

"THE PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA."

Sometimes a party, sometimes a clique and sometimes an individual with an ax to grind, arrogate to themselves, the proud title of "the people of Louisiana," and speak as though their word was the law. This has been carried so far that the repetition of the phrase is becoming sickening.

When the words, "the people of Louisiana," is used after the manner of "Tailors of Tooley," we agree with brother Read that they become sickening, but when these words are backed by a majority of nearly 7000 out of the vote of the entire State we cannot agree with brother Read that they are so sickening.

Bro. Annis has done himself anything but honor in stooping to argue with the editor of the Independent. His private and political character would disgrace the lowest individual that claims the attributes of manhood.

The Independent may profess to speak the sentiments of "the people of Tangipahoa," but this we deny. A gentleman from Amite City this week told us, in reply to our question why that parish went against Baton Rouge last fall, that politicians tricked the people into voting as they did by a cunning manipulation of the tickets.

Col. D. A. Wilson is the passenger agent of the Piedmont route, north and east. We know him in this vicinity as the modest and unpretending hero of many fights in Virginia, in the smoke of which mingled his blue birds and the greys of Redstick, and we give him this unsolicited notice to show him that the latter have not forgotten their "valley friend."

London has more Roman Catholics than Rome, more Jews than all Palestine, more Irish than Belfast, more Scotch than Aberdeen, more Welsh than Cardiff; its beer and gin shops, placed one after another in a line would reach sixty-two miles, and one entire quarter of the city is inhabited by three hundred thousand of the most miserable wretches and worst thieves to be found on earth.

What we need everywhere in this country is a law that is strong enough to deal with all the criminals—the black one and the white on the young and the old, the rich as well as the poor. What we further need is a sentiment strong and well defined, and aggressive, that will not allow juries and courts to clear guilty men merely because they have the money to fee good lawyers.

Give each one of your children a revolver loaded with ball and cartridge as a plaything, and to scare folks with. To be sure they may "accidentally" kill some one, as a thirteen-year-old boy did in Chicago, but what if so the child is pleased? Childhood's happy hours soon pass away—give them pistols.

The negro murderer, Zeke Bradley, was hanged at Bryan, Texas, last Friday. During his last speech he said he was going home to eat sweet milk and honey and feast at Jesus' table. He had killed seven or eight men, and was a desperate villain.

The government claim to the Hot Springs of Arkansas having been established, the work of tearing down and removing the buildings on the reservation will soon commence. What the government will do with the property is not stated.

George C. Harding, editor of the Indianapolis Herald, while on a big drunk, the other day, tried to shoot Col. Wright, of the Indianapolis Democrat. Harding was placed in jail to sober off.

CONVENTION NEWS.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW ORLEANS, May 13, 1879.

Dear Capitolian—We again undertake the difficult task of culling news that have not already been presented in the official proceedings and in articles of comment that are being published daily in the journals of New Orleans. However, we will endeavor to occupy the position of "a man up a tree" and give our readers a synopsis of "what we are learning about constitution framing"—a science that many here verily believe is one that is easily acquired, if we are to judge them by the recklessness which they display in attacking the most intricate problems in fundamental law and principles. The "bully boy with the glass eye" is to be found here at every turn, striking vigorously at every thing that comes up. Your humble servant stands very much in the position of the "looker on in Vienna" and contents himself in saying very little and observing a great deal.

The Convention is beginning to touch upon the "sore spots" and the patients are wincing at the application of the "actual canterly."

For the last two or three days the discussion has been on the question of back taxes. Some of the delegates are opposed to the passage of an ordinance that will permit the Legislature to absolve delinquent taxpayers from the payment of past arrearages, while others have taken a more generous ground, in view of the fact that our people have been ridden well nigh to death since reconstruction. Our colleague from East Feliciana, the Hon. John Stone, has taken sides with the people, and has delivered telling blows in their behalf. He speaks with great earnestness and fluency, carrying with him the applause of a large number who feel impressed with the force with which he presents the patriotic arguments that he fearlessly proclaims before the Convention. We are with him in every particular, deeming it to be the duty of the representatives of the people to look after the welfare of the many, instead of the interests of the few. To endeavor to exact of the impoverished citizens of Louisiana the arbitrary payment of eleven millions of unpaid taxes of the last few years, would be a cruelty that the generous impulses of our population would never approve or ratify.

