

Facts are Stubborn Things.

The report of the sub-committee, consisting of Mr. Potter, (Democrat,) and Messrs. Phelps and Foster, (Republicans), sent down to investigate the condition of affairs in Louisiana, justifies the Conservatives of that State in every particular and from beginning to end. They present a lucid and consistent account of the proceedings of the 4th of January. They consider, first, that the law as to the constitution of the Returning Board was not complied with. After fully reviewing its action, they say they are constrained to declare that it was arbitrary, unjust and illegal, and alone prevented the return of a majority of the Conservative members to the lower house. Upon the general subject of the state of affairs, their conclusions are announced as follows:

The conviction has been general among the whites since 1872 that the Kellogg government was an usurpation. This conviction has been strengthened by the acts of the Kellogg Legislature abolishing existing courts and judges, and substituting others presided over by judges appointed by Kellogg, having extraordinary and exclusive jurisdiction over political questions; by changes in the laws centralizing in the Governor every form of political control, including the suspension of the elections; by continuing the Returning Board with absolute power over the returns of elections; by the extraordinary provisions enacted for the trial of titles and claims to office; by the conversion of the police force maintained at the expense of the city of New Orleans into an armed brigade of State militia, subject to the command of the Governor; by the creation in some places of monopolies in markets, gas-making, water works and ferries, cleaning vaults, removing filth, and doing work as wharfingers; by the abolition of courts with election judges and the substitution of other courts with judges appointed by Kellogg, in evasion of the Constitution of the State; by enactments punishing criminally all persons who attempted to fill official positions unless returned by the Returning Board; by unlimited appropriations for the payment of militia expenses and for the payment of legislative warrants, vouchers and checks issued during the years 1870 to 1873; by laws declaring that no person in arrears for taxes, after default published, shall bring any suit in any court of the State, or be allowed to be a witness in his own behalf—measures which, when coupled with the extraordinary burdens of taxation, have seemed to vest, in the language of Governor Kellogg's counsel, "a degree of power in the Governor of a State scarcely exercised by any sovereign in the world."

As to alleged wrongs done to colored voters, they say that the intention charged was not borne out by the facts before them. No general intimidation of Republican voters was established; no colored man was produced who had been threatened or assaulted by any Conservative, because of political opinion, or discharged from employment, or refused employment. Of all those who testified to intimidation, there was hardly any one who, of his own knowledge, could specify a reliable instance of such acts; and of the white men who were produced to testify generally on such subjects, very nearly all, if not every single one, was the holder of an office. Throughout the rural districts of the State the white Republicans are very few; they hardly extended beyond those holding office and those connected with them. No witnesses, we believe, succeeded in naming in any parish five Republicans who supported the Kellogg government, who were not themselves office-holders, or related to office-holders, or those having official employment. On the other hand, it was in evidence that blacks who sought to act with the Conservative party were on their part sometimes exposed to enmity and abuse. In the interior one colored man was shot for making a conservative speech, and in New Orleans it appears from the testimony that colored men who sought to cooperate with the Conservatives, were subject to so much abuse from the police and otherwise that an association of lawyers volunteered to protect them, but with little effect.

Their views of the result of the election, and how it was brought about, are expressed in decided language. They say:

An effort was made by the Conservatives to acquire a part of the negro vote. With that it was sought, in many quarters, to propitiate it. Frequent arrests by the United States Marshals for intimidation or threats of non-employment, and the apprehension that was felt that the Returning Board would count out their men, if excuse for such a course was offered, all combined, especially after the 14th of September, to put the Conservatives on their good behavior; and the result was, that in November, 1874, the people of the State of Louisiana did fairly have a free, peaceable and full registration and election, in which a clear Conservative majority was elected to the lower House of the Legislature, of which majority the Conservatives were deprived by the unjust, illegal and arbitrary action of the Returning Board.

In this connection, they refer to the

White League, showing its peaceable character, mentioned in the message of the President, and characterized by Gen. Sheridan as "banditti."

