THE NEW ORLEANS DAILY DEMOCRAT.

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THE FORTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

Political Debate Resumed on the Marshals' Appropriation Bill.

Kellogg Rises to a Question of Privilege—The Fortification Appropriation Bill—Proceedings in Detail.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—*Senate.*—Mr. Vance, from the District Committee, reported favorably the bill for the protection of the Potomac river fisheries. Placed on the calendar.

Mr. Williams presented a joint resolution of the Kentucky Legislature, instructing the Senators from Kentucky to urge the passage of a bill reducing the salary of the President of the United States.

Mr. Bruce, from the Committee on Education and Labor, reported adversely on the bill to provide for the investment of certain unclaimed pay and bounty moneys now in the treasury, and to facilitate the education of the colored race. Indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Gordon asked unanimous consent for the present consideration of his resolution for the appointment of a special committee on the Interoceanic canal.

Mr. Maxey objected, remarking that justice to committees required that the business on the calendar be disposed of.

After debate Mr. Gordon withdrew his resolution for the appointment of a special committee on the Interoceanic canal, and the resolution of Mr. Platt, requesting the President to communicate to foreign governments the desire of this government to secure the neutrality of any transit route across the Isthmus, was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

At the expiration of the morning hour the Senate took up the regular order, which was the fortification appropriation bill.

Mr. Allison explained the bill, and considerable debate ensued upon its provisions, Messrs. Conkling, Beck and others complaining that it was inadequate, while Messrs. Withers and Wallace maintained there was no danger of war, and that it was better to await results of European experiments in ordnance before going to great expense.

Mr. Saulsbury thought it would be better to strengthen the navy than spend money on coast fortifications.

Mr. Dawes said he was not in favor of economy which would leave our harbors unprotected.

Mr. McPherson condemned the administration of the Navy Department as wasteful and fruitless.

After some further debate, the bill as amended in committee was read a third time and passed. It appropriates $150,000 for the protection, preservation and repair of fortifications and defensive works; $400,000 for the armament of seacoast fortifications, including the expense of converting smooth bore cannon into rifles, and the manufacture of four improved breech-loading rifled guns, and $50,000 for torpedoes for harbor defense and for experiments.

Mr. Ransom, of North Carolina, introduced a bill to refund to the North Carolina Railroad Company certain moneys unlawfully collected from it by the United States. Referred.

Mr. Kellogg rose to a question of personal privilege. He sent to the clerk's desk and had read a copy of the New Orleans DEMOCRAT containing an extract from the Charleston *News*, alleging that the woman Jessie Raymond was brought to Washington by Kellogg for the purpose of influencing action on his contested election case. Mr. Kellogg said the article was false in every particular, and denounced its authors as cowards, who dared not make an open attack, but stabbed men in the back. He offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of five Senators to investigate the charges.

Mr. Thurman asked if the Senate had come to such a degradation as to notice every newspaper article scandalizing a Senator? When the resolution came up he should move to table it and let it sleep forever.

The resolution went over under the rules.

The Senate then adjourned until Monday.

House.—Mr. Manning, of Mississippi, asked leave to offer a preamble and resolution, similar to that offered in the Senate some days ago, reciting an alleged contract entered into by the Union Pacific Railroad Company and the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire specifically whether such contract exists and report what legislation is necessary to protect the public interests.

Permission was given said committee to sit during the recess and report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Newberry, of Michigan, objected.

On motion of Mr. McMahon, of Ohio, the morning hour was dispensed with and private business laid aside, and Mr. McMahon reported back the deficiency appropriation bill from the Appropriations Committee, with an amendment appropriating $600,000 for the payment of fees and expenses of United States marshals and their general deputies, thus making the total amount appropriated by the bill $1,265,530.

The House then went into committee of the whole on this bill.

Mr. McMahon pointed out that the bill made no appropriation for special deputy marshals, and said he doubted whether the Democratic party ever would appropriate money for the special deputies so long as the law stood in its present shape.

After some sparring between Mr. McMahon and Gen. Hawley, of Connecticut, as to the question whether the liability for the payment of special deputy marshals was a public debt or a private debt of the Republican party, Mr. McMahon resumed his remarks upon the bill, attacking especially the extravagant administration of the government printing office.

Mr. Hiscock, of New York, defended the public printer from the charge of squandering public funds, and as to Mr. McMahon's statement that the Democrats would not appropriate money for special deputy marshals, he said the Democrats had gone to the country on that issue and been defeated—referring especially to the elections in Ohio. He was surprised, he said, that the Democrats, after such experience, should come back and announce that they would not obey the decision of the Supreme Court.

Mr. McMahon replied that the debt had been incurred in advance of appropriations and contrary to law.

Mr. Hiscock said he thought the Democrats would eventually pay it.

