New-York Tribune.

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WASHINGTON.

THE REDEMPTION AGENCY.

ITS INABILITY TO CARRY OUT EVEN THE PLAIN PROVISIONS OF A VAGUE LAW—HOW THE TREASURY CAN MONOPOLIZE THE SMALL BANK-NOTE BUSINESS—REDEMPTION OF ONLY A PART OF THE NOTES RECEIVED—HEAVY EXPRESS CHARGES—MORE NOTES REDEEMED IN GREENBACKS THAN THE AGENCY FUND EVER CONTAINED.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—The Redemption Agency organized by the Treasurer under the Currency act of the last session falls far short in ability to carry out even the plain provisions of that exceedingly vague law. The express brings daily about $300,000 in bank-notes for redemption; of this amount the large notes only are selected and sifted through the mazes of till, table, and tape, which go to make up the 17 processes and 99 scrutinies of the new redemption. The notes of smaller denominations are filed away, in must and mildew, in some strong vault, where money is a drug, and even the air does not circulate, there to await an increased redeeming capacity in the new agency, or that earlier date when the whole redemption fund will be tied up in ragged bank-notes. By putting the whole force on the large notes the figures showing the amount of work accomplished will be very creditable, and the proportion of the expense will be quite small, except in the one item of express charges, which even at Government rates will seem burdensome to many banks. There are three express charges, at 25 cents on every $1,000, to each redemption. First, the notes are sent in for redemption; second, greenbacks are returned; third, the five per cent redemption fund must be made good in greenbacks, all of which expense must be reimbursed by the banks.

There is one feature of the Treasurer's system which will have a tendency, should it be carried out, to give the Government a monopoly of the small note business, and cause the banks to issue their circulation in the larger denominations only. He proposes charging up to each bank the expense of transporting and assorting its currency, not in proportion to the amount of its circulation redeemed, but in proportion to the number of its notes which pass through the agency. It is held that the toil imposed upon the misses, misters, and mysteries of the system, in handling one thousand one-dollar notes is the same as in handling an equal number of one thousand dollar notes. This, however, will be a question to be settled when the redemption of small notes is reached. Only a part, therefore, of the notes which come from private individuals and banks are redeemed. The capacity of the new agency is so limited that the great amounts of bank notes which have accumulated in the Government depositories are lying unfit for circulation, and unavailable, in their vaults; counted by the million in the currency balance of the debt statement, they lie month after month, irredeemable in greenbacks and unexchangeable for clean bank-notes, by reason of the paralysis of the new agency and its sheer inability to separate the issues of the different banks from each other. The system has not yet in any degree inured to the benefit of the Government, as all its energies have been wasted in fruitlessly endeavoring to take care of notes sent by outside persons. But, beyond that, there is one fact that would seem to show that its operation has absolutely been a detriment to the Treasury. Remembering that the receipts of bank-notes are about $10,000,000 a month, to a close observer it is evident that more bank-notes have been redeemed in greenbacks than the redemption fund of the agency ever contained, allowing even a liberal margin for receipts of greenbacks to make good to the fund amounts paid out in the redemption of bank-notes. The agency must, therefore, have received greenbacks from some other source. Can it be that the Treasury furnishes them for such a purpose?

To mitigate the evils arising from an accumulation of bank-notes, assistant treasurers and depositories are instructed to assort deposits of notes, and to pay out such as are fit, reserving the unfit for redemption whenever it becomes possible. All of the $25,000,000 of notes already received for redemption have been in such a wretched condition as will necessitate their being sent, under the provisions of the law, to the Controller of the Currency to be destroyed and replaced with new notes having the charter number of the bank printed thereon.

TREASURY MISMANAGEMENT.

LOOSE MANNER OF DISBURSING THE SECRET SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS—THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS EXPENDED AND NO ACCOUNT RENDERED OR DEMANDED—AN EXPENSIVE DETECTIVE—TWO SALARIES AND UNLIMITED PERQUISITES DRAWN BY NETTLESHIP, THE DISTRICT CONSPIRATOR—COMPLICITY OF THE NEW-YORK CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

[FROM THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—If anything more were needed after the startling disclosures of last Winter to prove the grossest mismanagement of the Treasury Department under Secretaries Boutwell and Richardson, it may be found in the loose and irresponsible manner in which the annual appropriations for the Secret Service force have been disbursed. The business of this force is not one which would naturally foster a high sense of honor among its employés or inspire the officers of the Government with unusual confidence in their integrity, and, when it was known that many of them were pardoned criminals, the least that a Secretary who desired an honest expenditure of the public money could do was to cause the most careful scrutiny of their monthly accounts. But while army and navy officers, men proverbially careful and honest, have been required to furnish vouchers for every cent of money they have expended, and to show their official authority for every outlay, the men employed by Col. Whitley have been allowed to draw thousands of dollars from the United States Treasury without furnishing the first item of information as to its expenditure.

