

The Semi-Weekly Louisianian.

"REPUBLICAN AT ALL TIMES, AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES."

VOLUME 2.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1872.

NUMBER 17.

The Louisianian.
Published Thursdays and Sundays.
OFFICE 114 CARONDELET STREET,
NEW ORLEANS LA.

PROPRIETORS.
P. B. PINCHBACK, ORLEANS,
C. C. ANTOINE, CADDO,
GEO. Y. KELSO, RAPIDES.
Wm. G. BROWN, --- Editor.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
Year \$5 00
Six Months 3 00
Three Months 1 50
Single Copy 5

PROSPECTUS
OF THE
Louisianian.

In the endeavor to establish another
Republican journal in New Orleans,
the proprietors of the LOUISIANIAN,
propose to fill a necessity which has
long and sometimes painfully
existed. In the transition state
of our people, in their struggling efforts
to attain that position in the Body
Politique which we conceive to be their
right, it is regarded that much informa-
tion, guidance, encouragement,
and reproof have been lost, in
consequence of the lack of a medium,
through which these deficiencies might
be supplied. We shall strive to make
the LOUISIANIAN a desideratum in these
parts.

POLICY.
Our motto indicates, the LOUISIANIAN
shall be "Republican at all
times under all circumstances." We
advocate the security and enjoy-
ment of broad civil liberty, the abso-
lute equality of all men before the law,
and an impartial distribution of hon-
ors and patronage to all who merit
them.

Desirous of allaying animosities, of
obliterating the memory of the bitter
struggle of promoting harmony and union
among all classes and between all in-
terests, we shall advocate the removal
of all political disabilities, foster kind-
ness and forbearance, where malignity
and resentment reigned, and seek for
peace and justice where wrong and
oppression prevailed. Thus united in
interests and objects, we shall conserve
our best interests, elevate our noble
character, to an enviable position among
the States, by the development
of all the resources, and secure
the full benefits of the mighty changes
in the history and condition of the
people and the Country.

Believing that there can be no true
liberty without the supremacy of law,
we shall urge a strict and undiscrimi-
nate administration of justice.

TAXATION.
We shall support the doctrine of an
equitable division of taxation among
all classes, a faithful collection of the
taxes, economy in the expendi-
tures, conformably with the exigen-
cies of the State or Country and the
discharge of every legitimate obliga-
tion.

EDUCATION.
We shall sustain the carrying out of
the provisions of the act establishing
a permanent school system, and urge
the paramount duty of the education of
our youth, as vitally connected with
the enlightenment, and the secu-
rity and stability of a Republican
Government.

FINAL.
By a generous, manly, independent,
and judicious conduct, we shall strive
to rescue our paper, from an ephem-
eral and temporary existence, and
maintain it upon a basis, that if we
obtain "command," we shall at all
times "obey" success.

ALBERT EYRICH,
Bookseller and Stationer
114 CANAL STREET,
New Orleans, Louisiana.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION.
Several violent and false accusa-
tions having been made before the
Congressional Committee against
Lieutenant Governor Pinchback,
and that body adjourning before he
could avail himself of an opportu-
nity to exculpate himself, embraced
the opportunity of the presence of
the Committee in the Senate cham-
ber, on Saturday last, and calling
a Senator to the chair, the Lieuten-
ant Governor took the floor and said:

I am again forced, Mr. President, to claim the attention of the Senate for a few moments on a question of privilege. I was not a little surprised on yesterday to see so many gentlemen rising for the purpose of making personal explanations; but I find it explained in the fact that serious charges have been made by certain witnesses before the congressional investigating committee against those gentlemen as well as myself. This is the first opportunity I have had since I read the testimony of those witnesses to make a personal explanation. I see that one Mr. S. W. Scott testified that at one time I was to be paid for some vote or action of mine on the floor of the Senate. I have not before me the paper containing the evidence of that gentleman, and, therefore, cannot allude to it specifically. I desire to say to the Senate and the members of the congressional committee who are present, that Mr. Scott has stated that which he knows to be untrue. I had no knowledge of the gentleman prior to the time that we had before us the bill which empowered the Governor to sell the stock in the Jackson railroad held by the State. I saw him then upon the floor of the Senate lobbying, as I understood, in favor of that measure. He testifies that a large amount of money was to be spent in its passage, and that the votes of legislators were to be paid for by the issue of paper by a Mr. Kimball, indorsed by himself (Mr. Scott). He says that I, among other gentlemen, received one of those checks for \$1000, and I presume he intended to have the committee infer that I received it in consideration of my vote. I will state to the Senate and the members of the committee that Mr. Scott led the committee to imply that which was not true. I admit his correctness in stating that I held one of those checks. It was placed in my hands for collection, and I presented it to him for payment. I am a commission merchant, and sometimes have collected notes for friends of mine. He was buying paper of that kind, and says he offered me \$350, which I declined to take. I do not know that he offered me that, but I suppose so. How that paper got on the market he knows better than anybody else in the community. It is in my hands yet, as I was not empowered to take less for it than its face called for, which was the reason I could not accept his proposition. So much for that transaction. Mr. Scott also charges that Senator Beares and myself opposed the new city charter in consideration of a certain sum of money. That charge is untrue, and the gentleman can not produce any evidence to substantiate it. The reason I opposed that bill is well known to the Senator now presiding (Mr. Barber) as well as to every other colored man in the Legislature, and many not in it. The question was, who was to fill the offices to be created? A demand was made by me, at the request of the colored men of this city, that the Governor should appoint a colored man to the position of Administrator of Public Improvements. The Governor would not comply with that request, and we determined then to oppose the bill to the last. From that day I commenced my opposition to the Governor. I opposed him for two years by my votes and by my influence in the Senate Chamber; and perhaps I would

not be supporting him now if I had not become convinced that only by sustaining him could the Republican party be saved in this State. As to the gentleman who testified against me on political points (Judge Walker), his character is well known in this community. He is a blatant Democrat, and one of the most malicious newspapers published in our city—a sheet that would not scruple to traduce the character of any man who was not in political accord with it. The outrageous statements of that gentleman were made for no other reason than to make political capital for himself or against me. There is one portion of his testimony which seems to me to be extremely spicy. I refer to the following extract:
"I was surprised to learn from Judge Dibble and General Sheridan that Pinchback was the Governor's choice. I expressed my disgust in emphatic terms; whereupon General Sheridan excused the choice as one to which the Governor was driven by the apprehension that if a conservative citizen was placed in the Lieutenant Governorship, the Legislature would impeach Warmoth in order to get that citizen into his place, and that the election of Pinchback would flank his movement. Judge Dibble gave the same reason, and took the same view. I denounced the proposition as indicating very low ideas and notions of action."
"Question—Did these gentlemen deny that Pinchback was a rascal?"
"Answer—No; they said he was the smartest negro in the State."
This, I say, is a very spicy piece of evidence. I reply that if either Judge Walker, Judge Dibble, General Sheridan or the Governor says that my election was affected for the purpose of preventing the Governor's impeachment, it is a positive falsehood. I state emphatically that were I satisfied that no other motive actuated those who supported me than that alleged by Judge Walker, I would not allow another day to pass without tendering to the Senate my resignation as Lieutenant Governor. I hold, sir, that I was elected to cement, if possible, the broken ranks of the Republican party of Louisiana, and not to prevent the impeachment of Henry C. Warmoth. I care but little whether Governor Warmoth be impeached before his term expires; I care still less whether he is Governor hereafter, but I do care for the success of the Republican party. I am willing at any time to be made the instrument of the preservation of the Republican party; I am prepared to occupy and assume the responsibilities and duties of any office in which I can subserve the interests of my people, my party and my State; but I am not willing now, nor will I ever be willing, to become the suppliant tool of Henry C. Warmoth, nor anybody else. If I had had the slightest suspicion that such were the motives that induced my election, I would have indignantly refused to accept the position I occupy. You know, Mr. President [Mr. Barber], better perhaps than any other person, that I am not President of the Senate and Lieutenant Governor by reason of any desire on my part to become so. You and I, as you well remember, debated at great length the question as to whether it would not be impolitic for me to accept the position, and you, with many other of our representative men, urged me to do so. Judge Walker goes on to say that "he had no idea that his (Pinchback's) appointment was popular among the colored people. They would regard such a man as an unworthy successor of Dunn, who was justly esteemed by all classes as an upright, dignified, intelligent negro, to whom Pinchback had been opposed. Pinchback was not a representative man. His appointment, so far from pleasing the negroes, would be regarded by them as an insult." Of course that would provoke a smile from any intelligent

