The Weekly Clarion.

R. L. Barksdale, J. L. Power, Harris Barksdale

Official Journal of the State of Mississippi

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1877.

THE DAILY CLARION,

During the Session of the Legislature, One Dollar Per Month.

THE DAILY CLARION will be resumed with the assembling of the Legislature. It will appear every morning, Monday excepted, and will contain a comprehensive summary of each day's proceedings of the Legislature, and the latest telegraphic and general news from all parts of the World. The paper will go to press in time for the morning trains, enabling us to supply all points as far South as McComb City and as far North as Holly Springs, with the latest news, in advance of any other medium. All points between Jackson and Vicksburg will be supplied by the morning accommodation train. Brandon and other points East, will be supplied by the first train in that direction.

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Notice to Subscribers.

After this issue we will erase from our books the names of all subscribers to whom we have sent notices that their term of subscription had expired, and who have failed to renew. We were reluctant, during the past summer and fall, to enforce a rule which we had observed for ten years. Our friends for whom this noticed is intended will find a blue X mark on the margin of this issue, immediately after name.

HONS. G. D. Shands, of Tate, and M. H. Whittaker, of Lauderdale, are also mentioned for the Speakership of the House.

THE death of Doctor W. T. Balfour, an old and useful citizen of Vicksburg, eminent in his profession, has elicited eloquent tributes to his memory from the press and the people of that city.

HON. C. E. FURLONG, Senator elect for the long term from Warren county, was serenaded by his personal and political friends of Vicksburg on Saturday evening last, on the occasion of his return from a visit to Florida. See report elsewhere.

B. W. LEE, Esq., has been relieved of the office of assistant U. S. District Attorney for the Northern District of Mississippi, to make room for Judge Orlando Davis. In what respect the latter is superior to the former we are not advised. The zeal with which he opposed the impeachment of Ames may have at last returned to him with its compensating results after many days, like bread cast upon the waters, in the shape of a fat office.

WE are indebted to the courtesy of Dr. W. M. Compton, Superintendent of the Mississippi Lunatic Asylum, for a pamphlet copy of his treatise on "The Influence of Alcohol." The dissertation relates mainly to the influence of alcohol in its character as an agent affecting the health of the people. It is an impartial and very able discussion of the subject in its various phases, in which the virtues as well as the vices of King Alcohol are presented. It is not necessary to say that no other conclusion can be drawn than that the latter vastly predominate. The Treatise exhibits a vast amount of research and abounds with facts and references clothed in the flowing and captivating style of its author. The facts are so convincing—the logic is so clear—the conclusions so irresistable—that we cannot but think the production will accomplish good wherever read. The harvest is ripe. Unfortunately the reapers are few.

Kind Words.

The Jackson CLARION has completed its fortieth volume, and during the whole of of that time, whether in peace or in war, it never missed a regular weekly appearance. Its present proprietors, Messrs. Power & Barksdale, have conducted it for the last ten years. Its success editorially and financially, is the best evidence of their ability. We wish them "many happy returns."—Sunday Delta.

The foregoing complimentary mention of the CLARION is reproduced by the Aberdeen Examiner, with this supplement, to which we add that the hope that our esteemed contemporary's days of usefulness and prosperity may be commensurate with his merits:

We believe that the Aberdeen Examiner is the only other paper that can say with that noble old journal, the CLARION, that it has never since its foundation missed a single weekly issue, though now in its twelfth year.

Hon. J. P. M. Claiborne.

This gentleman will spend the winter at his residence near Natchez and devote his time principally to his forthcoming History of Mississippi. He writes to Col. W. H. McCardle as follows:

I have lost nearly two months by serious illness, but am up again, and shall leave for Natchez the last of the week for a hard and steady winter's work. I have received from Col. Stephens, of Water Valley, a very interesting history of the Thirty-first Mississippi regiment and its eventful career. If every Colonel and General would write me just such a history of their commands, my labors would be easy. Generals ——— ——— have all promised assistance, but so far not a line. If you see them, for God's sake try to stir them up. Major Sykes has done a great deal. I am relying upon you.

Col. McCardle's accompanies this extract with an urgent appeal to Mississippians who have data which will be useful to Col. Claiborne in the prosecution of his work, to furnish it him at once. In this appeal we heartily join.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

What was Nominated in the Bond.