Secrecy may be, probably is, essential to the detection of counterfeiters, but the secrets of Whitley and Nettleship, so far as it is necessary to divulge them by furnishing itemized accounts of their expenditures, are perfectly safe in the hands of the accounting officers of the Treasury, unless they show compounding of felony or other violations of law, and then they ought to be exposed. Congress appropriates annually $125,000 "for expenses in detecting and bringing to trial and punishment persons engaged in counterfeiting Treasury notes," &c., and although it does not require the Secretary of the Treasury to report how each dollar of this money has been expended, it is none the less his duty to see to it that it is honestly paid out.

This has not been done. Persons who have been employed by Col. Whitley who are not officers of the Government, and with whose selection the Secretary of the Treasury has had little or nothing to do, have had the most exorbitant bills for "incidentals," for "travel," &c., paid without a word of explanation.

Nettleship, Whitley's assistant, recently indicted in the courts of this District for conspiracy, seems to have been the most experienced detective on the force. His regular salary has been $6 a day, Sundays included, and he has drawn in addition $3 a day for subsistence, making an annual compensation of $3,285—a pretty fair salary for a detective. But this is not all. His average bills for "incidentals" during ten months of 1873 and 1874 amounted to $714 90 a month, or the enormous sum of $8,578 80 a year; and he was also paid for "traveling expenses" at an average rate of $75 25 a month, or $903 a year. In other words, the Government has been paying this model detective more than $12,790 a year, for less than one-third of which he has furnished any vouchers or explanations.

One or two items in this account are peculiarly interesting. In April last the principal business which Mr. Nettleship had on hand was the arrangement of the Harrington safe burglary, and his expenses were consequently heavier than usual. He drew for that month his regular salary of $6 a day, or $180, and for subsistence $90. His traveling expenses were $158, and his "incidentals" amounted to the astonishing sum of $1,020 50. That is, Mr. Nettleship drew from the Secret Service fund in one month while he was engaged in a most wicked conspiracy with the District Ring and professional burglars, the sum of $1,448 50, and no questions were asked by Secretary Richardson, Assistant Secretary Sawyer, or Solicitor Banfield, who had personal supervision of the Secret Service force.

But the most astounding fact yet remains to be told. An examination of the pay-rolls of the New-York Custom-house will show that this same man Nettleship was appointed to be an Inspector of Customs there on the 18th of March, 1871, and that he has, for three years and a half, and until it was stopped by Secretary Bristow, regularly drawn his pay there of $4 a day, although he has never rendered any services. For this outrageous robbery of the United States Treasury, Secretaries Boutwell and Richardson and Collectors Murphy and Arthur are wholly responsible. All of them knew that Mr. Nettleship was already amply paid out of the Secret Service fund, for it was a matter of record in the Treasury Department at the very time that Tom Murphy nominated him and Secretary Boutwell confirmed his appointment to be an Inspector of Customs.

Several years ago Congress passed an act forbidding the payment of more than one salary to any officer of the United States whose compensation is $1,000 or more. I suppose ex-Secretaries Boutwell and Richardson held that Mr. Nettleship not being technically an officer of the United States, they had not, in this case, violated the law. But its spirit was violated if not the letter.

Next in importance to Nettleship on Col. Whitley's force, stands A. B. Newcomb, who has also drawn $6 a day for salary as detective, $3 a day for subsistence, and large sums for "incidentals" and "traveling expenses," besides $4 a day compensation as Inspector of Customs in the New-York Custom-house. He was appointed to the latter position June 27, 1873, by the then Secretary of the Treasury on the nomination of Collector Arthur. Mr. Newcomb's bills for "incidentals" have ranged all the way up to $418 a month, and his traveling expenses have, in addition, been as much as $80 a month.

Another of Whitley's assistants is W. G. Mauk, a sort of a second class man, who receives $5 a day for his services, and $3 a day for subsistence during a part of the time. His largest bill for "traveling" in a single month was $114, and the largest "incidental" account $126. He has also been an Inspector of Customs in the New-York Custom-house since Oct. 22, 1872, at $4 a day.

Mauk and Newcomb seem to have had more conscience than Nettleship, or else Col. Whitley limited them in their expenses. During 10 months of 1873 and 1874 Mr. Nettleship drew his $3 a day for subsistence with the same regularity that he drew his salary; he never missed a day on either. But Mauk and Newcomb, although they were just as constantly employed, as is shown by the fact that they drew their full salary for each month, subsisted at the expense of the Government only a part of the time. Newcomb, I believe, did not miss a day in six out of the 10 months, but Mauk seems to have gone hungry at least half the time.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.

THE POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Sept. 23, 1874.

