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The Weekly Democrat.
The Weekly Democrat, a large ten-page paper, will be furnished to subscribers at the following rates:
One Year.....\$3 00
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NOTICE—Plans for Rent and for Sale of Advertisements inserted in the Democrat at Fifty Cents (50) per square, each insertion.

Friday Evening, February 16, 1877.

The office of the New Orleans DEMOCRAT has been removed from 74 Camp street to 109 Gravier street.

AMUSEMENTS TO-DAY.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Frank Mayo in "Davy Crockett."
VALENTIN'S THEATRE—Chas. Pope in "The Gascon."
ST. CHARLES THEATRE—"The Black Crook."

Our subscribers will confer a favor upon us by reporting at this office every failure in the delivery to their address of the DEMOCRAT, as we are particularly desirous of achieving absolute exactitude and punctuality.

LITTLE EVIDENCE REQUIRED.

To make up a full and complete equity case for Louisiana before the High Commission, it is not essential, as many persons imagine, that the evidence collected by the Congressional Committees should be placed before the Tribunal, nor that there should be taken any evidence of the facts relative to the election preceding the returns of the commissioners and supervisors. Excluding all such evidence, or rather declining the consideration thereof, the case of Louisiana can afford to stand upon such facts as can be presented on authenticated documents and admissions of both parties. From these can be deduced, as is often done by stipulation between the lawyers in courts of equity, statements wherein both parties agree upon the main facts to be considered.

Such a statement of the Louisiana case would include the following admitted facts and documentary proofs:

1. That a majority of over eight thousand votes was cast in this State and returned by the supervisors of election for the Tilden electors.

This has been admitted by the Returning Board, and, in fact, it is assumed as the basis of their claim to invalidate and annul at least thirteen thousand of the votes cast, on the ground of intimidation.

2. The next fact to be presented to the Tribunal bearing on the main issue, and essential to the consideration of the equity of our case is, that, under the law, the alleged proofs of intimidation must be contained in or annexed to the statements and reports of the supervisors. The two points arising from these proofs to be determined by the Tribunal would be, whether it is constitutional, lawful or equitable to make this change and reversal of votes actually cast on any such grounds as are alleged, and if such power could be exercised by the Returning Board, whether it could be lawfully exercised upon evidence *alibunde*—to use the expression of the High Commission—outside of the reports and statements of Supervisors and Commissioners and in the absence of such statements.

The other points in our case are lucidly stated in the objections filed by Senator McDonald. The points we have adduced embody and present in a definite form the great equity of our case; those presented by Senator McDonald rest upon the simple fact that a large majority of the votes cast were given for the Tilden electors.

It is not pretended that these votes were *per se* illegal or fraudulent. It is only claimed that a large number of voters were intimidated from voting at certain polls, and that by reason thereof a result was reached which would not have been reached if the alleged intimidated voters had been permitted to cast votes according to their inclination. In other words, the votes of eight thousand citizens must be annulled and set aside because several thousand others are presumed to have been prevented from voting by intimidation, so presumed upon the flimsy *ex parte* evidence laid before the Returning Board. Can any such proposition be recognized or approved by any tribunal in the world, actuated by the least regard for the constitution, for reason and for republican rights? This is the proposition which must be passed on by the Tribunal. There could be nothing more dishonorable, or treacherous and faithless to truth, honor and the fair fame of the Republic than for a tribunal composed as the Electoral Commission is, and established for the objects which are plainly expressed in the act creating it, to shirk or evade the determination of this question upon the thin technicalities set up by the conspirators who have concocted this great scheme of fraud upon the State and people of Louisiana, and scurrilously trifled with the dearest political rights of more than forty millions of Americans.

A SIGNIFICANT EVENT.

The city was startled yesterday morning by the intelligence that an attempt had been made to assassinate S. B. Packard in his room or office in the old St. Louis Hotel.

A full report of the affair will be found in the proper columns of the DEMOCRAT this morning. We cannot, however, dismiss this matter with a bare statement of the facts; it demands serious consideration, for it has, we fear, a serious meaning.

We doubt if a more daring, desperate and absurd attempt at assassination is on record. The St. Louis Hotel is thoroughly barricaded, we may say fortified; every avenue of egress, except the guarded door on Royal street, is securely closed with locks, bolts and bars. Its only occupants are Packard and his followers who have stood by him in the darkest days of his fortunes and, it is to be presumed, are ready for any desperate work, not absolutely impossible of execution, which may fall to their hands. Many of these men, it is a notorious fact, are desperate characters, professional thugs, murderers and burglars.

