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NEW ORLEANS:
SATURDAY MORNING, OCT. 22, 1870.

THE CHARACTER OF THE PRESENT FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

THE LAST SESSION OF THE CORPS LEGISLATIF.

A Brussels correspondent of the *New York Herald*, in a letter dated September 30, published in the *Herald* of October 17, a resume of the proceedings of the French Legislatif on that memorable day when the Sedan disaster was announced. The *Gazette* of the Empire announced and the Committee of National Defense consisting. The facts which are set forth by the correspondent show precisely what was done by the Chambers on that occasion, and that the Government now acting at Paris and at Tours is a set of commissioners growing out of the existence of the Chambers, and is not a Government established by the French people, although accepted as an act of the very necessity of their position, for the purpose of organizing a defense of the country against its invaders. It will be observed that Jules Favre's proposition to overthrow the Imperial Government was not acted upon. On the contrary, the Emperor is spoken of as being in full authority, that is temporarily set aside on account of the absence from Paris of the Emperor, and also of the members of the Cabinet appointed by him. The Favre movement then is emphatically a self-constituted Government. Tested by the principles of its creation, and accordingly by the public law of Europe, it is not the Government *de jure*. If it merely a Government *de facto*, and so recognized by the powers. It does not follow that the present Government will be restored to power. The probability is that it will not.

We now publish the letter to which we have reference as an important contribution to the history of the times:

BRUSSELS, Sept. 30, 1870.

To-day, but now that the rubbish left by the late Government and the events of September 4 has been so far cleared away, that one sees with precision what did occur, and can be enabled to trace events therefrom as to the *de facto* political situation of public affairs.

It is not be that by-and-by there will not be the events of last September to the settlement of very important questions, and it is well enough now to put on record as much as appears free from all dispute.

The terrible disaster to France of the morning Thursday, in the neighborhood of Sedan, did not reach anything like accuracy in Paris till Saturday morning.

It was 9:30 o'clock on that evening, when the President of the Corps Legislatif, summoned the Deputies to assemble at midnight. It was 1:30 o'clock on Friday morning before business began.

As a trifling indication of the confusion of things to speedily come, it is noted that while in ordinary times two days were required for outsiders to receive invitations, the public had that night but two, the first suggestion was that public be secret. Such at the majority decided. Here is another noteworthy thing. When President Schneider explained to the House Sedan had been taken, and with requests from many Deputies, refused to exercise his legal authority to call the assembly for assembling, men asked Comte de Palikao to explain the facts, which he did briefly. It then decided that, having but a few minutes before been called out of his bed to attend the sitting, he and the ministry were not prepared to go into a discussion, and an adjournment till Sunday, the 4th, or rather the same, day.

Jules Favre then said that he would not of the adjournment of discussion, "in his own name and that of a number of my colleagues," he asked for deliberation a proposition to be made by [illegible] adding that, at the meeting, he would offer reasons which he [illegible] the completeness and formality of the proposition indicated, it will be seen, had received careful consideration. It was the duration of the revolution of which 1870 [illegible] Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte and his sons are declared to be divested of the [illegible] conferred upon them by the Constitution.

A governing commission consisting of [illegible] shall be appointed by the Legislatif, which commission shall [illegible] all the powers of government, and which shall have for its special duty to offer every resistance to the enemy and to expel the enemy from the [illegible].

General Trochu is continued in his functions as Governor-General of the City of Paris.

Favre, Cremieux, Barthelemy Saint Hilaire, Dessaux, Garnier-Pages, Glais-Bizoin, Magnenot, Pelletan, Durand, Ordinaire, Arago, Jules Simon, Pelletan, Wilson, Picard, Gambetta, Comte de Kerdrel, Count Martel, Count Tachard, Le Cesne, Rampont, Grandmaison, Marion, David, Jules Ferry, Jules Favre.

The only observation on the proposition of Mr. Favre was by M. Punard, who declared, I expect that the power to declare a forfeiture of authority.

The sitting at 1:30 o'clock, adjourned till that day, when it resumed business. There was of the other sporting between [illegible] democrat) and Comte de Palikao, Prime Minister, respecting the disposition of troops for the bridges over the Seine and in the Chamber, and then the Minister of War, in behalf of the ministry, moved the following proposition [illegible] as "certaining the conditions of the present conditions of government" and a *projet de loi*.

A Council of Government and of National Defense is instituted.

This is composed of five members. A member of the council is appointed by absolute majority in the Corps Legislatif.

The ministers are appointed with the signature of the member of the Council.

The Grand Council de Palikao is appointed Lieutenant-General of the country.

The Council of the Ministers, the 4th September.

The Emperor, and by virtue of the powers constituted to us by him.

[illegible]

It is undoubtedly in the last official document to which the Empress gave her authority.

The Minister of War asked that his motion be voted *urgent*.

With the exception of pronouncing the name of the Emperor and his dynasty, the propositions are legal and proper in effect, much the same. The first [illegible] to the commission "all the powers of government," which it naturally would be the depository, while the second, with the title of the council created, its powers undefined. It could readily be construed as a mere creature of the ministry, or only as a temporary body.

M. Jules Favre insisted that if the proposition of the ministry be declared urgent, it was his own, having priority, should be the same fate.

Others then, while expressing [illegible] favor to the plan of M. Jules Favre, on account of the clearness of the [illegible] submitted a [illegible] Corps Legislatif Deputies. It was as follows:

"Considering present circumstances [illegible] under appeals to the Commission of Government and National Defense. A Constituent Assembly shall be convoked as soon as circumstances will permit."