After a speech by Mr. Finley, of Ohio, attacking the administration of the government printing office, the committee rose.

Mr. Scales, of North Carolina, introduced a bill appropriating $380,000 to ratify and carry out the agreement with the Ute Indians for the sale of their lands. Referred.

Mr. Acklen, of Louisiana, offered a resolution calling for information as to all appropriations ever made for rivers and harbors in Louisiana. Referred.

The House then adjourned till Monday.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Ruby's Explanation of Republican Demoralization in Louisiana.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—The Senate Exodus Committee continued the examination of Mr. Ruby, colored, editor of the New Orleans *Observer*. He mentioned several parishes in Louisiana where negroes were not allowed to vote unless they voted the Democratic ticket; there were exceptions, however, in some localities where the conservative white planter element was strong enough to see fair play, and allowed them to vote as they pleased. The negroes generally voted in 1876 because white Republicans led and encouraged them, but after President Hayes withdrew his support from the Republican State government the Republicans, white and colored, left themselves at the mercy of lawless Democrats and became discouraged. Mr. Ruby's examination will be continued to-day.

Henry Adams, a colored farm hand from Shreveport, testified to his connection, in 1870, with a secret committee organized to get information as to the condition of negroes throughout the country. This committee developed by 1874 into a "colonization society," also secret, whose object was to appeal to the United States or some other government for aid in emigrating to Liberia. Falling in this, in 1877 the negroes resolved to emigrate, no matter where, to get away from subjection to the men who once owned them. The movement was not aided by Republican politicians.

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF A MAIL LINE WITH CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.

Col. Samuel C. Reid, representing the Mississippi Valley and Brazil Steamship Company, of St. Louis, addressed the House Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads to-day, in advocacy of a new feature of connecting with the mail service a postal express for carrying small packages as third class mail matter, which, he argued, would yield a large revenue to the government. He also advocated Representative Robertson's bill to establish a line of mail steamers between New Orleans and Central and South American ports. Mr. Hawley, of New Orleans, also spoke in favor of the bill.

ADVERSE REPORT OF THE COLORED EDUCATION BILL.

The bill for the application of the unclaimed bounty money of the colored soldiers to the education of the colored race was to-day reported to the Senate adversely by Senator Bruce, from the Committee on Education and Labor, the committee finding that, from present indications, the said money will all be needed to meet the lawful claims that are constantly being presented.

THE DUTY ON MATERIALS FOR MAKING PAPER.

Mr. Erastus Brooks, of the New York *Express*, and George Jones, of the New York *Times*, appeared before the House Ways and Means Committee to-day and urged the removal of the duty of 20 per cent on wood pulp used in making paper, holding that it would tend to neutralize the efforts of the combination of paper manufacturers to force the price of paper up. The Smith Paper Company, of Lee, Mass.; Bulkley, Dunton & Co., Hon. Wm. A. Russell, of Lawrence, Mass.; Hon. Warner Miller, of Herkimer, N. Y., and others interested in paper manufacture, were represented on the other side of the question. They declared that no combination to enhance the prices exists; that the advance in the price of paper resulted from the natural operation of the law of supply and demand; that while the removal of the duty named would injure those engaged in developing the process for making cheap paper stock, it would not regulate the price of paper. The committee meet again to-morrow.

MAIL CONTRACTS ON STEAMBOAT ROUTES.

The letting of mail contracts for steamboat routes for the Southwestern section has been postponed until April 1, and bids from the owners of steamboats will be received up to that date.

MRS. ATTORNEY AT LAW LOCKWOOD AND SENATOR HILL.

Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood has written an open letter attacking Senator Hill and charging him with numerous immoralities. That gentleman has promptly branded the letter as "nothing but a batch of falsehoods." He regards it as a desperate attempt at defamation, utterly malicious and unworthy of notice beyond a simple denial of the truth.

FOREIGN AND INTERSTATE TRADE MARKS.

The House Judiciary Committee to-day decided to report a bill carrying out treaty stipulations with foreign countries concerning trade marks. They acted adversely on Mr. Armstead's bill for interstate regulation of trade marks, and decided that the subject is not sufficiently important to warrant a constitutional amendment as proposed by Mr. McCoid's bill.

WAR CLAIMS REJECTED.

The House Committee on War Claims to-day decided to report adversely on thirty claims, amounting to over one million of dollars. They passed favorably J. S. and O. S. Latham's claim for $43,631 for supplies furnished the government during the war.

THE TELEGRAPH WAR.

A Case Involving the Right to Use the Page Patent and the Morse System.

