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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., SEPTEMBER 7, 1878.

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The People's Indicator. A real live Democratic paper. The tool of no clique or ring. Published Every SATURDAY Morn...

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Wm. M. Levy, DANIEL C. SCARBOROUGH, LEY & SCARBOROUGH, ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

J. H. CUNNINGHAM, Attorney & Counsellor at Law, St. Denis Street, Natchitoches, La.

JOHN B. ROBERTSON, (Late of New Orleans.) ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR AT LAW COUSHATTA, RED RIVER PARISH, LOUISIANA.

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MY SISTER.

Who was it climbed the tallest tree, And tore her frock and grazed her knees...

Who was it stole the lemon pie, Hid on the pantry shelf so high, And gave me half upon the sly?

Who was it in the mill pond fell, And lost her rattle in the well, And cried for fear that I should tell?

And who a lass long dresses wore, And had of beaux a half a score, And voted boys a perfect bore?

Who coaxed me once to go to bed, Because she had an aching head, And then sat up with Cousin Fred?

Who sews the buttons on my clothes, And with me to the opera goes, And then neglects me for the beaux?

Who soils me when I swear, And does a nobby pull-back wear, All pleated, looped and padded with care?

Who brushes, dusts and damps my clothes, And has my little failings knows, And kisses me before her beaux?

And who, with all her crimps and curls, All silks and velvets, rings and pearls, Is just the jolliest of girls?

NEGROES IN THE CONFEDERACY. An Interesting Letter of Robert E. Lee Brought to Light—He Favored Arming the Negroes and Emancipating the Whole Race.

A Richmond correspondent of the Philadelphia Times sends that paper the following certified copy of a letter from Gen. Lee:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY NORTHERN VA., January 11, 1865.

Hon. Andrew Hunter: I have received your letter of the seventh instant, and without confining myself to the order of your interrogatories, will endeavor to answer them by a statement of my views on the subject.

I shall be most happy if I can contribute to the solution of a question in which I feel an interest commensurate with my desire for the welfare and happiness of our people.

Considering the relation of master and slave controlled by human laws and influenced by Christianity and an enlightened public sentiment, as the best that can exist between the white and black races, while intermingled as at present in this country, I would deprecate any sudden disturbance of that relation, unless it be necessary to avert a greater calamity to both.

I should, therefore, prefer to rely on our white population to preserve the ratio between our forces and that of the enemy, which experience has shown to be safe.

But in view of the preparations of our enemies, it is our duty to prepare for continued war, and not for a battle or a campaign; and on I fear we cannot accomplish this without overtaxing the capacity of our white population.

Should the war continue under existing circumstances, the enemy may in course of time penetrate our country, and get access to a large part of our white population.

It is his avowed policy to convert the able-bodied men among them into soldiers, and emancipate all. The success of the Federal arms in the South was followed by a proclamation from President Lincoln for 250,000 men, the effect of which will be to stimulate the Northern States to procure as substitutes for their own people the negroes thus brought within their reach.

Many have already been obtained in Virginia, and should the fortunes of war expose more of her territory, the enemy will gain a large accession of strength. His progress will thus add to his numbers, and at the same time destroy slavery in a manner most pernicious to the welfare of our people.

Their negroes will be used to hold them in subjection, leaving the remaining forces free to extend his conquest.

Whatever may be the effect of our employing negro troops it cannot be as mischievous as this. If it end in subverting slavery it will be accomplished by ourselves, and we can devise the means of alleviating the evil consequences to both races. I think, therefore, we must decide whether slavery shall be extinguished by our enemies, and the slaves be used against us, or use them ourselves at the risk of the effects which may be produced upon our social institutions.

My own opinion is that we should employ them without delay. I believe that with proper regulations they can be made effective soldiers. They possess the physical qualifications in an eminent degree. Long habits of obedience and subordination, coupled with that moral influence which in our country the white man possesses over the black, furnish the best foundation for that discipline, which is the surest guarantee of military efficiency. Our chief aim should be to secure their fidelity. There have been formidable armies composed of men having no interests in the country for which they fought, beyond their pay or the hope of plunder.

But it is certain that the best foundation upon which the fidelity of an army can rest, especially in a service which imposes peculiar hardships and privations, is the personal interest of the soldier in the issue of the contest. Such an interest we can give our negroes by granting immediately freedom to all who enlist, and

freedom at the end of the war to the families of those who discharge their duties faithfully (whether they survive or not), together with the privilege of residing in the South.

