

THE DEMOCRAT.

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GRANT VS. STANTON.

The New York Times, in bestowing upon General Grant some excellent counsel as to the composition of his cabinet, suggests that ex-Secretary Stanton be made secretary of the treasury, and is of the opinion that the recent disclosure that Stanton twice ordered General Banks to relieve Grant from command during the siege of Vicksburg, ought not to prevent the president elect from availing himself of Stanton's brains.

It is not probable that General Grant shares this charitable and patriotic view. He does not want a man in his cabinet who has tried to stab him in the back, and has frowned on him when looking in his face.

What has become of the orders issued to Banks to relieve Grant? They were on file in the war department. They are missing. Who was chiefly interested in their disappearance? Who was most likely to have stolen them? It has frequently been charged that Stanton would not hesitate to steal or destroy evidence in the war department which exonerated him. Now comes the proof of the truth of the charge. Banks' pockets were safer places of deposit than the solid stone walls in which Stanton reigned.—*Chicago Times.*

ALABAMA CLAIMS.

The state department has received the official treaty for the settlement of the Alabama claims. It has been correctly reported. Washington dispatches of yesterday said that the committee on foreign relations has not considered it, and will not report on it until the new administration shall come in. Mr. Sumner, chairman of the committee, is opposed to the ratification, and there is a rumor that General Grant has expressed himself strongly against it. The latter is improbable. It is not a matter on which he would be likely to take ground at this time, and it is well known that he has a great admiration for Mr. Seward as a diplomatist.

Inasmuch as our national debt binds us in the sum of \$2,000,000,000 "good and lawful" money of the United States, to keep the peace, there is but just one point to consider about the treaty which Reverdy Johnson has negotiated. Has he got the best terms we can get without going to war? Let the opponents of the treaty say exactly what they would have. Let them say, if Great Britain will not yield what they demand, what they propose to do about it. Is the treaty to be damned because Reverdy Johnson shook hands with Laird?

REPUDIATION.

Those who wish to see how many and eminent examples may be cited in favor of repudiation of national debts, and how ingenious and plausible an argument can be made in support of such a policy, ought to read the pamphlet of Mr. Butts, late of the Rochester (N. Y.) Union. He says: "No large national debt has ever been paid, or discharged, except by repudiation."

The debt then, of the United States, if it please God, and the bondholders will believe themselves as men possessed of bowels, shall form an honorable exception to this rule. The tax-payers will pay the debt once, provided an attempt is not made to make them pay it twice. They will pay it once, if they be not so few in number, and so poor, by reason of the exemption of the rich from taxation, that the burden prove not greater than they can bear. Considering that the government is daily guilty of repudiation in the payment of pensions to soldiers' widows and orphans, and of bounties to soldiers themselves, the bondholders should have a wholesome fear of public indignation aroused by schemes for wholesale swindling. Will the take "justice and their bond?"—*Chicago Times.*

THE BOOK BUSINESS.—But few persons have any proper comprehension of how vast is the book business in this country. Take one item, for instance, as illustrative. Matthew Hale Smith's "Sunshine and Shadow in New York," which is the exciting work of the day, has already reached the enormous sale of 25,000 copies within thirty days. The publishers, J. B. Burr & Co., of Hartford, Conn., use two tons of paper a day, and run six large roller presses constantly to supply the current demand. This is doing a wholesale business with one book alone. This is a large work, between seven and eight hundred pages royal octavo. Surely our reading country.

MEMORIAL.

Respectfully inscribed to Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Thayer, on the death of their only daughter.
How can we say to thee "be calm"? For every wind there is a balm; For every thine own, one heart have balm, And every heart that is comforted, Like thine own soul, torn and bleeding, We bade not the inward pleading, Which told us all neglected— Of thine own symmetries— But buried our grief till it became A garment wrapped around our home.

Yet, all we can, we offer thee, Of comfort, hope and sympathy; Hush, oh, hush, the dear, The blossoms of thy earthly care.

Syracuse, Jan. 29, 1869. H. M. R.

CORRESPONDENCE.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 2, 1869.
Ed. Democrat:

The general assembly has passed but few bills so far, and but little has been done in which the people generally are to be benefitted. About 270 bills have been introduced for the consideration of the concentrated wisdom of the law makers, and before the session closes we may expect some warm discussions.

