

BY TELEGRAPH.

CROOKED WHISKY.

Some Wonderful Discoveries Made by Sherman in the Whisky-Ring Prosecutions.

A Compromise by Which the Government Lost \$12,000.

An Attack on the Ring Men of St. Louis and New Orleans.

The Impossibility of Efficient Prosecution Under Grant.

[Special to the N. O. Democrat.]

WASHINGTON, May 12.—According to a recent dispatch from here to his special organ in New York, the Tribune, John Sherman has just discovered that the defendants in the late whisky ring civil suits in St. Louis settled with the government on suspiciously advantageous terms to themselves.

Pat Dyer has been here for several days trying to get an adjustment of his accounts, and John Sherman's sudden discovery is the result of an interview with Dyer. Among other things, it appears that in the case of Ulrich, the government accepted fifteen thousand dollars as a compromise after the defendant had offered twenty-seven thousand, the original judgment obtained by Dyer having been for over a hundred thousand. By this discovery, John is suddenly reminded that Greenbaum is still Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and that he was appointed by Grant at the instance of John Logan, to save the Illinois segment of the whisky ring, and that it was through his generosity that the government threw off the odd twelve thousand above mentioned in order not to appear small. The most comical part of the whole business is the utter astonishment which overwhelmed John Sherman when he made this discovery.

To be sure, all facts were published far and wide nearly six months ago. It was distinctly charged that Commissioner Raum had been unduly influenced in the premises, and parties even offered to prove the charges made against him. But for some reason or other the House committee concluded to drop the whisky ring investigation, and thus Raum was left undisturbed.

Dyer found it impossible to get a settlement of his accounts so long as Grant was President, Taft the Attorney General, and Storrs the leading whisky ring adviser of the Administration, so the whole matter was dropped, but now Dyer is on hand again, and he will give the remnants of the whisky ring, who are still in the Treasury, a heap of trouble before he gets done with them. Dyer's account embraces his percentage on the full amounts of the judgments originally rendered in St. Louis, and it now transpires that one of the chief motives for settling on such easy terms was to cut down Dyer's fees in revenge for his prosecution of Babcock. Old Taft, and the present Commissioner Raum, together with Solicitor Talbot, lent themselves as willing tools to this mean revenge.

One of the results of this upheaval will be to renew the onslaught on the whisky ring in New Orleans, and probably to cause the overhauling of certain Cincinnati cases, which were handled under Bateman's management as District Attorney, and which, of course, resulted in verdicts for the defendants. The chief weight of the new whisky ring war will fall on the New Orleans ring, which, under the gentle care of District Attorney Beckwith and Marshal Packard, got off with the least injury of all the rings. BUELL.

ANOTHER STEAMBOAT DISASTER.

The Steamer Emma Sunk—Seven Lives Lost.

[Special to N. O. Democrat.]

BELAIR PLANTATION, May 12.—The steamer Emma sunk at Stella Plantation. The missing are Ed. Layett, D. Michero, four children and slush cook. OLIVER CANTON, JR.

[The Emma was a stern-wheeler boat, commanded by Capt. Oliver Canton, Jr., and made tri-weekly trips to the Lower Coast as far as the Happy Jack Plantation. She left here Friday evening with a very large cargo. Stella Plantation is twenty miles below the city on the left bank of the Mississippi, and was the scene of the Orlo explosion a little more than a year ago. The Emma, our reporter heard, is sunk in 25 feet of water, and at about 200 feet from the levee. She went down in from five to eight minutes. The cause of the sinking we were unable to learn. The Emma was insured at Vicksburg for \$4000.]

Since the above was received, Capt. Canton called at the DEMOCRAT office yesterday, and gave the following statement relative to the history of the boat and the particulars of the disaster: The Emma, he said, was built in October, 1872; custom-house measurement, 183 tons. Has been

in Yazoo river until last November, when she came to this city, was docked, repaired and passed Al for Red river for one year, made a trip in Red river, when she entered the lower coast trade, where she has been successfully employed as a freight boat ever since. Left here Friday at about 5 p. m., with about 80 tons of assorted light freight on board, making our regular plantation landings.

