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NEW ORLEANS:
FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 17, 1868.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

For President,
HORATIO SEYMOUR,
OF NEW YORK.

For Vice President,
FRANK P. BLAIR,
OF MISSOURI.

Electors for the State at Large:
EX-GOV. R. C. WICKLIFFE, of West Feliciana.
ISAIAH GARRETT, of Ouachita.
ALTERNATES:
JAMES F. FERRET, of Jefferson.
JUDGE J. N. LEA, of Orleans.

District Electors:

First Congressional District	.....	A. SAMBOLA.
Second	"	.....	M. S. HEADY.
Third	"	.....	A. S. HERRON.
Fourth	"	.....	A. DEBLANC.
Fifth	"	.....	N. D. COLEMAN.
ALTERNATES:		
First Congressional District	.....	T. F. SEYERBURNE.
Second	"	.....	GEO. W. RACE.
Third	"	.....	J. H. KENNARD.
Fourth	"	.....	E. N. CULLOM.
Fifth	"	.....	J. W. BLACKMAN
			J. M. BRIGHAM

THE ILLUMINATION—The suggestion to illuminate the city to-morrow (Saturday) evening, in honor of the nomination of Seymour and Blair, has taken the wildfire. The whole Conservative population will have a hand in it. We say to our people, let your feelings have vent, and show to those who are seeking to keep us under negro rule sustained by the iron heel of military power, that the respectability of this city has neither art nor part in the grand farce now being played by the bogus Legislature of Louisiana now sitting in this city. Let us show it by the numbers and the character of those who join in the procession that the solid men—the bone and sinew of New Orleans belong to the Democratic party in this contest.

Our candidates are worthy of a grand display. Let them have it.

MR. J. P. BENJAMIN.—We understand this gentleman has in press, and on the "Contract of Sale," which will shortly be published in England, where Mr. Benjamin has met with success as a Barrister. His former associates of the Bar of Louisiana will look with interest for the work. The subject is one upon which Mr. Benjamin is well qualified to treat.

DEATH OF JUDGE RICHARDSON OF OUACHITA PARISH.—We regret to learn of the death of Judge J. N. T. Richardson, a prominent planter of Ouachita parish. This event occurred a few days ago after a short illness. Judge Richardson was by profession a lawyer, and was before once set upon the Bench in one of the Red River parishes, but latterly he had devoted himself almost exclusively to his planting interests. He will not be confounded with another citizen and prominent member of the Bar of the same name, title and parish, but of different initials

THE FIFTH DISTRICT COURT CLERKSHIP.—We are pleased to announce that Judge Lea on, most yesterday yielded to the reasoning of the Counsel for Mr. Louis Pointer, the Clerk elect of that Court, and recognized him as such

Mr. Power accordingly assumed the functions of his office and is now in possession.

A special train will leave the Calliope Street Depot to-day, at 2 P. M., for parties wishing to attend Gen Chas E Sheeler' grand ball, at Magnolia, to night. This train will arrive in the city Saturday morning. Fare for round trip, $4 50.

JOURNALISM.—We have received the *College Courant*, a paper published at Yale College, New Haven, Conn. This journal is devoted to publishing *college news* from all the institutions of the United States. It is published every Wednesday, and has four distinct departments: 1. College News. 2. Science; 3 Yale Alumni; 4. Under Graduate, and quotable bodies, other miscellaneous matter. The *Courant* is printed in fine, bold type, and is quite a neat paper. The alumni of Yale, scattered all over the country, have through it an opportunity of recalling the agreeable associations of their scholastic days, and renewing their interest in their "Alma Mater."

COURT FEES IN THE BENJAMIN CONFISCATION CASE.—We published yesterday a detailed statement of the fees of Court in the libel suit of the United States versus Two Squares of Ground in Hurstville, parish of Jefferson, condemned and sold as the property of J. P. Benjamin, under the Confiscation act of Congress, of July, 1862. The statement was not quite detailed enough, and attributed to the Clerk the sum of $2.38 15 as fees, a sum he did not receive. We therefore give a statement of these fees signed by himself:

District Attorney's fee—1 per cent.	$1.22 00
Clerk's fees	85 85
U. S Commissioner	10 00
Marshal's fees	610 73
Appraisers' fees	61 00
Register's fees—1 per cent	61 00
U. S. direct tax	14 80
State tax, 1864	26 25
Parish of Jefferson tax	111 12
Second District drainage tax	131 80
Total	$1225 52

Proclamation of the President—Ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Whereas, by an act of Congress entitled "An act to admit the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, Georgia, Alabama and Florida to representation in Congress," passed on the 25th of June, 1868, it is declared that it is made the duty of the President within ten days after receiving official information of the ratification by the Legislatures of either of said States of a proposed amendment to the Constitution known as article 14, to issue a proclamation announcing that fact;

And whereas the said act seems to be prospective;