We stand firmly rooted with the CAPITOLIAN platform, and under no circumstances will we waver, on any question that involves the welfare of the mass of the people. We are for a reduction and limitation of the power of taxation and a material "easing off" of the State debt. Louisiana must be allowed to breathe freely once more, and we feel that with the adoption of a liberal constitution that our beloved State will resume her march towards the proud position that her sons had won for her in the ante bellum days.

Mr. Kennedy, the delegate of Orleans, who introduced the resolution looking to another test before the people as to the restoration of the Capital to Baton Rouge, interviewed us on yesterday concerning the editorial remarks contained in last week's CAPITOLIAN. He stated that he had presented the resolution under the impression that the result of the vote given in November last on this question had not been published, and that he did not intend it as a trick to overturn the will of the people. He added that he was ever ready to obey the command of the majority and inasmuch as that will had been expressed in favor of Baton Rouge he thought that our city should have it. He objected to be classed otherwise than as a sincere exponent of the popular will and interests. Mr. Kennedy is a young man, and one appearing for the first time in the legislative arena. He is connected with a foundry in this city and is evidently an intelligent and well meaning representative of the worthy element who earn their livelihood by the sweat of their brows. No one appreciates more highly these sons of our State than we do, having seen them before, "in the days that tried men's souls," defending with their lives the honor and glory of Louisiana. We therefore take especial pleasure in correcting the impression that undoubtedly existed amongst our readers, that Mr. Kennedy had intended to take the position of one who heedlessly desires to overturn the people's will.

On to-morrow the capital ordinance will be acted on by the committee on general provisions. We have every hope that a report favoring the restoration to Baton Rouge will be rendered. It cannot be overlooked that our city paid twenty thousand dollars for the site on which the capitol is erected, with the express condition that the State would use it for the purpose specified, else it would revert to the city. That the iron railing that encircles the grounds which is in perfect order cost the State some forty thousand dollars, and that the magnificently constructed walls of the edifice could not be put up in their present condition, save at the cost of hundreds of thousands. It is well known that an insignificant sum of money will restore to the State one of the proudest and most classical structures in the Southern country. Should the Convention disregard the popular decision given for the third time in

For the Louisiana Capitolian.

PRINCIPLE.

This is the great social battle of the age which we are fighting, between the flesh and the spirit—between the animal and the man.

We are living in a time when nothing can save us but true moral principle in the individual. Our government is an equal government as such.

We have cast in our destiny on this great principle of popular government, and we must go up with it or go down with it. It is for us to maintain our institutions if they are maintained at all; and unless we teach individuals, and the masses self-respect and self control, we are utterly ruined.

It is a mere matter of time. There is no salvation for institutions like ours except in the principle of self-control. And let me intimate right here, that there is no single evil, social or political, that strikes more at the foundation of such institutions than the drinking habits of society.

If you corrupt the working class by drink; if you corrupt the great middle class by drink; if you corrupt the literary and wealthy class by drink, you have destroyed the commonwealth beyond our power to save it.

We are making battle for the preservation of this moral principle. It is the great patriotic movement of the day.

Therefore we must have clear heads; we must have all the manhood that is in men, or that can educate them to it; the good that is in society will not be a match for the evil that is continually pulling it down.

It is the fact to-day; there is distress, depression and poverty amongst millions of our people. Instead of the government removing the evil, putting away the cancer, destroying the monster, and coming to the rescue of her weeping, unfortunate children, by devoting the resources of the land, building roads, opening navigation, encouraging manufacturers and inviting men to a laudable industry, it is encouraging the conversion of breadstuffs into ardent spirits, inducing citizens to drink, dissipate, idle away time, commit crime, and become the means of ruin and destruction, rather than strength and support.

It is a shameful wrong for the government to set sixty thousand of her citizens to destruction, six hundred thousand to drunkenness, besides three hundred thousand ruined and penniless women and children, for the paltry sum of sixty or seventy millions of money. Justice and right religion against it, conscience and alterable and holy attributes condemn it, and then all these will sooner or later wipe it out, if indeed the nation's life must go with it.

H. J. H.

SIMILARITY OF IDEAS.

Editor Capitolian—In your last issue appeared a piece of poetry entitled "The First Banjo," by Irwin Russell.

It is in reality an extract from a poetical contribution to Scribner's monthly, which appeared several months ago, entitled, "The Origin of the Banjo," and it was highly commended at the time, and since, as a very humorous and pleasing piece of poetical pleasantry.

I do not at all desire to detract from Mr. Irwin Russell's merit as an original humorist, but give you below a piece of poetry which appeared in the "drawer" of a number of the Knickerbocker Magazine, published in New York in the year 1856, to show you how frequently the ideas of one humorist are reproduced by another without there being in all probability any knowledge of the same on the part of the reproducer.

