

GAZETTE & SENTINEL.

SUBSCRIPTION—Three Dollars and fifty cents per annum, if paid in advance; Five Dollars per annum, if not paid in advance.

SINGLE COPIES—Ten Cents.

PLAQUEMINE:

Saturday, November 24, 1860.

Public Meeting.

The meeting called at the Court House of this Parish of Iberville, this 22d day of Nov., inst., for the purpose of organizing a Military Company, styled the Minute Men of Plaquemine, and appointing officers for the same, was adjourned in consequence of inclement weather, to meet on TUESDAY, the 27th inst. at 2 o'clock P. M.

All those interested in the object for which the above adjourned meeting is called, are requested to be present on that occasion.

P. L. HIRIART, President.

C. A. ROTH, Secy.

Officers, &c., are to be elected at this meeting, besides other important matters done, and it is to be hoped that all, particularly of the corps of Minute Men, whose breasts are animated by the promptings of duty and of patriotism, will be present.

"Jefferson" shall appear in our next.

Our new advertisements this week will be found interesting.

A large and influential meeting, upon the present state of political affairs, was held at Brush Landing a few days since, and appropriate resolutions in conformity with the spirit of the resolutions previously adopted elsewhere, were passed. It was fully our intention to have given a more extended notice, had not the paper containing it, got lost.

COUNTERFEITS.—We learn that counterfeit \$10's, on the Canal Bank of New Orleans, (to what amount we know not,) were passed in our town yesterday by two or three strangers, "low, chunky men," we heard it said, who got off for New Orleans before the counterfeiters were discovered, going on the steamer Republic, which landed here to put out a passenger.

STOPPING THE DRIFT.—We learn that operations are about to be commenced at the mouth of Bayou Plaquemine, for the purpose of preventing the drift from entering the bayou—preventing the water, we think, would be more to the purpose.

We regret that the inadequacy of our limits prevent us from giving the eloquent remarks of Col. THEO. JOHNSTON, at the Grosse Isle Meeting, the proceedings of which will be found in our columns. We will endeavor however to give them next week.

CENTRAL AMERICAN CANE SUGAR.—We saw the other day a very good quality of sugar produced from the South American cane, on the plantation of ALEX. ROTH, Esq., which was brought to and distributed throughout the sugar region of our State by order of Government. The cane is very large and the saccharine matter very sweet, yet Mr. Roth, from its not being adapted to our climate perhaps, does not speak favorably of its merits.

MORE NEW SUGAR.—Among the beautiful specimens of new sugar that has been shown us the present season, is a parcel (and the size of the parcel, in all cases, is the only objection we have to the sugar) sent to us by Mons. E. MARY, sugar maker for Mme. PAULIN DUPUY, which will class "fully fair." If such is the character of her whole crop—and we presume the specimen represents that—the lady may well congratulate herself.

ACCOMPLISHED DAGUERREOTYPISTS COMING.—We have received a letter from Mr. T. BAKER, the Daguerreotypist who was here some time since, stating that himself and lady had just arrived in New Orleans from Europe, where they had obtained all the new improvements and instruments pertaining to their profession, enabling them to take portraits of life-like accuracy, from the size required for a ring up to twice the size of life, colored in oil or water colors. Their "Ivorytype" resembled a picture painted on ivory, and was very beautiful. It is the intention of Mr. Baker, he says, to pay us an early visit, and probably locate here.

DAN RICE COMING.—Everybody wants to see that hasn't seen Dan Rice. Such will be glad to know that he and his grand "One Horse Show," acting rhinoceros', learned jockeys, laughing chimpanzees and all that, will be here on the 6th of December.—See advertisement.

SERIOUS AFFRAY.—A serious affray occurred in the vicinity of Indian Village in this parish a few days since, between Paulin Avile and Theodore Guidry. The circumstances, or what led to it, we could not clearly ascertain or comprehend. But from what we could learn, it appears that Guidry acted on the defensive, and upon Avile making a demonstration of attack, the former drew his revolver and shot the latter twice, one shot through the neck and the other entering the upper lip, and burying the ball a couple of inches or so in that direction. Avile's wounds, tho' painful are not dangerous.