NEW YORK, March 12.—In the United States Circuit Court to-day, before Judge Blatchford, counsel for the Western Union Telegraph Company made a motion in the usual form for a decree in the case of Priscilla Page, executrix, against the Holmes Burglar Alarm Company, recently decided in favor of the former. Opposing counsel asked that a decree be framed so as to cover only the three claims set forth in Judge Blatchford's decision. It had been stated, they said, that the Western Union Telegraph Company, which was the real complainant in this case, intended, under cover of this decree, to obtain injunctions and arrest all persons, railroad corporations and telegraph companies throughout the country, who are using telegraph machines covered by the Page patent, and thus obtain a virtual monopoly of the Morse telegraph system. Judge Blatchford gave opposing counsel two weeks in which to submit a petition setting forth what they considered their rights in the premises.

ANOTHER VICTORY FOR THE AMERICAN TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

NEW YORK, March 12.—Chief Justice Curtis, of the Superior Court, to-day rendered a decision dismissing the complaint and vacating the injunction order in the case of the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which was argued before him last Monday.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Judge Harlan, of the Supreme Court of the United States, issued a supplemental order to-day, enjoining the Washington Railroad Company and the American Union Telegraph Company from connecting the wires with the railway stations, from doing public telegraph business at railway stations, and from doing anything in any wise conflicting with existing contracts between the railroad company and the Western Union Telegraph Company. The full hearing on the merits is set down for the sixteenth of May next.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

Further Particulars of the Fatal Explosion in the Frankfort, Ind., Flax Mill.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 12.—At the time of the Frankfort flax mill explosion all the employes of the mill, ten in number, were gathered in the boiler room, apparently for the purpose of warming themselves preparatory to going to work at 7 o'clock. The explosion completely demolished the building, shaking the neighboring town and hurling pieces to a distance of 300 yards. Not one of the men escaped. After the accident engineer Claxton was the only one alive. He never spoke a word and died in a few minutes. Two men were buried in the debris, the rest being blown through the walls and horribly mutilated. The body of one man was found 500 feet from the boiler room, which stood in the centre of a two-acre space. The head of a man named Webb was blown entirely off and others were torn to pieces. In the absence of survivors the cause of the explosion remains a mystery.

THE JURY FOR THE TRIAL OF THE KEMPER COUNTY CASES STILL INCOMPLETE.

DE KALB, Miss., March 12.—The case of Virgil and Houston Gully, for the murder of Gilmer, is still occupying the time of the court here. Not a juryman has been obtained within the past thirty-six hours. Six are now in the box, but little hope remains of getting a jury at all.

HANGED FOR MURDER.

FLORENCE, Ala., March 12.—John Mansfield, colored, was hanged to-day for the murder of Tatie Irvine, colored, in this place, November 11, 1878.

THE PROCEEDINGS ABANDONED.

DEKALB, Miss., March 12.—Proceedings in the trial of Virgil and Houston Gully for the murder of Gilmer were abandoned to-day, and the case stands continued, on account of failure to obtain a jury.

AN EXECUTION IN GEORGIA.

SAVANNAH, Ga., March 12.—Dan Brigherly, a negro, was hanged privately in Thomasville, Ga., to-day for rape of a respectable white woman in October last.

Secretary Sherman Still in the Field.

CHICAGO, March 12.—M. L. Scudder, of this city, has received a letter from John Sherman denying the rumor that he intends to retire from the presidential contest. Mr. Sherman says: "I consider myself a candidate, and shall do so to the end, but I don't think it necessary to belittle or arraign Gen. Grant, Senator Blaine, or any one else, or to use my official position to promote my candidacy."

Death of an Ex-Auditor of Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., March 12.—Wm. F. Taylor, late Auditor of Public Accounts of Virginia, died in this city last night, of heart disease, aged sixty-seven.

AFFAIRS ABROAD.

The Parliamentary Elections Still Engrossing Attention in Great Britain.

Press Comments on Mr. Gladstone's Address—Gen. Melikoff Already Feeling the Effects of Unlimited Power—General Foreign Notes.

THE UNITED KINGDOM.

LONDON, March 12.—The *Times*, in a leading editorial to-day, approves the moderation of tone of Lord Hartington's address, and says his Irish policy is one the country will heartily approve, whether carried out by Liberals or Conservatives. With regard to Lord Hartington's assertion that the policy of the government in Eastern Europe has utterly failed, the *Times* also says: "On the Continent this opinion does not prevail. Germany and Austria have heartily approved and supported British policy, and in Russia there is a bitter feeling of disappointment over the success of that policy."

The *Times* thinks, furthermore, that the statement of Lord Hartington to the effect that the Liberals have sought to increase the influence of England in the councils of Europe with as much sincerity and with more success than the Conservatives, might be disputed. It is not in accordance with the prevalent opinion in England or on the continent. The *Times* is glad, however, to know that the necessity of pursuing this object is recognized by the Liberal leader. The difference between the policy of the government and that of the Liberal party is thus reduced to a question of method.

