

Donaldsonville Chief.

Office in Crescent Place.

Official Journal Town of Donaldsonville.

LINDEN E. BENTLEY,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Saturday, September 23, 1871.

Republican State Central Executive Committee.

Officers of the Committee.

P. B. S. Pinchback, President.
William Vigers, Recording Secretary.
J. W. Fairfax, Corresponding Secretary.

Members for the State at Large.

Edward Butler, S. S. Schmidt,
Thompson Cookley, Elbert Gantt,
John Parsons, A. W. Smythe,
H. Raby, James McCleery,
David Young, F. J. Herrou.

First Congressional District.

Hugh J. Campbell, H. Mahoney.

Second Congressional District.

A. E. Barber, James L. Bolden.

Third Congressional District.

Thomas H. Noland, Geo. Washington.

Fourth Congressional District.

E. W. Dewees, Rafoad Blunt.

Fifth Congressional District.

A. W. Faulkner, A. B. Harris.

Congressional Committee, 3rd District.

John R. Gallup, Emerson Bentley,

Louis E. Laloire, Pierre Landry,

Clark H. Remick.

Copies of the CHIEF may always be found at Wilkinson's news depot and at the postoffice.

Mr. Pierre Landry is duly authorized to act as agent for the CHIEF in this parish and elsewhere.

Brag is a good dog.—Iberville Pioneer.

"Self praise is half flattery," you know, Mr. Editor.

The New Orleans Times entered upon its tenth volume with the issue of Thursday.

It is enough to try the patience of a saint to edit a paper in this parish.—St. James Sentinel.

But it don't trouble your patience any, does it, neighbor?

A young friend of ours, who evidently understands the situation, asks why Speaker Carter is like a baking crab? The answer is: Because he may expect to be done brown.

The increase of the colored population of the United States within the last ten years is 438,182. But the Democrats gave up their argument of the gradual decrease and final disappearance of the colored race some time ago, we believe.

"Give the devil his due."—Iberville Pioneer.

Agreed. Good-bye, and try to be as comfortable as the warmth of the place will admit when you get there.

We learn from an exchange that W. H. Scanland has retired from the Coushatta Times. He has found it impossible to run an independent paper any longer, so relinquishes the attempt. It is likely the Times will embrace a political creed from henceforth.

The editor of the Lafourche Republican amuses himself analyzing the names of some of the prominent men who uphold the State administration, drawing brilliant conclusions from their meaning, and does not hesitate to spell them wrong to serve his purpose. The arguments are about equal to the orthography.

The Citizens' Guard is responsible for the following: "How about that school fund in Peoria, Illinois? Can General Hugh Campbell answer? If yea, what was the amount which disappeared, and when will it be returned?"—Iberville Pioneer.

And that is not the only mean, libelous insinuation the Citizens' Guard is responsible for, by a great many, Mr. Pioneer.

Mr. D. A. Webber, editor of the Feliciana Republican, was arrested in New Orleans the other day, charged by State Auditor Graham with forging Speaker Carter's name to printing accounts amounting to \$2546. Webber remained in durance vile but an hour or two, being released by Recorder McArthur on giving bond in the sum of \$3000 to appear before that functionary for examination on the second day of October.

Mr. Walsh knew his man.—Magnolia.

Just so. Mr. Walsh knew that Governor Warmoth's position as the first officer of the State government would prevent his acceptance of a challenge to fight a duel, whatever his inclinations might be, and he was careful to ascertain this beyond a doubt before sending one. If there had been any likelihood of his challenge being accepted, Mr. Walsh would very probably have been content with writing cards to the newspapers in vindication of his wounded honor. Yes, blooming Magnolia, he knew his man, and governed himself accordingly.

A PLAGIARISM.

The New Orleans Times of the 17th instant contains a lengthy and elaborate account of the arrest, trial and recent execution of the St. James murderers, which cannot fail to prove interesting to all its readers. We took up a copy of the Times the other evening to read the article in question, but had scarcely begun it when we were struck by its similarity to something we had seen before. As we continued, light suddenly dawned upon us, and closely examining the narrative, we recognized the entire account of the commission of the murder and subsequent capture, trial and sentence of the criminals to be the production of our own pen, written while occupying the editorial chair of the St. James Sentinel. We looked carefully for the credit customarily given to borrowed articles, but none was visible.

