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Communications may be addressed simply "Chief, Donaldsonville, La.," or to the editor and proprietor personally.

The Cleveland Coroner wears a little gold kerosene can as a breastpin.

"Did it rain to-morrow?" inquired a Dutchman of a Frenchman. "Me guess it was," replied the Frenchman.

Naomi, the daughter of Enoch, was 520 years old when she married. There's hope for some of you old ladies after all.

Can anybody inform us whether since Hon. John Ray has joined the Republican party, he has ever applied for or held any office where there was no money in it.—*Monroe Intelligencer.*

A veteran observer says: I never place much reliance on a man who is always telling what he would have done had he been there. I have noticed that somehow this kind of people never get there."

The New York Herald says that it is given out that a bill of damages in connection with Cuban affairs is being made out at the State Department against Spain quite equal to that demanded of England.

It is a melancholy fact that Mrs. Miriam M. Cole, the chairwoman of the recent woman suffrage Convention at Columbus, grew so hysterical that she was obliged to resign her function in favor of a clergyman.

Mr. J. G. Bennett, Jr., declines to succeed Fisk, Jr., as Colonel of the Ninth Regiment, because it is said to cost \$50,000 a year to be "a liberal and public-spirited Colonel," and he doesn't love the military to that degree.

An enthusiastic editor in presenting the advantages of his journal as an advertising medium, declares the people of the South would find the "Lost Cause" if they would only advertise for it in his paper and offer a small reward.

Opelika, Ala., has created a new sensation by the new leap-year mode of eating philopenas in that place, as reported by the local editor of the *Locomotive*. The young lady takes the almond between her teeth and the young man bites it off.

The Massachusetts woman-women say that there are 113,619 American and 37,073 foreign women in that State who are ready to vote next fall if the Legislature will permit them so to do. These would-be voters pay taxes on \$131,000,000.

The Chicago Post claims to have on its editorial staff a lady of extraordinary abilities. The editor says he "never knew any one who could write with equal ease upon so singular a range of topics with information so exact in detail." An envious contemporary asks the Post why it never publishes any of her articles.

A "Joke" is credited to an American visitor in England. "Wall, stranger," he is reported to have said, "I guess you English juries ain't smart no how. If an American jury had tried the Tichborne case, I'll tell you what they'd have done. They'd just bought up all the Tichborne bonds, and then found a verdict for the plaintiff."

An irritating story of a bank teller is now told in the newspapers. He lived in Hartford, Connecticut, and, having saved a good deal of money, retired, bought a fine farm, stocked it, and went to live upon it like a financial Diocletian. The directors of his bank were so pleased that they voted him thanks and a money gratuity; whereupon he went to their next meeting, and calmly informed them that he had made his little pile by speculating with the funds of the bank; and he also cautioned them to keep a good look out for his successor, who might not so successful as he had been. It is not probable that the directors considered these remarks to be either grateful or complimentary.

## The National Educational Bill.

[From the Nation.]

The educational bill which has passed the National House of Representatives is a different measure in several particulars from that which was discussed in these columns a few weeks ago. Our remarks were then based on the original bill, as proposed by Mr. Hoar on the eighth of January; but the gentleman reported some very considerable modifications of the measure, and a few days later, the House made still further amendments on it, and then, on the eighth of February, adopted the amended bill. We have already stated the principal conditions of the enactment as it now stands awaiting the action of the Senate. It is clear, however, that there is much misapprehension in regard to it, in consequence of the changes which have been made in it. As an instance of this, we are told in the recent convention of the friends of agricultural and scientific education held in Washington, the bill as reported, and not the bill as passed, was constantly referred to. We advise all who are especially interested in the subject to read the bill in its true form, which the daily journals might advantageously reprint.

In discussing its merits, there is a fundamental question which thoughtful men are sure to raise, and that is the general land policy of the government. One person holds that the public lands should be retained as a part of the national capital to meet the unforeseen contingencies of the future; another contends that the nation should get rid of them as quickly as possible; another, that they should be reserved for actual settlers, and should be so disposed of that speculators and middlemen could get advantages which should accrue solely to the occupant and cultivator. The bill before us does not touch any of these points. It does not prescribe the amount or the time of sales. It reserves to Congress the right to bestow land bounties, and leaves the homestead and pre-emption laws wholly untouched. It does not impair the power of Congress to confer land grants upon railroads, scientific schools or any other object. What then does it accomplish? It concentrates all the money received from the sale of public lands to popular education. Instead of blending such funds with other income, it keeps them apart for the enlightenment of the people. To bestow a land grant on a railroad will, therefore, if this bill should become a law, simply reduce by so much the amount which might otherwise reach the treasury for the support of common schools. In each new grant this "moral obstacle" must be overcome.

