

Donaldsonville Chief.

Published Every Tuesday.

Official Journal of the State of Louisiana.

Official Journal of the Parish of Ascension.

Official Journal Town of Donaldsonville.

LINDEN B. BENTLEY, Editor and Proprietor.

Fortification are authorized and requested to act as agents for the Chief.

Job printing in the highest style of the art at New Orleans prices! Leave your orders at the Chief office.

The Chief is received by all subscribers throughout the State.

Saturday, February 27, 1875.

The regular session of Congress and the Louisiana General Assembly will close next Thursday.

The Terrebonne Banner states that a lady on Little Calouan gave birth to four children on the 19th of January.

The Natchitoches Vidicator has been enlarged from a six to a seven-column paper. Worse and more of it! Poor Natchitochians!

Mr. Geo. W. Childs, publisher of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, has placed us under obligations for a copy of his beautiful almanac for 1875.

Dr. Peterson has been awarded the mail contract from Red River Landing to Shreveport, and Capt. John J. Brown of the Steamer Wm. S. Pike that from New Orleans to St. Francisville.

The degeneracy of the times is simply awful. Millard Filmore was arrested in New Orleans last week charged by Maria Van Buren with vagrancy and trespass. Oh, that Americans should live to witness such degradation of their great men.

Collins, which his front name is Ames, of the State Register, has been "petting" the Carrollton Sentinel men pretty severely of late, and this latter sends a report, as follows:

The government should invent an office for Ames, for since he has been out he has been continually spitting fire. Dog paper has been suggested.

It sometimes rains up this way.—Sugar Planter.

It very seldom "rains up" in this vicinity, but keeps pouring down pretty much all the time. [This is a libel on the present beautiful weather, but we must have our little joke, whether it is in harmony with the arrangements of the clerk of the celestial water works or not.]

Now, really, if the Patriot-Democrat man doesn't cool down a little on the compromise question he'll burst a blood vessel. Soak your head in a bucket of water, friend. Don't make a mistake and put it in the hot pot, though, for that would make you more of a Democrat than ever, and goodness knows you're had enough now.

The last number of the Sugar Planter contains the astounding statement that it sometimes "rains up" in West Baton Rouge. We fear Harry Hyams was in a state of exhilaration from juggling Baton Rouge soda water when he flew in the face of nature with that assertion, and, being in an inverted position himself, imagined all things else upside down.

The Mansfield Reporter has been reduced in size from a seven-column to a five-column paper, but it now appears twice a week to make up for the diminution, and sports a patent outside to cap the climax. The Reporter tries to be a good paper, but its advocacy of the doctrines advanced by such sheets as the Shreveport Times interferes greatly with the aspiration.

The following pleasing personal notice appears in the Port Vincent Times of recent date:

The completed vice-regent of Great Caesar, Malinda, the distinguished representative of the United States Army—Sheridan, the original and authentic of "bandits"—the best, without the capacity of Butler—still continues the fight with his pestiferous presence.

One would naturally suppose upon reading this vigorous paragraph that the writer is a warlike, fire-eating, six-foot White Leaguer, who "shoots big-guns on sight" and is the terror of all the carpet-baggers and scalawags in Livingston parish, but, strange as it may seem, he is quite the opposite.

He is an aged, mild-eyed, sweet tempered printer, who ever and anon gives utterance to naturally tender feelings by bursts of poetry upon such effeminate subjects as love and moonshine; so placid and compassionate in his disposition, he would not with malice aforethought commit assault and battery upon a fly.

ROPES OF COMPROMISE.

Another part of the political wheel of fortune has taken place since the last issue of our paper, and the question of compromise, which seemed buried beyond hope of resurrection, has come to the surface again and the prospect for adjustment upon the plan drawn up by Judge Wheeler of the last Congressional Committee which visited Louisiana is now brighter than ever before. We published a synopsis of this plan two weeks since, and our readers will doubtless recall its salient points.

Despairing of their ability to extort further concessions from the Republicans, the Conservative Caucus decided to accept the terms proposed by Judge Wheeler. The contest between those in favor of and those opposed to adjustment was very close, the vote, which was taken on Thursday, standing 34 to 33. The affirmative was increased to 36 yesterday, two members who were absent on Thursday having returned. The anti-compromisers are, as was the case before, nearly all city men, while a large proportion of the members favorable to compromise represent rural constituencies.

Immediately after the vote of the caucus became known, committees were appointed to scour the business centres of New Orleans and obtain signatures to documents favoring and opposing the compromise. In comparing the long lists of names attached to these rival papers, as published in the city journals of yesterday, it is gratifying to note that the merchants, cotton factors, commercial firms and solid business men generally gave their approval to the action of the majority of the caucus, while the lawyers, doctors and McEnery politicians were most prominent among the signers of the protest. The Bulletin is again alone in its opposition to adjustment, the Picayune, Times, German Gazette and Republic all favoring it.