The Liberal leader, Lord Hartington, will address the first political mass meeting of the campaign at Accrington, Lancashire, on Saturday next.

In the House of Commons last night the amendments of the House of Lords to the Irish distress bill were agreed to.

The *Times* says: Mr. Gladstone's address to the electors of Midlothian is a brilliant and concentrated summary of his familiar indictment against the whole government and all it has done. It is very effective as declamation, but it has the tone of weakness. There is nothing throughout it to remind us that there is any political realities to be considered in pronouncing judgment except the ministers themselves. Mr. Gladstone leaves out of sight the essential circumstances with which the ministry were concerned—the Eastern question, depression of trade and the worst harvest of a generation. For all this there is no allowance; there is nothing visible to his gaze but the ministry which has been gratuitously misusing the resources and discrediting the honor of the country. The great facts of the political world of the day are elements which Mr. Gladstone leaves out in this sketch, and unfortunately these are indispensable to a satisfactory review of the situation.

There has been a sudden outbreak of fever on Kare Island, near Cape Clear Islands; sixty-three are prostrated and one death reported.

The total subscriptions for the Cunard steamship shares approach £5,000,000. The shares offered have been applied for nearly four times over.

The British ship John Murphy, from New Orleans, lost her main and mizzen topgallant masts and sails.

The Conservative and ministerial journals declare the budget statement satisfactory.

The *Daily News* says the budget is framed on happy-go-lucky principles. It makes no important changes, but simply says: "Here is an inconvenient load of debt; let us see if we cannot lift it off our own shoulders and on to the shoulders of some one else."

The *Times* says the budget was predestined to be unsatisfactory, and it will not stir the pulse of the country in favor of the ministry, but, on the other hand, will hardly furnish the opposition with a new arsenal of weapons for the approaching electoral campaign.

RUSSIA.

LONDON, March 12.—A St. Petersburg dispatch to the *Standard* says: After the second representation of Rubenstein's new opera, Ivan Kalashorikoff, at which the Imperial family was present, its performance has been prohibited. The scene of the opera is laid in the time of the Czar Ivan, "the Terrible."

LONDON, March 12.—Russian advices state that Gen. Melikoff is in bad health, and is spitting blood, owing to overwork and suppressed excitement. It is said his life was undoubtedly saved by a shirt of chain mail worn under his uniform at the time of the attempt made to assassinate him. The bullet struck the body between the ribs and hips, where a wound would have been mortal had not the bullet been stopped.

FRANCE.

PARIS, March 12.—The Radical newspaper *Mot d'Ordre*, publishes an address of the Russian Revolutionary Committee, thanking the French people for refusing extradition in the case of the Nihilist refugee, Hartmann.

LONDON, March 12.—The *Standard's* Paris dispatch says: The council of ministers have resolved that no compromise shall be accepted in consequence of defeat of article 7 of the Ferry education bill.

GERMANY.

BERLIN, March 12.—The *Governmental Post* states that Prince Bismarck has ordered a collection of diplomatic documents attesting the hostile intentions of Russia towards Germany. The volume will include papers bearing upon Prince Gortschakoff's proposal ions to France for the conclusion of an anti-German alliance.

AFGHANISTAN.

LONDON, March 12.—The *Daily News'* Cabul dispatch says: "The leaders of the Kohistani insurgents have agreed to follow the advice of Mustafa Habibulah Khan, a chief friendly to the English, who was sent to them by Gen. Roberts with the statement that the British government would accept for ruler of Cabul any Serder, with few exceptions, whom the assembled representatives of the nation might choose."

The *Standard's* Candahar special says: "Reports brought in by spies say that Mahomed Jan's following is increasing enormously. His agents are recruiting in all directions."

CHINA.

LONDON, March 12.—A dispatch from Shanghai to Reuter's Telegram Company, dated to-day, reports that Chung How, late ambassador to Russia, who negotiated the Kuldja treaty, has been beheaded, and that a revolt has broken out at Pekin.

The Situation in San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 12.—Everything was very quiet last night. There were several ordinary meetings of Workingmen's ward clubs, at which the Citizens' Protective Union and the arrest of Kearney were vigorously denounced. It is not learned that Kearney attended any of them. The executive committee is said to have held a meeting to-day, but nothing is known of the proceedings.

Kearney was brought before the police court this morning. He stated that he was ready, and desired neither jury nor counsel, and that he had no witnesses. The policeman who is the complaining witness in the case being temporarily absent, looking for certain other witnesses, the case was continued until to-morrow.

Movements of Gen. Grant and Party in Mexico.