A strict regard for truth prevents us from saying our hair stood on end, but we did give utterance to a prolonged whistle, and also made use of the exclamatory expression "Cracky!" We had been used to seeing little insignificant country journals, whose editors lacked either the brains or inclination to write editorials, reproduce the articles of their contemporaries without accrediting them, but the idea of a city journal, occupying such a prominent position as the Times does, pilfering the articles of a little country paper, was new and surprising; hence the whistle and exclamation aforesaid. With the firm belief that the Times would indignantly rebuke a plagiarist from its own columns, we feel fully justified in calling upon the editor to make amends for his little irregularity, and we are sure no one can acknowledge an error and correct it more gracefully than himself.

Finally, if the editor will favor us with a copy of his journal containing the correction, we shall take as much pains to make that known to the public as we have done to call attention to the fault.

A MUTUAL REGRET.

The editor of the St. James Sentinel learns that his "young friend and former partner, L. E. Bentley, is about to resume his 'new departure' through the columns of a new paper," etc., and feels sorry "to see so talented a young man supporting the administration of his corrupt majesty, 'King Henry.'" By this latter expression we suppose him to mean the Republican State administration, with Governor Henry C. Warmoth at its head.

Since the editor has taken occasion to publicly express regret for our espousal of a good cause, we feel a desire to reciprocate by declaring that we are sincerely sorry to observe an editor possessing the many pleasing qualities Mr. Bovee does, so lowering himself in the opinion of respectable men by making use of the columns of his own newspaper to libel and abuse one whom he regards as a personal enemy. The consequent degradation of such action is deepened by the fact that the person against whom his insults and abuse are directed is the Chief Executive of the State—an officer whose position entitles him to at least a decent respect.

We mean no ill-will towards Mr. Bovee, but merely wish to show him that we regret his wrong course as sincerely as he can our right one.

THE FIRST GREETING.

The Iberville News of Thursday thus acknowledges receipt of the CHIEF:—Linden E. Bentley's new paper, the Donaldsonville Chief, has appeared, and typographically and editorially it is everything that its most sanguine friends could reasonably expect. Here is our friend Linden, and may abundant success, which you richly deserve, crown your efforts in your field of new labor.

Many thanks, friend Loud, for that some \$1. In return, may the * of your glory ascend higher and higher; may your excellent journal penetrate every \$ of the country, and its wise teachings be heeded by all; finally, may the News and the CHIEF never be at ++ drawn, but march on in //, assisting friends and fighting enemies. We will bet a \$ our !! suit you to a T, beyond a ?

We learn from a New Orleans exchange that Judge Abell, of the Criminal Court of that city, has sentenced police officers Brown, Coughlin and Finke, charged with clubbing and otherwise maltreating Martin Lang while a prisoner in their hands, to pay a fine of forty dollars each, and also to imprisonment in the parish jail: the two first named to serve one year each, the latter six months. Bravo! Judge.

It is a good fight to fight for what is honest and just.—Iberville Pioneer. Who told you that? You didn't find it out by experience.

NOT QUITE A DUEL.

Governor Warmoth Challenged by John A. Walsh.—The Governor Replies.—Interesting Correspondence.—Vindication of the Governor and Humiliation of Mr. Walsh.

Doubtless most of our readers have read the speech made by Governor Warmoth at the Turners' Hall Convention, on the 10th of August last, and will remember the portion of it which referred to Mr. John A. Walsh, reputed editor of the New Orleans Patriot, and the same man who didn't get elected to Congress on the "Christian Republican" ticket last year. The gist of the Governor's remarks was that he had been approached by Mr. Walsh some time in the spring of 1869 with an offer of \$50,000 to obtain his signature to that famous swindle, the Nicolson Pavement Bill, and that this bribe had been emphatically refused by himself.

