

Donaldsonville Chief.

The Bivouac of the Dead.

BY THEODORE O'HARA.
The muffled drum's sad roll has beat
The soldier's last tattoo;
No more on life's parade shall meet
That brave and fallen foe.
On fame's eternal camping ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And glory guards, with silent round,
The bivouac of the dead.

No rumor of the foe's advance
Now swells upon the wind;
No troubled thought at midnight haunts
Of loved one's left behind;
No vision of the morrow's strife
The warrior's dread alarms;
Nor braying horn, nor screaming file
At dawn shall call to arms.
Their shivered swords are red with rust,
Their plumed crests are bowed—
Their haughty banner, trailed in dust,
Is now their martial shroud!
And plenteous funerals have washed
The red stains from each brow,
And the proud forms by battle gashed
Are free from anguish now.
The neighing troop, the flashing blade,
The bugle's strain, the drum's roll,
The charge, the dreadful cannonade,
The din and shout are past;
No war's wild note, nor glory's peal
Shall thrill with fierce delight
Those breasts that never more may feel
The rapture of the fight.

Fall of the American Republic.

From the Advance Sheets of "Bancroft's History of the Republic," published by Harper Brothers, 1890.

The first of dead satirists was Job, who, in the bitterness of his heart, after being interviewed by some Bohemian vagabond, said, "Oh, that mine enemy might write a book!" Our excellent, but somewhat saturnine friend, Mr. Joseph W., says that Job must have had a special spite against some publisher, who might have been ruined by publishing the book in question.

After this flourish of trumpets, we come to the marrow of our subject: It is to introduce the next volume of "Bancroft's Decline and Fall of the Republic." We have been enabled, through the aid of a clairvoyante, to read the opening of the last volume, and we give it with all its startling force to the world, in the original. See vol. 5, page 27:

THE FALL OF AMERICA.

You ask me to tell you, my children, of the events which immediately preceded the destruction of the once great American Union, and the capture of the country by its present European rulers, and to say something, also, of the cause which led to these deplorable results. I undertake the task with a heavy heart, for when I revert to that terrible time I cannot help contrasting our proud condition up to that fatal year with the humiliating position now occupied by Americans. The story is a short one. In the fall of 1872 Horace Greeley, the editor of a newspaper in New York, was elected President of the United States. The people voted for him because they thought he was an honest man. And so he was. But he was also vain and weak, and he entertained certain fanatical and ridiculous notions—about agricultural matters, for instance—which he was determined to force upon the nation at all hazards, and despite all opposition. He believed, among other things, that every man ought to go to the West to earn his bread, and long before he was chosen President he used to advise everybody to move out to that region, as a cure for all the disasters that could befall the human family.

As soon as he reached the Executive Mansion, which we used to call the White House, President Greeley organized an army of two hundred thousand men, and proceeded to force the entire population of the seaboard States westward at the point of the bayonet. The utmost violence was used. Those who resisted were shot down, and their dead bodies were carted off to a national factory which the President had established for making some kind of fantastical fertilizer. All the large cities of the East were depopulated, and the towns were entirely empty. The army swept before it millions of men, women and children, until the vast plains west of Kansas were reached, when the pursuit ceased and the army was drawn up in a continuous line, with orders to shoot any one who attempted to visit the East. Of course hundreds of thousands of these poor creatures died from starvation. This seemed to frighten President Greeley, and he sent a message to Congress recommending that seven hundred thousand volumes of a book of his, entitled "What I know about farming," should be devoted for the relief of the starving sufferers. This was done, and farming implements and seeds were supplied; and then the wretched outcasts made an effort to till the ground. Of the result of this I will speak further on.

In the meantime the President was doing infinite harm to the country in another way. His handwriting was so fearfully and wonderfully bad that no living man could read it. And so when he sent his first annual message to Congress—the document was devoted wholly to the tariff and agriculture—a sentence appeared which was subsequently ascertained to be, "Large cultivation of rutabagas and beans is the only hope of the American nation, I am sure." The printers, not being able to interpret this, put it in the following form, in which it went to the world: "The Czar of Russia couldn't keep clean if he washed himself with the whole Atlantic Ocean once a day." This perversion of the message was immediately telegraphed to Russia by the Russian Minister; and the Czar was so indignant that he immediately declared war.

