

The Indian War.

We make up the following article on this subject, from the official report of General Custer's engagement with the Indians. The recent disaster which befel a part of the Seventh Regular Cavalry, led by General Custer, is believed to be true. For some reason, yet unexplained, General Custer, who commanded, and had been detached by his commander, General Terry, at the mouth of the Rosebud, to make a wide detour up the Rosebud tributary to the Yellowstone, across to the Little Horn river, and down to the mouth of the Big Horn—the place agreed on for the meeting—attacked, en route, a large Indian village, with only a part of his force, having himself detached the rest, with a view of intercepting the retreat of the savages, and experienced an utter annihilation of his immediate command.

The forces of Generals Terry and Gibbon reached the field of battle the next day, and rescued fifty-two wounded men, and buried two hundred and sixty-one that were slain, including Lieut. Col. George A. Custer, Captains Custer, Keogh and Yates, and Lieutenants Cook, Smith, Calhoun, McIntosh, Hodson, Reilly, Parker and Sturges, all of the 7th Cavalry, and Lieutenant Crittenden, of the 20th Infantry, and Lieutenant Harrington, Asst. Surgeon Lord and acting Asst. Surgeon DeWolf are missing.

The wounded were carried back to the mouth of Big Horn, on the Yellowstone, which is navigable, where there were two steamboats, one of which was sent down to Fort Abraham Lincoln with the wounded, and to communicate the sad facts.

General Terry is therefore at the mouth of the Big Horn, refitting, and will promptly receive reinforcements and supplies, and will resume his operations immediately. In the meantime General Cook has also advanced from Fort Fetterman, and on the 17th of June, eight days before General Custer's attack, had encountered this force of warriors on the head of Rosebud, with whom he fought several hours, driving the Indians from the field, losing nine men killed and one officer and twenty men wounded.

MONTGOMERY, LA., July 16, '76.

FOR CHRONICLE:

The summer quiet of our little town has been broken in on by the congregating here of a large number of members of the Masonic fraternity to hear the Right Worshipful John Gordy, the Grand Lecturer. The attendance of local members was unusually large and visiting brethren from five or six adjacent lodges made the meeting large and interesting. Institutions of this nature flourish in this vicinity. Besides the Masons we have large lodges of Grangers and Templars, all of which exert a strong influence for good, for, while I denounce the European idea that the people should be kept by some means so poverty-stricken that they harbor no thought save how they may live, I accept the truism of the Bible or Milton or Franklin, or some body, I have forgotten who, which asserts "satan finds some work for idle hands;" and these matters furnish innocent sources of thought discussion and practice.

The crop prospect is fair. It is too early to know much of the cotton crop, but the corn is so near made that we can estimate the probable yield. The reports from different neighborhoods are conflicting, but I imagine the general crop will prove rather above

average, as a larger acreage was planted than is usual.

Politics are at a stand-still—the national nominations were received without much comment—the general idea is that both parties have nominated strong tickets. State matters have surprised no one; but from the Radical nominees I think we may look for further devil-operations in that party. If the white men's party will follow the national policy, of placing the most available men in nomination, they can carry the State; but we cannot afford in this issue to cumber our hands with incubus of any sort. No matter what indebtedness we may have incurred as a party, to individuals who would divide instead of uniting our factions and elements.

Commercial transactions are carried on in a quiet manner which would deceive the outsider. At present it is all outgo. Our merchants are doing a fair advancing business, and our packet company will tell you this is one of her best points in regard to steadiness of business. Our young men find time to indulge in camp hunts and fish camps, and from reports our State Fish Bureau have little to do in this section. Deer are found more plentifully in this section than for years past; but the latest item is hydrophobia. During the past few weeks several of the adjoining neighborhoods have had dogs and stock bitten by mad dogs and a few days since some of the dogs bitten several weeks ago have proved rabid. One cow has died near here of it, and on the 15th, Dr. Dunn met a mad bitch some two miles from town, which bit his dog and snapped at his horse, and then passed on. Should all those supposed to have been bitten some weeks since become rabid, times will become lively and canine stock be reported below par.

WEST END.

Our Traveling Correspondent.

To the Editor of the Chronicle:

At an uncertain hour, while the drowsy god was luring us to rest and quiet, the shrill whistle of the ever-punctual Bart. Able, sweeping round the bend, announced to the sleepy denizens of Colfax her wanton visit. In an equivocal mood, we dumped ourself on board of her, and started—no matter where. We were courteously received, and comfortably provided for. The Bart. and her officers will find their way into the columns of our pretty parish paper.

Friend Tom and myself celebrated our meeting by knocking glasses, Tom taking gin and myself whisky, calling it all cock-tails; and I guess he was right from the effect it had.

We anchored in No. 21, and what became of poor Tom, dependent knoweth not.

Early in the morning we awoke from our dissipation, to find ourself hitched at Alexandria. By a conventional arrangement the Bart. swings corners with the Alexandrians till 12 o'clock—not a very interesting entertainment to passengers whose purposes are ahead of them.

