THE TELEGRAPH:

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G. W. McCRANIE,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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The Ouachita Telegraph.

"ENGAGED IN THE DEFENSE OF AN HONORABLE CAUSE, I WOULD TAKE A DECISIVE PART."—JUNIUS.

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GEORGE D. PRENTICE.

EXTRACTS FROM THE MEMORIAL ADDRESS OF HENRY WATTERSON, BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE OF KENTUCKY, Feb. 2, 1870.

There certainly never arose in this country a more pointed or a more finished wit, and where his passions were not concerned, a more refined, exquisite and penetrating judgment. For nearly a third of a century he was, as Hazlitt said of Cobbett, a sort of fourth estate in the politics of America. Whatever cause he espoused, he defended by a style of argument that was never trite nor feeble, nor muddy nor confused, but was luminous and strong, enriched by all that was necessary to establish it and decorate it, and suited exactly to the temper of the times and the comprehension of the people, which he seldom failed to hit between the acorn and the hull. In considering his career, however, I shall ask leave to speak of him rather as I knew him in his own person, than as he was known to the public through the transactions in which he bore a part. I take it for granted that you are not at all curious to learn what opinion I or any man may entertain of this or that political event; and at the very best, opinions will differ on these points, leaving us, in the end, nothing assured or distinct. If we would understand history, we must study the men who made it, and, in order to get a clear notion of their characters and motives, we need not take the record, but the spirit of their lives.

Of his marriage, after his wife had been taken from him, he was himself not averse to speaking, and dwelt upon her memory with touching fondness. He loved to refer to her as a girl, and it is curious that she is the only woman I ever heard him speak of with genuine warmth and tenderness, although there were many good and gentle women who had been his life-long friends. "I have not had credit," he said on one occasion, "for being a devoted husband; but if I had my life to go over, that is the only relation I would not alter; she was the wisest, the purest, the best and the most thoroughly enchanting woman I ever knew." Most persons will call to mind the exquisite verses which he addressed to her. Verses, you are possibly aware, are not always truth-tellers; but in this instance they expressed the impulses of a nature which, readily impressed as it was by all things agreeable, could not be drawn out to the full by one of less grace of mind and heart. His affection for children was likewise intense, and the loss of his elder son was a terrible blow. I know of nothing more affecting than his fondness for a little, fair-haired, bright-eyed boy, a grandson, who bears his name.

Strangers supposed that he was decrepit, and there existed an impression that he had resigned his old place to younger and more active spirits. He resigned nothing. I doubt whetherhe ever did more work, or better work, during any single year of his lite than during this last year. He said, on the 1st of January, 1869, "I will make the last years of my life the best years of my life, and I shall work like a tiger;" and he did work like a machine which seemed to have no stop in it. In a note to Mr. Haldeman, two or three months ago, he wrote: "I work twenty-four hours a day, and the reason I do not work more is because the days are no longer." I have had some personal knowledge of the working capacity of the two newspaper writers in this country who have been reputed the readiest and most profuse; but I never knew any one who could write as much as Prentice in a given time, or sustain the quantity and quality of his work for so long a time. Mr. Raymond used to run abroad when fagged out, and Mr. Forney takes frequent recreative internals. Prentice was unresting.—He actually averaged from fifteen to eighteen hours a day, and kept this up month after month, turning out column upon column of all sorts of matter, "from gay to grave, from lively to severe."

He was a careful as well as a voluminous writer; set great store by critical accuracy of expression and exactness in marks of punctuation; and was an amateur grammarian, learned in all the methods, though wedded to his own. He invariably revised the manuscript of his amanuensis, and read his proof-sheets to the last. And yet, except to have his matter appear correctly, he was indifferent to it. He used to say, "Use no ceremony with my matter. A man who writes as much as I do cannot expect to hit the nail always on the head." But he did hit it nearer than anybody else. He was very much attached to Mr. Shipman, and had perfect confidence in the taste and judgment of that able writer and scholar. Some times he would write a paragraph, not over nice, but always funny, intended to be struck out by Shipman. Often enough the wit got the better of Shipman's scruples, and the paragraph went in, which seemed to amuse Prentice vastly. He was by no means sensitive to what we call the "proprieties," and regarded many of the conventional notions of society as affected and absurd, and entitled to little respect.

