Continued from First Page.

real impediment to regulate legal peaceful procedure under the laws and constitution of the State of Louisiana," which creates an anomaly in our public affairs. We will admit there is a claimant for the government of this State and that this claimant is an impediment to our return to the peace that prevails in every other State of our Union.

History is full of just such claimants. Years after the accession of William and Mary to the throne of England, the peace of Europe was disturbed by a claimant in the person of a Stuart, preferring his pretensions to a government forfeited by the misrule of his ancestors, and imploring foreign aid in recognition of his rights.

The descendants of the Bourbons are still claimants to the throne of France, though they have ceased to be real impediments to the peace of that great Republic. Even in Japan, the Sun Empire, the Mikads, now and then finds an impediment in some misguided Samurai who refuses to recognize that the days of the Tycoons are numbered and gone, and who still longs after the pleasant pickings of that plentiful office.

Then there was Sancho Panza, who had very serious claims, as we all know, to be Governor of the island of Barataria.

And Sancho said:

"I will govern this island fair and square, without any underhand dealings or taking of bribes; but, take notice, I will not bate an inch of my right; and, therefore, let every one carry an even hand and mind their hits, or else I must have them to know there are rods in pickle for them."

History also mentions another claimant who was an impediment awhile to a distant government.

Ah, me!

"For of all sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these—it might have been."

But it wasn't; oh, Chamberlain!

Now the question for us to decide is who is to be the judge of the pretensions of a claimant to the right of governing a free people?

Clearly, not the claimant himself.

Equally clear, the people.

That is, in our government, the majority of the people.

But as the whole government turns on this, where shall we look for the means of ascertaining how this is regulated?

Obviously in the constitution. Article 45, "The person having the greatest number of votes for Governor shall be Governor. The person having the greatest number of votes polled for Lieutenant Governor shall be Lieutenant Governor." And as articles 98 and 99 give the right of voting to every man in his senses over twenty-one years of age, not convicted of crime, it follows that no law of the Legislature contrary to these articles is of any force; and that no Returning Board ever was created or ever can be created which can nullify these fundamental provisions. And the fact that a Federal Commission of limited powers could not so find is of no more concern to us than that a Federal court cannot probate a will.

In all the turns and twists of political sailing, let us keep this constitutional right over in view; as the Japanese sailor, wherever he turns his junk, holds his gaze ever steady on the snowy summits of Fupi Yama. And as the Nicholls government confessedly received the greatest number of votes actually polled, it follows, as the night the day, by the highest law known to the people of Louisiana, it is the only true and lawful government, republican in form, within this State.

Republican in form. If we are to have any government at all, it is the only government we can have or ever will have. For the real issue presented to us now is not whether this party shall rule or that; whether this policy or that shall preval in the shaping of our public measures. It is not party engaged against party that Louisiana presents to the gaze of her sister States. The best Republicans in the State are today for Gov. Nicholls.

It is the strong will of the people against plunderers. It is the patriot against the placeman. It is the public interest against the private. It is peace against piracy and pilage. It is purity against impurity. It is light against darkness. It is civilization against barbarism.

And as in common misfortunes all distinctions are swept away, all dissensions healed, let Louisianians forget everything to-day, save that they are Louisianians.

For the levees are broken and the waters are deluging our fields and sweeping away in one common ruin all we have on earth. The temple of our liberty is in flames; and in a little while our altars will be cast down.

The plague is upon us and we are driven from our homes and from the graves of our fathers, our wives and children. Shall we stand on our country? Shall we permit this fair land to become a wilderness; our city deserts; our very names a memory?

Having waited so long and so patiently for a relief from the wrongs inflicted on us; having striven so hard to effect a change; having sacrificed so much to achieve a result demanded by the very necessities of our continued existence in this State; having trusted and prayed that day might once more dawn on one night, now when the whole sky is roseate with the glory of morning; when our hopes are as bright as the beautiful spring, with its roses, and leaves, and blossoms, and birds, now with us, shall we despair and abandon the struggle?

Why, if the men of New Orleans were so recreant to their manhood; if wearing "yet upon their chins the beards of Hercules and frowning of Mars who onward searched have livers white as milk," they were content to yield our own dear government, now so well established, you may be sure, the very women of our city who yesterday were engaged in the holy task of honoring the graves of our heroes; who keep alive the flames of piety on our altars and of patriotism in our hearts; for whose smiles all the struggles of our lives are aimed, and whose love rules the world, these, I say, if they did not march in our streets, and with arms in their hands right themselves, as did 10,000 of the sex in 1789, in the French revolution, would yet cry out to their friends in the country, like Barbaroux, in that same great crisis of human affairs, writing from Paris to Marseilles:

"Send us six hundred men who know how to die!"

