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The People's Indicator.

THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE IS THE SUPREME LAW.

Official Organ of the White Citizens of Red River, Sabine, Winn and Natchitoches Parishes.

VOL. IV.

NATCHITOCHE, LA., FEBRUARY 23, 1878.

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A real live Democratic paper. The fact of no change of ring, fire and outspoken and the friend of the Prolet.

J. H. COSCROVE

Editor & Proprietor.

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OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb 9, 1878.

Has any one heard of any one who favors Senator Blaine's adjustable silver bill? The Senator spoke an hour yesterday on the subject, frankly confessing that the measure had no friends, and that he expected no enactment. He did yesterday what he has never done before in Congress—he thinned out the galleries considerably.

It was hoped the Senate would vote on the Blaine bill this week, but that is now about impossible. Too many Senators have said and repeated what they thought or thought they thought on both sides, seems to have believed that the result there is the further evil of postponing legislation on other important subjects. It is said that Mr. Hayes has been late in consultation with the leading silver men and that an attempt is being made to have the advocates of re-monetization agree upon some measure that he will feel compelled to veto.

By the way, the early announcement of Hayes that he would be found "amiably stubborn" on the policy he had decided upon seems, in the light of what has followed, like a huge joke. Except the Southern policy which could not have been reversed after its first adoption, he has not failed to hesitate, vacillate and equivocate upon every subject on which he was announced as having an opinion. With protestations of civil service reform in his mouth, he has selected less responsible men for office than any of his predecessors and has given places to more personal friends than all of them together, and he has not hesitated to use his official influence to dictate the choice of Senators and Representatives from Ohio, and Speakers for the House. All his life a hard money man, and as clearly on record as Mr. Tilden on the subject of re-emption in 1873, he had not been in office three months before he was dickered with the leaders of the anti-re-emption movement. He is amiably-able.

Tom Scott has commenced in earnest his attack upon the Treasury in behalf of the Texas Pacific Railroad. His argument in favor of his own and against a rival line, summarized is this: The Southern line must be a competing line, free from all control by other corporations, and with the regulation of its rates reserved to Congress. That to insure low rates the line must be built at the lowest cost, and that at this time the great advantages of location which his proposed line has are supplemented by the lowest prices ever known for labor or material. He thinks the line could be built for one-fourth the cost of the cost of the existing Pacific Railroad. Aside from the indisposition of Congress to vote any subsidy for any road, Col. Scott has active opposition from other railroad men. His chances do not seem bright.

Yesterday was a day memorable in the history of the country, for then one of the men who fraudulently changed the result of a Presidential election was convicted of his crime. Now comes the turn of Wells, far guiltier than the man just tried, and believed to have had an understanding with prominent Northern Radicals on the subject of the great crime. Wells will be tried in March. It will not be enough to convict and punish these men. The "visiting Statesmen" whose presence at New Orleans at last encouraged the Board, and who were actually present when a majority of eight thousand on one side was made a majority of four thousand on the other side, should be reached. ALBION.

A Sweeping Liquor Bill.

Talk about laws! Neal Dow has prepared a new bill for the Maine Legislature, by which he proposes to wipe out private nips at the demijohn and make people drink water whether they like it or not. The bill is a stunner. It contains twenty-four sections, and makes the sale of liquor a felony, and the penalty for the first offense, single jail, \$100 and six months in the county jail; second offense, \$100 and one year in the State prison; prohibits the transportation of liquor within the State, even for private parties, making parties responsible on whose territory it is found; apparatus for selling to be deemed evidence of sale; takes away all power from county attorneys to enter a nol. pro. in default of parties paying a fine, an additional year in the State prison or jail; officers having seized liquors not to give them up, except by order of the court, the burden of proof to be on the parties claiming the same; the horse and carriage conveying or drawing liquor to be seized; persons arrested as common drunkards to be sent summarily to the county jail for one year, to be let out when the person selling them liquor shall be convicted, no surety received from a person who has been convicted of selling liquor; liquor runners fined \$1,000 and one year in the State prison; a reward of \$20 offered for the arrest and conviction of parties; no stay of proceedings; \$500 fine and six months in the county jail for displaying a sign offering liquor for sale, or advertising the manufacturer. All other liquor laws be repealed.