The temperance question, the railroads, the gravel roads, the negro school bill, are subjects on which the orators are expected to spread themselves. On the subject of temperance several bills have been presented for the consideration of the committee, but as yet, no report has been agreed upon. The first, and I believe the only petition, on this subject, was presented to-day, by Capt. Johnson, from citizens of Marshall county, principally of Bourbon township. Three or four hundred petitions on the subject of railroad extensions, &c., have been presented.

If the people knew how little attention is paid to these petitions of every kind, they would not go to the trouble of procuring names and sending them in. Gentlemen who believe that something must be done to remedy the evils complained of, find it very difficult to point out the exact plan by which the desired result can be brought about. Some must be done, and the railroad interests may not be surprised to learn out of these days that their "consolidations" have been knocked into a "cocked hat."

The speaker of the house, Hon. A. P. Stanton, is a young man congenial to his nature, and so far has given satisfaction to the members generally. He is a little absent-minded, and occasionally makes some laughable mistakes. In putting a question the other day, he said: As many as are in favor of the bill will say I am your nose is called! Of course the house come down. Again: As many as are in favor of laying the motion on the floor will say I."

The eldest member in the house is Mr. Carnahan. Mr. Williams, of Knox county, resembles Abraham Lincoln, and is the tallest man in the house. Mr. Tebb is the smallest. Mr. Buskirk is the widest-out, and the republican leader. Coffroth, of Huntington, is the acknowledged democratic leader.

The members from Marshall are watching the interests of their constituents, and have not missed a vote so far. Mr. Johnson is a member of the committee on swamp lands, and on the organization of courts. Mr. McDonald is on the committee on trust funds, and on statistics and emigration, and on a special committee on the establishment of a state printing office.

McDonald has introduced a bill for raising salaries of jurors to \$2 per day and 6 cts. mileage; witnesses to \$1.50 a day and 6 cents mileage; witnesses before justices of peace, 75 cents per day. Will probably be adopted.

GEN. GRANT.

It is asserted in Washington, that Grant is preparing his resignation as general, and that he will hand it to the president as soon as the electoral votes are counted. This step on the part of General Grant is one that has been urged upon him so persistently that he probably feels himself called upon to take it in response to public opinion whatever may be his own private predilections with reference to the matter.

The next question occurs as to his successor. That this will be General Sherman, there is little room to doubt. The speech made by that gentleman, at the military re-union in this city, was a direct bid for the position.

—A man named Gaines, an employee of the Jeffersonville railroad, was killed last Friday near Vienna, while trying to get on board a hand car, which some other workmen were driving very rapidly.

—W. O. DuPaw, of New Albany, said to be the richest man in the state of Indiana, has donated to the DuPaw female college, of that city, \$15,000, and it is said, intends a still larger gratuity.

—Robert Dale Owen, past grand master, will deliver an address at the celebration of the semicentennial anniversary of the founding of Odd Fellowship in the United States, which will take place April 26, at Indianapolis.

CRIME.

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 28.—Four colored men and a white man, charged with the crime of stealing the body of a Col. Williams from a tomb, about seven miles from Kingston, N. C., were taken from the jail in that place, where they were held, a few days ago, and murdered by a band of 30 or 40 citizens of the place. No arrests have as yet been made.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—Several burglaries and attempted burglaries continue to occur daily, and the police have begun to arrest parties under suspicious circumstances. So much excitement was created by this process, in Maiden Lane, this morning, as to cause an alarm of fire.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—A curious disturbance occurred, this forenoon, at the corner of Canton street and Park avenue, Brooklyn, between white and colored persons, resulting eventually in the mortal wounding of John Hopkins, a white man, by Samuel Halsey, colored. The apparent origin was the unprovoked knocking down of a colored man. A large number of people became involved, and the riot was, with difficulty, stopped by the police.

A daring attempt at burglary was made last night, at No. 44 Maiden lane, but only \$50 were secured, and two of the burglars were subsequently captured.

Waldon alias Butts, the author of the recent heavy bank robbery in Brooklyn, was arrested to-day.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 29.—Near Owensboro, Kentucky, some days ago, a negro man seized a white lady and instantly outraged her person. The negro was afterward captured and committed to prison; but, on Wednesday night, a mob broke the jail, took the prisoner out, and hung him.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 29.—The suicidal mania is in full force again here. At 8 o'clock this evening, in Newport, opposite Cincinnati, A. H. Chapman, a man of family, shot himself in the head with a pistol, and died immediately. Mental aberration, the result of financial losses, was the cause.

An unknown man, a German, supposed to be from Marietta, O., committed suicide at the Clifton house this morning.