The colored Senator, T. T. Allain, who has hitherto affiliated with the Packard gang, was next called upon, and after some hesitation he came forward. He said he responded to the call with some hesitancy, because he had not attended the meeting for the purpose of speaking. He had been requested by a few friends on the platform to come forward, and it was with some hesitancy that he did so. But when he saw how Gov. Pinchback had been received he felt reassured, and now more than ever before he realized that the Nicholls policy meant peace between the two races.

He referred to the delinquency of the Republicans in furnishing schools for the colored children. He said his race now were satisfied that the Governor meant what his Baton Rouge speech indicated, and he, as a Republican, not a Democrat, wanted that speech carried out, and Louisiana would see a new era of prosperity before her. He went on to say that there could be no doubt now but what the Nicholls government would be recognized, because it was the government of the people and the Governor its recognized head.

Just here a voice in the crowd called out: "Tell us about Packard." Allain responded, "Gentlemen and fellow-citizens, I decline to say a disrespectful word about Mr. Packard; but this I can say, he is, like Othello's occupation—gone." [Applause.] "And now," said he, "about this Commission. I will tell you what they will do. They will take that noble steamer, the Robt. E. Lee, and go down to take a look at Capt. Eads' jetties, and on their way up will stop at Killingham Lawrence's plantation to talk over matters, and Mr. Lawrence will then tell them that all he wants is for them to advise Northern capitalists to come here and invest their money in sugar plantations. They will then go back," said he, "and say, Mr. President, the Louisiana question is now settled, and that State can care for itself."

Mr. Pinchback is the man to whom the colored people of this State look. His reception here to-day has given me a renewed energy in this cause, and I feel that the dawn is now approaching when all this difference and estrangement between the races will end. There is no man to whom the colored people look with more confidence than to him. He is, to use an old phrase, the noblest Roman of them all. [A voice in the crowd, "Tell us of Packard."]

"Tell you of Packard? I can only say this, that Mr. Packard is a man about whom I will not use a disrespectful word. I will say that now I am opposed to his policy, but I, as a Republican, will not abuse him, for I cannot conscientiously do so."

Allain was often interrupted by the applause of the crowd, and when he retired, after stating that no government could exist in Louisiana except that headed by Gov. Nicholls, the cheers were vociferous.

President Lozier advanced, at this point, and asked the assemblage whether the resolutions were approved, and an unanimous "Yes!" settled the question.

I. N. Marks, Esq., then stepped forward and moved that the gathering march in a body to Odd Fellows' Hall, and there salute Gov. Nicholls. This motion was received with loud acclamations by the people and, as an adjournment was carried,

THE THRONG

in a body marched over to the Odd Fellows' Hall. The immense crowd cried out vociferously for Gov. Nicholls and Lieut. Gov. Wiltz. The latter appeared, and after apologizing for the absence of Gov. Nicholls, made one of his customary stirring and earnest speeches. Gov. Wiltz spoke briefly, but the ring of the true metal was in his utterances, and the crowd with loud acclaim testified to our young magistrate's hold on the affections of our people who have so often delighted in honoring him, and to whom he has ever proven faithful and true.

One of the notable features of the grand demonstration yesterday was the large procession of citizens of the Ninth Ward, headed by a brass band, with flags and banners flying in the breeze. These men, all good and true, came from the immediate neighborhood of the home of our gallant Lieutenant Governor, Louis A. Wiltz; they were of those who at the last election helped to roll up, probably, the largest proportionate majority of any ward in this city.

L'ENVOI.

After the close of the meeting and the compliment had been paid to Gov. Nicholls, the vast throng dispersed peaceably, and the thousands who, at the call of the citizens, had so willingly gathered together, quietly wended their way to their homes, and another quiet victory was recorded for the good people of the Crescent City and the loyal State of the rustling cane.

THE VOICE OF THE COUNTRY.

An United People.

ASSUMPTION.

Mass Meeting of Citizens—The Taxes Paid Already to the Nicholls Government.

NAPOLEONVILLE, March 30.

On motion of Hon. Wm. W. Pugh the meeting was called to order, and Hon. Desire LeBlanc selected as president, and Messrs. Albert P. Lanve and Walter Guion selected as secretaries.

The committee retired for deliberation, and reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, viz:

Whereas, it is incumbent on a people who desire to maintain the rights inherited from their ancestors to assemble in public meeting and express their opinions on matters of government, in which they had an immediate interest, and

Whereas, at this time our State is afflicted with a dual government, only one of which is allowed by our State constitution, we deem it to be our right, as well as our duty, to make known to which of these our allegiance is due; therefore be it

Resolved, That we regard Francis T. Nicholls as the true and legally elected Governor of Louisiana, having received at the last election a majority exceeding eight thousand votes, and we hereby pledge ourselves to sustain the government of which he is the head by moral force and the payment of taxes to his appointees.

Resolved, That we look on the so-called government of S. B. Packard with its one acre of territory as an unmitigated fraud, the creation of an infamous Returning Board, illegal in its make up and conceived with a view to cheat the voters of the State of their rights.

