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NEW ORLEANS, OCTOBER 7, 1877.

In the interest of the State and the taxpayers of the State, we suggest that the latter take prompt steps to settle their dues with the tax collectors. Under the present law all taxes not paid by the 1st of November bear heavy interest until paid, and besides this interest, the delinquent will have all costs of collection to pay. Common prudence, therefore, should prompt every taxpayer to meet his obligations without further delay. Only this month remains in which these obligations can be settled without incurring a heavy weight of interest and costs, besides having afterwards the trouble of redeeming the delinquent property forfeited to the State.

Capt. John Augustin, city editor of the DEMOCRAT, leaves this evening for St. Paul, to attend the convention to be held there. The Captain represents the DEMOCRAT and will keep its readers thoroughly posted as to the proceedings of the convention and their real significance and importance.

In our columns this morning will be found an official announcement of the committee appointed by Gen. Fred Ogden to arrange for the erection of a monument to the memory of the martyrs of the Fourteenth of September. This committee, it will be remembered, was provided for at the great meeting of the people at the Opera House, on the night of the 14th of September. Gen. Ogden has made excellent selections, and we are sure the design will be carried out.

Alex. Stephens says that his health is better in the main than it has been for years. His bronchial troubles, that came near carrying him off last winter, are better, his rheumatism worse, his dyspepsia so-so; he can eat a chop or stake with impunity, but he can't touch an egg, or even coffee settled with an egg. We sympathize with him in this last ailment, but are we to infer that he has entirely recovered from his eg-otism? Yes, that he should be able, with all these ailments, to say, in the words of Webster, "I still live!" is a proof of the adamant durability of Southern statesmanship not to be overlooked.

We invite the public to compare the dispatches of the DEMOCRAT with those of the Times and Picayune. Our dispatches are fuller, more interesting and important than theirs. Occasionally, when the line of the Atlantic and Pacific is out of order, we are out short in our telegraphic news; but otherwise, we are actually beating the Associated Press, and shall continue to do so while our line is all right. The public has shown an appreciation of our dispatches, as the sales of the DEMOCRAT in the last ten days have increased more than sixteen hundred copies.

The establishment of the Atlantic and Pacific telegraph line has been a real blessing to this community. It has reduced the exorbitant rates of telegraphing, and now it enables us to enter into competition for the news of the day and furnish the public with fuller news and a better class of news than that dished out to them by the New York Associated Press. When the Atlantic and Pacific extends its facilities so as to guard against accidents, all enterprising papers will abandon the New York Association.

The statement in the reportorial columns of the Times yesterday morning intimating that a compromise had been agreed upon between Judge Spofford and Kellogg, to the end that the latter should withdraw his pretensions to the Senatorship, and that Judge Spofford would support him for the office of Collector of the port of New Orleans, we are authorized to say it utterly without foundation. Judge Spofford, the people of Louisiana may rest assured, has made no compromise with Mr. W. P. Kellogg, and they may be sure that he will make none. Judge Spofford is the legally elected Senator from Louisiana, and he does not think that the Senate has fallen so low that it is necessary to buy his way into it through compromises and compacts with sneak-thieves, frauds and adventurers.

Our correspondent "A. C. B." draws quite a magnificent picture of Senator Conkling grinding such frauds as Everts, Sherman and Behr under his heel. This is very well so far as crushing the frauds mentioned is concerned. But since the purpose of Conkling, it seems, is to sustain W. P. Kellogg for a seat in the United States Senate against Judge Spofford, he is certainly engaged in a dirtier business than any that ever Schurz has been charged with running, for he is co-operating with as vile and shameless a gang of political thieves and cut-throats as ever robbed or disgraced this or any other country. However grand Conkling may have appeared in the Rochester Convention, when he appears on the floor of the United States Senate to support the cause of W. P. Kellogg—a liar, fraud and sneak-thief, with no more right to represent this State than any burglar or cut-throat in the penitentiary—he will assume very different proportions and exhibit himself in the character of an indecent politician, devoid of self-respect, disgracing the Senate with his own presence and seeking to defoul it still more vilely.

We are certain that when Conkling appears in the role of debaucher of the Senate, champion of a Louisiana sneak-thief and the gang of robbers whom Grant organized, our correspondent's graphic pen will draw him to the life, and that the picture will make an excellent companion piece for the one he has given us this morning of the Senator in the Rochester convention.

THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY.

On the eleventh of this month a convention of the representatives of the great States of the Mississippi Valley will assemble in St. Paul, Minnesota, with a view of inaugurating a movement to unify, protect and advance the interests of those States. There has not been a great noise made about this meeting, but we are strongly impressed with the belief that it is the forerunner of important combinations and results both commercial and political.