GALVESTON, March 12.—To-morrow's *News* will publish the following special, dated City of Mexico, March 11:

The Governor of the State of Puebla, attended by his secretary, returned Gen. Grant's visit. Gen. Grant visited the exposition during the evening and expressed himself pleased with some articles on exhibition. Gen. Grant and party visited the Guerrero Theatre that night. The theatre was tastefully adorned and brilliantly illuminated and crowded with people.

Yesterday morning Gen. Sheridan and several others visited the horticultural town of Cholula. Meanwhile Gen. Grant and party visited Casa de Maternidad, the factory of Senor Rudo and other places. The ladies of the party afterwards visited several churches. All the party except Gen. Grant attended a corredor de torras. The same evening and last night the entire party attended a literary performance at the exposition building. Gen. Grant asked for copies of all the speeches made during the evening. The party left Puebla this morning at 7 o'clock and arrived here at noon.

Vanderbilt to Pay for the Removal of the Obelisk.

CHARLESTON, March 12.—A Washington dispatch to the *News and Courier* says: Private advices from Egypt state that W. H. Vanderbilt is the hitherto unknown person who planned and who is to pay for the transportation of the obelisk to New York city. Seventy-five thousand dollars is the sum to be paid upon the successful completion of the work.

A Band of Indians Defeated by a Scouting Party.

SANTA FE, N. M., March 12.—A scouting party of the Ninth Cavalry attacked a band of thirty Indians on the twenty-eighth of February in Amorno canon, on the southeast corner of Sacramento mountains, and after a brief fight defeated them, capturing their camp equipage and stock. The Indians are supposed to belong to Victoria's band.

Movements of Ocean Vessels.

NEW YORK, March 12.—Arrived: Laporte, Algeria, Henry Edge, Cornwall, Sueva, Old Dominion. Arrived out: Criterion, Lee, Ann, Andrew Jackson, Gallia. Homeward: Diamont for New Orleans.

BARCELONA, March 12.—Arrived: On the eighth, bark Giusto from New Orleans; on the ninth, Nueva Baringeun from Charleston.

Minister Foster Preparing to Leave Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, March 10.—Minister Foster and family expect to be in New Orleans about the twenty-second. Last night President Diez gave a grand banquet to Mr. and Mrs. Foster, who are now receiving farewell entertainments.

Yellow Fever at Guadaloupe.

NEW YORK, March 12.—The steamer Canima, which arrived here yesterday from the West Indies, reports that on February 27 quarantine regulations were again enforced against the Islands of Guadaloupe. Some cases of yellow fever were reported in Basseterre and Point-a-Pitre.

The Florida Timber Cases.

PENSACOLA, Fla., March 12.—Judge Settle decided to-day, in the timber cases, that the United States were entitled to every remedy provided by law, in every State in the Union, to enforce their rights without receiving bond for damages or costs.

The Virginia Oyster War.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., March 12.—Arms and ammunition were sent to Lancaster county by the state authorities yesterday, to protect the oystermen of the Lower Rappahannock from foreign dredgers.

Death of a Prominent Baltimorean.

BALTIMORE, March 12.—Gen. Henry A. Thompson, President of the National Bank of Baltimore, and a prominent citizen of this city, died to-day, aged 80 years.

THE STATE CONVENTION.

Official Call of the Democratic State Central Committee.

HEADQUARTERS DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, New Orleans, March 11, 1880.

At the regular meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee of the State of Louisiana, held on Saturday, the sixth instant, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That a convention of the party be called to meet in New Orleans on the twelfth day of April, at such a place as may be selected by the chairman of this committee, for the purpose of selecting delegates to the national convention to assemble in Cincinnati on the twenty-second of June, and to designate the time, place and basis of representation of the several Congressional conventions, to be held for the purpose of nominating candidates for Congress in such districts as have no central congressional committee.

Resolved, That the basis of representation in said convention shall be the same as in the State Convention, which assembled at Baton Rouge, October 6, 1879, except when the Democratic vote was increased at the election on December 2, 1879, in which case that vote shall prevail.

Resolved, That the Parish Committee of the city of New Orleans and of the different parishes be instructed to cause delegates to be selected to said convention on the basis of said representation.

APPORTIONMENT.

