

Montrose Democrat.

Gold closed in New York, on Saturday at 112 1/2.

The Administration's New Year gift to the people is an increase in the public debt of over \$3,000,000.

The first democrat elected speaker of the house of representatives in Florida since 1866 was chosen January 7. He received 27 conservative and 6 republican votes.

The republican party will have no contestant for the honor of originating the Sherman finance bill, which would be aptly termed "The Artful Dodger." All the democrats in the house voted against it on its final passage.

If Grant will issue his proclamation declaring all who oppose Kellogg's rule in Louisiana "banditti" and out laws, Sheridan promises that the rest can be safely left to him. The fate of the Pagan Indians fully illustrates his meaning.

The lieutenant general of the army shows that he has a lively conception of the liberal principles on which the government of this country is founded in suggesting that Grant proclaim the southern people to be "banditti," and then leave the work of extermination to him.

Secretary Bristow has secured the discharge of 125 employes in the New York custom house who had nominal employment and fixed salaries of \$1,400 per year. The saving to the government will be \$200,000 per annum, but there is a terrible outcry among the radical politicians.

It is now time to begin to hoard fractional currency. As soon as the mint can turn out the silver coins to exchange for ten, twenty-five and fifty cent notes, they will be worth more than legal tender dollars. Congress has taken this plan of depriving the country of small change, by making it profitable to hoard it and exchange it for a commodity which can be resold at a profit.

The Nation makes a very fair hit at Sherman's finance bill, getting up as a medicine for the sickness that has seized the Republican party and threatens, if not eradicated, to terminate fatally. It is intended to be "all things to all men"—to enable Mr. Dawes to assure his Massachusetts friends that "it is a measure of contraction," and Mr. Morton to make his more currency friends in Indiana happy with the information that "it is a measure of inflation." The case, when administered by Congress will be found not to work as promised; and the result will be the dissatisfaction of both contractionists and inflationists, and greater defection in the Republican ranks. The downfall of Republican misrule is decreed and cannot be averted.

On the 24th of March next the terms of twenty-six United States Senators will expire. Of these, three are democrats, three Liberals and twenty radical Republicans. The Democrats are, Bayard, Delaware, Hamilton, of Maryland and Stockton, of New Jersey. These will be re-elected or their places supplied by other Democrats. Connecticut has already elected a Democrat in place of Buckingham, R-Republican, and the seats now occupied by Republican Senators from New York, Missouri, West Virginia, Indiana, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Pennsylvania, who retire on the 4th of March, will be filled by Democrats. This will add considerably to the Democratic strength in the Senate, the political complexion of which will probably be completely changed within a half dozen years.

A Washington Dispatch says: The Republicans have been looking forward to carrying the next Presidential election by setting aside the votes of Southern Democratic States in case of a close election, but their game is spoiled by the fact that the next House of Representatives (which is so largely) Democratic that Clerk McPherson cannot manipulate it otherwise than an effectual check upon the Senate in the joint session provided for counting the electoral votes. It is the general belief of Democratic politicians here that the Presidential election will be so overwhelmingly Democratic as to preclude a contest. The Republicans, however, would take all the chances and provide for a close contest and a division of opinion between the two Houses of Congress by a Constitutional Amendment, framed to suit themselves, but for the fact that so many of the States have Democratic Legislatures that the Constitutional Amendment as contemplated by Mr. Morton and others would be pretty certain to be rejected.

The Uniontown Genius of Liberty recalls the pledge made by the Democratic State Convention, held in Pittsburgh, to stop all unwise expenses and use the following good talk:

The members of the Legislature will have a fine opportunity to redeem this pledge early in the session. The Radical Legislature of the past few years had a little army of clerks, page-keepers, messengers and doormen, doorknockers, messengers, &c., for whom places were found merely to reward them for party following. This army should be reduced at least one-half, and those who do obtain places should be men of some standing in the party; not merely hangers on, ever on the lookout for one bite of bread and two drops of fish; and they should at least be men who can write a legible hand; and put their capital letters in the right places. There have been enough ignorance and incompetence displayed at the Capitol during the Radical regime. Let us have a little first class class benefactor.