In 1873, under cover of an act to regulate coinage, a law was passed discounting the coinage of silver dollars and divesting that metal of its legal tender properties. It has been charged that the law was tainted with corruption—that foreign holders of United States bonds after the demonetization of silver in Germany and other foreign countries sent over a fund of $500,000 to procure its passage. The bill with a deceptive title was put through the House of Representatives surreptitiously, without reading, upon the assurance of its mover, that it contained no provision changing the then existing law on the subject of coinage. It was found, however, not only to prohibit the coinage of the silver dollar but to demonetize a metal which was a legal tender when the Constitution was formed, and which had been retained as such from the formation of the government to that day. It is now proposed to resume this coinage precisely as it stood in 1873, and restore it to the exact status which it occupied at that date. President Hayes and the majority of the Republican leaders are strenuously opposing this just and reasonable proposition principally on the ground that it would be defrauding the holders of the government bonds who in this country are the favored class (inasmuch as their investment is relieved from taxation) to pay them in any other money but gold. To reach a just conclusion and to test this extraordinary assumption, it is proper to see precisely what is the contract that was entered into between the government and the bondholders. The original debt was contracted and the bonds were sold in different sums between the years 1862 and 1869. The bulk of this debt, known as the 5.20 bonds, was made payable upon their face in *legal tender notes*. In 1869 the Republican Administration caused to be passed an act declaring that the principal of these bonds were payable in coin (which it had no right to do, and which cost the taxpayers no less than $500,000,000). On March the 18th of that year (1869) the following law was passed:

"The faith of the United States is solemnly pledged to the *payment in coin*, or its equivalent, of all the obligations of the United States not bearing interest, known as the United States notes, and of all the interest bearing obligations of the United States, except in cases where the law authorizing the issue of any such obligation has expressly provided that the same may be paid in lawful money or other currency than gold and silver. But none of the interest-bearing obligations not already due shall be redeemed or paid before maturity, unless at such time United States notes are convertible into coin at the option of the holder, or unless at such time bonds of the United States bearing a lower rate of interest than the bonds to be redeemed can be sold at par in coin."

The "coin" of the United States at that time consisted of gold *and silver*. The pledge of the United States therefore was to pay it in either at the option of the government.

So much for the faith pledged in that act. On the 14th July 1870, an act was passed refunding the national debt as follows:

"Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue in a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate $2000 000,000, coupon or registered bonds of the United States, in such form as he may prescribe, and of denominations of fifty dollars, or some multiple of that sum, *redeemable in coin of the present standard value*, at the pleasure of the United States after ten years from the date of their issue, and bearing interest, payable semi-annually in such coin, at the rate of five per cent per annum; also a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate $300.000.000 of like bonds, the same in all respects, but payable at the pleasure of the United States, after fifteen years from the date of their issue, and receiving interest at the rate of four and a half per cent. per annum; also a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate one thousand million dollars of like bonds, the same in all respects but payable at the pleasure of the United States, after thirty years from the date of their issue, and bearing iperest at the rate of four per cent. per annum. * * * And the said bonds shall have set forth and expressed upon their face the above specified conditions.

At the passage of this law, the "coin" gold and silver were the coin of the United States. Both were legal tenders. Now, let us see what was "nominated in the bond" itself. The bonds issued under the foregoing act bear upon their face the following conditions:

"Principal and interest payable in coin.

"The United States of America are indebted to——, or ——, or assigns, in the sum of——dollars.

"This bond is issued in accordance with the provisions of an act of Congress, entitled 'An act to authorize the refunding of the national debt, approved July 14, 1870, amended by an act approved January 20, 1871,' and is redeemable at the pleasure of the United States after the last day of September A. D. 1891, *in coin* of the standard value of the United States on said July 14, 1870, with interest in such coin from the day of the date hereof at the rate of 4 1/2 per centum per annum, payable quarterly on the first day of December, March, June and September in each year. The principal and interest are exempt from the payment of all taxes or duties of the United States, as well as from taxation in any form by or under State or municipal or local authority."

Here we have the obligations precisely as they were written, signed, sealed and delivered. With what truth can it be said he said in the face of these evidences that the faith of the nation is pledged to pay the bondholders exclusively in gold? The fraudulent legislation of 1873 demonetizing silver and enhancing gold, has nothing to do with the contract between the people and the holders of the bonds. The taxpayers have been injured by the money power in the attempt to take from them the right to pay in either one coin or both. They demanding that the wrong shall be righted, and woe to the public agent who puts himself between this righteous aim and its accomplishment.

The Mississippi Democracy and the Silver Question.

When Mr. Prewett, of Yazoo, presented to the Committee on Resolutions at the last State Convention, the series that were reported to the Convention and adopted, they contained one in substance as follows: "That the silver dollar should be restored and made a legal tender for all debts, the same as gold," national and State, public and private. The resolution being objected to its advocates declined to urge it. It has been seen by the votes in Congress, how fully in accord with the sentiment of the country the action of the Convention would have been if the resolution had been passed.

A Fallacious Argument.

