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Louisiana Convention.

MONDAY, JAN. 20, 1868.—The Convention met at 10 A. M., President Taliaferro in the chair and 60 delegates present. The President took occasion to state that, under the rules, there was no necessity, as was required last Saturday, of sending the Sergeant-at-Arms after absent members to vote upon the 83d article of the Constitution, as amended, making the Judges and Clerks of the District Courts elective, instead of appointive. As there was no reason, he said, why the result of the vote then taken should not be announced. It was accordingly announced 52 yeas to 32 nays. [Uproarious applause.]

The Chair rebuked the members for such demonstration, and reminded them that the Convention was "a deliberative body, and not a circus or a theatre." The 83d article, as adopted, reads as follows:

ART. 83. The Legislature shall divide the State into judicial districts, which shall remain unchanged for four years; and for each district court one judge, learned in the law, shall be elected by and for their respective districts by a plurality of the qualified electors for members of the General Assembly at the election thereof next preceding the expiration of the terms of the said judges respectively. For each district there shall be one district court, except in the parish of New Orleans, in which the Legislature may establish as many district courts as the public interest may require. Until otherwise provided there shall be seven district courts for the parish of Orleans, to be designated as follows: The criminal court, the probate court, the court of appeals from justices' courts, and the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh district courts. The number of districts shall not be less than twelve nor more than twenty. The clerks of the district courts shall be elected by the qualified electors of their several districts, and shall hold their office for four years.

Further articles of the constitution, under the title of the Judiciary Department, were adopted, as follows:

ART. 84. Each of said judges shall receive a salary to be fixed by law, which shall not be increased or diminished during his term of office, and shall never be less than five thousand dollars. He must be a citizen of the United States, over the age of thirty years, and have practiced law for the space of five years, the last three years thereof in the State, next preceding his election. The judges of the District Courts shall hold their office for the term of four years.

[A motion to reconsider the foregoing article was tabled.]

ART. 85. The district courts shall have original jurisdiction in all civil cases, not probate, when the amount in dispute exceeds five hundred dollars, exclusive of interest. They shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the parish courts, in probate matters, when there exists a contestation, and the amount in dispute is over five hundred dollars, exclusive of interest. In criminal cases their jurisdiction shall be unlimited. They shall have appellate jurisdiction in civil ordinary suits, when the amount in dispute exceeds one hundred dollars, exclusive of interest.

ART. 86. For each parish court one Judge shall be elected by the qualified electors of the parish. They shall hold their offices for the term of two years. They shall receive a salary and fees to be provided by law, until otherwise provided. Each parish judge shall receive a salary of one thousand two hundred dollars per annum, and such fees as are now established by law for clerks of courts. He shall be a citizen of the United States.

[The 86th article as originally proposed provided that the parish judges should be "learned in the law," which words it will be seen were stricken out.]

A member of the Mississippi convention wants to change the name of the State, because, as he says, "she has acted so badly." How will he manage about the name of the river? If the name has been disgraced he will have to change that also.

Radicalism in Alabama is dead broke for candidates. Twelve of the 20 candidates—more than half—nominated by that faction on the State ticket, refuse to accept. Blood is beginning to tell. Negro equality won't win.

"Jane, what letter in the alphabet do you like best?"
"Well, I don't like to say, Mr. Smith."
"Pooh, nonsense! say right out. Which do you like the best?"
"Well," dropping her eyes, "I like U the best."

A San Francisco photographer taking views in the Yo Semite region discovered a chasm only a yard wide but a thousand feet deep.

The following is recommended as a receipt for making bologna sausage: To make genuine bologna sausage, take eel skin and stuff it with ground cat; season it with Scotch snuff and persimmon oil; lay it on a hog pen to dry, and then hang it up by the tail in a grocery for three months for flies to give the trade mark, then it is ready for use.

A lady and gentleman conversing on dancing, the latter said that he preferred the round dances. "Unlike me," returned the female, "for I like a good square dance."

A Paris editor has paid \$16,000 in fines since 1852.