The parishes of the State and wards of New Orleans are entitled to the following number of delegates, respectively, under the foregoing resolutions, to wit:

Ascension	6	Sixth Ward	7
Assumption	8	Seventh Ward	9
Avoyelles	9	Eighth Ward	7
East Baton Rouge	11	Ninth Ward	10
West Baton Rouge	2	Tenth Ward	12
Bienville	6	Eleventh Ward	11
Bossier	8	Twelfth Ward	6
Caddo	13	Thirteenth Ward	3
Calcasieu	7	Fourteenth Ward	1
Caldwell	4	Fifteenth Ward	4
Cameron	2	Sixteenth Ward	1
East Carroll	1	Seventeenth Ward	2
West Carroll	3	Ouachita	14
Catahoula	5	Plaquemines	4
Claiborne	9	Pointe Coupee	7
Concordia	6	Rapides	10
De Soto	7	Red River	3
East Feliciana	9	Richland	6
West Feliciana	9	Sabine	5
Franklin	5	St. Bernard	4
Grant	3	St. Charles	6
Iberia	6	St. Helena	3
Iberville	5	St. James	5
Jackson	2	St. John	4
Jefferson	4	St. Landry	19
Lafayette	6	St. Martin	5
Lafourche	10	St. Mary	7
Lincoln	7	St. Tammany	4
Livingston	4	Tangipahoa	5
Madison	12	Tensas	14
Morehouse	7	Terrebonne	7
Natchitoches	14	Union	9
Orleans—		Vermilion	5
First Ward	10	Vernon	3
Second Ward	12	Washington	3
Third Ward	17	Webster	4
Fourth Ward	7	Winn	4
Fifth Ward	10		

ALBERT VOORHIES, President.
O. M. TENNISON, Secretary.

ON TO TEXAS BOOM.

At Home Again.

NEW ORLEANS, March 12, 1880.

Morgan's Louisiana and Texas Railroad is finished to Vermilionville. To-morrow morning a train for the Louisiana Western goes over the road, so that track-laying from Vermilionville west will immediately commence. The train consists of a first class engine, No. 7, the "Grand Canne," belonging to Louisiana Western, eleven cars of steel (part of the cargo of the ship Bornio, now discharging a full cargo of rails for the Louisiana Western), and car load of coal.

At Berwick's Bay twelve carloads of ties will be added to the train and go through to Vermilionville. A track laying force will be ready to work this material into a railway; and these, added to the forces working east from Sabine river, east from the Calcasieu river and west from Vermilionville, we can calculate upon at least two miles a day in our "On to Texas by Rail." VIATOR.

Reed's Gilt Edge Tonic cures fever and ague

Mr. J. Ballantyne Hanney has written to a firm of diamond dealers in London, saying that his discovery will not affect their business, as the cost of producing very small quantities of boart is so great as to relegate the process to a mere laboratory experiment.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

[The DEMOCRAT is responsible for none of the views expressed in the communications under this head; but no communications will be printed except from responsible parties.]

MOUTH OF RED RIVER.

FRANKLIN, LA., March 11, 1880.

To the Editor of the Democrat:

The problem of improving navigation at the mouth of Red river has long engaged the attention of both the State and National governments. Much of the trouble now existing arises from works undertaken by the State, notably the removal of the raft from the Atchafalaya. It is within the memory of many still living that this stream was a solid raft for forty miles from the mouth of Red river.

Some water undoubtedly passed down its channel; but in a few years after the raft was removed it increased its capacity so largely as to engross not only all the flow from Red river, but it drew largely upon the Mississippi.

Thirty years ago the Atchafalaya was a stream merely on the map. As its channel has constantly deepened, of course it has become more and more difficult to keep open the communication with the Mississippi.

Before the war this had been so thoroughly ascertained that the State engineers devoted much time and labor to determine some plan *of a permanent character*, the execution of which would secure navigation from the Mississippi to the network of streams which interlace the western portion of the State.

In 1860 it was possible to have made a new mouth for Red river, and it may be so now (I am not now conversant with the present condition of affairs there save from reports), but it could only be accomplished by sacrificing the navigation of the Atchafalaya.

This would injure all the Opelousas and Teche country. Although it would have been cheaper to make this new mouth, yet the State engineers, taking a broad view of all the interests involved, concluded some plan must be adopted which would not only open Red and Ouachita rivers, but also secure navigation to all the Southwest parishes.

The improvement of Bayou Plaquemine by the construction of a lock was the conclusion finally reached. By this work being done all interests would be served, and the lower parishes directly benefited, not only by having a direct route to New Orleans, but at the same time they would be relieved of the immense body of water which annually escaped by the Plaquemine and Atchafalaya.

A glance at the map will show that while the distance to Red river would not be increased, that to Washington and the Teche would be greatly lessened.

The importance of maintaining water communication with New Orleans needs no comment, nor is it necessary at this day to enlarge upon the necessity of doing something to remedy or remove the obstacle which now exists.

But we should be able, in presenting our claims for relief to the general government, not only to suggest a remedy, but to demonstrate that the one we propose will be permanent in its character, and the benefit to be derived of such a nature as to divest it of any merely local application.

We can urge the building of the lock at Plaquemine, because it will not only be the sole outlet for navigation on the West bank of the Mississippi, between the Arkansas and the Lafourche, but because whatever amount may be there expended will remain productive to all time.

It will not require annual appropriation for dredging. Dredging is always a very unsatisfactory way of improving an alluvial bar, because after the first rise no remains of the work can be discovered.

