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SATURDAY, AUG. 13, 1870.

DR. WALKER AND HIS CARD.

Dr. R. H. Walker, late Wharf and Harbor Master for this city, in the Times and Republican of Tuesday last publishes a card.—Our absence from the city prevented an earlier response.

His first declaration is that he has not speculated in scrip. His report, to which he so proudly refers, shows that the larger portion of the returns made by him were in scrip, and since steamboats were not then permitted to pay in scrip, he must have speculated in it. He was paid in money, but returned scrip, which was vastly below par. He says it is not true that thirty vessels a month landed at the wharf without being reported. At the very moment when he was penning that declaration, he knows that it is officially reported that for the months of February, March, April and May one hundred and twenty-nine vessels have landed at this wharf which he did not report. He knew also that many clerks of those one hundred and twenty-nine vessels have exhibited receipts for wharfage paid during the period and paid in money too, not in scrip which was returned by Dr. Walker.

He vainly endeavors to screen himself by the declaration that all collections were made by his deputies and not by himself. The people of Vicksburg have nothing to do with that. He is the officer and while such the city money was stolen.—The people look to him as the responsible person. They do not know any irresponsible person. They only know Dr. Walker. An average of over thirty vessels a month have landed at this wharf which were not reported by Dr. Walker, and the officers of many of them have been seen, and they have shown their wharfage receipts. If that is not theft, what is? The report for June and July will show as heavy deficit as the four preceding months. This Dr. Walker knows. The result of operation in these months is now under investigation. We do not pretend to doubt, however, as the Doctor is a great light in the Radical party, his misdeeds will be white-washed and passed over by the Board of Aldermen, which has shown such nervous anxiety to foist upon the people of this city, the straw bond of Gen. Webber. But if they are guilty of these high handed transactions the people shall know it.

Dr. Walker, in his card says: "We have paid to the Mayor during the time we have held the office, for which we hold the receipts of the late Mayor, Gen. Swift, and of Mayor Webber, the sum of \$11,497.55 in Currency. Now had I been disposed to speculate in city scrip, as the Herald charges that I did; it will be seen here that, at the highest figures put by the Herald—50 cents on the dollar—I could legitimately have realized the sum of \$5,748.70."

Where the legitimacy of the transaction is, we fail to see, but we are fully satisfied the Doctor has realized the sum mentioned, if not more, in the manner indicated.

Now, what does the letter of Mr. Allen amount to? Nothing more than this: "Dr. Walker's report agrees exactly with the report of his deputy, Mr. Steele."

It would be singular indeed if two men conspired to swindle the city, they should neglect to fully understand each other. In other words, Mr. Steele, as deputy, makes a report to Dr. Walker (less thirty vessels or more a month); Dr. Walker pays to the city in accordance with this report, and he and Mr. Steele meet afterwards and divide that which Mr. Steele has collected and failed to report. Dr. Walker certainly cannot pretend to be ignorant of this transaction. Whether he is or not the people of Vicksburg only know him in the matter. They don't know his deputies.

If necessary we can give the names of the vessels and the dates of their arrival at this wharf which Dr. Walker has failed to report. We can also, if Dr. Walker earnestly desires it, have exhibited receipts for wharfage paid by steamboats whose arrival has never been reported by the Doctor.

Probably the sapient editor of the Times and Republican may deem this slanderous, but Dr. Walker knows it is not.

The Dr. has been in possession of a very profitable little office, taking in fees, perquisites, stealage and all. He says he never collected a dollar of wharfage himself; that it was done by his deputies. The Dr. knows this to be untrue. He has collected time and again in person.

THE NEW YORK SUN,—which seems to be a sort of political sore head bear, quarreling with all parties, but more firmly attached to the Radical than any other, in its issue of August 8th, gives some interesting accounts of Benjamin F. Butler's transaction in the lobbying and corruption business since he has been a member of Congress.