Mr. Hayes' argument that it would be a saving to the people in the long run to pay the government indebtedness in gold (notwithstanding the contract leaves it optionary with the government to pay either in gold or silver) because it will enable the government some time or other to refund the debts at a cheaper rate than the present—is thus effectually answered by the St. Louis Republican:

But there is the obverse calculation, the ultimate cost of paying the national debt, principal and interest, in gold alone, which Mr. Hayes takes no account of. Secretary Sherman assumes in his report that gold coin is worth 8 per cent. more than silver coin. If, therefore, the gold measurement of the public debt is to be adhered to, we shall have to pay 8 per cent. more on the debt than we fairly owe. Eight per cent. on the debt ($2 000.000,000) is $176 000,000. Then we shall have to pay 8 per cent. on the annual interest ($97 000.000), which would be $7,760,000, or $232,800,000 in thirty years—making an aggregate of $408.000,000, which gold payment would cost us over and above what we are justly bound to pay. But this is not the worst. The maintenance of the gold measure would increase by 8 per cent. all the funded indebtedness of the country, State, municipal and corporate. The aggregate of this is $4,000,000 The 8 per cent. calculated on it, and on the annual interest payments for a period of twenty years would amount to $704,000.000, and this is the excess which gold payment would require over silver payment. It will be seen, therefore, that the people have an interest in the question which Mr. Hayes entirely overlooks. The total public and corporate indebtedness of the country must be paid by the people at last, and it is of no little concern to them whether they shall pay it in dollars worth 100 cents, or in dollars worth 108 cents.

The Tribune innocently asks Southern men in and out of Congress why they do not ally themselves with the conservative business men of the East, whose business word is as good as their bond. It says to Southern men who prefer keeping the public faith to breaking it: "If they are in "earnest why do they not ally themselves "with the men at the North who hold the "public honor sacred?" The Tribune need not look very far for the answer. The recent speeches of Republicans like Edmonds and Conkling in the Senate distinctly threaten the South anew with Federal bayonets to be used in suppressing Southern public opinion.—N. Y. World.

What the Tribune means by "keeping the public faith" is upholding the venal legislation of the Republican party demonetizing silver, contracting the currency, and paying the public debt in gold, instead of gold or silver at the option of the people. The South is in "favor of keeping the public faith" which requires the undoing of these iniquitous measures, the remonetization of silver—the resumption act—and a return to the original contract with the bondholders. The South, in common with the masses of the Democratic party representing the majority of the people of all sections, had taken her position on these questions long before Messrs. Edmunds, Conkling & Co., delivered themselves of their partizan harangues, or before the fraudulent President insulted her people and outraged decency by rewarding the Returning Board agents and accomplices who defeated the will of the people as expressed through the ballot-box in 1876. The Southern people owe their deliverance from carpet bag misrule to their own efforts and not to the Shylock class, yclept "conservative business men of the East," in whose interest all this partial and oppressive legislation was adopted. She is rid forever of "bayonet rule," the ravings of Edmunds & Co. to the contrary notwithstanding, and in the coming elections, she will be found struggling in sympathy with the masses of the people for the deliverance of the National Government from the oppression and extortion of the money changers. We do not mistake the sentiment of Mississippi on this subject.

Secretary Sherman expresses a confident hope that the United States will never pay its bondholders in a coin of less value than it has exacted from them, and some forty odd millions of people are quite as confident in the hope that it will never pay them in a coin of greater intrinsic value than it received and promised to return. There is nothing inconsistent in these expectations, and the chances are that both hopes will be fully realized after the silver dollar is reissued.—St. Louis Republican.

The currency which it received in exchange for its bonds were greenbacks; and the "coin" which it promised to pay was bimetallic currency—gold and silver. The bondholders do not now consider the latter good enough for them. A contract broken on one side is a contract broken on all; and if the bondholders insist upon taking nothing but gold, why may not the plowholders claim the right to pay them in the same currency which they themselves are compelled to use, and which the people who serve the government are content to take?

Needed Legislation.

The people are looking anxiously to the approaching session of the Legislature for a revision of the laws upon several subjects seriously affecting their welfare. One of our most observant subscribers writes:

I hope the Legislature will extend the time for paying taxes, and if practicable, enact some law to modify the effect of the decision of the Supreme Court on the question of land sold for taxes. It is hard that whole tracts should be sold for nonpayment of taxes and the owners be divested of all their rights. Very frequently it happens that assessments are erroneously made. It would seem more just to sell only enough of a tract to settle unpaid assessments and then allow the owner a reasonable time to redeem the land on payment of a fair rate of interest to the purchaser. Already purchasers of large tracts of land are contemplated by sharpers who are always on the lookout for speculations upon the misfortunes and poverty of the taxpayers.

All a Mistake.

Several contemporaries have erroneously stated that the Illinois Central Railroad Company had assumed an indebtedness of $1,300,000 for the Mississippi Central Railroad Company to the State of Mississippi. The statement from which the inference was erroneously drawn, was that the indebtedness thus assumed was for the State of Tennessee. Unfortunately Mississippi has no claim of that kind. If she had, she could not desire a more solvent or punctual debtor than the Illinois Central. The only claim our State has upon any Railroad Company is the Mobile and Ohio, and that is contested in the courts. It is believed to be just, nevertheless, and doubtless will be so decided by the Courts.