The Post-Office contract for stamped envelopes and newspaper wrappers, for four years from the 1st of next October, has been awarded to the Plimpton Manufacturing Company of Hartford, Conn., W. R. Ladd of Holyoke, Mass., the lowest bidders, and Messrs. Gill & Hayes of Springfield, Mass., the next lowest bidders, having respectfully withdrawn their proposals. The Morgan Envelope Company of Springfield, Mass., presented an unsigned bid, which was not considered by the Postmaster-General. If their bid had been signed, the contract would probably have been assigned to them as the third lowest bidders. The Postmaster-General has issued a general order as follows: First, that the present division of free delivery offices into two classes on the basis of population, viz., the first class embracing those in cities having at least 100,000 population, and the second class, embracing those in cities having a less population, shall be retained. Second, that the carriers at offices of the first class shall be appointed at not to exceed $700 a year, on the recommendation of the local Postmaster, and their pay increased $100 at the expiration of each year's service on the like recommendation of the Postmaster, certifying to their faithfulness and efficiency during the preceding year, till they reach $900 a year, at which point the advance on this class shall cease. Third, that the carriers at offices of the second class shall be appointed at not to exceed $600 a year, and their pay increased $100 at the expiration of each year's service till reaching $800, when such advance cease. Fourth, that the pay of the $600, $700, and $800 carriers who have been in the service one year shall be increased $100 each from Oct. 1, 1874, excepting those carriers of the second-class offices who have reached the maximum $800. The appropriation asked for, namely, $2,000,000, was cut down $100,000, and hence the Department is unable to increase the pay of carriers from July 1, 1874, in accordance with previous usage.

PATENT LEGISLATION IN EUROPE.

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Thatcher has received a letter from a distinguished German mechanical engineer and inventor, expressing great hope of the passage by the German Parliament, at its coming meeting, of a Patent law based on the principles recommended by the Patent Congress which met in Vienna last year. The letter says that a petition signed by the leading manufacturers, mechanical engineers, and inventors of the Empire was presented to the Parliament last year, and a Committee appointed to prepare a bill to be considered at the next session to secure favorable action upon it. A society of inventors and others interested in improved patent laws has been organized in Berlin. The writer also reports increased interest in patent legislation in Switzerland and the Netherlands. The most prominent inventors in England are moving for the appointment of an Anglo-American Commission to devise a plan for the assimilation of the patent systems and laws of England and the United States. This would probably have been accomplished before this had it not been attempted in England to couple with it an international copyright law.

A COMMISSIONER UNDER THE TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

The following has been issued by the President:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Sept. 23, 1874.

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the first section of the act entitled "An act to ascertain the possessory rights of the Hudson Bay Company and other British subjects within the limits which were the subject of the award of His Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, under the Treaty of Washington of May 8, 1871, and for other purposes," approved June 20, 1874, I hereby appoint Hazard Stevens of Olympia, Washington Territory, to perform the duty required of the Commissioner provided for in said act. U. S. GRANT.

SKETCH OF A CHICAGO DEFAULTER.

CHICAGO, Sept. 23.—The capture of Samuel A. Briggs in New-York gives great satisfaction to those who suffered from his rascalities. He was once a member of the School Board, a promoter of science, a church officer, a leader in society, and a prominent banker, at one time Vice-President of the now-defunct Franklin Savings Bank. On account of his connection with the Board of Education his bank became a favorite with the teachers in the public schools, many of whom had the savings of a lifetime deposited when the institution failed. An examination of the books showed that $85,000 had been abstracted, and $20,000 more could not be accounted for. In July the Grand Jury indicted Briggs, but he left the city, went to New-York, thence to Canada, where he was followed by the officers, whom he eluded, and who were obliged to relinquish the pursuit. The next that was heard of him was the welcome intelligence that he had been captured. His fall was a shock to the community, but there is little sympathy for one who showed no mercy to the poor, whose savings he is believed to have stolen. The bank was thrown into bankruptcy. The creditors have thus far realized only 10 per cent.

MARINE DISASTER AT ST. PAUL'S ISLAND.

HALIFAX, N. S., Sept. 23.—The latest reports concerning the Swedish bark Anna, at St. Paul's Island state that 11 of her crew were drowned. She was driven ashore on the north shore of the island during a severe gale. The captain and five seamen were thrown on the rocks on portions of the wreck, and escaped, although much bruised. The ship was unmanageable when she struck, her principal sails having been previously carried away.

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE CARLIST WAR.

REPORTED CAPTURE OF THE VILLAGE OF BICARUN BY THE INSURGENTS—DEFEAT OF GEN. MORIONES.

LONDON, Wednesday, Sept. 23, 1874.

A Carlist dispatch from Tolosa reports that Brig.-Gen. Perula has carried the village of Bicarun by storm, totally defeating ten battalions under Gen. Moriones, with heavy loss to the latter.

THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS OF GERMANY.

A MEETING OF DELEGATES CALLED BY THE EMPRESS AUGUSTA.

