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EDITORIAL ITEMS.

SUICIDE.—On Sunday last, Mr. J. M. Dirrhammer, a well-known lawyer of this city, poisoned himself by taking a virulent and deadly poison—"atrophine." On discovery, he was removed to the Charity Hospital, where all the skill of Dr. A. W. Smythe, the House Surgeon, was put in requisition, but unavailingly, as he soon expired. No reliable cause is assigned for the rash act. Mr. Dirrhammer was married early last week to a lady of color, at least so says a certificate of Judge Tissot.

NEW YORK FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL FIRE.—On Dec. 10, a disastrous conflagration broke out in the laundry in the fourth story of this building and burnt and damaged the building and property to the extent of \$100,000. Over twenty persons were burned to death, and several others badly scalded by steam escaping from the pipes in the laundry. The panic and confusion of the hundreds of guests are indescribable.

PROGRESS OF PEACE AND ORDER.—Notwithstanding the highly disinterested and patriotic advice given to persons elect to various positions during the recent elections, not to recognize in any manner the existing administration; no, not even to apply for commissions to which the regular returning Board might declare them entitled, the gentlemen so counselled and so returned seem matters in an entirely different light, and they have been applying to Acting Governor Pinchback for these commissions just as rapidly as they have been informed of their title to office, and the Acting Governor has been promptly issuing commissions to the applicants.

It seems to have become a certainty that Vice President Colfax has resolved to resign and assume the editorship of the New York Tribune. Verily, our calling is a noble one, and the Tribune must stand at the head of it, when it is no derogation for the Vice President of the United States to resign his position to edit a newspaper. Next to the Presidency of the country being popularly regarded as the acme of an American boy's ambition, will be that of being an efficient editor of a newspaper, and instead of simply boasting that "any boy may become President," will be added, or "Editor of the Tribune." ALL HONOR and reverence to the memory of Horace Greeley who magnified his office and made it so honorable.

The Religio Philosophical Society, in granting Letters of Fellowship recently, issued one to Miss R. Augusta Whiting, of Albion, Michigan. This document authorizes the female Divine to solemnize marriages anywhere in the United States, in due form of law. Miss Whiting is a spiritual lecturer, and the Religio Philosophical Journal says in connection with this subject: "Spiritualists will do well to see that the honor and perquisites attendant upon such services go to our lecturers rather than to those who oppose and ridicule our faith."
"Exclaims the New York Independent of December 12th: "Think of it! Frederick Douglass, the runaway slave of Baltimore, accused son of Ham, ostracized "nigger," carrying to Washington, as chairman of the Electors of New York, the presidential vote of the Empire State! Well, we shall have social equality, as well as political equality, by and by."

A COLORED BISHOP.—Bishop John M. Brown, of the A. M. E. Church, arrived in our city Tuesday in attendance on the Annual Conference of his church. Bishop Brown is one of the ablest and most eloquent divines in the country.—Galveston Standard.

A map advertises for a competent person to undertake the sale of a new medicine, and adds that "it will prove highly lucrative to the undertaker."

SENATOR CAMPBELL AND GOVERNOR PINCHBACK.

On Monday December 9th, when the Senate was organized according to law, and the conspiracy to overthrow Republicanism defeated, some warm and spirited debating took place, in which Senators McMillen, Campbell, Hunsacker and Jenks took prominent parts on one hand, and Lieutenant Governor Pinchback, Senators Harris, Ingraham, and Burch on the other. We reproduce to-day the speeches of Senator Campbell and Governor Pinchback on the occasion:

PROTEST OF SENATOR CAMPBELL.