John Nerson, residing near Londonville, O., committed suicide this afternoon, by hanging. No cause is known.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 1.—An old man named David Melville, sexton of the Presbyterian church at Sewickley, committed suicide this morning, by hanging, in a barn adjoining his residence. Excessive love for drink caused the rash act.

JOHN WARNE, Ind., Feb. 1.—An Irishman from Michigan, attempted suicide at the National hotel, this morning, by cutting his throat with a razor. He had \$200 on his person. He is still living. His name is unknown.

QUINCY, Ill., Feb. 1.—About half past 5 o'clock this afternoon, as the ferry-boat Rosa Taylor was making her last trip, and when about the centre of the river, an elderly gentleman, probably sixty years old, jumped overboard, and was drowned. He had been about the levee all the afternoon, making special inquiry as to what time the ferry-boat would make its last trip; but no one suspected his purpose. No one knew him, or where he came from.

STATE ITEMS.

—Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Reynolds is visiting his family at Lafayette.

—William R. Jones, of Terre Haute, took a teaspoonful of arsenic with a view of "shutting off this mortal coil." A vigorous antidote saved him. He was out of employment in destitute circumstances, which is supposed to have been the cause of desire to put an end to his existence.

—Maple molasses of the season's manufacture has already appeared in the Terre Haute market.

—Two boys, half brothers, at Evansville, quarreled over a copy of the *Police Gazette*, and one stabbed the other, inflicting a severe wound.

—A man named Gaines, an employee of the Jeffersonville railroad, was killed last Friday near Vienna, while trying to get on board a hand car, which some other workmen were driving very rapidly.

—W. O. DuPaw, of New Albany, said to be the richest man in the state of Indiana, has donated to the DuPaw female college, of that city, \$15,000, and it is said, intends a still larger gratuity.

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GRANT AND BANKS.

Gen. Banks' Own Version of the Vicksburg Embroilery—What One of Stanton's Clerks Says.

A dispatch to the New York papers, dated Boston, Tuesday, Jan. 26, says: "The following editorial appeared in the *Evening Traveller* to-day, which is understood to be written, or, at any rate authorized, by Gen. Banks himself, who arrived in this city from New York last evening."

THE EDITORIAL.

The recent revelation that an order was issued from the war department, to Gen. Banks, just before the fall of Vicksburg, directing him to repair to that point and supersede Gen. Grant, has been made a topic for comment in newspapers, in all parts of the country. It has been denied by Secretary Stanton, and the truth of the statement has been called in question by Mr. Dana, who was assistant secretary of war at the time; but, notwithstanding this, we have the assurance that the statement is true.

The reader may ask, if this is so, how has the fact leaked out now, and why was it withheld from the public so long. In answer to this it may be said that the enemies of Gen. Grant have reported something to this effect before, the matter having been brought to the knowledge of a few army officers at the time. This has been denied at the war department, and there are no papers on file there to confirm the truth of the report. Gen. Grant never heard of the story until about four weeks ago, when one of his friends called his attention to it. Gen. Badeau, of his staff, and a congressional friend called on Gen. Banks, and not only learned that the story was true, but obtained from him all the correspondence between himself and the war department on the subject he having retained his orders, and guarded them with the mere care when he learned that Secretary Stanton had disposed of the duplicates. The contents of these documents were discussed at Gen. Grant's headquarters, and a member of the staff communicated the matter to the correspondent of the *New York Times*, who first made it public.

It may be asked how Secretary Stanton can deny these facts, but these who know him best find little difficulty in answering it. Perhaps the fact that they are in the handwriting of Gen. Halleck, and signed by him, will be urged as an excuse for his denial; but their contents, when published, and we presume Gen. Grant will publish them some time, will show that both Secretary Stanton and President Lincoln knew what was written, and that all was written under their direction.

Officers of the Nineteenth army corps know of this correspondence at the time, and Gen. Banks was urged to obey the order, but he ventured to disregard it, and the fall of Vicksburg, a few days later, vindicated Gen. Grant, and the department saw fit to call Gen. Banks to account for his disobedience. He kept his own counsel, knowing that the publication of the correspondence, or the fact of its existence prior to the recent election, would injure the republican party, and it is only made public now by the friends of Gen. Grant.

Some weeks since, while Secretary Stanton was talked of for a position in Grant's cabinet, our Washington correspondent expressed the opinion that he would not be invited to such a position, and a few days later—about the time Grant obtained this correspondence—his friends announced that he proposed to remain in private life. If it should turn out that he took advantage of his position as secretary of war to destroy important public documents, and especially those which might prevent his own political preferment, it will be a cause for regret to the country that this determination was not reached some years ago.