Just at this time President Greeley undertook to write some letters to the Prince Bismarck, upon the subject of potato rot, and, after giving his singular views at great length, he concluded with the statement that if the Emperor William said that subsoil

plowing was not good in light soil, or that guano was better than bone dust, he was "a liar, a villain and a slave!" Of course the Emperor also immediately declared war, and became an ally of Russia and of England, with which latter country Mr. Greeley had actually begun hostilities already, because the Queen, in her speech from the throne, had declared the *Tribune's* advocacy of a tariff on pig iron incendiary, and calculated to disturb the peace of nations.

Unhappily, this was not the full measure of our disasters. The President had sent to the Emperor of Austria a copy of his book, "What I know," etc., with his autograph upon a fly-leaf. The Emperor mistook the signature for a caricature of the Austrian eagle, and readily joined in the war against the United States; while France was provoked to the same act by the fact that when the French Minister came to call upon Mr. Greeley to present his credentials, the President, who was writing an editorial at the time, not comprehending the French language, mistook the Ambassador for a beggar, and without looking up handed him a quarter of a dollar and an order for a clean shirt, and said to him, "Go west, young man, go west."

So all these nations joined in making war upon the United States. They swooped down upon our coasts and landed without opposition, for those exposed portions of our unfortunate country were absolutely deserted. The President was afraid to call away the army from Kansas at first, for fear the outraged people upon the plains would come East in spite of him. But at last he did summon the army to his aid, and it moved to meet the enemy. It was too late. Before the troops had reached Cincinnati the foreign invaders seized Washington and all the country east of the Ohio, hung the President and his Cabinet, and every member of Congress. The army disbanded in alarm, and the foreigners moved to the far West, where they found the population dying of starvation because they had followed the advice of Greeley's book, to "Try, for your first crop, to raise limes; and do not plant more than a bushel of quicklime in a hill." Of course, these suffering people were at the mercy of the enemy, who—to his credit be it said—treated them kindly, fed them, and brought them back to their old homes.

You know what followed—how the Prince Frederick William, of Prussia, ascended the American throne, and the numerous other humiliations that ensued. It was a fearful blow to republicanism—a blow from which it will never recover. It made us, who were freemen, a nation of slaves. It was all the result of our blind confidence in a misguided old man, who imagined himself a philosopher, but who was actually a fool. May Heaven preserve you, my children, from the remorse I feel when I remember that I voted for that buccle old editor.

A Male Actress.

Women were not allowed on the stage until after the restoration of Charles II.; yet, when they were, the stage could not immediately be supplied with them, and for some time there was a necessity for the retention of the handsome youths who had previously played the female parts. Of these actors, Kynaston is said to have worn the petticoats with infinite grace and success, although at times he met with untoward accidents in his assumptions. Cibber relates that on one occasion "the King (Charles) coming a little before his usual time to the tragedy, found the actors not ready to begin, when not choosing to have as much patience as his good subjects, sent to them to know the meaning of it; upon which the master of the company came to the box, and rightly judging that the best excuse for their default would be the true one, fairly told his Majesty that the "Queen" was not shaved yet. The King, whose good humor loved to laugh at a jest, as well as to make one, accepted the excuse, which served to divert him, till the male queen could be effeminated. In a word, Kynaston, at that time, was so beautiful a youth, that the ladies of quality prided themselves in taking him in their coaches to Hyde Park, in his theatrical habit, after the play which, in those days, they might have sufficient time to do, because plays were used to begin at four o'clock." Kynaston afterward became an excellent actor of male parts as he had been of female characters in his adolescence.

An Ingenious Colored Official Explains.

[From the St. Louis Journal of Commerce.]
If the ancient sophists were still in existence we verily believe they would make acting Governor Dunn, of Louisiana, their chief.

His genius runs in the line of sophistry to such an extent, that he has shot reasons at the public, why the Gatlin guns and United States troops were in the Customhouse, on that famous convention day, as a French mitrailleuse shoots bullets.

Mr. Dunn is trying, in a five column article to the New York *Tribune*, not only to do Mr. Greeley and public sentiment on the above subject, but to convince the colored brethren that he is their only real champion, and that Warmoth is the greatest scoundrel in the State, and Pinchback a noted political villain.

But to the excuses for the employment of troops and guns at this convention. The acting Governor alleges that they were there to protect the spittoons, gas fixtures, and other property, which were in danger, from the raging Warmothites; that two companies of soldiers were sent all the way from Texas, to defend the furniture and fixtures of the Customhouse from the ravages of the Governor of the State; that the attitude of the soldiers was very lamb like, and that, far from hurting anybody, they only looked through the windows and con-

versed amicably together, while some complacently picked their teeth.