Mr. Hugh J. Campbell—I desire to ask permission to read a similar protest, and include it in the resolution made by the Senator from Carroll (Mr. McMillen). [The Senator here read his protest.] Upon this I desire simply to say this: It is with no feeling of harshness toward the officer who presides over this body at the present time. On the contrary, it is with the same feeling of respect and friendship which I have cherished him for a long time, and which have been engendered and strengthened by our association together in many troubled, trying and protracted contests against the very power which has triumphed over this Senate to-day and the rights of the people of this State, colored as well as white. In the contest one year ago this day you, Mr. President, and myself stood together protesting as steadily and as manfully as I have attempted to stand here to-day, protesting against this same gigantic power which, with its broad hands, while professing to protect the rights of the colored people of the State has simply broken over the barriers of the rights of the white people as well as black. In reply to the accusation made against me and other Senators who have taken an opposite view to that of the President, and who held that it was not a question of the rights of the colored people or Republicans which was involved in this action which we contemplated. I say that I believe as solemnly and as sincerely as I believe in any fact in my political faith that to-day I stand more completely on the rights of the people to which you, Mr. President, belong, and who have elected me to the position I now occupy just as faithfully as I did a year ago, and more faithfully than those Senators who are opposing me now. The constitution says the Senate shall be the sole judge of the returns of its members. I undertake to say that the Judge of the United States Circuit Court when he endeavored by his injunction to interfere with and prevent them from deciding the question of returns, stepped outside even of that great and overwhelming jurisdiction which has been conferred upon him by the enforcement laws.

There were three returning boards claiming under the color of law to be returning boards, and in a suit pending before him he undertook to decide which board should make the returns; and while this might have been proper and legal in regard to Congressmen and electors at large, with regard to members of the State Senate and House Representatives, the law which cloth him with jurisdiction especially exempted the members of the Legislature of the State. This question should have arisen here to-day, whether the DeFariet board, the Lynch board or the board to be elected by the Senate itself, under the law now in existence, should have made the returns to authorize the President to swear in the members. These remarks I make not in anger but in regret. I regret, for their sake and mine, to think that the act done to-day will do more to embitter the relations of

the two races and to endanger and unsettle the foundations of the rights of your own people. Mr. President, which we have endeavored to secure, then any act we have done for a long time.

LIEUT. GOVERNOR PINCHBACK'S REPLY.

I deem it my duty at this time, inasmuch as these protests reflect upon the action of the chair, to make a statement to the Senate. Each of these gentlemen—the Senator from Carroll (Mr. McMillen) and the Senator from the Second District (Mr. Campbell) have been quite bitter in their attacks upon the Chair. One of them went so far as to address the Chair as "the ex-Senator." The Chair will endeavor to take no notice of this reflection on him as an individual or as an officer; but when gentlemen launch out into broad statements about disturbance of the peace, embittering the races, and the usurpation and unconstitutionality of the acts of the President of the Senate, he feels bound to say a few words in defence of his action. And to begin with, where does the responsibility lie for the action of the President of the Senate this day? I charge here that the very law which the President of the Senate has this day executed is the coinage of the brain of the very gentleman from the Second District (Mr. Campbell). I remember as an old Senator when this proposition was first brought into action; when this idea was first conceived of perpetuating the Secretary of the Senate and giving him the absolute control of the organization of the Senate as well as the House. At the time this law was conceived the gentleman from the Second District (Mr. Campbell) stood in a different aspect before the people of Louisiana. He was the most radical of the radical upon the floor of the Senate. He was an opponent of the constitutional amendment which sought the repeal of the disfranchising article of the constitution of the State. He was the author of the report of the committee on peace and good order, as I think it was called. He was the author of this bill and all the "atrocious legislation," as he and so many of those now co-operating with him are now pleased to characterize the laws passed for the perpetuation of the Republican party. But now, when he seems to be worshipping other gods, now when he has got into other company and has discovered that all the respectability and chivalry and honesty of Louisiana are embodied in the Democratic party, he comes in and talks about usurpation, about the unconstitutional exercise of authority by the President of this Senate. I repeat, and I call upon Senators, many of whom are here present, living witnesses to confirm me, that this law which I have enforced is a partisan measure, conceived and, I have no doubt, drawn up by that gentleman (Mr. Campbell) for the express purpose of perpetuating Republican rule. I did not exercise it for that purpose. I am just as much opposed to it, and to taking undue advantage of any person having a right to a seat here as either of these two Senators. I have simply executed the law which they made, for the purpose of continuing themselves in power, and which they carried by appealing to the passions and ignorance of a large number of persons who constituted the General Assembly at that time. These are the facts. I say to-day if there is any feeling of bitterness between the white and black races, it is the work of just such men as have entered these protests.

