

Donaldsonville Chief.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Saturday, March 17, 1877.

Indiana's one Legislature is in extra session. Louisiana's is two.

Total number of deaths in New Orleans last week 159; from small pox 49.

Senator Bruce of Mississippi is chairman of the Senate committee on the levees of the Mississippi river.

Hon. A. D. Lafargue of the Marksville Bulletin has been appointed Tax Collector of Avoyelles parish by Gov. Nicholls.

Mary Holmes, a New Orleans woman gave birth to a child while being taken to the Charity Hospital in a cab.

Mr. Mitchell of Oregon succeeds ex-Senator West of Louisiana as chairman of the Senate Committee on Railroads.

The Point-a-la Hache Observer has fallen heir to the printing material of the defunct Plaquemines Republican and appears in enlarged and improved form.

Both houses of the Ohio Legislature have passed a compulsory education bill. When facilities can be furnished for the instruction of all the educable youth of this State, a similar law should be enacted here.

The New Iberia Sugar-Bowl learns of a remarkable incident which occurred in its section some months since. A black woman, the wife of Joseph Parker, a mulatto, gave birth to "a perfectly white child, with hair as white as cotton."

Bertrand Couret and Jean Marie Menthieu, natives of France, were recently drowned while crossing Grand Caillou Bayou, parish of Terrebonne. Couret's brother also met his death by drowning, about two years ago. So reports the Thibodaux Sentinel.

Iglesias, ex-Chief Justice and whilom claimant of the presidency of Mexico, is in New Orleans, awaiting the departure of a steamer for Vera Cruz. We have before mentioned that Iglesias has withdrawn all claims to the presidential chair and accepted a pardon from Diaz.

Representative Barrett of Rapides has left Odd Fellows Hall and returned to his seat in the Republican House. Indignant at this desertion, the Odd Fellows Hall body unanimously passed a resolution of expulsion, and a colored member was loudly applauded who declared that Mr. Barrett should be prosecuted by the Attorney General for perjury.

Large meetings of business men were held at St. Louis and Memphis this week, at which speeches were made and resolutions adopted strongly approving the policy of President Hayes as foreshadowed by his inaugural address and Cabinet appointments. A large majority of those in attendance at the meetings were Democrats.

Rutherford B. Hayes is nearly 55 years of age; Wm. A. Wheeler is 57, Samuel J. Tilden 64, Thos. A. Hendricks 57, U. S. Grant 55, Thos. W. Ferry 50, Simon Cameron 78, Hamilton Fish 69, Wm. M. Everts 59, O. P. Morton 54, Geo. F. Edmunds 49, Frederick T. Frelinghuysen 60, Allen G. Thurman 64 and Thomas F. Bayard 59.

The Indiana Legislature has adopted several proposed constitutional amendments which will be submitted to the people after approval by the next General Assembly. These amendments change the time of holding State elections from October to November, expunge the word "white" from the constitution, increase the number of Supreme Judges to seven, and prohibit towns and counties from loaning their credit to railroads or other corporations, or from increasing their indebtedness beyond two percent of the valuation of their taxable property.

GOV. KELLOGG'S CASE POSTPONED.

Great confidence was felt by the friends of the Republican government in this State that a speedy and favorable solution of existing complications would be had in the recognition by the United States Senate of the title of ex-Gov. Kellogg to a seat in that body. But like many another hope which has been entertained by each of the contending parties in the pending struggle for supremacy, this one was disappointed. When the Senate was called together at the beginning of the extra session, Gov. Kellogg accompanied Messrs. Lamar, Hill, Morgan and other newly elected Senators to the Vice President's desk to be sworn in. Objection was made in several cases including that of Gov. Kellogg, and after an animated debate, led by Blaine and Morton upon the part of the Republicans and by Bayard and others for the opposition, the credentials of the Louisiana claimant were referred to the committee on Privileges and Elections by a vote of 35 to 29, several Republicans siding with the affirmative. After consultation this committee decided by a party vote to report favorably upon the credentials and recommend the immediate seating of Gov. Kellogg, the Democrats on the committee of course dissenting and preparing a minority report.

Unfortunately for the Republicans, several of their Senators were ill and two vacancies had been caused by the withdrawal of Hons. John Sherman and Simon Cameron, hence they could not hope for success in the event of pressing the matter to a final vote, and it was allowed to go over to the next session.

Senator Conkling and one or two other Republicans opposed the admission of Gov. Kellogg on the ground that it might embarrass President Hayes in framing or carrying out his policy for the settlement of the Louisiana problem.

A sensation was caused in Washington this week by the resignation of Senator Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania, the senior member of the upper branch of Congress, to which he was first elected in 1845. He served from this time until 1849, was re-elected in 1857, resigned in 1861, was again elected in 1867, and yet again in 1872 for the term expiring March 3, 1879. Mr. Cameron has reached the advanced age of 78, and although he retains in a great degree the energy and strength of earlier years, a respite from the cares and duties of official life can not prove otherwise than agreeable. And any regret that the aged Senator might feel at terminating his public career is softened by the fact that his son, Don Cameron, ex-Secretary of War, will succeed to the vacant Senatorial chair. The Republicans of the Pennsylvania Legislature held a caucus to settle upon a candidate and the first ballot stood Cameron 100, McMichael 1. The election will probably occur on the 20th instant.

The members of the new Cabinet were sworn in and assumed their duties Monday. At their first meeting, which was held on Tuesday, Secretaries Everts and Schurz were appointed as a committee to draft civil service rules for all the departments, in harmony with the well known views of President Hayes and the enunciations of the Republican platform upon the subject of reform in the civil service. Postmaster General Key, desiring to demonstrate his entire sympathy with the administration by selecting a representative Republican as his First Assistant, tendered that position to his predecessor, Mr. Tyner, who at first declined to accept but subsequently changed his mind and assumed the functions of the office, where his experience will be of great service to the new Postmaster General. Mr. Fred W. Seward, son of ex-Secretary Wm. H. Seward, has been appointed by Mr. Everts as Assistant Secretary of State.

