

VALEDICTORY.

Having disposed of the LEDGER, my connection with the paper has ceased, and with this issue, begins the editorial administration of Mr. R. M. White. In taking a final leave of my patrons, I desire to say a few words, that, coming from one whose material interests in the matter have forever ceased, I hope will be well considered. For three long years I have labored in your midst, with the single purpose of giving you as nearly a perfect paper, as I lay in my power to do. Inspired by the hope of a great future for our town and country, and spurred on by the pride I felt for the paper, and the ever-present desire that it should fill the true mission of a public journal without lack or allowance, I have ever done by you as best I could. That I have fallen far short of my aim, is probable; that I have not always done as wise men should have done, is undoubtedly true, but I have labored under great difficulties, unknown to the great masses of my readers, and only known to those with whom I have had intimate business relations. And expressions of warmest sympathy and hearty commendation, have not been few, nor devoid of good. The generous expressions of my friends have never fallen without influence upon my heart, hopes and purposes. But with all this my effort has ever been rather an up-hill business, and I will tell you why: the people of Mexico and Audrain County do not sufficiently value their newspapers. The Fulton Telegraph has a circulation of 1,700, the Columbia and Louisiana papers claim more than this; the two Paris papers have 1,300 each, while C. A. Cook's Newspaper Directory for 1876 gives the circulation of the Mexico Intelligencer as 708, and though the circulation of the LEDGER has fully doubled within five months past and is still rapidly increasing, it is now but little better. This should not be so. Mexico is a more central point, and a more prominent city than either of those named, and its papers should lead all those in circulation, as well as in advertising patronage, in which our town is sadly behind any of its neighbors. Now let me tell you that I have given this subject more thorough consideration than any of you have had occasion to, and speaking without bias, I tell you that nothing you can do will so redound to your material interest as a liberal support rendered your local papers, and let me ask you in all earnestness to do this. They are ever striving for your good, only through these can you be known abroad. All ever hundreds and thousands of miles of country they are telling all people of your whereabouts, your excellencies and what you offer them. How cheerfully, then, should you hold up their hands. We have delivered the LEDGER into the keeping of one who will continue it and advance it in the path upward and onward toward the perfection of a fearless, true newspaper. He is a young man of ability, education and culture, and in such alone is the hope of your future greatness. His whole heart and treasure is here and he needs only your encouragement and support, to grow into a power for great good among you and to you,—give it him in generous abundance, I pray you. The LEDGER offers you the only hope you have in the world for a really first-class, great paper, and upon it should all your fostering care center.

For all my faults and failings I invoke your forgiveness; for all your generous encouragement, of every kind, I return you my hearty thanks. J. LINN LADD.

SALUTATORY AND PROSPECTUS.

As we are unknown to many, if not most of the readers of the LEDGER, it is our duty and pertinent to the occasion to indicate to those whom we ask to patronize us, what will be the policy of the paper in future, and establish our platform. It is with a deep sense of our responsibility, and an earnest desire to do our duty, that we undertake that which should be no light task, and what in some respects and viewed in one light is far from attractive: but we shall

ever strive to make the relation existing between reader and writer as agreeable and instructive as possible, ever deeming our reader's interest of paramount importance. We were never very profoundly impressed with the idea which obtains among many brethren of the press, that it is the especial province of a country editor to set the political world on fire or dictate a State policy, so at present you may look for no weighty political wrestling on our part. Perhaps in the future when we aspire to office, and perchance to Presidential honors, we may astonish the natives with our eloquence, and shake the political world with the thunder of our patriotism. Although we cannot promise you anything very brilliant in politics, we think it our duty to wield our influence in advocacy of what we think right in every public question, and this we shall fearlessly try to do.

Our political complexion will be DEMOCRATIC. Some of our friends said "Make it Republican—Mexico has no Republican paper, and you will get all their patronage"; but we could not conscientiously do that. Some say "Editors have no such thing as conscience." Well you see we have not got hardened yet. Others said "Make it Independent. I think you will get some support from both parties," but you see we are not Independent. We don't like to begin life by crawling upon the fence. To have to set on the ragged edge of the fence all our life and be hooted at by all free-thinking, reflecting men merely to gain patronage is more than we can stand.

