

DAILY DEMOCRAT.

Official Journal of the State of Louisiana. Official Journal of the City of New Orleans. Office, 109 Gravier Street.

GEORGE W. DUPRE & CO. PROPRIETORS. GEORGE W. DUPRE, JOHN AUGUSTIN, H. J. HEARSEY, ALBERT G. JANIN. H. J. HEARSEY, EDITOR. NEW ORLEANS, SEPTEMBER 5, 1877.

THE POOR PUPPET.

The report of the Commission on the Custom-House in this city, made by Gen. Barney, the general commissioner of the government, by F. H. Hatch, a former collector, and L. A. Sheldon, ex-Republican member of Congress, has been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury and orders given to the Collector to carry out all its recommendations.

In this report the Commission speaks with special approval of the Weighers' Department, one of the most important in the Custom-House and says: "The records of the Weighers' office are well kept, the instruments are in good order, and the returns made are correct, inasmuch so that the returns are made the basis of both sales and purchases in preference to those of city or private weighers. We have failed to find an instance in which any member of the force has received payment for labor not actually performed or any indication of collusion with the city weighers."

Next the office of cashier was filled by Mr. Simpson, whose official capacity was in like manner recognized as of the highest order, and he is removed to make place for one of Anderson's members of the Legislature, in gross and flagrant violation of the constitution and the law. Then the Auditorship having been vacated by Mr. Alkman, is filled by the appointment of Ben Bloomfield, a partner and clerk of Anderson. Then removals of tried and competent men, whose administration has been passed upon by the commission sent here by the Secretary of the Treasury, and whose retention is recommended by that commission, which recommendation has been ordered by the Secretary of the Treasury to be carried out, have, together with Champin, the special deputy, been removed to make places for utterly untried, unfit and improper persons, who are the pets and dependants of Tom Anderson, who have not a single other qualification for these most responsible positions, in direct violation of the rules laid down by the President and Secretary of the Treasury, imperiling the efficiency and integrity of the administration of offices in which the interests of our commerce and of the public are seriously involved.

Thus is demonstrated to the world the truth of the charge that there has always existed from the beginning of the the Returning Board villainy a contract between Mr. John Sherman and Anderson and Wells that the wages of their infamy should consist of the entire control of the customs of this city, and that Mr. John E. King was appointed to the collectorship to fulfill this infamous contract.

Upon such proofs as these will the Senate of the United States be called on to vindicate the honor of the republic by the rejection of the man who has made these nominations to consummate a palpable fraud and place in office of high trust men who have shown themselves destitute alike of all honor and manhood.

THE STATE TREASURY.

The testimony of Treasurer Dubuclet before the committee charged with the investigation of his administration, is not calculated to confirm and justify the high vauntings of that official as to the stern fidelity and impartiality, not to say integrity, with which he discharged the duties of his office. His admissions and statements go far, indeed, to confirm the truth and justice of the charges of giving unlawful and inequitable preferences to warrant holders in the payment of warrants. His failure to keep a record of the warrants paid by him, and his habit of paying warrants with checks payable to bearer, are very suspicious facts, which he fails satisfactorily to explain. They can hardly be accounted for by the plea of ignorance of mercantile usages or the neglect of subordinates, seeing that the subordinates of Mr. Dubuclet, upon whom he would throw the responsibility for all the malversation in his office are competent and experienced men. It is very easy, however, to see how such a mode of book-keeping would obstruct an inquiry such as the committee are engaged in prosecuting as to the parties whose warrants have been paid. It is, too, very unfavorable to the Treasurer's vindication

against the charge of having given preferences to certain parties, who are charged with having had access to the interior of his office and obtained payment of their warrants when others were barred out.

There are other admissions of this official which are in like manner embarrassing to his defense. His concluding request that for further information his deputies be called on to testify is a repetition of the standing apology with which the Treasurer has evaded all inquiries into the mode of conducting his office for the last three years. This suggestion will hardly avail to call off a committee of the Legislature from following up the trail which they have struck. Now that by the payment of Judge Tissot's warrant a judicial investigation has been prevented, that of the committee will be prosecuted with the more vigor and thoroughness. We think that the conclusion of the investigation by this committee will fall considerably short of the prediction of the Picayune's "worthy old citizen," whose weighty refutation that journal so zealously indorses, of "a farce designed to hoodwink the public."

THE DEATH OF THIERS.

In all the world there was not a single human life upon which so much depended as upon that of Adolph Thiers, the patriot, statesman, orator and historian of France. In his death France has suffered an irreparable loss. At any period during the past fifty years this would have been a great calamity, but never could the bereavement have fallen with more crushing force than at this crisis of her national history, when all honest and patriotic Frenchmen were looking up to the veteran patriot and statesman to rescue them and their country from the perils which environ them. It is almost impossible now to foretell the dangers to the existing institutions of France, and even to the peace of Europe, which are involved in this sudden calamity.

It is the snapping of all restraints upon the revolutionary spirit, the destruction of the one solid and substantial barrier against the heretofore inevitable coup d'etat, the fatal end of all French aspirations for republican liberty and constitutional freedom. It was his great and honored name, and the profound reverence he elicited even from the commune, which kept in abeyance that license which was too often mistaken for liberty, and which justified the Napoleonic epigram, "L'Empire c'est la paix!" It was in the curbing of this mistaken and unwholesome spirit that the Republic was made possible, by being disassociated with the horrors of the commune, and at the same time a security and confidence in popular rule created, which attributed to the schemings and plottings of all who opposed it an unusual peril.