In the last campaign in Louisiana, the opposition was composed of various elements—Democrats, Reformers, dissatisfied Republicans, Liberal Republicans, old Whigs—and, in order to induce the co-operation of all, some of whom refused to unite with an organization called Democratic, they took the name of the "People's Party"—called in some localities the "Conservative Party," in others the "White Man's Party," in others the "White League"—and had ordinary political clubs under these names throughout the rural districts, which were ordinary political clubs, and nothing more—neither secret nor moral, nor otherwise different from usual political organizations. These must not, however, be confounded, from similarity of names, with the White League of the city of New Orleans. That League is an organization composed of different clubs, numbering in all between 2,500 and 2,800, the members of which have provided arms for themselves, and with or without arms engage in military drill. They have no uniform, and the arms are the property of the individuals, not of the organization.

They comprise a large number of reputable citizens and property-holders in Louisiana. Their purpose they declare to be simply protective—a necessity occasioned by the existence of leagues among the blacks; of the hostility with which the Kellogg Government arrayed the black against the white race; of the want of security to peaceable citizens and their families, which existed for those reasons, and because, also, of the peculiar formation of the police brigade.

On the other hand, the Republicans assert that this is an armed body of volunteers existing for the purpose of intimidating the blacks and overthrowing the Kellogg Government. That it had any considerable relations outside of the city of New Orleans, or that it was intended in any way to interfere with the rights of the colored citizens, did not appear. Nor, on the other hand, did it appear that there was any extensive secret league amongst the blacks of any kind. That the White League would readily co-operate in any feasible scheme for overthrowing the Kellogg Government, your committee do not doubt. So will substantially all the white citizens of Louisiana. Such organizations may be dangerous, but are very rarely to be justified.

The affair of the 14th September is an illustration of this. The members of the White League had purchased arms; the police had seized these arms without process of law, taking them forcibly from the merchants who had sold and from the members who had bought them. A consignment of arms was to arrive by the steamer Mississippi. The League were called out on the morning of the 14th to go and take them in a body; the police undertook to seize the arms; the two bodies came into collision on the wharf, with loss of several killed and wounded. There were then hardly any Federal troops in New Orleans, and the disintegration of the Kellogg party was such that before night Penn and his associates had only to take possession of the executive offices without a struggle.

The movement was everywhere quietly accepted by the whites throughout the State until the Federal Government intervened, when Penn and his associates at once surrendered. If Louisiana were a country by itself, McEnery and his associates would at once be installed in power; but the Conservatives of Louisiana do not propose to fight the Federal Government. They submit not because they want to, but because they must; not because they proclaim any enmity against the flag; not because free labor has not been found practicable; not because of any hostility to the colored people because colored; but because they regard themselves as defrauded out of the election of 1872, and yet more, out of the last election, and because they think their State Government has been to the last degree destructive and corrupt.

Considering the fairness and ability of this report, it is not to be wondered at that the President, having foregone conclusions, ignored it altogether. It is a complete refutation of his message. It is charged further in the New York Herald and other journals, that an attempt was made, lasting through five days, by Mr. George F. Hoar, of Massachusetts, to support it. But it failed, and the country now knows the exact truth, and cannot be shaken in its opinion by any cooked-up report which may emanate from the whole committee which has been sent to New Orleans to work up an extenuation of the facts.

RECOGNITION OF CUBA.—The agents of the Cuban republic, now in this country, are making strenuous efforts to procure the recognition of that republic by the United States. A pamphlet is prepared for circulation among members of Congress, in which it is shown that the Republican army in Cuba amounts to 17,000, foot and horse. A list of successes in the field during the past year is given to show the prowess of the insurgents, and while it is urged that they have partly established their right to recognition as belligerents, it is asserted that Spain is as impotent to put an end to the war now as she was six years ago.

The Champion Intimidator.