While we don't propose as we stated above, to be dogmatic in politics, and abuse folks about whom we know nothing, only because they don't think as we do, yet we intend in our feeble way to support the cause of Democracy, having for our watchword reform, and do all we can for Tilden, the prince of reformers, and whose very name sends a thrill to the heart of every true American.

We shall devote most of our space to matters of local interest. By local interest we do not confine it to the city, but embrace the whole county and surrounding counties, and we solicit the aid of our readers in matters of local importance throughout the country. Give us the facts. It matters not whether they are "ship shape" or not. Give us the main points of interest as they come under your notice in your respective spheres and sections, and we will shape them for the press with pleasure.

We are young—most too young some think, to undertake this enterprise—but a young man has to commence life some time, and we think with a fair share of your patronage and encouragement, and with untiring energy on our part, (which we promise you); we will perhaps meet with some success. As time rolls on and we grow in experience, we hope to improve and eventually give you a paper that shall be an honor to the city, the pride of our friends, and reflect credit on the party whose standard we carry. We intend as far as possible to avoid all personalities and needless pitching into our friends and neighbors. As we intimated it is not our desire to create any disturbance in the world by picking at this one and that one just to have something to say, and try to get off something smart at the expense of others. We shall give you all the local news, calling out everything of this kind as offensive, and reflecting no credit on the paper or community and as disagreeable to all men of taste. We trust to make the paper the herald of news, and a promulgator of information, the shield and champion of local public interest and enterprise, and as far as possible, the corrector of local evil and abuses. R. M. WHITE.

—the extinguishment of slavery had legislated it out of existence. Again, after the overwhelming defeat of Greeley in 1872, we were emphatically given to understand that the Democratic party was gone up—dead as a door nail—never would make another national contest &c. So chronic has this penchant for prophecy grown with these sanguine makers, that notwithstanding the great set-back they got in 1864, they are again coming forward, even before the election, assuring us that if Tilden is defeated, the Democratic party will go to pieces and a new party will be reared in its stead.

Well, in spite of these predictions, it has never been so and it never will be so because it never can be so, even if Tilden were defeated, a contingency hardly to be regarded as among the possibilities. And why? Why has this party stood through bitter and cruel wars, both foreign and domestic, through financial crises and business crashes for three-quarters of a century, and seen its foes go down before it and perish out of sight, under four separate party names and organizations, and is yet permitted to come up snuffing the air of victory, its tenets the same, its name unchanged, and its prospects never brighter? Simply because its principles are axiomatic truths, and truth is eternal. Policies conceived of men and born of human ambitions may fail and do fail; but the great state policies that underlie Democracy and constitute its teachings can never perish. As well might we look for the law of gravitation to fail, and a new order of things obtain concerning the balance and harmony of the Universe. One is as imperishable and unchanging as the other and both are everlasting. Truth is mighty, and will prevail.

EDITING A PAPER.

Editing a paper is a very pleasant business. If it contains too much political matter the people don't believe it. If the type are too small, the people won't read it. If we publish telegraph reports, people say they are lies; if we omit them, they say we are an old fossil. If we publish original matter, they blame us for not giving selections; if we publish selections, men say we are lazy for not writing more, but give them what they have read in some other paper. If we give a complimentary notice, we are censured for being partial; if we do not, all hands say we are a greedy hog. If we write an eulogy in praise of the good deeds of the departed, the living feel slighted; if we speak of faults, they say we had better look at home. If we insert an article that pleases the ladies, all the men become jealous; if we do not cater to their wishes, the paper is not fit to have in the house. If we attend church, they say it is only for effect; if we don't, they pronounce us deceitful and desperately wicked. If we remain in the office and attend to business, folks say we are too proud to mingle with our fellows; if we go out, they say we never attend to business. If we publish poetry, we affect sentimentalism; if we don't, we have no literary or cultivated taste. If the mail does not deliver our paper promptly, then they say we don't publish "on time;" if it does, they are afraid we are getting ahead of time. If we don't pay our bills promptly, folks say we are not to be trusted.

