

The Charlotte Observer.

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THE STAR ROUTE INDICTMENTS.

A Washington grand jury has found indictments against Dorsey, Brady and others, for swindling the government on the star route contracts, which means that these enterprising and zealous Republicans are to be tried, and, if convicted, punished. But does not this indictment place other prominent Republicans in rather an embarrassing position? The men who hold the highest places to-day in the administration of the government at Washington were among their boon companions, and fellow-workers in the last fall campaign, and not only knew of, but encouraged corruption as wicked and deserving of punishment as the swindling of the government out of money in the star route contracts. Dorsey, as secretary of the Republican national executive committee, took personal charge and direction of the canvass in Indiana when all the indications pointed to the probability of its going Democratic, and by processes best known to himself and those in his confidence, the tide was turned and the State carried for the Republicans. He was the right man in the right place for that kind of work. Backed with plenty of money, forced from assessed office-holders, bold in his brazen effrontry, and thoroughly unscrupulous, he did what abler, but less wicked men could not do, he bought the election, and with dollars and cents carried the State against the honest sentiments of a majority of her people. For this brilliant triumph of bribery and baseness, he was given a grand banquet at Delmonico's, in New York, as an evidence of the appreciation of the high-toned Republican leaders for the gallant and signal service he had rendered the party in the hour of its dire need.

Amongst the distinguished assemblage around that festive board was Col. George Bliss, the prosecuting attorney now in charge of the case. He jolted with the others over the Republican triumph and was among the warmest in his commendation of the brilliant achievements of his friend Dorsey. He heard the allusion to the peculiar methods by which these gratifying results were secured, and smiled a broad smile when the corruption fraud was hinted at approvingly by no less a personage than the present President of the United States. He smiled complacently then on the villain who robbed a State and made a mockery of the ballot. Among the guests on that occasion was Gen. Arthur, now President, who, in congratulating the hero of the hour, delivered himself thus:

"If you look for the measure of the appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Davis, you will find it in the regard in which his friends all through this country hold him, look around you and you will see the most distinguished gathering of Republican leaders and Republican sentiment that to my knowledge in my brief life, ever met in this city." * * Indiana was really, I suppose, a Democratic State. It had been put down on the books always as a State that might be carried by close and perfect organization, and a great deal of care, so the reporters are present, therefore, while probably not everybody shows a great deal of interest in the occasion and distributed trusts and political documents all through the State. The Republicans of Indiana have always said: "We have the best organization this year we ever had, and if we give the sinews of war we will get through all right." But some how or other the State always turned up on the other side. My friend here on the other side (Dorsey) asked to go and lead the turning of the flank of the enemy. So he came down one day to the committee rooms in Fifth avenue, and said that he was going to leave us for some days that he would be gone. The committee was going to establish a branch office out in Indiana. The gentlemen in New York stood nobly behind the national committee, and responded actively and enthusiastically, but Mr. Dorsey, with his power for organization, his tireless energy, his wonderful courage, and his cool head, was able to accomplish the result which he did in Indiana; and that result saved, more than anything else, New York to the Republican party. And though New York had for years been considered a doubtful State, it was more Democratic than Republican; but I repeat that the more so that another secured our success. Now, in 1880, it was the moral effect and support given to our cause by our success in Indiana, which was more largely due to Senator Dorsey than to any one else."

It must, indeed, be embarrassing for these distinguished gentlemen to be now engaged in trying to place prison stripes on the no less distinguished, if now less honored friend, whom they then united in applauding and honoring. But popular sentiment is a mighty motive power when once aroused, and it is undoubtedly more in reference to this than to a desire to avenge outraged justice, or to punish arrant fraud, that these prosecutions have been instituted against their whilom friend and co-worker in the cause of the "God and morality" party.

On the 22d inst., the ex-Confederate soldiers resident in Cincinnati, presented Mrs. Garfield, at her home in Cleveland, a beautiful memorial tribute to her dead husband. It was engrossed on parchment and framed in varicolored Tennessee, marble, highly polished and cut from a single block about two feet square, with the United States coat-of-arms in Mexican onyx inlaid at each corner. The presentation was accompanied by appropriate speeches from the committee and a graceful reply by Mrs. Garfield.