Another indignation, or more properly, intimidation meeting, similar to the gathering at Clay Station three weeks since, was held at St. Patrick's Hall, New Orleans, at which the usual set of McEnery's adherents presided, spoke and read resolutions which were declared adopted without the formality of calling for a negative vote thereupon. Like the Clay Station assemblage, the crowd was good-humored and orderly, and most of its members attended more from curiosity than any desire to give vent to indignation. It is not probable this second intimidation dodge will meet with the same success as its predecessor. The country Conservatives were scared by it once, but they will hardly be so verdant as to allow it to frighten them again, especially when they find themselves supported by a large proportion of the wealth and intelligence of their party in New Orleans.

Congressman Wheeler is expected to come on from Washington to direct the compromise movement, and if all the details are satisfactorily arranged Gov. Kellogg will, if deemed advisable by Judge Wheeler, convene the General Assembly in special session to carry out the terms of the protocol.

Political extremists may rant and protest as vehemently as they please, but the masses of the people of both parties will gladly welcome any compromise that will bring peace and order to Louisiana.

A terrible tornado passed over Choquique settlement, in the parish of Avoyelles, on the evening of the 2nd instant, destroying fifty-four houses, including a beautiful little Catholic Church, and rendering at least a dozen families homeless and entirely destitute. Father Simon, the priest of the Choquique church, has written a letter to the Marksville Bulletin in which he feelingly portrays the sufferings of the people and calls upon the charitable public for assistance to alleviate their distress. Notwithstanding several families were literally buried in the ruins of their houses only one person—a colored boy—was killed, and one other—a white boy—seriously injured. The colored lad was lifted up by the tornado and carried a distance of five acres. When found after the storm he was stone dead, but there was not the slightest bruise or wound to be seen upon his person.

The will of the people has prevailed, and the compromise has been bustled up.—Marksville Reporter.

The country members of the Conservative Caucus have again kicked the McEnery traces and it would seem that anti-compromise is the hated institution just now. And the will of "the people" has prevailed some-

"THINGS AIN'T AS THEY USED TO BE."

It is a habit with a very numerous class of well-meaning but poorly-informed people to sigh over the woful degeneracy of contemporaneous public men and public morals as compared with the noble patriots and virtuous body of American citizens who existed in the early and halcyon days of our Republic.

Perusing the partisan newspapers of present dates, and remarking the unceasing volume of vituperation and abuse which is poured upon the men at the head of the government, these mournful over the lost virtues of the good old times when our forefathers flourished sigh as they say, "Things ain't as they used to be; no one would have dreamed of attacking Washington or his government as Grant and his associates in the high offices are attacked to-day!"

The only trouble with these people is that they know nothing of the history of the party conflicts that raged in those days with all, or nearly all, the bitterness that has characterized those of later times. No President has ever been elected who has not endured slander and denunciation from opposing partisans. Lincoln, Jackson, Jefferson, and even the great Washington, ran this gauntlet. But it is a happy decree of Providence that with the lapse of years the unmerited censure which has been visited upon the great and good gradually fades from the pages of history and their honorable deeds and noble qualities shine forth with increasing brilliancy.

As an illustration of our position on this subject we append herewith an article which appeared in a newspaper called the Philadelphia Aurora, on March 4th, 1797, the day upon which the immortal Washington concluded his second term of service as President. This extract was reproduced in the last issue of Harper's Weekly, and may be regarded wholly authentic. How many are there of us who would have supposed such harsh things as these could have been written of Washington, the beloved Father of our Country, and the administration of the government which we are wont to point to as a worthy pattern for all Presidents to follow! Yet, in all probability, this article is but a sample of hundreds of like tenor which were published in the early years of the Republic. Read it, sorrowing friends, ponder well the lesson it teaches, and sigh no more for the degeneracy of the age. A hundred years from now your children's children will look back upon the days of Grant and Lincoln with the same admiration we do upon those of Washington.

Here are the sentiments uttered by a newspaper seventy-eight years ago:

"Lord, how latest Thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation." was the pious ejaculation of a man who beheld a flood of happiness rushing upon mankind. If ever there was a time that would license the retirement of the ex-man who is the source of all the misfortune of our country is this day reduced to a level with his fellow-citizens, and is no longer possessed of the power to multiply evils upon the United States. If ever there was a time that would license the retirement of the ex-man who is the source of all the misfortune of our country is this day reduced to a level with his fellow-citizens, and is no longer possessed of the power to multiply evils upon the United States. If ever there was a time that would license the retirement of the ex-man who is the source of all the misfortune of our country is this day reduced to a level with his fellow-citizens, and is no longer possessed of the power to multiply evils upon the United States.