General Sheridan's despatch, covering a report of Major Merrill in reference to combinations among the white people of Shreveport, Louisiana, to remove colored people work or renew leases, was no doubt intended to offset despatches of the same date and from the same place and person to the effect that idle negroes were roving about the country in bands, committing larcenies and other depredations calculated to alarm and excite the white residents. It is quite doubtful if combinations of the character and for the purpose charged have been entered into, and very unlikely that such a person as Merrill would be entrusted with a knowledge of the fact, if true. Supposing the worst that he represents to have occurred, the mouth of the Government is effectually stopped by its own habit of systematic combination against voters who choose to exercise their privileges fearlessly. What else but intimidation does it mean, by withdrawing its printing contracts from such a staunch journal as the New York Evening Post, because it condemned Sanborn contracts and because its venerable editor chose to denounce the Louisiana military usurpation? Only a few days ago, the postmaster at Georgetown, in this State, was removed because he took a certain side in politics. What is more notorious than the removal of one class of voters from the navy yards and the employment of another more facile class just before elections? Intimidation there is generally, more or less, in all elections, and by all sides. The contest for office brings out the worst qualities of men. Having determined to succeed, regarding success as a dire necessity and a high virtue, they become blind to the means they use to compass it. We may pardon something to the weakness of human nature in an individual, or a party even, not enlightened and moving upon a low moral plane. But in the government of the country, in the highest officers of its administration, in men whose example is the more dangerous because of their elevated position, upon whose shoulders rests more exalted responsibility, such degradation cannot be excused. But, practically, it goes further, and by persecution of those who, perchance, imitate its example, it claims a monopoly in this objectionable business. Senator Schurz, in his able and moderate speech in the United States Senate, the other day, upon his resolution to instruct the Judiciary Committee to inquire what legislation by Congress is necessary to secure to the people of Louisiana their rights of self-government under the Constitution, had full warrant for the following grave statement and charge:

"I cannot forget the spectacle of Marshal Packard, with the dragoons of the United States at the disposition of the chairman of the Kellogg campaign committee at the late election in Louisiana, riding through the State with a full assortment of warrants in his hands, arresting whomsoever he listed. I cannot forget, that as to the discharge of laborers from employment for political cause, a most seductive and demoralizing example is set by the very highest authority in the land. While we have a law on our statute-book declaring the intimidation of voters by threatened or actual discharge from employment a punishable offence, it is the notorious practice of the Government of the United States to discharge every one of its employees who dares to vote against the Administration party; and that is done North and South, East and West, as far as the arm of that Government reaches. I have always condemned the intimidation of voters in every shape, and, therefore, I have been in favor of a genuine civil-service reform. But while your National Government is the champion intimidator in the land, you must not be surprised if partisans on both sides profit a little from its example."

GLADSTONE'S RESIGNATION.—Mr. Gladstone's withdrawal from the leadership of his party will deprive the British Liberals of the prestige of a brilliant name, but the event is a substantial advantage to us, his probable successor, Mr. W. E. Forster, being well known for his strikingly conspicuous friendship for this country. If his reputation is not so great as that of Gladstone, he is less erratic, and has the qualities for making himself more popular with his party. Gladstone was not a successful party leader, and often repelled a wavering member of Parliament when a different policy would have gained a supporter. Where Gladstone was petulant, Mr. Forster would have been conciliatory. The resignation seems to have taken the Liberals somewhat by surprise. The action of the ex-Premier has obviously created a good deal of soreness, and both his constituency and his colleagues on the opposition benches appear to think that his "personal views regarding the method of spending the closing years of his life," decidedly interfere with his usefulness in any parliamentary capacity whatever.

CITY MATTERS.—Subscribe for the Phoenix—don't borrow.

Transient advertisements and notices must be paid for in advance. Remember the benefit for Mr. Cramer Thursday night. All goods marked down five per cent. at Hardy Solomon's. "Lucretia Borgia," for Cramer's benefit, on Thursday night. The hard times seem to get no better very fast. Clara Wildman, as Lucretia Borgia, Thursday night.

An article you can always borrow—trouble.

F. J. Wildman, as Genarro, Thursday night.

At this writing it looks overhead as though a snow storm is impending. Cramer, as Gubetta and the Duke, Thursday night.

