

THE WEEKLY COMET.

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The Weekly Comet

GEO. A. PIKE, Editor.

THE MEETING ON MONDAY NIGHT.

—On Monday night a large number of citizens met at the Court House pursuant to a call through the daily papers. The meeting organized by calling A. Waddill, Esqr., to the chair and appointing Col. H. M. Pierce Secretary. Col. R. G. Beale was then called for and briefly stated the object of the meeting—said that the object of the meeting was to give expression of public opinion in reference to the Senator from this district who pretends to represent this people in that body. James M. Elam, Esqr., moved that a committee be appointed to draft resolutions. Col. R. G. Beale, J. M. Elam, G. H. Mann, T. W. Bird, Capt. D. Searles, H. W. Sherburn, S. S. Hall, Seth David and Jos. Monget were appointed.

Mr. P. Winfree was called for and addressed the meeting, said that he opposed Mr. Lacey—Mr. Lacey he believed, Mr. Lacey misrepresents this district—that he is famous for dodging, but could not dodge the devil—said that Mr. Lacey opposed a reconsideration of the vote on the Penitentiary and this too, when a written proposition was before the Senate, from a responsible gentleman—Mr. Wm. Pratt, to give \$12,000 per annum for a term of five years, whereas the State is only receiving \$4,000 rent from the establishment. Maj. A. M. Dunn made a few eloquent remarks. The committee returned with their report of resolutions as follows, which were adopted:

The committee presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

1st—Resolved, That by permanent removal of G. S. Lacey from this senatorial district, his seat in the Senate was *ipso facto* vacated, and that he has no legal right to represent this District in that body.

2nd—Resolved, That his assuming to hold a seat in the Senate, is offensive to his former constituency, and he is notified to vacate the same, so that the place which he usurps may be filled by some gentleman, whose ears may find some music in the voice of the people.

3rd—Resolved, That in voting for the release of the Penitentiary, he knowingly, willfully, and corruptly, violated the wishes of the people, whom he pretends to represent.

4th—Resolved, That said Geo. S. Lacey is unworthy of the position which he now occupies, and has shamefully betrayed the trust reposed in him.

5th—Resolved, That should said Lacey refuse to resign, then we request the president of this meeting to memorialize the Senate to take the proper steps to relieve us from the misrepresentations of an usurper who has the effrontery to betray our confidence, and impudently express his disregard for our wishes, and that he put the Senate in possession of the evidence of his permanent removal from this District, and of his misrepresentation of the people.

R. G. BEALE,
J. M. ELAM,
G. H. MANN,
T. W. BIRD,
D. SEARLES,
H. W. SHERBURN,
S. S. HALL,
SETH DAVID,
J. MONGET.

A resolution was offered at the citizens of the Parish of Livingston be requested to co-operate on the subject of this meeting.

A resolution prevailed that "this meeting tender the Hon. Mark Boatner its grateful acknowledgements for the able manner in which he advocated in the Senate the interests of humanity and sound policy.

Mr. Winfree offered—that the New Orleans papers be requested to copy the proceedings with the view of letting Mr. Lacey's expected constituency know how he misrepresents his former constituents and what they think of him.

On motion of Maj. A. M. Dunn—Resolved, That this meeting return

their thanks to Mr. Wm. Pratt, for the timely, candid and judicious manner in which he supported the views previously expressed by the people of East Baton Rouge, by making the magnanimous offer which he did today, to take the penitentiary at three times the present amount of its lease.

On motion of J. M. Musselman Esqr. a committee of three was appointed to wait on the Hon. G. S. Lacey, and present him a copy of the resolutions adopted, J. M. Musselman, Emile Droz, and Robert Benton, were appointed. Mr. Elam was called for and made a few remarks, Mr. Benton did the same and so did Mr. Duncanson. S. S. Hall was then called for—Mr. Hall spoke of the penitentiary—was opposed to re-leasing it, on moral grounds. Col. Beale then rose and said he did not desire or intend to make a speech; he rose to put himself right. He had not attended any meeting to discuss the leasing of the Penitentiary. He did not attend this meeting for that purpose. He came here simply to declare that in retaining his seat in the Senate, Mr. Lacey had violated the *letter and spirit* of that Constitution which he had sworn to support.

Resolved, That the Baton Rouge papers be requested to publish the proceedings.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

The following communication was received at this office eleven minutes past eleven, yesterday morning:

Comet:—Sir, I wish you would do me the favor to send me some of your old exchanges that you have no use for. I am very lonely at night, and have nothing to interest me, except reading—and I have read over every thing I have, several times—anything will do that has printing on it, so it is in my language, *the Anglo clay grit*.