I have no personal reasons why the old mouth of Red river should not be dredged, but as we have had so much trouble in securing appropriation, I imagine it would be better for all of us to join hands and endeavor to secure the execution of a work which will endure, and the completion of which I honestly believe will do more to develope the State than any other proposed. P. H. THOMSON,
Civil Engineer.

HOUSE BILLS.

Expenses of Tax and License Suits.

House bill No. 191, which passed its second reading yesterday, authorizes the Governor to appoint a board of five, of which he shall be *ex officio* chairman, to ascertain and approve the amount of costs, fees and charges legally due officers of the State of Louisiana, who have rendered services in the prosecution of suits for tax and license prior to January 1, 1879, and which were remitted by the ordinance for the relief of delinquent taxpayers. When approved by the board, said claims shall be receivable in payment of any taxes and licenses due to the State prior to January 1, 1880.

AN ANNUAL POLL TAX.

House bill No. 19, introduced by Mr. Faulkner, provides for the levying of a poll tax of $1 50 per capita, annually, upon each male inhabitant of the State over the age of twenty-one years; said tax to be due and payable on and after the first day of January in each year. Said tax shall operate as a first privilege lien on all the real and personal property, of whatever kind, which may be owned by or to which the taxpayer may have any right for the year he may owe the tax, and such privilege shall continue to exist thereupon into whatever hands such property or right may pass, and shall not be prescribed; and the collector of such tax shall have the right at any time after such tax shall be payable, and after the first day of January in each year, to seize any such property or rights, and to cause the same to be sold after ten days' notice given, the same as in notices of sale under execution, to pay the said tax and the costs of seizure and sale, which costs shall not exceed $5 in each case. And in order the more effectually and promptly to collect said poll tax, whoever shall employ in his service for any purpose for which any wages or compensation are to be paid, any person subject and liable to pay such poll tax between the first day of January and thirty-first day of December, inclusive, of each year, shall be liable to pay said poll tax of such employe, which amount of poll tax such employer shall have the right to deduct from the wages or compensation of such employe, provided he shall pay the same to the proper collecting officer thereof, and shall take a receipt therefor in the name of the employe. It is further enacted that the provisions of the act shall apply to employers and employes for the year 1880, as well as to any subsequent years when the employment exists at the time the act goes into effect, or whether it is subsequently made.

APPEALS FROM DISTRICT TO SUPREME COURT.

House bill No. 117, by Mr. Farmer, which passed its second reading yesterday, provides for an appeal from a district to the Supreme Court upon questions of law alone where any party or parties aggrieved by any judgment rendered desire a review of the law and not of the facts. The taking of an appeal upon questions of law shall not prevent any other party aggrieved by the judgment from also appealing upon the whole case of law and fact, or upon other questions of law, and no said appellee in said appeal who has himself appealed upon questions of law alone, shall be permitted to set forth in his answer to the appeal of his adversary additional questions of law or to erase any question of fact.

VIRGINIA'S PROTEST.

Resolutions Passed by Her Legislature on the Coles Decision.

RICHMOND, March 9.—In the Senate to-day a preamble and resolutions were adopted relative to the recent decision in the United States Supreme Court in the case of J. D. Coles, a county judge of this State, indicted in the United States (Judge Rives') Court for failing to put negroes on juries. The preamble recites in effect that the decision threatens the very existence of State governments as distinct sovereigns, and it places the judiciary of a State completely under the control of the United States, and if followed to its local results will enable the United States Congress to coerce the State judiciary, as well as the State executive and legislative departments in all matters, thus destroying every vestige of State sovereignty; a most alarming doctrine to all who value the blessings of that liberty for the security of which the United States constitution itself was established and ordained.

The resolutions urge the Virginia Senators and Representatives in Congress to procure a repeal of all the laws of Congress which tend to the exercise of powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution nor prohibited by it to the States, especially of that act under which the decisions mentioned were rendered, and request the Governor to communicate copies of the resolutions to the Governors of the several States, with a view to having the Legislatures thereof take similar action.

13—15—14.

A Pittsburgh Official Insane Over It at St. Louis—What a Michigander Did.

(Chicago Times.)