Resolved, That our motto shall henceforth be Nicholls or a military Governor, whose name shall not be "Packard."

Resolved, That we feel justified under existing circumstances in resisting to the bitter end the imposition of such a government as that of which said Packard claims to be the head and that we cordially endorse the sentiment embodied in the late proclamation of Gov. Nicholls "no compromise of our rights."

On motion, Mr. Walter Guion offered the following additional resolutions:

Resolved, That we stamp as an unmitigated falsehood the assertion of S. B. Packard, the keeper of the St. Louis Hotel, contained in his pronunciamento of March 29, 1877, that "in nearly all the peaceful, prosperous and productive parishes of the State the authority of his government and its officials is unquestioned."

Resolved further, That we can but perceive in the a foresaid address of said Packard an incendiary attempt to excite race prejudice throughout this State and array the colored and white people against each other at a time of profound peace and quiet, and when both races are living together upon the most friendly and amicable terms, and that we denounce every such attempt as revolutionary and worthy only of a base usurper.

On motion of Hon. W. W. Pugh, Mr. Walter Guion was requested to make a statement of what amounts had been received by him for the support of the Nicholls government from the taxpayers of the parish as treasurer of funds collected for said purposes, when the following exhibit was made by him, to wit:

Amount collected and delivered to W. C. Black, Esq.	$493 00
Amount in hand subject to the order of J. C. Thiac, Esq., State Tax Collector of Assumption parish	1019 20
Total	$1512 20

On motion, the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

CADDO.

The Voice of North Louisiana—Nicholls or a Military Government.

At a large meeting of the business men and citizens generally of Shreveport, held at the Cotton Exchange, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously, and the undersigned were instructed to communicate the same to his excellency Gov. Francis T. Nicholls, by telegraph:

Whereas, it is proper at all times for a free people to meet together and discuss the political issues that agitate their country; it is more than ever important, when their liberties are threatened, that they should, in some appropriate manner, declare their convictions and the principles which actuate them. A crisis has now arrived in the affairs of Louisiana which will test, to the utmost extent, the patriotism of her people.

Encouraged by the inaction of the government at Washington, S. B. Packard, who fraudulently claims to be the Governor of Louisiana, threatens to install himself as such with force and arms; therefore, be it

Resolved, That knowing Francis T. Nicholls to have been elected Governor of Louisiana at the general election held on the 7th of November, 1876, we pledge to his support our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

Resolved, That under no circumstances will we recognize or tolerate any government of which S. B. Packard is the head, and if necessary to prevent it will use every means with which God and nature has provided us.

Resolved, That we have learned with consternation that a Commission of distinguished gentlemen are soon to visit Louisiana to adjust our political differences; that whilst we are willing for the world to know our condition, and will give every facility for investigation, yet we know our rights and will not compromise them at the dictation of any person, be he ever so high in authority.

Resolved, That the rights of the people, as expressed at the ballot-box, are too sacred for compromise, and that we will have the government chosen by the people, or force, as we have the means of doing, a military government.

Resolved, That the delay resulting from the slow process of settlement through the means of the proposed commission is operating the most severe injury to our planting and commercial interests, and we appeal to those in authority to bring about, as soon as possible, a final settlement in favor of the government which has the confidence and will receive the support of the people.

WM. H. WISE, Chairman.

N. C. BLANCHARD, ED. M. AUSTIN, } Secretaries.

CONCORDIA.

White and Black Democrats and Republicans in Mass Meeting—The Citizens of Concordia, Without Exception, for Gov. Nicholls.

In pursuance to a call of Francis S. Shields, Esq., Chairman of the Concordia Executive Committee, a meeting of the taxpayers, propertyholders and others, of Concordia parish, was convened in the court-house at Vidalia, April 4, 1877.

Major G. B. Shields having asked to be excused on account of indisposition, the meeting was called to order by Major Geo. L. Walton, who, in a neat and appropriate speech, explaining the object of the meeting, expressed the feelings and determination of the people towards the legal government of the State, and affirmed their determination and unalterable resolution not to recognize any other government than that of their choice.

On motion the following gentlemen were appointed by the chair as a Committee on Resolutions: Gen. J. Floyd King, Nathan Lorie, G. Spencer Mayo, George Brown and Charles Fertiday.

After a short absence, the committee returned, and through their chairman, presented the annexed resolutions, which were adopted amid much enthusiasm, and it was moved and carried that copies of the same be sent for publication to the Natchez *Democrat*, the N. O. DEMOCRAT, *Times* and *Picayune*.

Able and eloquent speeches were made by G. Spencer Mayo, Gen. J. Floyd King and Chas. A. Pipes, Esq.

The meeting was large and enthusiastic.