To this might be added a bounty for faithful service. We should not expect slaves to fight for prospective freedom when they can secure it at once by going to the enemy, in whose service they will incur no greater risk than in ours.

The reasons that induce me to recommend the employment of negro troops at all render the effect of the measures I have suggested upon slavery immaterial, and in my opinion the best means of securing the efficiency and fidelity of this auxiliary force would be to accompany the measure with a well digested plan of gradual and general emancipation. As that will be the result of a continuance of the war, and will certainly occur if the enemy succeed, it seems to me most advisable to adopt it at once, and thereby obtain all the benefits that will accrue to our cause.

The employment of negro troops, under regulations similar to those indicated, would, in my opinion, greatly increase our military strength, and enable us to relieve our white population to some extent. I think we could dispense with the reserve forces, except in cases of emergency. It would disappoint the hopes which our enemies have, upon our exhaustion; deprive them in a great measure of the aid they now derive from black troops, and thus throw the burden of the war upon their own people.

In addition to the great political advantages that would result to our cause from the adoption of a system of emancipation, it would exercise a salutary influence upon our negro population, by rendering more secure the fidelity of those who became soldiers, and diminishing the inducements to the rest to abscond.

I can only say in conclusion, that whatever measures are to be adopted, should be adopted at once. Every day's delay increases the difficulty. Much time will be required to organize and discipline the men; and action may be deferred till it is too late.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, R. E. LEE, General.

A true copy. J. B. W.

THE LOUISIANA BARGAIN.

How the White League Adjutant-General Got a Definite Answer from Hayes.

[N. Y. Sun.] Washington, Aug. 18.—A statement is telegraphed from here to-night, said to be on the very best authority, which furnishes some facts regarding Mr. Hayes's intentions in appointing the Louisiana Commission. It will be remembered that the Louisiana delegation in Congress became impatient over the delay by Hayes to carry out the bargain made by his friends at the Wormley Conference, in the matter of recognizing the Nicholls Government. The Democrats in Louisiana were getting so impatient that they could with difficulty be restrained from using force to oust Packard. The story goes that when the organization of a commission was made known, George W. Dupre, Adjutant-General of the Louisiana White League, telegraphed as follows to a gentleman in Washington: "Go and see Hayes, and get from him, definitely, the mission of the Commission." To this dispatch an answer was sent, asking: "What do you mean?" Dupre replied: "I want to know, by authority what the Commission is to accomplish." On receipt of this, the gentleman to whom it was sent made a visit to the White House, and had an interview with some one, upon which he based the following telegram: Geo. W. Dupre, New Orleans, La.: The Commission will be organized to accomplish by diplomacy that which otherwise would require force. I have authority to state this much.

The gentleman did not see Hayes but saw some one who spoke for him. Dupre replied that this would not do; that he wanted to see Hayes at night information from Hayes that the mission of the Commission would be to establish Nicholls. If such word was not communicated the White League proposed to take the State House, then in possession of Packard. A second call was made to the White House and this last telegram shown to Hayes. For twenty minutes Hayes made no indication of what response he would make. The gentleman who called invited Hayes's attention to the fact that it was then 9 o'clock, and that Dupre signed himself Adjutant-General of the White League. Exactly what Hayes said is not known, but the following telegram was sent to Dupre: I have authority to say that the object of the Louisiana Commission will be to establish the Nicholls Government.

This was satisfactory, and every one knows the result was as telegraphed at the last moment to the Adjutant-General of the White League.

A newly married man who evidently need discipline, thus discourses:—A woman is a handy thing about the house. She does not cost any more to keep than you'll give her, and she'll take a great interest in you. If you go out at night she'll be awake when you get home, and she'll tell you all about yourself, and more too, of course she will know where you've been, and what kept you out so late, and will tell you. Yet right after she gets through telling you that she will ask you where you have been and what kept you so late. And after you tell her and she won't believe you, you must mind that; and after going to bed, she says she hasn't closed her eyes the whole night, and then keep up the mattress two hours longer and she won't sleep when she has a chance, you must mind that either; it's her nature.

North Louisiana and its Natural Resources.