If there is anything in geographical relations, and no sensible and observing man can doubt that there is, the States of the Mississippi Valley are identified in interest, and their destiny is a common one. The Eastern and Middle States were the first settled, and the wealth and political power of the Union first centered in them, while the West was settled largely by Eastern people with Eastern sympathies and ideas, who regarded Eastern interests as first in importance. Hence the East, supplanted by the West, has heretofore been able to pretty nearly monopolize the fruits of the government appropriations. But the young West has grown to stalwart proportions; a new generation has arisen there with Western affections, Western ideas, and with very independent, enterprising and progressive ways of thinking. The men of this new generation have surveyed the situation for themselves; they have marked the vast area of the mighty West; they have estimated its powers of production and resources of wealth, and caught a clear insight into the fact that, great as it is, it is still only a part of the vast empire of the Mississippi Valley stretching from Lake Itasca to New Orleans, and including in its imperial sweep fifteen rich, populous and magnificent States. Comprehending these facts, the Western men are awakening to the necessity of divorcing themselves from the East, which, through artificial and expensive routes, has drawn their trade and hampered the growth of their section. There are still Western men and Western newspapers who regard with jealousy any movement which looks to the improvement of the Southwest, and who cling with a vicious tenacity to their Eastern ideas and alliances. But the enterprising, far-seeing business men and statesmen of that section have seen a new light, as it were, and are steadily looking to the unification of the States of the Mississippi Valley.

The South should meet these pioneers more than half way. We too, to use the language of Mr. McClung, chairman of the St. Paul committee, in his letter to Mr. Ellis, lately printed in the DEMOCRAT, "are seeking a divorce from the East." That section from time immemorial has derived its support from the West and South, and it has grown rich on that support; yet, now we find no politics in the East except bitter and uncompromising hostility to any measure or any appropriation of the national government for the advancement of our interests. So much is this the case, that it is generally understood that the election of any Eastern man or of any man from the Middle States to the Speakership of the House, be he Republican or Democrat, will be a blow at the interests of the West and Southwest.

The sectional feelings and relations which produce such an apprehension must necessarily have a grave significance and tend to produce important results. It is these feelings and relations, in fact, which gave rise to the call for this St. Paul Convention, which must be regarded, if wisely managed, we think, the first step toward a closer alliance of the States of the Mississippi Valley, both politically and commercially; and should the assembling of that convention be followed by the election of Hon. Milton Saylor to the Speakership of the House—a Western man warmly committed to the interests of the West and West—we may look for speedy practical results from the combination.

The Western States of this combination produced this year one hundred and fifty millions of bushels of wheat; and to this estimate of the value of our grain, and of the cotton, sugar and rice produced in the Mississippi Valley, and even then we have but a faint conception of the productive powers of this wonderful region.

We can not easily turn away from the contemplation of these great capabilities. This growth of wealth and civilization has happened within the last thirty or forty years. There are thousands of men still living, whose hair is yet scarcely silvered, who have witnessed all the stages of its progress. We recently talked with a hardy and active man who was one of the first settlers in Wisconsin, and who had traversed the neighboring States when they were unbroken wildernesses. Suppose, if we may paraphrase a passage from a celebrated author, the angel of this adventurous youth should have drawn up the curtain and unfolded to his eyes the rising glories of this valley whilst he was gazing upon the inhospitable wilds around him and said to him, "Young man, these dense and unbroken forests, filled with naught save uncouth savages and tameless beasts, shall yet, before your eyes are closed upon the earth, equal in civilization and commerce the nations which are now the wonder and admiration of the world." If this revelation had been made to him, we say, would it not have required all the sanguine credulity and all the fervid enthusiasm of youth to make him believe it? And yet he has lived to witness this miracle; and, more wonderful still, without exceeding the years allotted to man, he may live to see the wealth, the civilization and the empire of the continent transferred to those wilds in which the first sound of civilization that was heard was the ringing of his own ax.

Such is the region, and such its capabilities, which the St. Paul Convention is designed to unify, and which proposes, with united strength, to demand of the National Government that fostering care of its mighty interests which wise statesmanship may suggest.

THE GERMAN.

We are not prepared to entirely sympathize with Mrs. Gen. Sherman in her wholesale and unqualified condemnation of round dances, yet we most heartily concur in her somewhat indignant protest against the assumption of dancing people that society must utterly abandon itself to the German, and that young girls who refuse to devote themselves entirely to its entrancing and voluptuous measures are only fit for wall-flowers, to be neglected and left to amuse themselves with albums and an interchange of Tupperisms with the aged and infirm, and even sneered at for abstinence that may be occasioned by moral conviction or individual taste. It seems to us that there is a great deal of good sense and justice in this protest, and any one who has any experience what-

ever in our latter day fashionable society must admit that it has not been made without provocation.

