MEMPHIS APPEAL

BY

GALLAWAY & KEATING.

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GALLAWAY & KEATING,
282 Second street,
Memphis, Tenn.

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J. M. KEATING.

MEMPHIS APPEAL

WEDNESDAY, : DECEMBER 12, 1877.

BASE INGRATITUDE TO PARTY.

We would have fain been spared the disagreeable duty of exposing the ingratitude and treachery of J. R. Flippin, who announces himself an independent candidate for the office of mayor of our city. Some eight years ago there lived in this city an exceedingly obscure man, whose law-office was rarely ever visited by anyone seeking to have their wrongs righted in the courts, whose feeble existence excited the compassion of the charitable. The signs of poverty were conspicuous about his person, that told of the misery and wretchedness of the individual. It is thus we bring to mind the then condition of this Independent, that we may present him in a proper light before the world. Not that we condemn a man for being poor, for poverty is no crime, but it was in this abject condition of life that the Democratic party found Mr. Flippin, and at a time when the community was greatly agitated over the coming election of judges to fill the places occupied so unworthily by men of the Republican party. The representatives of the Democratic party had assembled to nominate candidates for the various offices to be filled by the people, and at the time there was a contest between two of our most worthy citizens for the position of judge of the criminal court. The contest was latter, and threatened the disorganization of the party. Something must be done to avert this, and, looking around, some one suggested Flippin as a compromise man. "And who is Flippin?" asked a number of battle-scarred veterans of the party, for he was unknown but to few, so obscure had been his position in the community, although having lived here a great many years before. However, after persistent efforts of his few friends, the Democratic convention was induced to take him up, and did place him on the ticket as the nominee for judge of the criminal court. He was elected by a small majority—the smallest of any of those who were nominated with him. From this office, for the six years which he held it, he received the snug little sum of twenty-four thousand dollers—not much, it is true, for this spoiled child, of fortune. But it was a gift, such as it was, from the Democratic party—that party he now so publicly renounces, condemns and derides. In fact, some of these very individuals of the party who helped him to this position are those whom he now proposes to treat with contempt and ridicule, and for the reason only that they have acted as treemen in preferring some other man now for the office of mayor. In addition, this great Independent candidate has been the recipient of one other favor at the hands of the Democratic party—the office of mayor of this city for the past two years. From this he has received eight thousand dollars, making thirty-two thousand dollars that the party has so generously donated within the past eight years to this hitherto impecunious member. His excuse for resigning the office of criminal judge was that the salary at twenty-five hundred dollars, was too small. Well, we admit that was so, to some extent, but he never resigned until it was known that the office of mayor would be vacated by John Logue. Why, a few years before he would have thought that twenty-five hundred dollars a year was a god-send, and so, indeed, it would have been to a man of his brains. Now, four thousand dollars is scarcely sufficient, with traveling expenses all over the country, with an assistant or deputy mayor to discharge the duties of the office in his absence, with an equal amount of salary, with which to support his vanity. So our city, for a large portion of the last two years, has had two executive officers to manage its affairs, and should have been well governed, which we will not admit for a moment. Before we get through this campaign we will prove to this people that J. R. Flippin is totally incapacitated to fill the office of mayor, and has failed in every great essential in the past two years to come up to the requirements of the position. Nothing bespeaks the man and portrays his feeble intellect so clearly as does his letter of acceptance of what he terms a nomination tendered him by citizens, irrespective of race or party. It reads like the production of a school boy. It is wanting in dignity, and is so vulnerable that it requires no other answer than its own reproduction. It is a complete answer to itself. With every disposable means at the hands of a mayor (the colored porter being a valuable adjunct), he was unable to drum up a meeting respectable in size, and was compelled to fall back on the sore-heads who had resolved that they were the people, and who at once, and without waiting, launched this great party-smasher on the troubled seas of local politics. Flippin's excuse for running as an Independent is, that there is no organization opposed to the Democratic party, such as was the case two years ago when he consented to accept the nomination of that party. There being none, he proposes to set the example of inaugurating one. Well, we suppose the party can stand it. But, in the meantime, we propose to give a few interesting sketches from the past history of this would-be receiver or mayor of this city for the next two years.