"Birds of a Feather" &c. Grant, Cameron, Chandler and Babcock all at Long Branch. Hayes is invited to be with them and enjoy himself for a few days. He remembered that story about 'Little dog tray' and staid away. Can it be possible that he is trying to avoid his backers for this reason. The following and others of the same complexion in and out of jail are Hayes reformers (?) Belknap, Babcock, Boss Shepherd, Schenck, Ben Butler, Tom Murphy McDonald, McKee, Joyce, Avery, Bill Kemble, Bullock, Kellogg, Packard, Casey & Co. Wonder if Hayes don't wish that all of them were where he would not have to dodge them and where most of them belong.

CORRESPONDENCE.

OUR NEW YORK LETTER. New York, Sept. 14. TILDEN, ROBINSON AND SEYMOUR.

The three names that head the branches of the New York Democratic tickets are in themselves enough to guarantee success. The ticket is harmonious, complete, magnificent. For the purpose of the present canvass it could not be equalled. Next to Tilden, Robinson is the embodiment of the recent movement for Administrative Reform in New York. Horatio Seymour needs no eulogy. The millions of Democratic voters of the United States would receive his name with the same joyous shout that greeted his nomination at the first Saratoga Convention. There are facts about the suppression of the gigantic frauds here not generally known. One of them is that in the beginning and throughout the whole course of the war against Tweed, there were four men in constant and anxious consultation—Samuel J. Tilden, Horatio Seymour, Francis Kernan and Lucius Robinson. Mr. Tilden, who bore the heavy weight of the fight in New York City, confided as he was of the power of prostrate right and weakness of domineering fraud, was in all his movements strengthened and consoled by the advice and approbation of the great pure men. Nothing could be more appropriate to the great contest for reform in the Centennial year than the nomination of such men as Tilden, Seymour and Robinson to take high place in the affairs of the Nation and State, fortified as before by the discreet and courageous advice of Francis Kernan.

MR. KELLEY'S WITHDRAWAL.

It was a graceful and proper act on the part of Mr. John Kelley to request the substitution of Mr. Seymour's name for his on the electoral ticket as associated with Mr. DeWitt C. West, one of the best known and staunchest of New York Democrats. Mr. Kelley, in common with all other Democratic leaders, appreciates the fact that all considerations, of local or personal interest must yield to the greatness of the exigency. Mr. Kelley is a sagacious and earnest Democrat, and has added to his reputation by his course at Saratoga. There is perfect harmony in the State, and there need be no apprehension anywhere about what our Republican friends were for the last week pleased to call 'Democratic blunder.' To-day they have very much less to say about Democratic blunders, and much more about the urgent necessity of work for Morgan.

All who are in need of teas or any fancy groceries, will do well to call on A. Holmes. He will be found at Ryerson's old stand for a few days, at least.

L. B. FETTER Has just received a well-selected stock of Watches, Jewelry, &c., Direct from New York, Which he proposes to dispose of VERY LOW PRICES. Give him a call, and you will be satisfied that his store is the place to buy anything in the Jewelry line. All kinds of Repairing Promptly and Neatly Executed. In the Room with T. A. Jones, South side of the Square.