Before we landed at Searadale both the watchman and carpenter had passed through the hold, as is customary, and reported everything all right. After landing there, being in the pilot-house, I noticed the boat did not handle very well, and coming down stairs I ordered some of the freight shifted so as to trim her. I then caused the syphon to be tried, found it was throwing water freely, and ordered the boat to be lashed. We put her ashore on the flat at the Stella plantation, our stage landing in about two feet of water. As the people were getting off the boat I noticed suddenly that, causing the stage to shift. A panic occurred among those who were trying to get off, several were thrown overboard, and are still missing. She struck nothing that we know of.

In rounding out on Searadale, she grazed the bank pretty hard astern, which may have caused her to spring a leak. Among the missing are Ed. Layett, Dom Michero, the slush cook, the wife and child (names forgotten) of the stable man at the Searadale plantation, and a colored woman and child.

WAR NOTES.

INSECTIONS IN SOUTHERN RUSSIA. LONDON, May 12.—The insurrection in Georgia causes uneasiness in the Russian as it is a serious revolt is reported in the Crimea, the Tartars having occupied the road from Semferopol.

THE JEWS OF BOGHANIA. The Jews of Jassy are being warned against praying in the synagogues for the success of the Turks.

THE RUSSIAN MOVEMENT IN RUSSIA. Thirty thousand infantry have been sent from Tashkent to reinforce the Russian garrisons in Central Asia. An army of 120,000 will be concentrated there under Gen. Kaufman, with the view of entering Parthia. There are heavy movements of Russian troops to the westward of Ibrail, indicating troops to the intention of occupying the whole Rumanian bank of the Danube.

A NAVAL FIGHT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN POSSIBLE. The Russian Admiral Sukatoff, now at Palermo, may endeavor to intercept transports with Egyptian auxiliaries.

THE ROMANIAN DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. The Rumanian Senate is yet undecided on the question of a declaration of independence.

THE TURKISH PARLIAMENT. CONSTANTINOPLE, May 12.—A ministerial crisis is probable which will probably result in a dissolution of Parliament, which wishes to impeach Redif Pasha, Minister of War.

LEONARDO AND DIAZ—A REVOLUTION AT LAREDO. MATAMOROS, via Brownsville, May 12.—Information has just reached here that Gen. O'Connell and Diaz, both of whom at different times have served as Governors of the State of Nuevo Leon, have organized a force of several hundred men near Laredo, to co-operate with Gen. Cosco in the interest of ex-President Lerdo.

INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE Lerdo party is ready to initiate a strong movement to regain power, commencing on this frontier. Great activity and watchfulness exists among the friends of Gen. Diaz on this border to promptly meet and suppress any overt act of their opponents towards revolution.

THE CONVENTION OF THE METHODIST CHURCH. BALTIMORE, May 12.—The convention of the Methodist Church has adopted the plan of union agreed upon at Pittsburgh in 1875.

THE ROLL OF HONOR.

Some More Names to be Added to the Brilliant List.

The roll of the Cary Rifles, one of the militia companies who have done duty from the 9th of January to the disruption of the Packard fraud, having come in too late for publication on the 10th instant, we have reserved it for our Sunday issue.

Roll of the Cary Rifle Guards, in accordance with general orders No. 8: Geo. W. Cary, Captain. Jno B. Fearn, First Lieutenant. Jno D. Stevenson, Second Lieutenant. F. W. Baker, Junior Second Lieutenant. G. E. Combs, Second Corporal. F. Watkins, Second Sergeant. F. Kramer, Third Sergeant. Chas. E. Stevens, Fourth Sergeant. Eug. Phillips, First Corporal. W. E. Combs, Second Corporal. F. A. Glasson, Third Corporal. J. M. Doyle, Fourth Corporal.