Butler has a confidential clerk, one B. D. Whitney, who appears to be the middle man between Butler and his clients. He occupies about the same relation with Butler that John W. Forney's brother did to that gentleman. In other words, Mr. Whitney, is the financial partner in the firm. He makes the contracts, and Butler carries them out. That is, Mr. Whitney, as authorized agent, farms out the services of Butler for any scheme which will pay sufficiently. Not long since, this middle man filed a bill in equity to prevent the payment by the Treasury of certain moneys due to Horatio Ames on an old cannon contract. An act of Congress had been passed authorizing the Treasurer to pay Mr. Ames's demand; but Mr. Whitney claimed that the money should not be paid until Ames should pay him. (Whitney) the sum of \$5,000 for services rendered in securing the passage of the bill. In answer, Mr. Ames admitted that he had promised to pay \$5,000, but averred that the money was intended for Gen. Butler, and that when the arrangement was made it was distinctly understood that the bribe or fee was offered to secure Gen. Butler's personal services and influence. The respondent further stated that those services were not rendered, and that, therefore, he is not legally or morally bound to pay the sum demanded. He also claimed that a retaining fee of \$250, which he paid to Whitney at the commencement of the negotiation, should be returned.

The question is still in abeyance, but when it is brought up for settlement its various phases cannot fail to prove of great interest. As the Ames case is not the only one of its kind in which B. D. Whitney and Gen. Butler are concerned, it is natural that the public should begin to wonder whether the member from the Fifth District of Massachusetts has not been frequently guilty of abusing the confidence reposed in him by his constituents, of prostituting his position to base uses, and of disgracing the House of which he is a member. It is barely possible that the agent, Whitney, has been transacting his nefarious business without the knowledge of his employer but it is not unnatural a matter of surprise that such glaring attempts at extortion made by the servant could for so long a time remain concealed from the master, whose name has in all cases been freely used in order to secure the prey. Late in the last session of Congress the House was electrified by a speech from Gen. Farnsworth, who openly charged Gen. Butler with having received, or demanded, a fee of \$5,000 for his services in lobbying a bill then before Congress. This was the first public charge made against that gentleman; it was never published, and was allowed to rest until such time as personal animosity should

once more be aroused. Since that time many hints have been dropped touching similar irregularities; and as the two names, Whitney and Butler, have always been used in connection with them, it has come to be generally believed that the member and his clerk are co-partners in the trade.

If the suspicion is unjust as to Gen. Butler, why has he not long ago severed his intimate relations with Whitney? Or rather, assuming that Gen. Butler is entirely innocent, and that he is a gentleman and a trusted and trustworthy servant of the people, why has he not caused the arrest and punishment of Whitney for obtaining money under false pretenses?

The lobbying business, as transacted by Whitney in the name of Gen. Butler, was in successful operation as far back as 1867, as will be shown by the following letters, which to a certain extent explain themselves. As an introduction to the chapter which they form, it is worth while to remark that the gentleman to whom the letters were written desired to obtain from Congress an appropriation for a work of great public value. Many gentlemen of standing in all parts of the country had written to members of Congress in praise of the work, and warmly recommending the favorable reception of the author's petition. Fortified with, and with highly eulogistic articles from all the leading journals of whatever shade of political opinion, the author went to Washington, and while there was introduced to B. D. Whitney, who agreed, for the sum of \$250 down and 10 per cent. of the appropriation when secured, to work the bill through Congress. He was emphatic in his statement that Gen. Butler would have nothing to do with it unless that agreement were entered into.

This proposal was made after a few letters had passed between Mr. Whitney and his prospective client. Before meeting with the gentleman, and doubtless with the intention of impressing him with the difficulty of securing an appropriation, Whitney wrote the following, using B. F. Butler's frank:

DEAR SIR: In reply to yours I am sorry to say there is no disposition to take up any business requiring special legislation, and I fear my own engagements will confine me too closely during your visit to be of service to you. At 7 A. M. and 7 P. M. I am at my room. Come there.

Your friend,
B. D. WHITNEY.

