

# THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF.

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**THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF.**  
Amicus Mercurii Generis.

A Wide-Awake News Newspaper.

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Donaldsonville, La.,

L. W. BENTLEY,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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If any person has doubts whether advertisements are read or not, let him put something he doesn't wish seen in an obscure part of the paper.

Frederick Douglass was lately refused entrance to a palace car at Corning, and was about to walk in, refusal, or no refusal, when the conductor was told who he was and raised no further objections.

An Illinois man is going to California in a balloon, to avoid the heat, dust, and fare of railroad travel. He will bounce over the Rocky Mountains like a rubber ball, and come down dead or smiling on the slope.

An old carpenter who had been employed at the work by an old lady, was asked why people of his trade always charged more in proportion for coffins than they did for chairs and tables. "Well, you see, me'ans, it's just because people won't bring coffins back to us to be repaired."

"Gentlemen, where do you think that beef-steak comes from?" said the landlord, planting his thumbs in his waistcoat arm-holes. "From near the horns," was the quiet reply of one of the boarders. It is singular, but that landlord has not put any counter-drums to those boarders since.

An English writer has recently asserted that an undue proportion of lime in the system is the cause of premature gray hair, and advises to avoid hard water, either for drinking purposes or when converted into tea, coffee or soup, because hard water is always strongly impregnated with lime. Hard water may be softened by boiling it; let it become cold, and then use it as a beverage.

Woman's rights is properly exemplified in Spain. A correspondent thus describes the loading of the iron ore at Bilbao: "It is a curious sight to see the women loading the ships with their bulky cargoes, carrying it in baskets on their heads, singing gaily to the while, and tripping up and down the steep planks with their short petticoats, brown bare legs, and their straight supple backs."

Responses to prayers and sermons may be good if they come in at the right place. Not so, however, came in a response recently to a minister in an African church. He came down from the pulpit to invite a stranger in one of the pews to preach for him, but was unsuccessful. "Brethren," said he, "I invited Brother S. to preach, but he declines!" "Thank God!" roared out a man from the middle of the church.

On a recent evening in New York City, a young girl who was grossly insulted by a ruffian on a Third avenue car was protected and avenged, not by a fellow passenger, or by the conductor, but by the honest courageous driver. The latter saw that the scoundrel was annoying the girl and that the conductor had not noticed the affair. He promptly stopped his car, thrashed the villain, threw him into the street, and calling a policeman, gave him into custody.

Australia is quite a country. It is 2,400 miles in length and 2,800 miles wide. The first settlement was made there in 1788—600 male and 250 female convicts, 160 soldiers, 49 women (their wives), and 37 officers. It is now divided into seven States. Of three, Victoria is the most remarkable. It has three-quarters of a million of inhabitants; Melbourne, the capital, has 150,000. Victoria has 90,000 square miles of territory. Her savings banks contain \$5,000,000, and the assets of her various building associations are over \$3,000,000. A good many of the laws of Victoria are moulded after those of the United States, and her people are sometimes styled the Yankers of Australia. Mining is the principal industry, and the proceeds of the mines are increasing yearly.

## Inaugural Address of Governor Wm. P. Kellogg.

Delivered at Mechanics' Institute, New Orleans, January 13th, 1873.

In assuming the arduous duties which devolve upon me as the chief executive officer of the State, I do so under a profound sense of the magnitude and importance of those duties, as well as the grave responsibilities I am to incur in discharging them. It is my purpose to devote my best efforts and whatever abilities I may possess, to perform faithfully all the duties and obligations imposed upon me by the constitution and laws of the State.

A retrospect of the history of Louisiana during the few years that have elapsed since the termination of the late civil war presents much that affords no gratification to the minds of her people. It is not to be concealed that no effective means have been adopted to supply the greatest needs of the people, or to restore the State to its legitimate condition of progress and prosperity. Possessing abundantly all the elements necessary to agricultural and commercial wealth and independence, the State, nevertheless, languishes in all her material interests. With impaired credit, diminished commerce and accumulated taxation, the embarrassments are serious and call loudly for relief.

