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OUR CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT, 1872.

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1872.

TO OUR CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

We will be glad if you notify our office of any delinquency on the part of our carrier, as our arrangements are such that every issue of our paper should be regularly delivered.

Chick-anery.—Robbing a hen roost.

In the "brass tacked bills" Democrats are there, always ready to use the hammer.

What we may expect from the Times every day for a year: "Further of the Weil claim."

The Times is Weiling away the gentle hours in gasconading about their claim, and vends stale news by the column.

Alex. Newton, charged with the killing of patrolman George P. Townsend, has been sent by Recorder Houghton to the criminal court for trial without benefit of bail.

For the benefit of those of our readers who would like to know something of a new secret order which has been organized in the South, we copy from the Weekly Mississippi Pilot the constitution of the order.

In no theory of Government framed was it contemplated that law makers should not be tax-payers.—Times.

Who said it was? Are our law makers exempt from taxation?

Why should the opposition complain of the Treasurer as a member of the Printing Commission? He is a colored man, and herein lies their great objection to anything from the true Republican party.

Law-makers are indifferent to the burdens they impose.—Times.

The Times' editors have the same indifference of the burden they impose on their readers. Ten cents for reading all this! The boot should be on the other leg.

RAILROAD INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

We regard as eminently proper the appointment of a committee of members of the Legislature "to investigate and report whether any chartered railroad companies in this State, the interest upon whose bonds is paid by the State, have violated their charters by refusing or failing to comply with the provisions of article 13 of the Constitution, and the laws framed thereunder," because, if we mistake not, there have been frequent and loud complaints that on all the railroads run out of the State there are cruel distinctions made among the passengers purely on account of color.

The Picayune thinks "it is well enough to enquire whether the Jackson Railroad Directory had agreed, before the transfer of the road, that no differences should be made between their white and colored passengers, and also as to any other railroad company which may have imprudently made similar pledges." It is well enough to do considerable more than this.

The grounds and authority for enquiry will be based on the annual subsidy paid by the State in the shape of interest on bonds, etc., the matter for investigation will be whether the terms of the charters of these companies have been complied with. There were no pledges "imprudently made" by any company. Each one in his turn sought Legislative aid and the Legislature in its turn imposed constitutional obligations which were accepted; the infractions of which ought to be punished if the Legislature would secure the respect of their party and their people.

It is useless for "the people's paper" to endeavor to divert attention from this matter by referring to "other questions of great importance." If it will fairly lend its support to the advocacy of measures which secure our equal recognition among mankind, if it will cease to bolster up these cruel proscriptions of a race, even in the face of its pretended willingness for harmony, as illustrated in its pampering of Burch, if it will advocate or accept as a test of qualification any other basis than mere color, we would be willing to credit it as entitled to be the representative it claims and join it in its discussions of these "other matters." Until itself and its party resolve to accord to our race the rights to which we are justly entitled, we shall never cease to regard enquiry and agitation as of "great importance." We trust that the Committee will be cheerfully aided in its efforts to prove and illustrate some of the flagrant violations of charter obligations, which we understand have been, and are being daily perpetrated by our railroad companies. We believe it to be worse than useless to continue to appeal to the humanity, sense of justice, or magnanimity of the opposers of our enjoyment of the rights belonging to us, and the only effectual way that we see to secure recognition, consists in a stringent enforcement of those enactments which under penal consequences prohibit these heartless and senseless distinctions.

The Louisiana Sugar Bond has struck a new vein. In its last issue we find the following paragraph:

WHITE LABORERS.—Dr. H. Bussey, of this parish, last year worked a large number of German laborers; and they gave entire satisfaction. This year he has twelve white men, who work side by side with the negroes, and he believes greatly to his advantage, as the negroes are ambitious to do as much as white men. The white men are well satisfied, because they are comfortably housed and fed, in a boarding-house which the Doctor has put up especially for their benefit. Those who are going to try white laborers should profit by Dr. Bussey's experience, in this last particular. Poor quarters and poorer rations are the principal causes of demoralization among white laborers.

