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STUDY & MOTION

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1872,

VOL. VI.

GROCERIES. II

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TEXAS

F. GUILBEAU

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J. TERRY

TEXAS

The Daily Express.

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JULIUS W. VAN GELDER, Editor.

Official Journal of the United States.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF BEXAR COUNTY AND CITY OF SAN ANTONIO.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1872.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

CHANGE OF TERM ORDERED.

A Democratic Convention of the Republic party was held yesterday afternoon in the city of Houston on the second and Tuesday of May, 1872, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the State Legislature to the Philadelphia National Convention, for a thorough reorganization of the party, and for the organization of a new party, or any party, or party-in-exile before the body.

The basis of organization, indeed the basis for most of the Loyalists, is the party of the opposition.

Papers friendly to the objects last expressed will please copy.

G. F. TRACY,
Chairman of the
G. F. NEWCOMB, Secretary.

Executive Functions.

When Gen. Grant was elected to the Presidency he announced in his inaugural address that he should have no policy of his own to enforce, but would confine himself simply to the execution of the laws. In this he merely exhibited a purpose to pursue the line of duty which Mr. Lincoln had pursued with signal success, during the whole period of his office, and to avoid the disastrous consequences of the opposite course which had made Mr. Johnson's administration a conspicuous failure.

It is not material what were the prime motives influencing General Grant to this course—whether he was moved by a patriotic will and habit of strictly obeying the constitution and laws of the country, or whether with a statesman-like sagacity he foreseen the folly and danger consequent upon any attempt to overrule the executive power, and attempt the enforcement of a policy opposed by a majority of the representatives of the people. He has been faithful to his promise. It is well known that he has differed with the Congress in several of its measures, and has recommended others, which have not been accepted; but his qualified demands, and constant respect for the laws, has gained for him the confidence of the great majority of the people. His bitterest political opponents, (except it be some roads politicians, of the *Nashville* type,) admit his firm execution of the laws. They may decry some of the laws, but they cannot help perceiving that President Grant cannot be held responsible for them; and, also, of remembering his notable saying, which will become a historical and powerful sentiment, and which we quote from memory, "the best method of securing the repeal of an obnoxious law is its rigid enforcement."

It is true, that the powers of the U. S. Executive are so restricted as to render any attempt at pursuing an individual line of policy abortive and fruitless. With all the executive patronage under his control—the great army of office holders who, directly or indirectly, hold their commissions at his will, supposed to be his supporters "through thick and thin,"—he is still weak and powerless before the people and the people's press.

Johnson tried his executive and strong individual will, and ignominiously failed. The people are restive under any, no matter how slight, encroachment upon their own prerogatives. Their representatives may develop incompetency and corruption, may make bad and crude and indifferent law; still they will no more tolerate extra-executive interference and control, than they would the making of laws by the judiciary.

The whole country became wild with excitement over the discussions, pros and cons, concerning the proposed San Domingo purchase. The President yielded to what appeared to be the *sor Juicio*, with a grace and silent acquiescence, here before an assembly with Presidents.

He has set an example, which might well be followed by State executives. Nearly every Southern State has suffered materially by ambitious and power-assuming governors. Generally, and certainly in Texas, the powers conferred upon the Executives have been excessive—many of them not in strict accordance with the letter of the State constitutions. The Legislature, from weakness or by party chancery, have willingly yielded themselves to executive control, or to the dictation of unscrupulous subordinates believed by them to be the accredited representatives of that department. The results have been in every instance disastrous. In this State we have reached the turning point. Governor Davis is still believed to be an honest and laborious worker for the public good, and has to a great extent the confidence of the republicans—and it may also befit the honest people of the State at large; but in the active advisers who surround him there is no trust.

There are loud whispers everywhere of imbecility, charlatanism, and corruption in the subordinate executive offices. Neither Governor Davis, nor any true friend of

republicanism, can longer afford to sit an averted eye, or presume an acquiescent silence. We have lost one election, — there is almost, at hand another of greater importance, which to lose would be a calamity to the State. Let our Governor confine himself to the legitimate functions of his office, rid himself of barnacles, and all may yet be well. Any other advice is mephitophilic, and the end thereof desuetude.

Democratic Aspiration.

The Democrats are exultant over the prospect of the defeat of republicanism in this State. If they were capable of foreseeing the result of a defeat of republican principles, they would not be exultant. It would be at least a ten years retrogression; for, it takes about that period of time to effect a permanent cure of insanity. The venereal lunacy of 1861, and there fore, were not in training half so long; consequently they came out of the war a little "loopy." There were a few who needed "straits-jackets"; however, but if those few had been immediately cured for there would not be ten trouble now. They were not cured for, and hence the present commotion. An eccentric lunatic will always, as heretofore, attract a large crowd of both master and incident imbeciles.

Quite a number of eccentric crazy-wits, of course, attract a still larger crowd of the same sort. In this way a considerable multitude has been assembled, (figuratively,) to concoct a programme.

The programme is this: First, secure a democratic majority in the next legislature; second, as Flanigan is now temporarily Lent Governor, put a red-hot lunatic in his stead to preside over the State Senate; third, impeach Governor Davis, and convict and oust him, and impeach and convict several other officers—"provided, they don't swing over and turn State's evidence"; fifth, put a stop to all this "free school nonsense," for who in the democratic party wants free schools; sixth, root the State police; seventh, restore "the constitution as it was" by permitting the ex-soldier and swagger to carry a six-shooter and bowie-knife, and use the same to suit his intoxicated notions of the manners of the ancient chivalry; eighth, teach the democratic nigger how to vote; ninth, kindly persuade the radicals to—weakly coincide or go to—and these are the ten commandments of the democratic party in this State.

Citizens and tax payers, how do you like the programme? Will it increase the peace of the country, the safety of your families, and your business prosperity? A young lady in Mississippi, who had just graduated, came home and hired a few colored people, and undertook the experiment of farming. The results at the end of the year were: Eight bushels of potatoes, 100 bushels of corn, and \$600 in cash from the sale of cotton after all expenses were paid.

Andrew Jackson and his Secretary:

When Gen. Jackson used to write his briefer editorials for *The Globe*, Amos Kendall was his chief scribe and amanuensis. The General was a better writer than his scribe, his words fell down and did not hit the mark as well as he could express them, and Amos Kendall would write a paragraph and read it. That was not the thing; many times the scribe would write and rewrite again and again, and fail to "fetch a compass" of the meaning. At last, by alteration and correction, getting nearer and nearer to it, he would see it, and be himself astonished at its masterly power. Gen. Jackson advised him, as an amanuensis—intelligent, learned, industrious—as Mr. Kendall was. He could think, but could not write what nerve to touch, but he was no sycophant, skilled in the instrument of dissection, Kendall was. But how came Amos Kendall there, Gen. Jackson's scribe? And his wife's picture hung there? He had been a student of the law, and had written a history of Amos Kendall, the editor of *The Globe*, in Kentucky during the war.

The scribe is habitually brought into San Antonio for the purpose of feeding to milk-cows, it being a nutritious and well increasing food. The cattle of this region are now no more starving than is any other part of the world. The great loss of cattle in Western Texas has not been owing to lack of food, as exposure to the extraordinary cold weather of the spring, still, it must be confessed, that the cattle have been severely affected by the want of feed, and the want of shelter.

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