In compliance with your request Mr. Blank, we send you a small bundle of (no doubt) interesting exchanges, of old as well as new date. If you do not find something to interest you, let us know it. They are of all shades of politics and religion—lies confuted and refuted with lies—personal and public interest—patriotism from parties devoid of it, and treasonable views from parties who look not that way.—You will find in them, what people want and what they don't want—you may see who died o' Wednesday—who is to be buried to-day—and who was yoked in the matrimonial harness last night—you will find lawyers and doctors, "quack" and genuine, on the same dead level of equality—good medicines for man and beast, mixed in with the advice of humbugs to "be ware of base counterfeits." What is it that does not find its way into the newspaper? It is a whole universe in a nut-shell.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NOT SETTLED.—In Tuscany the Dominican friars repudiate the doctrine, and the Monks of St. Marino have been summoned before the Archbishop of Florence for contempt of the Pope's authority. In France it said opposition to the new Dogma is manifested.

The following story is going the rounds of the papers:

Rev. M. Yates, late President of a college at Lebanon, Illinois, disappeared a few weeks since most mysteriously. Previous to his departure, he wrote a letter to a friend, requesting that no search should be made for him, as he had become disgusted with his life, and was determined on destroying himself by drowning. Recent developments, however, seem to indicate that his disappearance is even more suicidal in its character than at first supposed. A woman is in the case.

DIFFICULTIES.—The most difficult of all the difficult things, is to be understood. If it is admitted to be difficult in conversation to let others know what we know; how much more difficult is it to be understood on paper, where our thoughts have to depend on a few irregular characters "up strokes and down" for expression? So hard have we labored in the chair editorial to be understood, and so limited has been our success that we often think to turn over the inkstand and throw down the pen in despair.

A communication in yesterday's Gazette, signed "Lobby," has had the effect to addle our brain; and we begin to feel that we not only "cannot be ourself understood?" but that we do not understand others. Our present inclination is to throw Lindly Murry, Noah Webster, Drs. Johnson and Dillworth at any body's head who comes to talk common sense "learnedly" at us. Here is the opening paragraph of the communication referred to:

MOTION—MR. BOATNER'S IN SENATE, TO RECONSIDER THE PENITENTIARY BILL.—First impressions.—Equivocal audience and votes of Rivers' and Lacey's harangues and votes for the bill; with the impending doubt of their qualifications, as members of the Senate. For, Rivers was then and there, by prepossession of Election popular to another incompatible office, extruded of the Senate—a foreign element—as it seems, by him admitted, however unwilingly in his last dying speech—an anachronous apotheosis on his Senatorial career—his ascension to a Recordership in the Temple of Concord, or the Parish of Concordia.

That the "Temple of Concord" is located in the Parish of Concordia is altogether new. We should like exceedingly much to know, what is designed to be meant by "anachronous apotheosis." The Gazette's editor can never have our pardon, until he furnishes a key to this. He is personally responsible for the effort of "Lobby" to stagger the wits of this community.

The attention of the authorities is called to the condition of that natural drain of the city, commencing in front of the Penitentiary, and running to Bayou Fountain. Culverts and bridges are very much needed in several of the back streets through which this drain runs; and as nearly the whole eastern border of the city is drained by it, the obstructions should be removed. Now, is a proper time to do the work and the street hands could put it in good order with a few days labor.

OUTSIDE PRESSURE.—This bids fair to become a settled phrase; and before it gets to passing current, we should like to know what it means? Shall we understand by it, that the boilers which run the locomotive of "progress," are about to collapse a flue, so as to make the world cave in upon itself? If so, this should be the climax of dire calamities. Shall we understand by "outside pressure" that the world is about to cave in? Speak, some of you knowing ones, that we may not "burst in ignorance."

LATIN OR NATIVE.—In the Massachusetts House of Representatives the other day, Tolland, the democratic member, (the greater part of the rest being Know-Nothing,) made a hit at the anti-foreign predilections of the members by introducing an order looking to the removal of the, *Latin* inscription from the State coat-of-arms over the speaker's chair, and the substitution of a full *English* translation.

THE USURY LAWS.—The Comet has said nothing in reference to the bill introduced to the Legislature by Col. Roberts, to abolish the usury laws, of this State. The well known fact, to every commercial man in the community, that the law on this subject is a dead letter, is sufficient argument in itself, for its repeal. Did it effect trade and cripple monied transactions in the most remote degree, then would it be worth while to make one or two learned leaders, on the subject; as it does not, it is a matter of very small moment, whether it stand on the statutes at large, or is abolished. If this were the only rubbish to be found there, then should we make as much noise about it, as we may.