If we mistake not, it is an entirely new theory that "white laborers" are capable of performing more manual labor in a semi-tropical community than "negroes." It is gratifying to find that the foolish objection against all kinds of laborers working side by side with each other, is passing away with the influx of men who take liberal and sensible views of things.

"TIMES" SHAMELESSNESS.

"But a few days now will intervene before that halcyon time when the Legislature will die the death of obloquy and disgrace."—Times.

This is pretty. It would perhaps be unkind to show how far the proprietor, publisher and chief factotum of the Times is responsible for the identical "obloquy and disgrace" of which his paper speaks. It would likewise be unjust to discriminate between the man looking over the shoulder of the Times editors, and the same man entreating the legislators to vote for his "little bill." We would however say this, that every man in the Legislature, is the peer of the Times publisher and some of them are his superiors in public service, and in all the qualities that make "a man among men."

The publisher of the Times never could forgive the Legislature for forfeiting the charter of the slave, the house Act, though the forfeiture was not complete. We could mention the defeats in which the Times publisher was not "well pleased." Had he succeeded with the members such sentiments as the above never would have appeared. But the exasperations of defeat, and the sourness of temper resulting therefrom prompt to ravings such as we have quoted.

The Houston Daily Union gets off the following at the expense of Texas Democracy:

One of the funniest things that ever occurred in the politics of Texas is the fact that the Democrats packed the Federal Grand Jury to get the Governor indicted, and then got so frightened and ashamed about it that they began to swear that the Jury were nearly all Republicans. They now want to get out of it, and they are trying to represent it as a wholly Republican affair. The Union showed each man's political status by name over a month ago, and the Jury was shown to be more than two-thirds Democratic. Nobody has dared to deny our statement. More than two-thirds of the Jury were supporters of Giddings and Hancock, and voted in the Grand Jury as they had voted in the election.

The LOUISIANIAN enjoys the proud distinction of being the first, if not the only, city paper to direct public attention to the enormous and unnecessary expenses attendant on trials in the criminal court of this city. We perceive with much gratification, therefore, that a bill is before the House of Representatives pointing to a remedy of some of the evils complained of, and effecting, it is computed, an annual saving to the city of over sixty thousand dollars. In this respect, the measure will doubtless receive the attention of the "Reformers." But there are complications likely to arise under the enactment proposed, which, if not foreseen and provided against by amendment, may result in injury and suffering to prisoners. We regret that the brief period since we have seen Mr. Gaddis' bill, prevents us from pointing out fully what we conceive to be defects in the bill.

Take from the Legislative lobby the so-called respectability concerned in it. Weed out the rank and let the file alone, and what would be the result? We make the statement that nine out of ten of the so-called "brass tacked" bills were originated and conceived by those men who are, since the defeat of their schemes, in the front of the so-called Reformers, and where these swindles have not been conceived by this class they have been by prominent Democrats. To this statement we challenge contradiction.

What notable people are in the committee of fifty-one! Behold them in the pains of politics. Every journal in the city pitches in to them, the Picayune hints they might have done more; the Times that they might have done better; the Bee is grandly dignified and treats them with freezing politeness. But nobody says, "Well done good and faithful servant."

THANKS.—Our acknowledgments are hereby tendered to the "Young Female Benevolent Association" for tickets to attend their Grand Concert and Exhibition at Lyceum Hall, on Wednesday evening, March 13, 1872.

Wanted, a number of pigs feet to use on the Legislature.—Times.

On this subject the Times has made a hog's-head of itself.

A LESSON FROM LIFE.

The incident that lately occurred in Lake Valley, Florida, where a party taking observations were driven off by the population because it was supposed their observations had caused the unexampled bad weather in that section is a sad comment on the barbarism of the South. Instances of a similar kind occur every day, are the effect of withholding education from the masses; of that proud aristocratic spirit which would afford the benefits of education to Tom, the white man's son, but must take it away from Dick, the black man's son, and Harry the "mixed" man's son.