This was the great conservative influence which Thiers supplied to France, and his death gives the reactionary party the chance to raise the old cry, "The republic is anarchy—the empire is peace!" Or, at best, "Choose between Gambetta and MacMahon!"

It is barely possible that we may attribute to the death of M. Thiers a greater significance than is due. But, however this may be, he was a man whose place cannot be filled, and his loss is one that his country must deeply feel at this particular crisis.

THE RUSSIAN DISASTER.

The Russians have certainly reaped no laurels from the war into which their Emperor precipitated them with such pomp of preparation and grandeur of force. The results of their movement against Turkey are not of a character to correspond with the swelling notes of their preparation and their manifestoes. In fact, they have been disasters and disgraceful. They attempted the part of Patroclus in the Iliad, who induced himself in the armor of Achilles and rushed to meet the Trojan chiefs who had shrunk before the mighty Hector laid him sprawling in the dust, a victim to the rash confidence of impetuous youth.

Thus it was with Russia. She sought and made grand preparations to follow in the tracks and imitate the great military qualities of the German army of Von Moltke, which invaded and subjugated France. The Russian Emperor burned to show himself the worthy nephew of his uncle, the great Emperor of Germany. He had as large resources, an even numerically greater army and a far inferior adversary. What was the effect, half savage Turk, with his scant and discordant population, more than half Christian, compared with the most active, spirited and distinguished nation and race in Europe, which in less than a half century before had overrun and subdued all Germany, indeed all Europe.

But Germany triumphed in the most brilliant manner over the French with the army which Von Moltke organized and directed, and which the Emperor led in person, with his Chancellor by his side, and dictated the terms of peace to prostrate France. Why should not Alexander achieve a like victory? Why should he transmit his sceptre to his

successor, after a reign of a purely civil and political character, without a ray of military achievement or warlike enterprise? Doubtless these were the queries which have moved the Emperor of Russia to this gigantic undertaking to render conspicuous the closing decade of his reign by the consummation of the long cherished hope and ambition of all the Russian rulers for more than a century—that of the expulsion of the Mahomedan from Europe and the re-establishment of the supremacy of the Cross from the Bosphorus to the Atlantic. This was the aspiration of Alexander when he hurled his whole military force on Turkey, and placed in command of his magnificently equipped legions, his numerous Grand Dukes, his brothers and sons and his famous Generals, and ordered them to overwhelm and subdue the barbarous Turk and extinguish Mahomedan rule in Europe.

And thus far there has been a giant effort, an enormous expenditure of valor, of treasure and of blood, to compass the most sterile and inglorious results which have in modern times crowned so gigantic an enterprise. Defeats, disasters, and failures of the most mortifying character have on all sides attended their progress. The Turks, considering their vastly inferior resources, have shown themselves as they did four hundred years ago, the superiors of these vaunting champions of the Cross in all military, intellectual, moral and physical qualities. As strategists their commanders on both sides of the grand arena of the great conflict have foiled and barred the Russian progress and repelled their invasion. Their chiefs have won laurels, which the Russians have lost in nearly every battle and movement. The invader has become a defender, and is more anxious to secure a retreat than to push his advance to the objective point of the campaign, which was opened with so grand a flourish of trumpets. He now quivers on the ragged edge of extreme peril and uncertainty, as to the safe exit of his army from the toils into which it has been so rashly and unwisely hurried.

And how has this extraordinary failure been brought about? Why has Russia failed so signally to re-enact the grand drama of the German invasion of France? The answer is a simple one. Russia and the Russians are not Germany and the Germans. The victory of Germany was due to the intelligence, the science and art of her people, to the recognition by her government of the full dignity and rights of man to the discipline and self-control and national spirit, which come of large intellectual and moral discipline and thorough training in all the social duties and arts of Christian civilization. The Russians fail for the lack of all these qualities; neither their government nor people have emerged from the condition of stolid serfs, semi-savages, who have scarcely advanced beyond the state of enlightenment and progress in the arts of freedom and civilization of their Scythian ancestors of a thousand years ago, and whose government has never regarded them as entitled to aspire to any higher sphere of social intelligence and enlightenment than that of mere vassals and insensate serfs of a political and hierarchical absolutism. In this age no such government or people can successfully champion any cause, least of all that of a religion which is the source of all the grand intelligence, social elevation, enlightenment and progress in the arts and sciences, that have given such power to all the nations and peoples which have practised and illustrated the noble and refining precepts and morality of the Christian faith.

DIED.

DOBELMANN—On September 4, 1877, at 1:25 p. m., aged 33 years and 10 months, wife of Fred. W. Eichholz.

The funeral will take place on Wednesday, at 4 o'clock p. m., from the residence, No. 338 1/2 Jackson, near Dryades streets. The friends and acquaintances of the Eichholz and Herwig families are respectfully invited to attend.

HYATT—On Tuesday, September 4, 1877, at 4:30 o'clock p. m., after a lingering illness, Edward Clarence Hyatt, aged 32 years and 4 months.

The friends of the Vanketel family, and of his mother and of his brothers, F. J. and A. W. Hyatt, are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, on Wednesday, September 5, 1877, at 5 o'clock p. m., from his late residence, No. 138 Camp street.

Mobile and St. Louis papers please copy.

DUFFEL—At Donaldsonville, on Monday morning, September 3, 1877, at a quarter to 10 o'clock, Mary Corinne, youngest child of Fred. orick Duffel and Clemence Comes, aged 5 months and 1 day.

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