Indeed, the German, and dancing generally, has completely possessed the social world, and to the exclusion, we think unnecessarily and arbitrarily, of all other pleasures and accomplishments. This is certainly the case with the young and attractive of both sexes, who vote with one accord everything else in social intercourse a bore. This complete abandonment of the social world to this one amusement and accomplishment is necessarily at the expense of all other higher and more elevated pleasures and diversions which bring into play those rarer qualities of intellect, which alone can ennoble social intercourse and impart to it a true culture and polish. Music is the only diversion that is at all tolerated, and even this is merely tolerated and nothing more, while conversation is indeed one of the lost arts. The result is that society adapts itself to the German, and the order of culture it requires is fixed in accordance with the standard the German prescribes, which is at the best but a certain physical grace and a comparative familiarity with the latest fashions. Tees and boubons fill up the intermissions between dances and afford the sole evidence that mouths were made for any purpose whatever.

We do not wish it understood that we object to the round dances, upon moral or any other grounds, and we are certainly not disposed to question their rapturous delights. On the contrary, we regard them not only as harmless, but the most graceful and delightful of all the amusements of the young, both to the participants and to lookers on.

They are by far the most beautiful of all the dances, and the German is simply the perfection of physical movement, and seems to realize that smooth and gliding motion that Homer gave to his gods. We can easily appreciate the all-absorbing and rapturous abandon with which the young yield themselves to it, for the harmony and grace of movement, the physical contact and the very music and sympathy of respondent motion that distinguish it are delights that none can resist, unless, as quaint old Burton said of him who had never loved a girl: face, he is "out Nansen, out Nebuchadnezzar, and hath a peapon for a heart and a gourd for a head." Indeed were Thespis himself to step into one of our modern ball-rooms he would be struck with wonder and delight at the rare perfection to which his art has been brought, and would blush with shame at the memory of the rude and antique capers he was wont to do of the Bacchanalia.

Still, we think society might be benefited by a divided allegiance, and the cultivation of some of the other arts. It might even happen in the course of ages, by some subtle law of evolution unknown to scientists, that a yard and a half of millinery and a pair of agile heels would not constitute the highest social development either of man or woman.

In that happy time the man who can talk but can't dance may not be voted by universal girlhood a "flat," only fit to marry, and not to be compared as a gallant with those nice young fellows who look as if they had all been dressed by the same tailor and let out on contract to dance the German, so utterly devoid of personality are they all. It might even happen that those same young fellows should awaken to a due appreciation of themselves and compass their own ends through disgust at their mediocrity. But these are dreams of Utopia.

GUNPOWDER OIL.

A preposterous idea has been in circulation ever since civilization took birth that obtaining money under false pretenses was a crime and as such the parties perpetrating it were amenable to the law. In our column of insurance news we relate a very instructive occurrence in relation to coal oil: A gentleman goes to his dealer and purchases what is sold to him for safety oil; he has no sooner lit his lamp than he is satisfied by the dangerous vagaries of the flame that his "safety oil" is simply naphtha. He applies to the Board of Health for information and relief. He obtains the information, which is readily given, but as to the small matter of relief he is told that if he had been blown up, his house burnt down and his whole family sacrificed, he would have had cause for a civil action in damages. This is very consolatory. We are unsophisticated and want to light up our dwelling. We go to a dealer and ask for oil, the grocer gives us gunpowder; we are blown up and every vestige of our race and family is destroyed. Our only recourse is to institute a suit in damages. We think that we get the worse of it, if everything is properly considered. It seems to us that the dealer who sells one thing for another is a swindler, and ought to be amenable to the law.

Of all the base betrayals, of all the mean treachery, told of in history or in fiction, that Colorado election of last week was the worst. The constitution of Colorado provided that on the first election after the little Rocky Mountain State had entered the Union the question of woman suffrage should be submitted to its citizens. On this question the voters of Colorado last Tuesday passed judgment.

The women of Colorado seemed really anxious to vote. They organized a Woman Suffrage Central Committee, raised funds for its support and use, and resolved to thoroughly canvass the State in support of their claims. The fight at first seemed altogether a one-sided one. The woman-suffragists found themselves without an antagonist or opponent, nobody dared meet them in the field. The newspapers were loud in their support, the preachers encouraged them in this holy crusade, and even the politicians shouted and hurrahed for them. Everybody encouraged them; everybody promised to vote for "the ladies, forever." It looked as if it was an idle, useless campaign, all on one side, but the women had their hearts in it, perhaps they rather liked campaign work, insisted on a thorough canvass of the State, made eloquent speeches in every sequestered canyon, thundered in loudest tones to every mountain peak, and badgered and persecuted every voter, until he had given his word of honor as a gentleman to vote for woman suffrage.