This is the spirit too strikingly exhibited in the Legislatures, there is an eagerness to grasp money for every job under the sun, to the exclusion of that solicitude for the passage of measures for the support of schools that shall rear up our entire population in the light of education, give every man a chance. But clouds are passing away. The people's representatives are not blind to the duty they must follow. The schools shall live. Through every influence and through the gathering and breaking of every storm the schools in this State have stood like "the rock of ages." May they stand for ever. Let the people turn their backs upon those representatives who vote for themselves but not for education. Let them be marked. Then schools will rise up in every parish at whose doors the educable children shall meet every morning's sun, within whose portals all may find welcome. May those who clamor for the destruction of the school system be themselves destroyed in the scathing fires of a popular indignation.

The utter absurdity of rejecting jurors who read newspaper reports of murders, as incompetent to render an impartial verdict, has just been aptly illustrated in New York in the trial of Stokes for the murder of Fisk. Five hundred names were called and not twelve could be found who had not read of and conversed on the subject. The result of such a practice is inevitably to compose juries of the most unlettered and incompetent men.

The election of Mr. Rouher to the French Assembly will furnish him opportunities to advance the views and advocate the interests of his old chief Louis Napoleon. Mr. Rouher was for a considerable period Minister of State under the last Empire and is an open and pronounced Imperialist, and no surprise would be excited to find him planning and advocating the restoration of the Empire. The perpetuity of the Republic seems somewhat problematical yet.

As the last of the allotted "sixty days" draw nigh, the Houses of Legislature are redoubling their efforts to complete such legislation as is imperatively demanded by the exigencies of the period. This evidence of recognition of the importance of the passage, at this time, of such bills as will secure a full, equitable, and satisfactory adjustment of existing difficulties is worthy of commendation, and we hope that the remaining four days of the regular session will be spent in the exclusive devotion to the important business still untransacted.

Good old Democratic precedent. To the victor belongs the spoils. Is not "saucy for goose" likewise "saucy for gander?" If the Democrats have carried out as well as begun strong election laws, special appropriations and reliefs, bayou cleaning dodges and "sich like" can Democrats complain of their own policy? Of their own hanting?

Go it, Picayune! go it, Times; to see you pulling each other's hair puts us in mind of old times. We are the only one entitled to the name of "The People's Paper," so don't let this question disturb your equanimity any longer.

Isn't it rather singular the Committee of Fifty-one agreed to propose a bill that had money in it (brass tacks), but did not hold the interest of the people so much to heart as to settle upon a reform bill for the election law? Oh these reformers.

POLICE TRANSFER.—Capt. Schreiber, of the First Precinct, has been assigned to the Sixth; Capt. J. F. Flanigan of the Sixth to the Third, and Capt. Wm. McCann of the Third to the First Precinct.

INCLOSURES IN NEWSPAPERS—AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

That the inclosure of circulars or hand-bills, whether designated by the name of "Supplement" or not, in the mail edition of a newspaper, is in direct violation of the postal law, has at length been definitely settled by Judge Sherman, of the U. S. District Court, at Cleveland, Ohio, in the case of the United States vs. W. K. Brown, publisher of the Alliance (Ohio) Monitor. This decision is of such importance to publishers that we give it in full:

"The United States vs. W. K. Brown.—This is a motion for a new trial, on which the court is asked to review the evidence on which a verdict was rendered against the defendant at the present term. The defendant, the proprietor and publisher of the Alliance Monitor, a weekly paper published in Stark county, was indicted under the thirtieth section of the act of Congress of March 3, 1825 (see Brightly's Digest, page 218, section 85), for enclosing in a newspaper a printed advertisement, purporting to be an advertisement of the 'Opera House Shoe Store,' by one O. W. Nash, which he then delivered into the post-office at Alliance, to be carried by post to Mount Vernon, free of postage. The section of the act above referred to provides as follows: 'If any person shall enclose or conceal a letter or other thing, or any memorandum in writing, in a newspaper, pamphlet or magazine, or in any package of newspapers, pamphlets or magazines, or make any writing or memorandum thereon, which he shall have delivered into any post-office or to any person for that purpose, in order that the same may be carried by post, free of letter postage, he shall forfeit the sum of five dollars for every such offense,' etc.