man who is at all cognizant of the opinions of the colored people of the State. Judge Walker, Collector Casey, Mr. Packard and all of the opponents of the Republican party here, agree in according to Mr. Dunn the position of the foremost negro in the State. If it be true that he was so (and I have no desire to gainsay it), does it not appear exceedingly strange to sensible men that, holding the exalted position of Lieutenant Governor, he could not force me to give way to him in the late election for United States Senator? Is it not astonishing that he did not defeat me in the first election that took place here after the war, when he ran on an independent ticket for the constitutional convention? Is it not surprising that every time we measured our political wits, I was the victor? I do not cite these facts for the purpose of depreciating in any way the merits of Mr. Dunn, but for the purpose of showing that Judge Walker, in his testimony, has had no regard for the truth. A gentleman who testified before that committee in the interest of his party, declared that the Democrats in the General Assembly had voted for Mr. West as United States Senator because they knew I would be elected if they did otherwise. That is the strongest kind of testimony, it seems to me, of my representantive capacity as a colored man; and yet Judge Walker has the hardihood to go before that committee and, in utter disregard of truth, assert that I am not a representative man. I believe every unprejudiced, reasonable man will agree with me when I say that this gentleman has made these statements for the purpose of preventing if possible my wielding any influence in the political affairs of the State. In other words, he knows that I am now inaugurating a policy that will ere long, if these blatant demagogues are kept down, to make the Republican party of Louisiana a good solid unit; and he wants to thwart me in that endeavor. He is afraid the Republican party may be brought together again and the State saved to Republicanism. That is what hurts the gentleman. He also says that my character is infamous, and I desire to inform the Senate and the members of the congressional committee in what my infamy consists. I am infamous because I can not be frightened nor coaxed to support the Democracy; I am infamous because from the day the constitutional convention met in this city I have championed the cause of the down-trodden colored people. From that day to this I have not failed, whenever the opportunity presented itself, to cast my vote and raise my voice in behalf of the class I represent. I have stood firm at my post of duty, and it was for that reason that Judge Walker and others of the same class characterized me as infamous. I venture to say that had I been one of those who were willing to sell out the rights and interests of the colored people and join in the effort to divide and destroy the Republican party of Louisiana, instead of the *Times, Bee*, and other sheets of the same character, aspersing my motives and villifying my character, I would be held up to the public gaze as one of the noblest of the black race, and the brightness of Mr. Dunn's fame would be pale before the shining lustre of Pinchback's name. But because, forsooth, I saw fit to stand fearlessly at my post; because I saw fit to advocate in season and out of season, the rights of the race I represent, I am a man of "infamous character." Who would expect any other verdict from such a source? The black people, I am confident, still trust in me. They have never yet failed to give me what I asked in the way of political preferment; I am well known to them and they to me, and I feel sure there is no unfavorable account to be balanced between us. If I have failed to do my duty, the people, the only earthly tribunal

before which I shall be arraigned, will render their judgment against me. Whether my character be infamous, whether I am no longer worthy of the confidence of the people, will be decided in 1872, and until that final decision is rendered I care not how much my character is aspersed by demagogues, for I know that a just and enlightened people will sustain me. So far as my public duties are concerned, I propose to perform them in the future as I have in the past. I do not intend to be frightened into the support of any measure; I do not propose to be brow-beaten into anything; I do not intend to be influenced by any motives save those which should govern an honest, true man. While I do not claim to possess all the honesty in the State, yet I venture to say that my character would appear as the driven snow in comparison with the character of those gentlemen who have seen fit to traduce and defame me in their testimony before the committee. If any one think more than another has caused these gentlemen to oppose me it is the fact that I have at all times endeavored to exclude from the floor of the Senate those lobbyists who have corrupted the Legislature, if it has been corrupted. How often have I rose in my seat and asked that the rules be enforced prohibiting those men from entering the Senate Chamber? How often have I asked the presiding officer to protect me from the importunities of men who were annoying me nearly to death to get me to support their pet measures? And yet these men have the audacity to go before the congressional committee and asperse my character. If I have trespassed upon the rights and privileges of others; if I have been guilty of any misdemeanor or maleficence on office, there is a way to punish me. Let these parties institute an investigation, and if I am found guilty I will bear the penalty without a murmur. But until I am adjudged guilty by a competent tribunal, I ask that these malignant vilifiers be silenced by the indignant voice of public opinion. If these gentlemen must vomit forth something in detraction of my character, let them confine themselves to the truth, and not attempt by groundless accusations, to cover up their own hideous deformities. The time will come, and that soon, when I will be heard in self-defense by the people, and when that time does arrive these gentlemen will doubtless be missing. I shall not fail then to tell the people what I know about these men. I shall not attempt to cover up any of my political or personal actions; I have done nothing that will not bear investigation—nothing that I desire to deny. Therefore, I can well afford to meet these honorable gentlemen before the people. I am sorry I have been forced to occupy the valuable time of the Senate in making this personal explanation; but I deemed it my duty in justice to myself, to do so, as I will not have an opportunity of being heard before the congressional committee.