On his poems Prentice himself put no great account. They were thrown off idly. He wrote verses, he said, as a discipline, or for recreation. The best of them is undoubtedly the "Closing Year," which has many fine lines and images, and will always be a favorite recitative. The "Lines on my Mother's Grave," and "the Lines to my Son," are also exquisitely pathetic. Albert Pike once recited the "Lines on My Mother's Grave" at a club party in Washington in a way that left not a dry eye in the room. But, after all, the fame of Prentice must stand not upon any one piece of work which he did, but upon the purpose and influence of his whole life; its realization of every public demand; its adaptation to every party need; its current readiness and force; its thorough consistency from first to last. He did more for others and asked less for himself than any public man of his day. He put hundreds of men into office, but he was never a candidate for office himself. He relied exclusively upon his newspaper, and by this agency alone rose to eminence.

POLITICS A NECESSARY STUDY.—We find the following excellent sentiments in the Morehouse Conservative:

It is true that all we have, and all we expect to have, whether of christianity or civilization, must go hand in hand with and come from our political surroundings. It behooves every man then to be *earnest* in politics. Show us an indifferent or neutral Christian and we will show you a *lukewarm* one. Show us an indifferent or neutral anything or anybody, and we will show you a *lukewarm* devotee—a *passer*, not an *actor* in life. Thus a lukewarm politician is an indifferent patriot. The earnest patriot cannot separate politics from social life. The action of the social upon the political system, and the reaction of the political upon the social system, are so intimately connected that to have healthy action, and bring forth good results, one must operate on the economy of the other like the heart and brain on our physical organization.

A NOVELTY.—In the Constitutional Convention of Tennessee, now sitting in Nashville, there is not a single member whose nativity is beyond Mason and Dixon's line. Five are from Virginia, five from North Carolina, three from Kentucky, and two from Maryland. The remainder are all natives of Tennessee. What a happy people—a Convention to frame the organic law which is to act as the guide board of the future legislation of the State, has in it not a single carpet-bagger to mar the harmony of the body.

Radical Opinion of Warmoth and the Election Bill.

The following rather decided sentiments we find expressed editorially in the columns of the New Orleans Tribune, a Radical paper edited by free men of color:

But the indignation against this Administration is not confined to Louisiana alone,—it is those very authors of the Reconstruction scheme that are equally earnest with ourselves to denounce our vicious leaders, and but for the fact that the State has now (and unfortunately) passed out of immediate Federal custody to rule herself, not a week would elapse before the Butlers, the Kelleys and the Sumners at the National Capital would hasten to repair the cruel distortion to which the plan of restoration has been subjected here and disperse the miserable tricksters who have so reproached the Republican policy and whose statesmanship is simply the cowardly cunning of filling his own pocket with other people's money. Nothing better betrays the distrust by this Administration of the people,—no less of Republicans than of Democrats—than the new Election Bill,—a most infamous anti-Republican instrument. The Governor knows that outside of his official proteges he has no friends on either side,—he expects, however, with their aid to dupe the colored element anew, especially in the country,—and wherever his cause is prejudiced by adverse votes, he is furnished in the Bill with facilities to invent a riot and then sit as arbiter. He can instigate an emeute at his convenience, prosecute it and then judicially examine it. We propose to scrutinize this Bill thoroughly in a few days,—we will say now that it is a mere desperate spasm to conquer his weakness with the people.

Irish Immigration.

Mr. A. H. Browne, of Jeanerette, has kindly furnished us with a letter from his brother, Mr. Samuel Browne, commission merchant and general agent, No. 9, Frankfort Terrace, Lower Gloucester street, Dublin, Ireland, from which we make the following extract:

"In relation to that part of your letter which refers to Emigration: I think I could easily obtain a full cargo of good laborers, by paying their passage out; indeed, want of means has prevented many thousands from emigrating. All who had the means have gone before this, and many thousands were taken out, I am sorry to say, by your *paternal* grand-mother and made "food for powder," in order to subdue the noble Confederate people, who were struggling for the very same thing that the people of Ireland have so long been sighing for. I would be glad to correspond with any persons who are desirous of having good hard-working men, accustomed to the soil. None other would I send—unless, indeed, you wished some good mechanics. You would require to specify the class of emigrants most suitable; also, the probable amount of wages for each class. I would like, also, to know *the prospect industrious young farmers* would have of becoming possessors or proprietors of soil, with a statement of your land laws, mode of culture, most profitable crops, and any other facts desirable for farmers to know. I would especially be glad to know the kind of people, morally or physically, objected to, etc. We are just now promised some beneficial changes in our "Irish Land Laws," and many who would otherwise emigrate will wait the result, but I know too well the character of English legislation to put any confidence in that quarter."