PRIVATEES.

Jack Abbott, P. Beer, J. M. B. Reed, J. P. Baldwin, W. M. Bredow, Jno S. Brittain, W. W. Bredow, W. W. Bredow, J. W. Chapman, G. W. Chapman, F. H. Day, A. J. Dwyer, Geo. Eberling, R. W. Easterling, W. O. Goodman, W. W. Gordon, F. H. Leake, E. H. Hinkle, W. H. Hinkle, E. Hinkle, A. C. Harrison, John Hunt, John Hays, R. M. Hales, A. Hart, G. Kraft, W. H. Kells, E. D. Levy, J. B. Leake, W. O. Merrill, John Mathers, I. B. McEnteehon, W. McColinn, Chas. Oliver, Henry Marks, Jas. Peneb, J. C. Osers, Sam. Phelan, G. F. Phelan, Daniel Rice, O. Porter, O. Reiman, F. Rathjens, John Stumpf, H. L. A. Scherr, A. G. Turner, M. Schreiber, W. T. Turner, W. H. Tolbert, Charles Thos., M. F. Thompson, Leigh Watkins, P. White, Robert Waterman, James A. Ware, W. Wittum, M. Webb, J. Young, J. J. Weintrafer.

We also give appended the names of the "Marine Guard," who did duty from December 20, 1876, up to the date of enfranchisement, and of whose services the general commanding speaks highly:

MARINE GUARD.

Wm. M. Smith, captain. Henry Judson, first lieutenant. W. H. Carrington, second lieutenant. PRIVATEES. S. B. Cartwright, R. L. Hargrigh, R. L. Hargrigh, Jos. Demorelle, Jas. McClary.

LICENSES AND PORT CHARGES.

The Commission to Investigate these Matters Met Yesterday and Adjourned. According to the announcement in the DEMOCRAT the commission created by joint resolution of the General Assembly to consider the license inspection

AND PORT CHARGES.

met in the Speaker's room at the State House yesterday, there being present only Senator Zacharie and Representatives Berry, Shakspeare, and Dejoie, the absentees being the gentlemen recommended by the Cotton Exchange and appointed by the Governor, Messrs. Benschaw, Chaffs and Schreiber.

The gentlemen who were present waited some time for the others, but they came not, and it was agreed to adjourn until Wednesday next at 12 m.

This commission are authorized to take testimony upon the matters which they are to investigate, and will make a report relative to each subject to the next General Assembly, that is provided the work is completed by that time.

THE DEMOCRAT'S DREAM OF FAIR WOMEN.

THE WOMEN OF POETRY AND HISTORY AND THE WOMEN OF THE SOUTH.

The presentation of a petition signed by a large number of ladies to the Legislature, praying to be placed upon an equality with men before the law, has directed public attention here to a problem which has been fruitful of discussion in almost every age and country. The position of man in every state of society has been fixed and unquestioned, but that of women has generally been a subject of controversy. Indeed, since that little episode in the Garden of Eden with which, no doubt, our readers are all acquainted, down to the present time when the strong minded sisterhood are threatening to "push us from our stools," there seems to have been no clearly defined and universally accepted law by which this singularly beautiful, fascinating and troublesome creature could be governed. There are women who would sometimes lead us to suppose that their sex had been wafted to this world on blasts of fire from the ether regions; and there are those who inspire us with the fancy that they descended upon the earth veiled in a shower of roses and on the softest airs of heaven. We are filled with horror at the ferocity of the Indian Princess who, having ordered one of her dancing girls to be bricked up in a vault, had her own bed placed over it, that she might enjoy the agonized and dying groans of her victim. But when we read of the devotion of Paulina, the wife of Seneca, who opened her own veins that she might accompany her lord to the grave, and when we view with loving eyes and feel with human hearts, the beauty and goodness and loveliness of those of the sex who are in our own midst, we are melted to tenderness, and feel that heaven, even with its sapphire pavements and its diamond palaces glimmering in light empurpled with celestial roses, would not be heaven to us could we not transport thither, when we go, our mothers, our sisters, our wives, and especially our sweethearts.