The facts as they appear show that an advertisement, or advertising hand-bill, of the shoe store of O. W. Nash, a dealer in Alliance, where the newspaper was published, was enclosed, as charged, in the edition published December 1, 1870, and so mailed for distribution to all subscribers who received that paper through the mail, one of them being for a subscriber at Mount Vernon.

The question raised in this case is one of considerable importance to the publishers of newspapers, and a ruling upon it has been desired by Post-office Department, although in the case at the bar it is conceded that the defendant had no intention of violating any law, it having been the custom, to some extent, of publishers of newspapers to send such circulars or advertisements through the mail, supposing it was permissible under post-office regulations, which provide as follows: "Publishers of newspapers may, without subjecting them to extra postage, fold within their regular issue a supplement. But in all such cases the added matter must be a genuine supplement or appendage to the newspaper in question, and of the same essential character, conveying intelligence of general interest. Under this regulation it is undoubtedly competent for publishers, as is frequently done in Eastern newspapers, and not unfrequently in our home papers when a tax-list, or other voluminous advertising matter is to be published, to print and enclose for distribution, by mail or otherwise, regular supplements, containing the advertising or other general matter crowded out of the regular or usual columns. But a hand-bill, circular or poster of the description here in question, is not such supplement, although, as in this case, it may be so called or entitled by the publisher. It is not a genuine supplement or appendage to the newspaper." It does not meet the common popular understanding of the term "supplement," nor is it of the same essential character as a newspaper, nor does it convey intelligence of passing events of general interest. It is more of the nature of a private circular, advertisement, hand-bill or poster, and it may also be remarked that it contains wood-cuts and a large style of print, which could not be inserted in a newspaper without great and unusual trouble and expense. It is

not an advertisement crowded out of the regular issue, but such a one as would never be inserted in a regular issue. It is true that each case of this nature must be judged of by its own peculiar characteristics, but there is a wide distinction between the 'genuine supplement' spoken of in the post-office regulation, and as there defined and described, and a hand-bill, advertisement or circular, the distinctive character of which as distinguished from a newspaper supplement, is readily appreciated by the popular understanding, and determines the law of the case.

"It does not appear, as I have before remarked, that the defendant in this case purposely violated the post-office acts and regulations, but having done so, although ignorantly, the law requires me to overrule the motion and impose the statutory penalty and the costs."

National Park.

Forty-four miles by fifty miles is the size of the prospective National Park, comprising the magnificent and wonderful valley at the head of the Yellow Stone River, in the Territory of Wyoming. The bill setting apart this valley for a park was recently introduced into the United States Senate by Mr. Pomeroy, of Kansas, and passed without discussion. This wild, romantic, and picturesque section of country abounds in marvelous attractions. Nature, with profuse hand, has scattered mountains, rivers, lakes, canons, water-falls, geysers, hot springs, forests of pine, and everything else that the most exacting sight-seer could demand, in this highly favored spot; every thing—except hotels. These in due time will appear, and when railroads place it within easy reach, a trip to the Yellow Stone Valley will rival, in the minds of many, a voyage to Europe.

Cost of the War.

The whole cost of the war to the Northern and Southern States from 1861 to 1865 is estimated as follows: Lives, 1,000,000; property destruction, waste, etc., \$9,000,000,000. The gross expenditures of the United States from June, 1861, to July, 1866, were \$5,792,857,000. Of this, the actual war expenses were about \$5,353,237,000. The expense of States, counties, cities and towns in the Southern States not represented by funded debts have been estimated at \$500,000,000. The increase of State debts on the war account was \$123,000,000. The increase of city, town and county debts is estimated at \$200,000,000. Total war expenses of the loyal States and the national government, \$6,165,237,000.

The estimated direct expenditures of the Confederate States on account of the war were \$2,000,000,000.

Aggregate estimated expenses of the war to the country, North and South, \$8,155,237,000.

The Origin of Lotteries.