The Nicholls General Assembly has passed, and Gov. Nicholls has signed a joint resolution extending the extra session nominally to April 30. It is thought, however, that an adjournment will take place in about ten days. The extra session of the Republican Assembly will expire next Wednesday, but Gov. Packard will issue a proclamation reconvening the body immediately. The Senate lacked but two of a quorum yesterday and it was thought the necessary number for the transaction of business could be obtained, but the expectation was not realized. Senator Allain of West Baton Rouge persists in refusing to attend either Senate and his strange course is generally ascribed to extremely unworthy motives.

THE WEBER MURDER.

Nothing has yet been made public to throw further light upon the dastardly assassination of Mr. Don A. Weber, ex-Tax Collector of West Feliciana. It is said Gov. Nicholls has sent detectives to St. Francisville for the purpose of ascertaining the identity of the murderers if possible, and if these officers work in good faith it seems almost inevitable that they should be successful, at least to the extent of hemming in parties who were near the scene of the murder with a web of circumstantial evidence that will ultimately lead to the exposure of the real culprits.

The vilifying statement that Mr. Weber had threatened the lives of citizens and paraded the streets armed with a gun, which as we said last week, bore the impress of falsity upon its face, is conclusively refuted by the following card from a well known and thoroughly responsible citizen of West Feliciana:

BAYOU SARA, March 9, 1877.
I have seen in the New Orleans Democrat 8th instant, a dispatch signed "Vidette," which states that "D. A. Weber for the last few days has been walking our streets armed with a shotgun, and in a defiant way threatening many of our citizens." I pronounce this statement to be an unmitigated lie.
On the day that deceased was assassinated he and I had gone out to shoot birds. We hunted with a gun that I had borrowed. I carried the gun. I have been with D. A. Weber every day excepting last Sunday, when he went on a visit to Pointe Coupee since about the 9th of February; during that time I have not even seen him with a pistol; in fact he never carried one.
I. HUNTER COLLINS.

We commend this positive refutation to the attention of the newspapers which have given circulation to the false report referred to, and trust they will promptly make the proper correction.

The New Orleans correspondent of the Louisiana Courier-Journal having communicated to his paper the slander that D. A. Weber, recently murdered in West Feliciana, was a man of notoriously bad character who had gone about with a shot-gun threatening the lives of citizens, was severely taken to task by the New Orleans Republican. The correspondent called at the office of the latter journal and expressed regret that he should have been misled by untruthful representations into cruelly defaming the memory of the murdered man; he said further, that having received indisputable evidence of the falsity of his report, he had at once telegraphed a complete refutation. The Republican justly remarks that such fair minded gentlemen as the representative of the Courier-Journal are a credit to their profession.

We are glad to announce that the New Orleans Republican has resumed daily publication, and we hope its conductors will see their way clear to avoid another such faux pas as the recent suspension.

[N. B.—The foregoing was written for publication in our issue of last week, since which time the Republican has again crawled, and now appears only on Tuesdays and Saturdays. The course of the proprietors is severely criticised in Republican circles at the capital, as it is the general opinion that the paper has made enough money from patronage bestowed by Republican authorities to justify the proprietors in running it at a loss an entire year, if necessary, at a period when its services are so peculiarly essential to the interests of its party as at present.]

Gov. Nicholls has recognized the zealous party service of Mr. E. A. Burke by appointing him Tax Collector of the First District of New Orleans. Mr. Burke has assumed the position to the extent of taking possession of the room occupied as an office by the recent Collector, but the books and tax rolls are in the State House, where Nicholls officials are not recognized or admitted. Collectors for the other city districts have been appointed by Gov. Nicholls and will proceed at once to the collection of licenses and capital tax, as Mr. Burke has done.

The subjoined Associated Press telegram from Washington will serve to disabuse some minds of the impression that Senator Blaine has assumed a position antagonistic to the new administration—made a declaration of war against the policy of President Hayes, as it were. The dispatch reads: Senator Blaine dined Saturday night with Secretary Everts and Secretary Schurz. These three gentlemen are said to have had a hearty laugh over the reports that Mr. Blaine had been trying to defeat the confirmation of Schurz and Everts in the Senate. In the afternoon Mr. Blaine attended the reception at the White House, and was received with very marked cordiality by both the President and Mrs. Hayes.

The Sheriff of Orleans parish transported thirty convicts to the penitentiary last week. Their classification was: twenty-three colored and four white males, three colored females.

A State election was held in New Hampshire on Tuesday and the result was a substantial triumph for the Republicans, who carried the State by a majority of from 3000 to 4000, and elected two out of three Congressmen. The contest in the first Congressional District is so close that it will require an official count to decide it. Benjamin F. Prescott is elected Governor over the standing Democratic candidate, Daniel Marcy, and the Legislature is overwhelmingly Republican.

Mr. J. R. Jolley has retired from the Attakapas Register and is succeeded by Messrs. J. G. Brookshier and A. E. Woods, both practical printers, whose handwork is visible in the greatly improved appearance of the paper. The Register will maintain a neutral position on political questions and devote increased attention to local matters. We hope the new conductors will meet with ample success in their venture.

One candid Louisiana Democratic paper, referring to the anticipated action of the federal authorities relative to the status quo, says it is waiting to see if President Hayes will go back upon the party and friends to whom he is indebted for his position. That isn't the approved way of putting it, and probably nothing but the journal's obscurity saves it from a severe reprimand dated at party headquarters.

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