A LUMINOUS FACT.

But as many shapes and phases as this woman's question has assumed, one luminous fact glows in every period of the world's history and shines before us in our daily experience, and that is, that as woman approaches or falls below the highest standard of excellence the tone of society is exalted or lowered.

TRIBUTES TO WOMAN.

With more compassion, enthusiasm and the spirit of self-sacrifice woman possesses more of disinterested heroism than man, and "richly," observes an eloquent writer, "has she deserved that high eulogy which has been hers for eighteen hundred years. Last at the Cross and first at the Sepulchre," and again says the same writer, "In the silence and solitude of many a home the old story of Gethsemane's garden of an angel strengthening one who is sinking under his load of self-allocated duty is repeated."

Lamartine, the poet- orator of France, has beautifully said, "when all is desperate in a nation's cause, we need not despair while there is a spark of resistance in a woman's heart, whether she is called Judith, Celia, Joan of Arc; Victoria Colonna in Italy, or Charlotte Corday in France." And finally, referring to the dying hour of Joan of Arc, one of the most gifted of men exclaimed "Yet, sister woman, though I cannot consent to find a Mozart or a Michel Angelo in your sex, cheerfully, and with love that burns in depths of admiration, I acknowledge that you can do one thing as well as the best of men—a greater thing than Milton is known to have done, or Michael Angelo—you can die grandly and as goddesses would die, we goddesses mortal."

SOUTHERN WOMEN.

The justice of lofty tributes to women has been illustrated in the history of our own country; and we are convinced that to the heroism and devotion of the women of the South we owe much of what remains of that high and haughty spirit which has been the distinction of the Southern race; and we trust that Southern women will never, forgetting that in their modesty and domestic virtues lie their strength, fix their ambition upon usurping the duties and sphere of men and aspire to flaunt their skirts around the polls and bawl at the top of their voices for some party chief. When the women of the South shall become indoctrinated with the repulsive theories of woman's rights, they will cease to be Southern society what they have hitherto been. Such are not the ideas Southern men would have Southern women adopt, and we trust Southern women will always bear in mind that their hands are no more fit to handle the ballot than the angel fingers that stray among the golden harp strings of Paradise are to wield the hammers of Vulcan.

WOMEN OF POETRY.

In no other country has woman been what she is to us. In some nations she was the slave of man, in others the slave and wife combined. To us she is woman woman as God fashioned her, and sent her upon earth to act in the sphere her attributes naturally describe. Among us she is the exquisite combination of the woman of the poetage, and the woman of the historic age of Greece. She is the gentle, modest, loving mother, wife and sister; such was the woman of historic Greece. But she is also capable of the loftiest heroism that characterized the women of poetic Greece. The poets have immortalized the devotion of Alcestis, who gave her life to prolong that of her husband Admetus; of Polyxena, who sacrificed herself upon the tomb of her hero lover, and the saintly resignation of Iphigenia, exulting at the moment of her sacrifice, the father who condemned her. These are beautiful and touching illustrations of the heroism of the female character, but poets could find all over this broad land countless instances of womanly devotion to duty, if not so conspicuous, fully as noble as these.

A SOUTHERN MATRON.