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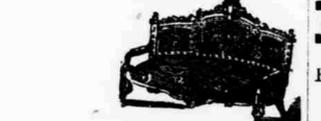
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The Russian Court invited Mr. Ayer and his family to the Archduke's wedding in the Ruya Palace. The distinction was awarded him not only because he was an American, but also because his name as a physician had become favorably known in Russia on its passage round the world (Pueblo, (Col.) People. Drs. Macfarlane & Spence, at Office over Llewellyn's Drug Store, Mexico, Mo

TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, Silas Wilson and Eliza A. Wilson, his wife, by their deeds of trust dated August 31, 1875, and recorded in the Recorder's office in and for the county of Audrain, State of Missouri, in book "L," page 29, conveyed to B. R. Gauthorn, as trustee, the following described real estate, situate in said county of Audrain, to-wit: Lot number two (2), in Howe's subdivision to the town of Mexico, and further designated as survey number two hundred and eight (208) in the northwest fourth of the southeast quarter of section twenty-six (26), township fifty-one (51), of range nine (9) west, formerly known as the Rickett's property, the same being now situated in the city of Mexico, are which said conveyance was made to said Gauthorn, to secure the payment of a certain promissory note there in described; and, whereas, said note has become due and now remains unpaid; and, whereas, it is provided in said deed of trust, that in case of default, refusal to act or absence from the state, inability or refusal to act by said trustee, then the sheriff of Audrain county, Missouri, should proceed to execute said deed of trust; and, whereas, said B. R. Gauthorn, is now absent from said State; now, therefore, the undersigned, sheriff of Audrain county, Missouri, by virtue and in pursuance of said deed of trust, and at the request of the holder of said note, will, on THURSDAY, O. T. 5, 1876, sell said property, at public vendue, to the highest bidder, at the East front door of the Cour. House, in the city of Mexico, A. M. 10 o'clock, for cash, to satisfy said note and the expenses of executing said deed of trust. JNO. J. STEELE, Sheriff of Audrain County, Trustee. Sept. 14, 1876-3t.

SHERIFF'S SALE IN PARTITION

Edward A. Fisk and Others } In partition } Against } William A. Sharp, Deft. } By virtue and authority of an order of sale, made by the Circuit Court of the county of Audrain, in the State of Missouri, in the above-entitled cause, on the 17th day of June, 1876, a duly certified copy of which order was to me delivered by the Clerk of said Court, dated August 21, 1876, I will on THURSDAY, OCT. 5, 1876, between the hours of 9 o'clock a. m. and 5 o'clock p. m. of that day, at the East front door of the Court House, in the city of Mexico, county of Audrain, sell the following described real estate at public vendue to the highest bidder, to-wit: The northeast fourth of the northwest quarter of section three (3), township fifty-one (51) of range five (5) west, in Audrain county, Missouri. TERMS OF SALE.—One half cash, and the balance in six months, with ten per cent. interest from day of sale. JNO. J. STEELE, Sheriff of Audrain County. Sept. 14, 1876-3t.

It GOES TO SHOW Why is it that the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway is compelled from time to time to run special passenger trains to accommodate the people going to Texas? Simply because they have a smoother track, neater coaches, more commodious sleeping cars, better eating houses, and better accommodations generally, than any other line of railway. The one prominent feature, and one which every body going to Texas seems to be posted on is the trip through the beautiful Indian Territory and the entrance into Texas at its wonderful "Gate City," Denison. To visit this great state and not see Denison, Sherman and Dallas, and the beautiful panoramic Northern Texas, would be a trip ever to be regretted, and if there is any truth in a "man hating himself," it would not certainly be true in the case of an individual attempting to visit Texas and not see Denison Sherman and Dallas. FREE For your benefit, dear reader, we have at a small expense, just issued a complete Guide, full of beautiful engravings, maps and very interesting reading matter, describing the Great Southwest, her free and her cheap lands, her cities, towns, rivers, schools, churches, mines, forests, prairies, manufactures, coal, climate, &c. To those contemplating a trip to the beautiful Southwest, in search of a home, or health, or business, or investment, the information will be invaluable. It is accompanied with county and sectional maps, newspapers, rates of fare and freight, and will be mailed you free of charge. Send your address and the address of your friends and neighbors for a copy of the Free Guide to the Southwest. Address: JAS. D. BROWN, Texas and Kansas Emigrant Agent, SEBILLA, Mo. ENTER TEXAS AT DENISON.

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