[Here there was some applause in the lobby, which the President ordered suppressed.]
Mr. McMillen—Oh, let them shout. Let's have more of it.
Lieutenant Governor Pinchback

—The gentlemen is very felicitous. He attempts now with his snave manner to browbeat the chair, I never said a word while he launched his invectives against me, I am simply making my defense. I have been attacked and I do not want the Senator from Carroll or any Senator on the floor to characterize me as a usurper of power, as a revolutionist or a partisan who seeks to organize this Senate in the interests of a party. I have simply obeyed the letter of the law which the gentlemen, to perpetuate themselves in power, but upon the statute books of this State. Look over the record of these gentlemen, people of Louisiana; look at their votes in the several assemblies and in the constitutional convention, and in General Assembly down to this time, and then look at the authors of almost every so-called obnoxious bill on the statute book, and tell me if you please who are they? Why my friend, Senator Campbell, is the author of nearly every one; and it was because of his great talent because of his great genius, because of his massive powers as a politician and statesman that I parted company with him not long ago, in sorrow. I know who he is. I respect him as a man equally as much as he does me, if not more, because I know I am a pigmy in talent compared with him; but while that is true, I have a duty to perform in the line of policy I have marked out and that duty I will endeavor to discharge; I shall not asperse his motives or impugn his character but I shall make the best defense I can before the bar of public opinion. Let me briefly call your attention to the series of usurpations that have taken place since last we met. You know that when the Senate last met there was a revolution going on, and instead of the boys in blue there was the State militia and the Metropolitan Police, the latter no longer a police but an armed body of men, in possession of this Capitol, and that the portals of this chamber were stacked with muskets every night. And for what? To protect the people as we thought in their rights. And you remember the clamor on the outside—the clamor which went forth for the repeal of these obnoxious measures, the election bill and others; you know that during that time his Excellency Governor Warmoth sent in his proclamation demanding instant action from the General Assembly on those measures in order that the public indignation might be appeased, and that this General Assembly did enact those measures of reform—first without a legal quorum, and subsequently in a modified form after Uncle Sam came in with his protecting arm to which the gentleman had no objection at that time. I say these United States troops come in now in the same way to protect the people of Louisiana, not against the gentleman from the second district (Mr. Campbell), not against John McEnery, but against Henry Clay Warmoth. That is the issue. That man who has trampled under foot the constitution and laws of the people without scruple, and for what? To inaugurate reform and to give you a better government? If it were for that I question whether I should have exercised the arbitrary powers which it is said I have exercised to-day. No; it was to satisfy his personal ambition, and to seat himself in the Senate of the United States. Are the whole people to be deprived of their rights, are the whole people to be made Vandals and slaves, merely to put Henry C. Warmoth into the Senate of the United States? Great God, forbid! I repeat that the condition of things that we are now witnessing has been born of this ambition, and of the aiding and abetting which this gentleman has received from those who claim to be the honest, intelligent and respect-

able portion of "our people." Who could believe that Louisiana—the banner State of the South, the home of chivalry—could so abase itself as to roll in the dust at the feet of Henry Clay Warmoth? Yet such is the spectacle we witness to-day. Senators, who claim to represent a full constituency here, battling against the law, and trampling on the liberty of the citizen in order that Henry Clay Warmoth may go to the United States Senate. What a picture for Louisiana to present. Yet such is the fact. Every act since we last adjourned down to this day has been but step after step toward the consummation of this object; and it may not be improper, since I have been arraigned in the manner I have to-day, to say, and the old Senators, being honorable men will bear me out, that at the very time that Governor Warmoth was sending us his proclamation calling upon us to repeal these obnoxious laws, he was all the time lobbying quietly with Senators against their repeal, urging them to retain such features as gave him the absolute power to become dictator of Louisiana. I ask the white people of Louisiana is it possible they have fallen so low, and is the greed of power and the lust for office so great that they are prepared to laud as acts of heroism and statesmanship such scoundrelism as that? I could go on and cite instance after instance and link after link in the chain of evidence, showing how Henry C. Warmoth has surreptitiously manipulated the Legislature for his own private ends; but enough of that. I am charged with embittering one class against another, I will tell you no class will be embittered hereafter, because I will do my duty, and a due regard for the laws shall be had and a stable government inaugurated, chosen by the will of the people. And then a condition of peace and prosperity, which ought to have been the fortune of Louisiana now, will be brought about, and we will be a happy, contented people. The facts which have transpired conclusively show that a deep and damnable conspiracy had been entered into to overthrow the will of the people as expressed at the ballot boxes. If these parties had any reasonable ground of opposition, the courts of the country are open to them. I wish it to be understood that my fight is not against John McEnery. I believe he would be as fair in his administration toward the colored people as William Pitt Kellogg; but I am here to do my duty; I am here to prevent conspiracy; I am here to prevent an illegal body of men from overriding constitution and laws and setting up a Governor of their own choice, and whose election is not based upon the votes of the people. And in doing this I have acted clearly within the letter of the law. I say to the Senate, if I have transgressed my powers, there is a remedy. You can depose me easily enough. I do not covet this office. I sought it not in the first place, nor do I care for it now. But I do care for the rights of the people of Louisiana, and when I say the people I do not mean "this people," or "my people" but the people. It is not my intention to deprive any one of his rights. I venture to say that that astute lawyer, that shrewd politician, that able statesman (General Campbell) never ran in opposition to the constitution in any letter of that law which he drew up, and I have enforced. I have simply administered the law which he created; and I say to this Senate, in concluding my remarks upon this protest, that I hold it out of order, as I shall not rule it out of order, as I desire the question settled by the Senate. I have just been handed a copy of this day's Evening Times, in which I find the following paragraph marked:

"The audacious negro intruder into and usurper, by the aid of the federal bayonets, of the office of Lieutenant Governor, made a speech to the Senate to-day, in which he declared that he had been offered \$50,000 by the proprietor of this paper to support the Fusion Senators. There never was a more outrageous falsehood that any such offer ever was made in the presence or to the knowledge of this proprietor! It bears upon its face the evidence of falsity, in the large sum given to buy a graceless rascal, who, during the last four years, has been bought scores of times for one-twentieth of the sum indicated."

I say for the benefit of Mr. Weed, that I do not think in my remarks I said that he offered me anything. At least I did not mean to say so. I make the correction for the benefit of the gentleman, notwithstanding that he has seen fit to allude to me in such an unbecoming manner. His statement that he was not present when the offer was made, is clearly within the limits of truth, because Governor Warmoth was very careful to have the folding doors closed while Mr. Weed remained in the next room. This was, I suppose, to give him a chance to outswear me, should it become a question of veracity. Mr. Weed came first and asked me to go to the St. Charles Hotel and see the Governor. I declined peremptorily. I had nothing on but my gown, but signified my willingness to see Governor Warmoth at any hour of the night that he chose to come to me, and that I was willing to protect him in the emergency if I could consistently. Mr. Weed then went out a short time, having Governor Warmoth, I suppose, in a carriage round the corner, and then the interview was had as I have stated, Mr. Weed not being present.

A CHAPTER ON GAS.

"New York," says a writer, "burns about 1,200,000,000 cubic feet of gas per annum; Chicago, 400,000,000; St. Louis, 250,000,000; Cincinnati, 400,000,000; Pittsburg, 200,000,000; San Francisco, 250,000,000; Baltimore, 400,000,000; and Cleveland, 170,000,000."
"How do they make gas?"
"First they put about two bushels of bituminous coal into an air-tight iron retort. This retort is heated red hot, and, of course, the coal is heated red hot, when the gas bursts out of it, as you see it burst out of lumps of soft coal when on the parlor fire. The gas passes off through pipes. A ton of coal will make 10,000 cubic feet of gas. The gas as it leaves the coal is very impure."
"How do they purify it?"
"First, while hot, it is run off into another building; then it is forced through long perpendicular pipes, surrounded with cold water. This cools the gas, when a good deal of tar condenses from it and runs down to the bottom of the perpendicular pipes. This tar is the ordinary tar which you see boiling in the street for walks and roofs."
"They now wash the gas. They call it scrubbing it."
"This is done by filling a large vessel, which looks like a perpendicular steam boiler, half-full of wood, laid crossways. Then ten thousand streams of cold Croton water are spurted through the boiler through the mist and rain, and between the wet sticks of wood the gas passes—coming out washed and cleansed. The ammonia condenses—joins the water and falls to the bottom."
"What next?"
"Well, next the gas is purified. It is passed through vats of lime and oxide of iron, which takes out the carbonic acid, sulphurated hydrogen and ammonia."
"What next?"
"The gas is now pure. It is passed through the station meter, through the mains and pipes, till it reaches the gas jet in your room. Then it burns, while you all scold because it don't burn better."