[Richard Beason.] In looking over the columns of different papers, I often see articles of praise of the soil and productions of the Western States, setting forth many and great advantages in opposition to Southern emigration. When in truth there can be no comparison drawn between the fertility of the soil of the West and the South, as the South is infinitely superior. And if emigrants could be impressed with these facts, the tide of emigration would and must turn to the south. We will take North Louisiana, where I have been a sojourner for a few years, and have been an impartial and close observer of things, and having no interest at stake, am able and will give an honest and fair statement of the facts as they actually exist. In North Louisiana there are high lands and low lands, or what is called hill land and flat land; and these lands are cheap, according to quality, and the fertility of the soil is indisputable, and its productiveness is almost fabulous. Under a higher grade of good culture, it would yield beyond the calculation of those who cultivate the soil under the present system of culture, and far beyond the belief of those unacquainted with the nature and productiveness of the soil. A good farmer and cropper can raise two crops of Irish potatoes and two of corn the same year. There is no better land for oats than this. Sow it in season and you can cut it in time to sow down in stock pens, from which you can harvest from twenty to twenty-five bushels to the acre, making two valuable crops from the same land the same year, which can be done in no Western State. Buckwheat is a good crop sown in the woods at the right season. Rice is a good crop when put in right. Wheat does well under proper culture and sowed at the right season will produce from thirty to thirty-five bushels to the acre, and when cut the land can be sown down in peas for stock pasture. Rice is a prolific crop, and tobacco is a good paying crop. Sugar cane does well, and every man can make his own molasses. Blue and orchard grass do well; clover sowed in the woods does well. And as to fruit, there is no better peach country than this. Apples do well, and under proper culture and pruning, would do better than in any of the Northern or Western States. The fig is an abundant crop; the grape is prolific; and what can the heart of man desire that is not produced here? A country like this, with a good working emigration, and a good industrial class of farmers and mechanics, could be made a seeming paradise. Land is cheap, and improved from six to sixteen per acre. All that is wanted to make this a truly happy country is a good farming and mechanical emigration to come and settle in this section of country.

And now a word to emigrants, turn your attention to North Louisiana, where land is cheap; where you can do better, live better, and make more money than in any other part of the Union, where the citizens are kind, generous and hospitable, and would receive all good new comers with the right hand of fellowship.

A. SOJOURNER. Among Our Exchanges. Newspaper Patronage. There appears to be many different ways of understanding the true meaning of newspaper patronage, as it is called, and as an interested party, we give place to a disquisition on the subject by one who knows whereof he speaks. It will serve, perhaps, as a mirror where certain persons may see themselves as others see them.

Many long and weary years have forced the conviction upon us that newspaper patronage is a word of many definitions, and that a great majority of mankind are either ignorant of the correct definition or are dishonest in a strict biblical sense of the word. Newspaper patronage is composed of as many colors as a rainbow, and is as changeable as a chameleon.

One man comes in and subscribes for a paper and pays for it in advance, and goes home and reads it with the proud satisfaction that it is his. He hands in his advertisement, asks the price, pays for it, and goes to his place of business and reaps the advantage thereof. Another man says you may put my name on your books, and goes off without saying a word about pay. Time passes on, and you want money, and want him to pay you what is honestly due you. He falls into a passion, perhaps pays, perhaps not, and orders his paper stopped. This is called newspaper patronage.

Another man brings in a fifty-cent advertisement and wants a two-dollar notice given it, and if you refuse, he goes off mad. And this is newspaper patronage.

Another man lives near you—he does not take the paper—he does not like the editor—the paper is too small for him—yet he goes regular to the neighbor and borrows it, and quarrels with the opinions of the editor. Occasionally he sees an article he likes; he begs or gives half a dime for the number. This is called newspaper patronage.

Another man likes the paper and takes a copy for his family, and pays for it, and does all he can to get new subscribers; he never gumbles, but always has a cheerful word for the editor. If any little item of interest occurs in the neighborhood, he informs the editor. This is newspaper patronage.

Another man has a patent and wants you to give it a two-dollar notice every week; it will be of interest to your readers, he says; but although knowing it would benefit most of all, he does not offer to pay for it. This is called newspaper patronage.

Another man has taken the paper for several years, but has not paid for it, and comes in with a four or five dollar advertisement, and asks you to insert it for nothing, because he is an old patron of yours. This is called newspaper patronage.

Another man—"a young man about town," no use of taking a paper, he knows all there is going on. By and by he gets married, and hands in a notice with "just give a dozen copies." He gets them; and when you mention pay, looks surprised—"you surely don't charge for such a thing!" And this is called newspaper patronage.

Now isn't newspaper patronage a curious thing? And in that great day when the gentlemen in black gets his dues, as he surely will, how many of the patrons enumerated above will fall to his share? Now it will be seen that while certain kinds of patronage are the very life and existence of a newspaper, there are other kinds of patronage that are now more destructive than the deadly night shade.—Ex.