REVOLUTIONARY.—Another Filling-buster expedition is the order of the day; of course it is directed against this "Isle in the ocean," where there is (throwing false reports out of the account) much disaffection, towards the government; and a disposition to throw off the yoke, if any material aid can be had. From information before us, we can say authoritatively that there is now a concert of action on the part of those wishing to extend the "era of Liberty," too strong in its head, to meet with any successful check, from any Government. The combustibles are being prepared that must very soon be felt in an explosion, that will, when the noise and confusion of war is dissipated, add still another ray of light to the star of Empire in the West.

Col. Albert Pike of Arkansas arrived at the Harney House yesterday morning; where we understand he will remain a few days.

MISS MITFORD.—This gifted English authoress is dead. On the 19th ult., she breathed her last at Swallowfield, England, at the advanced age of 65 years. To the last hour of her existence, her passion for belle letters had not forsaken her. In her quiet country seat, she enjoyed herself with her books and pencil. It was only last year that she put forth "Atherston." Her tragedy of "Rienzi" is of itself sufficient to hand her name down to posterity with the poets of England.

An Italian composer by the name of Zanardini has had the temerity to put the tragedy of "Hamlet" to music. At the Saw Benedetto Theatre in Venice, the opera was a short time since produced.

On the 15th inst., the exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution at Washington will commence. It is to consist of the products of American taste, skill enterprise and industry.

EDITORIAL CONVENTION IN OHIO.—A convention of Ohio editors was held at Zanesville last week. They adopted a series of resolutions, among which we find the following on the subject of dead heads:

Resolved, That we, the editors of Ohio, from this time forth, will imitate the example set us by the railroad corporations, and do that which it is for our business interest to do—make with them our courtesies "a fair business transaction," and recommend this course for the adoption of our brethren throughout Ohio.

AN OUTBREAK EXPECTED IN CUBA.—The Star says that private advices from Cuba, state that the Cubans are greatly excited at the refusal of the Spanish Cortes to sell the Island to the United States, and are fast joining the revolutionists. An outbreak is soon expected in the Island.

Short Hand.

We have a decided penchant for any and every thing "short." Short hand—short speeches, short sermons, songs and sequels to sentimental stories. Short prayers and pie-crust—short actions for damages, short accounts. We love short foes and short friends; that each may do the damage that they can, and quit us. There is such a passion with us, for shortness, that after all we think a short life is preferable to a long one, since we live only to grow gray in sin, and sightless in iniquity. Short life, like short pleasure, is bright and colored with rainbow hues; in a short life we live not long enough to discover that the brilliant "bow cloud" in heaven, is nothing but light—"immaterial light" reflected; the very shadow of nothing. In a short life, we live not long enough to see the apple of our eye—the doll body of hopes and affections, the main object of our existence, melt away into sawdust before our eyes. We love sun shiny days, that we may not get satiated with the flowers on earth's green carpet, whilst they are dressed in their holiday apparel. Give us a short spring time, and a fleeting winter, that our affection for earth, be not frosted. "Short hand" has a special claim upon us—for life is a brief dream, too short to learn anything longly drawn out. Telegraphing brevity has a strong claim upon us. A friendly epistle should never consist of more than "All's Well" or "All's dead." Phonography—the science of "short hand" has a strong claim on our sympathies, and we have a friend untiring in his perseverance to convince the world that short hand is to be the ultimatum of man's felicity. We think with him. We hope to see the day come, when all conversation will be carried on in dumb show, without the use of meaningless words. Thus, when friend meets friend, instead of going through the senseless colloquy of "When did you come down," "How long you going to stay," "When do you go back" and "what do you think of the weather?" will all be dispensed with, and in their stead a few nods of the head and several complaisant smiles will serve the full purpose of a friendly greeting. In the statutes of law, how eminently, serviceable will short hand signs become? Instead of two millions and a half of stupid books, the names of which a natural life-time is not sufficient to call over; we will have but one volume, in which shall be written in signs that all may read, the whole law and the gospel "Do unto others as you would like to be done unto;" and if you don't, you shall be damned summarily, and without the benefit of appraisement.—Think of this. Then, justice will be dealt out briefly without reference to old foreign cases in the rubbish of the law library—then we shall have no long winded speeches in trials, to mistify the simple naked truth. We shall have the dead man brought before the judge to confront the criminal—the knife with which day light was admitted; and the witnesses may be sworn without the test of the *voir dire*. This will be, when short hand prevails as a system—then instead of volumes of mere language and rhetoric we shall have laws, simple in their nature and easily understood.

ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE.—The Newburyport (Mass.) Herald says "a shock of an earthquake was felt in this at 3 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon week.—It was heard by a large portion of the inhabitants in various parts of the city.