Our readers will find an article taken from the Delta, the Paid in which, referring to Boyd's difficulties, are worthy of Gun C. Led Pe. Ink.

The Meeting Last Saturday.

In our supplement of to-day, we give the proceedings, our remarks, &c., of the public meeting held in our town last Saturday, and which we gave in an extra on Monday. This meeting was gotten up with the sole idea that it would be eminently a meeting of the people of this parish, with nothing whatever of party in it, assembled for the purpose of giving some form to their sentiments in the present disastrous state of public affairs, and to unite their voices as citizens engaged in a common cause and sharing a common peril, in prescribing some mode of action necessary to the present crisis, arising out of the election of a President (by a sectional unanimity unparalleled) upon principles destructive of our constitutional rights and the wiping from our soil an institution transmitted to us by the blood of our fathers, and in which is centered our wealth, our greatest pride and holiest associations.

That meeting was entirely a success, if we predicate our opinion upon the usual grounds establishing such fact—its density and unanimity. Having originated through the call of prominent and influential gentlemen, all of whom were antagonistic in their political principles previous to the election, we saw at that meeting what we expected to see, an honest and friendly admixture of Douglas men, Bell men and Breckinridge men, all met together in good faith and harmony, for an object or an aim in which all were equally interested, and where all were called upon for such resolutions as they might deem proper to submit to the meeting.

While all political parties were represented at that meeting, it seemed as if all classes, trades and professions were equally well represented. Surely, thought we, the expression of a meeting thus constituted, will be a pretty fair evidence of public sentiment, and that he or they would be bold and fastidious indeed who could find fault with and denounce it.—Let us see what is that sentiment as set forth in its preamble and resolutions:

It cannot be doubted that the election of Lincoln by a fanatical majority, is a warning to the South to be ready for that "irrepressible conflict," which aims at the destruction of all we hold dear, socially and politically.

The first resolution calls for the convening of the Legislature at this important crisis, with the view of calling a Convention of the people, to decide upon the course this State shall take.

The second resolution, in the spirit of true patriotism, reminds all of their high duty to forget past political differences, and to unite together in fraternal bonds, for the protection of Southern rights and honor.

The third resolution holds to a right, with out which State sovereignty is a nonentity, and the people the slaves of a federal fanatical majority such as that which now presents itself; its latter clause is a duty which the instincts of self-preservation alone point to.

The fourth resolution recommends the adoption of a symbol which in the Revolution was an emblem of our sincerity, our patriotism and the justice of our cause, and one eminently proper and patriotic to be adopted at the present juncture.

The fifth recommends what appears to be an absolute necessity, at least a course which prudent counsels would ever approve.

EVIDENCE OF BEING ENEMY IN A RUMBLE CASE.—The True Delta, true to its instincts and to its pertinacity in opposing every thing just and true, right any righteous, in politics, and ever antagonistic to the popular feeling of the people, has come out in its usual tirade against the present movements of the masses—in holding meetings to congregate in the present crisis, in their forming companies of Minute Men, &c.—and nasty, against the act of Gov. Moore in convening the Legislature. All this:

"Fuss and fury,
Signifying nothing."

on the part of the "Organ," whose notes are ever in ill accord with the sentiments of the "People," proves to us most indubitably that the present movement of the masses is all right—that the people are acting as becomes them as men, as patriots, as lovers of the Constitution and their own institutions under it.

If there is in reality any opposition to the sentiment manifested here and elsewhere irrespective of party feeling, we opine it will show itself in the dark, as the propagation of it in the broad light of day might cost its devotees a name that disgraced many of our people in the time of the Revolution—and in case of actual hostilities, place them in an attitude which might cost them something still dearer.

We would not have better evidence of the propriety and patriotism of any course of action, than to have such course repudiated by the journal above alluded to. We should be glad then to see it persist in its captious spirit of opposition to the calling of an extra session of the Legislature, a Convention, &c., and for doing all things in the present momentous crisis of our affairs which wisdom and valorous promptings dictate—for, judging from the history of the past, eminent triumph and success of any cause or principle devolving upon the action of the people, are sure to follow what that immaculate journal sets its head against.