G. W. WALTON, Chairman.

W. R. YOUNG, Secretary.

Whereas, S. B. Packard, claiming to be Governor of the State of Louisiana, is by publications in the newspapers, by telegrams and otherwise, seeking to create abroad the impression that the Governor of our State, his Excellency Francis T. Nicholls, except in certain locations, is unsupported by her taxpayers, and also to create sectional discord and race issues; and, whereas, we deem it important under these circumstances to give expression to our determination to contribute to the support of no other State government in Louisiana than that of which Francis T. Nicholls is the acknowledged head;

Now, therefore, we the taxpayers, property holders and owners in and of the parish of Concordia pledge ourselves and those we represent to pay the licenses and taxes now due the State by us to that government over which his Excellency Francis T. Nicholls presides, and otherwise if necessary to aid that government by all the means at our command.

Whereas, the continued maintenance of peace and good order under the most trying circumstances to which any people have ever been submitted in the United States is largely due to the judicious management of his Excellency Francis T. Nicholls, his administration and advisers; be it therefore

Resolved, That we do hereby tender him and his administration our heartfelt thanks for the eminent services which have been rendered, and by which our State has been kept from discord and local disturbances.

Resolved, That the members of this convention, with a view to giving expression to our appreciation of the services, self-sacrifice and heroic devotion of the citizens of New Orleans in behalf of the cause of good government as represented by His Excellency Francis T. Nicholls, now tender to them our heartfelt thanks for the manner in which they have defended the interests of the whole people of the State of Louisiana, and assure them that for the future, as has been true of the past, we may be relied upon for material and moral support to the extent of the means at our command, of whatever description, for the accomplishment of their object in the maintenance of said government.

DE SOTO PARISH.

Mass Meeting of its Citizens—Packard's Lies Refuted.

A mass meeting of the citizens of De Soto parish was held at the court-house, Mansfield, March 27. Mr. J. L. Lagan was called to the chair, and W. Wilcox requested to act as secretary.

The following resolutions were then read and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the government of this State of which Gen. Francis T. Nicholls is the Executive, is the *de facto and de jure* government, it having been elected by a large majority of the votes cast at the last election by the qualified electors of the State.

Resolved, That the purpose of the people of this parish is unalterably fixed to support and sustain the Nicholls government, and to oppose the Packard government with all the means at their command.

Resolved, And that we hereby pledge ourselves to pay our taxes to the Nicholls government; and not to contribute in that or any other way to the support of the Packard government.

Resolved, That we hereby pledge ourselves to recognize only the officers, State, district and parish, who have been elected and duly commissioned by the Nicholls government.

Resolved, That the statement we have lately seen in public prints, said to have emanated from S. B. Packard, that the people throughout the State, except those in the city of New Orleans and five "bulldozed" parishes, had acquiesced in, and were supporting his (Packard's) government, is false, so far as the people of this parish is concerned, and is fully and conclusively contradicted by the facts.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting the people of this State have reason to hope and believe that the heroic efforts they have made, and the crushing pecuniary burdens they have borne throughout all the dreary years of the reconstruction era in their struggle for "local self-government, will be crowned with success" in the near future.

Resolved, That the Federal Executive has no right or power to interfere with the action of the people of this or any other State in determining who are their legally and constitutionally chosen rulers.

Resolved, That any such attempt is an interference on the part of the Federal Executive wholly unwarranted by the constitution of the United States, and subversive of Republican liberty, and thereby protest against the sending by the President of any commission to the State with any such purpose.

Resolved, That we fully approve and endorse the course of Gov. Nicholls in guaranteeing protection under the law to all persons without regard to race, color or political opinion.

Subsequent to the adoption of the resolutions, addresses were made by Hon. J. B. Elam, J. L. Scales and Boling Williams, Esq.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

LAFOURCHE.

A Response to New Orleans—No Compromise of Any Kind.

The following memorial and resolutions were circulated in Lafourche parish last week and signed by several hundred of the leading citizens of the parish:

The undersigned, acting on their own behalf and as representing the taxpaying and conservative element generally of the parish of Lafourche, desirous of participating with their fellow-citizens of New Orleans in the mass meeting called for the purpose of expressing our common hostility to political usurpation, violence and fraud, have adopted and signed the subjoined:

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That we do most earnestly protest against any attempt on the part of the National Administration to impose upon the people of our State S. B. Packard as Governor, being convinced that such attempt would inevitably lead to discord and cruel strife, destructive alike to the peace and prosperity of the State.

Resolved, That after our sad political experience, we are henceforth unalterably opposed to any and all compromises whatsoever, and we do earnestly importune our Executive and the members of our General Assembly to reject with proper spirit and firmness any attempt at interference with the legal government of our State.

Resolved further, That it is our settled and irrevocable determination to recognize and support no other State Government than that of which Francis T. Nicholls is the executive head.

LINCOLN PARISH.

An Enthusiastic Mass Meeting—Aid for Our Depressed and Downtrodden State.