We have at this moment in our mind's eye a woman all of whose girlhood and early widowhood were passed in the midst of affluence and luxury; her hands knew no grosser toil than idly plucking the roses that grew and blossomed around her; the winds of

heaven were not permitted to visit her delicate cheek too rudely. Life to her was all of beauty, and joy, and love. But the desolations of war changed all her surroundings. Driven from her home, every calamity seemed to pursue her steps—sickness, death, poverty, bitter and plucking. Her ears, that had been attuned only to music and words of love, learned to hear her little ones cry for the bread she could not give them. In the long years of her trial silvery strands have stolen untimely through her dark hair; there is a look of sadness in her soft brown eyes, and her gentle lips are not now wreathed so often with joyous smiles, as in the olden days. But no word of rebellion has ever passed them, and her heart and hands have never shrunk from any labor that fell to her lot. Gentle reader, is not this woman's soul as pure and high as were those of the noblest heroines of the poets?

A LOUISIANA GIRL.

We were the witness of a tender and beautiful scene in 1861. It was early in May, and a fair young Louisiana girl was bidding her soldier lover good-bye. Her head was bowed upon his breast, and she was weeping bitterly. But when he besought her to dry her tears and display a brave heart, she lifted her lovely head, and looking him proudly in the face, said: "I am weeping because you are going where there is danger and probably death, but," and the royal blood mantled to her white cheeks, "if you were not going you would see me bluish and how my head in shame." Once again we saw that girl. A division of Federal troops were attacking a body of Confederate cavalry near where she was taking refuge, in full view of her house, and the shells and round-shot hissed over the village and plowed through its streets, and there she stood gazing eagerly at the battle, heedless of shot and shell, as though they had been rose-leaves scattered around her by an autumnal wind; her little hands were clenched; her cheeks were whiter than lilies; her whole form seemed to heave with excitement; but there was a battle-fire in her blue eyes. By heavens! we believe that, had it been possible, she would have dashed into the thickest of the fight; her very soul seemed in arms, and to glory in the blaze and thunder of the battle.

That girl had the heart of Richard Cour de Lion. But she faded away with the strength of the Confederacy, and then they dressed her in white robes, folded her hands on her bosom and laid her away; and when the last ragged Confederates had surrendered their guns her soul had vanished from the earth; we have sometimes fancied, to bear the flag which Lee could no longer uphold, to the Hero Halls of the Celestial World, and twine it there with the banners that waved at Marathon and Thermopylae.

THE HEROINE OF THE CAMP. And now three sweeps before us, star-crowned, the memory of a woman whose deeds are part of the history of the world. Women of Louisiana look on the picture!

Some twenty years ago, when war convulsed nearly the whole of Europe and a large part of Asia, when hostile armies submerged the valleys of the Crimea in blood, and the dead were scattered on every field, a woman entered the camp of the Allies; she came like an angel of mercy, like a messenger of hope and comfort to the sick, the wounded and the dying. "Softly she smoothed the pillow of the suffering soldier, or bending over his expiring comrade cheered with words of hope the desolate and sinking heart, and bade the departing soul fly on the wings of faith to repose on the beating bosom of Eternal Love." In the still hour of the night she visited a wounded soldier, one of whose legs had been shot away and whose arm was broken; the poor fellow, weak from suffering and loss of blood, could not turn to greet her, but he kissed the shadow of Florence Nightingale as it fell across his pillow.

What prouder tribute could a woman wish? The kiss of that dying man bestowed upon the lady from the King of Kings the patent of nobility, and made her a princess of God's people.

THE QUEEN OF PALMYRA.

And now another vision sweeps impetuously before us. A woman of glorious beauty, mounted upon a fiery horse; her dark hair streams on the winds, the light of battle blazes in her eye, and waving her Jewell-hilted sword in the sunlight, she dashes across the Syrian desert at the head of her troops, like "the spirit of war leading her captives to the feast," and hurls her columns upon the legions of Aurelian. But the vision of Zenobia justles the realm of dreams and arouses us from our reveries.