HABITS.
BY HON. SCHUYLER COLfax,
Vice President of the United States.

Few of us fully realize how constantly and how potentially our lives are influenced and even dominated by our daily habits. Shakespeare taught us "how use doth breed a habit in a man"; for the frequent repetition of acts causes a tendency, almost irresistible, toward their regular recurrence, which has caused habit to be called a kind of second nature growing up within us. Observation, as well as personal experience, teaches us that Paley was right when he said: "Mankind act more from habit than reflection, for man is but a bundle of habits." How important, then—how vital indeed—that we should watch these habits in those near to us, as well as in ourselves—knowing, as we do, that

"what at first an infant's hand could snap stiffen upon older limbs like gyves of iron"; or, as Cowper so strongly expressed it:
"Habits are soon assumed; but, when we strive
To strip them, 'tis being flayed alive."
My attention was directed toward this subject by the request of an eminent divine that I would write an article for the *Independent* on the habit of using Tobacco; to which I replied that it was scarcely fitting that so new a convert should assume the position of a lecturer to others on a habit abandoned only last spring. But I may say on this particular point, without even apparent inconsistency, that every year's habit in that line makes it more difficult to surrender it even for health's sake. At first, as is well known, the system rejects it, as it rejects tartar emetic. Nature, whoever, finally surrenders the contest, and yields to its sway. It becomes a companion and a solace; even more—a second nature, indeed. When, at last, prudence, or duty, or health, or example induce you to discontinue it, there comes another struggle, sharper than the first, and perhaps more doubtful. It is the contest between habit, on one side, and will, on the other, with temptation and appetite giving constant aid and comfort to the former, while the latter must fight its battle alone, without such powerful allies on its side.
Bacon asserts that "habits, wisely formed, become truly a second nature, as the common saying is;" and, believing that those unwisely formed become the same, it may not be unprofitable to look at a few of the common everyday habits of mankind that are not wisely formed, and which we should seek to eradicate from our lives, as the farmer seeks to eradicate the Canada thistle from his field.
Drinking.—No man ever became a drunkard, lived a drunkard's life, died a drunkard's death, and filled a drunkard's grave as a matter of free choice. No one ever became an excessive drinker who did not begin by the habit of being a moderate, a very moderate drinker. If it were the habit of all not to take the first step, and thus not become moderate drinkers, the unutterable horrors and woe, the destitution and crime, which result from this master evil of intemperance would cease. Wives and children, friends and communities, would not mourn over loved ones thus dishonored and lost. But it is the habit of drinking becoming the law of their being and of their daily life, the lack of resisting power resulting from this terrible thralldom, the fever of habitual temptation and appetite, which causes that yearly death-march of sixty thousand of our people to the saddest of all deaths and the saddest of all graves, followed, as mourners, by half a million of worse than widowed wives and worse than orphaned children.
Profanity.—Perhaps no offense against the laws of God and the laws of man is more directly traceable to habit than the vile imprecations which so often, on the highway, shock and sadden the passer-by. The brutal language addressed to brutes and beasts of burden, the attempted intensification of private conversation, even the profane language so often used in schoolboy quarrels or the heated controversies of partisans, seems prompted more by unwise and unrestrained habit than by actual wickedness of heart. Year by year the habit grows, however, into a second nature; until at last its victim finds it impossible to cast it off, and it becomes the fruitful parent of other evil habits.
"We are not worst at once,
The course of evil begins so slowly,
And from such slight source, an infant's hand
Could stem its course with clay.
But let the stream grow deeper,
And philosophy, eye, and religion, too,
May strive in vain to stem the headlong torrent."

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