The above is Republican legislation on Bar Rooms and Liquor Dealers, and we publish it because we hear persons talk of Radical and Democratic taxation, and insist they were as well off under one as they are under the other.

The Moffitt Register in Kentucky.

[From the Courier-Journal.] Gardner, of Magoffin county, last week introduced the resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Finance, relative to the introduction in Kentucky of the Moffitt Liquor Register, which has been established in Virginia with such extraordinary success. The register is made a fixture of every barroom, and every drink is taxed. The revenue thereby derived is very handsome in amount, and in order to get Senator Gardner's ideas about the proposed measure, I called upon him, and the following pertinent conversation ensued:

"When was the register introduced into Virginia, Senator?" I asked. "It was adopted by the act of the Virginia Legislature approved March 20, 1877."

"What was the object of its introduction into that State?" "The raising of a fund to meet the interest on the public debt, and for the general support of the Government."

"How did it strike the people at the start?" "It was laughed at considerably."

"Has it grown to be popular since?" "It has." (Then Senator Gardner produced a letter from a leading merchant of Richmond, Va., indorsing the register.)

"Did the liquor dealers object?" "They were at first bitterly opposed to it, but they are now decidedly in favor of the register, for the reason it compels customers to pay cash for their drinks."

"It then abolishes the salutes of the saloon keepers?" "It does."

"What will be the avowed purpose of the introduction of the register into Kentucky?" "The improvement of the rivers of the Commonwealth."

"What will it net the Treasury?" "I should think about half a million of dollars annually."

"What are the profits in Virginia?" "About four hundred thousand dollars every year."

"Which has the more saloons, Virginia or Kentucky?" "Kentucky. We have, as near as I can remember, about four thousand."

"Who will collect the tax if the register is introduced?" "The Sheriff's. The general arrangement will, I suppose, be made by the Auditor."

"What will be the tax schedule?" "The same as in Virginia. For less than half a pint of alcoholic spirits, 25 cents; for a pint, 25 cents, and according to their ratio for the amount ordered. For malt liquors, 1 cent for less than a pint, 4 cent for a pint, and so on."

"What will these registers cost?" "About \$10 each."

"Has it been established in any other State than Virginia?" "Not that I know of. They are talking about it in Iowa and Tennessee I am informed."

"What do the temperance people say?" "So far as I know they are opposed to it. They say the greater the tax the stronger the legality of the whiskey traffic, and the harder it is for the temperance folks to conduct the work of reformation. This is Gen. Green Clay Smith's idea."

"Do the river improvement advocates think well of the measure?" "They are favorable so far as I know from personal conversation with Judge Craddock and others. For my own part, I am anxious the register should be adopted, whether or not the river-improvement bills are carried."

"If both the river improvement scheme and the register are adopted, what then?" "My idea is that the State appropriate the two hundred thousand dollars asked by the river improvement people, and work be commenced. By the time that amount is exhausted the register fund will have accumulated, and the further prosecution of the work of internal improvement may be pushed by means of the register."

"You are preparing the bill?" "I am, and will have it ready for reference to the Committee on Finance within a few days."

"Will it pass the Senate?" "I think so."

Senator Gardner is one of the most industrious members of the Senate, and is enthusiastic in the advocacy of the register. The adoption of this mode of raising revenue would not tend to interfere with the liquor trade, and would certainly redound greatly to the prosperity of the State.

It is useless, we suppose to ask of our legislature the passage of this law. They have the habit firmly fixed of doing as they please, and that "please" is very generally against the demands of their constituents. However, should this become a law, it would save a large taxation from real estate, and lessen its great burdens.

The long-armed woman is the present envy of society. She can wear a longer kid glove with more buttons.

They call red-headed girls "raging blondes" in San Francisco.

A New Political Party.

[N. O. Democrat.]