And whereas a paper purporting to be a resolution of the Legislature of Florida, adopting the amendment of the thirteenth and fourteenth articles of the constitution of the United States, was received at the Department of State on the 16 h of June, 1868, prior to the passage of the act of Congress referred to, which paper was attested by the names of Horatio Jenkins, jr., as Pre ident pro tem of the Senate, and W. W. Moore as Speaker of the Assembly, and of William L. Apthorp as Secretary of the Senate and William Forsyth Bythus as Clerk of the Assembly, and which paper was transmitted to the Secretary of State in a letter dated Executive office, Tallahassee, Florida, June 10, 1868, from Harrison Reed, who therein signs himself Governor

And whereas on the 6th day of July, 1868, a paper was received by the President, which paper, being attested by the President, bears date of the 4th of July, 1868, and was transmitted by and under the name of W W Holden, who therein writes himself Governor of North Carolina, which paper certifies that the said proposed amendment known as article fourteen did pass the Senate and House of Representatives of the General Assembly of North Carolina on the second day of July instant, and is attested by the name of John H. Hoover as Speaker, as Secretary of the House of Representatives, and T. A. Byrnes, as Secretary of the Senate, and as ratification enables 9th of July, 1868, is attested by Tod R. Caldwell as Lieutenant Governor, President of Senate, and J W Hinton as Speaker of the House of Representatives

Now, therefore, be it known that I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States of America, in compliance with and execution of the act of Congress aforesaid, do issue this proclamation, announcing that fact of the ratification of the said amendment by the Legislature of the State of North Carolina, in the manner hereinbefore set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed these presents with my hand and have caused the seal of the United States to be hereto affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, the eleventh day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty eight, and of the independence of the United States of America the ninety third

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:
WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

At Richmond, Va., a modest, young country girl, on applying for ration to one of the rebel savats, was asked if she had ever taken the oath. "No, indeed, sir," was the terrified reply "I never swore in all my life." "But you must take the oath, my good girl," said the agent. "Sir, I cannot give you the ration." "Why, I ought to," said the girl, "mother always taught me never to swear." The agent mildly persisted, and the maiden as pertinaciously refused all attempts at persuasion, until, between necessity and her high sense of moral duty, she stammered out with downcast lids: "Well, sir, if you will take me for such a horrid, wicked thing, then I—I—I'm a Yankee!"

LATEST FROM EUROPE—BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE—NATURALIZATION TREATY—Dublin, July 11—By virtue of the provisions of the naturalization treaty recently concluded between North Germany and the United States, the government has discontinued all prosecutions against the adopted citizens of America of German birth, and those imprisoned will be at once released.

OFFICE 73 CHARTRES STREET.

THE ERASURE OF THE BENJAMIN MORTGAGE.

We announced yesterday with some severity—but not more than the occasion called for—on the unlawful action of the United States Marshal in erasing the mortgage granted in 1858, by J. P. Benjamin, in favor of Mrs. William C. Micou, on property at Hurstville, in the Parish of Jefferson. That officer has exhibited to us an order of Judge Durell, dated March 18, 1865, requiring—

The Marshal, in all cases where real estate is condemned and sold under the act of Congress of July 17, 1862, (the Confiscation Act), to cause all mortgages resting against the property sold, to be cancelled.

This order was issued on the motion of Rufus Waples, United States District Attorney, and Miles Taylor, Attorney for the Marshal, who suggested to the Court—

That it is enacted in the 5th section of the act to suppress insurrection, &c., approved July 17, 1862, that the several Courts of the United States shall have power to make such orders, establish such forms of decree and sale, and direct such deeds and conveyances to be executed and delivered by the Marshal thereof where real estate shall be the subject of sale, as shall fully and efficiently effect the purposes of this act, and vest in the purchasers of such property good and valid titles thereto.

This order of the court relieves the Marshal to some extent of the responsibility of having done an illegal act, and throws that responsibility upon Judge Durell. Of course, his order so cancelling all mortgages upon condemned property was illegal and directly contrary to the Constitution of the United States, he was sworn to obey and to all the principles of justice. It would have been equally illegal had the Act of Congress commanded or authorized it, for Congress has no more power to cancel mortgages, at all events without hearing the parties concerned, than has the Judge of the Mississippi river, and will speedily find the issuance of the Act of Congress cited above, either commands or authorizes the divesting of the lawful incumbrances upon property confiscated as belonging to rebels. It is unnecessary to argue so plain and so unanswerable a proposition, as the incompetency of Congress to legalize a proceeding so utterly opposed to the well established principles of equity.

Congress could not have intended any such thing.

The existence of the order to cancel mortgages, above quoted, dated as it was *on the same day* that the decree of confiscation was pronounced, goes very far to justify our supposition that the officers of the United States District Court must have known of the existence of Mrs. Micou's mortgage, else why issue an order requiring the Marshal to cancel "all mortgages" on that particular day?