Immigration to our borders has been slow and inconsiderable, notwithstanding all the advantages of soil, climate, staple products, cheap lands and facilities for commerce. Our great mart of commerce, the natural outlet of trade from the vast valley of the Mississippi to all countries of the earth, is weakened in its capacity to control its legitimate business, and is forced into competition with cities of the interior less favorably situated for commercial competition, yet more blessed with material prosperity. Capital from abroad is but sparingly introduced here, where, under more favorable circumstances, it would be highly remunerative to its holders and would be freely supplied. With these facts palpably before us, to what shall we attribute our stationary, if not retrograding condition? Political agitation may, and doubtless has, contributed in no small degree to this state of affairs, but this can by no means be assigned as the principal cause. The question forces itself upon us, have the resources of Louisiana been properly marshaled and her energies judiciously directed? A negative answer, I think, must be given. Improvident and unwise legislation, not to characterize some of it by more forcible terms, has been chiefly instrumental in involving the State in its present financial embarrassments. What are the remedies to be resorted to? They are plain and obvious. Rigid economy in expenditures, the abolition of useless offices, a strict accountability enforced against all public agents; in short, the adoption in the administration of public affairs of the same appliances necessary to restore the fallen fortunes of an individual. Honesty, industry and economy—upon these principles the people of the State demand, and they have a right to expect, their servants to act. This demand, so far as the executive department and its influence extends, will be strictly complied with.

It can not be expected on this occasion that all topics of public interest will be treated in detail. A fuller consideration of the proper objects of legislation will be more in place in communications I may hereafter have to make to the General Assembly.

### NEW ORLEANS.

There is no subject of greater moment to the people of this State than the prosperity of the city of New Orleans. As the metropolis of the State, the entrepot of the valley of the Mississippi, its interests are the interests of the State, and its credit the credit of the State. The great need of the city is railroad connection placing it in closer relations with the vast trade of Texas, as well as the trade of the distant portions of our State, to which it is by right entitled. This great purpose it will be the duty of the legislature to foster and encourage.

Prompt action should also be taken to remove from the city many oppressive burdens imposed upon it by the legislation of the past. The city should have the control of its own finances, and not be compelled, as it now is, by legislative enactments, to incur annually heavy and unnecessary expenditures, much beyond its current resources.

### INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

I regret that we do not find more that is encouraging in the progress of internal improvements in the State. On this subject there can be no diversity of opinion. Before the war the policy of the Southern States seemed to be not to seek appropriations from the federal government for internal improvements. Hence a comparatively small portion of the money appropriated by Congress for this purpose was expended in the South, while large appropriations went to the Northern States, where they were eagerly sought and did much to develop works of great benefit to the commerce of those States. Since the war, however, many of the Southern States have in this regard reversed their policy. To Louisiana especially, the national government has extended aid with a liberal hand. Large appropriations have been made by Congress for the improve-

ment of the mouth of the Mississippi river, of Bayou Teche, the Atchafalaya, the Tangipahou, Ouachita, Tchoufouca and Red rivers. One-half of the estimated requisite appropriation for the removal of the raft from Red river was passed during the last session of Congress. All these improvements, I am glad to say, are in progress or about to be commenced. Congress also appropriated a large amount of the public lands to aid the building a railroad from New Orleans to Shreveport. It is believed from present indications that at an early day the work will be entered upon and pushed to a satisfactory conclusion. Every effort should be made to secure the completion of this most essential work. The legislature of the State during the past four years has largely subsidized a projected railroad from New Orleans westward to the Sabine. The early completion of this road and of the road to Shreveport is essential to the prosperity of New Orleans and the State at large; no effort must be spared to bring about this result. Legislative action is likely to be asked in regard to the New Orleans, Mobile and Texas railroad. Time, it is understood, is required and will be asked for by the company to enable it to fulfill the conditions and stipulations it entered into with the State. The benefits that the State at large, and New Orleans especially, are to derive from so important an enterprise are greatly prejudiced by the failure of the company to push on the work. Good policy requires that every proper facility asked by the company should be extended; but in making concessions the legislature should exact a guarantee amply sufficient to indemnify the State against any future failure in the construction of the road. Much controversy exists regarding the real financial status of this road, and to the end that the precise condition of the company in all respects may be ascertained, I suggest that the legislature authorize the appointment of a committee of citizens in whom the community have confidence to examine into the facts and to make an early report.

### COMMERCE WITH MEXICO.

The allowance of a subsidy for a line of steamships between New Orleans and the ports of Mexico and Spanish America is a subject of vast importance to the State. A bill has passed the Senate of the United States, and is now before the House, looking to that object. There is apparently a growing disposition on the part of the general government to secure closer commercial intercourse with Mexico. Increased facilities of commerce by way of New Orleans, it is clear, will go far to attain this object. I recommend that the General Assembly memorialize Congress to pass the bill now before them, or some other of like import.