Alexandria, in common with her sister towns, seems languishing for want of trade. Business stagnant; money very scarce, and people complaining.

In political circles there is more animation. Quite a list of declared candidates appear in the columns of the Democrat, and their relative merits are as freely discussed. There seems to be a very decided move in favor of McEnery as the nominee for Governor. I was a little surprised at it. Among other friends I met Willie Marsh and Col. Hunter. The Colonel was cram-full of political talk, and, as usual, was purging off with a perfect diarrhoea of words.

I regretted that I did not bring my old hat and pants to give the Colonel as a souvenir of my high regards for his distinguished consideration; but my regrets are

much softened from the fact that the Colonel has an old hat and pants; the pants have two bulls-eyes on an unmentionable place; yet, I think, he can weather the storm this warm weather, until we meet again.

We are off at last for Susie's house.

The crop prospects are good; but rain is wanted in many places. We had a fast run, and the Bart. sustained her well-earned reputation for speed and safety. We are now on the great Father of Waters, and the muddy waves are lashing themselves in their madness in their headlong course to ocean's bosom. We are drifting along smoothly, and at six o'clock we will be in the great city—the Babe of tongues.

The cane crop is truly cheering. Well may the planter smile, and the late contraband sing his meaningless songs as he lounges lazily on the banks of the great river. Verily, there is seed-time and harvest. May that good harvest be realized by the planters of the Mississippi Valley.

We reached the city at six p.m., procured a turnout and made our way to "Cheap John's," replenished our scanty wardrobe, and took up our line of march for our new quarters, or what was to be our resting place, the objective point being the largest amount of accommodation for the least amount of cash. We found the place looked for.

Next day we took a stroll on the streets and observed men in parties of two or more, discussing politics. The Democrats are calculating the chances of their success with, perhaps, incautions expectancy, while the Republicans are relying on the craft of their wily leaders for success.

The enthusiasm all along our route for the great "ring-smashers" was unbounded, and here it seems to be on every breeze. The Republicans are working for Hayes with no less zeal. The nomination of S. B. Packard was, perhaps, a good one for his party, and it looks like they were drilling for success; the Democrats have not named their horses for the race, but having a good stable to select from, I opine they will be up to time.

MONTGOMERY, LA., July 17, '76.

EDITOR CHRONICLE:

Having read in your issue of the 15th, an article signed "Dick," upon senatorial candidates, I have a word to say regarding the man to be chosen. I agree with "Dick" that Dr. Kelly has had his shuffle, deal and draw, and if he failed to win the last pot, does that entitle him to another deal? Certainly not; and his pretended claims and claimed preference should not keep any other good man out of the field.

We all know that our only chance of electing a Conservative is for the whole district to combine on one man, and it should be the aim of us all to put forward men who, if elected, will be able and apt to do us some service; and without disparagement to Mr. B. F. Bryan's standing as a citizen, or his fitness for the high position for which he is named, have we not others among us who have not been "quite so independent in politics," who have interested themselves and given time and brains, when sorely needed, whom we might reward in this way, and at the same time be quite as well represented? I do not introduce to any of the people of Grant a stranger in calling before them the name of David Hardy as one of those who early took his stand and asserted his willingness to do what he could for his people and party. Nearly every voter in the parish made his acquaintance when, in 1872, he, as Supervisor, registered the parish, which duty was performed in a manner too thorough and satisfactory to be soon forgotten. Again, in 1874,

when Harvey was the Supervisor, who was selected to accompany said Harvey, that the registration might be conducted in a thorough, business-like manner? Ask Mr. Chas. Nugent, ask Mr. Thompson, ask Harvey himself, of the duties that were performed by our friend.

I cannot tell you what church Mr. Hardy belongs to, or in what esteem the people hold him in other parts of the parish; but this we all know, that he is an efficient, able, educated man, and would it not be well to secure for high position, tried worth, measured ability, known capacity?

The position is one that demands the best brains of our district, and if we would see the State in safe hands, our first duty is to select such men as we know to be capable of managing State affairs. Mr. Hardy's life has been mostly spent in business; he has a first-rate knowledge of legal forms, is familiar with our State-law, is a close observer, a great reader and a sound reasoner; and while, neither an "Unabridged Dictionary" nor a "Ray's Digest," he is much better informed and more thoroughly qualified for the position than many whose prospects of wearing the Senatorial "toga" now appear much brighter.

WEST END.

MONTGOMERY, LA., July 18, '76.