The annual message of Governor Hartman is one of the few able state papers that of late times have come from a Pennsylvania Governor, and most especially that part which refers to Free Banking and the military usurpation of the Grant dynasty, both of which we give in full. Governor Hartman has disappointed friends and political foes since he became Governor. His ability, his statesmanlike qualities, his boldness, and his Democracy are so striking that he is at least as surprising gratified on reading this last message.

Attorney General Williams has been at the bottom of nearly all the persecution and plundering of the South. Of all her enemies he has been the most venomous, the most invidious and the most remorseless. Whenever there has been an order or a measure that bore hard against the unfortunate people of Louisiana, or Mississippi, or Alabama, his sinister countenance has shown through it. A lawyer without a knowledge of law, an official incapable of intelligently discharging the duties of his office, an adviser of the President who only gives baneful advice, calculated to divide and disturb his country, he may be pointed out as the most mischievous man of his time. His last achievement consists in persuading the President to send Sheridan to New Orleans to perform, not the duties of a soldier, for Gen. Emory could have performed those, but to practice the trade of the executioner. But history is full of consolation for us, and furnishes hope that even Williams will some day meet with justice. The fate of Jefferson and of Stafford should make him shudder.

The Louisiana Legislature met in the State House at New Orleans on Monday, Jan. 14th, their place of meeting being surrounded by eighteen hundred United States troops and a strong guard of metropolitan police. All the doors of the State House were "baricaded," and only State officers, members of the Legislature, and a few others were admitted. The House was called to order at noon by the chief clerk, 102 members answering to the roll. As soon as the clerk announced that a quorum was present a motion was made that Hon. L. A. Wiltz of Orleans parish, be temporary chairman, and Mr. Wiltz immediately took the chair. Confusion at once arose, but Wiltz proceeded to appoint a temporary sergeant-at-arms and clerk. Motions were made by various members, and as many as fifty were at one time "yelling at the top of their voices." Order being at last restored, the chairman stated that he would treat all the members alike of whatever party or color. Colonel Lowell protesting against the manner of temporary organization, Wiltz reminded him that it was identical with that of the organization of 1868, in which Lowell participated. The members not returned by the Returning Board were then seated by resolution the matter of contest for their seats being reserved for the Legislature. The Conservatives being thus reinforced, a motion for the election of a permanent president was carried. A ballot being taken, Wiltz, Conservative, was found to have received 55 votes to 4 for Hahn, Republican, and 1 blank. A quorum having voted Wiltz was declared elected, and was immediately qualified as presiding officer. The wildest excitement prevailed during the proceedings. Subsequently, however, General De Trobriand, with a squad of United States soldiers, entered the chamber and ejected the members who had been returned by the board. Finally the old clerk was seated by the soldiers, and the Democratic members then returned in a body.

The Wrong Commemorated. We cannot be charged with partiality when we give the opinion of the Philadelphia Inquirer upon the tyrant Grant, who has consummated the wrong upon a once free people, by the use of a despotic power. It was one of the straightest of the straight in the late state election. It says: The grossest and most notable wrong ever committed against the rights and liberties of the people has been consummated at New Orleans by armed soldiers of the United States, who violently and forcibly dissolved the Legislature duly elected by the citizens of the State, and who formed in its place an illegal, un-constituted body, usurping the name, functions and authority of the real Legislature of the commonwealth of Louisiana. As this wrong was in process of development we detailed, day by day, the steps that were being taken by the notorious band of adventurers—of whom William Pitt Kellogg is the chief—until it completed and the disfranchisement of the people of Louisiana absolute. Until Monday there was still reason to believe that the conspirators would halt before evoking upon their acts the fiery indignation of honest men of every shade of political opinion, North as well as South; but in their desperate endeavor to hold the power they had wrongfully seized from the people, they went right on in their work, and, for the first time in the history of the country, the shameful spectacle was presented to the world, of armed soldiers, acting under the direct orders of the Chief Executive of the nation, packing a Legislature in the interest of a political clique. Such an act being supported even by such law as that which has emanated from the office of Attorney General Williams, much less by public opinion or the press of the country, would render our boasted government of the people by the people and for the people a lying boast which should cover us with shame and humiliation.

