

DAILY DEMOCRAT.

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The Weekly Democrat. The WEEKLY DEMOCRAT, a large eight-page paper, will be furnished to subscribers at the following rates:

E. A. BURKE, Managing Editor.

NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 19, 1880.

WEATHER PROBABILITIES.

For the South Atlantic and Gulf States, stationary or falling barometer, south and east winds; stationary temperatures, increasing cloudiness and possibly rain.

TO DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES.

Delegates and alternate delegates to the Cincinnati Convention who are in the city can obtain their credentials by applying at the DEMOCRAT office.

Credentials that may not be claimed by Monday night will be forwarded by mail to their respective owners.

PAUL WATERMAN, Secretary of the Convention.

Mining, says Mr. Alex. Delman, an expert, is not a profitable enterprise. Such, at least, is the experience of the Pacific slope. In eight years California employed \$2,235,750,000 in gold mining enterprises, while the mint value of the actual product of gold for the same period was only \$450,000,000.

Small-pox has visited Chicago just ahead of the Republican convention and has created considerable alarm in that town. The Republican National Committee insists that the authorities shall look after the disinfection of the town before the Republican politicians arrive there.

While the weather has been very warm in the West of late, Iowa and Minnesota showing a higher temperature than New Orleans, it has been extraordinarily cold in the East, falling twelve degrees below zero in New Hampshire on the twelfth. The natural results—potatoes nipped and beans and tomatoes killed—have, of course, followed.

The Philadelphia Times regards Garfield as the most promising Republican "dark horse" for the Presidency. He is both stalwart and liberal; filled with the ultra political ideas of the Western Reserve, yet so identified with Hayes as to make him appear liberal. He has, moreover, no political wars with such leaders of the Republican party as Cameron and Conkling; is, indeed, on friendly terms with both factions of the party and, therefore, a much more promising candidate than Washburne or Sherman, both of whom have many enemies among the Republicans.

The anti-Grant movement, especially in New York, gathers strength every day. A concerted movement is now on foot to establish clubs in all parts of the State, and it is meeting with much success. The "Young Scratchers" are active in the movement, and declare that they will bolt the ticket if Grant is nominated at Cincinnati. They have almost as strong objections to Blaine. Notwithstanding this opposition it is reasonably safe to say that Grant will be nominated. Thus far 240 delegates have been instructed, and the third term men have captured 198 of them. Of those elected without instructions he has secured a fair proportion.

If half what the Republicans themselves say of Grant as their Presidential candidate be true, the Democrats will have little to boast of in defeating him. The Cincinnati Commercial declares that he will lose Ohio by an overwhelming majority; and now come the leading members of the party in Pennsylvania declaring that Ullyses cannot possibly carry "the Keystone State," as ten per cent of the Republican voters will bolt his nomination. Even in the Union League Club there is a strong revolt against him, while such men as Hon. G. A. Grow declare that it is utterly impossible for him to carry the State, and that if the Southern Republicans nominate him they will have to elect him.

After all, women do not crowd the ballot-boxes when the ballot is given them, notwithstanding the loud assertions of the women's rights shriekers as to what they would do in that event. According to the new law of New York women are permitted to vote for school directors. The privilege had been exercised in a number of the minor towns by a few, and some interest was manifested to know what would be done with it in the larger cities. Curiosity upon the subject has been satisfied. A few days ago Albany held its charter election, and in a city containing nearly 100,000 inhabitants less than twenty women exercised the newly acquired privilege. This does not look as if the women's suffrage advocates have correctly gauged feminine sentiment upon the subject.

There promises to be considerable trouble at the Democratic National Convention at Cincinnati, growing out of the lack of telegraphic communication with the rest of the world. The convention will be held in the Springer Music Hall, in that city. It was proposed, as is usual at conventions, that this building should be connected with the telegraph offices, so that the newspaper correspondents could telegraph the news direct to their journals. This, it seems, will now be impossible, as the county commissioners of Cincinnati refuse to allow the Western Union Telegraph Company to extend its wires to Music Hall. Something like this has been proposed all along, and a meeting of the Democratic National Committee was called some time ago to change the place of convening in the event of a refusal of this kind. The Cincinnati newspapers, however, came to the aid of their city and promised that all the necessary telegraphic arrangements would be made. They promised, however, prematurely, for the Cincinnati commissioners have just denied the request of the Western Union.