And thus, gentle reader, the DEMOCRAT, in its easy chair, this Saturday night, has dreamt of fair women; and who shall chide us if we have dreamt only of those fair and beautiful ones, whose virtues and loveliness have made their sex to man God's most precious gift? Such women have adorned and beautified the world, and the Mussulman imagination peopling heaven with the fairest of them, has gone forth ready and eager to die in propagating the religion of the Prophet, anticipating that in his dying hour he would be cheered by the vision of multitudinous honours, bending from the battlements of paradise, waving their green scarfs amid the stars, and beckoning him to an immortality in ruy arrays.

A Deserved Compliment.

On Saturday next, 19th inst., the "Association Dramatique Ouleanaise," in acknowledgment of the eminent services rendered by their scenic director, Mr. L. Placide Canonge, will give an extraordinary entertainment for his benefit. Mr. Placide Canonge is well known here as a journalist and as manager of the Opera during the time when that institution was a feature in New Orleans. He has of late devoted a great deal of his time to the education of our youth in the interpretation of the works of the great dramatists, and certainly deserves the compliment paid to him by the association.

Chasing Burglars With Lead.

At half past 11 o'clock Friday night Officer Terpan discovered some thieves in the brass foundry of Hennessy & Bro., at the corner of St. Joseph & D Front streets. He called upon them to surrender, but as they would not, he fired three shots at them as they were escaping, but without effect.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

The Strange Discoveries Among the Papers of a Lobbyist—Carl Schurz and His Attempts at Civil Service Reform—The Question of Abolishing the Army.

WASHINGTON, May 8, 1877. Some very curious documents have recently come to light in a very odd manner, the which will, peradventure, serve to give pain to sundry statesmen, and mayhap will end in some such another earthquake of great reputations as happened four years ago, when Oakes Ames opened his memorandum book—that is, at least, to say, upon a small scale. The story of these documents reads more like a romance, or like

THE TALE OF A BAD PENNY. than like sober fact in the history of the lobby. Within some years there has been in the midst of things here a lobbyist, who ostentatiously lived upon the fat of the land, fed upon the fare of Welcker, and deposited himself in the raiment of the fashionablest tailor on the avenue. Likewise he had horses and buggies, and women in the profusion of a Turk, and smoked twenty cent cigars, for

THE LOBBY. was great in those days, and no man could approach Congress but who had paid toll to this same Lobby, chief of which was seen our same C. But in latter times the good things which had come over the devil's back began to go under his belly, and the lobby saw approaching that season which has since become midwinter of discontent. Among the first to fall was C., and some one, not needful to specify, to whom he had become indebted, seized upon many large trunks and boxes of books, papers and the like, which C. had placed in storage. The fortunes of our hero continued to wane and nowhere could he find recourse wherewithal to get his effects out of soak, whence recently they went to the auction-block and were bought by a lawyer who imagined he might find in them some books and pamphlets of value. With hatchet and hammer openings these boxes of treasure-trove, this lawyer came upon some things that caused him to sit down right there and reflect upon the hardness of the way of the transgressor. There, carefully packed away in bundles tied with twine and duly marked and numbered, were the materials for a new "School for Scandal." C. had been

A MAN OF METHOD. To him bad faith and good faith had been totally alike in that he had kept an impartial record of either and both, and forasmuch as he had dipped a finger in many jobs during the period of Christian statesmanship, so he had kept book accounts and memoranda of the same, as if he had been a cattle dealer. At this date and distance from the time of C.'s operations, which was the halcyon time of the lobby, those memoranda, running to painful exactitude of names, dates and amounts of slush that went to form congressional views in respect to many celebrated jobs, now come to the surface to plague men about things which it had been supposed were forgotten along with their perpetrators.

I have myself come into possession of some of these papers, which are now undergoing classification and other preparation by me for the varied uses of journalism. I engage that they shall make interesting matter for the reading of the people in these days of civil service reform; that they shall point out how many, who were touched and defiled by the lucre of the lobby, have been reformed out of public life, while some others, likewise touched and soiled, have been reformed yet within the walks of public life, and at this moment hold high office, monuments of the saving grace of silence and already stuffed pockets. Possibly, I shall edit these voluminous papers in a sort of Brio-a-Brac series, under the title of

"THE MEMOIRS OF A BROKEN-DOWN LOBBYIST Edited by an Obscure Journalist."