Shortly after this speech had been delivered, Mr. Walsh appeared before the public in a card to the New Orleans Times, in which he acknowledged having offered the \$50,000 as stated by the Governor, but said it was refused on the ground of being insufficient compensation, the Governor having demanded \$75,000 and a percentage of the profits.

No response was made to this until the charge was reiterated by Speaker Carter in his "card" to the Times, and also by Lieutenant Governor Dunn in the course of his few remarks of five columns to Mr. Horace Greeley, not to make mention of the many little country papers of the State that sounded it forth with blast of cow-horns and amid a perfect wilderness of denunciatory sentences.

Then, and not until then, Governor Warmoth made answer to the charge by a card which branded the statement of Mr. Walsh as wholly false and malicious, and referred to gentlemen of undoubted integrity and high standing in New Orleans, who were present when the bribe was offered him, and who would bear him out in the assertion that he had not only refused the \$50,000 point blank, but had expressed surprise that Mr. Walsh, knowing him as he did, should approach him with such a proposition. One of the gentlemen to whom the Governor had referred immediately sent a card to the New Orleans Republican, in which he declared the Governor's version of the affair to be perfectly correct and that of Mr. Walsh to be erroneous.

Mr. Walsh was thus placed in the unenviable position of a maligner whose slanders had been exposed to the public gaze in their proper light, and, as a natural consequence, the gentleman felt sore. In his utter humiliation he thirsted for vengeance, and sent a letter to Governor Warmoth which, it appears, was intended as a challenge to mortal combat. This led to the exchange of several epistles, which we give in full, commencing at the commencement:

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 11th, 1871.

H. C. Warmoth:

Sir—Certain differences of opinion, involving a question of veracity, having occurred between us, as more fully appears by your card in the New Orleans Republican of the 8th instant, I am now of the opinion that it would be best for all parties concerned, that you be kind enough to name two friends of yours who will please call upon me with the view of properly adjusting those differences; all of which I presume, judging from the tenor of your card aforesaid, will be agreeable to you.

Hoping that you will oblige me, I remain yours respectfully,

J. A. WALSH.

The bearer of this letter was a Mr. Peppe Llulla, who is spoken of by the New Orleans Republican as a Spaniard who has done considerable service in the cause of his native country, and who is completely versed in all matters relating to the miscalled "code of honor."

On the same day of the delivery of the above, Gen. Herron, Secretary of State, called at the office of Mr. Walsh and gave him the following answer from Governor Warmoth:

NEW ORLEANS, La., Sept. 11, 1871.

Sir—Your communication of this date is received. You say: "Certain differences of opinion, involving a question of veracity, having occurred between us as more fully appears by your card in the New Orleans Republican of the 8th instant, I am of the opinion that it would be best for all parties concerned that you be kind enough to name two friends of yours who will please call upon me with the view of properly adjusting those differences; all of which I presume, judging from the tenor of your card aforesaid, will be agreeable to you."

In reply, I have to say that I am perfectly willing to submit the question of veracity between us to the determination of two respectable gentlemen to be selected by yourself and two chosen by me—a fifth to be selected by these four, in case they cannot agree. And if you can prove to these arbitrators that I demanded of you

seventy-five thousand dollars and two and one-half per cent. of the net profits of the contract arising out of the Nicolson pavement bill, or any other sum or consideration, I will admit that I have committed a breach of veracity, and you have told the truth.

This on condition that if I can establish to the satisfaction of the gentlemen named—by statement of yours at the time and subsequently to gentlemen of known character for truth—that you had approached me with an offer of fifty thousand dollars to sign the said bill; that I refused it, and told you no considerations, pecuniary or otherwise, could induce me to sign it; that you are to admit that the statement as above given is false, and that the breach of veracity was committed by you.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WARMOTH.

Mr. Walsh seemed much surprised that the Governor should put such a wrong construction upon his letter, stating that he had intended it as a challenge. Gen. Herron said he was sure the Governor had not so considered it. After a deal of unimportant negotiation between Messrs. Walsh, Llulla, and Gen. Herron, the following answer to the Governor's communication was dictated by Mr. Walsh:

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 12, 1871.