New Orleans in 1853.

N. O. Picayune. According to the United States census the population of New Orleans in 1850 was 120,747, which in 1853 had increased to 154,132. The last preceding epidemic was in 1847, from which date to 1853 the increase in population was about 45,500, besides an estimated floating or transient population of about 5000, giving an unincorporated population of nearly 50,500. The total population susceptible of yellow fever was then estimated at 60,000, counting those who had escaped in 1847, though liable. During the summer of 1853, according to such records as could be obtained and the opinions of experienced citizens, about 36,000 people left the city, reducing the population then here to about 125,000.

The monthly returns from all of the cemeteries of interments in that year were in January 518, February 487, March 508, April 510, May 676, June 668, July 2132, August 6286, September 1021, October 700, November 747, December 759. Total 15,572. Of these burials 7063 were within city limits.

The total mortality in 1853 was 15,633, of which 7249 were from yellow fever. The deaths from this disease were 1 in January, 2 in May, 31 in June, 1521 in July, 5133 in August, 982 in September, 147 in October, 26 in November and 4 in December. Of the victims, 5293 were white males, 2475 white females. Their ages were under one month 7, under one year 90, under 5 years 197, from ten to twenty years 1598, from twenty to thirty 3910, from thirty to forty 1238, from forty to fifty 436, from fifty to sixty 180, from sixty to seventy 54, from seventy to eighty 15, from eighty to ninety 3; not stated 525. Eighty seven were born in New Orleans, 28 in Gulf States, 54 in North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland, 63 in North-western States, 7 in British America, 122 in Great Britain, 1842 in Ireland, 1200 in Germany, 271 in France, 48 in Holland, 84 in Austria, Poland, Prussia and Denmark, 46 in Spain. The total deaths of natives of Ireland from all diseases were 2367, and of natives of Germany 1593.

The deaths from cholera in 1853 were 585. From various epidemic fevers the deaths were 589, from consumption 765, from various nervous diseases 1161, from sunstroke 21, suicide 14. The deaths of children under five years of age were 3250.

The total number of cases of yellow fever at the Charity Hospital in 1853 was 3312 with 1890 deaths. The Howard Association had charge of 9353 cases, 2232 deaths. At the Maison de Sante 338 cases, 97 deaths. At the Luzenberg Hospital 150 cases, 79 deaths. At the four Board of Health and Howard Infirmeries 2016 cases, 1032 deaths. In the City Workhouse there were 89 cases, 14 deaths. City Prison 30 cases, 5 deaths. At the Boys' Orphan Asylum 50 cases, 2 deaths. At the Camp Street Female Orphan Asylum 81 cases, 4 deaths. At the Poydras Asylum 50 cases, 9 deaths. At the Circus street Infirmary (estimated) 300 cases, 100 deaths.

The cases in the private practice numbered 9531, deaths 1691. Total cases recorded in the report of the commission 29,020; total deaths 8101, or 27.91 per cent. or at the rate of 100 deaths to 358 cases.

Cure for Yellow Fever. Cincinnati Enquirer. A correspondent sends us the following cure for yellow fever, which he says, was published by the Bohemian savant, Edward Preis, a circumnavigator of the globe: Envelop in strong quart bottle (best champagne bottle) with a paper so as to exclude all light. Take chlorate of potash one drachm and put into the bottle, pour over it martelline brandy one fluid ounce; cork well and shake for five minutes; add one ounce of water and shake five minutes and then another ounce of water, and again shake five minutes. Pour the fluid quickly into a six-ounce bottle which was before already enveloped in paper, and fill with water; cork well and keep in a dark place. The mixture is of a green color; when exposed to light it becomes decomposed, changes its color from green to white, and is useless.

Effects of the Ingredients.—Chlorate of potash is a deadly enemy of vegetable life; and prevents the formation of fungi in the blood, or decomposes them where they already exist. Martelline acid promotes perspiration.

Direction for Use.—As a preventive take three times a day one-half of a tablespoonful in half a tumbler of water. As a cure, take every two hours one-half a tablespoonful in a half tumbler of water till perspiration commences. To prevent a relapse, take for three weeks as directed for a preventive.

Black vomit in yellow fever? Take creosote, one drachm; water, one ounce; mix and cork well. Directions for use: Take the first dose one teaspoonful of the creosote preparation in half a tumbler of water, and the following hour one-half of a tablespoonful in half a tumbler of water of the chlorate preparation, and continue so alternately every hour until the vomit ceases.