Gen. Hancock on the Collection of the MILL TAX.

HQRS. 5TH MILITARY DIST., Office of Secretary for Civil Affairs, New Orleans, Jan. 17, 1868.

W. L. McMillan, Esq., Chairman of Committee, etc.
Sir—I am directed by the Major General Commanding to acknowledge the receipt of a resolution adopted Jan. 15, 1868, by the Constitutional Convention, now in session in this city, appointing a committee to confer with him relative to the collection of the tax authorized by the ordinance passed December 24, 1867, and to state, in reply, that by the ordinance of the Constitutional Convention, the mode of collecting the tax of one mill per cent. is pointed out; it is made the duty of the Auditor to direct the tax collectors and sheriffs to enforce the payment, by the process designated by the laws of the State; and should any such process be forcibly resisted, the Maj. General Commanding will promptly use the military power to maintain the supremacy of the laws.

To this extent he has authority to act; but it is not his province to interfere in the matter in any other way. I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

W. G. MITCHELL, Bvt. Lieut. Col. U. S. A., Secretary for Civil Affairs.

The following letter, under date of January 20, was addressed by the Secretary of Civil Affairs to a special Committee of the Convention:

Gentlemen—The Major General Commanding directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., and to state in reply that the second ordinance of the Constitutional Convention, adopted on the 4th of January, 1868, adopts a new mode for the collection of the tax, and imposes penalties on defaulting tax payers.

You request the commanding general to state what his action would be should the civil courts of Louisiana interfere with the collectors in the discharge of their duties. In this connection the Commanding General deems it unnecessary to repeat what he has already stated in reply to a previous letter, concerning his authority on this subject. It would be highly improper for him to anticipate any illegal interference of the courts in the matter.

Whenever a case arises for the interposition of the powers vested in the Commanding General by the acts of Congress, he will promptly exercise them for the maintenance of law and order.

Plenty is as distinct from wastefulness as a whole sackful of wheat from a sack with a hole in it for the wheat to run through.

Anticipated pleasures often prove when they arrive, to be no pleasures just as to-morrow, when it comes, isn't to-morrow.

Every man cherishes in his heart some object, some shrine at which his adoration is paid, unknown to his fellow mortals. So says an exchange, but what is that to you and me?

GEN. GRANT.—The Mobile Tribune says Grant made no objection to the removal of Ord, but he tore his shirt wide open when he heard Pope and Swayne were to be removed. Ord is the only district commander that pretended to be a gentleman.

Pope and Swayne were both right bowers in the mongrel game of reconstruction. It is with good reason that Grant is the choice for the Presidency of the "Loyal League."

A French paper supposes that a whale may be only an antediluvian sardine.

In Missouri the Germans have a queer marriage custom. Some young man is selected to carry invitations to the wedding. He rides about and each person invited must attach to his hat not less than a yard of highly colored ribbon.

"Is it not astonishing," said a wealthy individual, "that a large fortune was left me by a person who had only seen me once?" "It would have been still more astonishing," said a wag, "if he had left it to you after seeing you twice."

In the town of S— there was a shoemaker, who at the time officiated as preacher. He always wrote the notices himself, in order to save the expenses of printing. Here is one of them: "There will be preaching in the pines this Sunday afternoon on the subject 'All who do not believe will be damned at three o'clock.'"

The correspondent of the New York Work, writing from Meridian, Miss., stated, as a fact derived from official sources, that over two millions of acres of land in Mississippi, one-seventh of all in the State, were advertised for sale under execution. The fact is perfectly appalling. Two millions of acres of valuable land for sale in a single State for debt; and no buyers for it because Radicalism has shut out capital and closed the doors on immigration!

A Swiss physician has compiled a great mass of statistics to show that winter and spring are the seasons of greatest mortality in the north and center of Europe, while in the south, on the contrary, summer and autumn are the most destructive seasons.

Some "kalkulating" chap says that "successful love takes a load off our hearts, and puts it on our shoulders."

Young women in Kentucky elope merely for the sake of the romance. Ordinary weddings are thought too common for girls of spirit.