Here, then, we have a luminous exposition of the real motive for the military movement, and the profundity of it is truly amazing.

The military lambkins gambolled around and did not use their bayonets or shotguns, and the Gatlin guns were quite disposed to be amicable.

They were not there to intimidate or overawe, but to look on as spectators. This explanation from the ingenious Dunn, however, is not quite satisfactory, inasmuch as on his own showing, it looks decidedly unimpressive to transport soldiers, at the public expense, hundreds of miles, merely to look through the windows and pick their teeth, or frolic like lambs.

James Dugan, of New Orleans.

[From the Vidalia Herald.]
This gentleman sends us a printed circular letter, such as he has sent, no doubt, to every paper in the State, presenting what he calls the facts in relation to the split at the convention of the ninth of August. We hope Mr. Dugan will not be surprised or disappointed if we decline to reproduce his circular, subject to the following conditions, imposed or sought to be imposed rather, in a postscript to his very plausible and fair (?) letter.

"Mr. Editor—Recognizing, as I do, the wide-spread influence of your journal (compliments us) and knowing that many of your readers have formed erroneous opinions (have they, indeed,) of the condition of the Republican party of this State, I send you this letter free of charge (here's magnanimity), in the hope that you will give it a place in your columns. If you accept, and will send me a copy of your paper, I will act as your correspondent here (so kind), and will contribute letters upon the most interesting topics weekly, and will charge you nothing for my services.

"Very respectfully,
"JAMES DUGAN."

Now either the spirit of magnanimity enters largely into the composition of Mr. Dugan or the money of the stamp-tail convention enters pretty freely into his coffers, else how can he afford to spend his time writing letters for the provincial press. We smell a hen. But once for all, we would like to be permitted to inform Mr. Dugan that we profess to understand the situation at New Orleans quite as well as he does. When he writes that Governor Warmoth was attended by notorious assassins, thugs and police, we know that he indulged in a flight of fancy not allowed even in poetic license, for we had plenty of friends in the van with Warmoth who no more resemble thugs than does Mr. Dugan, a shrewd manipulator of buccle (consequently green, eh, Mr. Dugan?), editors.

It is a nice little game, Mr. Dugan, that the stumpists are trying to play with you for the stool pigeon, but you can't chaff the peacock up this way. Come in some impenetrable disguise, thou facetious Dugan—we've dug an attempt at imposition out of your last one.

Notice to Taxpayers.

Tax Collector's Office,
Parish of Ascension, July 22, 1871.
NOTICE is hereby given that the Parish taxes for the year 1870 are due, and that all interested parties are requested to call at my office in the Town of Donaldsonville, on Mississippi street, opposite Marx Israel's store, within twenty days from the date of this notice and pay the same, in default whereof I shall proceed to seize according to law.
CHAS. F. SMITH,
Parish Tax Collector.

Proceedings of Common Council, Town of Donaldsonville.

The Common Council met in regular session at the Mayor's office, September 4th, 1871, at 4 o'clock, P. M.

Present—E. W. Mason, Mayor; Aldermen Duffel, Burbridge, Smith, Noel and Johnson. Absent—Alderman LeBlanc.

Minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved.

The Mayor stated that the seal ordered at last meeting, was being made and would be ready in a few days.

The Committee on Public Works reported that "the work on the streets, ditches, sidewalks and landings has been completed, and is done as per specifications given by the Committee of Public Works."

The report was adopted by the following vote:
Burbridge, Smith, Noel and Johnson voting yes.
Duffel voting no.

Alderman Duffel arose and explained "that his reason for voting no, was that the contract had not been carried out, as he understood the specifications, and therefore voted no."

The Special Committee on the wharf reported progress, and asked more time.

Report adopted and more time allowed.

The market clerk presented his report for the time he had been in possession, and laid a proposition of the butchers before the Council to help the town by a portable gas machine for the market-house.

The report was adopted, and the proposition was laid on the table, subject to call.