I cannot talk to anybody in the office while these examinations continue. This was in 1867. Some time elapsed before the correspondence was resumed; but in October Whitney wrote again:

FORTIETH CONGRESS U. S.)
WASHINGTON, D. C. Oct. 18, 1867)
DEAR SIR: I have this day enclosed to my son a draft for \$250, with my receipt showing our agreement.

I also send to him a memorandum for your signature, together with a power of attorney appointing me your agent and representative. Gen. Butler will join me next week, and we will hold a council of war on his arrival and put the bill in motion. I will keep you advised of my progress in the negotiation I have undertaken, and with the encouragement already received I have not a shadow of doubt of success. Truly yours,
BENJ. D. WHITNEY.

This letter was also franked by B. F. Butler, M. C.

The \$250 was paid, and the following is a copy of the receipt thereof, together with the agreement relative to further remuneration:

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18, '67.
Received of _____ of New York, two hundred and fifty dollars as retaining fee for my services and influence in securing an appropriation from Congress for the purchase of _____ or for securing remuneration for moneys already expended, and for cost of completing the work; it being agreed that ten per cent. of the same shall be paid by Mr. _____ to cover expenses and services hence forward.
BENJ. D. WHITNEY.
[Revenue stamp.]
In the letter which follows Mr. Whitney shows not only great caution, but great confidence in the success of his labors:
WASHINGTON, Oct. 30, 1867.
DEAR SIR: Your note of the

29th inst., with accompanying papers, have been returned to me. They are entirely satisfactory, and just what I wanted to possess, and will be a capital basis for a circular letter by-and-by.

In reply to your questions:

1. It will be unwise to have it known that any one is employed to lobby a work which ought to stand on its own merits.
2. Messrs. Morgan, Sumner, and Patterson, of the Senate, and James Brooks, Baldwin, and Boutwell, of the House, may be influenced by you very advantageously.

6. Mr. Spofford has started a "white bear." There will be no such obstacle as he suggests to the appropriation.
Your obedient servant,
BENJ. D. WHITNEY.

This letter was franked by B. F. Butler. In his next communication, Mr. Whitney defies a white bear, and acknowledges the receipt of money:

MY DEAR SIR: On my return from Cambridge, I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your esteemed favor of 3d inst. with a bank certificate of deposit for (\$50) fifty dollars, which amount is endorsed on your note. I received also the power of attorney with erasure, which is wholly satisfactory and altogether proper.

We will discuss the policy of having your petition presented by Gen. Banks in good time. Mr. Spofford's letter is only a white bear, and does not disturb me. Your obedient servant,
BENJ. D. WHITNEY.

Gen. Butler's frank is on this letter also. Only twenty days later he advises his client to cease firing, and gratified him with the information that "Gen. Butler is on the Committee on Appropriations," and the Spofford and his bear will be controlled in good time. Nothing more now seems to be wanting.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26, 1867.
MY DEAR SIR: Your note is received with introduction to your M. C. in order. Keep quiet with your guns till January.

Gen. Butler is on the committee on Appropriations. I will control Spofford in good time. Yours,
B. D. WHITNEY.

Gen. Butler's frank again. WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1867.
MY DEAR SIR: I have just returned from the funeral of my son, and I have to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed favor of the 7th inst. with six notes of introduction.

A heavy pressure will be made on the committee on appropriations early in the session by various interests who are clamorous for consideration, and I am advised to remain patiently in the background when there will be a better chance of carrying my point later in the winter.

No time has been lost, and nothing will be gained by prematurely urging your claim for compensation. Most of the members are badgered and cornered already till their patience is wearied. I enclose the note of \$100, for which you propose to remit the balance of \$50 at this time. Truly yours,
B. D. WHITNEY.

This bears Gen. Butler's frank. And when the poor man, wearied with waiting, makes up his mind to silence his artillery, the sympathetic Whitney, having discovered that his client's treasury as well as his patience is exhausted, writes the following note, which closes the correspondence:

FORTIETH CONGRESS, U. S.)
WASHINGTON, D. C. May 13, 1868)
DEAR SIR: I am glad to learn through my son, of your intention to postpone any immediate effort to influence legislation in your behalf until after the Chicago Convention, and until the impeachment trial is ended.