The managers of the Louisiana Lottery Company and their henchmen are endeavoring to ward off the force of the blow we struck that monopoly Wednesday morning by representing that Dave C. Johnson was not sentenced to imprisonment on the charge of violating the infamous acts Nos. 9 and 10 of 1874, but because he disobeyed an injunction of the United States Circuit Court. If we were trying this case upon legal technicalities, we do not deny that this defense of the lottery against our charge would prove a very formidable one. But we are not doing that. We are prosecuting the infamous lottery monopoly broader grounds; we are presenting it upon the great fundamental principles which underlie evil government. Johnson was imprisoned, it is true, for violating an injunction of the court and not directly for trespassing upon the sacred franchises of the Louisiana Lottery Company. But the injunction for the violation of which he, a free citizen of Louisiana, was imprisoned, was issued to restrain him from doing that which was no offense what ever until a corrupt Legislature, bought up by the Lottery Company, in the interest of that company, transformed it into a crime and deprived the perpetrators of it of the inalienable right of trial by jury, and the benefit of the most common and just rule of evidence. Our charge, therefore, stands good, literally and in every sense of the word. A great crime was committed in the imprisonment of this man Johnson under the authority of an enactment of a Legislature of this State which the present House of Representatives refused to repeal.

Had the Legislature, elected by the people of Louisiana in their great struggle for emancipation from the thralldom of Radicalism and for the re-establishment of constitutional government, repealed the rotten charter of the Louisiana Lottery or primary school for gamblers, or the damnable laws enacted to increase and protect the franchises of that immoral and debasing institution, we hold that this man would not have been deprived of his liberty. We were, therefore, substantially correct. Perhaps the case is even worse than we first represented it, and the country is invited to contemplate the spectacle of a Federal court called upon to issue a writ of injunction and to imprison an American citizen on the strength of laws of Louisiana, enacted, not for the protection of society and the repression of crime, but for the benefit of a gambling monopoly and the upholding of practices which, in every civilized country, are outlawed and stigmatized as disgraceful and debasing. In justice to the Lottery Company we have made this correction of our article of Wednesday, and the company is welcome to whatever benefit it may derive from it.

But it is not only because this monopoly has been able to have a citizen of the State cast into prison at its own sweet will that we have opened war upon it. The Lottery Company is a constant menace to the best interests of the State. It exists in contravention of the plainest principles of morality; public sentiment naturally antagonizes it, and it necessarily antagonizes, in self defense, naturally, and things it can have no politics and will always cast its weight which will offer its henchmen on the side which will offer it protection. When Radicalism was in the flush of power the Louisiana Lottery was a generous contributor to its support. When the power of that company was evidently on the wane the Lottery became wonderfully Democratic to that cause. How does it stand now? It actually threatens to organize a Louisiana Lottery party in the State. It has combined with other monopolies and with rings of speculators to maintain their own corrupt existence. This combination constitutes the nucleus of the Lottery party. All the corrupt, weak and purchasable elements in the leadership of the Democratic party have been or are being bought up, and a large following has been gathered in from the Radical party. This combination is sordidly arrayed against a constitutional convention. Far be it from us to say that all who oppose the convention are parties to this disreputable combination. We know that there are many good and patriotic men who oppose the convention. But it is none the less true that the force and strength of the opposition is in this sordid combination. Yesterday the agents of this new party, composed of rings and monopolies, untrue Democrats and corrupt Radicals, were busy "fixing" the Republican members of the Legislature. During several hours of the day Radical members were seen in gangs of two and three going into a certain room in the State House, adjoining the hall of the House of Representatives, to confer with a notorious agent and henchman of the Lottery Company. A short time after these significant visitations were ended a prominent Radical remarked, that the convention was now surely dead, as every Republican member of the House would vote for the amendments and against the convention.

The secret of this is that the new party has but one end in view—the preservation of the so-called vested rights of the monopolies and rings. It will accept any and all amendments so long as there is no effort to repeal their charters or disturb the power of the monopolies.

The theory of the leaders of this new party, organized against the people, is that if these charters and franchises are undisturbed they can soon control the politics of the State under any sort of a patched up constitution that may be devised. They are willing to retrench on every hand to please the people; they are ready to abolish schools to conciliate public opinion; they will go for cut

ting down any salary or expense, or for increasing any that will captivate the public fancy and reconcile public opinion to their own pernicious existence.

No system of reform, therefore, is complete, that does not destroy a combination of monstrosities in one political system which is actually today stronger than the Legislature, and which may, when it suits its interest, relegate the State to the control of Radicalism.

History.

Let every patriot who reads the INDICATOR put the following list of votes carefully away that he may know the TRUE MEN in this State from the false:

The debate yesterday upon the constitutional amendments was long and earnest, consuming the greater part of the day's session. Those favoring the amendments had but little to say, leaving the speech-making to the convention men in the main. That question came up on the motion of Mr. Kidd to strike out the enacting clause, which, had it been carried, would have defeated the amendments.