The Benjamin-Micou Confiscation Suit.

Our issue of yesterday contained an exposé of the unjustifiable and disgraceful acts of certain officials connected with the District Court of the United States in New Orleans, in enforcing the confiscation laws against property belonging to parties who had neither been convicted nor accused of having been engaged in rebellion.

It is no pleasure to us to arraign before the public, for acts of oppression, officers engaged in exercising high and delicate trusts such as are confided to the Judges of the United States Courts under this atrocious law—a law which Secretary Seward has said resulted from the fiercest passions of the war—and we are therefore exceedingly gratified to announce that Judge Durell yesterday pronounced a decree re-instating and re-establishing, so far as his previous decree affected the same, the heirs of Mrs. Micou in all their rights under the mortgage granted by Joseph and J P Benjamin to Mrs. Micou, to which we referred yesterday. The decree of condemnation hitherto pronounced against the property in Hurstville, parish of Jefferson, as the property of J. P. Benjamin and sold under said decree to L. Madison Day, is therefore in effect reversed and annulled so far as the interest of Joseph Benjamin and that of Mrs. Micou under her mortgage is concerned.

This happy termination to a suit which affords ground for weighty accusations against the officers of the United States, is due to the powerful presentation of the facts of the case and the convincing argument and citation of authorities to the Court by the distinguished and venerable counsel for the Micou heirs

We subjoin a copy of Judge Durell's decree.

This case is a test case, and purchasers of confiscated property will learn by its decision that the avenging angel is on their path. It is a foretaste of "the hereafter" whose retributive justice they have so recklessly drawn upon themselves

DECREE:

District Court of the United States, District of Louisiana.—The Heirs of Anna D. Thompson Micou and Joseph Benjamin's Assignee vs. The United States of America and L. Madison Day.—The libels for review and the demurrer thereto came on to be heard and were argued before the court by counsel for the respective parties. And the Court upon consideration of the record and proceedings in the suit described in the libel remaining in this court, having been by the United States of America vs. Joseph P. Benjamin, under the Act of Congress of the 17th day of July, 1862, for the condemnation of certain property alleged to be the estate in the town of Hurstville, parish of Jefferson, and upon consideration of the libels and demurrers thereto, doth declare that in the said decree and the proceedings thereon there is matter for review

And the Court doth order, adjudge and decree that the decree and the proceedings had under the same against J. P Benjamin and the sale made by the Marshal under the execution thereon, and the conveyance to Day, in pursuance of law, be and the same are hereby set aside, void and of no effect any estate, title or claim which the said libellants had or claim from him said Judah P. Benjamin or the said Joseph Benjamin Estate, in and to the land in any of the land described in the deed of the Marshal to L. Madison Day in the libel of the United States Joseph Benjamin is not to be affected by the decree or proceedings under it, nor are the rights of the Heirs of Anna D. Thompson Micou under the mortgage described in their libel, divested or affected by said decree or sale and that these parties are hereby in all things reinstated and reestablished in any rights or claim which the decree or proceedings under it may be construed to injure or diminish

The United States are allowed until 1st November, 1868, to the additional forclosure or re-argument if not filed at that date, the decree is final;

Responsibilities of the Radical Party.

[From the Pittsburg (Pa.) Post.]

That demoralization has very largely spread in this country, within the last three or four years, no intelligent person can deny. That it is still spreading and disseminating its most baneful influences through all the interests of society, is equally notorious. War, such as we passed through, is, of course, in its very nature demoralizing, and a share of the usual wickedness in high places may be fairly attributed to that. But the war itself was a political party measure—the vile work of unconstitutional Abolitionism—indirectly primarily by the lust of its natives of partizanship. Its demoralizations, however, might have ceased, or might have been materially reduced long ere this, but for additional action, not only keeping them up, but greatly aggravated them.

During all these years, our government, in all its important workings, has been under the absolute control of the Radical party, though it first called itself merely Republican. It matters nothing as to the mere name, except to designate the men and their measures. The men in Congress calling themselves Radicals, and their measures for several years past, constitute the issues established in the Constitution of 1867-8, was read. Among other things it provides that cannot be voted before, but not decided by, the present Court, shall be referred back to the District Courts from which they originated, to be tried *de novo*.

After some discussion the bill was recommitted.

The bill providing for the continuance in session all year of the First and Second District Courts, of New Orleans, was passed finally

Bill requiring the District Clerks of the parish of Orleans, to hold a special session within twenty days from the passage of the act to determine contested election cases, was read and adopted finally.

The bill providing for the transfer of cases, &c., from the present District Courts of the parish of Orleans, to hold a special session within twenty days from the passage of the act to determine contested election cases, was read and adopted finally.

The House met this morning. The Chairman of the Investigation Committee reported against the impeachment of Governor Wells. It was believed the committee will report adversely to expulsions