THE Independent candidates for county offices in Panola county, have wisely abandoned their intention to contest for the same.

THE Constitution says that "no State shall coin money or make anything but gold and silver a tender in payment of debts," thereby making both the money of the country. The wiseacres of the Republican party have undertaken to improve the Constitution without amending it in the form prescribed by that instrument, by enacting that one of these metals (silver) shall not be a legal tender for debts exceeding five dollars and has forbidden the coinage of the silver dollar. It is the duty of the Democratic party to return to the constitutional doctrine and abolish this legislation

The Constitutional Amendment abolishing the office of Lieutenant Governor has failed to become a part of the organic law, and Col. Sims' election to the second office within the gift of the people of Mississippi, creates a vacancy in the Senate from Lowndes. Its none of our business specially, but we rise to suggest, Gen. Jake Sharp, the editor of the Independent, as the most suitable man we know in Old Lowndes for the position.—Chickasaw Messenger.

Everybody that knows Gen. Jacob Sharp, and is familiar with his record in peace and in war, will say amen to the suggestion that he is worthy of any office within the gift of Mississippi; but it so happens that for the vacant Senatorship he is strongly urging the nomination of another true son of old Lowndes, Capt. W. W. Humphries.

PINCHBACK, the mulatto would-be Senator from Louisiana, has retired with disgust from the contest, since both places are filled. He thinks that in admitting Kellogg, the carpet-bagger, and rejecting his claims which were no worse than Kellogg's, the Northern Republican leaders have gone back on the "man and brother." He says:

Now I find when Gov. Kellogg presents a claim essentially like my own, but weaker, that the gentlemen who so earnestly combated my claim promptly and without hesitation admit and defend his. It taxes both my credulity and charity to concede either sincerity or consistency to the Republican Senators who so earnestly opposed my claim from 1873 to 1876, and so promptly and solidly supported the new Senator from Louisiana.

THE reports from the borders of this country and Mexico show that the relations of the two countries are in a most critical condition. A war with Mexico is not desirable. It would add immensely to the public debt already burdensome, to say nothing of other attendant calamities, and the country is averse to such a step if it can be avoided honorably. Both Houses of Congress had already taken action to preserve the peace when the trouble assumed its latest phase—by a reference of the subject to the Committee on foreign relations, and the Senate by the appointment of a special committee to give the subject immediate attention.

THE Southern Democracy are put in a false light when they are represented as advocating the restoration of the Constitutional currency by the re-coinage of silver and making it a legal tender, from a spirit of retaliation upon the North and East and a desire to ally themselves with the West. Their position is taken from considerations of sound public policy, and of what will promote the welfare of the entire country as against legislation for the benefit of the favored few at the expense of the toiling masses.

THE President appointed S. B. Macklin, one of the Florida Returning Board perjurers (who helped him to the Presidency over the popular verdict) to the important office of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Mexico; and the Senate has rebuked the appointment by rejecting it by unanimous consent. Why may not the appointment of Wiley Wells, which is charged to Mississippi, be dealt with in the same way?

In another column we have published the Southern Pacific Railroad Bill introduced by Hon. H. D. Money. It is over the same route of the Texas Pacific and contemplates making the connection by two companies working from opposite ends towards a meeting point. What our people want is a road to the Pacific on the thirty-second parallel of latitude. They are not particular about the way of doing it, and whoever will devise a plan for its speedy accomplishment will prove himself a public benefactor.

THE Senate having failed to confirm the appointment of G. Wiley Wells, as Consul General to China, at the extra session, the President has re-nominated him; and is determined to fight it out on that line, notwitstanding the well authenticated charges of malfeasance and and corruption in office. The Democrats, by a combination with the dissatisfied Republicans in the Senate, can defeat the appointment, if they wish.

U. S. SENATOR BUTLER, of South Carolina, has offered a resolution of inquiry into the charge that he had secured the support of carpet-bag Senator Patterson to his claim of a seat in the Senate by an arrangement with the latter looking to the dismissal of the criminal prosecution against the said Patterson in the Courts of South Carolina.

A JOINT resolution has been introduced in the House of Representatives, to amend the Constitution so as to have United States Senators elected by the people. The term of service is to be left as it is, whereby every two years there will be a change of one-third of the Senate.

TEA and coffee are essentially the poor man's beverage. They are now admitted free of duty. Mr. Hays recommends that they be placed on the tax list and that a duty be imposed of ten cents a pound on tea, and two cents on coffee.

CONGRESS adjourned on the 15th inst., for a holiday until the 10th of January; thereupon the St. Louis Globe-Democrat lets fly this brick:

Senate and House adjourned. "Sam, what have you been doing?" "Nothing." "Bill, what have you been doing?" Helping Sam."

