MEMPHIS APPEAL

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 3, 1873

HOW ARKANSAS PUT HER FOOT IN IT.

Arkansas owes six and one-half million dollars on account of railroads, and must issue bonds for as much more. In fact, the "railroad steal" was defeated, a correspondent tells us, in order that the process of "stealing" from the State might be continued. Meanwhile, the press howled and duped the deluded people, and the tax-forfeited lands were seized by the railroads, and thus the only resource which the State could use to pay the bonds issued and to be issued to railroads was transferred to railroad companies. Have not the anti-railroad-bond stealers smashed the State? They have failed to restrict the issuance of bonds to railroads, and the State has all the bonds to pay heretofore issued to the railroads. No State ever escaped the necessity, and Arkansas, least of all, will find it possible. And thus we have a debt of twelve millions, or more, certainly fastened upon the State, and all the State's riches in lands are as suddenly wrenched from taxpayers. This was done while the dear people were scared and had their eyes all turned upon the "railroad bond stealers." While the honest, good newspapers were crying "stop thief!" and the thief was only toddling off with a little load of six millions already gone, the great robber of the age stole before the people's very noses and has toted away, and the press has uttered not one word, save in commendation, the State's great public domain. Of its value none may speak, none can exaggerate it. Lands granted to a road running northwest from Memphis are of incalculable value, and the construction, without cost to the builders, of a road from Pine Bluff to Shreveport, is assured. Another great highway, from the northwestern corner of the State to Jacksonport and Helena, is munificently endowed. From this road to this of ours running to St. Louis, the distance is not more than fifty or sixty miles, and Memphis is the great beneficiary, next after Arkansas, of the newly-defined railway system of the magnificent State. The APPEAL only regrets that the credit of Arkansas must remain in a deplorable condition, until some restriction is imposed upon the issuance of State bonds. The limitation defined by the "railroad steal" bill was eleven millions. But who can tell to-day what will be the debt of Arkansas to-morrow? Railroad speculators cannot be restrained by Governor Baxter. He is at their mercy, and they know nothing, if we may believe those who have inveighed so bitterly against the "railroad-steal" bill, of this divine quality. We happen to believe that, at any reasonable cost to the State, the Arkansas system of roads should be immediately completed, and therefore approved the railroad "steal bill" as amended or proposed to be amended, and as we understood it from the beginning—that it restricted the whole State indebtedness to less than eleven millions. Since this measure, assuring the perfection alike of the roads and of the State's credit, failed, we approve the "land-steal" which at least builds the railways and aggrandizes Memphis even as Arkansas must be pre-eminently enriched. Our contemporaries concur in approving the appropriation of forfeited lands to the perfection of the railroad system of the State, and since we only regret the failure of a scheme to perfect the State's credit and its unfinished roads, there is no very broad grounds for controversy with those who have differed from us. Very certainly the railroad system of Arkansas, which we have so anxiously sought to perfect, and for the reason that the fortunes of Memphis and of Arkansas are identical, is now placed upon a footing which assures its triumph despite wrongs done the State's credit by defeating the railroad-steal bill.

THE APPROACHING CAMPAIGN IN MISSISSIPPI.

The approaching political canvas in Mississippi begins to engross the public attention of that State, and all sorts of statements as to the combinations made are flying around. The Democrats and Conservatives have not yet made any movement. They are divided as to the feasibility or desirability of a direct nomination for governor, and discreetly, we think, await such opportunity of division in the Radical ranks as may offer. The chances for such an opening would seem to be very flattering. Ames is to be a candidate for governor, relying upon the negro support, and Powers will be a candidate for re-election, supported by the white voters of his party, and sure, it is rumored, of a *quasi* support by the Democracy as against Ames. Ames's real aim is to get the gubernatorial office as a stepping-stone to the United States senatorship for the long term. To this General Alcorn is opposed, because Ames has been and may still prove troublesome in the senate, backed by Benjamin Butler's (his father-in-law) influence. Thus opposed, it is doubtful if Ames can succeed before the convention. Alcorn is the acknowledged leader of Republicanism in Mississippi, and Powers ranks near to him. Ames is regarded as an alien, without any interest in the State, an interloper and mere tool of Butler's, and it will be almost impossible for him to succeed. But he has active workers, and, having already made his slate, depends on those named on it helping him through the work preliminary to the meeting of the convention. He has named B. K. Bruce (colored) for secretary of state, William Gibbs for auditor of public accounts, A. Warner for treasurer, and George E. Harris (the only southern Republican), for attorney-general. Upon this ticket Ames relies for a close fight in the convention. But Powers and Alcorn may prove too much for him. If Ames is renominated, the contest will be the fiercest, we venture to predict, that ever took place in Mississippi.