Baton Rouge, May 12, 1879.

[Extract from Knickerbocker.]

There's some humor in the lines entitled "Noah's Ark," from our down East friend, but they are of very uneven merit. We segregate a passage or two for the benefit of our readers.

"Now, when all things were thus complete it rained without cessation; The people all then wished that they were Noah's dear relation; But no wish was of no avail when on that subject fondly.

For Noah would not let them in, so they staid out and drowned. Now Capt'ing Noah steered the Ark, his wife she did the cooking; And Noah's sons took turns to watch, to keep the beasts from hooking.

They had been out six days without an observation. When they descried a living man upon a curious station. Upon a mountain's topmost height a tree was firmly rooted; Upon a tree for precious life, he with the floods disputed.

And when he saw the Ark come by then he cried, "I hope the ark will stop." Says Noah, "You can't come on board, because my wife's not willing, And when I dare cross her plan I get an awful drilling."

Then said the man, "I'd sink you quick, if it was in my power; So go to grass with your old Ark—'tis nothing but a shower." It drifted on for forty days, and then it ceased a raining. When, for the want of something fresh, the crew they got complaining.

One day they struck, and Noah said: "Now this is past endurance, For we have surely lost the Ark, and not a cent insurance." They tried in vain to get her off, but she was firmly stranded; So wailing all the while went down, their heads there they landed; But soon the waters left the earth, and times looked quite alarming. And they would sure have starved to death had they not gone to farming. And to this very self-same man am I for life dependent. Because I sprang direct from him, and am his true descendant.

SAD ACCIDENT.

Richard Bacon.

We are pained to learn that while Clarence and Clinton Travis were out squirrel hunting last Wednesday, near Delhi, the former accidentally shot and wounded the latter. It seems that he fired at a squirrel in a tree and the gun hung fire. He lowered it and just as it reached a level with his brother's head or neck the load was discharged and the shot entered his neck and face. We have been unable to learn particulars or the result of the wound.

Mr. Thomas Amery laid out our table, last Wednesday, a cotton stalk of this year's growth, which measured 23 inches from the ground up; and says he has 25 acres of the same kind of cotton. It is the largest we have seen.—Richland Beacon.

THE RICHMOND MISCEGENATION CASE.

Richmond, Va., May 14.—In the United States circuit court to-day a writ of habeas corpus in the miscegenation case of the negro Edmund Kenney and the white woman Mary Hall, now confined in the penitentiary for violation of the statute prohibiting the intermarriage of race, was refused by Judge Hughes, on the ground that the United States courts have no jurisdiction over questions of marriage.

The opinion holds that the laws of marriage are at the sovereign control and will of each State, unaffected by any provision or any article of the constitution of the United States. These laws are necessarily left all over the world, and in this union of States, to the government of local society. That the law under which the parties were convicted was with the untrained legislative power of Virginia to enact it, and that it is not prohibited by any provision of the national constitution.

As to making contracts, the opinion holds that section 1797 of the revised statutes, which secures to all persons within the United States the right in every State to make and enforce contracts, etc., can only refer to contracts lawful under the laws of the States wherein it is proposed to enforce them.

Admitting that the marriage is a contract, the privilege of enforcing it extends only to lawful marriages; and that if a citizen of Virginia went to the District of Columbia, or to the territory of Utah, and was there married in accordance with the local law, he could not return with his consort or consort to Virginia and expect to subordinate her laws of marriage to the laws of the other jurisdiction.

The case will probably be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

Carroll Contravert.

Allen Rhoten, colored, came to town from Bayou Macon on Monday last with a young cow, sold it to the butcher and returned, evening started home with the proceeds of the sale in his pocket. While going along the lake two negroes named Dutch Jones and Dennis Williams asked him to let them ride in his wagon, which he consented to, but as soon as they had got into the wagon one of them grasped Rhoten by the throat and threw him down, the other presented a pistol at his head and went through his pockets, relieving Rhoten of \$25 in money, and a promissory note for \$10. This is a decidedly high-handed affair, and we hope the criminals will be captured and brought to justice.

CHILD DROWNED.

Donalsonville Chief.