THE RIVER.—The river at this point has been rising fast for several days. The great nuisance of ferrying Bayou Plaquemine has again commenced, to the great chagrin of those who live close by, and are forced to visit Plaquemine often. We perceive, as one good result, however, that our ferry boat "Uncle Tommy," is again afloat, and may probably have her steam up by the time our paper goes to press.

CALL FOR AN EXTRA SESSION.—Governor Moore has issued his proclamation convening the Legislature on the 10th day of next month.

FLORIDA.—News has been received at Pensacola that Breckinridge's majority in Florida will be 4000.

Correct Sentiment.

We are not, in any political excitement or emergency, for flying off rashly and impulsively without any thought of consequences, like an axe from a rotten hilt, with the prospect of being more injured by such a course, than any possible good resulting from it. While we think it is utterly folly and madness, as well as being supremely ridiculous and disgustingly cowardly and degrading, for the people of any slave State to dream of submitting to the administration of a President pledged to the destruction of our dearest rights—yet we think, in our meetings and deliberations, we owe it to that small minority at the North who stand by us in the late contest, and particularly to our friends in the border States where the clash of arms will first be heard if heard at all, that we manifest our feelings and determinations in the spirit and language similar to the Resolutions adopted at the large meeting in this town last Saturday, which, while it assures the dominant party of our determination, leaves to them the responsibility of a dissolution of the Union, (without the necessity of any such declaration on our part) and to them the means of preserving it, if any such they can devise. But to sweep the matter of our duty and our principles, in a crisis presenting such alarming considerations, we could not fail of right—and it would be setting in conformity to the sense and spirit of the resolutions we allude to above as having passed here—by adopting, individually and collectively, the following line of conduct as proclaimed by Maj. Wm. H. Chase, of Pensacola, an officer whom we have long known, individually and by reputation, as a gentleman of high integrity and valor, and as true a lover of the Union as he is a determined adherent and defender of the rights of his State and the South. In a late letter he indulges the following as the course which honor and patriotism require of him. Can any one doubt the correctness of such sentiments? There is no danger of such position resulting upon our own heads. He says:

"My allegiance however, is due, and shall ever be paid to my adopted State, of which I have been a citizen for thirty one years; and I pledge my adherence to whatever line of policy may be adopted or pursued by the State Government—whether it places the State out of the United States as a sovereign and independent entity—whether it joins a sovereign confederacy of the cotton or slave States—or whether it adheres to the Union, as it now exists. Or, in other words; whether the State elects to fight the battle of a violated and a desecrated Constitution in or out of the Union—to that point is my service due, and to that point it shall be rendered. Any may God preserve the right."

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[For the Gazette and Sentinel. What Shall We Do?

The foregoing question was not propounded with deeper feelings of solicitude by the Philadelphian jailor to the Apostles, than those who are entertained by every man among us capable of appreciating the critical position of the South at this time; but strange to say that notwithstanding these deep feelings of solicitude, the opinions and the responses to the foregoing question, are as diversified as they are numerous, when the past, the present and the future, all suggest but one answer and point to but one line of policy to be adopted by the South. That the dissolution of the Union has become *only a question of time*, the most confirmed "Union at any price," men are almost constrained to admit; yet more, the very sentiments which they a few years since denounced as "treasonable," are now on the eve of being regarded by them as the *Shield* of the South.

Without any intention or desire to be obtrusive, or without any expectation of giving direction to public opinion upon the issues before us, but prompted with a desire to call forth a free expression of opinion and an interchange of ideas as to those issues, (for every man whose destiny is linked with the fate of the South, must feel an interest in the result and should therefore speak,) I beg leave to trouble you and the readers of your Journal, with what I conceive to be the only line of policy to be adopted with safety.

In the first place then, I think that the dissolution of the Union is not a question of time only, but that it was *virtually decided* when a majority of the people of the North decided on the 6th November past, that a war of aggression was more suitable to their taste, and more in keeping with the true spirit of the Constitution, than was the acknowledgement of the equality of the States in the Union, as guaranteed by the letter of the Constitution.

It is an act of folly on the part of any true Southern man, to attempt to quiet the serious apprehensions of the masses, by an allusion to the fact that Mr. Lincoln's election was clothed with all the formalities required by the Constitution, and that loyalty to the Union therefore demands that we should wait for an "overt act" before attempting to assert our rights as citizens of sovereign States.