THE PATRIOT. Meeting of the Republican State Central Committee. [N. O. Democrat.] The Republican State Central Committee will meet at Turner's Hall at 12 o'clock to-day. Contrary to expectation the country will be fairly represented there being between forty and fifty delegates from the country parishes already in the city. The meeting will be a stormy one and will be held with closed doors.

There are several matters of interest to be considered, and among the most important questions to be decided are: 1. What stand as regards nominations will the party take in the coming campaign; and 2. How shall the independent movement of the colored men be stopped, and the organization broken up, there can be no doubt that if any decision is reached at all, it will be to CONTEST EACH ONE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS.

And if an acceptable man is put up by some of the northern factions of the Democratic party, against Major E. A. Burke, the Democratic nominee for State Treasurer, to support him. In this connection it may be stated that N. O. Kenyon is spoken of as a probable candidate against Major Burke, and that while the Republicans do not propose to nominate him (or any other man) themselves, they look for his nomination by the National or some other faction, and if he is nominated the leaders will urge their fellows to vote for him.

As to the congressional districts, Tom Anderson is figuring for the nomination from the Sixth, and will probably get it; Albert Leonard, the present United States District Attorney, will undoubtedly be nominated for the Fourth, and in the Third Judge Taylor Beattie will be endorsed and supported, unless Darrell succeeds in convincing the leaders in the district that he is the stronger man, and thus secures a nomination.

The second question, regarding the independent movement, is the one which will start the disturbance in the meeting. The grievances and complaints of the independentists will be presented by their representatives in the committee, and some action will be insisted upon. The independentists lose an able supporter in A. Dumont, chairman of the committee, who is ill, it is said, of yellow fever.

Ever since work stopped on the Washington monument a score of years ago, a stout rope has hung down over the shaft inside the dome of the derick at the top, and on Monday it became a question how to reach the top and make a good connection for hoisting up the necessary tackle. After testing the old and weather-worn rope, a rigger volunteered to climb up, carrying a new one up with him. Up he went and reeling the top rope in safety, waved his hat and then the top rope down. The surplus rope on the ground was in a pile, and the old rope on striking the ground fell into a thousand pieces. It was found to be completely rotten through, and crumbled to small pieces on being handled. The wonder is that it sustained its own weight, much less that of the venturous rigger and his load of rope.

HAS BARUS BEATEN GOLDMATH MAUI'S TRICK? We are inundated with questions concerning the heat which Barus trotted in 2:13 last Saturday at Buffalo, and, owing to the importance of the subject, we make one consolidated answer, and transfer it to our editorial columns. Section 2, Rule 60 of the National Trotting Association provides that in all matches against time the horse shall be allowed three trials, unless expressly stipulated to the contrary. The report shows that Barus trotted the first heat in 2:17, the second in 2:50 and after taking the word for the third, and going as far as the turn, was pulled up and brought back. After a short rest he was allowed a fourth trial, which he trotted in 2:13. When Barus received the word "go" in the third attempt, that heat was thereby started, and his voluntary abandonment of it was at his own risk. We decide that the judgment was wrong in allowing him a fourth trial, but that the race was finished when the horse was withdrawn from the track, and that the purse and pools have been rightfully awarded to Barus and his backers, and the time, 2:13, made in the extra-penalty heat, does not constitute a record. The fourth heat was merely an exhibition, and in no case can it govern wages on the time or work of the original purse.—Spirit of the Times.

Mr. Higglider went home the other night considerably intoxicated and afflicted with double vision. He had five or six times with his sleep he gazed riveted on Mrs. Higglider, and then remarked: "Well, (he) I hope to make it, you two gals don't look any better to be (he) twins."—Unknown Ex.

A young lady, at an evening party, some time ago, found it awkward to use the expression, "Jordan is a hard road to travel." But thinking it too vulgar, substituted the following: "Recommending progression in pedestrian exertion, I have the far famed 'Thoughtful of Jordan' cast up by the hands of the sparkling river of Palestine, is indeed attended with a heterogeneous conglomeration of unforeseen difficulties."

A city young lady visiting a bridgeport on having witnessed the pedestrian feats of Miss "You Willow," started on the other evening to walk four miles in an hour. After proceeding a quarter of a mile she said a word to the coach, and with a scream of affright turned around and returned home again. The best time was made in going home.

Woman.—The fastest work in creation