Lotteries were invented by the Romans to enliven their Saturnalia. This festival, which was instituted in commemoration of the freedom and conviviality which prevailed on earth in the golden reign of Saturn began by the distribution of tickets which gained some prize. Augustus appointed lotteries, which consisted of things of little value; but Nero established some for the people, in which one thousand tickets were distributed daily, and a number of those who were favored by fortune became rich by them. Heliogabalus invented lotteries of a very singular nature the prizes were either of great value, or of none at all; one gained a prize of six slaves and another of six flies; some got valuable vases, and others vases of common earth. A lottery of this kind exhibited an excellent picture of the inequality with which fortune distributes her favors. The first lottery in England of which we have any account, was drawn at the west door of St. Pauls Cathedral in 1569, and consisted of forty thousand tickets at forty shillings each. The profits of the lottery were to be applied toward repairing the harbor. In 1612 King James appointed a lottery to be drawn at the same place, for the plantation of English colonies in Virginia. The principal prize was four thousand crowns in plate.—Troy Times, about a week.

The Debt Statement.

Mr. Boutwell's February statement of the public debt shows the following facts: \$5,633,461.64 as the decrease of the debt during January; \$3,852,150,200.00 as the debt bearing interest in coin; \$34,978,000.00 as the debt bearing interest in lawful money; \$1,000,897.26 as the debt on which an interest has ceased to mature; \$435,719,198.13 as the debt bearing no interest; \$100,371,701.15 of coin in the Treasury; and \$14,840,271.21 of currency, making a total of \$116,213,000.00 of cash on hand; \$2,354,416,350.00 as the total of the debt including principal and interest; \$2,238,204,945.00 as the total of the debt, less cash in the Treasury; and \$82,568,872.26 as the decrease of debt since March 1st, 1871. This statement is eminently satisfactory, with a single exception. We do not and never have seen any good reason for keeping on hand so large a balance of idle and unemployed funds. It would, in our judgment, be financially wise to reduce this balance by paying out a portion of it in liquidating a part of the public debt, and thereby lessening the amount of interest to be paid. On this subject Mr. Boutwell seems to us to have been too timidly cautious. There is no danger of the Treasury becoming insolvent in respect to current liabilities, with the ample revenue which is steadily pouring into it.—Independent.

Place it on Record.

The democratic element, as usual have shown themselves opposed to every endeavor of the statesman who are favorable to national education.

From a southern republican or western standpoint, the principles of the bill are correct. The bill will not obligate any state to establish schools unless it wishes to establish them. The colored children of the south have as yet but two State where there are successful public schools. Arkansas and Louisiana are certainly the two only liberal and successful States in conducting the free school system, and we are assured that the members from these States favor the bill. Mr. Shellabarger, in a recent speech, describes the aid to be given to public schools as magnificent, and said that the passage of the bill would "dispose of the grandest domain that is now upon this planet, belonging to any one government." The whole amount of land to be donated is nearly two thousand millions of acres of land, and the fund, properly distributed, would do more toward helping the cause of education than any fund ever appropriated by any nation in the history of the world.

The democratic objectors are apparently desirous of preventing the poorer classes, and especially the colored children, from obtaining an education. Let it, therefore, go upon record against them, as another instance of their hostility to human rights; and also place it upon the record that this is another instance where the republican party, in its eternal principle of right and justice to all, desired to give the masses of the republic an equal opportunity for education, and has for its opponents the remnants of oligarchy and slavery.

The Great Sea Tunnel.

The tunnel under the Straits of Dover, from England to France, is at length to be commenced, a joint stock company for the purpose having been organized and registered in London. Two million sterling will be required for the experimental driftways and the tunnel can be finished in five years for five million sterling, working day and night from both ends. The distance is twenty-two miles, and no shaft or ventilation is spoken of, it is understood that the plan includes two parallel tunnels with trains running only in one direction through each so as to keep up a constant current of air. We do not doubt the plan, and when successful the success of the plan, and when shall have been accomplished there can be little doubt that it will be the progenitor of other great works of the same character under the sea, just as the short sub-marine cables were the beginning of the great Atlantic cables. Applying this to the great problem of shortening the time occupied by the transit between Europe and America, we find that if a tunnel were driven under the channel to Ireland, and steamers run from Galway to the coast of Newfoundland, and a tunnel connecting the latter with the mainland, via Cape Breton, the sea voyage might be reduced to three or four days, and the whole time between London and New York traversed by sea and rail in about a week.