Under the *status quo* they are safe from molestation within the walls of their hotel, and may execute their own justice in their own way, upon those who may happen to fall among them. The captains of these gangs are Kellogg's Superintendent of Police, Loan, a relative of Packard; Gen. Badger, Capt. Lawler, and several kindred spirits; men who, whatever we may think of them morally, politically and socially, are possessed of pronounced personal courage. Immediately adjoining the hotel, and with a broad, free passage between the two, are the barracks of the Federal troops.

It was the St. Louis Hotel, thus barricaded and garrisoned from turret to foundation stone with the armed retainers of Packard, that the man Weldon boldly entered, it is said, to assassinate that individual. The act was simply inspired by insanity. All the millions of the earth could not have tempted a sane man to attempt such a thing, for to the mind of any sane man it would have been evident that certain, inevitable death would be the result of it. Ravalliac, when he contemplated the assassination of Henry IV. on the streets of Paris, in the midst of a vast and enthusiastic throng, might reasonably have calculated that he would have one chance of escape to three of being captured; Charlotte Corday might possibly have evaded arrest after assassinating Marat, or she might reasonably have calculated that her youth and beauty would plead with convincing eloquence in her behalf, in case she were captured. Booth took the most desperate chances of escape when he assassinated President Lincoln; but escape, as the sequel showed, was by no means impossible.

All these, and indeed, we believe, nearly all political assassins, have been prompted by a fanaticism bordering upon mania, but most of them were utterly, hopelessly desperate; most of them involved the perpetrator in certain and inevitable death; all of them were directed by a vein of consistency, a fixedness of purpose, and a preparation of details which insured the success of the business, and at the same time gave the assassin a chance for escape. In the present case, however, nothing characterized the actions of the would-be assassin but the wildest and most senseless insanity. He not only entered the very stronghold of his intended victim, filled with armed and resolute men, but he carried with him a pistol badly loaded, and though within arm's length of the man he had incurred such risks to assassinate, he gave him but a slight flesh wound in the leg.

The desperate purpose of this man, and the coolness with which he walked under the very shadow of death to carry it out, certainly partakes of the sublime; but the outcome very nearly assumes a tinge of the ridiculous. The business, however, has a deeper meaning than may be read upon its surface. If we are not much mistaken, the action of this unfortunate man is a violent symptom of the abnormal condition of affairs in this State. Mania exists in all countries and in all times; but when it manifests itself in a disposition to perpetrate political assassination it is a certain indication that there is a viciousness, a rottenness, in the political system which is threatening to invade social life, and destroy the whole fabric of Christian society. When such indications present themselves, it is time for good men, to consider if it be not their duty, even by the strong hand, if necessary, to crush out the power or agency which is working these deadly evils.

The principle of self-defense implanted in the nature of man by God Himself never completely dies out; if you deprive him of law he will resort to open and courageous force; if you overcome him by superior power, cast him down into the dust, trample upon, ruin and dishonor him with the living instinct with which his Creator has inspired him he will turn and sting you as best he can. The ruler who learns not this fact is the enemy of his country; aye, he is the enemy of man and God; for he banishes peace and order from society, and transforms the best impulses of the human heart into a vile and degrading instinct.

Is it not, then, as we have said, time for wise men to prepare to act with vigor, when bad, corrupt and lawless men have brought us to such a pass that the spirit of assassination is manifesting itself among us, even though it be only through crazy people? This matter deserves the most serious consideration of our people, and of

those at Washington who seem to hold the destinies of this miserable State in the hollow of their hands.

The yearning, imploring hope of this people is that the Electoral Commission will realize, as we do, the terrible peril in which this community stands, and that the fullest and completest justice will be done. Indeed, did Louisiana feel that her prayer could call from the cold and stolid hearts of the men now sitting in that high Tribunal and representing there the majesty and splendor of the highest court in Christendom, that beneficent and healing spirit of justice which alone can save, not only the material, but the more sacred social and Christian institutions of this land from utter demoralization, she would fall down before them upon her knees, as humbly and prayerfully as Pygmalion knelt before the marble statue of his love.

