

SOCIALISTIC.

THE LABOR MEETING YESTERDAY.

Special Arguments Used. The New Orleans section of the Socialistic Labor party met yesterday afternoon at Turner's Hall, about fifty persons in all being present, that number being about half the attendance on the previous Sabbath.

The meeting was called to order by the organizer, Mr. Cordes, after which the platform of the party was read (for the fourth time), and Mr. Eugene Symanski was introduced and made a speech eulogistic of the objects sought to be obtained by the party.

Dr. Newman (colored) was then called upon, was introduced and read a scientific essay upon the subject of labor, going clear back almost into the dark ages, and surely to the building of the pyramids in Egypt, in his researches for material upon which to found his argument, which was entirely too deep to be comprehended by a majority of the audience.

He was followed by Mr. John Roy, who made one of his characteristic efforts against capital, only one illustration of which need be quoted to show how admirably well posted the speaker was in matters foreign as well as local. In his discourse he assailed the Legislature for making an appropriation to aid in the construction of the New Orleans Pacific Railway, after a vote of the city had declared that it was not in the interest of the people.

Other speakers followed, and at 5:30 p. m. the meeting adjourned.

THE MERCHANTS' PARTY.

There was considerable talk on the streets yesterday over the Merchants' party movement, and the principal question asked was: "Which way does this new organization lean?" The names of some old and well known politicians being on the list, as published in the DEMOCRAT exclusively, made many wary of the movement, and some hinted that it was a move auxiliary to the American Alliance.

From a party who professed to know all about the matter, but who doctored that his name should not be used, we learn that the organization is for the purpose of putting into office men in whom the whole public will have confidence.

In reply to a question the party stated that he did not know whether the nonness of the Democratic party would be for the purpose of depending entirely upon the kind of men nominated. The merchants propose, so this individual said, to take matters into their own hands and try to put up men who would suit the views of the people.

After anxious inquiry in several quarters, it was found that the movement did not receive that hearty approval that was expected, as the merchants decline to leave their counting-rooms to be gathered on by politicians. Such has been the case too often before.

A CUSTOM-HOUSE CAUCUS.

The American Alliance, or, to use a more familiar term, the American party, have been moving of late, and they have been pushing their work in every direction where they thought the most good could be done. From what we can gather, they have taken a careful survey of the Democratic field, and concluded that there was not much to gain there, and as a matter of course the Republican leaders were looked after. In the quiet of yesterday, Sunday, and in response to invitations already given, quite a congregation of the leaders of the Alliance, singly and in couples, straggled towards the Custom-House, and without being observed except by a DEMOCRAT reporter, hastily entered and mounted the golden stairs leading to the second story. There they met several big guns of the Republican party, and a long confabulation was had. From what could be gathered on the outside, this visit was for the purpose of seeing what combinations could be made with those now in office regarding the approaching election, and to secure administration aid for their round trip. Tickets will be sold for \$2.25, and the party remained in the building some time, and came out smilingly.

On Wednesday next will come up an interesting case before the Third District Court, the plaintiff being Henry Street, the whalom Adjutant General under Kellogg, and the case is against the State Auditor.

The petition, which was originally filed in Judge Lynch's court, sets forth that he was legally appointed an qualified Colonel, Adjutant and Brigadier General of the Louisiana State militia, and Adjutant General and Acting Paymaster of the State troops. The petition sets forth further that Street exercised and performed the duties of these offices a rotation, and that in performing these duties he became entitled to the commutation for fuel, quarters, services, mileage, expenditures, services of armorers and supplies furnished by him for the benefit of the State under articles from his superior officers. For all of this he claims the sum of \$16,263, and for the years 1870-1-2 commutation of fuel, etc., \$5473. He also claims for commutation, etc., \$3730 for the year 1873. He alleges that the State Auditor has refused to pay him the amount claimed, and that there is now the sum of \$75,000 of unexpended appropriation for the year 1873. Further, that there are many thousands of dollars of unexpended balances of unexpended appropriations for the years 1870-1-3-4-5, and that if these balances were canceled there would be now in the State treasury a large amount. He therefore prays a writ of mandamus to compel the then Auditor, Geo. B. Johnson, to compel him to issue these warrants.

The petition was filed in the hazy days of Kellogg and Packard, November 23, 1876. What will become of this little suit is not difficult to say. The dainty Adjutant General, whose hat the White League so ruthlessly desecrated, will doubtless have to await the warrants.

SAD ACCIDENT.

About 11 o'clock Saturday night, as the tow-boat Tecumseh, with several vessels in tow, was passing down opposite Belair, twenty-eight miles below this city, Mr. Horace Sherman, one of our bar pilots, in attempting to pass from one vessel to another, missed his footing and fell into the river between the vessels. Three small boats were immediately launched, and search made for him for an hour or more, but without success, and the tow-boat proceeded on the way down. Mr. Sherman was a native of Freeport, Me., about

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It has been reported for some time already that the proprietors of the Opera House contemplate putting our temple of music in thorough repair and otherwise fitting it up for an opera season. It is even hinted that arrangements for the purpose have been completed, and that it is on the strength of these arrangements alone that the proprietors have concluded to improve and embellish the theatre. But the matter is kept so quiet that we have thus far been unable to learn the exact character of the entertainments that are said to be in preparation for the New Orleans public. However, everybody will join us in wishing all success to the enterprise, for whatever it may be it can only result in additional attractions to our city, which has shown so brilliantly in the past with its splendid opera performances.

SIGNAL SERVICE.

The passage of the sundry civil bill of this session of Congress makes a needed addition to the salary of observers of