On the day before the election the women suffragists had a clear majority of several thousands—had, in fact, nineteen-twentieths of all the votes. All the newspapers—the New York Times, World, the Chicago Times, etc.—predicted the triumph of this future sixteenth amendment. But, alas! treachery and deception had not been foreseen. When the ballot-boxes were opened last Tuesday, and the votes counted, the women-suffragists were beaten overwhelmingly, beaten three to one. This much news we have got, but the telegraph has not yet told us the end of the

story. The women of Colorado are stalwart and bold and are not likely to suffer this indignity, these insults and injuries with impunity. We expect soon to hear most thrilling tales, most tragic stories from Colorado's dales and fells. Look out for squalls.

That enterprising journal, the Chicago Times, or rather its New Orleans correspondent, has discovered a new party and located it in Louisiana. This is an Administration party, that will support the President and his policy throughout. Its first work will be to make a dash for the Custom-House, the complete control of which it will demand as the price of its support. On the basis of this patronage it expects to start out in politics. The leaders are, we learn from the Times, Warmoth and Gen. Randall Gibson. Those gentlemen have already made all the necessary arrangements for the birth of this young one. The enterprising reporter who discovered all this, in advance of the people of New Orleans and the Union, confesses that the story was based, probably altogether, on the fact that Warmoth and Gen. Gibson had traveled together on the same steamboat in Europe, and had then been seen to converse. This is the manner in which the sensational news of Western journals is manufactured.

The New York Clearing-House has, since its inauguration, transacted business to the amount of \$475,736,000,000. This is 216 times as great as our national debt, and probably greater than the value of all the personal and real estate, lands, houses, money and precious stones of the whole globe. And yet this monstrous sum has passed in checks, bills, drafts and other forms of bank transfer through the New York Clearing-House without the loss of a cent or an hour's delay on account of error.

Mr. Armstrong, the newly appointed Senator from Missouri, has made a speech, in which he declared that he was "greatly amazed" at receiving the appointment. The majority of the people seem to have been in the same mind, and if sympathy with public sentiment is the secret of popularity Mr. Armstrong ought to be the most popular Senator Missouri has ever had.

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This glorious wine, which stands first in rank, is the people's great favorite, so universally drank: "Tis the best, the leading champagne of the day, and for quality superior, will always hold sway." It is preferred at all weddings, selected for balls, "Tis the popular wine in dining-room halls: To brighten the mind, to strengthen the man, Piper-Heid sieck alone is the pure wine that can. 'Tis the juice of the grape, unswilled and fine, which makes Piper-Heidsieck the richest of wine: It invigorates the soul, it gives food to the brain: This exquisite wine, Piper-Heidsieck Champagne. Then let us drink to our health again and again, Of that beautiful wine, Piper-Heidsieck Champagne: For this is our sentiment, we loudly proclaim, Our choice of all wines, Piper-Heidsieck Champagne. 067 1m 2p

MARRIED.

FULMER-SAEGER—On Tuesday, September 25, 1877, by the Rev. James A. Little, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Hockadayana, Lehigh county, Pa., Gen. N. Fulmer, Esq., of Freemansburg Pa., to Miss Louisa L. Saeger, formerly of Egypt, Lehigh county, Pa. Mississippi papers please copy.

ISAACSON—HYMEL—On the 29th instant, at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, by the Rev. Father Jourdan, S. J., Miss Chloe Isaacson, of this city, to Mr. Joseph B. Hymel, of the parish of St. John Baptist, La.

MCBRIDE-DAUNIS—On Bello Grove Plantation, parish of Terrebonne, October 2, 1877, Jas. M. McBride to Miss Emily L. Daunis, Nouvelle. Middleburg, Vt., Calvert, Tex., and Minden, La. papers please copy.

DIED.

BOSTICK—On Saturday, October 6, 1877, at 6:15 p. m., Annie M. Bostick. The friends of the family, and of her brothers-in-law, W. T. Vandy, J. J. Rochester and V. G. Entriken, are invited to attend her funeral at 4 o'clock this (Sunday) Evening from the residence of W. T. Vandy, on Third street, between Prytanian and St. Charles streets.

JONAS—On Sunday, September 26, George Jonas, in the sixty-third year of his age.

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