### THE LEVEES.

The State of Louisiana has a larger alluvial territory than any other State bordering upon the Mississippi, and hence has a greater interest than any of them in an efficient levee system. To restrain the waters of this mighty stream within its proper channel is an almost herculean task. It has long been conceded to be appropriately a national work. During my labors in a different department of the public service I was in a position to ascertain the views of the national legislature on this important subject, and I found them to be in consonance with this opinion. The legislature of this State, however, by the incorporation of the Levee Company in 1871, having adopted on a very large scale a plan of its own for the construction and repairing of levees, the consideration of the subject by the national government was postponed. I recommend that the Legislature authorize the appointment of a committee to be composed of citizens, fully competent to examine and report upon the character and sufficiency of the levees constructed and in process of construction by the company, and the degree of energy with which the work is conducted. In a matter of such magnitude and importance, and likely to constitute so great a drain on the State treasury, it is all important that the people should know from the most reliable sources whether this gigantic undertaking is really to be successful, and confer upon the State the results promised. The public interest imperatively demands that no half way measures shall be tolerated in the execution of works for which the people so lavishly bestow their money.

### FINANCE.

The financial condition of the State is a subject of profound solicitude, and will be discussed in future communications. The funded debt of the State, as reported by the Auditor, amounts to \$21,801,800; the unfunded debt, including certificates of indebtedness, Auditor's warrants, and amount due the fiscal agent, amounts to \$2,291,697, and the interest on the funded debt amounts to \$2,562,153 14 annually. The revenue to be derived from the present rate of taxation, licenses, and other sources for the current year will be sufficient to pay all the necessary expenses of the State government, to pay the interest over due, and that which will become due on the funded debt during the present year, to pay the legislative expenses, and to provide for the redemption of the past due bonds. There is no good reason why the rate of taxation, after the current year, should not be steadily

reduced. The delinquent taxes now amount to \$3,028,927 21, due on the assessments of 1870 and 1871. These taxes should be paid, and the requisite legislation should be had to secure their collection. From the best evidence obtainable it is evident that the delinquent list is in a great measure composed of those who are most able to pay. The poor man pays his taxes and the rich should not be exempted. If the taxes now due were paid the future and necessary expenses of the State would be provided for, and the State would be put upon a cash basis. The policy of drawing warrants when there is no money in the treasury to meet them is most pernicious. A State warrant, in contemplation of law, is a check, and should not be drawn unless there is money in the treasury to meet it.

No appropriations whatever should be made except such as are actually necessary to carry on the State government, and to observe full faith with all the holders of State obligations. There must be rigid economy in the expenditures of the General Assembly, the expenses of which ought not to exceed \$200,000.

### TAX COLLECTION.

The laws regarding the manner of assessing and collecting taxes, both of the State and the city of New Orleans, should be carefully revised, and one system of assessment should serve for both city and State. The rate of assessment on property in the country parishes and in New Orleans is unequal. This unjust discrimination should not continue. The compensation received by tax collectors and assessors, especially in the city of New Orleans, is exorbitant, and I recommend that it be reduced. There has been, during the last two years, a shameful neglect on the part of tax collectors to account for their collections, and in many cases the securities furnished have proven worthless. Some effective measures should be at once taken to remedy this evil.

### EXECUTIVE PATRONAGE.

The executive is invested with a large amount of patronage—in my judgment, too much. It would be better for the executive and better for the State if a large proportion of this patronage were remitted back to the people to whom it properly belongs. The dispensing of patronage is at once a most delicate and responsible task. Party services, doubtless, when honorably performed, entitle an applicant to consideration, but the claim should also be founded in capacity and integrity. Feeling myself responsible in a great measure for the good conduct of every public officer, I shall hold each to a strict accountability for the faithful and proper discharge of his official duties.

### RELATION OF CAPITAL AND LABOR.

In a republican government such as ours, where all the power is lodged in the people, and the will of the people is expressed through the ballot-box, it is absolutely essential that will should be freely and fairly expressed. The right of suffrage is the highest immunity of citizenship, and the right should be sternly guarded. Under a system of law guarding equal political rights to all, securing the individual rights of every person, it is to be regretted that there is a disposition to prevent the newly enfranchised citizen from exercising the right to vote. This is calculated to engender antagonism between capital and labor. Labor and capital were in the same hands before the war. They have now become divorced by the enfranchisement of the colored men. How can antagonism be avoided? The solution is easy. Give every laborer the opportunity to acquire capital by fair means; see that the law protects him against imposition; see that his wages are faithfully paid. Urge him to husband his earnings and invest them in some permanent form. The moment a man owns a house and lot or an acre of ground he becomes a capitalist in interest and so will become a capitalist in sentiment. Protect him in the exercise of the ballot, the guarantee and safeguard of his rights. In this way antagonism between labor and capital may be avoided, and the object which more than any other I desire, will be attained—harmony between the races.