It is urged against the bill that its passage will be an assumption by the national government of rights which belong to the several States. This is not so, as any one may see who will read it. The general government will still have nothing to do with the establishment and management of schools in the various States of the Union. The bill simply requires as a condition of receiving the national bounty, that each State or Territory shall provide by its own local laws for the free education of all its children between the ages of six and eighteen; that it will apply to this purpose all moneys received by the operations of this act; and that it will report annually the condition of its schools. All such questions as the establishment of normal schools, high schools, evening schools, trunk schools, as the right qualifications of teachers, courses of study, times of session and vacation; as the amount of local taxation, method of collecting it, character of buildings, biblical instructions, corporal punishment—in short, all the elements of "free popular education"—are left undefined and open to local discussion and decision. The national treasury bestows a grant for a specific purpose—public instruction; each State is left free to decide upon its special system. Indeed, so far is the bill from interfering with "State rights" that one of its ablest advocates, Mr. Hoar, bases his appeal for it on the argument that its adoption will foster State rights by preventing that tendency to centralization and imperialism which popular ignorance makes easy and probable. His speech on this subject is a very ingenious and telling response to the State rights advocates.

For ten years, as the bill now reads, the distribution of the fund to the several States and Territories "shall be made according to the ratio of the illiteracy of their respective populations," as shown by the last preceding census. This clause may receive advantageously a little clearer explanation of what "the ratio of illiteracy" is to be, or, in other words, of what amount the more illiterate States shall receive; but the main intent of the phrase is clear. Here, indeed, in our view, is the chief merit of the bill. It is a generous offer to the South of redemption from ignorance. Where the darkness rests, there light shall be poured in; where social apathy prevails, tonics and stimulants shall be applied. It is easy to vote a yearly allowance from the national treasury to aid the schools of the South; but such a direct grant could not possibly be secured. Every one knows that. The proceeds of lands, being a vague and variable sum, are much more readily bestowed. At the

same time they are to be given in a way which will quicken and strengthen local efforts.

There may be some minor points in the bill which require modification, but in its main features we are confident that it ought to pass as a just and philanthropic measure for the rescue of the Southern States from the horrid blight of popular ignorance which is now so threatening. The facts brought out by Mr. Hoar in his support of the bill, by General Eaton in his report as Commissioner of Education, by the census of 1870, and by intelligent private observers, all point one way. Anarchy and barbarism are impending dangers in vast regions of the South; in some localities they are actual curses. What better can we do with that portion of our income which comes from the sale of lands than to direct it to popular instruction in the reconstructed States?

The disposition of the public lands is a constant and growing subject of controversy. There are, probably, few things, if any, which give so much impetus to what is called the "labor movement" as the widespread belief among the workingmen of the country that the national domain is being divided among unscrupulous speculators without reference to the interests or aspirations of the poor. There is no way in which this delusion—if delusion it be, and we fear it is not—can be so well dissipated as by the appropriation of the public lands to educational purposes, because there is no other use of them on which there is nearly the same chance of agreement. Moreover, there is no use of them which is likely to conduce one-quarter as much to the political security and prosperity of the country. Whatever falling off there has been of late years in the efficiency of the administration, in the tone of public life and the character of public men has been largely due to the growing weight in politics of ignorant people. There is no use in saying they are foreign born or bred in slavery; that does not mend the matter. The important fact is that they vote, and produce children that will one day vote, also, and that ordinary efforts, such as have hitherto sufficed to educate the children of the educated, will no longer suffice. Something not unlike medieval night is settling on some parts of the country through want of schools, and in others the healthy and intelligent public spirit which has built the government up, and without which it cannot exist, is seriously declining from the same cause. It is high time that this descent were arrested, and we know of no nobler way of doing it than this bill offers.

## The Cincinnati Convention.

[Correspondence St. Louis Times.]

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1872.—There is considerable discussion here among earnest men as to what the Cincinnati convention should do. A few are in favor of nominating right then and there, and forcing the Democrats to abandon the contest as a party and fall into such selections as may have been made. Prudent politicians—the men who really desire to defeat Grant, because they believe him to be a dangerous man, and who, although desirous of electing a Democrat, are yet fearful that if they attempt it they may fail—are strongly of the opinion that the Cincinnati convention should be a conference, as originally proposed. I do not think there has been any serious intention on the part of the managers to change the plan.