THE SURRENDER OF PLEVNA.

The bells of Moscow are peeling, fireworks light up the streets of St. Petersburg, everywhere throughout Russia there is music and rejoicings, parade and processions, and the people crowd the public squares, singing their national songs of victory. Everywhere is enthusiasm, and the popular heart beats with joy, because the crescent once more pales before the eagle, for Plevna has fallen. The victory is an important one. The Turks, who had so lately to surrender Kars beyond the Black sea, are now conquered beyond the Balkans, and the army, stores and artillery that defended Plevna are the spoil of the christian. The Mahomedan Turks, who once cast alarm into every christian nation, and made the then mighty pope tremble on his throne, are now themselves dismayed and subdued. A correspondent of the London *Times* recently gave an account of a visit he paid the now conquered fortress. The route to it was sad and forlorn; rain had made the country a swamp. The hospitals were scenes of horror that would dwarf even DeFoe's account of the great plague. The filth, the stench, the ravings of delirious, the sinks of suffering were more than decency, or decency would tell. The English "sentiment" society offered aid and surgeons. Will it be believed that the Turkish commander refused the offer? In vain Osman Pasha was told of the state of the hospitals, he became angry at the persistence of the benevolent English, and said surgeons were not needed at Plevna. The accounts say that Osman was heroic in the final struggle, but he had not the hero's quality of compassion. The redoubts of Plevna, and other fortifications, were some of them apparently impregnable. Artillery splendid in range and accuracy, well-built earthworks, and brave soldiers, occupied a most formidable site. The engineering was all that military skill could make it. But what can resist disease and famine, and the weather that blocked up the roads against relief from without? The Russians had already reached Etropol, and if the time of the year would permit of the passing of the Balkans, Adrianople would probably soon be in their possession; then Constantinople itself would be in extremity. Most likely the defeat at Plevna, added to that at Kars, will dispose the Turks to sue for peace, in which case we know, from recent Bukarest dispatches, what Russia will demand: Autonomy for the christian populations of Turkey, independence for Roumania and Servia, more territory for Montenegro, and for Russia the possession of Batoum and Kars, and the free navigation of the Dardanelles. The free navigation of the Dardanelles means free access to the Mediterranean from the Baltic, the very thought of which makes the English shudder. Free navigation of the Dardanelles means access for Russian vessels to the very walls and quays of Constantinople, and that means the possession of Constantinople by the Turks only on sufferance. When Russia chose, Constantinople would be its own. All this is gall and wormwood to the English; what will they do? Telegrams received last week from Berlin gave a piece of news upon this subject that would sound improbable, did we not know that Disraeli, now Earl of Beaconsfield, loves surprises, and has often won victory for his schemes by bringing into play the unexpected, as when he got hold of the Suez canal. The Berlin news is that England has opened negotiations with the Turks for the purchase of their fleet. This would furnish the sultan with "the sinews of war;" and give England the domination in the Black sea and the Mediterranean, securing them from danger by the Russian acquisitions, and putting into their hands one of the finest navies afloat, which includes twenty ironclad ships and seventy other steamers, most all of them built in British ship-yards. There are also sailing vessels, twelve ton Armstrong rifle guns, and every moderate requisite for marine warfare. But how would the Russians view such a magnificent stroke of policy? We may readily surmise how, when we know that Russian statesmen have already urged upon their government the importance of its taking possession of the Turkish fleet, as one of the fruits of victory, because Russia herself having no fleet in the Black sea, the free navigation gained through the opening of the Bosporus would be useless to them for years to come. Prince Wassiltchikoff, a man of position and influence in the czar's court, not long since published a paper, in which he advocated the policy of seizing the Turkish fleet. He acknowledges that British hostility would be excited by doing so, and perhaps its armed resistance offered, but he says: "By disarming Turkey and by taking the necessary measures for the defense of our coasts against the English fleet, we should retain the command of that sea, which is unquestionably the chief artery of our political and economic organism." We see, by what has been said, that the question of what the English will do in the present contingency, is becoming one of intense interest and importance.