Here is a good opportunity for our planters to supply themselves with the very best class of laboeres, and they should enter into immediate correspondence with Mr. Browne, making arrangements for any number of laborers they may need next fall; as of course, it is too late to secure them for this year's crop. — *New Iberia Times, 28th ult.*

Advertising Regulations.

Transient advertisements must be paid for in advance.
Cards of a *personal character*—when admissible—will be charged double our regular advertising rates.
All advertisements sent to this office, when not otherwise ordered, will be inserted "till forbid" and charged accordingly.
No fractional of squares counted *as such*, but they will be charged as whole squares in every instance.
Obituary and Marriage notices will be charged as advertisements.
☞ Professional cards $10 per annum; months $12,50, in advance.

AGENTS:

The following Agents are authorized to act for the TELEGRAPH:

Tardraw & Co. ..... New York.
Wharton & Co. ..... New Orleans.
McIntyre & Co. ..... "
Frank Michaux, ... "
John Janney, ... "
Louis Davis, ... "

The Fifteenth Amendment declares that "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State, on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude;" and a genius, editor of a Kentucky paper, advises the Legislature of that State to enact a law providing that "no person shall be elector in this Commonwealth who has wool or kinky hair on his scalp," and that any person who shaves or otherwise removes the wool or hair from his head, so as to deceive the judges of election, shall be indicted and punished, as provided by law, for fraudulent voting.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES.—It will be remembered that a Radical chap, calling himself William Francis McLean, started and published *only two* numbers of a six by ten newspaper, in our Town, some time last year. This sheet was called the "Rapides Tribune," and published by authority the Laws of Louisiana and all Judicial advertisements of Rapides Parish. As we said two numbers only were ever published, then the concern went up the spout. We now see by the Official Journal of the State, that said McLean was duly allowed the snug little sum of *four thousand four hundred and eighteen dollars* for publishing these two numbers of his Radical sheet. This is a fair specimen of how the poor State is robbed, and how these Radical adventurers and thieves are made to prosper at the expense of a down-trodden and over-taxed people. Will the day of reckoning never come?—*Alexandria Democrat.*

The Savannah Republican reports that the complaints of a lack of sufficient force to carry on the plantation interests the present year come from every part of Georgia. It says many of the negroes have died; very many have flocked to the railroads now building; the towns have absorbed a good share; some have hired or bought lands and gone to work on their own account, and the women, as a general rule, have wholly deserted the fields.

Capt. Tobin says that there is no doubt about his new boat, the Wade Hampton, leaving promptly, as advertised, on Saturday, the 19th inst. She will make her trial trip on Thursday, after which she will commence receiving freight. Her machinery is all intact, and there is nothing to do but some gilding and ornamental work. So shippers need not think because she is a new boat she will not get off at the advertised time.—*Courier Journal, 15th inst.*

The man who don't advertise has his store hung around with shingles and barrel-heads, inscribed with lampblack, "Irish Pertaters," "Korn Meel," "Flower," "All kinds of kontury projuce," "Kaikes and Kandies for sail here." He says: "There arn't no use in noospaper advertising so long as a man is smart enuff to tend to his own business, and kin stand at the door and holler the fellers in."

THE WASHINGTON RELICS,—The House Committee on Judiciary has agreed to report a bill to return to Mrs. R. E. Lee the articles formerly the property of General Washington, taken from Arlington in 1861 by General McDowell, and now in possession of the Interior Department, and which have since that time been on exhibition in the Patent Office.

The late Gen. St. John Liddell, an account of whose death was given in our issue of yesterday, had effected an insurance upon his life in three life insurance companies, amounting in the aggregate to $30,000, viz: In the Mound City, $20,000; in the Globe, $5000; in the Piedmont, $5000.—*N. O. Picayune.*

The annual report of the Secretary of the Peabody Educational Fund shows that Louisiana received since the last report $11,000, and $4000 additional for its normal schools and departments.