VIENNA, April 5.—At an enthusiastic mass meeting held here to-day, April 5th, the following resolution, among others, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we will give our entire support to our legally elected and patriotic and much-beloved Governor, Francis T. Nicholls, who, in fact and in law, is the rightful occupant of the gubernatorial chair of our depressed and downtrodden State.

MADISON.

Hopes of Justice From Hayes—"We Will Defend Our Government Against Any and Every Molestation."

DELTA, April 2, 1877.

At a grand mass meeting held at Delta, in Madison parish, April 2, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, our beloved State of Louisiana is a constituent part of the Republic and holds its place under the constitution as an equal, necessary and inseparable member of the Union, and is entitled to the management and control of its domestic concerns, free from Federal interference, the same as is accorded to her sister States; and,

Whereas, while we unreservedly accept and loyally and heartily obey the constitution with all its amendments and laws of the Union in accordance therewith, we declare a no less devoted and determined fealty, allegiance and fidelity to our State government, of which Francis T. Nicholls is at the head, whose authority came from the people, through the ballot box, whose administration has its foundation deep-laid in their hearts, and whose vitality derives its vigor from their cheerful and willing support, and which recognizes and maintains inviolable the right of every citizen.

And whereas, still hoping for the fulfillment of the declaration of President Hayes in speaking to the people on taking the oath of office: "I am anxious to use every legitimate influence in favor of honest and effective local self-government as the true resource for the promotion of the contentment and prosperity of their citizens," we look with abiding faith to the early triumph of justice and a speedy end to the protracted discord in our domestic government.

And whereas, The State government of the State of Louisiana, in all its departments, is perfect in its organization and operation, and republican in form and spirit, and any and all pretended opposition thereto under one S. B. Packard, or other persons claiming to act as Governor, is not above the dignity of a faction, having no rights or forms in law or in fact, either over the people of this State or even the minority party it once represented;

Resolved, That we, the people of the parish of Madison, in mass meeting assembled, have perfect confidence in our said State government, in all its respective branches; that we have, and will at all times, yield it cheerful obedience; that, if need be, we will, with alacrity, defend its rights and powers against any and every molestation or impediment, no matter by whom presented.

Resolved, That we will never consent to any compromising or temporizing, as relates to a single right or power of our said government, or any of our citizens.

Resolved, That to carry out these views we pledge ourselves to pay taxes for the support of the government headed by Francis T. Nicholls as Governor, which is the choice of the people, and that we will recognize only those officers who are in accord with the true government of this State.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be sent to the New Orleans DEMOCRAT and *Picayune*, Delta *Sentinel* and Vicksburg *Herald*, for publication.

H. R. LUCAS, President.

S. S. P. DANCHFIELD, Secretary.

NATCHITOCHES.

The Voice of the Red River Country—No Compromise, No Surrender.

At a meeting of the merchants and citizens of Natchitoches, held this day, at Lacost's Hall, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, Francis T. Nicholls has been fairly elected Governor of Louisiana, and is now exercising the functions of his office by the support and will of the people of the State, and

Whereas, a desperate band of schemers and office-seekers, banded together for purposes of plunder, under the name of Republicanism, are endeavoring to install and sustain their leader, S. B. Packard, as Governor, threatening to incite and precipitate a conflict in order to obtain Federal aid; therefore be it

Resolved, That the success of the Packard government would leave the people without hope, and paralyze and destroy every material interest in the State, and that we will resist such a calamity by all the means at our command.

2. That we will never contribute a dollar to the support of any other government than that presided over by F. T. Nicholls, preferring to apply the torch to our own homes than to witness further spoliation by a corrupt government, but will cheerfully and voluntarily pay our taxes to the officers of the Nicholls government.

3. That whilst we have unbounded confidence in the patriotism and ability of our honored Governor, and will make good every pledge he has given in our name, we are unalterably opposed to any compromise that will involve the surrender of our victory at the polls, and implore him to uphold and maintain the rights of the people at whatever cost of life or treasure.

4. That a copy of these resolutions be published in the *People's Vindicator* and N. O. DEMOCRAT.

J. W. BUTLER, Chairman.

J. H. COSGROVE, Secretary.

Natchitoches, La., March 28, 1877.

OUACHITA.

The Nicholls Government Perfect in all its Forms—No Compromise—No Federal Intermeddling with Louisiana.

MONROE, March 28.—A large meeting of all the citizens of Ouachita parish, regardless of color or class, was held at Monroe, in that parish, S. D. McEnery presiding as chairman, when the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved by the people of Ouachita parish, in mass meeting assembled: 1. That Francis T. Nicholls is the lawfully elected Governor of the State of Louisiana; that all of the peaceable and law-abiding citizens of the State recognize him as such; that his government is perfect in all its departments, and is in active operation in every parish of the State, and that the people everywhere yield to his government cheerful and voluntary support.