It seems that our C. labored constantly with a view to provide against the natural defects of memory, for he has jotted down all sorts of memoranda in this wise:

"Jan. 17th, called upon ——— and broached matters. He spoke kindly. Placed ——— shares of stock with him through ———. He is perfectly sound on the previous question."

Also in this wise: "Dined with ——— at Wermley's. Fixed it upon basis of 150 shares, for which he is to pay in monthly installments, or after if circumstances should be propitious."

And thus: "Feb. 3th—Called on JOHN MORRISSEY,

at his room. He threatened to kick me down stairs if ever I made another such proposition to him. Said he had always dealt a square game, and did not come to Washington to make money."

Again: "(Date blank). "Went to see Sprague. Could not do anything. He said the thing was a d—d fraud, and that he would expose the whole thing, but finally cooled down, and said he would pay no attention to it, as it would not come before any of his committees."

And yet again: "March —, Saw ———, as per appointment. He came down right, and is sound on previous question. 500 shares. No foolshness."

These samples may read like inventions. But I am at this moment glancing at the original documents and copying them word for word—except that I am leaving some blanks where the original spells out names in full. Meanwhile let me say that while the bulk of these documents relate to men who are not now in public life, and hence beyond the most effective range of journalism, yet many of them touch upon men yet alive and aspiring in a way that may tend to disturb the equilibrium of things by and by when I get ready to come down with the specifications. From these discoveries, like old

EAR RELIEFS.

ing up out of Mesopotamian sands, I proceed to wonder how much of such history may still be hid in the old papers of other lobbyists who have not come to the grief of seeing their effects held in hostage and subject to all the possible vicissitudes of action. Truly murder does not seem to come more certainly than slush, sooner or later, comes back to torment those who took it in their hands and destroyed the people's trusts in jobbery.

The events of the last ten days have served to raise in high quarters the question whether

OUR ARMY. is a concern of permanence beyond the power of Congress and the people to disturb. We have seen for the first time in our history since the establishment of the regular army in 1793, that Congress has refused to provide any means whatsoever for its maintenance. Some time ago I

pointed out in this correspondence that Mr. Hayes exercised upon this point—not wanting to call an extra session if he could help it, and also not desiring to infringe the law if the real scope of his power in such premises could be made clear to him. Now it is claimed, most respectably as to authority, that our army exists, like the British army, "by yearly consent of Parliament (Congress) embodied in the laws providing means for its maintenance." That therefore the withholding of this consent is tantamount, by due construction of the intent of legislators, to enactment that there is no further need of a regular military force, and hence no occasion for a renewal of the annual permission or consent by which such force may exist. This view means that the army is, in absence of new legislation, abolished, or rather, divorced from the people, immediately upon the close of the fiscal year for which the last law passed provided means of subsistence, pay, etc. That is to say, in this view, the army stands abolished, to take effect June 30, proximo. Congress has been summoned to meet in October, leaving a necessary hiatus of four months and fifteen days between the last day of the regularly and legally authorized existence of the army and the first possible day for a renewal of its plain license of being. What will Mr. Hayes do in this interim? "Twist the question in any form and the one answer comes back, "He must take the responsibility of maintaining a standing army in time of peace without the consent of Congress." This, in point of fact, raises one of the gravest issues of constitutional interpretation, and gives rise to one of the most solemn questions of precedent that have ever been presented for public consideration since the foundation of free popular government in this or any other country. Surely, if a President, of his own volition, can maintain an armed force of whatever strength without authority from the legislative branch of the government, and if he may by mere exercise of executive will keep in our midst an engine of such potentiality to give effect to the lawless designs of rulers, as an army always is, what other bolder or wickeder project may we not say the country and the people should prepare for?