THE Legislature of Tennessee is holding an extra session to decide whether they will compromise the State debt by paying fifty cents on the dollar.

CAPT. MARSCHALK, of the Fayette Standard, will accept the CLARION's acknowledgments for kind mention.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

The Vanderbilt Will Case—Carpet-Bag Senator Patterson—Short-Haired Women—Dr. Mary Walker Photographed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 10, 1877.

If any special instances were needed to mark the gradual downward tendency of the old Republican spirit—once so lauded in 4th of July orations—two (out of many) which I have just stumbled upon in a casual hour's reading, would be sufficient. As an indication of the public sycophancy of educated gentlemen in the presence of "bloated bondholders," read the testimony recently delivered in the Vanderbilt contested will case, in New York.

One Dr. Bodenhamer details the sufferings of himself and a Dr. Linsly around the sick bed of the great Commodore: "He would often become excited"—remarks the supplejointed Bodenhamer, and throw his "curses," and other handy articles, about the heads of his physicians, with remarkable vigor. "He chided me, on one occasion, for interrupting him while talking. *I deserved the rebuke!*" No doubt of it! If the puling boot-licks had gotten all they deserved, they would have been often kicked out of the room, altogether. The Commodore once hurled "a bottle of warm water, with gumelastic stopper, at the head of Dr. Linsly,"—and the latter *did* muster up courage enough to "walk out of the room without a remark"—and even "without a groan." Would it were possible to read such testimony with like composure!

THE HON. SENATOR PATTERSON.

Can it be—is it true—is it possible—that Patterson—the "carpet-bag thief from S. C.—misrepresenting that gallant State in the United States Senate—was promised exemption from his merited punishment, provided he would vote to seat Gen. M. C. Butler? I know the latter was entitled to be seated—I believe him to be an honorable gentleman—but is it not better the State should go unrepresented than to turn loose a thief like Patterson on society? I ask this as an honest man—as a friend of the people against the politicians—and I believe the CLARION, (also a friend of the people), will publish the shame of it, let it rest where it may! Oh, for men like the Roman soldier of Pompeii, whose grand figure, clad in complete armor, was true to his duty and to the proud name he bore—who stood to his post by the city gate while the city was being buried beneath the burning lava, and erect and unflinching, held his position till body was consumed to dust and ashes.

A SINGULAR EXHIBITION.

Short-haired women besiege Congress yearly asking the elective franchise! Will our political morals be any better when they shall have accomplished their purpose? Will they, too, in time, not fall victims to seductive influences of place and power and become—horrible thought—no better than the men!

The startling feature of this sub-head exhibition refers to the census taken in France at the close of last year—which, among other matters, shows 7,587,259 married men, and only 7,567,080 married women—an exhibit which proves (as the veriest schoolboy may work out) that there are 19,179 more married men than married women in France—a feat which would be difficult to accomplish even in the United States with our Mormon population left out.

DOCTOR MARY WALKER.

I have seen—these very eyes of mine have beheld, Dr. Mary Walker! Peculiarity, eccentricity (said the noble Epicurus) give an idea to weak minds of something grand, authoritative, and god-like—but that renowned philosopher had never seen the bifurcated, panti-loonic Esculapius of the 19th century! I met him yesterday morning as she was airing his pantaloons in the Capitol rotunda, a fit spectacle, not for the gods of Olympus, indeed, but for the "be—gawds" of the rural sons of "the dark and bloody ground," several of whom turned to eye him haughtily as she passed. The Doctor is surmounted by a low crowned beaver, and compromises the female in her nature by wearing her dark, glossy hair, not cut short, but with the ends rolled up under and around her neck and ears, and held there by hair-pins; thus conciliating the woman side of the question by allowing "her chief glory" to grow long, and the man's by making it to seem short. Her lower limbs were encased in a tight-fitting pair of pants—pshaw—no, in a tight-fitting underskirt, as it were, bifurcated from the hips clear on down to to the nice-fitting gaiter-boots. If *this* description sounds like pantaloons—in the name of Patrick Henry, "make the man's of it!"—that is, of the pants! Over all she wore a frock cloth coat, with a graceful cape, the skirts of the coat reaching to the knees. Whenever the need occurs with the opportunity she will hoist her gaiter-boot upon the most opportune curb-stone and have it polished, or "shined up" for "only 5 cents," to her hearts content.

Such is Dr. Mary Walker—the female philosopher of this Centennial year.

Congress will adjourn from next Saturday, the 15th inst., over the Christmas holidays till the 10th January, 1878. We get the CLARION regularly, and it is like good news from a far country. ATHOS.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY BILL.