The Governor has appointed J. H. Taylor and Lewis Rust Notaries Public for Lexington County.

Five tiaras Davis' diamond hame, of this season's crop, just received at Hardy Solomon's.

The little folks were again disappointed, yesterday. Notwithstanding fine indications, there was no snow.

Andrew or Jacob Mersellott, or their families, will hear of something to their advantage by calling on Messrs. Seibels & Ezell.

Job printing of every kind, from a miniature visiting card to a four-sheet poster, turned out, at short notice, from PHENIX office. Try us.

Five hundred barrels of "Solomon's Fancy" flour, just received. Now is the time to buy, as flour is cheaper than in ten years, at Hardy Solomon's.

The "wall flowers" of society are pleased at the advent of cold weather, wherein there is a chance of getting a little chap on their hands.

Characters are formed like icicles, drop by drop. If the particles of each are pure, the whole will be a thing of symmetry and beauty; if foul, the whole thing will be ugly and repellent.

The complimentary benefit to Mr. Eugene Cramer comes off this evening, in the new Opera House. It will, doubtless, be a very pleasing affair. Mr. Cramer and the entire Wildman company will be the attractions.

Mr. G. A. Seymour, general traveling agent for Messrs. Wilcox, Gibbs & Co., is on a tour of the State, explaining to planters and others the advantages to be derived from the use of their superior guanos. An advertisement from this house will be found in this morning's PHENIX.

Green things are not always fresh, nor fresh things green, but in a green grocer's collection, the greener the article, the fresher it is sure to be. Our neighbor, Mrs. Hoffman, keeps these things—celery, leeks, carrots, etc.; Early Rose and other potatoes; oysters, canned goods and other delicacies.

The Columbia correspondent of the Augusta Constitutionalist says: "Gov. Chamberlain has become a great favorite with our best people, and, aided by the financial abilities of Treasurer Cardozo, will soon restore South Carolina to her original prosperity and greatness."

THE KATIE PUTNAM TROUPE.—Little Nell, one of the sweetest and tenderest creatures of the genius of Dickens, a way-side flower exhaling perpetual fragrance, and glowing in immortal bloom, a star glittering in the firmament of memory, where so many other lights have faded—how almost impossible it is to have one's idea of this charming character represented with any near approach to his conception. Yet it is not too much to say that we shall recall it hereafter with added interest from the skill, naturalness, youthful grace and delicate abandon of Miss Katie Putnam in the dual part, as portrayed last evening. Her versatility, animation and vivid portraiture were exquisitely complemented by the moral beauty which shone above all other excellencies in her impersonation. No performance has given such unalloyed pleasure to our theatre-going public for many a day. The other performers were well up in their parts. Mr. Burns, as Dick Swiveller, was quite good, and we hope that he will "pass the rosy" soon again in our pretty Opera House. Quilp (Mr. Liugard) was excellent. A very difficult fellow to represent is Quilp, but he stood, or rather crept before us in all his deformity of body and mind, in all his wickedness, native and acquired. Little Dot Putnam is a little gem of song and acting. With sincere thanks for the rare treat they have afforded us, we trust that this delightful company will find it convenient to appear here soon again.

To Miss Katie, her legion of admirers send up entreaties not to neglect them long. In the language of her pretty song, they say, "Come, birdie, come."

MASQUERADE BALL OF THE SCHUTZEN.

This jovial and happy family gave the first of their masquerade balls at Irvine's Hall, last night, and the attendance attested the appreciation of a fun-loving public for a little innocent and pleasant amusement to smooth the ups and downs of life.

The ball was comfortably filled early in the evening, by from 75 to 100 couples, dressed in every conceivable fantastic shape.