BERLIN, Wednesday, Sept. 23, 1874.

The Empress Augusta has called a meeting of delegates from all the women's associations of Germany to be held in this city in October. The Queens of Würtemberg and Saxony, the Grand Duchess of Baden, and Princess Alice of Hesse have promised to attend.

THE FAEL RIVER INQUEST.

TESTIMONY OF THE FIREMEN—THE CHIEF-ENGINEER'S STORY—THE NUMBER OF LADDERS INSUFFICIENT—THE AUTHORITIES AT FAULT—THE ALARMS CONFUSED—OTHER THEORIES.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Sept. 23.—The Coroner's Jury on the Fall River inquest met at 9:15 a. m. Isaac J. Manchester, building-mover, member of Hook and Ladder Company Antelope, which was on duty Saturday morning, testified as follows:

Was at the fire in five minutes after the first alarm; when the carriages arrived, I ordered them into the yard and around the south end of the mill; the ladders were not long enough; when the Reindeer carriage arrived I took her extension ladder; the second assistant ordered some of the ladders at the south end around to the east side into the picker-house; I helped the light hose up the fire-escape; went up and into the fifth story; John Boswell brought a dead body and lowered it down from the fifth story; there was no danger at this time for anybody to go in; I stayed in the fifth story till 12:30; the Reindeer has the longest ladder, but this was not long enough; I saw as many as three persons on the ladder; when I got there the flames were coming out of the tower windows.

Charles H. Davis, also a member of the hook and ladder company, gave similar testimony.

Henry Norsworthy, foreman of the hook and ladder company, testified that there was no extension ladder on his carriage. The longest extension ladder in the Department is 65 feet long; the company is not drilled often; the longest ladder on his carriage measures 35 feet.

John M. B. Bosworth, a sailor, testified:

I helped to haul the hose on the cotton-house; heard some one scream; went to Superintendent McCreery and asked for a line; he was in the engine-room; I went up the fire escape at the south end of the mill and helped a woman out.

Holden B. Durfee, Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, testified as follows:

I was at home when the alarm struck; counted to 72; was dressed to go out of the house at once; it was five minutes before 7 o'clock; my horse and wagon were at the door, and I went to Box No. 72; when I reached Pleasant-st. I saw a crowd running up the street, and I went directly to the mill; did not pause at Box No. 72; turned the corner into Twelfth-st.; at that point met a hose reel, ordered it to a hydrant on Twelfth-st., and ran into the mill and struck the second alarm; when I came out I attended to the placing of the streams; while directing a stream I met First Assistant Brownell, and told him if the second alarm was through striking to strike the third; then gave my attention to the general placing and working of the department; the first I knew of any one in the topmost story was hearing the people shout, and noticing the crowd running to the south end of the mill I followed; when I arrived there I saw three or four persons coming out of the sixth story windows; I should think I saw five or six come down then; thought they were pushed out by people crowding to the windows to get air; the smoke was then coming out from the south windows; it was impossible to do anything with the ladders at that end of the building; my efforts were directed to the north end of the mill, the fire being chiefly at that end; the ladders were not taken down while I was there; did not think I could do anything; there were two engineers there in charge, and I went round to the north to see if there was any possible means of getting on the roof of the building; do not think the extension ladder safe for men to use at a fire, as its length renders it too weak to hold the weight; it had never been raised more than once or twice before; one or two at a time could have come down had they been able to reach it; did not think it was possible to get the help out of the sixth story; they were panic-stricken, and were crowding upon and pushing each other out; I believe I was in the Granite mill-yard within five minutes after I heard the first stroke of the alarm; found the alarm-box open when I went to strike it; the ladders at the service of the department are not sufficient or suitable; have known this before, and informed the proper authorities of the fact; did not think it possible to splice the ladders in time to be of service; no one ever offered their services to splice the ladders; the statements in the papers were entirely false with reference to this matter; the language attributed to me I never used; I thought the alarm was in perfect order; I do not know who struck box No. 72; I have been told by engineers who have examined them that the tell-tale of each of the four boxes indicated that they had been struck; in all the engine-houses they got the first count, 72; if Mr. McCreery struck the alarm at 12 or 14 minutes before 7 it did not sound, else I think I should have heard it; McCreery might have struck box 74 while the other box was working, and hearing the little gong in 74 striking 72 thought it was his alarm sounding; I went up the towers as far as the fourth story.

Alfred Bassett, stone-cutter, testified:

I went to the fire as soon as I heard the first alarm; I counted box 72; when I got there I saw persons jumping from the sixth-story windows of the south end of the mill; I was connected with the Fire Department for seventeen years, but am not a member now; I offered to assist to splice ladders; I offered to do this to several members of the Hook and Ladder Company; one was the assistant officer of the Reindeer, I think, to whom I made an offer; they said they were then waiting for orders; there was sufficient time for a trial to save their lives; I helped to carry away three bodies while the firemen were waiting for orders, and when this had been done no orders had been received.