In no monarchial country of Europe could this wrong be even attempted. Let any one imagine a force of British soldiers occupying a Radical majority and setting a Conservative one in its place in Parliament. It could not be even attempted in Russia, in the most arbitrary government in the world, and yet it has

not only been attempted but accomplished in the Republic of the United States. If the party in whose name this monstrous iniquity has been perpetrated think that it shall not bear the odium and burden of such an offence against the sacred rights of the people, it makes the most serious mistake of its existence. Such a wrong persisted in, or even permitted, no matter how temporarily expedient it may seem, would sink to oblivion, through depths of measureless infamy, any party in whose name it is done or whose sanction it may have in a single day. And unless the Republican party is content to be swept out of existence by the storm of indignation protesting against the wrongs of Louisiana from all portions of the country, it will see that this most shameful outrage is redressed wholly and in part, if it is right for the Federal soldiers to pack the Legislature of one State in the manner Attorney-General Williams declares it shall be packed, or if it can be done, it is right and can be done in any other State. It is a matter that concerns Massachusetts, California and Pennsylvania equally with Louisiana, for it is an act of Federal usurpation which, if not revoked and condemned by Congress, will lead inevitably to the destruction of the whole fabric of our government.

What adds to the common indignation of the country against the perpetrators of the wrong is the moral heroism exhibited by the disfranchised people of Louisiana who have borne with sublime patience and in peace that which was excruciatingly sufficient for revolution. For the doctrine is as old as revolved itself, that usurpation of the people's rights makes revolution not only a privilege but a duty. And yet there has been absolute peace in Louisiana, no excuse whatever for the bombastic proclamation of Gen. Sheridan, no excuse for his presence there, no excuse for the presence of any Federal soldier in the streets of New Orleans, much less in the court house, forming a Legislature. It has been suggested that public meetings of citizens, of all political opinions, be held throughout the North to protest against the usurpation in Louisiana. The merchants and manufacturers of Philadelphia should be the first to move in this matter, and to express their condemnation of the outrage and their sympathy with their fellow-citizens of that State.

Partisan and Pilgrim. There is an amusing attempt to establish a difference between twaddled and twaddled lately cropping out of New England. In the light of history, the Pilgrim, by himself considered, is not altogether a lovely character. The New Englanders themselves are a little ashamed of him, and lately they pretend to have discovered that the Pilgrims who came over in the Mayflower, compared with the Puritans who followed after them, were as snow to soot. A writer in the Providence Journal says: "In reality, however, the Pilgrims who settled at Plymouth were very different people from the Puritans who eight or ten years later, came to Salem and Boston, and subsequently spread themselves over what they called New England. So different were they that the two would not have crossed the ocean in the same ship or dwelt together in the same settlement. The Pilgrims were by far the milder and more self-denying people. They had much less lofty notions of their mission in the new world. They had separated themselves from the English church for consciences sake, and had ceased to be members of it. They were not grasping or domineering in the exercise of power, but being persecuted as separatists. They came to America in order that they might be in English territory and within the general protection of English power, and that they might maintain their own worship and institutions without being mixed with foreigners, as they had been in Holland. They had no thoughts of using the civil sword in religious matters. The Puritans, on the contrary, when they left England were still members of the Anglican church, though they had long desired and struggled to promote a more complete reformation of its worship and institutions. 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