Brother Roche of the Iberville Republican pays a compliment to the Chief and its editor which we fear finds more foundation in the good will of the writer than in the merits of ourselves or our journal. Just hear him!

Among our pleasant recollections of a recent visit to New Orleans, is an introduction to the editor of that outspoken, independent and Republican journal, the Donaldsonville Chief, which occupies a prominent place in our memory. To grasp the head of our highly respected contemporary, was one of the few favors which we had needed to reconcile us to mortal existence. Hence to have put in his Chief enjoy an available reputation in journalism. And an acquaintance with the former will always produce an impression favorable to the latter. We speak by the card.

Of course our contemporary is not in earnest in making that extravagant statement about our acquaintance compelling him to mortal existence, but he does mean to express a feeling of real friendship and admiration, which, we can assure him, is heartily appreciated and reciprocated. While thanking him for the compliment paid us, we can freely say that in our efforts to make the Chief reliable and deserving as a Republican newspaper, we can find no journal more worthy of emulation than the Iberville Republican.

William Walter Phelps of New Jersey, renegade Republican, applicant for Democratic approbation and stockholder in the New York Tribune stood up in the House of Representatives the other day, when the civil rights bill was under consideration, and eloquently referred to a political earthquake that had shaken over a hundred Republican members of Congress from their seats, because of their attempt to enact such a law as the said civil rights bill. And yet the whole country knows that the corner of that metaphorical convulsion which struck the strong Republican districts from which Mr. Phelps hails, and boosted him from the national legislative body, was attracted thitherward by his opposition to the very measure against which he was voling imaginary thunder storms, volcanic eruptions and hurricanes. It is a fact which has gained great notoriety that this rhetorical Congressman was defeated for re-election by the refusal of all the colored and many of the white Republicans of his district to vote for him, and that the reason for this refusal was that Mr. Phelps had failed to sustain the bill which would perfect and guarantee the equal public rights of colored citizens. William Walter should talk exceedingly small about earthquakes for he is the worst jolted man of the martyred hundred.

We have been permitted to read a letter addressed to Hon. Geo. E. Bovee of St. James by Sheriff W. H. Hagius of the same parish, in which the latter expresses a hope that Mr. Bovee may succeed in procuring a restoration of the official printing to the Sentinel and his own appointment as a member of the Police Jury of St. James. As Messrs. Hagius and Bovee were the leaders of opposing factions of the Republican party in our neighboring parish during the recent campaign, we infer from the letter that they have laid aside their past disagreements and, together with their respective friends, have formed a combination against certain bad and unscrupulous men who crept into the Republican party during the internal strife and fastened themselves upon it. We rejoice that all the best Republicans of St. James are now united in opposition to these pernicious barons, and we trust Gov. Kellogg will not hesitate to give any assistance in his power to the worthy purpose of the combination. We have every reason to believe that Senator Landry is working in full harmony with Messrs. Hagius, Bovee and their friends.

The New Orleans Bulletin recently published an article under the caption of "The Senate School Book Ring," in which severe and unflinching were made upon Senator W. W. Wharton of Iberville, founded upon the charge that he had used his position to influence the city Board of School Directors to change the series of text books now in use in the New Orleans schools. Senator Wharton promptly met the accusation with proof of its falsity that even the Bulletin—so implacable and unreasonable in denunciation of Republican officials—was bound to accept, and that journal accordingly withdrew and apologized for its assertions, taking occasion at the same time to bear witness to the high character for general probity and ability that is borne by the accomplished Senator from Iberville. This act of justice on the part of the Bulletin gives us a better opinion of the paper than we have ever before entertained, but we did not need its intellectual and official worth of W. W. Wharton.

Brookshire, the bully boy of Attakapas Register, shoots off his torial quill in this way:

Bro. Roche of the Iberville Republican affected to sneer recently by saying we had needed to reconcile us to mortal existence. Not being exactly "myself," we will seek the first opportunity to "shake" with Bentley. Guess he'd stand it, but we'll be a "hand" that would kill Collins of the State Register.

That's where you make a mistake, neighbor. We enjoyed a measure of placing our delicate and dexter manly of friend Collins in a recent visit to the State, and so far from acting as a spur upon his existence, the contact with so much yixing and good seemed to do him good. We fondly think that if we could be there all the time and keep a watch upon him for a few months we'd make a man of him and a member of the State Register that the Chief could not always to grow over with impunity. Also, a cruel fate separates us and will have to worry along our counsel and guidance as we can.