After the close of the debate Judge Lyons moved to lay Mr. Kidd's motion on the table. Upon this the eyes and noses were taken, those voting "aye" being, presumably, favorable to the amendments, and those voting "no" in favor of a convention. The vote, however, was not regarded as a test vote, but we give it in detail in order that the public may know how the members stand:

Yeas—Messrs. Buth, Aldige, Aycock, Barron, Barrett, Berry, Bell, Beard, Briggs, Billien, Brooks, Bowden, Brown, Bosley, Buck, Burton, Carless, Carville, Cressy, Conno, Cole, Davidson, D'Avy, Dayries, Dejeio, De Laey, Dejeio, Dickerson, Dinkgrave, Drury, Fobb, Gant, Gary, Gaskins, Gaudet, Grecien, Hill of Ascension, Hill of Orleans, Holt, Jones, Holt, Jones, H. M. Johnson, Kelly of Orleans, Keating, Kern, Leels, Lewis, Lyons, Magloire, Millon, McGehee, Newsum, Nazez, Peralt, Porter, Ryland, Randolph, Romero, Kinton, Ryland, Shakspeare, Smart, Sauer, Self, Sell, Sellers, Stewart, Simmes, Souer, Taylor, Tremoulet, Tolliver, Voorhies, Walker, Warmoth, Washburn, Washington, Watson, Wilde, Wood, Young of Claiborne, and Young of East Baton Rouge—83.

Nays—Messrs. Brice, Bridger, DeLavigne, Duke, Dupree, Estopinal, Fitzpatrick, Forrester, Gillespie, Holm, Hammond, Kelly of Winn, Kidd, Lamare, Lea, Leonard, Leonard, Martin, Means, Pitts, Rolle, Steele, Singleton, Spiller, Toler, Vance and Wise—27.

Not voting—Messrs. Brady, Desmarais, Drew, Durgan, Huntington, Kennedy, McMillen, Stagg and Williams—8.

Those who voted "no" are for the people—while those who voted "aye," are for themselves.

The following is the BLAND silver bill in the shape in which the Senate is discussing it. The portion of it in brackets is the concluding clause of the House bill stricken out by the Senate Finance Committee, and the portion in parenthesis is was the Senate committee added in place of the sentence stricken out:

"An Act to authorize the free coinage of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal tender character. "Be it enacted, &c., That there shall be coined, at the several mints of the United States, silver dollars of the weight of four hundred and twelve and a half grains Troy of standard silver, as provided in the act of January eighteenth eighteen hundred and thirty seven, on which shall be the devices and superscriptions provided by said act; which coins, together with all silver dollars heretofore coined by the United States of like weight and fineness, shall be a legal tender, at their nominal value, for all debts and dues, public and private, except when otherwise provided by contract; [and any owner of silver bullion may deposit the same at any United States coinage mint or assay office, to be coined into such dollars, for his benefit, upon the same terms and conditions as gold bullion is deposited for coinage under existing laws.] (And the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to purchase, from time to time, silver bullion at the market price thereof, not less than two millions dollars per month, nor more than four million dollars per month, and cause the same to be coined into such dollars. And any gain or seigniorage arising from this coinage shall be accounted for and paid into the Treasury, as provided under existing laws relative to the subsidiary coinage; provided, that the amount of money at any one time invested in such silver bullion, exclusive of such resulting coin, shall not exceed five million dollars.)"

Female Society. "You know my opinion of female society," said John Randolph. "Without it we should degenerate into brutes." This observation applies with tenfold force to young men and those who are in the prime of manhood. For, after a certain time of life, the literary man may make a shift (a poor one, I grant) to do without the society of ladies. To a young man nothing is so important as a spirit of devotion, next to the Creator, to some amiable woman, whose image may occupy his heart and guard it from pollution, which besets it on all sides. A man ought to choose his wife, as Mrs. Pinrose did her wedding gown, for qualities that "wear well." One thing at least is true, that if matrimony has its cares, celibacy has no pleasures. A Newton or a mere scholar may find employment in study; a man of literary taste can receive in books a powerful auxiliary; but a man must have a bosom friend and an children around him to cherish and support the dearerest of old age.