H. C. Warmoth:

Sir—In response to your communication of date of 11th inst., I will state that I requested of you that you appoint two friends, intending that they should meet two of mine, with the view of adjusting the matter, meaning, of course, to their satisfaction as our representatives. It is to be presumed that those gentlemen do not act under instructions from either of us.

I cannot permit that my veracity be made the subject of arbitration by four gentlemen, two of whom, judging from your communication of above named date, will be simply acting under instructions from you.

The question at issue is that you have in effect called me a liar as H. C. Warmoth, not as Governor. It is to adjust that satisfactorily that my friends will meet yours. So far as you could possibly do it, you have already passed judgment on my veracity and the decision is against me—by so doing, you have as an individual insulted me grossly, sir, and an apology or retraction is absolutely necessary; or in the absence thereof such an adjustment as usually obtains among gentlemen.

As for the truth of my statements I shall in the proper manner and at the proper time proceed to demonstrate, when the public will sit as judges. Yours, very respectfully,

J. A. WALSH.

The final answer of Governor Warmoth follows:

NEW ORLEANS, La., Sept. 12, 1871.

Sir—Your communication of this date is received. In your first letter to me, dated yesterday, you say: "Certain differences of opinion, involving a question of veracity, having occurred between us. * * * I am of the opinion that it would be best for all parties concerned that you be kind enough to name two friends of yours who will please call upon me with the view of properly adjusting those differences." Inferring that you would also name two friends, making four in all, to whose adjustment, or in case of disagreement, by the aid of a fifth person, to be selected by them, we would submit the question of veracity to be bound by their decision, I replied by accepting your proposition.

To-day you reconsider your proposition and say: "I cannot permit that my veracity be made the subject of arbitration by four gentlemen, two of whom, judging from your communication of above named date, will be simply acting under instructions from you."

You have no right to assume that I would give instructions to the gentlemen selected by me any more than I have that those selected by you would act under your instructions. On the contrary I fully concur that "it is to be presumed that those gentlemen do not act under instructions from either of us."

You state "the question at issue is that you have in effect called me a liar." It is nevertheless a question of veracity as much so to-day as it was yesterday, and it was this very question that I consented to name two out of four gentlemen to adjust.

You say "so far as you possibly could do it, you have already passed judgment on my veracity, and the decision is against me." It was from this judgment of mine that I understood you desired to appeal to four disinterested persons who would either affirm or reverse it. But by your letter of to-day learn that it is not to an impartial examination of witnesses and the facts that your desire to submit the question of veracity, but to another tribunal.

In case I refuse "an apology or retraction," which you say is "absolutely necessary," I must accord you, in the absence thereof, "such an adjustment as usually obtains among gentlemen." This means, I suppose, *apologize, retract or fight*. I do not see how I can very well retract or apologize. If I had offended you by accident, or in a moment of excitement said something unjust or improper, I might very properly, and I have no doubt would, retract it or apologize for it, but the statement I made in my card of the 8th instant, that your allegation relative to the Nicolson pavement matter was a "willful and malicious falsehood," was not made in a moment of excitement, but after you had published it in the New Orleans Times, almost a month ago, and it had been repeated by Mr. Speaker Carter and Lieutenant Governor Dunn, on your authority, and after I learned that I could prove to the satisfaction of every

body by witnesses of unimpeachable veracity that it was "a willful and malicious falsehood."

As to the alternative which is understood to be to fight you, you knew when you made it, I could not except it, and ascertained the fact by inquiry of my personal friends from whom you elicited the information that I would not. I refuse to accept this new tribunal to which you invite me for several reasons:

1. If I should accept it and go out with you to fight, when we returned, whether dead or alive, the question of veracity would still be unsettled. If you were to kill me it would not prove that I stated a falsehood, or that you told the truth, or vice versa.

2. The civilization of the day condemns as barbarous and immoral the practice of dueling, and it can only be excused or palliated when there is no other possible means of vindicating one's honor.