Mr. Grosvenor, who may be considered as in possession of all the facts, and fully posted as to the opinions of the different prominent managers, assures me that there has not been any intention of changing the originally adopted programme.

Senator Trumbull has been much more outspoken since the French arms debate than previously, and it is known that he is advising all of his friends to participate in the movement. He said a few days ago that he has no doubt the Cincinnati convention would include 1000 of the more active and influential politicians in the Republican party, whose efforts alone in the last canvass were sufficiently powerful to have elected Seymour and Blair if they had been directed in their behalf and against Grant.

Hon. T. A. Hendricks has lately been here, and considering the fact that he was the most prominent candidate for the Democratic nomination, his views are of more than ordinary interest. He admits that the unexpected condition of affairs in the Republican ranks has rendered it unwise for him to allow his own name to be used in connection with the office, and freely states his preference at this time to be in favor of Judge Davis. The Indiana Democratic members say that he will shortly formally withdraw from the Presidential canvass by allowing his name to be used as the candidate for Governor of Indiana, in opposition to Brown, the Grant nominee.

The Chicago Post claims to have on its editorial staff a lady of extraordinary abilities. The editor says he "never knew any one who could write with equal ease upon so singular a range of topics with information so exact in detail." An envious contemporary asks the Post why it never publishes any of her articles.

## Advancement of the Negro.

The blacks have never raised themselves above the savage state.—*Ex.*

This is gross injustice to the negro. We know that in the past he has been debarred of privileges which would have enabled him to display the extent of his ability for improvement. It is true, that laboring under the restrictions of the past, he has played a very insignificant part, other than a laborer, but it must be admitted that since his freedom, and the many advantages he now enjoys, that he has made greater progress in mental improvement than was expected of him. He has improved rapidly, and if he continues to improve in the future at the same ratio he has done the past five years, he will become as a race a useful and enterprising class of citizens.

The colored man is now a citizen. He has a voice in the affairs of State; such being the case, it is the interest of the country, and to such citizen thereof, that all legitimate chances for mental and moral development should be offered him. It is to be expected that many of the grown ones, owing to ignorance and their early training, will be thriftless, worthless, and, in many instances, vicious, and continue to be devoted to the shrine of superstition; but that the race will relapse into a savage state is not warranted by their acts and demeanor since having been freed by a combination of circumstances.

It must be admitted that we of the white race have been disappointed in our estimation of his mental ability and confiding nature. We are confident that if the proper influences are thrown around the colored people of the South, that they will never become an impediment in the way of our national prosperity. As a Christian people, we should do all in our power to elevate him.—*Corinth (Miss.) News.*

## Small Deceits.

Men at first deceive, knowing it; but by the constant use of deception they cease to even know that they are doing it. Gradually it blinds the moral sense. And it is in this direction that great lies are less harmful than little ones. Men think that a great black lie is very culpable. I suppose it is. But when an artful scoundrel, by scouring the very surface of metal down, what does he do? Take a bar of iron and rub it? No; he takes emery. Its particles are as small as a pin's point; and these he puts on, and by scouring he cuts down the surface—takes off the enamel. You think that a great lie is a great sin, and a great shame to man; but after all, these little lies are more dangerous, because there are so many of them; and because each of them is diamond-pointed. And these little petty untruths which are so small that you do not notice them, and so numerous that you cannot estimate them, are the ones that take off the very enamel of the moral sense—cut away its surface. And men become so accustomed to it, that they do not recognize that they are putting things in false lights, when, by word, by deed, by indirections, by exaggerations, by shifting the emphasis, by various dynamical means, they present things, not as they see them, but as they want to see them.

This phantasmagoric process by which men are throwing false lights upon action and motive; upon what is happening and going to happen; the ten thousand little modes by which men are seeking to pervert things, and make them seem different from what they really are; the petty falsehoods to which men resort in order that they may realize their vain ambitious life—these are pernicious and demoralizing in the extreme. And the habit of employing them wears the character more than a great rousing lie told six times a year would do. Yet there are men, who, if they are convicted of falsehood in a great transaction, would lose their character forever. Their neighbors would say of them, "We cannot trust such men as they are." And those very persons who say they would not trust them, do not hesitate to indulge themselves in five million petty falsehoods, little midgets of lies, in the course of a year. A lion is to be dreaded, to be sure; but deliver me from those blood-sucking insects which make me smart and suffer! A single mosquito is not much; but a multitude of them, myriads of them, amount to a great deal. And it is this falseness in little things that tends to dim, to obscure, to almost obliterate, a sense of truth. There are men who have almost entirely lost their sense of proportion, their appreciation of magnitude, and their understandings of the connection between cause and effect. They look at everything in the light of what they want, so much that they think that is true which they desire to have true.—*H. W. Beecher.*

