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Our every life is a sermon.—*Ex.*
How many lives have you, for goodness' sake?

The Jackson, Miss., *Leader* states that General Emory has been placed in command of the Military Department comprising the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

The last number of the *Marksville Republican Era* received, contains nine lines of editorial. The editor is doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances, but the repetition of such an effort might cost him his reason.

A call has been issued by the secretary of the National Republican Executive Committee for a meeting of that body, to be held at Washington on the eleventh of January next. The object of the meeting will be to decide when and where the next Republican Presidential Convention shall be held. It is thought a majority of the members favor New York city.

The editor of a New Orleans journal, commenting upon Henry Ward Beecher's new theory that the chestnut worm would doubtless make a choice article of diet, inasmuch as it eats nothing but the richest and cleanest food, remarks:

Mr. Beecher is only a worm himself, "a poor worm of the dust," and the doctrine of dog eat dog is too entirely unnatural and repulsive to be entertained for a moment.

How that editor must hate pork.

The New Varieties Theatre just completed in New Orleans, will be opened on the night of the fourth of December, with Mr. Lawrence Barrett as the leading actor. This gentleman has been selected as manager of the new institution, and there is no doubt but that under his control it will become the favorite theatre of the amusement loving people of New Orleans. Its central locality on the principal thoroughfare of the city—Canal street—is also greatly in its favor.

It seems to us that the New Orleans *Magnolia* grows prettier and more interesting with each succeeding issue. In addition to many other reasons why it should receive a generous public support is the fact that it is making war upon a great public evil by crying "Down with the Louisiana State Lottery swindle!" Let the entire press of the State take up this cry, and their united demand will secure—aye, compel—the repeal of the obnoxious lottery company's charter.

New Orleans *Republican* and St. James *Sentinel*, join in the chorus!

We learn from the New Orleans *Republican* that Mr. James L. Belden has withdrawn from proprietary and editorial connection with the *Terrebonne Banner*, leaving Hon. Patrick O'Hare sole editor and owner.

Although we have regularly mailed the *Chief* to the *Banner* and repeatedly written "Please X" on the wrapper, that journal has as yet failed to make its appearance in our office. We don't know whether this is owing to neglect on the part of the person who attends to the mailing, or to the willful intent of the editor. If the former, let the person who makes up the *Banner's* mail mend his ways; if the latter, the paper and its quill-driver may depart to Hades for all we care.

An exchange says that ex-United States Attorney General Stanberry, of Ohio, and Hon. Reverdy Johnson, of Baltimore, have been engaged to defend men to be tried under the Ku-Klux act of Congress, at the approaching session of the United States Court, to be held in Columbia, South Carolina.

Political and Moral Incendiarism.

From the New Orleans *Republican* we take this article:

The San Francisco vigilance committee will always furnish evidence against such movements, because it is constantly brought forward to justify violence. Good people who do not understand what the condition of California was in 1854, rashly conclude that the remedy which was applicable to cure the disorders of that extraordinary society may be safely adopted in every community to extirpate evil, and they wickedly invoke a tempestuous disturbance without considering the elements that will rule it or the ends which it might be made to serve. San Francisco did not overthrow the civil government and set at defiance all the constituted authorities of the city and State because her political government was distrusted as dishonest, but her people set in motion the higher law of self-defense, in order to secure the immediate punishment of certain outlaws who had become dangerous to life and property.

Robberies, burglaries and thefts had become so common that business men were no safer in their offices than their property was secure in their vaults and stores. A merchant was killed and robbed at his desk in the heart of the city; and an editor, who exposed a piece of official rascality, was shot down in the midst of his friends. The courts were mistrusted. The authorities confessed that the jury system left criminals to go free as fast as they were indicted. Well-known burglars walked the streets unabashedly. Robbers paraded themselves as though their calling was one of the admitted professions of the city. It was against these classes that the vigilance committee was organized, and it was only against these classes that it proceeded to operate. It never for a moment pretended to be a political movement, nor did it in a single instance molest a public officer for any supposed dishonesty in his public conduct. It even respected Judge Terry, although he assaulted with a deadly weapon one of its officers. The committee solemnly declared that the people themselves were responsible for political maladministration, and they had a better remedy for such evil at the ballot-box than could be effected by a violent assault upon the officers. Nevertheless, there are men who to-day abuse the action of the San Francisco vigilance committee by proposing to imitate what it had too much sense to attempt.