3. As Chief Magistrate of this great Commonwealth, I am charged with the faithful execution of the laws, and my oath of office, however much I might be irritated with you, and desire this settlement, would prevent me from indulging in it.

In conclusion, I reaffirm my willingness to submit the question between us to the decision of impartial persons selected as before indicated, or to the courts of the State, whose doors are always opened at the knock of men fancying themselves suffering from wounded honor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WARMOTH.

Here the correspondence ceased, and nothing more occurred in relation to the matter until the 17th instant, when Mr. Walsh again resorted to the public print, and addressed a card to Governor Warmoth through the columns of the New Orleans Times of that date. In this card appears this paragraph:

The point at issue is as to whether I ever stated that you would not sign the Nicolson pavement bill for any pecuniary consideration. I most emphatically deny that I ever said any such thing. I reiterate the charge that you were not willing, at first, to sign it for fifty thousand dollars, but demanded seventy-five thousand dollars, and two and one-half per cent of the profits, for your signature. I admitted to some gentlemen that I had offered you fifty thousand dollars, and you declined, but the balance not being in your favor I made no mention of it.

This persistency of Mr. Walsh's in insisting upon the truth of his libel, determined Governor Warmoth to place before the public such undeniable evidence as would settle the matter at once, and prove himself to be the slandered person and Mr. Walsh the slanderer.

Whether he has accomplished this, the following testimonials will show:

NEW ORLEANS, September 16, 1871.

His Excellency Governor H. C. Warmoth.

Sir—About two years ago I happened to be in the office of D. G. Hitchcock & Co., who were at the time trying to negotiate with parties to purchase the right to lay the Nicolson pavement on St. Charles street, where I met Mr. J. A. Walsh. Mr. Hitchcock was figuring for Walsh what amount Mr. E. J. Hart, president of the company, would take for his contract, and what it could be sublet for, the figuring showing a little over \$90,000 profit. Mr. Walsh thereupon said "I will go and offer the Governor \$30,000." He left, and shortly after returned. Upon Mr. Walsh's return he said "I offered the Governor \$50,000 to sign the bill. He reprimanded me, saying that he was surprised that I, knowing him as I did, should make him such a proposition." He said: "The Governor told me that he would take pleasure in signing the bill for me if it were right to do so, without any consideration, but that it would be like the State paying for the pavement of the road in the parishes." He said the Governor could not be induced to sign the bill, and that he, the Governor, was right in his views of the matter.

Respectfully yours,

W. L. CATLIN.

NEW ORLEANS, September 17, 1871.

Hon. H. C. Warmoth, Governor etc.

Sir—Noticing in this morning's Times an attack upon your character by Mr. John A. Walsh, I take this occasion to inform you of the following statement or conversation, which took place between Mr. Walsh and myself some person whom I do not now recollect:

In the spring of 1869, Mr. John A. Walsh came to my stables to get a horse and buggy. During the time my men were getting them ready, the question of whether Governor Warmoth could be bribed came up. Mr. Walsh said he knew he could not be bribed to do an official act. The gentleman talking with him disagreed with him. The conversation grew warm and spirited. When Mr. Walsh got into the buggy to drive off (the conversation still continuing), he said, with vehemence, that he knew Governor Warmoth could not be bribed to do an official act, for he had tried him. He said he had offered him fifty thousand dollars to sign the Nicolson pavement bill, and that he refused it; and that the Governor gave good reasons for refusing it, one of which was that it was just as proper for the State treasury to pay the expenses of paying the roads in the parishes as it would be for the State to pay for paving a street in New Orleans. He also stated that the Governor said no pecuniary consideration whatever would induce him to sign the bill.

WILLIAM K. SPEARING.

I was present during the above or foregoing conversation, and certify to

the correctness of the foregoing statement.

WILLIAM R. McCRAHY.

NEW ORLEANS, September 17, 1871.