A long time after it was well known that the Returning Board had thrown out 10,000 votes for Tilden and Nicholls, the clerical error in Vernon, now perhaps the most damaging case against the board, was undetected and unobserved; it seemed such a small matter. Only the other day, another clerical error was detected in the count of the board, that had gone unobserved for months, and came very nearly altogether escaping detection, as the matter was a small one and did not affect the presidency.

In ward 7, parish of Calcasieu, S. Hyatt and W. P. Simpson were candidates for Justice of the Peace. Simpson received 111 votes and Hyatt 3, but the board, in tabulating the votes, credited it erroneously and elected Hyatt, to whom, in consequence, a commission was sent by Kellogg.

The other day, in looking over the vote, the mistake was discovered and at once corrected by a commission from Gov. Nicholls. The wrong is now fully remedied and Mr. Simpson *de jure* and *de facto* Justice of the Peace.

The affair is a small one. It affects only a petty office and a few votes; but it shows the utter incompetency of the board, and shows how little it was to be trusted. It is scarcely probable that the members of the board changed the vote for the purpose of electing the wrong man; they had a grander scheme on hand—the election of a bogus President by throwing out thirteen thousand votes; it is much more likely that some of the board's clerks, from personal or pecuniary motives, made this clerical error and usurped the Returning Board's right of electing officials for our people. Wherever it be, this error demonstrates conclusively that not even in the most insignificant matters can the Returning Boards figures be trusted; they cannot be trusted in the small matter of a justiceship; can they be trusted to elect a President?

Judging from our Washington dispatch, received late last night, it would seem that the assassination (so-called) of Packard was a put up job, originated in Washington by Kellogg and Pitkin, to play upon the tenuous ear of his excellency, Gen. Grant. As the murderer (?) has been sedulously hid, and particulars concerning the affair have been closely concealed from the press—at least, so far as the DEMOCRAT is concerned—it is very difficult to arrive at a conclusion. At all events, Gen. Grant has again found occasion to speak his mind and the carpet-baggers are badly snubbed.

The communication sent to us yesterday, signed "Civis," is so full of errors in respect to the constitutional provisions for counting the electoral vote, that we cannot publish it.

TO-DAY, FRIDAY,
GREAT SPECIAL SALE
OF ALL KINDS OF GOODS AT LESS THAN HALF PRICE.
M. L. BYRNE & CO.,
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REMOVAL.
DR. J. G. BELDEN
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Office hours from 9 to 11 a. m.; 1 to 4 and 7 to 9 p. m.

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Ladies are particularly invited to call and examine the Finest Collection of

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—OF—
HIS HOLINESS
POPE PIUS THE NINTH.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 16, 1877.
A Lecture by the Hon. THOMAS J. SEMMES, on the occasion of the Fifth Anniversary of the Episcopal Consecration of PIUS the NINTH will be delivered at St. Patrick's Hall on SATURDAY, 17th Inst., at eight o'clock p. m.

Subject—
The Greatness of the Papacy in the Midst of the Greatest Persecutions.
Admission—Free.

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And the choicest delicacies the markets afford, at Reduced Prices to suit the times.

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Acme Oyster Bar and Saloon,
Nos. 9 and 11 Royal street.

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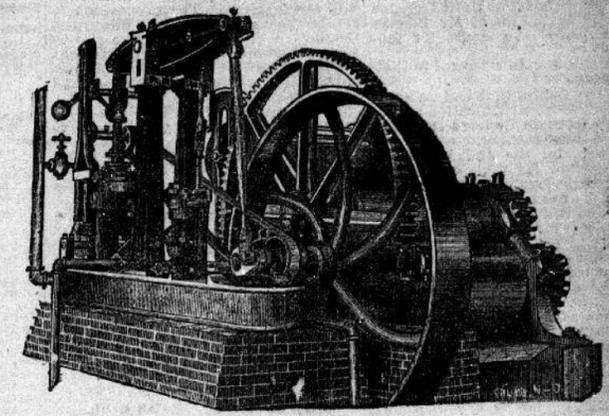
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ALL KINDS OF PLANTATION AND STEAMBOAT WORK,
And every description of Machinery for the South.

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Wines and Liquors. 200 cases GOOD ORDINARY CLARET, 50 cases FINE CLARET, 500 cases CLARET, 50 half barrels WHITE WINE, 200 cases WHITE WINE, 250 lbs BOURBON and RYE WHISKY.

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- 3 oz. Silver Stem-Winder..... 35
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CITY DIRECTORY,
1877.

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