Hon. H. D. Money's Bill.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 12.—The bill introduced into the House to-day by Mr. Money, recites that in consequence of the provisions of the act of March 3, 1871, and the act of March 2, 1872, relating to the construction of a railroad between a point in Northwestern Texas and the Bay of San Diego, California, have not been complied with by the construction of the road within the time and manner specified, and therefore the contingency has arisen when Congress has the reserved right to adopt such measures as it may deem necessary and proper to secure its speedy completion, and that the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, which was authorized by the line act to contrust a line between San Francisco and Fort Yuma, having complied with the law by constructing its railroad to Yuma, Arizona, and now proposes to extend it further eastward until it connects with the Texas and Pacific or other railroads in Texas, at the Rio Grande, at or near El Paso. It provides that lands heretofore granted to the Texas Pacific, between the Colorado and and the Rio Grande Rivers, shall, for the purposes of this act, be granted to the Southern Pacific Company upon so much of time as it may construct. It requires 100 miles to be constructed within two years after the passage of the act, and the whole road to El Paso within six years. If when the Southern Pacific is constructed to Rio Grande neither the Texas Pacific nor other roads from Eastern Texas are there to connect with it, it may, with the consent of that State, continue eastward until a junction is formed, and in like manner, if the Texas roads first reach El Paso, either of them may proceed westwardly to a junction with the Southern Pacific. Provisions is made for the interchange of traffic facilities and equality of rates with connecting roads, and for the acceptance of the act within six months after its passage. No bonds in guarantee of interest is asked for in the bill, and no lands, except the transfer of lands already granted over the same route to the company which shall build the road contiguous to them. The railroad is over substantially the same route as the Texas Pacific, but contemplates building by two companies working from opposite ends toward a meeting point.

Immigration Items from the Holly Springs Reporter.

Last week Mr. L. P. McCormack, of Indianapolis, arrived in this city with his second colony of Western Emigrants, consisting of about two hundred people. There are some twenty-five men, mostly farmers. Some of them have brought their wagons, teams and household goods, besides means to support them for one year. They are an excellent class of people, who come here in search of homes for themselves and their kindred and neighbors.

Mr. J. C. Clarke, the General Manager of the line of railroad leading from New New Orleans to Chicago, says the tide of immigration from the West to the South is setting in in real earnest. He thinks thousands will seek homes here during the coming year. All who come are welcome.

THE MONEY QUESTION.

Full Text of the Anti-Resumption Bill which has Passed the House.

THE following is the full text of anti-Resumption bill which has the House:

A bill to repeal all that part of the act approved January 14, 1875, known as the Resumption act, which authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to dispose of United States bonds and redeem and cancel the greenback currency.

That all that portion of the act approved January 14, 1875, entitled "An act to provide for the resumption of specie payments," which reads as follows, to wit: "And whenever and so often as circulating notes shall be issued to such banking association, so increasing its capital or circulating notes, or so newly organized as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the Treasury to redeem the legal-tender United States notes in excess only of $300,000,000, to the amount of 80 per centum of the sum of national bank notes so issued to any such banking association as aforesaid, and to continue such redemption as such circulating notes are issued, until there shall be outstanding the sum of $300,000,000 of such legal-tender United States notes, and no more; and on and after the first day of January, A. D. 1879, the Secretary of the Treasury shall redeem, in coin, the United States legal tender notes then outstanding on their presentation for redemption at the office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States in the City of New York in sums not less than $50; and, to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to prepare and provide for the redemption in this act authorized or required, he is authorized to use any surplus revenues from time to time in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and to issue, sell, and dispose of, at not less than par, in coin, either of the descriptions of bonds of the United described in the Act of Congress, approved July 14, 1870, entitled "An act to authorize the refunding of the National debt," with like qualities, privileges, and exemptions to the extent necessary to carry this act into full effect, and to use the proceeds thereof for the purposes aforesaid," be, and the same is hereby repealed.

NATCHEZ AND JACKSON R. R.

A New Registration and a New Vote.

The County Railroad Convention held at Raymond on the 31 day of December, passed unanimously the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That petitions be forwarded to the Legislature which will convene in Jackson on the 1st Tuesday of January ensuing asking the passage of a special Act requiring the Board of Supervisors of the County of Hinds to cause to be made, in conformity with law, and at the earliest practicable day after the passage of said Act, a new registration of the voters of the county, and on the same day of said registration to cause to be held a new election on the question of subscription or no subscription of stock by Hinds county in the Natchez, Jackson and Columbus R. R. Company—provided the requisite number of tax-payers in Hinds county shall apply for the same in a legal manner; and provided, further, that said registration and election shall not entail cost upon the Treasury of the County of Hinds.

And for the purpose of bringing this subject fairly before the Legislature, for its favorable action, it is

Resolved, 2. That the chairman of this meeting appoint five discreet men for each election district of the county, to obtain signatures to a petition to the Legislature in behalf of a new registration and election, and that said committee of five in each district have the power to appoint a sub-committee to assist them.