THE end is not yet. The Beecher-Tilton business is still afloat, like an empty, but water-proof egg-shell. Mrs. Tilton's mother, Mrs. Marsh, has published, with her signature, a letter, in the Brooklyn *Eagle*, in which she says that Tilton is sedulously endeavoring to induce Elizabeth to live with him again, but she will not do so without public reparation. He has been careful to avoid asking a legal separation, but he is not going to get back in silence, and in the character of a forgiving martyr. Mrs. Tilton left her home four years ago on account of Theodore's free-love notions and outrageous infringements of decency. She refused to sanction the doctrines of Tilton and his female allies and adherents, so they attacked her defenseless name. Mrs. Tilton lives with her mother "in a home of tasteful neatness," and, if misrepresentation goes on, she may break out and tell all she knows, making a full and well-authenticated story of her life. Such is the dose just delivered to Theodore by that paragon of female excellence—"the mother-in-law."

THE New York *Bulletin*, good commercial authority, says: "Our information is that the senate will remonetize the four-hundred-and-twelve-and-a-half-grain dollar, and will make it a legal-tender for debts of fifty dollars or less; that such a bill will become a law, and that the house will have to accept this or nothing. It is proper to say that our information comes from a gentleman who has the confidence of the silver men, and whose political connections give him the inside view of the counsels of the dominant party in the house. The public utterances of the silver men are that they are confident that the Bland silver bill will become a law by a two-thirds vote in both brances of congress. Whatever is the result, it will hardly come until January, as the senate can hardly dispose of the bill before the holiday recess."

PINCHBACK, in his letter to Governor Nicholls, of Louisiana, announcing his retirement from the contest for the seat in the United States senate, says;

"I deem it proper as a matter of justice to myself and to my friends to direct attention to the exceptional action had in my case, especially as the same appears in contrast with the prompt and partisan support of Governor Kellogg. I submitted to the decision of the senate on the assumption that honorable senators were not only honest on the grave constitutional objection that they raised, but were so far acting from that conviction as would authorize an expectation of consistency of conduct when a similar case should be presented for their consideration. Now I find that when Governor Kellogg presents his claim essentially like my own but weaker, the gentlemen who earnestly combatted my claim promptly and without hesitation admit and defend his. It taxes both my credulity and charity to concede either sincerity or consistency to the Republican senators who so earnestly opposed my claim from 1873 to 1876, and so promptly and solidly supported the new senator from Louisiana."

THE secretary of war was before the committee on military affairs again Monday. Being asked upon what authority he issued the order to General Ord to pursue Mexican raiders across the Rio Grande, he stated that he did so upon precedents of 1860, when Colonel Robert E. Lee was ordered to follow Mexican depredators into Mexico if necessary, and that given by John C. Calhoun as secretary of war in 1817 to General Gaines to pursue the Seminole Indians into the Spanish territory, which order was vigorously carried out.

WE are in grief; Columbus discovered America, but he is no saint. Attempts have been made at Rome to canonize him. The holy office has reported that his beatification cannot be conceded, because he showed no extraordinary christian virtues; his public and private life were much criticized; the chronicles of his day mention nothing entitling him to sainthip; he is not famed as an eminent or noted Catholic; in the last place, nobody ever considered him as a saint, or prayed to him as such. Poor Columbus! A first-rate sailor, but "no great shakes ecclesiastically," so we have no St. Columbus.

The Towboat Bee Sunk.