## The Liberty of the Press.

In the last issue of Dr. Worrall's paper, he comes out in a lengthy and elaborate editorial upon the freedom of the press. The course pursued recently by Dr. Worrall were he merely an editor might prove very defensible, but when it is taken into consideration that Dr. Worrall is considered—or is, perhaps—a bona fide partisan politician, maybe this would cast a different coloring upon his conduct. However, the Doctor is old enough and wise enough to understand these

little technicalities better than ourselves, but we believe we know the people here better than the Doctor possibly can, and doubtless two-thirds of the Dr.'s constituents would not understand his idea of the liberty of the press. The press with all its retinue of liberties and licenses, is too new to many of them as yet, and we would advise the doctor not to "press" his idea of press liberty too heavily, because it might conflict with the ideas of his constituents.

The worthy Doctor will doubtless agree with us that the liberty accorded the press is often taken advantage of by dishonorable and unscrupulous persons as a means of venting their petty malice upon individuals. We do not think for one moment that Dr. Worrall would be guilty of anything so contemptible, but the Dr. knows that these licenses and liberties are often abused than used for the interests and instruction of the public. It is wise, it is well for politicians to try and gain the public favor—caricaturing constituents in cartoons is not press license, but public insult to the kind-hearted men who helped Dr. Worrall into office.—*N. O. Magnolia.*

## The Wealth of Iberville.

The assessed value of taxable property of the Parish of Iberville for the year 1871 is \$4,027,805 00, which places her at the head of all the country parishes. The city parishes of Orleans, Jefferson and Caddo being the only ones ahead of her.

What a calamity! The richest parish of the State without a city. Nothing but the little town of Plaquemine, old, dilapidated, ugly and muddy, to grace this handsome, wealthy, giant and banner parish of our State.

Have our people no pride, no enterprise, no thrift, no daring? Are our capitalists such poor prophets that they cannot see through a good thing? Are our merchants such poor speculators that they fear to invest in an undertaking? Are our people so timid that they will venture nothing? Or are we so lazy that we can't do anything? The wealthiest parish, with people too poor to help themselves, is a singular anomaly. Plaquemine has already lost a golden opportunity by allowing the Railroad to go so far to the West. Inducements should have been offered to the Company to run the road by our very doors. As it is, Plaquemine will find a formidable rival in the young City of Grand River and her only hope lies in a sounder business policy. Plaquemine, with this measure effected we will control the lumber business of the State, and hold the head waters of navigation of the immense net work of bayous in our rear.—*Iberville South.*

VALUABLE MORTUARY LIST.—The Boston Bulletin has the following valuable mortuary list:

Methuselah died of liver complaint. Lot's wife of salt-rheum. Absalom fell a wig-time to hairsjipelas. Goliath died of the stone. Haman of the drop-sy. Nebuchadnezzar of too much vegetable diet, leaving Mrs. N. a grass widow. John Bunyan, troubled by corns, took his pill grimly, and progressed. Desdemona also took a pill-ow. Samson was killed by a pillar-top. Montgolfier was (s)killed out of a balloon. Julius Caesar was (s)killed in war. John Rogers died of an overdone steak. Romeo died of heart disease. Governor Hoffman dyed his moustache. Artemus Ward was joked to death. Napoleon the Great was crushed by rock. Napoleon the Less from a Sedan. Montezuma died of taking arrow-root. Louis XVI died from an amputation (of the head). Old Parr died of paralysis. Joe Miller of a light tumor. Red Jacket died of Whooping cough. Tecumseh of scalp disease.

TO REMOVE CORNS.—Wearers of tight boots will, no doubt, find the following interesting reading: "Hard corns are caused by too much pressure of the shoe, or by its being so loose as to slide back and forth on the spot where the corn afterward shows itself. Medical books record several cases where paring a hard corn caused bleeding which no means could arrest, and death ensued. Nothing harder than the finger nail ought ever be allowed to touch the corn, which can always be cured or kept from causing inconvenience by simply bathing the part in warm water for half an hour for several days in succession; often a single bathing will accomplish the object of softening the part adjacent to the actual corn so that it can be picked out with the finger nail, and the shoe can be instantly worn with out discomfort, which an hour before gave great pain. It may return in a week, or a month, or a year, but the same treatment will always prevail. Paring causes them to spread and take deeper root."