Resolved, 3. That the Secretary of this meeting shall furnish said committee of five with printed forms of said petition, and that the names of all the voters of the county be obtained, who are willing to sign them, on or before the 15th day of January, 1878, on which day they shall be forwarded to Raymond, to the care of the Raymond Railroad Committee, who shall forward the same to reliable parties for presentation to the Legislature.

The following named gentlemen were appointed the committeemen under the 2d resolution:

Utica—Dr. L. White, J. B. Ross, E. E. Mimms, Nelson Dudley, Dan Brown.

Dry Grove—Dan. Williams, N. B. Smith, Carter Munson, C. Standifer, E. H. Dabney.

Byram—J. S. Armstrong, Ervin Lewis, M. T. Morrison, Dave Henderson, William Weekly.

Cayuga—T. T. Hart, J. E. W. Cook, Geo. Parks, W. C. Hicks, G. W. Fisher.

Terry—J. V. Enochs, Dan. Nicholson, Dr. R. Thomson, H. B. Birdsong, Scott Gordon, J. B. Statham.

Auburn—A. B. Magee, J. W. Neel, J. R. Robinett, W. R. Kirby, Richard Kelly.

Edwards—S. D. Currie, J. B. Simmons, C. N. Harris, A. H. Davis, W. H. Graham.

Clinton—Wm. Charlton, J. W. Todd, J. A. Criddle, J. Hewes, H. R. Chilton.

Liberty Grove—Thos. A. Atkinson, Walton, Hendricks, Jas. Tripp, Thos. Gordon, Ed. James.

Raymond—Dr. R. L. Bogle, W. R. Sivley, C. C. Heard, Baker Sivley, James Hamilton.

Forest Hill—L. F. Alford, Dr. T. A. Catchings, A. P. Walson, Richard Anderson, Lindsey Dickson.

Jackson—J. J. Rohrbacher, J. C. Carraway, Jones S. Hamilton, C. Morgan, J. J. Spellman.

Brownsville—J. D. McConnell, A. H. Bradley, G. H. Robertson, J. Cates' H. Sandridge.

Bolton—J. P. Withers, W. O. Bonney, J. E. Davis, Dr. Alexander, A. Lacey.

THE AFFRAY BETWEEN GEN. WIRT ADAMS AND MR. SWETMAN AT MISSISSIPPI CITY.

Extract from Gen. Adams' Card.

Handsboro Democrat.]

A few days before the conflict, which you have noticed, Mr. Swetman met me at the station of the N. O. & M. R. R., and in the presence of a number of persons, used coarse and abusive language of a member of my family, because of a debt claimed to be due from my son-in-law, manifesting an evident design to provoke a collision, for which he seemed deliberately to have prepared himself, as he stood with one hand in his pocket, and apparently on a pistol. I was, as is my habit unarmed, and only replied, if my son-in-law owes you an account I will pay it. Two gentlemen, Major Walthall and Gen. Joe Davis, attracted by his threatening manner and violent language, approached and by their interference checked the controversy. Three or four days after this occurrence, I entered Col. Nixon's saloon to get my mail, which was habitually left there for me, and saw Mr. Swetman and others seated at a table playing cards. Swetman was seated with his back towards the door by which I entered. I passed on to the end of the saloon, and taking up my mail, and with letters in my right hand, turned and said in a quiet tone of voice, "Mr. Swetman, you took advantage of me the other day, when I was wholly unprepared, to use some offensive language." Immediately and before I had time to finish the sentence, Swetman rose to his feet with the remark, "I reckon not," or words to that effect, and fired before I drew my pistol; his ball passed through my coat, cutting the left breast, as was seen by several parties immediately after. In self-defense I quickly returned the fire. Had it been my design to take advantage of him, it would have been easy to have done so, when I entered the room and first learned he was there. He was then seated and unaware of my presence. Had I expected an exchange of shots to take place in the saloon, I would have drawn my pistol before addressing him. The statements that I fired first and whilst he was seated is utterly false.

The unfortunate difficulty was not of my seeking, and had Mr. Swetman uttered one word of apology for his wanton and unprovoked assault at the depot on the previous Saturday, about an account of which I had no personal knowledge, the matter would then and there have been amicably settled. He chose to take another course, and when I addressed him, drew his pistol and fired first.

The whole subject is to undergo a judicial investigation, and I shall be prepared to fully establish the truth of my statements by irrepressible proof.

Respectfully, yours, WIRT ADAMS.

Cost of a Constitutional Convention.

Vicksburg Herald.]

The Forest Register thinks that the estimates made of cost of a Constitutional Convention for this State are too high. The Register forgets to figure on the cost of two elections that would have to be held. The Georgia Convention cost over a quarter of a million.