ST. LOUIS, December 11.—The towboat Bee, belonging to the Mississippi Valley transportation company, struck a rock at Moccasin Springs, fifteen miles above Cape Girardeau, at ten o'clock last night, and sunk in thirteen feet water. Her tow of four well-laden barges, for New Orleans, were cut loose and saved. The boat, which is probably a total loss, was valued at twenty thousand dollars and not insured.

Jail Delivery at Nashville.

NASHVILLE, December 11.—William Phillips and Sam Brooks, counterfeiters; Jasper Williams, a horse-thief, and John Allen, *alias* Alex Anderson, escaped from jail this morning by sawing the bars of a rear

LIEUTENANT BULLIS'S RAID.

Our Soldiers Ambushed by Mexicans, but No Definite Particulars as yet Received.

Probably, however, the Force Pushed On Afterward into the Chihuahua Mountains.

Special to the New York World.]

WASHINGTON, December 7.—The anxiety which has been manifested as to the safety of Lieutenant Bullis and Colonel Young, with the troops under their command, who left Ringgold barracks, on the Rio Grande, over two weeks ago in pursuit of a band of Mexican raiders, will be somewhat allayed by a telegram just received by General Ord. It will be remembered that the United States authorities, and Lieutenant Bullis, one of the most vigilant officers in the service, was sent after the marauders, a band of Mexican Indians. He struck the trail of one of the parties of raiders and followed them across the river, but coming upon them, he found that the force of Mexicans was too large for his small detachment of troops to cope with, and he retreated for reinforcements. Colonels Davis and Young were also dispatched, with sufficient troops for any ordinary emergency, sin quest of other bands of raiders, which had committed several murders and had stolen several hundred horses. It appears from the slight advices received here that Lieutenant Bullis with his force immediately crossed the Rio Grande, and went as rapidly as possible to the point where he was compelled to retreat by the superior numbers of the raid. Whether he found them at the same place or has perseveringly followed the trail into the unexplored mountain fastnesses of northern Chihuahua is not known. The latter seems most likely, as had he fallen in with the raiders and escaped total annihilation some definite information of the results of his pursuit would probably have appeared before this. In the event of attempting to follow the trail of the Indians into the country comparatively unknown except by the robbers and murderers who dwell there, his task might occupy a month. Colonels Davis and Young went along the river seeking after the trail of the raiders, endeavoring to find the point at which they crossed the river. To gain this information they crossed and recrossed the river at such points as they deemed most likely to discover some traces of the fugitives. The upper part of the Rio Grande flows through deep canons, and in defiling through the narrow trails along the river, the troops were fired upon by a party of Mexicans probably lying in ambush. No information has been received whether or not any of our troops were killed, or even whether the fire of the Mexicans was returned. Neither is it known whether it was the command of Bullis, or that of Davis, or that of Young, which was attacked by the Indians. General Ord is of the opinion that an engagement of some description has taken place between the Mexican Indians and our troops in the canons of the Rio Grande, but he says that the United States troops are of sufficient strength to protect themselves.

The statements that a demonstration has taken place in Mexico against the Diaz government by the friends of Lerdo is generally believed here by people well posted in relation to Mexican affairs, as it is well known that emissaries of Lerdo have been actively working in the north of Mexico, along the Rio Grande border for some time past.

FEDERAL TAXATION.

A Correspondent's Review of Secretary Sherman's Treasury Report and Estimates—Duties that Could be Dispensed with, Etc.

From an Occasional Correspondent.]