The editor of the St. James Sentinel admits that he published derisive references to Governor Kellogg, and then writes that we had the slightest ground for concluding that he (the editor) was "classing himself with the opponents of the chief executive." We like the attempt of the gentleman to retreat from the position which his own utterances placed him in, but we must say the logic is peculiar. There was no necessity for us to go back several years and follow up the political record of the Sentinel's editor or any other person to enable us to comprehend the apparent meaning of a half-grown line of English composition, and if a mistake has been made it lies at the door of the writer of those lines and not at ours for his interpretation thereof. If he was merely desirous of criticizing the Governor in a spirit of kindness he should have been careful in donning the cloak of the critic, not to have, entirely concealed the semblance of the friendship which he now avows, and which we know him to have entertained in the past. The editor of the Sentinel is right in his determination to "criticize the acts of public officers according to his best judgment," but there is a great distinction between denouncing the acts of an official and piercing it with the darts of personal ridicule, and we hope our contemporary hereafter observe this distinction that we may not do him any injustice in the interpretation of his sentiments.

We shall not accept the ground which the Sentinel has thrown out for a discussion upon the question: "Has Governor Kellogg fewer friends at this time than at any other?" We prefer to take the position of Sentinel itself, when, after saying that the Governor has lost friends, it says:

Few however can realize the obstacles with which he has had to contend, and perhaps fewer still would blame him if he were better understood and his work properly appreciated.

Nothing can better establish the fact that the now fatal Coushatta massacre was a brutal and unprovoked murder of innocent and inoffensive citizens, than the enunciation of the Democratic people's serious and dignified to the scene to outstage to shift the blame upon our neighbors, and the unceasing indignation which the inputs causes among those upon whom cast. As an illustration, we will the following from the Reporter published at Mansfield, DeSoto par:

By the dispatch to see that a large amount of evidence being taken by the Congressional Commission in session in New Orleans, a residence was taken by the first committee. An article, we see that Capt. Abney of DeSoto is giving a full account of the Coushatta troubles. His account very clearly shows that Capt. Abney's men in DeSoto parish murdered DeWeese, Twiss, etc. Now we are of the opinion that Abney is not as well posted in regard to the Coushatta massacre as he is supposed to be, and we think that DeSoto parish can bear all the blame that any body may see proper to place upon her.

We would that an attempt will be made to induce the Board of Printing Commissioners to restore the official printing contract for St. James to the Sentinel, and we hope Mr. Landry will lend his aid to make the movement successful. The act of depriving established and able Republican newspapers of their patronage and bestowing it upon worthless sheets started for no purpose than to suck the life out of the movement the least, is an outrage and has done great injury to the Republican organization in this State. We believe that Gov. Kellogg, Lieut. Gov. and Speaker Hahn will rectify any errors that have been made in this respect and guard against their repetition in the future.

We believe that Gov. Kellogg is an honest and conscientious official; that he desires to promote the interests of Louisiana and secure peace within her borders by establishing justice and economy in his administration; and we will demand the confidence and acquiescence of the people; hence we can not but hope that the New Orleans Times of yesterday rightly interpreted the spirit prevailing among the representatives of the Republican party at the State House when it said: "everything indicates that Mr. Kellogg has come to the front with renewed strength in the ranks of his adherents."

We thought so! Our throat never to notice the State Register man on his paper in the Chief's office unless he got over his fit of cholera, has brought that individual to his senses, and alarmed at the prospect of virtual extinguishment, he reproduces our paragraph of two weeks since, and adds the following:

The editor of the State Register hereby declares that he will never do any more to deprive the Chief of its special editorial, even if they are not grammatically correct. It can therefore be considered that the foregoing article did "mutilate" him, and reduces him to the most lamb-like condition of peace and quietness.

A turbulent editor of the Democratic press recently exhorts his party thus:

Let us have Kellogg and his hirelings only in this and no more. Perhaps if the class of partisans who delight in such foul abuse as this were to follow the scriptural injunction and know themselves bet, it might be much easier for them to make the acquaintance of such objectionable people as above described, for we repeat that such an association might tend to produce harmony and friendship between them, as it is spoken that: "Hated feeling makes us wondrous kind."

The new national Senate, which will convene in extra session at Washington on the 5th of March, will consist of 43 Republicans, 38 Democrats and 2 Independents. The latter are Booth of California and Hamilton of Texas, both more Republican than Democratic and chased by the Louisiana Courier-Journal as Republicans. The above calculation does not include Pinchback of Louisiana. In the present Senate there are 50 Republicans, 19 Democrats and 3 Liberal Republicans. Thus it will be seen that the Democrats have gained 9 Senators. Of these, 6 have been lost by the Republicans and 3 by the Liberals.

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