This is wise, for I am well assured all private business is precluded by being urged on the attention of Congress at this time. Nothing unfavorable to your interest has occurred within my knowledge. Truly yours,
B. D. WHITNEY.

The letters, of which the above are copies, were written to a resident of New York, who has them in his possession. It is unnecessary to state that the services rendered by Mr. Whitney consisted only in receiving for money remitted by his client from time to time, and in writing occasional letters of which the above are samples.

A SUGGESTION TO RAILROAD DIRECTORS.

The discomforts of travel at this season of the year are almost enough to strike, one, contemplating them, with horror. The dust, heat and glare of the sun, all conspire to add almost excruciating tortures to the railway travellers. These discomforts cannot be entirely controlled by the ingenuity of man, but they can be greatly mitigated. To some extent efforts have been made in this behalf, but there is yet ample room for improvement. Who, riding during the past few months on railway cars have not inwardly, and many outwardly and loudly, cursed the miserable padded seats now in use. They feel as if a stove was strapped to their backs. You must sit rigidly erect or have your back burned almost into a crisp by contact with these padded seat-backs. They are admirable for winter but horrible, cruel machines of torture in summer. It would be much more agreeable to the travelling public and a matter of considerable economy to railways if these seats, which are expensive, were dispensed with in summer and open cane bottom and open back seats were substituted. It would require but a few hours to change the seats of a coach. These cane seats are not one-fifth as expensive as the cushioned seats, and by changing in this manner both sets of seats could be made to last doubly as long as the cushioned seats now do.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

"MURDER WILL OUT."

The Assassin of Mr. and Mrs. Goode discovered in an Indiana Jail.

NEW PROVIDENCE, CLARK CO., IND., July 26.

In the month of May or June a young man came in our midst by the name of Charles Back. Having relatives living near here he spent a part of his time with them, the rest of the time (being a youth of daubing manners) he endeavored to improve in company with the gentler sex. He avoided any occupation, and when asked why he didn't work, or how he could get along (having been a poor boy without means) he boasted that he could get \$50 per month overseeing negroes south. After remaining here a short time he left, returning in the course of time with a fine horse. Officers came in search of the young man and horse, arrested Back and lodged him in the Washington county jail at Salem. He has since been removed to Greensburg, Decatur, Ind., the county from which he stole the horse, where he is now awaiting his trial, though it is not likely he will be troubled greatly for this crime, as another and a greater charge will be brought against him. Yesterday evening the citizens of our village were somewhat surprised to see Sheriff Fultz, of Washington (an adjoining county) with two other gentlemen, looking as though they meant business among us. One of the gentlemen proved to be T. S. Belcher, Sheriff of Tunica county, Miss., the other the Prosecuting Attorney of the same county. While young Back was confined in jail at Salem, the Sheriff, Mr. Fultz, happened to see an account of a most horrible murder committed on an island of the Mississippi, in the county of Tunica, and State of Mississippi, and having heard the prisoner speak of having been in those parts, he went into the prison, searched the prisoner's person, and found a note of \$1,000 drawn up in favor of one of the murdered parties, Mr. J. M. Goode, or Mrs. Mary Goode. He immediately wrote to the Mississippi authorities in reference to the matter, which was the cause of their coming. After getting out writs, they commenced a search, to see whether anything could be found that would further criminate Back. The gun, a double barreled shot gun, belonging to Mr. Goode, and the one with which Back killed Mr. and Mrs. Goode, was found; also the clothing belonging to the murdered parties and pocket handkerchiefs with the names of the deceased on them. There was also one cameo breastpin likeness of his victims, which he had torn from a gold locket to dispose of it. There were one or two gold watches, which as yet have not been found and identified to establish the fact that Charles Back either murdered Mr. J. M. Goode and Mrs. Goode, or was an accomplice to it.

RUSTIC.

The "Star of Enterprise," becomes a democratic organ under the editorship of Gen. Melancthon Smith, to whom we heartily wish success.