To the Editor of the New Orleans Times:

About two years ago Mr. John A. Walsh stated at my office, in the presence of Captain John C. Sinnott, that he had that day offered Governor Warmoth fifty thousand dollars and a certain percentage of the profits arising from the Nicolson pavement bill, and that the Governor refused to sign the bill and would not accept the offer.

Captain Sinnott remarked that was not the whole of it—perhaps he had not offered the Governor enough. Mr. Walsh replied that he had stated the whole of it. What Mr. Walsh said in the conversation was in defense of Governor Warmoth's integrity.

Respectfully,

A. W. SMYTH.

I believe the above statement of Dr. Smyth to be correct in every particular, and I would further state the use of my name in cards published in the Republican of the eighth and in your issue of to-day were unauthorized by me. I am entirely disconnected with politics, and do not desire to be associated with party extermination or re-extermination.

Respectfully,

JOHN C. SINNOTT.

NEW YORK CITY, September 2, 1871.

Editor Republican:

I wish to state to you, for the sake of truth and in justice to Governor Warmoth, what I know in reference to the signing of the Nicolson pavement bill.

John A. Walsh informed me last winter that he had offered Governor Warmoth fifty thousand dollars to sign the bill; that the Governor stated that he would not sign the bill for any consideration whatever; that no inducement, pecuniary or otherwise, would induce him to sign such a bill; that it was a bad precedent for the State at large to pay for improving a street in the city of New Orleans. Mr. Walsh further stated to me that if the bill was a proper one the Governor would have signed it at the request of Mr. S. B. Packard, who advised him to do so, and who was interested in the bill.

Respectfully,

JOHNATHAN TAYLOR.

NEW ORLEANS, September 17, 1871.

To his Excellency H. C. Warmoth:

Dear Sir—In reply to your note of this date, requesting me to give you a statement of what occurred at an interview between Mr. John A. Walsh and myself in regard to your action on the Nicolson paving bill, I will state, that in consequence of the lapse of time since the above mentioned interview took place, I can not possibly give a verbal statement of what was said, and can only trust my memory upon main points.

I was trying to effect a sale of the right to lay the Nicolson pavement on St. Charles street to Mr. Walsh, and, at the close of the negotiation, he informed me that he had offered you \$50,000 to sign the Nicolson paving bill, and that you had refused. Nothing was said about a larger sum being required to secure your signature to the bill. In fact, the only statement made by Mr. Walsh, in regard to his interview with you, that I can not recollect, is the offer I have already mentioned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. HITCHCOCK.

We venture to say there is no right-minded man in the community who can read the foregoing testimonials and not feel that Governor Warmoth has been signally vindicated from the principal charge of official corruption urged against him by his enemies.

And as this slander has fallen to the ground, so will the others follow upon them by examination into the facts of each case.

While rejoicing heartily in the Governor's triumph, we wait expectantly to see if any of his enemies will be just enough to retract the slander they have so vehemently urged, now that it has been proved beyond doubt to be a slander.

Kick Warmoth and his friends out of the party.—N. O. Magnolia.

You might as well try to kick your horse out of a man who offends you, instead of vice versa. Warmoth is the leader and his friends the great mass of the party, and when you kick them out you kick the party out too. One would think you had done this, Mrs. Magnolia, to see you borrow arguments from such a journal as the New York World.

Postoffice Notice.

Donaldsonville, September, 1871.

Mails Arrive

From New Orleans on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings.
From Thibodaux Monday and Thursday at 6 o'clock P. M.
From St. Francisville Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Mails are Closed

For New Orleans on Sunday at 12 o'clock M., and at six o'clock P. M.;
On Tuesday at three o'clock P. M.;
On Wednesday at 6 o'clock P. M.;
On Thursday at 12 M.
For Thibodaux on Monday and Thursday at 6 P. M.

For St. Francisville Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 6 P. M.

Postoffice will be open every day from 6 A. M. to 6 P. M., except on Sunday, when it will be closed at 12 o'clock M.

No letters will be registered on Sunday after 8 o'clock A. M.
The postoffice rules will be strictly executed by its officers.
P. LANDRY, Postmaster.