EDITOR CHRONICLE:

On perusing your welcome and highly esteemed paper, this morning, I was glad to come across "Dick's" communication in reference to the claims of Senatorship; and, as it is a subject that is much talked of, I beg leave, through the CHRONICLE, to make a few suggestions. Now, sir, I am a resident of Grant, and feel interested in her welfare, and am proud when any of her citizens are selected to fill places of honor and trust; but, sir, in the Senatorial matter, I think our friend rather unjust. The Sulphur Springs compact referred to by "Dick," was that Winn should have the first Senator, Grant the second, and Catahoula the third. Now, the delegates at the time fully acquiesced in this agreement. Dr. Kelly was considered the available man; was nominated and elected, beyond a doubt. The causes that defeated him in obtaining his seat are well known. The infamous midnight order, the subsequent interference by the United States Government, are historical facts, and need not be chronicled here. Now, sir, the fact of the case is this: Has Dr. Kelly represented this District as Senator? No! Then, sir, by the very language of the compact, Winn parish is entitled to the Senator, on the same grounds that McEnery is entitled to the nomination for Governor, I claim that Dr. Kelly is entitled to the Senatorship. It was exactly on the same grounds that C. C. Dunn was re-elected as a member of the Legislature. "Dick" propounds the far-fetched question: "Must other parishes, (Grant and Catahoula, I presume), wait until he, Dr. Kelly, has had another, and, perhaps, a third chance of success or defeat. Now, sir, that question is ridiculous, from the fact that Dick well knows that Dr. Kelly is the most available man in the district, and that to place his name on the ticket is certain victory. "Dick," also, well knows that a few of would-be politicians of Grant and Catahoula attempted, and did make a second nomination, which resulted in the choice of Mr. Jos. G. Hawks. This only shows how much Grant and Catahoula considered themselves under obligations to the now much-talked-of compact. Montgomery claims the nomination of Captain Hardy Richardson—his friends are anxious that he should aspire to the nomination. Now, so far, Captain Hardy is the only candidate spoken of that can carry the parish. It is the opinion of many that Richardson would not get the ward vote even for Justice of the

peace, and Brian is comparatively unknown here; and, sir, to insure success, we must have a man who we know has weight outside of his parish; one on whom the masses have explicit confidence, and if we expect to abide by the compact, our nominee should be Mr. J. F. Kelly. SAM.

MONTGOMERY, LA., July 18, '76.

EDITOR CHRONICLE:

I am proud to learn that at last our parish has a journal, and hope that it will prove to be an impartial chronicle for the people; truth is a powerful lever, and seldom fails to win. There is no parish in the State of Louisiana whose people have been calumniated and worse imposed on, irrespective of color, than those of the parish of Grant. An independent paper might be a power in the defense of the people in similar cases. I hope you will be patriotically sustained, regardless of party or color, as you declare independence but disclaim neutrality, politically; and at this point I will state that, I think, this is as it should be in a country paper.

I see the announcement of some political meetings in Colfax soon; one a Republican meeting on the fourth Saturday of this month, and the other, the citizens of Ward 1, on the fifth of August, to elect five delegates to the Parish Convention. Query—Is this Convention to be composed of all the citizens of Ward 1? I suppose, then, there will be a good big crowd; but I don't believe all will attend. I presume, however, that those who do, will do so regardless of party or color.

Speaking of Convention reminds me of a letter published in the CHRONICLE of the 15th inst., and signed \* \* \*

Now, Mr. Editor, I think you will agree with me that this three-star letter is almost too thin for the days of progress. No Conventions! I am opposed to party Conventions! This was the argument of a few of the old defunct Whig party. I do not wish to make an argument, but, will venture to say, that the argument against candidates, etc., is never made, except by the party in minority, or by new party tricksters—third party men—or by political fogies who have played out their fall game of tricks; i. e. played-out politicians—their last argument, their last trick, to defeat the popular will of a party.

More anon,

LEO.

We received a communication in relation to the Merchants' Union Telegraph. We were unavoidably forced to crowd it out, but it will appear in our next. Our citizens are not pleased how they have been treated by the company.

COLFAX, GRANT PARISH, LA.,  
July 19, 1876.

EDITOR CHRONICLE:

A very important question for the people to consider, in the coming election, is the proposed abolition of the office of Parish Judge—a Constitutional amendment to that effect having met the approbation of the last Legislature, and referred to the people for ratification. As we have not had access to the State Journal, and are not familiar with the reading of the act relative thereto, we are unable to express an opinion pro or con. We hear the opinions of many others though, in reference to the proposed amendment, and nearly all, irrespective of party, agree that such a change in our State jurisprudence, without other changes not provided for, to meet such an emergency, would cause many vexatious delays in the administration of justice and serious injury to the people. We would like to hear an expression of public sentiment on that point, and invite the opinion of the press throughout the State on the subject.

MAX.

N. O. Wholesale Markets.

Table listing market prices for various goods in New Orleans, July 17, 1876. Includes categories like GOLD, COTTON, SUGAR, COFFEE, FLOUR, CORN, OATS, HAMS, LARD, RICE, EGGS, VEGETABLES, CHEESE, BUTTER, HIDES, COAL OIL, BEEFWAX, and various grades of these commodities with their respective prices.

C. H. MUMFORD

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GROCERIES

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FINE WHISKIE

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COLFAX, LOUISIANA  
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