BALTIMORE has 800,000 inhabitants, and it is now the third city in Europe.

A GAME OF CARDS.

We copy as follows from Appleton's Journal:

"One hot afternoon in the month of August, 1867, three men sat around a table in a private parlor in the hotel Darmstadt, St. Ems, Germany, taking such comfort as they could derive from the juice of Rhenish grape and a pack of cards. The most conspicuous figure of the group was a large man with bald head, grayish blue eyes, a heavy light-colored moustache, airs about him that would have done honor to the imperial purple. This personage had even then achieved some fame, and was tolerably well known to reading people by the name of Bismarck. Next to him sat another bald headed individual, inferior to Bismarck in stature, with a border of black hair about the case of his skull that looked like the rim of an old felt hat (ruthlessly robbed of its crown), condemned to remain there as a permanent fixture. During the Crimean war, the father of this man figured at the Cabinet Councils in St. Petersburg as Count Nesselrode, but the son was only known as a clever gamester and an *habitué* of the fashionable European watering places. The third of the party was a little fellow (so little that his feet scarcely touched the floor), with dark piercing eyes, swarthy skin, and vivacity enough for half a dozen ordinary men. At the time of which we speak he was the French Consul at Stuttgart. All of them had been partaking freely of wine, and each in turn shuffled the cards with a vim that the generous grape imparts even to the most plegmatic temperment. The Frenchman, in the interludes of the play, kept up a running fire of conversation, skipping from topic to topic with a facility which only Frenchmen enjoy, until warming as he went on, he ventured the declaration that France would one day mark her boundary by the Rhine from Basel to the sea.

"A hundred fredericks to fifty," exclaimed Nesselrode, "that she won't."

"Done," replied the Frenchman, "and let the game be fortune-teller."

They shuffled the cards, and the Frenchman lost.

"Another wager," said Nesselrode, with a glance at Bismarck, who eyed his two companions calmly, though never uttering a single word. "Another wager! Two hundred and fifty that within five years France and Prussia measure swords, and that France yields Alsace and the whole disputed border."

"C'est impossible!" excitedly responded the Consul.

Again the cards were shuffled. At the fourth play Bismarck and the Frenchman had each taken two tricks. It was the Russian's lead. He threw the queen of clubs on the table.

"King!" shouted the Frenchman in triumph as he covered Nesselrode's card, and extended his hands to seize the prize.

"Not so fast," coolly remarked the Prussian Premier. "I believe the game is mine," and casting the ace he leaned back in his chair and laughed heartily.

"Mon Dieu!" shouted the discomfited player, "but cards always were liars," and unable to conceal the chagrin and excitement that over-mastered him, he rose from the table and quitted the room.

Three years have scarcely elapsed since the incident here narrated (an incident which Nesselrode told with hearty satisfaction in the Ems cafes that summer), and now, the big cloud of war that has hovered over Europe, has burst; the result may prove that the cards were not such liars after all.

Economy of Seed in Planting. Experiments have recently tended to prove that roots and grains by being planted much further apart than is usual, will actually yield larger crops than are now to be obtained. This has been shown to be the case with potatoes, and more recently with wheat. It is found that the wheat plant increases above the ground in proportion as its roots have room to develop without any interference with those of its neighbors. In one experiment, wheat thus treated, furnished ears containing over one hundred and twenty grains. It was found, in the course of the same experiments, that on every fully developed cereal plant there is one ear superior to the rest; and that each ear has one grain which, when planted, will be more productive than any other. By selecting therefore, the best grain of the best ear, and continuing to experiment through several generations, a point will be reached beyond which further improvement is impossible, and a fixed and permanent type remains as the final result.

FIGHT OF HAND.—We understand that C. T. Lawson has invited Simon Jones, the spellist, to cross the Mississippi river with him in order to test his pluck. Simon has not yet replied to the invitation, and it is generally understood that he intends to pocket the insult and proceed with a criminal prosecution.—[Brandon Republican.]