It gives us pain to learn that our friend Mr. L. D. Arceneaux sustained a severe affliction, yesterday forenoon, in the accidental drowning of a two-year-old son. The child, in playing about the yard, fell unobserved into a large hole filled with water, used for the purpose of soaking the hoop-poles worked into barrel and hoghead hoops in Mr. Arceneaux's cooper shop. When the casualty was discovered the body of the child was quickly taken from the water and a physician sent for, but life was quite extinct and all efforts at resuscitation proved unavailing.

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TERRA COTTA WARE—Flower Vases, Hanging Baskets and Lawn Vases, in great variety, at prices to suit the times, at WM. GARG'S.

ORIENTAL Powder Agency—We sell the above at New Orleans prices. David & Garig.

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THE ROBBERS.

Sabine Southern.

Mr. John Lile, whose store had been robbed recently, in company with Mr. J. Wood and others, pursued two men who were transiently passing through the country under suspicious circumstances, and had camped near the store on the night of the robbery. Messrs. Lile and Wood being a few hundred yards in advance of the company and being near White's Bluff, on the Sabine River, came in close contact to the men pursued at a cross-road, when the men immediately suspected their business and commenced to draw their pistols for a fight, but kept traveling and refused to stop, and one of them did make his escape while the other was left upon the ground and who lived near the place, and the family confiding to the money being the same that was stolen. All the property was recovered except twenty dollars in money. Tramps have a slender show for escape from crime in this section of country and they serve their right.

HOING COEN WITH A SHOT-GUN.

Colfax Chronicle.

Two darkies confined in jail for horse-stealing have begun to get lonely of late, and they want a breath of fresh air. So they proposed to Mr. Sam Lacroix that they would hoe his corn for him, and he could sit in the shade and watch them with a gun, if he would. Sam says he ain't lazy, but the sun is awful hot, and as it is doing the darkies a favor, he thought he would accommodate them. Yesterday and the day before Sam had both of them hoeing away, while he sat on a stump and nursed a double-barreled shot-gun.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

By virtue of an after parties writ of fieri facias issued by the Hon. the Sheriff of the Parish of East Baton Rouge, in and to the following described real estate, to-wit:

A certain tract of land situated in the city of Baton Rouge, being lot number (6) six, of square number (8) eight, laid out by Richard Deyvall, measuring sixty feet front on Laurel street, by one hundred and twenty feet along Fifth street, being a corner lot, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon. The same being described on a map made by Michael Gill, in 1855, an eastern halves of lots Nos. 7 and 8, of square No. 8, Deyvall Town.

Also, lot number (3) three, of square number (3) three, situated in that part of the city of Baton Rouge, laid out by Hickey, Duncan & Mather, and directed to the Sheriff of said parish, from the Honorable Court aforesaid, I have seized and will expose to public sale, in front of the Courthouse door of said parish, on Saturday, the 17th day of May next, A. D. 1879, between the hours of 11 o'clock a. m. and 4 o'clock p. m., of said day, all the right, title, interest and claim of the defendant, Mrs. Eliza Miller and husband, in and to the following described real estate:

A certain tract of land, situated at about twenty-seven miles from the city of Baton Rouge, on Sandy Creek, in the parish of East Baton Rouge, bounded north by lands of James Neason, east by heirs of Loyd, south by heirs of George Chaney, and west by Joseph Drehr, and containing about five hundred and thirty acres, more or less, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, consisting of a dwelling-house, gin-house and out-houses, being the same property purchased at the succession sale of Joshua Land, deceased, the 3d day of September, A. D. 1865, recorded in Book 17, folio 30, Conventional Mortgage, Recorder's Office, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana.

Seized to pay the judgment, interest and costs claimed in the above entitled and numbered suit. Terms of sale, cash, with the benefit of appraisement. apr26 J. W. BATES, Sheriff.

Build a Monument

to the memory of the CONFEDERATE DEAD, will be given in Baton Rouge, at

PIKE'S HALL

Tuesday and Wednesday

MAY 20 AND 21.

The following plays will be rendered by the PLAQUEMINE

Dramatic Association:

"Sunshine Through the Clouds,"

"The Fellow Who Looks Like Me,"

"The Seven Clerks,"

"The Literary Wife."

The Members of the Plaquemine Dramatic Association embrace talent of a high order, and the entertainments thus afforded the people of Baton Rouge will indeed be a rich treat.

Committee on Printing and Hall.

Wm. C. Annis.....Joseph Largier

John McGrath.....John Wax.

Reception Committee and Hall Managers.

C. C. Bird.....L. D. Beale

S. W. Robertson.....Wm. Rhodus

T. B. Dupree.

Committee to act with the Ladies and for General Purposes.

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