SUMNER.—When Senator Sumner pressed the "Supplementary Civil Rights Bills" upon the Senate, he said that the intelligent colored people demanded such a measure for their defence. Of course he was pooh-poohed, and his words were set down as mere buncombe. But the South Carolina House of Representatives, composed largely of colored men, by a vote of 70 to 9, demanded the resignation of the Senators of the State for voting against the civil rights bill. So swift the echo to the statesman's truthful words!

## Governor Warmoth.

[From the Madison Journal.]

However much the people of the State may differ with Gov. Warmoth politically, and whatever may be their feelings towards him personally, there is no citizen deserving the name and rights of citizenship, that would not feel humiliated had one of the numerous charges which have been so freely made against him, affecting his official integrity, been substantiated. All these charges have been traversed by courts, legislative and congressional committees, and we are sure that the people of Louisiana are gratified by the finding of each of these tribunals of their utter falsity. The answers of Gov. Warmoth to the Congressional Committee were frank and unequivocal. There was no attempt to conceal or disguise anything, and they must be taken as conclusive evidence against the charges of corruption and malfeasance.

That the Governor has committed some grave errors is not to be denied; that he has been unfortunate sometimes in the selection of his counselors, and that he has made some very injudicious appointments to office, are facts patent to every one. But when we consider the circumstances which have surrounded him since his inauguration, and especially the vile and corrupt Legislature with which he has had to deal, the wonder is, not that he has made mistakes, but that he has made so few. Had the wisest and purest man that ever lived been Governor of Louisiana for the last three years, he would have met with as much abuse and denunciation as has been given to Gov. Warmoth. There was a fixed determination on the part of the intelligent, educated class of the citizens of the State from the moment of his election, not only to be dissatisfied with his administration, but to thwart and embarrass it and to bring it into contempt by every means in their power. It would have been the same with any man elected under the same circumstances. It is no small credit to his tact and judgment that he has succeeded in winning the confidence and good will of many of this class, and the respect of all who are not utterly blinded by passion or prejudice.

The Governor has now before him a clear field. If he is now embarrassed or thwarted by the corrupt and infamous Legislature which has just adjourned, it will be his own fault. For the next ten months there is some ample time to cut loose from the thieves and swindlers and adventurers who are sucking his life blood, and who will desert or betray him the moment his political fortunes waver. For the first time in his political life his hands are untied, his will and judgment free. We hope he will make good use of his new born freedom.

If Vice President Coifax should be renominated and re-elected, it will be the first time, with a single exception, that a Vice President has been his own successor in the history of our Government. The exception was that of Daniel D. Tompkins, of New York, who served as Vice President under the two terms of President Monroe, one of which terms occurred in what is historically known as the "era of good feeling"—from 1821 to 1825. The instances in which a Vice President has stepped from that position to the Presidency, are six, to-wit:—John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Martin Van Buren, John Tyler, Millard Fillmore and Andrew Johnson—the three latter succeeded to the Presidency on account of the demise of the regularly elected incumbents while holding office.—*N. Y. Herald.*

The New York Standard gives the following ravishing description of one of the great orators of the New Jersey Legislature: "Mark Anthony Hercules Ryder is a splendid looking man. He is the model of Dr. Greeley, and dresses in rusty black. He is six feet tall, and is as stout as an ox. He winds a couple of yards of black silk round his neck and ties it under his left ear. He wears a patent shirt-bosom, which is pulled one side so as to display the nice red shirt underneath." He sports a high, patent collar. The strings of it are loosely tied and fall down on his manly bosom. A black cord attached to his eye glasses meander over his heaving chest. He has a bald spot on the top of his head, full beard and an eye like a bullet. He is portly and very handsome, and his garments have a soapy look. His constituents call him the 'Pampered Child of Fiddleville.'"

HOW TREES BREATHE.—Animals inhale air for the oxygen, which vitalizes the blood. Leaves of plants are lungs of a rudimentary character, but nevertheless very extraordinary instruments. They absorb carbon from the atmosphere, which is destructive to animals, and expire oxygen, which all organized breathing creatures must have or die.

To perform that important function, the breathing organs of a large elm, were its leaves placed side by side, admitting it possible to arrange them to represent a carpet, would be equal to two acres of respiratory surface. Where trees abound, there the atmosphere is vitalizing, unless counteracted by decaying vegetation in wet or low lands. Trees in cities are sanitary sentinels.