Interesting Interrogatories.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Cary, from Cincinnati, to-day, during the discussion, propounded the following questions to his colleagues:

1. If Gen. Grant shall refuse or neglect to execute the provisions of this law, or, if in its execution he shall act in an oppressive or cruel manner, to what tribunal would he be amenable for his malfeasance?
2. As by the terms of the bill the President cannot interfere, can the General be tried by court-martial, and if so, who can order and who can institute the court?
3. Not being a civil officer, can he be impeached, and if so, by whom and before what tribunal?
4. If he cannot be tried by any earthly tribunal, is he not made an absolute despot?

THE NEGRO WORTHLESS.—The Cincinnati Enquirer, of a late date, has the following:

The utter worthlessness of the negro as an industrial laborer, under the voluntary system, is thus illustrated by the Enquirer. The negro is worse than worthless. He cannot be made to produce as much as he will consume and destroy. In every aspect which has reference to the present or future well-being of the whites of the South, it would be infinitely better if he were away. To every desirable progress he is an insuperable obstruction. His presence is inimical, not merely to progress, but to safety. It is he by whom the famine is produced. Happily his days are numbered. Philanthropy, which always transforms its proteges into victims, is able, if it will, to see the proceeds of his benevolent theories; and without much arithmetical skill, to predict the day of their final consummation. Its dogma of human equality is being carried into an effect which perhaps it did not contemplate, by transferring the negro to that undiscovered country where, so far as we know, all men are equal. Neglect, improvidence, starvation and vicious habits and practices are doing the work of a pestilence, and the grave, that confederate and friend of all sorts of empires, is opening its bosom to take in and hide those whom social and political quackery found well, and sought to make better.

THE GRAND JURY QUESTION.—The New Orleans Times has the following in relation to the grand jury question in the parish of Orleans:

The Grand Jury of the parish of Orleans, selected from a registry of voters provided for by the laws of the State of Louisiana, recently indicted Chas. Morgan and Sam. Nelson, colored men, for murder.

Counsel for defence moved to quash the indictment upon the ground that the inquest which had found the indictment had not been chosen in accordance with the provisions of the acts of Congress providing for the reconstruction of the Southern States.

Judge Howe, presiding in the criminal court, and before whom this motion was made, decided that the Grand Jury which brought in the bill against Morgan and Nelson, was a legal body. This decision is based upon the ground that the laws of the State regulating the empanelling of grand juries has not been affected by the acts of Congress mentioned above, and are therefore, still in force, and will be in force until altered or abolished by the department which is alone authorized under our republican system of government. This decision is also supported by the order of the Commanding General, which order stated that to determine who shall or who shall not be jurors appertains to the legislative powers of the State.

The motion to quash the indictment was, therefore, denied.

Said a very good old man: "Some folk are always complaining about the weather, but I am very thankful when I wake up in the morning and find any weather at all." We may smile at the simplicity of the old man, but still his language indicates a spirit that contributes much to a calm and peaceful life. It is wisest and better to cultivate that than to be continually complaining of things as they are. Be thankful for such mercies as you have, and if God sees it will be for your good and His glory, he will give you many. At least, do not make yourself and those around you unhappy by your ingratitude and complaints.

One hundred thousand persons have been married in Mississippi during the last two years.

"Each moment makes thee dearer," as the parsimonious tradesman said to his extravagant wife.

An exchange says: If you don't intend to marry, keep away from calico. The moth that flutters about a tallow dip when lighted is no surer to get scorched than is a verdant youth or rusty bachelor to fall into Cupid's flame, if he begins to circumnavigate around a bit of dry goods on a dainty little maid.

No man may ever expect to have friends unless he acts the part of a friend to others.

Some "kalkulating" chap says that "successful love takes a load off our hearts, and puts it on our shoulders."

Young women in Kentucky elope merely for the sake of the romance. Ordinary weddings are thought too common for girls of spirit.

THE METHOD OF DETERMINING THE PRESSURE OF POPULATION IN PARIS.