George Taylor, master mechanic at the Granite Mill, testified:

I was there Saturday morning; ordered engines put on pumps and I put on hose; we got hose coupled on, and water was coming through before we got it on the engine-house from the roof of the picker-house, which is level with the fourth story where the fire originated; we played until the fire was extinguished; there are hydrants on each floor of the tower, and four of smaller dimensions in the room; there is water enough in these tanks to supply one pipe four hours; the tanks cannot be otherwise than full; I am sure the hose was attached on Saturday morning in the fourth story; it was my business to look after these matters; am positive that the tanks contained considerable water Saturday morning; I have charge of the hydrants throughout the mill; there is a possibility of a sediment coming down and lodging in the nozzle of the pipe, but a knock on the pipe will shake it out; it is the duty of each overseer, in case he needs buckets, to apply to the superintendent, or to me; the small tanks and the hose in the mule alleys were introduced as a substitute, and an improvement on the bucket arrangement; Mr. McCreery, and Mr. Shove, the Treasurer, are both very strict with me with regard to the fire apparatus, constantly questioning me with reference to them; on this occasion my attention has been more than usually vigilant.

At the evening session several witnesses were examined, but nothing new was elicited except from Alderman Lascomb, who has charge of the fire alarm. He says:

Four different boxes were pulled on Saturday morning by which they struck together, confusing the alarms. The non-interfering boxes are in use, but there is a small chance—one out of five hundred—of their missing the alarm. The fire alarm was all in good working order on Saturday morning. If there was any trouble in the gongs of engine-houses not striking right, etc., it was always reported to him. He has no recollection of any report being made on Friday night. He inspects the boxes frequently. No one could have known box 74 was out of order unless they listened at the box at 5 o'clock on Friday night (at which hour every night the alarm is sounded once) and did not hear it strike.

Before this witness concluded the inquest was adjourned to 2 o'clock p. m. on the 25th inst.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE M'KEAN AND BUFFALO RAILROAD COMPANY.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Sept. 23.—At a meeting of the stockholders of the McKean and Buffalo Coal Company, held at the Tift House to-day, the following persons were elected Directors of the McKean and Buffalo Railroad Company, capital $400,000: Byron D. Hamlin, Smithport, Penn., President; John F. McPherson, Warren, Penn.; Delano R. Hamlin, Smithport, Penn.; John W. Cale, North-East, Penn.; George J. Magee, Watkins, N. Y.; J. C. Smith and Wm. H. Glenny of Buffalo, Directors.

For the Buffalo Coal Company, capital $1,000,000, the following Directors were elected: George J. Magee, John Long, and Daniel Beach of Watkins; D. C. Howell of Bath; J. C. Smith, W. H. Glenny, G. R. Wilson, F. H. Root, B. C. Rumsey of Buffalo; James McFarland of Tonawanda; Byron D. Hamilton of Smithport, Penn.; and A. Pardee of Hazleton.

LOUISIANA TROUBLES.

AN APPEAL BY THE CONSERVATIVES.

AN ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES—THE COLORED MISREPRESENTED BY THE CENSUS—THE APPEAL OF THE COMMITTEE OF SEVENTY TO PRESIDENT GRANT—A STATEMENT OF THE RECENT CONFERENCE—THE WHITE LEAGUE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

NEW-ORLEANS, Sept. 23.—The special correspondent of THE TRIBUNE has received from the Committee of Seventy, representing the people of Louisiana, the following address to the people of the United States in the defense and explanation of the late revolutionary movement:

To the People of the United States: The undersigned Committee, appointed at a meeting composed of the Committee of Seventy, the State Central Committee, and the Parish Committee representing the opposition to the usurpation of William Pitt Kellogg, and instructed to prepare a statement of the recent events in Louisiana and an address to the people of the United States, respectfully submit the following for your candid consideration:

It has been demonstrated and brought to the knowledge of the people, by publication in every leading journal in the United States, that shortly after the election in November, 1872, by the alleged action of a District Judge of the United States, aided and enforced by soldiers of the Federal Government ordered from Pensacola to New-Orleans for that purpose, the State House was seized at night, a pretended Legislature, composed in great part of defeated candidates, was organized, and Wm. Pitt Kellogg was forced upon the people of Louisiana as Governor, and C. C. Antoine as Lieutenant-Governor, both of whom were defeated by large majorities, as shown by actual count of official returns of the votes as cast. Without going into details, it suffices for the present to copy the language of the United States Senate Committee of the 20th of February, 1873—Report No. 457, XLIId Congress, Third Session, page 44:

Your Committee, are, therefore, led to the conclusion that if the election held in November, 1872, be not absolutely paid for frauds committed therein, McEnery and his associates in State offices, and the persons certified as members of the Legislature by the De Feriet Board, ought to be recognized as the legal Government of the State. Considering all the facts established before your Committee, there seems no escape from the alternative, that the McEnery Government must be recognized by Congress, or Congress must provide for a reélection.