### THE LATE ELECTION.

The late general election in this State is likely to become a matter of public investigation, and I have therefore but few words to say on the subject. Briefly, I charge that the pretended election claimed for the fusion ticket is utterly without foundation in truth or justice. I charge this, although the late Governor of this State, through the instrumentality of registrars and commissioners of election specially selected and designated by him for that purpose, prevented, by previously concocted stratagems, many of Republican voters of the State from registering and voting. The various stratagems and evasions resorted to I am prepared to establish by the fullest proof. I charge that promises of offices were made to secure fraudulent returns, and that ballot boxes in numerous instances were opened and tickets changed. I affirm that the Republican party carried the State by the actual vote cast, and that an attempt to show a different result was made even after the election by means of robbing and stuffing ballot boxes. It can and will

be proven that the canvass was entered into by the fusion party, headed by the late Governor, with the avowed purpose of carrying the election against General Grant and the Republican party, by the adoption of any means necessary for the purpose. I am prepared to show that partisans supporting the fusion ticket frequently declared during the canvass that the success of that ticket was certain, irrespective of the ballots cast, declaring that the Governor had the election all in his own hands; that he could elect or "count in" any candidate he pleased. I am prepared to show that the obstacles thrown in the way of the Republican voters of every class were especially directed against one class of them, on account of their color and previous condition, it being notorious that, with very rare exceptions, the voters of that class favored very decidedly the Republican ticket. All these charges I am prepared to maintain. My opponents failing to receive any countenance from the different legal tribunals, both State and federal, that have been appealed to, have resorted to the novel experiment of sending abroad a traveling committee, aided by eminent counsel, to exhibit indignation before the people and, if possible, obtain their sympathy by *ex parte* statements and concealment of the real facts of the case. They indicate a desire that an investigation be had. I have at all times expressed my readiness to join them in this. I would not hold an office to which I did not believe myself to be elected. I desire that the fullest investigation may be gone into of this whole controversy, to the end that the action taken by the courts and by the national administration may be vindicated.

In taking the solemn oath of chief magistrate, it is with a sincere desire to do all in my power essential to secure the peace, prosperity and fullest development of the State. To this end I ask the aid and sympathy of all good citizens; I demand, as I have a right to expect, your earnest co-operation, and I invoke the generous smiles of an overruling Providence.

### The New York Nation says:

We have received from a correspondent at New Orleans a letter explanatory of the condition of affairs in Louisiana. It is in substance this: To say that Kellogg is Governor of the State in virtue of bayonet law or of any interference by any federal judge, is to show misunderstanding of the case. The vital point of the whole controversy is, that the Eighth District Court, which is not a federal tribunal, but a State tribunal, having full jurisdiction in the matter, decided the Bovee-Longstreet-Lynch-Hawkins returning board to be the legal board, while, at about the same time, the State Supreme Court decided Bovee to be the legal Secretary of State. So, then, the Kellogg government bases its validity on the validity of its returning board, and the latter bases its validity on the decree of a State court having full power to decide. Judge Durell's action was incidental, and not of the essence, says our correspondent; and, admitting every thing Judge Durell has done is unconstitutional, null and void, the Kellogg government is, nevertheless, as firmly established on a legal and constitutional foundation as that of Governor Dix in New York; and if Mr. McEnery desires to contest the election, his proper place of appeal, the courts of the State are open to him.

A HORRIBLE STORY.—A dreadful accident occurred in Rhode Island, Saturday, 14th ult. Two men, named Smith and Drew, were employed in Johnston as wood-choppers. It was a cold windy day, and the men, while at work, kept up a hot fire under a large overhanging rock. By keeping a brisk fire they warmed the rock itself, and thus, by radiation, secured a really warm place. After work, as it is supposed, they went to the fire to warm themselves and have a smoke before going home. While they were seated there the rock cracked and fell over on them, and they were found under it on Monday. Smith was evidently killed on the instant, but Drew had struggled to free himself. He had reached his ax and chopped his own foot off, but his body was still held fast, and after vain efforts to get away he had ended his struggles by cutting his own throat with an ax. The rock was probably as hot as it was heavy, and the suffering of the poor man must have been beyond description. Smith, the one first killed, had been in the army at various times, had both legs and three ribs broken, and a bullet in his body. He was thrown out of employment in Boston by the fire, and seems all his life to have been one of fortune's victims. The whole story is as horrible as can well be imagined.