In the investigations into the necessities for a new improvement, the city authorities not only look at the question of health and beauty and military commodity, but they take account of the flow of the population to one or the other part of the city, or in other words to the pressure of circulation on different points. In a city situated on a narrow tongue of land like New York, the great pressure is necessarily on the middle longitudinal line; but Paris is situated in a great shallow basin, with free borders for expansion in every direction, and with almost equal diameters. So that no one can say exactly in what direction the pressure is going to shift from year to year.

The Prefect therefore stations men twice a year at a dozen or more points, to count the numbers of persons and carriages which pass in a given time, and he thus keeps himself informed of the pressure of the circulation. The last observation of this kind, just published, shows that in the afternoon 24,000 persons pass in an hour the point where the Rue Montantrou crosses the Boulevard; that 12,000 persons cross in an hour the point in the Latin quarter where the Rue Dauphine crosses de Rue Buci; that more than 2,000 carriages the hour pass at 5 o'clock on the Place de la Concorde; and, finally, that on race and review days, as high as 28,000 carriages have been counted going into the Bois de Bologne from 1 to 4 o'clock.

By these scraps the Prefect avoids all false appearances as well as false representations of the growth and necessities of the different quarters.—[Paris Cor. N. Y. Times.]

The Boston Journal of Chemistry says that pencil writing may be fixed almost as indelible as ink by passing the moistened tongue over it. Even breathing slowly over the lines, after writing, renders them much less liable to erasure than when not subjected to that process.

There are now over 300 women at the Broadway, New York, theatres who can kick a man's hat off, though he be six feet high. Who says art has not an upward tendency?

"Put out your tongue a little further," said a physician to a female patient; "a little further, ma'am, if you please—a little further still."

"Why, doctor, do you think there is no end to a woman's tongue?" cried the fair invalid.

A school-mistress, while taking down the names and ages of her pupils, and the names of their parents, at the beginning of the term, asked one little fellow, "What's your father's name?" "Oh, you needn't take down his name; he's too old to go to school to a woman," was the reply.

FIDELITY.—Desert not your friend in danger and distress. Too many there are in this world whose attachment to those they call friends is confined to the day of their prosperity. As long as that continues, they are, or appear to be, affectionate and cordial. But as their friend is under a crowd, they begin to withdraw and separate their interests from his. In friendship of this sort, the heart assuredly has never had much concern. For the greatest true friendship is constancy in the hour of danger—adherence in the season of distress.

When your friend is cultivated, then is the time openly and boldly to espouse his cause. When his situation is changed, or misfortunes are fast gathering around him, then is the time of affording prompt and zealous aid. When sickness or infirmity occasions him to be neglected by others, that is the opportunity which every real friend will seize of redoubling all the attention which love suggests. These are the important duties, the sacred claims of friendship, which religion and virtue enforce on every worthy mind. To show yourselves warm in this manner in the cause of your friend, commands esteem even in those who have personal interests in opposing him. This honorable zeal of friendship has, in every age, attracted the veneration of mankind. It has consecrated to the latest posterity the names of those who have given up their fortunes and exposed their lives in behalf of their friends whom they loved.

A new method of steam propulsion is spoken of, as applied to steamboats. A number of paddles are arranged on each side, and are made to work similar to the manner in which an Indian uses his paddle in propelling a canoe. Other features in its favor are that the machinery is very simple, takes but little room and needs no large wheel-house, the paddles, when in motion rising scarcely above the deck. The inventor, Mr. S. D. Merritt, of Mount Morris, Michigan, feels confident that a boat constructed on this principle will rival a locomotive in speed.

Why is hope like decayed cheese? Because thousands live on it.

Why is a room full of married folks like a room that is empty? Because there is not a single person in it.

What insect would denote that the Spaniards were defeated! The Spanish fly.

What do you most take when seized with the cholera? Take sick.

What do you always do before you go to sleep? Shut your eyes.

What is that which is lengthened by being cut at both ends? A ditch.

