upon a good memory. He must have supposed the world has forgotten the notorious facts of recent history, or he would not have ignored the well known fact that the Governor was not dismissed the army for cowardice, but was honorably discharged from it for physical disability; that he was most honorably acquitted of the charge of embezzling Government funds while Treasury agent at Galveston; that the slander that he had once extorted a dollar a head from black men for his individual use was exploded by a resolution of a Republican convention, in the Orleans Theatre, in 1865. The money (only about \$1100) was a voluntary contribution to pay the expenses of a representative to Washington, to urge upon the consideration of Congress the true Republican theory that the State Government of Louisiana had lapsed, and that in its territorial form, the right of universal suffrage should be recognized.

As for his having stolen, robbed and plundered the people of one million of dollars, the essence of Mr. Walsh's card is that Mr. Walsh and his friends were unable to bribe the Governor to permit them to obtain employment from the State any of special employ by Walsh to point a moral and adorn a tale--a tale, too, noticeable for its inconceivable absurdities and illogical statements.

On Tuesday last some maliciously funny fellow applied a lighted match to the escaping gas from a leaking pipe, which had been exposed for the purpose of stopping the waste, and caused such a combustion that for a time there seemed some apprehension that Summerfield's invention was at work in burning up--the atmosphere; but it didn't do any harm fortunately.

AT A DISCOUNT.--The iron building at the head of Canal street though advertised for sale cannot find a purchaser. So the Council will have to remove it at its own expense. "What will they do with it?"

FALSTAFFS CATECHISM.

(From Shakespeare.)

"Well tis no matter honor pricks me on. Yes, but how if honor prick me off when I come on? How then? Can honor set to a leg? No. Or an arm? No. Or take away the grief of a wound? No. Honor hath no skill in surgery then? No. What is honor? A word. What is in that word honor? Air. A trim reckoning!--Who hath it? He that died o' Wednesday. Doth he feel it? No. Doth he hear it? No. Is it insensible then? Yes, to the dead. But will it not live with the living? No. Why? Distraction will not suffer it. Therefore I'll none of it. Honor is a mere scutcheon, and so ends my catechism."

To the latter end of a fray * * * * * Fits a dall fighter. * * * * *

Colonel Lowell has been interviewed too in the North. He comes in at the far end of the affair and is particularly careful in what position to place the Postmaster. The repudiation of all responsibility both for these of the United States Court Room, and the United States troops, being now made by all hands, except Marshal Packard and Deputy Collector Herwig, it remains to be seen what means the President will adopt to prevent a recurrence of such outrages, and secure Republicans against similar impositions.

THE WARMOTH DELEGATION IN BOSTON.

Boston, Sept. 16.--Several members of the Louisiana delegation appointed by the Warmoth wing to visit President Grant, now in Boston, have had a conference with Gov. Claflin, chairman of the Republican National Committee. The alleged outrages of Federal officials in New Orleans are duly represented. The impression here is that the conduct of Messrs. Casey, Packard and others was totally unjustifiable. It is believed that President Grant will immediately remove the guilty officials unless he decides to accept the responsibility of their acts.

A prominent Republican of this State, states that the last outrages committed by Federal officials, in calling the convention in the Customhouse, if attempted in Boston, would be sufficient to cause a popular revolt, and that the people would go to Boston Common first and hold their convention there. The committee express much gratification with their reception East--*Picayune*.

EIGHTH DISTRICT COURT.

STATE OF LOUISIANA vs. FRANKLIN J. HERRON.--To the petition of the Attorney General, proceeding under the intrusion act, Gen. Herron has filed the following answer:

Now comes the defendant, F. J. Herron, and for answer says: That he denies all the allegations of plaintiff's petition not herein specially admitted.

He avers that he holds the office of Secretary of State by appointment of the Governor, that he was so appointed after the suspension of the informer and plaintiff, George E. Bovee, by the Governor, for malfeasance in office; and that the Governor was empowered and authorized to make such suspension and appointment of respondent on the following grounds:

1. That the said George E. Bovee had violated the law and oath of office in this: In taking a paper purporting to be a bill incorporating the Crescent City Water Works Company, prepared by Oscar J. Dann, Lieutenant Governor and ex-officio President of the Senate, and George W. Carter, Speaker of the House of Representatives, or by some other person to respondent unknown, and certifying that the same had been presented to the Governor of the State for his approval, on the 25th of February, 1871, and that the legal time for the same had elapsed before the adjournment of the Legislature without the return of the same to the house in which it had originated, and that thus the bill had become a law, without the approval of the Governor, from lapse of time, when the said Bovee knew that such was not the fact, and that he was certifying to that which he knew to be untrue, in this: That the paper was not the bill passed by the Legislature, enrolled by the proper officers, and signed by the proper officers, as such original bill, but that the same was an original paper, purporting to be a copy of the original from which it was made, and with which it was never compared.

2. That at the time he, the said Bovee, gave such certificate, he knew that the original and only bill passed by the Legislature, was in the possession of the Governor, who had refused to approve, and intended to veto the same, at the next meeting of the Legislature.

3. That said Bovee knew when he gave the said certificate, and so the fact is that the said original bill was not presented to the Governor for his approval five days before the adjournment of the Legislature, and that the same was not entitled to become a law through any approval or action of his whatsoever.