All the Dukes from Buckingham to Hepsidam appeared to be represented; the lazzeroni, both native and foreign, were represented. The Venetian, with his grape juice nose, vied with the African, with his blacking-box and still broader face; Maryatts heroes, with broad collars and tripe, jostled against the land-sharks in Uncle Sam's gold lace and blue; the apple girls and mamma sandwiched themselves gracefully between the representative Esquimaux and sons of Erin; the Knight of the Golden Circle and the peanut girl of the street, the flower girl and the street sweeper, the fellow with the big Bologna and the petite Gypsy of Southern France, Maximilian and Queen Bess, Meg Merrilies, Lord Dauberberg, doctor and patient, lawyer and client, and all the other victims of good nature, promenade and danced to the excellent music of the 18th Infantry Band, until the moon got tired and the stars grew dim.

A large number of spectators were present who seemed to join heart and soul in the festivities, and what with the attempts made to peep behind the scenes, and with the natural curiosity that characterizes the best friends we have in this world—the women, God bless them—there were many amusing blunders made. If nature had put a kind of internal revenue stamp upon each specimen of humanity for the sake of making them pass safely through this world, the well organized disguises of the Schutzen, last evening, cheated it of its purpose, and robbed it of its identification.

After the grand promenade, the following programme of dances employed the time in the order named: Polka, quadrille, waltz, lancers, varsovienne, quadrille, polka, waltz, quadrille, schottische; intermission. Hop waltz, quadrille, polka, lancers, ladies' waltz, lancers, schottische, quadrille, gallop and closing with the Virginia reel.

The good night, "Home, Sweet Home," sent the tired feet and pleasant hearts thitherward.

The manager, Mr. H. L. Habernicht, was never known to do anything wrong in his life, and did not commence to do so last evening—not even leaving his endeavor to make every one comfortable to raise a mask to catch a peep of a smiling eye. Messrs. C. D. Eberhardt, Wm. Stieglitz, F. A. Jacobs and J. F. Eisenmann, the Reception Committee, were at their post, and passed the brave and the fair to comfortable places, with a suave manner that spoke of itself, "make yourselves at home, ladies and gentlemen."

The Floor Committee, Messrs. F. Mollenhauer, W. C. Fisher, R. Arndt and F. Koesman, performed their part of the programme to the satisfaction and pleasure of all.

Chas. L. Cohn, correspondent of the New York Sun, dressed as a clown, was about as fantastically dressed as any one, and certainly was as nimble.

We were unable to get the names of many of the maskers, the unmasking not taking place until 12 o'clock.

SUPREME COURT, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1876.—The Court met at 10 A. M. Present—Chief Justice Moses and Associate Justices Wright and Wilbard.

Allen, trustee, vs. Hogan et al. Order of Clerk dismissing appeal sustained. Motion will be heard to vacate order and docket case.

DeTreville, respondent, vs. Jenkins, appellant. On motion of Mr. Youmans, leave granted appellant to make representative of respondent a party to the appeal.

DeSaussure, Commissioner, appellant, in re Zeigler vs. Reese. Motion granted and order of Circuit Court set aside. Opinion by Moses, C. J.

Bollmann, administratrix, vs. Bollman. Mr. Corbin resumed and concluded his argument for Appellant. Mr. B. J. Whaley was heard for respondent.

At 3 P. M., the Court adjourned until Thursday, 21st, 10 A. M.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.—Northern mail opens 6.30 A. M., 3 P. M.; closes 11 A. M., 6 P. M. Charleston opens 8 A. M., 5.30 P. M.; closes 8 A. M., 6 P. M. Western opens 6 A. M., 1 P. M.; closes 6, 1.30 P. M. Greenville opens 6.45 P. M.; closes 6 A. M. Wilmington opens 4 P. M.; closes 10.30 A. M. On Sunday open from 2.30 to 3.30 P. M.