We do not print Mr. McEnery's speech at Lafayette Square because it only refers to his own disappointments and disasters in seeking the office of Governor, and there are so many romances of this sort in existence that it does not pay a live newspaper to print them. Mr. Kellogg's inaugural, on the contrary, tells us something about our own business and what is to be done about saving the State. This is a different matter and warrants reproduction in every intelligent newspaper.—State Register.

## Purchase of San Domingo.

We copy the following from the Washington Chronicle:

When writing yesterday a commentary upon an article in the *Washington Globe* relating to the purchase of San Domingo, we did not imagine that before the paper reached the press, news of the purchase of the island would be telegraphed. In any event we had not anticipated so extensive a purchase as that announced in yesterday's dispatches. Instead of contenting themselves with certain special privileges relating to the Bay of Samana, etc., the stock company have, if reports are true, gobbled up the whole island, to the extent of the best government, and thus wiped out the San Domingo nationality, and substituted that of an enterprising American stock company. Pulman being a member of the company has secured a new field for palace cars. Clews will acquaint the San Domingos with the mysteries of Wall street. Ames will set up a grand shovel factory, adding to it the manufacture of plows. Fairly will show what an express company can do; and thus to the end of the chapter all the wants of the future island republic are to be cared for, without hazard.

Perhaps, however, we are too fast in speaking of a republic. It does not yet appear what form of government the enterprising company vouches for to the islanders. Mr. Stockwell is president of the company. He will undoubtedly see that the stock is well valued for the benefit of new comers. But Samuel G. Howe, as president of the new republic (if he is content to dispense with a crown in the presence of his sable subjects), would seem to be a fitting arrangement. He will show the benighted people how to do some things not dreamed of in their philosophy.

Seriously, we are taken aback by the magnitude and boldness of this venture. Uncle Sam will smooth his wrinkled front and pat his children on the back, while he whispers in their ears—"small craft should keep near to the shore," which, being interpreted, means that having set up business for themselves, they must remember the lessons they have learned sitting at the feet of their sire.

If the facts have been truly set forth by the friends of the San Domingo project, this venture can hardly fail to be a lucrative one in its commercial aspects. How much money has been paid to Buez and his confederates not stated. The company is organized with a capital of \$20,000,000. A mere fraction of that sum has probably sufficed as the entering wedge.

The people ratified the transaction, we are told. Whether it was by a plebiscite or by their representatives, Buez and Cabral, will be made to appear in due time.

As the company are to have their own flag, we have a little curiosity to know whether they propose to run one once so common upon the high seas—a black flag, with skull and cross-bones.

The running of a regular line of steamers will keep us posted until arrangements can be made for telegraphic communication.

The Mississippi Valley Company, organized for the purpose of attracting European capital to the development of the great natural resources of Missouri, are actively at work and promise to effect no little good by their efforts in the direction indicated. There can be little doubt that English capital which can be invested at home only so as to return three or four per cent, would readily seek investment here, were the great natural resources of the State and the certainty of profitable investment fully known in England. If we can but give our foreign capitalists a just idea of the field afforded them here, there will be required no other inducement to secure their aid in working our mines, building up our manufactures and increasing our foreign trade. The Mississippi Valley Company is formed for the purpose of disseminating abroad information concerning the character of our State, and, working as it does, with branches in England, should be capable of accomplishing much toward an end so desirable. It is to be hoped that the company will receive every encouragement.—St. Louis Journal.

Here's a story with a moral for the boys: A little boy ran away from school to go chestnutting. During the expedition he fell twice out of one tree to the imminent danger of his life, was licked by one of the other boys whose breath he materially lessened by stumbling, against his stomach; ran a sliver into his knee, and was bitten violently upon the neck by a new bug. When he got home his father scolded him with the butt-end of a billiard cue, and the next day at school the teacher scolded him twice around the room by his poorest ear. He says that chestnuts are so wormy this year that it don't pay to go after them!

The way to bind the wildest horse for shoeing and the wildest cow for milking is simply this: Put around them, just back of the fore legs, a strong rope, or chain; into this twist a stick, so that as every turn the rope will be drawn tighter, until the animal will submit to being handled at your pleasure. The most unmanageable animals can be subdued in a few minutes in this manner.