BALTIMORE is said to have a large and respectable colored Democratic organization.

PLAN OF THE FRENCH CAMPAIGN.

The plan of the campaign is openly spoken of even by such as really ought to know something of it. But this is always the case here, and can hardly be otherwise, where the voluntary co-operation of the whole people is expected.—It consists in a simultaneous advance of the whole army, without the reserves, towards the French frontier. The four main railroads leading from the Elbe to the Rhine will then be altogether stopped for private traffic during the days destined to the conveyance of troops. It is supposed that each of these railroads can convey 20,000 soldiers a day. The locomotives and wagons returning next day, 20,000 again may be conveyed on the same railway the third day, when they will have collected at the stations in the east, or will have been echeloned along the line.—Thus, the 240,000 men of the North German army, now in garrisons east of the Rhine, will be on the banks of that river the fifth day after the commencement of the movement. The reserves will follow as they come in, which, in Prussia, is very quickly. The Landwehr this time not destined to act on the aggressive, will fill up the garrisons.

The advance will be concentrated upon Paris, unhesitating and unceasing until the French are met. Neither an attack from the sea, nor a French diversion in Southern Germany will be heeded. The strategical part of the war is considered here much easier than it was in the Austrian campaign, when the Austrians and Saxons sought refuge in the natural fortresses of Bohemia, which had to be invaded by mountain passes before the great battle and the final march upon Vienna could take place. It is supposed, in fact, known, that Austria will remain neutral if Russia does. Russia probably will. If, however, Austria does not, neither will Prussia. And then there would be simply two wars, a Franco-German one and a Russo-Austrian one, the latter undoubtedly of slow progress, and thus not interfering with the other. For the Franco-German war would be far more rapidly brought to an end than a Russo-Austrian one.—[News.

From the N. Y. Financial Chronicle.

FINANCIAL PROSPECTIVES.

Although another week has passed, and brought with it the news of an actual outbreak of hostilities between the opposing armies, the prevailing tone among our business men is still one of great uncertainty. The question now most earnestly discussed among them, is not so much as to the possible effects of war upon our commercial interests, as it is in regard to the probable duration of the war itself. Will it be terminated in a few weeks, or, at farthest, in a few months; or will the struggle be long and desperate one, ultimately involving the other great powers of Europe in its complications?

The best opinion upon this subject, can, at the present moment, be founded only upon the probabilities of the situation, but there seems to be some weight in the fact that several of the leading German bankers of this city have recently been shaping their operations in such a way as to apparently show that they believe in a speedy termination of the war, and a reaction in gold and government securities to their former prices.

Whatever may be the course of the war, however, we should carefully guard against the practice, so common in times of financial excitement of attributing to unusual and alarming causes those disturbances in the market, which really are nothing more than the ordinary and usual fluctuations of business or speculation. For instance, the export of specie, amounting perhaps to about \$15,000,000 since the war excitement began, has been talked of as a very remarkable and alarming feature, while we find that in the five weeks following July 1, 1869, we exported about \$8,000,000 of specie, and in the same period of 1869, about \$11,000,000. There is naturally an overflow of gold to Europe at this period of the year, both in payment of July coupons, and for the settlement of commercial balances.

A second point which must be considered in this connection is the large extent to which the markets on the continent, in England and in this country are controlled by speculators; and the temporary and spasmodic irregularities which they are continually working to produce, often with too much success, should not be mistaken for genuine and serious causes of alarm in regard to financial affairs. There has probably never been a time when the practice of speculating, not only in stocks and bonds, but also in produce, raw materials, manufactures, and in short, in almost every article known to commerce, was so general, as it is at the present day, and this circumstance, should be kept steadily in view by careful business men who desire to avoid injury to their legitimate interests through the speculations of others.

In taking a general view of the whole situation, we think it is decidedly more favorable than a week ago. It is true that the Bank of England has advanced her rate of interest to 6 per cent., but this is only a precautionary measure to prevent, rather than to remedy disaster; and the prospect now is of an increasing confidence in a steady and successful result.