EDITORS APPEAL—It is told in Genesis that once upon a time the king of Egypt dreamed that he saw coming out of the river seven well-favored and fat-fleshed kine, and that they fed on a meadow; and that shortly after this he saw seven other kine, but ill-favored and lean-fleshed, come also out of the river and eat up all the well-favored and fat kine. We all know that Joseph, who was brought out of jail to interpret Pharaoh's dream, told the king that the seven fat kine meant seven years of plenty unto the land, while the ill-favored ones foreboded seven subsequent years of famine. Then the king made Joseph prime minister, and, by excellent management, an abundance of provisions was stored up during the years of plenty to mitigate the severity of the famine years. The old bible story partly illustrates the condition of the United States—as far as the finances of the country are concerned—for the last eighteen years. The great civil war, instead of making money scarce, made it more plentiful than it ever had been before on this side of the Atlantic; for were not hundreds of presses printing millions of paper money, by day and by night? But, unlike Pharaoh and Joseph, they took in prosperous times but little heed of the evil days to come. Nay, to use another scripture picture, our governors acted like the five foolish virgins who had no oil in their lamps when the bridegroom was coming. Thirteen years have almost passed since the last Confederate soldier laid down his arms and was paroled. Since then the country, at least the south, has been reconstructed; under the pleas of paying for the war and extinguishing the national debt, millions of money have been wrung from the people; everywhere throughout the land a legion of tax-gatherers is stationed, who make their annual rounds and collect imposts and taxes, heavy and numerous, with unfailing regularity. Yet, in spite of all these things, the national finances are in anything but a favorable condition. It would have been strange if it were otherwise, for of all the Radical leaders who have had charge of the government exchequer, there has not been one—not even the late Judge Chase, the ablest of them all—who can be said to have made a good secretary of the treasury—a secretary of the Robert J. Walker or of the James Guthrie type. Patiently did the country endure for many years this maladministration, but at last it wearied of and shook off loyal incapacity, and elected the memorable "Confederate" congress, which, in spite of Grant, Boutwell, Belknap, Williams, Robeson and Sherman, boldly cut $40,000,000 out of the appropriation bills, and thus lightened the tax-payers' burden, while at the same time it effectually crippled the power of the Radical corruptionists. The people, by their votes last year, still adhered to their determination of placing the national government and, above all, the finances in the hands of the Democratic party. Although the notorious electoral commission counted Hayes in by refusing (on Mr. Hoar's motion) to admit any evidence, yet the house of representatives has a Democratic majority, while the Republicans in the senate are almost powerless. We may justly say, therefore, that the country looks to the Democratic party for financial reform, for a revision of the tariff, for an amelioration of the internal revenue system, and for more circumspection in making appropriations. Unless the present incumbent of the Presidency interferes with the veto power, the responsibility is clearly with the Democratic party; and the question is, what will they do? Taking Secretary Sherman's figures as a basis to go upon, we find that the Federal government received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877, $269,000,586, and expended (exclusive of the sinking fund) $238,660,008. For the current year, ending June 30, 1878, Mr. Sherman expects to receive $265,000,000, while besides $232,436,643 he asks an appropriation of $37,000,000 for the sinking fund, thus showing already in his first report to congress a deficit of $11,000,000. How to cover this great deficiency it will be for congress to decide. There are four separate remedies to choose from: First—to curtail the payment into the sinking fund. Second—to make a loan for the amount of the deficiency. Third—to cut down the appropriations. Fourth—to raise existing taxes or impose new ones. Judging from the temper of the house, it is quite probable that the appropriations will be cut down $20,000,000, if not more. This Mr. Sherman will most strenuously oppose, for he is a bitter partisan, and a diminution of appropriations means less money for the army of Republican office-holders. He has already, therefore, suggested the re-imposition of the taxes on coffee and tea. It is true that this tax should never have been repealed, as its abolition never benefited any one but the foreign producers, who clapped on an additional price on these articles when the duty was taken off, and thus put the money which formerly went into the United States treasury into their own pockets. At the time of the repeal of this tax the best informed writers on political economy—Mr. Wells and Mr. Atkinson, for instance—and even two such pronounced Republican journals as the New York *Nation* and Chicago *Tribune*, exposed the utter absurdity and uselessness of the measure, but Mr. Grant and his fellow-Republican "statesmen" (even Mr. Sherman) would not listen to any remonstrance, for "cheap coffee" and "cheap tea" sounded as well and as delusive to the popular ear as the hackneyed cry of "protection of American industry." Well, "curses, like chickens, come home to roost," and Mr. Sherman, in his extremity, undoubtedly execrates the hour when his vote helped to take this duty off. But there are a number of other taxes which might be reimposed, and none with greater ease and justice than the stamp-duty on deeds, mortgages, and other legal instruments. No host of officials is needed for its collection, for all the courts watch over its execution; no counterfeiter has ever infringed on stamps, while the poor are not at all affected by this impost. Proprietary medicines, likewise, could be made to pay a higher tax without much detriment to the health or the pockets of the people. There is also no doubt that a material lowering of the amount of smuggling which is now carried on, both with and without the connivance of the customs officers, to the serious detriment of the revenue, from one end of the land to the other. The tax on distilled spirits and malt liquors might also be reduced, for the reason that the present excessive taxation is the cause of a general and systematic fraud, leading to a great loss of revenue, while production and consumption go on as always, whatever the tax may be. While, in fine, it would be a work of supererogation for us to say what congress will do in the premises, when it reassembles next month, it may be taken for granted that the Democratic majority in the house will only vote such new taxes as can be borne with the least possible hardship to the masses, and that they will carefully scrutinize and pare down the appropriations asked for by the administration. At the same time we cannot but declare that the country will be sorely disappointed—especially the south and west—if the present tariff and internal revenue be not remodeled and improved, the burden lightened and the cost of collection lessened. If the time be not yet come to dispense with customhouse and collectors, surveyors and appraisers, inspectors and warehousemen, many a patriot now subsisting upon government pap might safely, without detriment to the public interest, be relegated to private life.