THE NEWSPAPER GRANGE.

The mayor of Lebanon, Tennessee, and the editor of the *Herald* of that ancient town, will remain at the St. Cloud hotel in Nashville during Wednesday, the seventh instant, to take charge of editors and newspaper proprietors to meet at Lebanon on the eighth. The people of Lebanon will entertain the newspaper conductors at their private residences, and infinite pleasure is anticipated as a result of the convocation. If these newspaper owners and managers would act as wisely as the farmers of the country, and organize an association regulating irrefragably systems and prices of advertising, and thus rescue the press from the clutches of the politicians and of the courts, the association then having a practical as well as social value, would become omnipotent. Now, the legislature wins fame for fools by robbing the legitimate press in behalf of adventurers in the newspaper trade, and the meanest paper, with the least circulation, and incapable of any task, good or evil, monopolizes every position of profit. The press is beggared by its own folly, and mainly for want of that unity and co-operative force which farmers secure through "granges," and which we would attain through the intervention of this press association. Because of the palpable unwillingness of newspaper proprietors to enter upon this business alliance which courts and legislatures could not defy or resist, we have felt little interest in the State Press Association. Heretofore its value has consisted solely in kindly, social relations engendered, and these can only be enduring when made as profitable as they have been agreeable.

It may be proper to say that Mrs. Lide Merriwether, the felicitous writer for the APPEAL, will represent us in the coming press convention in Lebanon, and while the poetical effusion which she will recite before the convention will be greeted with applause, she will be found fully prepared to present and enforce practical views embodied in these paragraphs.

ENGLISH AMENITIES.

There are admirable lessons given us in matters of taste and decency by the press of Great Britain. When two civilized newspapers, in a civilized country and among people of decent intelligence, happen to differ about a question of grave public import, the weaker party to the controversy does not stupidly confess his weakness by "calling names" and asserting corruptness of motive or unworthy practices. This sort of foulness is reserved for the American, and especially—we are ashamed to confess it—for the western and southern press. These reflections are suggested by the following clever and pleasing, but fierce paragraphs cut from an able English newspaper, evidently conducted by "educated gentlemen," terms wholly inapplicable to many writers who disgrace the editorial profession in this country. Why may we not have such pleasantries in our politics? Why must we be ever savage and brutal?

The chancellor of the exchequer has not, we are told, many friends in the civil service, and it therefore hardly surprises us to find that the authorship of the following epitaph is attributed to a member of that body. A short time ago the lines found their way on to the treasury bench, and in the course of a long and tedious debate they are said to have been handed by Mr. Gladstone to Mr. Lowe. The verse is as follows:

Here lies the bones of Robert Lowe;
Where he's gone to I don't know;
If to the realms of peace and love,
Farewell to happiness above;
If haply to some lower level,
I can't congratulate the devil.

The chancellor of the exchequer seemed less concerned with the humor of the piece, the Manchester *Guardian* says, than with the suggestion that his end should be recorded in anything but a classical tongue, and he dashed off the following rendering, which is certainly remarkable for its spirit, but somewhat mediæval in its Latinity:

Ista continenta fossa,
Humilis Roberti ossa,
Si ad eœlum evolabit
De concordia nil restabit,
Seu in inferis jacebit,
Diabolo ejus pœnitebit.

MEMPHIS AND THE COTTON CROP.

The Montgomery *Advertiser* has been making an estimate of the last cotton crop. It says: "The incoming cotton crop is, or will have been by September 1st, the most valuable crop ever raised in the United States. The average price has been better sustained and higher than ever before. The money paid for it in its raw state will not fall far short of three hundred and thirty million dollars. Of this sum, about thirty-five million dollars have gone to the speculators and first purchasers, leaving two hundred and ninety-five million dollars to the producer." Is it not singular, in view of these facts, that speculators in Wall street, such is the country's miserable financial system, can beget at will this ruinous tightness in the money market from which this city is fast recovering. We discover improvement in the growing demand for city property, in the growing number of houses in process of construction, in the eagerness to build railways, and in the steady growth of every description of manufactories heretofore founded in this city. There is a demand for property such as has not been detected for many months developed in numberless inquiries addressed to Dr. Thomas, of Chelsea, whose magnificent estate in the suburbs is offered for sale. These facts are all pleasing. Memphis flourishes and Arkansas will soon be enriched, as no State was ever before suddenly aggrandized, and all these concurrent facts and the accumulation of wealth drawn from the cotton crop sold at prices almost unprecedented, are indicative of a degree of coming prosperity, such as Memphis has not recognized for many years.