Nobody may suspect Hayes of wicked designs, based upon the powers of the army, to give effect to despotic will, whim or caprice. But that is not the question. The question is whether any President, be he of good or bad intentions, may in this manner perpetrate any dangerous engine in our midst in the face of a present lack of consent, and in view of a possible express dissent, on the part of the people through their representatives so soon as they may again be heard? To me this is a graver question in its abstract bearings than has before been presented to an Anglo-Saxon people since Charles I went down to the Commons looking for Vane and Hampden. It matters not that Mr. Hayes means well. If the Savior were in his place the same considerations could be urged against this rashest of all rash steps,

AN ATTEMPT TO DEFEAT THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE, and to spit upon the action of their representatives. Nor can the patriotism of the army itself be urged on the ground that, as it is willing to work and wait for its pay, trusting to the equities of Congress when it shall next convene, it may be still further relied on not to abuse or be by any body made the instrument of abusing its authorized power and brute force ad interim. The proposition is broader than that. It is as broad as this: If an army can be maintained in this country at the will of one man, then our government is an autocracy. If upon an order in Cabinet of eight men, then we are an oligarchy; for the power to levy troops and maintain an armed force for any purpose whatsoever is a prerogative at the bottom and foundation of all other possible or conceivable prerogatives of government. Mr. Hayes does not, somehow, seem to have caught all the significance of this tremendous question. He may be enabled to see it more clearly in the sequel. A. C. B.

Sword Presentation.

Last evening at a meeting of the officers of the First Crescent City Regiment, ostensibly for special business, which occurred at the Cotton Exchange, our friend W. T. Vandry, Colonel of the regiment, was taken quite by surprise when Capt. Samuel H. Buck approached him and in the name of his brother officers begged him to accept a small token of the high esteem in which they held him, the token being in the shape of a magnificent sword, the hilt of which is of massive gold, elegantly carved and embossed, and the scabbard of solid silver. The sword has the inscription:

To Col. W. T. Vandry, First Crescent City Regiment, From his officers, New Orleans, May 12, 1877, In commemoration

Of the 14th of September, 1874, and the 9th of January, 1877.

It was with some difficulty that Col. Vandry found words to convey his gratitude for this expression of the sentiment of his officers, but when they were uttered they sounded like the unalloyed outpourings of a heart filled with delight and satisfaction at the agreeable surprise which the occurrence had provoked.

Law Department—Commencement Day.

Yesterday being the day set apart for the commencement exercises of the Law Department of the University of Louisiana, there was gathered within the spacious precincts of Grunewald Hall a goodly number of ladies and gentlemen, while on the platform was arrayed the best legal talent of our State.

The exercises were opened by a prayer by the Rev. C. Moynihan, after which was music. This was followed by the conferring of the degree of bachelor of laws, by the President of the university, Randall Hunt, LL. D., on the following graduates: H. J. Adolphe, A. B. Gillis, W. J. McCune, Fred Deleval, W. S. Pinney, D. J. Lewis, R. C. Sneed, John Taylor Whitaker.

After the conferring of the diplomas, the President of the University introduced Chas. E. Fenner, LL. B., who, in his usual brilliant style, delivered an address to the alumni, which was an elaborate oration, frequently interrupted by applause.

After Mr. Fenner's address the audience were treated to some delightful music, after which Mr. John T. Whisker, one of the graduates, delivered the valedictory.

This, with benediction by the Rev. C. Moynihan, closed the exercises.

Nipping a Watch.

On Friday evening Miss Wilmot, one of the ladies of the Academy of Music, sent an article to her residence on Carondelet street to bring her a bundle that she had forgotten. The boy disregarded the trust reposed in him, and while at the residence stole Miss Wilmot's gold watch.

The case has been placed in the hands of the detectives, and they are after the guilty youth. J. R. Walker, D. D. S., 180 Delord street.