Why, every man who has sense enough to know his right hand from his left, must know that Mr. Lincoln is but the representative of a certain line of policy which his supporters have declared their intention to carry out—one which they have been battling for both in and out of Congress. It is the popular text in every Northern pulpit, and the favorite theme for every school room dissertation; it is their grand centre of political attraction, overshadowing and absorbing all other issues, as the late canvass has clearly demonstrated. And instead of the Federal Constitution being recognized by them as the shield of each sovereign State against the aggressive acts of the others, they have converted it into a mighty engine of oppression, and will make it the medium of destruction of our peculiar institution. A more unequivocal "Overt Act" can not be expected than that embodied in the declaration of principles upon which, exclusively, Mr. Lincoln was elected and to the support of which Executive patronage he stands pledged just as much so as any other resident has ever stood pledged to carry out the views of the party electing them, and if he fails to obey the behests of Black Republicanism, he will form an exception worthy of a monument as high as the tower of Babel, for such a course would certainly prove as disastrous to Black Republicanism and thwart their plans as did the confusion of tongues at the building of the aforesaid tower. I would however just as leave expect to gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles, as to expect such a line of policy from Mr. Lincoln.

We are told that he will issue a proclamation guaranteeing our safety and a faithful execution of the slave bill. If he does, the South should treat it in the same way that Gen. Taylor treated St. Anna's flag of truce which was sent out in order to gain time to bring up his rear forces at Buena Vista. Our safety demands immediate action, the chasm which lies before us is still passable without the shedding of blood; but if we allow our relentless foes to quietly take possession of the Army, the Navy, the Treasury, it needs no prophet's eye to read our future, nor will it require more than one effective stroke of the "irrepressible conflict" policy to drench our land with human gore.

The question is often asked how shall we avert the evils with which the present aspect of affairs threaten us? What are the prudential steps to be taken? Can a single State secede? I see nothing in the Constitution of the United States which acknowledges the right of a single State to secede and still leave the Constitution *intact* as to the others. If the Constitution was merely a compact between the States, then I agree that any State could withdraw at will and without being compelled to urge any reason for so doing.

Charleston, La. Nov. 17. W. L. H.

[CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

He who, for sordid gain, plots the ruin of his neighbor, will find that he has only been digging the grave of his own honor.

A wise man takes all adversities and misfortunes as blessings in disguise. He laughs, and is always happy, while the poor complaining simpleton fancies happiness to consist in idle pleasures—and never finds it.

At the late election there were twenty-seven towns in Massachusetts which returned each on Breckinridge's vote.

He that finds a thing steals it if he endeavors not to restore it.

The population of Nashville, Tenn., according to the last census, is 17,020.

THE QUIET OR INACTIVE POLICY.—The New Orleans Crescent, the leading organ in the late canvass of the Bell and Everett party, and distinguished for its devotion to the Union, makes the following remarks in a late issue:

We believe this policy of inactivity to be ruinous policy. We think it fraught with every attribute of mischief—every element of danger—without a solitary redeeming quality. We say this with all possible respect for the opinions of those friends who differ from us. We do not impugn their motives, or question the honesty of their intentions. They are just as good Southerners as we are. But we do maintain that their policy will, if carried out, destroy the very objects they have in view; that it will result in the subjugation and ultimate ruin of the South; that it is the *very policy*, and the only policy, the Black Republicans of the North wish us to pursue at this juncture; and that, if we are going to act at all, now is the time to act, and if we are going to submit, let us submit in safety. At any rate, we hope to hear no more about "Overt acts," to be committed by Lincoln or his Government, whether it be resistance or submission is adopted by the Southern people. Had the "Overt act" doctrine prevailed in 1776, the Declaration of Independence would never have been written.

Without any intention or desire to be obtrusive, or without any expectation of giving direction to public opinion upon the issues before us, but prompted with a desire to call forth a free expression of opinion and an interchange of ideas as to those issues, (for every man whose destiny is linked with the fate of the South, must feel an interest in the result and should therefore speak,) I beg leave to trouble you and the readers of your Journal, with what I conceive to be the only line of policy to be adopted with safety.

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