PERSONAL.

The *Evening Ledger* of yesterday editorially notices Colonel Burch's appointment as State comptroller in this generous manner:

Comptroller W. W. Hobbs, who has been in ill-health ever since his election, and at home much of the time on that account, passed in his resignation yesterday, and Colonel John C. Burch, editor of the *Union and American*, was immediately appointed by Governor Brown to fill the vacancy, and took the office. Colonel Burch is eminently fitted for the position, and will doubtless make a most efficient and useful officer. The duties of the office are numerous and exacting. The incumbent will find no light work before him; not is it unprofitable as ample provision is made by law to compensate the public servant called to the comptrollership. Colonel Burch has had large public and business experience, and has a mind to grasp at once the details and intricacies of the office. His appointment of course implies that he is in harmony with the governor on the subject of funding, as was Mr. Hobbs. His paper has stood up and defended the policy with more ability than any other journal in the State, and while his appointment may have been suggested from this fact, we believe, nevertheless, that it will give general satisfaction to all parties throughout the State. He was understood to be a candidate for comptroller before the general assembly, but for some reason his name was not put forward at the election.

THE New York *Herald*, forecasting the political horoscope, gives the country this crumb of comfort. It says: "In any event, the line of success foreshadowed for the Democratic party is a coalition with these farmers' granges of the west, and with the free-traders of all parties throughout the Union for the presidential succession. The issues of the war are settled, the corruptions of the party in power are neutralized by the corruptions of the old Democratic Tammany ring, our existing financial system cannot be safely pronounced a failure calling for a sweeping reconstruction; but the tariff and these railway monopolies and combinations, and those western granges point out the way whereby the opposition, brought under the standard of the Democratic party, may, in 1876, sweep the west and the south, with New York to back them."

THE railroads of Arkansas as now enriched, and especially those two that Memphis would have built, and on which the future of this city depends, are more richly endowed than any in the southern or western States. Their construction, formerly a matter of course, because a matter of necessity, now becomes an easy task; and, therefore, popular faith in the city's prosperity from this day forth becomes more buoyant and more surely founded, and from this time forth there will be a marked and steady advance in property values.

RAILROAD MEN EVERYWHERE.

The Mobile and Ohio railroad company, paying twenty thousand dollars for the privilege, has adopted Inge, Wheeler & Co.'s automatic car-coupler. Colonel McCombs has ordered the simple device to be used on each of his three railways in the south. For several months it has been in constant use on the Mississippi and Tennessee road, and its officers and superintendents are so well satisfied that the automatic coupler is indispensable, that they have become shareholders in the company organized to manufacture and sell it. A large foundry and machine shop in Pittsburg, erected to manufacture another popular car-coupler, will probably be devoted to the manufacture of the Inge & Wheeler patent. In another place, in to-day's APPEAL, we present an imperfect picture of this simplest and most indispensable invention affecting railways that has been produced for some years past. Steps have been taken to secure European patents, and the manufacture of the couplers, for the present at Pittsburg, will be rapidly prosecuted.

THERE is no personal security required at the hands of the purchasers of lots in Dr. Thomas's addition. The cash payment will be not more than one-fourth, and the time given on the rest of the purchase money will be fixed to suit purchasers. No buyer need doubt, with the prospects now before us, that he will make enormous profits.

THE NEWS.

Modoc Jack was not connected with the seventeenth Alabama (Confederate) regiment.

Mr. Olls, of the Gulf City paper mills, near Mobile, was recently crushed to death by machinery.

Wife-killing is not a criminal offense in Alabama. Joe Boggs, who indulged in that pastime, was recently acquitted by a jury of his country-*men*. So says the *Rudolph Enterprise*.

The Springfield (Massachusetts) *Republican* says: "Andy Johnson is not yet past making trouble. The students of Kentucky university have gone into active rebellion because the faculty will not let them have him for orator at the commencement."

Allen, collector of Greenville county, South Carolina, has stolen forty thousand dollars of his collections. The governor has instituted proceedings; and the report is that he will take similar steps against "all the defaulting carpet-baggers" who infest the State.

At the recent session of the national board of fire underwriters, held in New York, a resolution was adopted that a fund of one hundred thousand dollars be raised for the purpose of giving rewards of one thousand dollars for every incendiary detected and punished.