And again, page 45:

If the Senate should be inclined not to go behind the official returns of the election, then the McEnery Government and Legislature must be recognized as the lawful Government of the State.

No one believed, no one had the audacity to pretend that Kellogg and his associates had been elected. The fact being established, by the actual count of the official returns of votes as cast in the presence of the Senate Committee, that McEnery, Penn, and their associates had been elected, the only question was whether that election was void from fraud. Protesting as we do that the State Committee had nothing to do with the question of fraud in a State election, and that the Federal Government in all its departments was bound by the official returns of the votes as cast, we assert that the McEnery Government was legally and fairly elected. The Senate Committee and the people of the Northern States generally were led into error, and arrived at a false conclusion by assuming as true two false propositions:

First: That the colored voters in Louisiana were largely in excess of the white voters.

Second: That the colored voters and White Republicans *en masse* voted the Kellogg ticket.

I. The census of 1870 was taken in the months of July and August, when, as is well known, thousands of white people were absent from this State in pursuit of pleasure and business. Colored people had neither the means nor inclination to travel, and while the census may be taken as a fair exposition of the colored population, it is not a correct statement of the white population. The canvas shows that there were in Louisiana in July and August, 1870:

Of white males—183,031.
Of colored males—178,784.
Excess of white males—4,247.
Of white males above the age of 21—87,066.
Of colored males above the age of 21—86,913.
Excess of white males over 21 years—153.

By an arbitrary rule the compilers of the Census classed as above 21 all persons whose ages were unknown. We know that most white persons above the age of puberty would be able to state their ages, so that very few white persons would be classed improperly, while many negroes can give no accurate information on that subject. Very few white people under 21 would be classed as of that age, while many negroes under 20 would be classed over 21 from their sheer inability to state their age. This census was taken under the auspices of the Republican party, and there is no pretence that it did any injustice to the colored population or diminished the numerical strength of that race, its friends and adherents. It shows:

Total colored population	364,210
Total white	362,065
Excess of colored population	2,145
White males	90,031
White females	179,034
Excess of white males	3,997
Colored females	185,426
Colored males	178,784
Excess of colored females	6,642

This disparity in the males and females of the two races respectively shows that if the ratio of one to five is a correct basis upon which to estimate the voting capacity of the white race with its excess of 3,997 males, a different and lower ratio would be necessary to ascertain the voting capacity of the colored race with its excess of 6,642 females.

II. It is well known that many Republicans, white and colored, under the leadership of Warmoth, Sheridan, Campbell, McMillen, and Armistead, the colored candidate for Secretary of State, voted the Fusion or McEnery ticket, and there is no reasonable doubt of the election of that ticket fairly, and by a large majority. It is matter of public history that the people of Louisiana appealed to the President of the United States for relief against the usurpation set up and established by the Federal power alone, and that they were repelled with insult by the Attorney-General; that they appealed in vain to the Legislative Department of the General Government for relief at two successive sessions: that they invoked the aid of the Supreme Court of the United States to relieve them of the outrages upon their rights by an inferior Federal Judge (Durell), and that the Supreme Court found itself without jurisdiction and powerless to take cognizance of the cause.