ST. LOUIS, March 8.—A strange, wild-eyed man came into the Hotel Hunt to-day and dropped into a chair. He was well dressed, wore a gold watch and chain, and would have seemed respectable had it not been for the splashes of mud all over him and a pair of bloodshot eyes, telling only two plainly of mixed drinks. After he had occupied the seat for half an hour, muttering inaudibly to himself, the day clerk approached him: "Want a room?" "Thirtn, Fourtn, Fiftn," muttered the stranger, "Whazzer say, young man?" "I say, do you want a room?" from the clerk, somewhat brusquely. "Nine, seven, thirteen, fourteen; yes, gimme room, quick, an' cover me up so I can't see it," and the stranger shuddered all over. The clerk saw he was suffering from delirium tremens, and was about to call the officer on the beat, but the landlady, Mrs. Polk, who has a special taste for trying to reform drunkards, interfered. She had him carried to a room on the second floor and dosed him all day long with strong coffee. As he lay tossing about at intervals of five minutes he would shriek, "Fourteen, fifteen, sixteen," following it up by "nine, ten, eleven," with moans and inarticulate cries. At last, as the lady was endeavoring to get the tenth cup of coffee down him, he sprang up in bed, knocked it from her hand, shrieking at the top of his voice: "Confound that puzzle—that infernal puzzle." This is an overtrue tale. That gentleman, who at last accounts was still muttering numerals and drinking coffee, does not answer to the name of Brown or Smith. His name is Kennedy, and when he is at home in Pittsburg, Pa., he is considered by no means an unimportant personage. His papers show that he occupies a respectable position in the city government of Pittsburg.

ADRIAN, Mich., March 8.—Will. H. Crane, a gentleman of means and reputation, made affidavit before Justice Lamb this afternoon that he had solved the game of fifteen, making the numbers come in rotation, when the final numbers had previously stood thirteen, fifteen, fourteen.

Brother Gardner on Progress.

[Lime-Kiln Club Proceedings, Detroit Free Press.]

The librarian reported the receipt of more almanacs and a copy of Andrew Jackson's inaugural message, and added that his department stood in sad need of a dictionary. He was frequently appealed to to decide how to spell such words as "diphthong" and "catarrh," and he couldn't be sure he was right without a dictionary to refer to. "De day am comin' when our library wil' boss' de biggest kin' of a dickshunary," said the president in answer, "but it am too soon now. Nobody expects us to spell as good as de white folks, an' nobody sees de need of it. We haint worked up to dat pint yit. We aint still down among such words as 'soup-bones' and 'taters,' an' de time for soarin' a peg higher am way off. Darfore, if any of de members of dis club am afflicted wid de cater or de diphthong dey will have to grin an' ba'r it."

All the English He Knew.

[Boston Transcript.]

I heard a funny story of a little Boston boy the other day. His father had amused himself in teaching the bright little fellow several words and phrases in a number of languages, so that he had quite a reputation as a linguist. An Englishman of some note dined with the family one day, and the child was much interested in watching him and listening to his conversation. After dinner the guest took him on his knee, with the remark: "I hear you know a great many languages; tell me how many you know." "Oh, I know French and German and Italian and Spanish, and that is all." "But you know English?" "No, I don't know English," he answered, with a very positive shake of the head. "Yes, you do, certainly," persisted the Englishman. "I tell you I do not," replied the child, almost impatiently, very emphatically. "My papa knows English, I s'pose, but I only know two words in English." "And what are they?" "'Ouse and 'orse."

A Patent Chalk Mark.

Not long ago a man applied at the Patent Office in Washington for a patent of an invention, which was refused him, as the examiner said, "because the invention was merely a chalk mark," and a man must be crazy to suppose that a chalk mark could be patented. But the man went to court, and last week got a decision in his favor, in the shape of a mandamus compelling the Commissioner of Patents to issue the patent. The judge said that a chalk mark could be patented if its application was useful and original. In this case it was applied to a piece of pasteboard, cut in a strip and fastened together in a circular form, with beveled edges, so that it could be slipped over sugar-buckets, jars of sweetmeats, cake-boxes and other things to which insects are attracted. The man claims that all insects are repelled by chalk, and this circle of pasteboard, well chalked and tightly fitted, will act as a perfect guard against them.

The Prohibitionists to Nominate a Presidential Ticket.

The Prohibitionists have sandwiched their national convention between the Republican and Democratic conventions. Mr. James Black, chairman of the "National Committee Prohibition Reform party," and Mr. John Russell, secretary of the same, have issued a formal call for the national convention of that party, to meet at Cleveland on Thursday, the seventeenth of June, to nominate candidates for President and Vice President. Each State is to have the usual representation according to representation in Congress, and the District of Columbia and each of the Territories to have two delegates. There is no restriction in regard to sex or race in the selection of Prohibition representatives.

From the Banks of the Hudson.

NEWBURG, N. Y., October 20, 1879.

H. H. Warner & Co., Rochester, N. Y.:

Gentlemen—A lady of over seventy years of age, in failing health for over a year, has been using Warner's Safe Bitters on my recommendation. She feels very grateful for the benefit she has derived therefrom, and says that until she used it her stomach could bear no vegetable food for over three years. I believe it to be a certain specific for dyspepsia.
DR. J. T. JOSLYN.