A writer in the *Times* of yesterday, who furnishes by the violence of his own language the best evidence of his own unfitness to be a member of any vigilance committee, proposes to imitate the people of San Francisco by hanging one hundred of the highest officers in New Orleans to the lamp posts. Our California friends will be sorely tempted to regret that they ever formed a vigilance committee if their well organized and moderately conducted movement is to be made the excuse for a murderous midnight assault upon the entire lot of officers who have been elected in Louisiana; for after "Merchant" has organized his mob and executed his victims, there will not be a prominent officer left to carry on the government in any of its departments. The good and the bad will all have been destroyed by one sweeping and indiscriminate act of madness.

"Merchant" is mad, and Sam Houston said that madness is more to be avoided than rascality for the fool would rush into extravagances which the knave would avoid as ruinous. Men who rashly propose vigilance committees as the remedy for evils which may be cured with ease at the ballot-box, are like those inconsiderate people who offer a taste of blood to the hungry wolf to stop its appetite for slaughter. Violence destroys the reason and overthrows the judgment. It educates the weak to believe in something besides argument and honesty. It sets up the sword and the bayonet as the arbiter of our liberties and our fortunes. It arrests free speech, imprisons criticism, and is the author of theft. If it was here to-day, "Merchant" would be in prison to-night. And what is still worse, the young and blooming generation, which is growing up around us to make the country better, would be dwarfed in their education and whetted to become the spoilers of each other.

If "Merchant" knows of dishonesty, he knows the instance and the man. There are two ways for him to proceed—first, by laying his information before the Grand Jury, and, secondly, by publishing the name and the facts. Let us have something to go upon besides this vulgar and incendiary denunciation, and the *REPUBLICAN* will lend a helping hand to uproot the knave. There are some people who flippantly challenge the chastity of all women, the honesty of all men, and the integrity of every officer. For these characters we have no respect, as they are generally unsuccessful libertines, unsafe traders or unpurchased politicians. And their exhortations are seldom treated with respect enough to command publication.

Bismarck and Benedetti.

The Prussian Premier's Reply to the French Ambassador's Letter.

Prince Bismarck has just given in the official *Reichs-Anzeiger* at Berlin, a reply to some of the accusations of M. Benedetti, in his recently published account of his mission to Berlin in 1866, when he acted as the ambassador of France, and endeavored to open the way for the annexation of Belgium to France. Bismarck sharply reminds the ex-ambassador of the disadvantage he is under in making representations, as follows:

"Count Benedetti evidently does not know what portions of the French secret archives have, in the course of the war, fallen into the hands of our troops, or he would have been more circumspect in his exertions. Above all, he would not have attempted to reiterate the denial with which the Imperial Government met the German communications respecting the acquisition of Belgium by France. Mixing up the demand for German territory preferred on the 5th and 7th of August, 1866, with the subsequent demand for Belgium, he strives to refer the letters which have been found in the Tuileries, exclusively to the former. But the Emperor's letter to the Marquis de Lafayette, quoted by M. Benedetti, on page 108, proves the demand for German territory to have been abandoned before Belgium was mentioned. That these two phases of the negotiations were regarded by M. Benedetti himself as entirely distinct, is moreover proved by his own reports to his Government, which the war has thrown into our hands."

He then quotes Benedetti's own account of the early part of the negotiations, which he sent home at the time, and then proceeds:

"This written communication was succeeded by an interview, which Count Benedetti has lightly touched upon in his book. Had he gone into details, he could not have avoided telling us that he warmly and resolutely pressed the French demand. On the Russian Prime Minister observing that such a demand meant war, and that Count Benedetti had better go to Paris to prevent a rupture, the latter replied that he would indeed return home, but only in order to recommend to the Emperor to maintain a proposition the abandonment of which would imperil the existence of the dynasty. Public opinion, he added, insisted upon some such concession on the part of Germany. The parting words of the Prussian Prime Minister to Count Benedetti before he set out for Paris were, as nearly as can be remembered, these: 'Please to call His Majesty's attention to this. Should a war arise out of this complication it might be attended with a revolutionary crisis. In such a case the German dynasties are likely to prove more solid than that of the Emperor Napoleon.'"

The Prince then gives "an accurate and precise abstract" of the instructions brought to Benedetti from Paris by M. Chauvry, in August, 1866, of which the latter part contains the following:

"3. In proportion to the chance of success, our demands will have to be graduated as follows: In the first place, you have to combine into one proposition the recovery of the frontiers of 1814 and the annexation of Belgium. You have, therefore, to ask for the extradition, by formal treaty, of Landeau, Saarbrück and the Duchy of Luxembourg; and you have to aim at the annexation of Belgium by the conclusion of an offensive and defensive treaty which is to be kept secret. Secondly, should this basis appear to promise no result, you will resign Saarbrück, Saarbrück and even Landeau, which after all is but a dilapidated nest of a place, the occupation of which might excite German national feeling against us. In this eventuality, your public agreement will be confined to the Duchy of Luxembourg, and your secret treaty to the reunion of Belgium with France. Thirdly, supposing a clear and unmistakable reference to the incorporation of Belgium is found unpalatable, you are authorized to assent to a clause in which, to obviate the intervention of England, Antwerp is declared a free city. In no case, however, are you to permit the reunion of Antwerp with Holland, or the incorporation of Maastricht with Prussia."