Alderman Duffel presented the following: To the Hon. Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Donaldsonville:

The petition of the undersigned citizens of the town of Donaldsonville and of the Parish of Ascension, respectfully represent to your Honorable body, that they have been informed that acting upon a memorial of persons representing the interest of the steam and flat boats plying in Bayou Lafourche, your body, at its last session, adopted a resolution transferring the Bayou Lafourche ferry from its present location, to the head of Opelousas street. Your petitioners further represent that your said action must have been based upon the false representations of said memorialists, and the proposed change will prove highly injurious to the undersigned, who are vitally interested in the matter. That said ferry is now established, in no way interferes with the navigation of the Bayou, and places no obstacles to the receiving and discharging of freight as represented to you, as the water of the Bayou is so low that boats, whether steamboats or flatboats,

can no longer cross the bar at the mouth of the Bayou. That ample space has been allotted on the batture and banks of the Bayou for the accommodation of steamboats and other watercraft; and the space reserved for the ferry landing from time immemorial has been demonstrated by long experience to be the best, most accessible and safest place at which to cross vehicles in low water, and has never been considered until now as forming any obstruction to the free navigation of the Bayou.

Your petitioners further respectfully show that the crossing at Opelousas street, is not only inconvenient and impracticable at the present stage of the water, but is eminently dangerous owing to the steepness of the banks; and any attempt to cross there in carriages, buggies and wagons, in dark nights or in wet and muddy weather, would be courting danger. That an inspection of the same will at once convince you of the same.

Premises considered, your petitioners would respectfully ask that you reconsider and recall your resolution changing the Bayou Lafourche landing from its present location.

And your petitioners will ever pray as in duty bound.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| J. L. McCormick, | John R. Fayette, |
| J. J. Claverie, | Ambrose Rouzeau, |
| Dr. B. Claverie, | Dr. A. Claverie, |
| N. Bel, | Allen Thomas, |
| John A. Park, | R. O. Landry, |
| M. McMillan, | Edmond Bajol, |
| J. Oubre, | L. Edouard Gaudin, |
| R. Bergeron, | Adlaud Landry, |
| R. Gonzales, | J. E. Bujol, |
| A. Maurin, | Edouard Duffel, M. D., |
| V. Maurin, | R. N. Sims, |
| C. Rose, | P. B. Beaumont, |
| Mahlas Rodriguez, | Ignacia Surita, |
| Felix Braud, | J. O. Delmar, |
| C. Kline, | E. B. LeBlanc, |
| A. P. Guilford, | Jean Ours, Jr., |
| A. Causin, | J. Ours, Sr., |
| H. Rodriguez, | A. D. Depony, |
| Eighty Landry, | T. Joseph Landreau, |
| Cassimir Boudreau, | Gildon Landry, |
| Faustin Mollere, | Louis LeBlanc, |
| Antoine Diaz, | Vilior Landry, |
| B. Kybiski, | Paul Herbert, |
| L. E. Duffel, | Jules O. Ayraud, |
| Felicien C. Herbert, | Henry L. Duffel, |
| L. Bienville Herbert, | Juan Centerick, |
| J. G. Herbert, | Charles Trecks, |
| Dr. John Dominique, | Dr. Gaio, |
| L. U. Landry, | Mmanuel Fuentes, |
| Richard McCall, | Raphael Mousse, |
| T. Gonzales, | S. S. Mollere, |
| Pelesclaux, | John |
| R. T. Hanson, | McCall Bros., pr agt., |
| McCall Bros., pr agt., | S. Lewis. |

Alderman Duffel spoke at great length in support of the petition, and urged the Council to reconsider their former vote and rescind the resolution passed, moving the ferry.

He was followed by Alderman Noel, who urged the Council to stand by their vote, and remove the ferry at all hazards.

Alderman Smith spoke in an earnest manner in support of the resolution, and advocated the moving of the ferry as a measure of public safety.

Aldermen Burbridge and Johnson sustained him in his views, and urged the removal of the ferry to Opelousas street.

M. Marks, Esq., was granted permission to make his views known, which he did in a lengthy speech justifying the removal of the ferry; and said, "The Council will act like children to be swayed by the petition now before the Council."

Alderman Duffel replied to Mr. Marks, by stating the reason the ferry was ever moved from its present location, which was because the fort built opposite, compelled the ferry to move further down the Bayou; but the ferry had been at the mouth of Bayou Lafourche for fifty or sixty years, and commerce did not suffer. The former Councils had allowed the ferry to move from Opelousas street to its present location in low water, and back to Opelousas street in high water; whichever location was most safe for travel.

Alderman Burbridge moved that the Mayor address the Council and give his views of the vexed question. Motion adopted.

His Honor gave the chair to Alderman Smith, and proceeded to make a telling argument. He said: "When the Governor appointed myself and this Council, he intended we should do our duty by the people, irrespective of party, just the same as if we had received the entire vote of the town and parish, and we are in duty bound to give due weight to the voice of the people. I do not think it childish to reconsider a vote or action of the Council, if we are assured said action is wrong and will work a hardship to the majority of the people. And I think this petition of the planters, merchants and others, should be duly considered. The town is building rapidly, and this Council should do all in their power to enhance the value of property."