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DR. MARY WALKER'S CLAIM.

Opinion of Solicitor Raynor, of the Treasury Department, in Favor of Paying her a Year's Salary.

Special to the New York Times.]

WASHINGTON, December 7.—Solicitor Raynor, of the treasury department, has rendered an opinion with reference to a claim of Dr. Mary Walker, which lays down a novel principle. In March, 1873, Dr. Mary was appointed to a clerkship in the treasury department by Secretary Richardson, passed the usual examination, was duly sworn in, and ordered to report for duty to Treasurer Spinner. She did so report, but some ladies of the department objected to Dr. Mary, unless she would leave off her semi-masculine attire, and assume the dress which is recognized as proper for women. The female clerks carried their protest to Secretary Richardson, who informed the eccentric doctor that she must dress as other ladies, or he could not assign her to a desk in the treasury department. The doctor would not abandon her reform notions about female dress, and in consequence was never assigned to duty, although she reported regularly at the department for two years, as she avers. As her appointment was not revoked by the appointing power, she claims compensation at the rate of nine hundred dollars per annum from the date of the appointment to the date of her formal resignation. In his written opinion Solicitor Raynor refers to these facts, and says: "I conceive that the only question submitted to me is whether the applicant has any just claim for redress upon the treasury department. I think she has, inasmuch as the appointment was to be on the temporary roll, and owing to the peculiar circumstances of the case, which, if redressed, must be done by an arbitrary standard to meet which there is no special provision. I submit the opinion that the applicant should be allowed one year's salary at nine hundred dollars. In passing upon this application for redress, I have looked at the mere abstract merits of the case. I have not allowed myself to be swayed or in any degree influenced by the sex of the applicant, or by her well-known peculiarities of manners or dress."

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MEDICAL.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PUBLIC.

NEW YORK, October 1, 1877.

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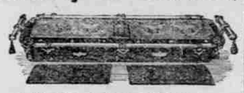

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THE firm of Phelan & Murphy was dissolved by mutual consent September 10th, Mr. Ben. Phelan retiring.

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