2. That we oppose and solemnly protest against any compromise as it relates to a single right of the people of this State, and we hail with pleasure the proclamation of Gov. Nicholls, assuring the people that under no circumstances will any compromise be entered into. We protest against any further Federal interference or intermeddling with the affairs of Louisiana; as a member of the Federal Union, she has the undoubted right to regulate her own domestic affairs. We proclaim our ability to take care of ourselves, and all we ask is hands off, and Louisiana will be peaceable, orderly and prosperous.

3. We will resist any attempt to force the Packard fraud upon the people of this State. No appointee of Packard, should the attempt be made, shall exercise any authority in this parish.

4. All our moral, physical and pecuniary support will be cheerfully given to Gov. Nicholls, whose firm, decided and patriotic course meets with our hearty approval.

5. That we call upon the people of this parish to pay immediately to Dr. T. Y. Aby, tax collector, the licenses and taxes now due, so that the Nicholls government can promptly meet all of its obligations.

RED RIVER PARISH.

No Necessity for a Commission—The Nicholls Government to be Upheld by all Means.

COUSHATTA, March 31.

At a mass meeting of the citizens of all classes of Red River parish, held at this place to-day, the committee on resolutions submitted the following resolutions, which were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted:

Whereas, it is of the first importance for the subject to know the source of authority by which he is to be controlled and to which he is to yield obedience and support; and,

Whereas, it is as equally important to the subject of a free government that those only who have been chosen to positions of authority shall assume the duties thereof; and,

Whereas, at the general election held in this State on the seventh day of November, 1876, in which all of our citizens freely and voluntarily participated without hindrance or distinction on account of race, color or previous condition, in accordance with the letter and spirit of the constitution and laws of both Federal and State governments, did by a large majority elect Francis T. Nicholls Governor of our State; and,

Whereas, through the criminal misconduct of a body of four men, constituting themselves a returning board, one S. B. Packard, in defiance of the will and choice of the people, is attempting to set the constitutional election by the people at naught, and to install himself, through such criminal misconduct, into the office of Chief Magistrate of our State; and,

Whereas, said Packard now threatens, by force, to extort an unwilling submission from our people to his tyranny; be it therefore

Resolved, That we, as the descendants of a free ancestry, while laying claims to the sacred heritage of freedom, cannot, and with the recollections of the history of our heroic forefathers before us, will not yield obedience or fealty to any other than the legitimate government, chosen by our people, and of which we recognize Francis T. Nicholls as Governor; be it further

Resolved, That while we court investigation and are anxious to publish every thing to the world, and while we are willing for the Federal government, by investigation or otherwise, minutely to ascertain our true political condition, yet it has been reminded to our recent experience to learn the danger there is in the submission to the arbitrament of political cormorants, under the name of commissions and investigating committees, seeking the consummation of political ends, rather than the vindication of justice or the repression of wrong, that we regard the coming of the present Federal Commission to our State with deep forebodings for our rights, and that we will not submit to their jurisdiction any of our local issues, created by S. B. Packard or his henchmen, for the purpose of defrauding us out of our local government by such Federal interference.

Resolved, That we hereby tender and will render in the future a ready and willing obedience and support only to Francis T. Nicholls, the Governor of our State, and pay taxes to no other than the government organized under him, with all the means which God hath placed in our power.

TENSAS.

Its Citizens for Nicholls, Without Regard to Color—Any Interference in Louisiana will Endanger the Peace of the Whole Country.

ST. JOSEPH, March 29, 1877.

At a large meeting of the citizens of Tensas parish, held at St. Joseph, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, one S. B. Packard is said to have informed the authorities at Washington City that the principal merchants and planters of the city of New Orleans and State of Louisiana are willing to recognize him as the lawful Governor of this State; and

Whereas, such assertions are not only utterly false, but in direct contradiction of the most patent facts, we feel called upon, in the interest of peace, good order and lawful government, to solemnly protest against any credit being given to such assertions. Be it therefore

Resolved, That Francis T. Nicholls is recognized and obeyed as the lawful Governor of this State by nine-tenths of the honest, intelligent and taxpaying classes of the State, and by a large numerical majority of its citizens, without distinction of race or color.

Resolved, That this recognition of the government of his Excellency, Francis T. Nicholls, as the only lawful government of the State is abundantly proven by the ready obedience yielded by all classes to the authority of the courts.

Resolved, That for ourselves and for the great mass of the peaceable and law-abiding citizens of this State, we solemnly protest against the right of any power outside of the State to set up or to recognize any State government other than that of Francis T. Nicholls, the one duly elected, inaugurated, recognized and obeyed by the people of the State.

Resolved, That in the interest of peace and good order, and of republican institutions, we solemnly protest against any attempt to impose the said S. B. Packard upon the people as Governor of the State, firmly believing that such attempt would lead to civil strife and to a resistance which would speedily assume such formidable proportions as would endanger the peace and prosperity of the entire country.

ST. LANDRY.