To the *Western Associated Press*.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—The *Herald* has the following important communication, signed "W":

—NEW YORK CITY, Jan. 28, 1869.

—Seeing the contradictory statements published in the papers regarding the facts, or otherwise, of an order having been issued from the war department to Gen. Banks, shortly before the fall of Vicksburg, directing him to relieve Gen. Grant, I beg to state the exact facts of the case, and thus settle this much controverted matter. While Gen. Grant was operating in front of Vicksburg, I was employed as clerk in Secretary Stanton's office, at the war department at Washington. Secretary Stanton wrote two orders, directing me to make two copies of them—one for telegraphing, and one for filing. The first of these orders was addressed to Gen. Banks, directing him to proceed at once to Vicksburg and relieve Gen.

Grant. The second order was addressed to Gen. Grant, directing him to turn over his command to Gen. Banks on the arrival of the latter, who had been ordered to relieve him. I do not pretend to give the wording of those orders. I have given, however, their exact substance, and they should be on file now in the war department, unless they have been removed. I will state further that the copies of these orders, which were to be transmitted by telegraph, I sent by a messenger to the war department telegraph office, by order of Secretary Stanton. These copies should also be on file in the latter office.

At a regular meeting of Bourbon Lodge, No. 202, I. O. O. F., held at Bourbon, Ind., on Saturday eve. Jan. 30, 1869, the following resolutions, relative to the death of Bro. C. W. Timmons, were unanimously adopted.

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, in his divine providence, to remove from us Bro. C. W. Timmons, a member of our brotherhood, and

Whereas, He had endeared himself to the members of this lodge by his faithful adherence to the principles of our order, and

Whereas, It is right that we should give expression to our sorrows for his loss, that we recognize Bro. Timmons as a worthy and acceptable Old Fellow, an honor to the fraternity, a faithful friend and a genial and accomplished gentleman.

Resolved, That while we bow in humble submission to this dispensation of Divine Providence, we hope that when our heavenly father summons us from time to eternity we may meet our departed brother in that Celestial Lodge above, where the supreme Architect of the universe presides.

Resolved, That we tender our warmest sympathy to the widow and children of our deceased brother, in this their sad bereavement.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the widow of our deceased brother, and a copy furnished to the papers of Ply mouth for publication.

Resolved, That as a token of respect to the memory of our departed brother the lodge be draped in mourning and the brethren wear the usual badge of mourning for a period of 30 days.

JEPHTHA DISHER,
J. W. DAVIS,
Committee.

REVENUE FRAUDS.

Over Half a Million Dollars in Drawbacks Obtained by the Connivance of New York Custom-House Clerks.

WM. J. KORN, L. N. LUDLAW, and a clerk in the export bureau of the New York custom house have been arrested by Deputy U. S. Marshal Nodine, of the Eastern district, Brooklyn, at the instance of Dist. Atty. Tracy, under warrant issued by Judge Benedict. The charge is that of defrauding the government by procuring large sums of money upon fraudulent claims for "drawbacks," presented and passed at the office of the Fifth auditor in the treasury department at Washington.

The plan of these scoundrels was as follows: Under a law which prevailed from 1862 until February, 1868, there was a tax of 5 per cent, imposed upon all domestic manufactures; but when the articles were exported, the amount levied in taxes was refunded.

In order to secure the return of the money, an exporter had to obtain from the internal revenue collector of the district in which the goods were manufactured, a receipt showing that the tax had been paid. Then he must obtain a certificate from a custom house officer that the goods described in the collector's receipts had been exported. The exporter, upon exporting the goods, was required to give a bond that the goods should not be re-landed within the United States. With the certificate of the superintendent of exports showing that a bond had been given, the claim was presented to the treasury department and the amount paid in tax refunded.

The allegations in this case are that the defendant, Korn, with others whose names have not yet appeared, succeeded in obtaining the above-mentioned amount upon bogus exports, and that Ludlau and the custom-house clerk also acted in promoting the fraud.

Korn is held to bail in the sum of \$30,000, and the others in lesser amounts.

Dist. Atty. Tracy has been at Washington during the last two weeks, and upon examination of the records of the fifth auditor's office, found that fraud of this character had been perpetrated during the past two years to an extent which is perfectly alarming, the amount being estimated at not less than \$500,000.