"Should Herr von Bismarck put the question, what advantage would accrue to him from such a treaty, the simple reply would be that he would thereby secure a powerful ally, that he would consolidate his recent acquisitions, that he was only desired to consent to the cession of what does not belong to him, and that he makes no sacrifice at all to be compared to his gains. To sum up, the minimum we require is an ostensible treaty which gives us Luxembourg, and a secret treaty which, stimulating for an offensive and defensive alliance, leaves us the chance of annexing Belgium at the right moment, Prussia engaging to assist us, if necessary, by force of arms in carrying out the purpose."

The reply of Benedetti to these instructions is also in the possession of Bismarck, and he quotes freely therefrom to show that the ambassador had conformed cheerfully to the instructions and expressed his doubts about the possibility of gaining the object desired. He quotes also from other parts of the correspondence, and says that the acquisition of Luxem-

bourg is repeatedly represented as the immediate object of the convention, the annexation of Belgium as its ulterior aim. "The latter point, as well as the alliance, offensive and defensive, is to be kept secret." The following is a passage from an official letter to the ambassador during the negotiations referring to this same arrangement:

"This combination reconciles all parties. By giving us an immediate satisfaction, and setting people on the right track concerning the disposal of Belgium, it quiets public opinion in France. It maintains secrecy concerning the alliance as well as the contemplated annexation. If you think that the cession of Luxembourg had better be concealed the moment we lay hands on Belgium, I should be obliged by you giving me your reasons in detail. You will perceive that to suspend the beginning of operations for an indefinite time might result in bringing the Belgian question to a premature close."

The following concludes the reply: "Count Benedetti's reply to this Paris communication is dated August 29. In it he, for the first time, expresses a doubt whether France can count upon the sincerity of Prussia. Observing that Count Bismarck seems to suspect France of an intention to sow discord between Prussia and England, he says: 'What confidence can we repose in statesmen who allow themselves to be disturbed by such considerations as these?' He refers to the mission of General Manteuffel at St. Petersburg, and is afraid that Prussia has received assurances from another quarter 'which will enable her to dispense with the countenance of France.' Prussia, as Herr von Bismarck professes to have told the king, requires the assistance of one great power. Should the co-operation of France be declined, it will only be because people in Berlin are already provided, or are about to be so."

To await for further intelligence upon this head Count Benedetti determined to go to Carlsbad, whence he will return the moment he receives a telegram from Count Bismarck. During his absence the Prussian Prime Minister left Berlin, to return, if we recollect aright, only in the month of December. Secret negotiations were thus necessarily suspended for several months. This did not, however, prevent their being subsequently resumed at various times; and if Count Benedetti, on page 125, charges Herr von Bismarck with erroneously placing the Belgian negotiations in 1867, when, in reality, they took place in 1866, the only inference to be deduced from this is that the French Ambassador reverted in 1867 to the conversation cut short the year before. After what had been said above, the peculiar attitude of France during the Belgian railway controversy, renders it perfectly credible that the Paris government had even then not abandoned all hopes of gaining the consent of Northern Germany for their favorite project. But we have no wish to indulge in disclosures beyond those imperatively required for defensive purposes. We accordingly confine ourselves to the correcting of statements which might occasion erroneous ideas on German politics. Until forced to resume this task we shall resist the temptation to make a more unreserved use of the copious materials at our disposal.

Singular Indian Tradition.

Among the Seminole Indians there is a singular tradition regarding the white man's origin and superiority. They say that when the Great Spirit made the earth he also made three men. All of the men had fair complexions; and that after making them he led them to the margin of a small lake, and bade them leap in and wash. One obeyed, and came out purer and fairer than before; the second hesitated a moment, during which the water, agitated by the first, had become muddied, and when he bathed he came out copper-colored; the third did not leap until the water was black with mud, and he came out black with its own color. The Great Spirit laid before them three packages, and out of pity for his misfortune in color gave the black man the first choice. He took hold of each package, and having felt the weight, chose the heaviest. The Indian then chose the next heaviest, leaving the white man the lightest. When the packages were opened, the first was found to contain spades, hoes and implements of labor; the second unwrapped hunting, fishing and war-like apparatuses; the third gave the white man pens, ink and paper, the engines of the mind—the means of mutual mental improvement, the social link of humanity, the foundation of the white man's superiority.