TILDEN AND LOUISIANA.

(New York Star.)

Senator Vance says that Tilden could not get the vote of North Carolina if he was nominated. Dr. Wise says he could not get the vote of Virginia. Senator Butler thinks that he could not carry South Carolina. The New Orleans DEMOCRAT believes that Louisiana would repudiate him. Florida, Mississippi and Texas would certainly bolt him. And the same account comes from nearly every Southern State. After this it is wholly unnecessary to inquire what would become of him at the ballot box in New York.

The Star is mistaken concerning the belief of the New Orleans DEMOCRAT. We have said that Mr. Tilden is not the choice of the Democracy of Louisiana—in fact, that his nomination would greatly weaken the party in this State, as it would chill the enthusiasm of the party and perhaps jeopardize the ticket.

Gen. Hancock is the decided preference of our people, but any Democrat who may receive the nomination at Cincinnati will receive the party support.

The Louisiana Democracy do not expect to dictate the nominee, or to repudiate the nomination to be made at Cincinnati, but, as it will in all probability require an expression of two-thirds of the delegates in the national convention to decide upon an available standard bearer, the Louisiana Democracy will be prepared to sustain any man who can command such an indorsement.

OUR RAILROAD NAPOLEON.

The late Cornelius Vanderbilt was at one time looked upon as the type and embodiment of the "railroad king," but some of those who have followed him rule over vast empires where he held no more than principalities. The system embraced in the Pennsylvania Railroad and its connections includes some 3400 miles, while the roads now controlled by Jay Gould cover 8108 miles, and practically unite the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, Chicago with New Orleans, Texas and Colorado, and the Ohio river with the far Northwest. If the Vanderbilt roads, which are operated in close connection with Mr. Gould's system, are added to it, there will be found a total of 11,549 miles of road—more than an eighth of our entire mileage in railroads—virtually under one management. There are, however, still some important links missing in this great system, which seeks to control the entire transportation of the country from the Pacific to the lakes, and thus dictate to the trunk lines further eastward. Mr. Gould's policy has been not to take prosperous and paying roads, but to get possession of bankrupt and insolvent ones, in the hands of receivers, or for sale or involved in litigation. This policy has been greatly promoted by the prostration of railroad interests and business since 1873, and it will be proportionately less successful hereafter as railroads thrive and grow in value and stability. The fact that the Gould system of roads has no connection of its own with Louisville, Cincinnati and Cleveland recently gave unusual importance to the report of a combination of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton, Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette and Ohio and Mississippi, aggregating 1622 miles, in the interest of Mr. Gould; for if these roads should be acquired the Gould, or Wabash system, would come into possession of direct routes to Cincinnati and Cleveland, while the Ohio and Mississippi road would give the most direct line between St. Louis and Cincinnati. The recent arrangement, by which Mr. Gould and Mr. Scott secure control of the partly-built New Orleans and Pacific line, making connection with the Texas Pacific, and Missouri, Kansas and Texas roads at Marshall, Texas, will render the Western system complete. Any further expansion will probably be eastward, or to secure connections with the points referred to above. It is possible, also, to add one or two feeders in the far Northwest. Still, whether Mr. Gould has obtained or is seeking further expansion of his railroad system in the direction mentioned or not, we may be sure of one thing, and that is that his railroad plans are still unfinished.

Siberia promises to have a rich crop of exiles from Russia this year. The telegraph reports that there are 20,000 prisoners now waiting in Russian jails for better weather, when they will be conveyed to Saghalien and the Siberian mines. The dictatorship of Melikov appears so far to have brought about but few of those reforms promised and predicted of it.

CURRENT TOPICS.

TRANSPORTING SHIPS BY RAIL.