An Offer of Taxes and Money, Aid and Support for the Nicholls Government.

BAYOU CHICOT, La.

At a meeting of the citizens of St. Landry parish, held at Bayou Chicot, the following resolutions were adopted and signed by hundreds of citizens of the parish:

Whereas, the liberties and welfare of Louisiana depend upon the establishment and maintenance of the lawfully elected government, of which Francis T. Nicholls is the executive head; and

Whereas, it is necessary to provide ways and means to this end;

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Citizens' Committee of New Orleans, four per centum of the State taxes and licenses, collectible in the ensuing year, should be paid in advance by the taxpayers throughout the State.

Resolved, That the General Assembly should, as soon as practicable, provide by law for the collection of the said four per centum of State taxes and licenses collectible in the year 1877.

Resolved, That this committee will co-operate with the public authorities in the collection of said tax, and that the citizens of all the parishes throughout the State are recommended to take concurrent action in the premises.

Resolved, Should it become necessary to sustain the Nicholls government, we, the undersigned, will pay our entire taxes, etc., for the year 1876 to said government.

We, the undersigned citizens of Bayou Chicot, of the parish of St. Landry, concur fully in the views expressed in the foregoing preamble and resolutions, and hereby pledge ourselves, as far as in our power, to aid in carrying them out.

MOTHER GOOSE'S RECEPTION.

The Greatest Entertainment Ever Given in this City.

Over Six Thousand People Call on the Good Old Dame at St. Patrick's Hall.

The reception of Mother Goose, which was announced to take place last evening, at St. Patrick's Hall, for the benefit of St. Paul's Church, on Camp street, was one of the most brilliant and successful affairs that has ever been presented in this city, and by far the greatest in point of numbers of people who attended it, or attempted to do so.

Fully six thousand persons visited St. Patrick's Hall during the evening, and at one time the building must have contained at least four thousand people, the ground floor of the main hall alone being of a capacity of three thousand. The lateness of the hour at which we write permits us only to say that the programme was as follows:

Music—By the 16th Infantry Band, who kindly volunteered for the occasion.
Mother Goose's Prologue.
The march of her army.
Ding-dong Bell.
Baa, baa, Black Sheep.
Little Bo-peep.
Sing a Song Sixpence.
Jack and Gill.
See-Saw.
Mistress Mary.
When I was a Batchelor.
Dolly and her Mamma.
Old King Cole.
Little Miss Muffet.
Little Boy Blue.
Old Woman in the Shoe.

Interspersed with good vocal and instrumental music, and presented in tableaux of much originality of conception and handsome execution highly creditable to the lady managers of this exceptionable entertainment.

The entertainment was indeed so successful that it will be

REPEATED TO-NIGHT

in answer to the request of at least one half of the attendants who, owing to the crowded condition of the hall, were unable to see the tableaux.

THE OPENING MARCH

presented the entire array of beautiful children who participated in the tableaux, lead by "Mother Goose," Miss Mary Shakspeare, after whom came Bessie Howe, "Queen," Russel Cushing, "King," Ettie Finney, Belle Fairchild and Aline Phillips, maids of honor. Emile Finney and Charlie Fairchild, who were the principal characters of "Sing-a-Song of Sixpence;" "Little Bo Peep" Judie Giffney; "The Old Woman Who Lived In a Shoe," Effie Brown; "Little Miss Muffet," Miss Emily Calder; "Old King Cole, the Jolly Old Soul," Bussie Cushing and his fiddlers three; "Little Boy Blue," Charlie Leeds.

All the children who followed were attired, the boys in white knee breeches, red swallow-tail coats, striped red and white hose, low quarter shoes, white shirts, Hessian hats; the girls in white tarletan dresses, cardinal sashes, cardinal and white hose.

Girls—Misses Adele Blanc, Annie Warren, Leo Karstendick, Annie Scott, Lizzie Heck, Fannie Marks, Lena Christ, Annie Cooper, Lillie Mehle, Mattie Thorne, Pennie Armstrong, Annie Fell.

Boys—Johnny McConnell, Eddie Pierrepont, Albert Pierrepont, Mercer Fell, Frank Byrne, James Shakspeare, Joseph Wilson, Murray Auger, Columdus Allen, Duncan Allen, Garland Wolfe, Allen Waitey.

THE TABLEAUX

were represented as follows:

DING DONG BELL.

Misses Corinne Armstrong, Alice Clark, Emma Clark, and Masters Eddie Gaines, M. Clonerius.

BAA, BAA, BLACK SHEEP.

Misses Annie Davizoe, Jenny Vaudry, and Master Charley Coyle.

LITTLE BO-PEEP.

Judie Giffney.

SING A SONG SIXPENCE.

King, R. Cushing; Queen, Bessie Howe; Maids of Honor, Effie Finney, Annie Fell, Josie Shakspeare; Pages, Emile Finney, Charles Fairchild, Belle Fairchild.