BISMARCK ON THE ASPECT FOR WAR IN EUROPE.—Prince Bismarck's speech to the Prussian Legislature on the subject of the National War Fund bill, is one of the most open enunciations which the world has had from the famous German statesman in a long time past. Bismarck tells the Prussians to make ready for war. He avers that such a preparation is absolutely necessary by the existing condition of affairs in the Old World. When Prince Bismarck makes such an assertion, he knows full well the grounds upon which he makes it, so that we are forced to accept the conclusion that Europe is approaching another and grand convulsion by war.—*Mississippi Pilot.*

The New Wonderland.

The Upper Yellowstone Country.

The following are extracts from a letter received by Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution, from H. W. Elliott, artist of Hayden's exploring expedition, who writes from Fort Ellis:

Fort Ellis is about twenty-five miles North-west by North from the Yellowstone River, and one of the branches of the East fork of the Galiatin River; the country beyond this place would not admit of wagons, so that we fitted up a pack train of horses and mules—the only efficient mode of transportation that can be employed in this wild and unexplored country. Soon after we had passed over the divide and ascended a grassy hill slope, which fell away gently to the river head, we came in view of one of the greatest chains of lava peaks that can be found on this continent.

From right to left, as far as the eye could reach, it rested upon a serried front of ragged, pinnacled summits, so sharp and keen as to shed the snow away down upon their torn and ragged flanks, leaving the bare rocks pointing upward like needles, minarets, and gothic roofs. The snow beneath seemed to depend upon the straggling and stunted pines for support; while these timber lines in turn fall away down the mountain sides to grassy benches and plateaus; the whole forming one of the most perfect pictures of lava upheaval and overflow that the world affords. In this chain there are a hundred peaks that are over 11,000 feet above the level of the sea, and 6000 feet above the river, and eight or ten that will easily reach the altitude of 12,000 or 13,000 feet.

Near the mouth of the lower canyon, where the river comes out from abrupt mountain gorges, a small stream flows in from the west, and bears the name, on Doane's map, of "Gardiner's River." We ascended it some three miles, and came into camp at the base of

A MOST WONDERFUL HOT SPRING.

Up here on the rolling, semi-wooded slopes of a high mountain, one sees at first what appears to be a huge bank of snow covering a very large area, with the strange phenomenon of steamy clouds of vapor rising from it; approaching nearer, it is found to be, in reality, a little mountain made up of soda and carbonate of lime, which are held in solution by the hot water of the springs, which come up through basaltic fissures from some great depth, as the water is always at the boiling point. The deposition of the material held in solution is made in delicate layers over lapping, and in beaded rows, the whole being in appearance not unlike the coral reef. The spring in this way is constantly shutting itself up and breaking out afresh in some other place not far distant. By this closing up and breaking out again of the springs a large area of country is covered with their deposit, and the spot I am describing cannot be less than five hundred acres in extent, over which, here and there, are

THIRTY OR FORTY BOILING SPRINGS, the depth of the precipitation in many places being over two hundred feet.

The water itself is a beautiful blue, and transparent to a great depth—at least to depths that seem fathomless—and in many places, in flowing over its deposits of soda and lime, it shows tints of the most exquisite delicacy, such as rose, creamy yellow, and faint purple. We gave two days to the survey of this system of springs and the adjacent country; thence proceeded to the

MOUTH OF THE GREAT CANYON,

three miles above the head of the Lower, and camped at the beautiful falls of Lower Creek. At the junction of this stream with the Yellowstone above and below, for a mile or so, are a number of sulphur and sulphuretted hydrogen springs; while high up on the basaltic walls of the canyon opposite the yellow stain of "dead" or "cold" sulphur springs is very marked. The structure of the basaltic column just above the staining is very perfect, and beautifully regular. Rows of pillars from twenty to thirty feet stand without flaw or crack in regular tiers, one above the other.

THE GREAT CANYON

may be said to end at Tower Creek, and rise at the foot of the Lower Falls, giving it a length of twenty-five or thirty miles. It is a great basaltic fissure or rather rent, in the earth, varying in depth from one to two thousand feet, along down which the river seems delighted to fairly whirl, foam, and fly, now a blue and then a snowy ribbon. The work of erosion has left towers, points and pinnacles barely standing out from its almost vertical walls at and for several miles below the falls. These perpendicular walls are gaily painted by the water of the numberless warm and hot springs which flow, seep and ooze out from the fissures into a variety of tints and tones, dazzling white, intense red, purple, saffron, yellow, etc., and fairly bewildering the eye at first sight with their singularity and grandeur.