4. That the said Bovee certified that the said charter of the Crescent City Water Works Company had become a law, when he knew that such was not the case, contrary to the will, consent and approval of the Governor, and with the fraudulent intent to injure the State, and to endeavor to make that a law which did not have the legal sanction for that purpose.

That the said improper, illegal and unjust conduct of said Bovee gave the Governor, who is charged with the conservation and enforcement of the laws, the right to suspend him, and put respondent in his place, until the meeting of the Legislature in January next.

On motion of counsel, the Court has appointed September 27th as a special term in which to try the above cause. --N. O. Times.

IBERVILLE.

The following communication from Mr. William Martin, Parish Coroner, and the second largest colored tax-payer in the parish of Iberville, fully explains itself.--EDWARDS NEWS.]

PLAQUEMINE, Sept. 9, 1871. To the Editors of the *Iberville News*:

GENTLEMEN--Having been called upon by Mr. Jerry Williams and others to make a true statement of a conversation which took place between myself, Elder Burch, Jerry Williams and Hannibal Augustus, I cheerfully accede to the request, first stating that Mr. Williams' account of the interview was, in the main, correct.

In the course of the conversation Elder Burch said that there was a great difference between himself and his son; that he was trying to gain souls for God, while his son was teaching souls for the devil. Elder Burch then said that he (J. Henri Burch) was in the Legislature, and that body was so corrupt that he could not take part with either side; that he differed with his son's politics, because he was trying to force himself on the people, and that he would not turn his hand over to elect him. I do not think the Elder will deny the truth of this statement.

WM. MARTIN.

THE FOURTH WARD CLUB had an election last Monday evening, and unanimously elected by ballot Mr. R. C. Howard, President, after which the Club met, its new presiding officer in the Chair! The club passed a preamble and resolutions deploring the holding of office in the ward by enemies of Republicanism, and requesting the removal of sworn Democrats from positions of trust and emolument under the City Administration and the appointment of known and useful Republicans in their stead. Copies have been presented to the Administrators concerned, and to the Governor, requesting his co-operation in the effort.

MILITARY BALL AT LONG BRANCH.

HOW MAJOR GAUL AND CAPT. WATKINS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MILITIA DIDN'T ATTEND.

(Boston Correspondence of the Salem Gazette.)

The State House, for a day or two past, has been in a roar, almost (I was about to say quite) from the dome away down to the basement. Our genial friend, the faithful messenger, and Major of the Boston colored battalion, has been to the grand military and civic ball at Long Branch, and, now that he has got back, he tells the story of his experiences with an inimitable grace and a keen relish for its humorous aspects. I must tell you about it.

As the tale is narrated to me, the proprietor of the "Continental," at Long Branch, who of course keeps a fashionable and very nice establishment, has not done a profitable business this season. So a ball was got up for the purpose of replenishing his coffers. My informant says that Jim Fisk was the ruling spirit of the occasion, though his name was omitted from the list of managers from prudential reasons, it having been found on one or two similar occasions to work prejudicially in a financial aspect. There are a great many designations, you know, to these charity movements. When one takes the form of an Irish raffle, the ticket usually reads: "A raffle for the benefit of Denis O'Raffety," etc., but in the higher grades of society the invitations take the form of saying "complimentary to," etc.; but you must know that it is all the same thing--none the less a charitable undertaking because the beneficiary has had a less prosperous business run than was expected, and none the more so because he may have been an unfortunate Irish laborer who may have had the misfortune to break his leg.

Well, in order to make the Long Branch affair a success, an effort was made to bring in the glaze and glitter of gold lace and the Adjutant General's reports of the surrounding States were hunted up, and invitations, among others, were sent to the commissioned officers of the Massachusetts militia. Among these happened to be our stalwart friend, Major Lewis Gaul, and Capt. James B. Watkins of Co. A, both the only commissioned officers of the Second Battalion of Infantry, which, as you must know, is a colored organization. Now, as luck would have it, out of the military celebrities of this good Commonwealth, the only two who accepted the invitation were Major Gaul and Capt. Watkins! And the Major says he had no thought of going till the last moment, and then did so more out of deference to some of his men than anything, for they thought the civility ought to be acknowledged in that way.

That there was no reason to believe that the invitation could have fallen into Major Gaul's hands by mistake is shown by the fact that it came with other announcements and invitations, of which we subjoin literal copies:

CONTINENTAL HOTEL, Long Branch, August 10, 1871.

The guests of the Continental Hotel, and friends of Mr. William B. Borrows, will give a Grand Civic and Military Ball at the above Hotel on the evening of Monday, the 28th inst. Col. James Fish, Jr., has kindly tendered the services of the entire Ninth Regiment Band, which will, on this occasion, for the first time, number two hundred pieces, and include the artists now daily expected to arrive from Europe, with new and original music. Cards of invitation will be forwarded you in a few days.

ROBERT F. STOCKTON, Wm. M. FLEISS, For the Committee.

Eight days after came the promised invitation, elegantly executed in lithograph, on a card five by seven inches in diameter, and accompanied by a smaller card of admission, which read: "Admit Major Lewis Gaul and ladies." The following was the form of words: "The pleasure of your company is requested to the Grand Civic and Military Ball to be given at the Continental Hotel, Long Branch, complimentary to Mr. W. B. Borrows by his guests and friends, on Monday evening 28th August, 1871.

To Major Lewis Gaul and Ladies. Appended were the names of the "General Committee," thirty-eight in number, and including an uncommonly imposing array of republican nobility--his excellency