Judge Kilpatrick has been in consultation with President Murdock in reference to the railroad interests of Corinth, and says that Mr. Murdock assures him that the railroad arrangement from that point to Birmingham (Elyton, Alabama), is a fixed fact, and work will soon commence at both ends.

The Trenton *News* reports the successful removal of the greater portion of the upper jaw-bone of a negro woman, aged about twenty years, by Dr. J. P. McGhee, of that town, on the sixteenth ultimo. It was removed on account of an *intra osseous tumor* of a semi-malignant character.

His excellency Governor Powers has concluded to return the warrant issued to him by the auditor under a misapprehension of the law, and Miss McBride is therefore happy in anticipation of the receipt of fifteen hundred dollars appropriated to her by the legislature for services rendered in the warrant forgery case.

The Columbia (Tenn.) *Mail*, of the twenty-fourth ultimo, says: "The weather is warm and pleasant (if it don't turn cold before the paper is issued), and most of the corn and much of the cotton in this section have been planted. The wheat crop, generally speaking, is as good as usual, and all indications are favorable for a good crop this year."

The treasury department has sent several clerks to Europe, who will return upon the various lines as steerage passengers, in order to see "how it is themselves." Chemical experts are also to subject themselves to the same treatment and accommodations which immigrants get, for the purpose of analyzing food, air and water on ship board.

Tuskeegee, Alabama, is showing so many signs of progress and improvement that one who has not seen it in a year or two, would hardly recognize it. Buildings and repairs are going forward, houses, railings, etc., are being repainted, business appears to be brisk, and things generally appear to be moving swimmingly onward.

The committee of the grand lodge of Masons of Tennessee (among them his excellency, Governor John C. Brown), were to have visited Gallatin yesterday in reference to the location of the widows' and orphans' home. As is already known, a citizen of Gallatin, John Bell, Esq., has generously donated his farm near Gallatin upon the condition of its being located there. It will be necessary, however, to purchase several hundred more acres adjoining.

Dr. W. F. Westmoreland, of Atlanta, husband of the well-known authoress, is in a very critical condition. Some three weeks ago, while dissecting at the medical college in that city, he had the misfortune to cut one of his fingers. The wound, which appeared at first slight, grew worse instead of healing, indicating that it was poisoned. The poison introduced gradually worked its way into his entire system, and his attendants are very much troubled as to the probable consequences.

The New York *Herald* says: Though utterly ruined for the time, impoverished almost beyond precedent, with no money or credit, a capital of $2,000,000,000 to $3,000,000,000 swept away in two or three years, the whole system of labor revolutionized and disorganized, oppressed by political and social disabilities resulting from the war, and then fearfully plundered by a horde of carpet-bag strangers who had no abiding interest in the south, the southerners have accomplished what would have seemed incredible, and what hardly any other people could have accomplished.

The Corinth *News* says: "The misunderstanding that has for some time existed between President Seldon, of the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad company, and our city authorities, in regard to the railroad tax levied by the city, has, we understand, been satisfactorily adjusted, and the board of mayor and selectmen have ordered the tax to be collected. We have neither time nor space this week to give a full account of the recent conference at Memphis between Messrs. Whitfield, Green and Curlee, on the part of the city, and Mr. Seldon on the part of the road. We will do so next week."

Marshall, Texas, and San Diego, California, have exchanged congratulations on the beginning of the work on the Southern Pacific railway at both ends of the line. The whole work will be completed in two or three years. The Vicksburg and Meridian road will then enter upon an era of prosperity. It will constitute an essential link in the chain which will connect the two oceans by the shortest route, and the only one that can be used without interruption the whole year round. The first survey of this line was made by direction of Hon. Jefferson Davis during his administration of the war department, and its completion will be the realization of what his far-reaching sagacity suggested nearly twenty years ago.

The Montgomery *Advertiser and Mail* says: "We have reason to state with some confidence that the assignees in bankruptcy have made a deed to the State giving full title under the bankrupt sale, and that, consequently, the balance of the purchase money, being the sum of two hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars, has been paid into court by the New Orleans and Northeastern railroad company. If this first step under the contract of sale of the Alabama and Chattanooga road and lands between the State and the New Orleans company, recently ratified by the legislature, has been taken in good faith by the purchaser, it affords the strongest assurance that the entire contract will be promptly and properly performed. Until relieved from the crushing weight of this intolerable burden, the State can never hope to recover its credit either abroad or at home."

RIGHTS OF CITIZENS.