In his remarks before the special committee of the House of Representatives, on the twenty-seventh of March, Mr. Wm. F. Channing, of Providence, R. I., claimed the right of discovery of the plan of a ship railway across the Isthmus of Panama. He said, during the discussion which preceded the construction of the present Panama Railroad, about thirty years ago, he proposed the ship-railway for the passage of vessels across both the Isthmus of Panama and the Isthmus of Suez. The ship-railway, in its first conception, was a road with a multiple track of equidistant parallel rails, which by using both sides of every rail (except the two outside ones) made as many tracks as there were rails, less one. To this multiple track a cradle-car was adapted, with corresponding arrangement of trucks and wheels; and an equal pressure was secured to each wheel by rubber rollers, the cradle-car proposed by Mr. Channing. The cradle-car, running on the rails, with certain improvements giving elastic support at short intervals to the hull of the ship. As the cradle-car, 300 feet long, for the accommodation of the largest ships of that day, could not adapt itself to the common railroad curves and gradients, Mr. Channing's plan contemplated a straight and level track—changes of direction or grade being effected by turn-tables and lifting tables. Objection being made to this plan, that the ships could not ride in these cradles without straining, Mr. Channing proposed to substitute for them caissons, or water cradles, large enough to allow the ship to be transported to be floated in them. Mr. Channing exhibited a drawing of his railway, with its terminal caissons submerged and prepared to receive ships floating above them, ready to be drawn up the inclined plane; which drawing he declares was submitted to the Hon. Richard W. Thompson, now Secretary of the Navy, July 25, 1859. Mr. Channing says the ship railway has been studied for years and has been made familiar to many of the best engineers of the country.

THE NEW KANSAS CEREAL.

The New York Produce Exchange has received from California specimens of the so-called Pampas rice, recently brought into notice by the Kansas board of agriculture as a new cereal which will grow on the most arid soil and thrive in the most prolonged drought, conditions under which neither corn nor wheat can exist. It is claimed that this "rice" has proved, on analysis, to possess more nutriment than corn and nearly as much as wheat, and it is stated that it is indigenous to South America, Asia and Africa and has probably been introduced by the Monsoons. The plant is no novelty. It was tried in Europe as early as 1856, and made its appearance here long before the Monsoons. It has been in the habit of coming forward every few years under a new name, having already been known successively as Egyptian corn, Ivory wheat, Guinea corn and Indian millet. Each attempt to foist it upon the public has been a case of false pretenses. It is really no other than the drooping sorghum, and differs from common sorghum principally in the fact that the stalk, bearing the head or ear, droops. This is not caused by the weight of the ear, as the stalk begins to turn almost from the moment the ear begins to form. It is not rice or anything akin to it, and is not a native of South America. Among the semi-barbarous peoples of the East Indies and Africa it forms a staple article of food. Urripe it is cooked and eaten like green corn; ripe it can be boiled the same as rice.

THE CHINCHA ISLANDS.

A dispatch from Panama, dated April 3, says that the Peruvian papers report the destruction of the guano-loading apparatus at the Chincha Islands. These islands, three in number, are located in the Pacific ocean, about twelve miles from the coast of Peru, opposite the port of Pisco, in the Department of Lima. The largest of the group, known as North Island, or Isla del Norte, is only four-fifths of a mile in length and about a third of a mile in breadth. The whole importance of the islands is due to their immense deposits of guano, from which the Peruvian government derives a revenue larger than from all other sources combined. They are of granitic formation, and rise from the sea in precipitous cliffs, worn out into countess caves and hollows, which furnish convenient resting places for sea-fowl; and the guano is honeycombed with the nests of small birds which frequent the islands in immense flocks. The name of the islands and of the town and valley of Chincha on the mainland is derived from an ancient Indian race which has left some interesting relics