DOMESTIC COMFORTS.—It is curious

to learn how long it took mankind to discover the most obvious conveniences of civilized life. Sancho Panza called down blessings on the man who invented sleep. Professor Fulton tells us that one of the greatest improvements introduced by the Greeks into the art of sleeping was the practice of undressing before going to bed—a thing unheard of until hit upon by their inventive genius. Even now there are nations who never enjoy the luxury of taking off their clothes at night. The Romans went to bed to eat their dinners, and there are whole races now who don't know enough to sit down like rational beings, but squat on their hams instead. The Romans went to bed early because they hadn't genius enough to invent a candle. They trundled off to bed as the darkness began, and in Athens, Egypt, Palestine, Asia Minor, everywhere, the ancients went to bed like good boys, from seven to nine o'clock. De Quincey says "Arquinius might be a superb fellow, but we doubt whether he ever saw a farthing rushlight." This absence of "extensive artificial light among the ancients, was the cause of all their magnificent shows going on by daylight. The exhibitions of the amphitheatre and the circus all took place in the day time. But how incomparably greater would have been the splendor by lamp-light! Even so simple a matter as breakfast was not invented for several centuries after the Republican era of Rome. It took as much time and research to arrive at that great discovery as at the Copernican system. The morning meal of the Romans was not a bit of biscuit—tea and coffee had not been heard of then. Probably our descendants, some centuries hence, will laugh at our ignorance of many of the conveniences of life that will then be in vogue.

A Southern editor states that during a recent hurricane, with the aid of a glass, he could distinctly see animals and serpents passing through the air at an immense height. He probably looked through a glass of whisky.

A disappointed man says that "Love's young dream" often turns out to be the nightmare.

A million of bales of cotton, from India are at present on the way to Liverpool. Uncle Sam will have to wake up.

A woman in Richmond, Va., sent out her daughter for a loaf of bread, and forty-eight hours after the sly lass returned with the loaf and a husband.

A loafer, probably.

A WIFE'S POWER.—The power of a wife for good or evil is irresistible. Home must be the seat of happiness, or it must be unknown. A good wife is to a man wisdom and courage, and strength and endurance. A bad one is confusion, weakness, discomfort and despair.

No condition is hopeless when the wife possesses firmness, decision and economy. There is no outward prosperity which can counteract indolence, extravagance and folly at home. No spirit can endure bad domestic influences. Man is strong, but his heart is not adamant. He delights in enterprise and action; but to sustain him he needs a tranquil mind and a whole heart. He needs his morals in the conflicts of the world. To recover his equanimity and composure, home must be a place of repose, cheerfulness, peace, comfort; and his soul renews its strength again, and goes forth with fresh vigor to encounter the troubles and labor of life. But if at home he finds no rest, and is there met with bad temper, sullenness or gloom, or complaint, hope vanishes, and he sinks into despair.

A chicken thief, at Steubenville, Ohio, recently, took twelve hens, and left a wallet w. \$30 in the coop. Did he make heavy profit on that?

WEAR A SMILE.—Which will you do, smile and make others happy, or be crabbed and make everybody around you miserable? You can live among beautiful flowers or singing birds, or in the mire surrounded by fogs and frogs. The amount of happiness which you can produce is incalculable, if you will only show a smiling face, a kind heart, and speak pleasant words. On the other hand, by sour looks, cross words, and a fretful disposition, you can make hundreds unhappy almost beyond endurance. Which will you do? wear a pleasant countenance, let joy beam in your eye and love glow on your forehead. There is no joy so great as that which springs from a kind act or pleasant deed, and you may feel it at night when you rest, and at morning when you rise, and throughout the day when about your business.

Dogbery says he always respects old age except when some one cheats him with a pair of tough chickens.

Very touching and beautiful were the last words of the old school-master, as life passed away: "It is growing dark the school may be dismissed."

There is no dungeon so dark and dismal as the mean man's mind.

The United States treasury has \$80,000,000 in gold.

There are 3,000 lawyers in New York, but precious poor law.

Politeness is not always a sign of wisdom but the want of it is always a strong symptom of folly.