The late Bishop Marvin stood high in the Masonic order, and was Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Missouri during the years 1867 to 1871 inclusive.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

LOUISVILLE.—A dispatch to the Courier Journal, from Standford, Kentucky, states that serious trouble is expected at any moment in Lincoln county over the capture there, last week, of several outlaws.

CAIRO.—Mr. Spiller shot his brother-in-law, J. E. Park, this afternoon, in a dispute about the ownership of some staves. Two shots struck in the arm and hand. Park was not dangerously wounded, and Spiller was released on bail.

CHARLESTON.—The municipal election here resulted in the election of M. W. Sole, Mayor, and the entire Democratic ticket, by a large majority, over the Independent ticket headed by D. F. Fleming.

COLUMBUS, O.—A colony of forty families passed through the city yesterday evening, en route to Pine Bluff, Ark., where they expect to locate. They were all from the Twenty-eighth Ward, Pittsburg.

SAN FRANCISCO.—The message of Gov. Irwin refers to the Chinese question. He says: The presence of the Chinese here has initiated an irrepressible conflict. If the right of unlimited immigration is conceded to the Chinese, there is no danger of their civilization overriding our own.

COLUMBUS, O.—During a lecture to-night by Prof. Barker, of the University of Pennsylvania, before the Tyndall association, musical sounds were transmitted from Chicago over a circuit of three hundred and seventy-five miles, by means of Grey's harmon-telephone, and were audible to the audience, but the particular tune could not be recognized. This, it is claimed, is the longest distance this instrument has yet been successfully worked.

AUGUSTA.—The new constitution was adopted by a large majority. Atlanta is indorsed as the permanent capital. A large vote was polled. No disturbances reported.

BALTIMORE.—The Board of Directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to-day unanimously re-elected John W. Garrett President, making this his twentieth consecutive year as President of the road.

LOUISVILLE.—Edward Wyatt and Frank Webster, U. S. special bailiffs, have been wounded by moonshiners. The eye of the former was shot out and the latter was shot through the head. Capt. T. B. Webster, U. S. deputy marshal, with posse were attacked by triple their number of moonshiners ambuscaded. Officer Wyatt received sixteen shots, in his face.

PHILADELPHIA.—Miss Bertha Van Hilbern completed her task last evening of walking 150 miles in 50 consecutive hours.

NEW YORK.—A highly educated lady, giving the name of Mrs. Mary Bell, died here recently, friendless. Her body is in the Morgue en route to the Potter's Field. She said she formerly resided in the neighborhood of New Orleans.

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Two thieves were chased at Tuckville, Ala., last night, and killed by citizens.

GEORGETOWN, COL.—Judge Dean, of Hot Sulphur Springs, Middle Park, arrived here to-night, and reports that his Court was yesterday broken up by a mob.

HARRISBURG, PA.—An old man and wife were murdered in a thinly populated locality of Synder county, Pa., a few nights ago, and their bodies consumed by fire. The husband's name was John Kintzeler, aged about seventy-seven years, while his wife was a few years younger. No clue to the murderer.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTES.

Border Troubles Commission.

WASHINGTON.—Dec. 15.—Messrs. Banning, Bragg, White and Marsh, the subcommittee appointed by the House committee to investigate the Mexican border troubles and take testimony concerning them, have under consideration a proposition to proceed to Texas and convince themselves in person of the state of affairs there.

New York Appointments.

Those who voted in favor of confirming Mr. Hayes, New York appointments according to the best information obtainable, were: Bailey, Barnum, Bayard, Beck, Burnside, Christiancy, Coke, Conover, Dawes, Eustis, Gordon, Grover, Harris, Herford, Hill, Hoar, Johnston, Jones (Fla.), Kernan, Lamar, McCreery, Matthews, Morgan, Randolph, and Saulsbury—total 25.

The negatives were cast by Messrs. Allison, Anthony, Blaine, Booth, Bruce, Cameron, (Pa.), Cameron, (Wis.), Chaffee, Conkling, Davis, (Ills.), Dorsey, Eaton, Edmunds, Ferry, Hamlin, Howe, Ingalls, Jones (Nev.), Kellogg, Kirkwood, McMillan, Mitchell, Morrill, Oglesby, Paddock, Patterson, Plumb, Rollins, Sargent, Saunders, Spencer and Toller—32

Texas Pacific Railroad Matters.

WASHINGTON.—The House Committee on Pacific Railroads this morning voted that Mr. Throckmorton has succeeded to the Chairmanship under the rules of the House, and that Committee decline to excuse him from service.

The Senate Committee on Railroads.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The Senate committee on railroads this morning referred the Texas Pacific railroad bills introduced by Senator Johnston and Dorsey to Mathews, Saunders, Dorsey, Lamar and Barnum.

The Colorado Contest Settled.

Vote on the majority report, seating