Their Lands Cannot be Taken by Railroads without Compensation.

[From the Nashville Banner, April 28th.]

An interesting opinion was delivered in the special supreme court by Judge Head yesterday morning, in the case of W. C. Harding *vs.* Nashville and Northwestern railroad company and others, of which the following is a brief synopsis:

The Nashville and Northwestern railroad was located through the complainant's land. In 1869 the complainant and company agreed upon the value of the land at five thousand dollars, for which a note was executed. Since the war the note was sued on, judgment obtained and execution issued and returned *nulla bona*. In 1869 the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad company leased said road for the period of six years. Harding filed his bill to enjoin said company and all other persons from running their cars, or otherwise using and occupying said road, so far as the same passes through his land, until the judgment is paid. The court held that the land of the citizen could not, under the constitution, be taken without compensation; that the title of the owner was not diverted and vested in the company until the value of the land taken was paid for; and that, after the owner had exhausted his remedies at law, and failed to enforce payment, his only redress lay in the injunction powers of a court of equity; that the company and his lessee would be enjoined from using the land taken until payment of the agreed or assessed value.

DELAYED TELEGRAMS.

A heavy rain and hail storm passed over Louisville about eleven o'clock last night. No serious damage.

At Erlington, Kentucky, on Saturday night, a miner named Holland was stamped to death by a man named Reardon.

One of the parties who robbed the stage coach at Hamilton, Nevada, and killed the driver, was arrested there last night.

Ticket No. 29,901 drew the capital prize of ten thousand dollars in the German Market association gift enterprise, at Milwaukee yesterday.

The grand opening of the Leiderkranz hall in Louisville, last night, with a concert by the society, was largely attended and excited much interest.

The Vicksburg *Herald* says an investigation into the county affairs of Mississippi might gather the fruits of carpetbag rule into the State penitentiary.

The directors of the Southern Pallman Car company held a meeting at Louisville yesterday, at which a dividend of ten per cent. was declared for the year ending March 3, 1873.

The comptroller of the Tennessee treasury, W.W. Hobbs, resigned yesterday on account of ill health, and John C. Burch, editor of the *Union and American*, was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The mail which left St. Louis Tuesday for Texas was burned on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad near McAllister, Indian Territory, by the car accidentally taking fire. The messenger barely escaped with his life.

The stock and fixtures of William H, Landrum & Co., tobacco dealers of Louisville, were seized by internal revenue officers yesterday, because of false statements of weights of packages, and not properly stamping the same.

The wreck of the Atlantic has been almost blown to pieces with gunpowder, and large quantities of goods recovered. Forty-one bodies, mostly women, have also been recovered, but fearfully mutilated. The whole number of bodies thus far recovered is three hundred and forty-nine.

Over forty suits are now pending in the United States circuit court for the western district of this State, for insolvency, amounting to about two million dollars. The suits are mainly against counties which have issued bonds to railroads, or for other purposes, and they are brought to recover the interest on overdue coupons. One of the main questions to be decided by these suits, is whether an innocent purchaser of goods is entitled to recover, although the commissioners of their issue would make them invalid in the hands of the original holders. Nearly all the plaintiffs are non-residents of the State, and come under the classification of innocent purchasers. One suit is by A. H. Neiday, president of the board of brokers, New York, against Henry county, for two hundred and four thousand dollars. This suit has been heard and taken under advisement. A large number of the ablest lawyers in the State are engaged in these suits.

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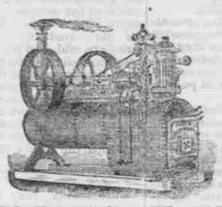

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MISS A. A. WALL
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Has just received a large assortment of
FRENCH MILLINERY GOODS
Of the Latest Importation.
Flowers, Ribbons, Crapes, Lawns, Silks
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Memphis, Tenn., April 12, 1873.

MEMPHIS & CHARLESTON R. R.
CHANGE OF TIME
COMMENCING
Saturday, April 12, 1873.
TRAINS WILL RUN AS FOLLOWS:

Mail Train leaves Memphis	11:50 a.m
Mail Train arrives at Memphis	10:50 a.m
Express Train leaves Memphis	6:20 a.m
Express Train arrives at Memphis	10:56 p.m
Grand Junction and Mobile Accommodation leaves Memphis	6:00 p.m
Grand Junction and Mobile Accom. arrives at Memphis	7:10 p.m
Somerville Acc. leaves Memphis	4:45 p.m
Somerville Acc. arrives at Memphis	8:30 a.m

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