The Mayor in the chair.

Alderman Smith said he wanted to do the best for the people at large, also; but thought the poor people entitled to as much consideration as the rich ones; and moved to lay the petition on the table.

Before putting to vote, the Mayor suggested that the resolution be rescinded.

Alderman Smith withdrew his motion and offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Alderman Noel:

Be it resolved, that the ferry-man be and is hereby allowed a longer time to move the ferry, and that fifteen days instead of five days, from notice, be given.

The resolution was accepted.

Alderman Smith offered the following:

Be it resolved, that the clerk of the market shall turn over the funds or market dues collected each week, to the Treasurer, each and every Saturday.

Adopted.

By Alderman Smith:

Be it resolved, that the Mayor shall receive a salary of three hundred dollars, (\$300), per annum, payable quarterly, on his own warrant, and that each and every Alderman shall receive the sum of two dollars, (\$2 00), for every sitting, payable on his warrant.

The resolution was adopted.

On motion of Alderman Smith the Council adjourned until the 5th instant, at 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Council met at 4 P. M., as per adjournment.

Present—E. W. Mason, Mayor; Aldermen Duffel, Burbridge, Smith, Noel and Johnson. Absent—Alderman LeBlanc.

On motion, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

Alderman Smith moved to reconsider the vote removing the ferry, which was carried, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Be it resolved, that the resolution passed at the special meeting of the Council, August 25, 1871, removing the ferry from its present location to Opelousas street, be and the same is hereby rescinded.

Alderman Smith moved that the Mayor's

office be moved to the next room adjoining the one now used.

Adopted.

By Alderman Smith:

Be it resolved, that "THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF" be, and is hereby designated as the official journal, of the corporation of Donaldsonville, and that hereafter all the proceedings of the Council—laws, by-laws, ordinances and notices pertaining to the corporation, shall be published in "THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF."

Adopted.

Alderman Smith offered the following, which was adopted:

Be it resolved, that the secretary shall notify Mr. Gustave Dugas, lessee of the wharf, to repair said wharf within ten (10) days from receipt of notice, or the same will be repaired at his expense.

The Mayor instructed the Committee on Public Works to examine the Bayou Lafourche levee, and estimate the cost of repairing the same, and how it should be done, and report at the next regular meeting.

The question of recommending for appointment a constable for the corporation, was, on motion of Alderman Smith, postponed until something definite was known about H. O'Maher, and in the meantime, Robert Noel be authorized to act as corporation constable.

On motion, the Council adjourned until the next regular meeting.

Attest: E. W. MASON, Mayor.

A true copy:
W. G. WILKINSON, Secretary.

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HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

To keep pace with the growing interest in practical horticulture, and to comply with frequent appeals from all parts of the country for information of a practical character on the subject, we have engaged the services of a person who is experienced in rural affairs, to write in a brief style a series of articles on the management of small farms, fruit and vegetable culture, and how to make them pay, giving general and specific directions from planting to the ultimate disposal of the crops.

Of late years there has been an incentive business carried on by unprincipled men, in selling worthless and old plants under new names, to the inexperienced. The *Tribune* will be always ready to guard the farmer against any such imposition that comes within our knowledge.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

To make the *Tribune* still more valuable to its agricultural readers, we have engaged Professor James Law, veterinary surgeon in Cornell University, to answer questions concerning diseases of cattle, horses, sheep, and other domestic animals, and to prescribe remedies. Answers and prescriptions will be given only through the columns of the *Tribune*. We are sure that this new feature in the *Tribune* will add largely to its readers, as all owners of animals are liable to need the information professedly furnished. Answers should be made as brief as possible, that the questions, answers, and prescriptions may be published together. In short, we intend that the *Tribune* shall keep in the advance in all that concerns the Agricultural, Manufacturing, Mining, and other interests of the country, and that for variety and completeness, it shall remain altogether the most valuable, instructive NEWSPAPER published in the world.

It has been well observed that a careful reading and study of the *Tribune's* reports in the *Tribune* alone will save a farmer hundreds of dollars in his crop. In addition to the reports, we shall continue to print the best things written on the subject of agriculture by American and foreign writers, these features from year to year. As it is, no prudent farmer can do without it. It is a boon to his workman alone, every farmer should place the *Weekly Tribune* upon his table every Saturday evening.

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