Says the New Orleans *Semi-Weekly Louisianaian* of the 10th:

A contemptible rumor was circulated, from an equally contemptible source, to the effect that Governor Warmoth obtruded himself uninvited upon the Congressional Committee which inspected the levees below the city a few days ago. The truth is

that the revenue cutter was placed at the disposal of the Committee, whose Chairman took the pains to personally urge the attendance of his Excellency. To desperate straits, indeed, are the opponents of the Governor reduced, when such petty mendacity is employed to discredit him.

Our President.

The Baton Rouge *State Journal* says: Without playing the part of the tony and sycophant as the *National Republican* does in its issue number one, (Monday), upon this subject, we at the same time mean to say a few words about our President, and give him his just dues and not one iota more.

To begin, General Grant has our profound respect, but candor compels us to admit that for the rest of his quite numerous family, which shoot, and have its branches all over the land, our respect is not quite so profound. General Grant is undoubtedly a very great chieftain. He performed herculean feats during the war. But, at the same time, we must not forget one who has passed away, and who it was that kept Grant supplied with all the men, money and munitions of war, just as they were required; and if it had not have been for this great and good man, we doubt much, if our present President would have been occupying the lofty position he is to-day.

The great and good man who kept Grant supplied with all he needed was Hon. Edwin M. Stanton. It was Stanton who never refused to gratify each and every demand of the General of the armies. Grant had all he asked for, and all that remained for him to do, was to employ the means granted to him in a right way and go ahead and do the fighting, and General Grant did fight. No going back upon that. But if General Grant had not have had the liberal hand of the Secretary of War supporting him, we think that with all his bulldog tenacity, things with him might have gone altogether different, and "Jeems," the supposed-to-be boss of the New Orleans Custom-house, with his native *Felie*—would not have mounted the ladder of notoriety and wealth quite as fast as they have done.

Amidst the multitudinous cares of the high and responsible position General Grant occupies, as the head of this great nation, the *trivial* affairs of a part and parcel of his office-holders, including his brother-in-law "Jeems," attempting to break up and disrupt entirely in this State, the great party that elected Grant President, is of too *trivial* a nature for us Louisianians to expect Grant to take any action in the matter whatever, or expect him to offer us protection from the assaults of his office *campfires* upon our political rights. It really seems to us that it is only with him, who has stood amid the strife and carnage of battle, and remained so *passive*, who could now—when a battle is raging, wherein the aggressors are *his own appointees*, and who are attempting to break up the very party that made the General what he is, in this instance, remain calm, indifferent and passive too.

Reiterating our profound respect for the General himself, but not for his numerous family, we must, nevertheless, say that although utterly indifferent as he appears to be to the interests of the great Republican party in this State, he, at the same time, should not be so entirely neglectful of the other desires of the people of the Southern States.

Now our President finds time, amid the arduous duties of his office, to perambulate East and West, but never South. Why make Portland cities East and West, the only blessed spots that are favored by the presence of our President, and the opportunity to listen to the wise words that fall from his lips during his brief speeches? Give us South the same opportunities of listening to the wonderful speeches, and consequently the opportunity of increasing our admiration for our worthy President. Unless General Grant does favor us South with his presence, the able truths he gave utterance to in his Portland effort will prove true indeed. He says, speaking of his not visiting the city very often: "Unless I come oftener, I shall be an old man by the next time I come," and so it will be with us, for we fear that he will be an old man, unless he puts in his appearance soon amongst us. A reception worthy of the occasion of such a visit, could easily be gotten up. "Jeems" has his C. H. B. D., and *Felie* could do the same as he did convention day, draw at sight upon the appraiser's department for all the wines, liquors and cigars needed.

If the gatlin-gunners are to be sustained by our President, then our President should take a trip this way, and see how things here are for himself. It is our opinion that if prevailed upon to make us a visit, and after seeing the exact situation of affairs, he'd mighty soon throw the stump of his cigar away and prepare for business, by laying Paekard, Lowell and the whole Dunn-Carter crew across his knee and give them what Paddy gave the drum. Do not wait till you are an old man, Mr. President, but favor us with a visit now, and grant us a few words of wisdom from your lips.

Gen. Gorloff, of the Russian army, has invented a mitrailleuse which fires 300 to 400 rounds per minute, range extending to 4000 paces.