JACK AND GILL

Were charmingly represented by Master Dauezac and Miss Edith Blanc.

MISTRESS MARY.

Aggie Pettit, Blanche Tardy, Addie Holleman, Fannie Pettit, Gussie Boyle, Georgie McKay.

WHEN I WAS A BACHELOR.

John Cousley and Aline Phillips.

DOLLY AND HER MAMMA.

Mollie Vaudry.

OLD KING COLE.

Russell Cushing, Eddie Cushing, Eddie Ivy, Bobby Howard, Eddie Lashbrooke, Boyd Cousley.

LITTLE MISS MUFFETT.

Emma Calder and

LITTLE BOY BLUE.

Charlie Leeds.

THE SHOE.

"The old woman," Annie Giffney, with the following attendants, all in character: Mattie Cloverius, Mary Manning, Velina Smith, Mattie Smith, Sallie Pasteur, Mary Turk, Charlie Zapata, James Stephenson, Frank Armstrong, Clotilde Vincent, Delia Donelson, Carrie Goode, Lulu Goode, Fannie Allen, Rosine Brittin, Carrie Pierson, Allen Postlethwaite, May Butler, Aline Randall, Eddie Randall.

During the tableaux, and long after they had closed, the

REFRESHMENT BOOTHS,

erected in various parts of the building, were liberally patronized. These exquisitely arranged booths were profusely adorned with natural flowers, whose fragrance and brilliant colors lent additional charms to the entertainment.

In justice to the ladies who achieved such a brilliant success last night, we give the names of the committee of arrangements: Mrs. Byrne, Renshaw, Wilson, Russel, Calder, Shakspeare and Miss Shakspeare. Committee on refreshments: Mrs. Coyle, Jurey, Hazlett, McCandlish, Boyd, Bradford, Hews and Wolfe; on decorations: Mrs. Chas. Leeds, McConnell, Wharton, Cloverus and Colton, and Misses Coleman, Buckingham and Henning.

As we said in the beginning, we have not attempted to do justice to the brilliant reception of Mother Goose, but simply to mention the fact that it was an extraordinary entertainment, and to give credit and do justice to those who participated in it so successfully.

Remember that Mother Goose's reception will be repeated to-night.

New parasols, at popular prices, at M. L. Byrne & Co.'s special sale to-day.

STATE PRINTER.

The Democrat in North Louisiana.

[Shreveport Times.]

We are pleased to learn that the firm of Geo. W. Dupre & Co., proprietors of the New Orleans DEMOCRAT, was elected State Printer on the 27th inst. by the State Printing Board, under act No. 42 of the present General Assembly. The board under the new law is composed of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House of Representatives, together with two Senators and two Representatives elected by their respective houses, the Senators being Messrs. Steven and Robertson, and the Represenratives Messrs. Leonhard and Lamare. The election was unanimous.

This is a deserved compliment to the ability, fearlessness and fidelity to the people's rights which have characterized the DEMOCRAT ever since it was founded. Though the exorbitant printing rates which fattened Radical sheets at the expense of the people have been repealed, on the other hand the Legislature did not adopt the absurd bill first reported, which would have starved any printer who should have had the temerity to do the public work. Under the present law the compensation approximates something like fairness.

While the DEMOCRAT cannot make a fortune out of it, it can live and become firmly established. This will particularly be the case, as its great ability cannot fail to secure a large circulation, which will attract an advertising patronage that will prove highly remunerative. We congratulate our friend, Major H. J. Hearsey, the editor in chief, who is a great favorite in North Louisiana, on his present good fortune, and hope that the DEMOCRAT may soon be recognized, as it ought to be, as the leading journal in the South.

The President and four of his Cabinet—Sherman, Schurz, Devens and Key—wear full beards. Two—Evarts and Thompson—wear none, and one—McCrary—wears a Henri-Quatre tuft on his chin.

GREAT SPECIAL SALE.—The enterprising and wide awake merchants, Messrs. M. L. Byrne & Co., will offer extraordinary inducements to-day, at their special sale. They have for the last week been receiving a selection of the most fashionable and beautiful spring goods, which they are offering at popular prices. To-day their sale will embrace a large and choice assortment of hosiery, scarfs, parasols and embroideries. See advertisement.

BURNETT'S COCOAINE.—A perfect dressing for the hair. The Cocoaine holds in a liquid form a large proportion of deodorized cocoanut oil, prepared expressly for this purpose.

OLD RELIABLE

PIPER HEIDSIECK

The oldest and most popular brand of

CHAMPAGNE

—IN THE—

UNITED STATES,

For sale by

J. B. SOLARI & SONS,
SMITH BROS. & CO.,
ZUBERBIER & BEHAN,
THOS. H. HANDY & CO.,
E. CONERY & SON,
BURKE & THOMPSON,
EDMUND DUBOIS,
CLARK & MEADER,
CHAS. BAL