Thomas M. Reynolds.—Our despatches inform us of difficulties in Edgefield, and that the cause to be the refusal of Bennett to submit to arrest. Rumors were current last evening, that Dr. Merrivether and another white man had been killed, and several colored persons also. Our informant, who came on the train, represents very high excitement at Graniteville, Ridge Spring and other places along the line of the railroad.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?—Notice was given, yesterday, of the introduction of a bill to amend Section 8 of the Act passed at the last session to reduce the volume of the public debt. The session is as follows:

SECTION 8 That the bonds and certificates of stock herein authorized to be issued shall bear upon their face (the words, "Consolidation Bonds," "Certificates of Stock," and shall also bear upon their face the declaration that the payment of the interest and the redemption of the principal is secured by the levy of an annual tax of two (2) mills upon the dollar upon the entire taxable property of the State, which declaration shall be considered a contract entered into between the State and every holder of said bonds and stocks; *Provided*, That no tax shall ever be levied to pay the interest or principal on any of the class of bonds or certificates of stock mentioned in the first section, as long as such bonds or certificates of stock remain outstanding in their present form.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
G. B. Casper—Assignee's Sale.
Wilcox, Gibbs & Co.'s Guano.
Meeting Acacia Lodge.
D. C. Penick & Son—Auction.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, JANUARY 20.
Hendrix House—D. C. Robertson, J. O. Freedman, Charleston; G. W. Stellingsma, Mo.; R. E. Holcombe, Easley; I. M. Holcombe, Central; S. E. Roberts, Milledgeville; W. M. Sims, Richland.

Minister House—J. S. Cathcart, Winnsboro; J. L. Black, Charleston; D. L. Crosby, Shelton; J. N. Brown, Anderson; T. O. Gower, Miss Hammett, J. C. Bailey, Miss E. M. Bailey, J. O. Bailey, Jr., Greenville; R. S. Morrison, city; J. R. Spearman, Newberry.

SELLING OFF THE TREASURY GOLD.—The project with which the President has followed up the so-called resumption bill, after signing it, does not elicit full confidence any more than does the equivocal measure to which the new project is to be an addendum. The Tribune notes the feature proposing the selling of the Treasury gold at a price two per cent. less than the metal now commands in Wall street. For this, we suppose, it says, the advocates of specie payments, with a little less specie and a little more paper, will quote the British Act of 1819 as a precedent. But they forget that the two cases are entirely dissimilar. The Bank of England always had full liberty to contract the currency and restrict their loans; and foreign exchanges from 1819 to 1824 were, for the most part, favorable to England. We quote:

"We have no difficulty in believing that the majority of the present Congress will never consent to the slightest contraction of the paper currency, and to complete the contract, the exchanges have been for about twelve weeks at such a point as to cause the exportation of gold to Europe. * * * If the President wishes to get rid of the coin in the Treasury, why not sell it for what it will bring? The Treasury is in need of currency, he tells us. Very well, why has it ceased its weekly sales of coin? The dealers in gold have been willing to purchase at the rate of \$1,000,000 or \$2,000,000 a week for twelve per cent. premium, as the market price clearly indicates. Why not supply them at that rate, instead of parting with a commodity two per cent. less than its market price?"

EUROPEAN WAR CLOUDS.—A significant article in the London Times indicates a seriously perturbed condition of affairs in Europe. Germany is the central figure in the warlike picture which seems to be rising with the cloud that is overspreading the old world. "All men are arming," says the Times, "Germany is arming en masse, and surrounding nations, including the best part of the world, cannot do otherwise." What Germany won by arms she is forced to realize she can only hold by arms and while arms are in her hands. But the Times confesses that Germany cannot raise a third army, and that her hopes are in her navy. It is thus the phases of arbitrary power move upon the elements. What the military prodigy of Europe won on land she will seek to maintain on water, and while she may succeed, it is equally possible that she may lose all and more than all. The vicissitudes of military and monarchical despotisms in the past afford no encouragement to the German empire. France was as grand and mighty as Germany is to-day, and yet fell. To such changes and vicissitudes every nation is subject that puts its trust in princes, whose only strength is in the bullet and the blade.

DEATH OF A MINISTER WHILE PREACHING.—Rev. William S. Crowley, for many years a resident of Baltimore, died suddenly of heart disease on Saturday, while attending service in the Maratona Baptist Church, near Roxborough, Pa., of which he was pastor. While delivering a prayer his voice suddenly failed, he fell prostrate and soon afterwards died in the church.