There remained for the people of Louisiana but one hope of relief, and that a hope for partial relief only. The Gubernatorial term is four years, and the present term expires in January, 1877. The State officers hold for the same term, and the Senators hold for four years, one-half being elected every two years. At the election in November, 1874, a State Treasurer, the members of the House of Representatives, and half the Senate are to be chosen, with the addition of members of the Senate to fill such vacancies as may have occurred by deaths or otherwise, so that the utmost which we could have hoped to obtain by the election would have been a State Treasurer and a majority in the Legislature. The constitution of Louisiana subjects the Governor to impeachment, but the concurrence of two-thirds of the Senators present is requisite to the conviction. As half of the Senators hold for the same term as the Governor, the election by the opponents of the Kellogg usurpation of every member of the Senate to be chosen in November would still leave Kellogg and his colleagues in power, and the people subject to a continuation of this usurpation until the constitutional expiration of the term in January, 1877. Partial as was the relief thus to be hoped for, the people of Louisiana determined to avail themselves of this election as the last peaceful mode of obtaining even a partial redressment of their rights and a voice, however feeble, in their government. In proof of this determination we refer to the proceedings of the State Convention lately held at Baton Rogue, the formation of political clubs in every ward of the city of New-Orleans, of every parish in the State, and the eagerness manifested by citizens to have themselves registered as voters. The existing Registration law, the passage of which by the Legislature in the form which it has been promulgated, has been questioned and is not generally believed, gives to the Supervisors of Registration supreme power, so that they may refuse to register a citizen or strike his name from the registry at their mere will and pleasure, and no court can or dare, under penalty of a fine of $500, entertain any application to enforce the right of the voter to be registered as such. To execute this law, Kellogg appointed as Supervisors of Registration his political adherents, many of them persons of disreputable character, and thus this tremendous power, this machinery which had been devised and created for the especial purpose of defeating the popular will, was delegated to the mere tools and instruments of the usurper, and the result of the election was secured beyond peradventure in advance of the ceremony of casting the votes. Seeing the impossibility of obtaining a fair expression of the popular will under the uncontrolled manipulations of the usurper, and his appointees, a number of citizens, representing the most respectable and influential of the population of New-Orleans, called upon Mr. Kellogg and requested him to select from such names as they might furnish, Supervisors of Registration to act in conjunction with those appointed by him, so that to both parties might be secured a perfectly fair registration and election, which he had declared it to be his purpose to afford. It is almost needless to add that this request was treated with indifference, and the fraudulent registration was continued under the original appointees. It was difficult for naturalized citizens to obtain registration, and many white persons clearly entitled to registry were refused arbitrarily, while the colored people were furnished registration papers on which, in some instances, they could vote in several different wards, and colored crews of steamboats transiently visiting this port were permitted to swell the number of voters. To test the power of Supervisors to refuse registration arbitrarily, a citizen clearly entitled, who had been refused, applied to Judge Hawkins of the Superior District Court, the only Court having jurisdiction to grant such writs, for a mandamus to enforce his right. The writ was refused upon the ground that the Courts are specially prohibited by the Registration act from interfering. Thus the people of Louisiana are left without the hope or possibility of a fair registration or a fair election. In proof of this we invite attention to one paragraph of the secret circular of instructions issued by the State Supervisor to his subordinates in the Parishes.

You are instructed to use your utmost endeavors to cause a full registration of all Republican voters in your Parish, and to especially encourage and assist the registration of white Republican electors. For this purpose you will keep your office open at the Court-House for as short a period as is necessary, and then remove to the localities most thickly populated by colored voters, and give such notice in advance, of course with the greatest caution, as will facilitate their presence at the time of opening the books.

Look further at the registration in this city. With only 10,000 negro votes in it, over 11,000 have been registered within 15 days after the opening of the registry offices. In the Seventh Ward, over 700 negro voters have been registered, a number greater than the negro voters in the ward. One negro was found having in his possession 27 certificates of registry, which he had obtained himself by registering so many different times in various wards.

As a part of the history of the times, and in proof of the hopelessness of our condition, we insert here an appeal to the President of the United States by the Committee of Seventy, sent to him by telegraph on the 9th of September, 1874, of which no notice has been taken, and which we are inclined to believe has been suppressed, and never been permitted to reach the eye of the President:

AN APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT.

NEW-ORLEANS, Sept. 9, 1874.

His Excellency U. S. GRANT, *President, Washington, D. C.*—SIR: By direction of the Committee of Seventy, of which I am Chairman, I submit the accompanying resolution and appeal to you, adopted at a meeting last evening. I have the honor to be, very Respectfully,

R. H. MARR.

ROOMS OF THE COMMITTEE OF SEVENTY, NEW-ORLEANS, Sept. 8, 1874.

Resolved, That this Committee, on the part of the people of Louisiana, make the following appeal to the President of the United States:

To His Excellency U. S. GRANT, *President of the United States of America.*

The Committee of Seventy, a body which fully represents the conservative people of Louisiana, referring to your recent order placing a portion of the armies of the United States, under the direction of the department of justice, for use in this and other Southern States, would respectfully remind you that the people of this State, whom we have the honor to represent, have, after two years of struggle against the power of what they consider an odious usurpation, been remitted by your action and by the non-action of Congress to the ballot as the only means of relief from their difficulties. The approaching election has, therefore, more than ordinary significance. The chances are against the Conservative masses, although they have an unquestionable majority, since the machinery of the election is in the hands of the acting Governor—a machinery carefully arranged by himself and his coadjutors for the express purpose of defeating the popular will. The Conservative people, however, believe that they would be able to overcome even these advantages by a thorough organization and the greatest vigilance. You can imagine with what surprise this community received the intelligence that you had placed the troops to be sent among us at the disposal of the Attorney-General of the United States for the purpose of assisting the Marshal of this District, S. B. Packard, in carrying on prosecutions against our people. Without intending the slightest disrespect, and impelled by a sense of public duty, we would remind you that in the opinion of the people of this State, and we believe of the country at large, whether that opinion be well or ill founded, the present Government of Louisiana owes its blighting experience in a large measure to the countenance and active support of the Attorney-General himself, and that this Marshal to whose control the troops are really to be remitted was one of the active participants in the judicial and political maneuvers by which the usurpation was called into existence; that he has been ever since the friend and supporter of the acting Governor; that he was the President of the last Republican Convention in this State, whose nominees for Congress and other important positions are now before the people; that he is at this time, as he has been for many years, the President of the State Central Committee of the Republican party of Louisiana, and is therefore pledged as a bitter partisan against the rights of the Conservative people. With the Federal troops under the orders of the President of the State Central Committee of the Republican party, it is manifest that a fair election is impropable. We may thus be foiled again in our efforts for relief. If we understand the sentiments of our people correctly, they have no objection to your sending troops to Louisiana, provided they come to secure good order and a fair exercise of franchise by both white and black, especially as the present State government, not having been chosen by the people, and being, therefore, without their affection or confidence, has shown itself utterly unable to administer the affairs of the State and preserve order. But we earnestly protest against your placing troops in Louisiana upon the eve of such an election as is now approaching, under the control of civil officers, both of whom are thoroughly identified with the usurpation, and one of whom is actually the President of the State Central Committee of the political party sustaining the usurpation. To your candor we appeal, and ask whether this is just. If you will remove the present Marshal of this District, and appoint some one not identified with either party, but enjoying the confidence of both—and such men may be easily found—we will not object to the coming of troops to Louisana for the purpose of maintaining the peace and securing a fair election. The class of people whom we represent have nothing to gain by disorder, but everything to lose. If you consider it your duty under the law to employ troops here, it seems to us that justice would require that they should not be placed in any way, directly or indirectly, under the control of a partisan Marshal, who is an active supporter of the usurpation, and the acknowledged leader of one of the parties to this contest.

R. H. MARR,
Chairman Committee of Seventy.

THE CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE OPPOSING FACTIONS.

To show the original intent and design of the Kellogg usurpation so to manipulate the registration and election as to secure the success of his party, the following statement and synopsis of the late conference between the legal Government, represented by McEnery and Penn, and the Kellogg usurpation is submitted:

On Thursday, Sept. 17, a gentleman called at the State House, saying, Kellogg and others desired an interview with McEnery, Penn and others, with a view to secure the police and order. McEnery, Penn, and other citizens met the parties named at Collector Casey's office. Various propositions passed and failed of acceptance, on account of legal or other objections. The final proposition was made by the Conservatives, and was in substance as follows: That each of the two parties be allowed an equal control over the machinery of the registration and election, including, first, the Returning Board; second, the State Registrar and Clerk; third, the Assistant Supervisors of Registration and clerks; fourth, the Commissioners of Election and Clerk. It was agreed that the registration and election should be conducted under the control of an Advisory Board, composed of two from each party, and an acceptable Republican was agreed upon as the fifth or umpire. But upon the most important question affecting the organization of the Returning Board or Board of Canvassers, the Conservatives claim that three members of the Board should resign, and that two members should be indicated by the Conservatives, and that the fifth should be elected in the same manner as the umpire on the Advisory Board. This proposition was flatly refused by the Republicans, who would allow but two Conservatives on the Board, and the Committee withdrew. When it is considered that the five members now composing the Returning Board are leading Republicans and office-holders under the Kellogg Government, it will be seen that the mere placing of two Conservatives on the Board would still leave the Board absolutely under the control of the remaining three Republican office-holders. The present Returning Board is composed of Longstreet, Casanave J. Madison, Wells, Anderson, and

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THE UTICA CONVENTION.

A HARMONIOUS GATHERING.

THE SMOOTHNESS OF THE PROCEEDINGS—AN ALL-NIGHT CONCERT BY THE ERIE DELEGATION—THE USUAL HISTORICAL REVIEW OF THE DEMOCRACY GIVEN BY MR. THEO. M. POMEROY—GOV. DIX RENOMINATED WITH CONSIDERABLE ENTHUSIASM—SENATOR CONKLING'S SPEECH PAVING THE WAY FOR A THIRD TERM—ACTION BY THE CONVENTION PREVENTED—A VICTORY FOR THE OFFICE-HOLDERS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

UTICA, Sept. 23.—This is a Convention that runs very smoothly. The shining heads of the two leading statesmen who sit on the front seat between Gen. George H. Sharpe and Commissioner George M. Van Nort, were not smoother than the opening exercises of the Convention this morning. Through the preliminary proceedings there was not the slightest sign anywhere of a ripple of dissent. The front seat was aglow with a perfect sunburst of a smile, which occasionally bubbled into laughter as Mr. Theodore M. Pomeroy indulged in facetiousness at the expense of his opponents, or broke into pronounced hilarity as that gentleman charged home upon Mr. Samuel J. Tilden on account of his age. Everything was so harmonious and serene, in fact, that I could hardly understand why the Erie delegation—they said it was the Erie delegation—sat up in the Butterfield House till 6 o'clock this morning, making speeches at each other which were plainly intended to be heard in Buffalo, and singing sacred music with voices which had gained strength from competition with