The Emperor of China, according to a letter received in New York from the American secretary of legation at Peking, has finally given his sanction for an American company to lay an ocean cable on the Chinese coast, to connect with the United States by way of Japan. Minister Seward repeatedly solicited the government to grant this concession without effect. It is understood that the company in question will now push the work with energy.

The large match manufacturing companies are opposed to the repeal of the tax on matches.

There is a rumor in London that Gladstone will resign.

Gen. Grant denies that he had anything to do with the Peru guano business.

There is a bill before the Low Legislature to abolish whipping in the public schools.

The Observer is indebted to Senator Vance for copies of his brilliant and masterly speech on the tariff.

The last Western political movement reported is a scheme to bring Tilden and Palmer, of Illinois, to the front in '84.

The Louisville Courier-Journal says that Grant's income before he was put on the retired list was about \$40,000 a year.

Now let the congressmen who say that polygamous Cannon is not good enough to sit with them mend their morals.

The Virginia foreign bondholders protest against the Riddleberger bill, and give notice that they intend to contest it with all the means in their power.

Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, objects to the confirmation of Conkling, as associate justice of the Supreme bench. He says "his elevation to the Supreme bench would be a disgrace to the judicial ermine."

Philadelphia Record: In sending Effigies to Berlin, President Arthur has succeeded in getting even with Prince Bismarck. If Germany makes the United States a refuge for scapgegrace noblemen, why shouldn't we send back to Germany our scapgegrace statesman?

The dozen indictments found the other day against the Star Route people have been followed up by the Washington grand jury with twenty bills in the post office straw bond cases. These are a smaller fry of rascals than the others, but they are for this reason less likely to escape punishment.

The Supreme Court of the State of Indiana, has decided that a dog is not property, and cannot be stolen. Judge Worden in making this ruling, added: "Dogs are taxed, not because of their value, but as a police regulation, and to discourage the propagation of the species."

Since the murder of Mr. Gold by Leffroy in an English railway carriage last June the facility of committing theft or murder under similar circumstances has been made more manifest to the criminal classes, and railroad crime is increasing in that country. The use of American cars would put a stop to such lawlessness.

The common belief even among eminent medical men is that typhoid fever arises from bad drainage and the escape of "sewer gas." According to Prof. Tyndall this belief is wholly erroneous. The disease, he holds, is as much the result of the introduction of a specific germ into the human system as the growth of a crop of wheat is the result of the sowing of wheat under given conditions.

THE CRESCENT CITY.

FROM WINTRY WINDS TO BALMY BREEZES.

A French Town with American Improvements—Strolling Among Tropical Gardens—A River that Floats Big Ships—A Visit to Jefferson Davis, Who Pays a Warm Tribute to the Old North State.

To the Editor of the Observer.

A visit to New Orleans, in the winter, to one who resides in this part of the country, is certainly to be desired, but now especially is such a visit pleasant during the season of the carnival.

A ride of thirty-six hours, from Charlotte, brings us to the city of New Orleans. The change in the weather was great that winter clothing was oppressive.

Reaching Canal street at 10 o'clock p.m., we found ourselves in the great city of the South by the side of the Mississippi, unknown and unknown.

Thousands of people from all parts of the country were crowding into the city, to be present at the festivities held in honor of Rex, and it was not without some difficulty that we succeeded in getting a carriage to carry us the hospitable house of a friend, who had kindly invited us to make our stay with him.

The city of New Orleans is different from any other in the United States. Situated on the right bank of the Mississippi, it extends for thirteen miles up and down the river, with a width of only about one and one-half miles. Its population is estimated at about two hundred and fifty thousand, a little less than one-half of which are French. Canal street divides it into two parts, on the one side of which is the French part of the city.

It is natural to suppose the French part of the city the most beautiful, but this is a mistake. The streets are narrow, and the buildings dingy. There is also a lack of gay lights, and the streets look dark and dreary, and altogether unwelcoming to a stranger, who is unaccustomed to them.

Invest, young man! Invest twenty-five cents for a bottle of Dr. Bull's cough syrup if your sweet heart has a cold, and be happy.

The speaker is a variety actor from Dallas.

The patient is a woman from New York.

The doctor is a physician from New York.

The disease is a cold.

The syrup is Dr. Bull's.

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