its sojourn. The surface, which is destitute of vegetation, is covered with guano more than one hundred feet in depth. The quantity of guano in the islands in 1846 was estimated at 18,250,000 tons, and according to the survey of the Peruvian government in 1853 they then still contained 12,376,100 tons. The supply is now practically exhausted, and the foreign export which had begun in 1841 was brought to a close in 1872. Between 1853 and 1872, 8,000,000 tons were obtained from the North and Middle Islands. In 1853-4 the Chincha Islands were the chief object in the contest known as the guano war between President Echenique and Gen. Castilla, and in 1864 they were taken possession of by the Spanish Rear Admiral Pinzon in order to bring the Peruvian government to apologize for its treatment of the immigrants from Biscay. The excavating and shipment of the guano deposit at present employs two or three hundred laborers, mostly convicts and Chinese coolies, who have formed a temporary settlement on the principal island. They live in huts of bulrush matting, stretched on bamboo supports, which furnish a sufficient shelter in that dry climate. All means of subsistence, even drinking water, have to be brought from the main land. More than 100 vessels are usually lying here loading or waiting for cargoes. The North Island, and chief of the group, has been estimated to contain 17,000,000 tons of guano, but these figures are probably exaggerated.

The New York Star, which interviewed the walkers in the late pedestrian match in New York, declares that the story of their having suffered so much from their violent exercise is absolutely false, and that they are to-day in excellent physical condition. Hart, the winner of the match, declares that he could easily have made twenty miles more, but that he did not do so because he saw he had the race in his hands and had heard so much of the danger of overwalking and over-exercising. All of the pedestrians are of the opinion that pedestrianism is a progressive science, and that we are only just beginning to learn how to walk. Ten years ago 400 miles were considered as impossible in six days; a year ago 45 miles was regarded as extraordinary. In the period of twelve months this record has been increased 117 miles. All of the professional walkers were certain that the future winners of pedestrian belts must make 600 miles in six days, and believed that even more than this was possible. There can be no doubt that these pedestrian contests have really shown us some points in the very necessary art of walking. Hart, the champion pedestrian of the world, is only twenty-one, of small build and very ordinary physical development, and his success is wholly due to the scientific manner in which he walks and swings his legs and arms. The New Yorkers who composed his audience see this, and are now walking scientifically. Of course there will be a great deal of humbug in this matter. Some people, perhaps, may seriously injure their health with excessive exertion of this kind, but, withal, we are undoubtedly the gainer in learning that walking does not require muscular physical development—only a little care, training and common sense.

EXECUTIVE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE OF LOUISIANA. SESSION OF 1880. SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 24, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—33. Mr. Luckett called up nominations and appointments lying over.

EXECUTIVE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE OF LOUISIANA. SESSION OF 1880. SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 25, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the President pro tem. of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—33. Against Confirmation—None.

EXECUTIVE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE OF LOUISIANA. SESSION OF 1880. SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 26, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the President pro tem. of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—33. Against Confirmation—None.

EXECUTIVE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE OF LOUISIANA. SESSION OF 1880. SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 27, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the President pro tem. of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—37. Against Confirmation—None.

EXECUTIVE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE OF LOUISIANA. SESSION OF 1880. SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 28, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the President pro tem. of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—37. Against Confirmation—None.

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On motion of Mr. Rogers the Senate advised and consented to the foregoing nomination and appointment by the following vote: For Confirmation—Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—29. Against Confirmation—None.

On motion of Mr. Cunningham the injunction of secrecy on each of the foregoing nominations and appointments, respectively, was removed. The Secretary was directed to notify the Governor, and the doors were opened. JOHN CLEGG, Secretary of the Senate.

SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 25, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the President pro tem. of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—33. Against Confirmation—None.

SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 26, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the President pro tem. of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—33. Against Confirmation—None.

SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 27, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the President pro tem. of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—37. Against Confirmation—None.

SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 28, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the President pro tem. of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—37. Against Confirmation—None.

SENATE CHAMBER, New Orleans, February 29, 1880. The Senate was called to order in executive session by the President pro tem. of the Senate. There were present: Messrs. A. B. Augustin, Brian, Buffington, Cahen, Campbell, Cunningham, Davesy, Demas, Estopinal, Fontenot, Foster, Hagan, Harris, Leake, Lucas, Luckett, Marston, Newton, Nutt, Parlange, Perry, Pollock, Robertson, Rogers, Stewart, Steele, Settoon, Story, Vance, Watkins—37. Against Confirmation—None.

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