On this he asked a vote of urgency. M. Favre then demanded that "all three propositions be referred to a committee of examination." This was done, and the committee recommended that the Deputies [illegible] to the [illegible] appointment of [illegible] All was done so far by a spirit of general consent, and the proposition of President being agreed to, the sitting was suspended for twenty minutes. It was resolved there was no voting on merits of either proposition separately, [illegible] none on the suggestion of expediency of the whole. The president merely [illegible] appoint a commission, without specifying under which proposition.

On the hasty sitting of that Corps [illegible] ended forever.

It was during the recess that the crowd [illegible] into the official and unofficial places of the Chamber. The President resumed his place, but the great majority, including most of the government members, [illegible] to retire. M. Gambetta implored the "citizens" to await in dignity and [illegible] the return of the Deputies to the sitting of the *bureaux* upon the transfer of power." I literally translate his words. It [illegible] that the result of the Chamber's deliberations "will be in a great degree [illegible] which you [illegible]."

But at 5 o'clock P. M. Sunday the hall of the Chamber were filled with a crowd, forming itself and the President's chair impossible, left chair, and the Chamber was in possession of the people.

Then it was the Left (the democratic [illegible] to the Hotel de Ville, and proceeded, in a grouped way, to the "Republic," a distinctly "A Provisional Government." Then it was that the Prefect of Police experienced [illegible] Empress who had [illegible] and advised him by which in a short time she did, from the Tuileries to the public park.

Later on the same day, members of the Corps Legislatif assembled again informally in another room. M. Martel, on behalf of the committee to which the proposals of Count Palikao, M. Jules Favre and M. Thiers had been referred, reported that they had by a majority decided in favor of M. Thiers' proposition. They had however, modified it so that its terms were now these:

Considering the abeyance of authority, the Chamber appoints a Commission of Government and National Defense. This Commission is composed of five members, chosen by the Corps Legislatif. It will appoint the Ministers. As soon as circumstances will permit, the nation shall be called upon by a Constituent Assembly to pronounce on the form of government.

The committee had sent delegates to the members of the Chamber sitting at the Hotel de Ville in the interest of union.

This was all the business transacted at this sitting, but in the evening the Corps Legislatif again assembled, when, in the absence of the President and Vice President, M. Thiers presided. He announced the arrival of MM. Jules Favre and Jules Simon, for the purpose of replying to the conciliatory message sent by the delegates, and they were accordingly introduced.

M. Jules Favre then thanked the Chamber for its conciliatory message, announced the members of the new government, of which General Trochu had accepted the Presidency, submitted a [illegible] Corps Legislatif Deputies. It was as follows:

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OFFICE 73 CHARTRES STREET. NEW ORLEANS, SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 22, 1870. 44th YEAR—Vol. XLIV.—Whole—15,196.

BY TELEGRAPH.

(To the New Orleans Bee.)

THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR.

Department of the Somme in a State of Siege.

Contradictory Rumors of Movements on the Loire.

St. Cloud Fired by the Prussians to Conceal their Depredations.

The Valuables Were Removed Before the Fire.

The Prussians Forced to Retire from Stenay.

Rumored Loss of Steamer Cambria.

Serious Illness of Dumas pere.

HOME NEWS.

Report of the Agricultural Department.

Republican Troubles in Chicago.

Election Returns.

Miscellaneous.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Tours, Oct. 21.—Engineers are forming entrenched camps where troops can be drilled and formed into corps.

M. Thiers has arrived here.

Rouen, Oct. 21.—Gen. Bourbaki and staff have passed through here.

Tours, Oct. 21.—The more contradictory rumors of movements on the Loire prevail here. The enthusiasm is there very great. On the 4th inst. and sailed on the 5th. She carried no passengers, but had the following:

1,952 bales cotton, 234 bundles hides, 434 hides, 18 bales hides and moss, 29 barrels flour.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

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The Steamers Ice and Natchez.—The Ice met the Natchez beating the time of the latter to Natchez, though beating her as far down as Bayou Sara, where she encountered the impeding weather. Capt. Cannon, of the former, asked the Champion for the time, and Capt. Leathers at Natchez, saying he expected to call again for them. Capt. Leathers replied that he thought he would manage to keep them himself. So we may expect another trial of speed by the Ice and then, may-hap, by the Natchez.

Condition of Mr. Seelye.—We are pained to learn that Mr. A. B. Seelye, of Seelye & Taylor, proprietors of the cotton gin factory, still continues very ill. He was severely wounded by the falling of a wall at the burning of their establishment, Thursday morning. It was thought to be in a dying condition last night. The bone in the thigh of his left side broken, and was severely injured internally, to the neighborhood of the heart.

Sixth District Court.—Miss Caroline H. Hubbard vs. City of New Orleans.—In this case the plaintiff avers that she was injured by the fall of a tree in Canal street, through its proper officers, by which she was reached in the Second and Third District Courts, both of which, under the new law, ceased to exist September 1, 1870, and that the duties of his office devolved upon the Sixth District Court, for the year beginning 1st September, 1869, and ending the 1st of September, 1870, at a yearly salary of $7,500, payable monthly.

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Petitioner shows that the regular schedule term of the public schools consists of 10 months, and commences on the first Monday in the 1st of September and ending on the 1st of July of each year. During the months of July and August no services whatever are required from the officers of the public schools.

Plaintiff avers that she had fully complied to her by reason and was entitled to her salary in full. She received only $800, leaving a balance due of $350, for which amount she claims judgment.

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Combining the elements of average planted, and the condition of the same on the 1st of October, the natural expectation and other circumstances being equal, would lead to a comparison with last year as follows: North Carolina, 15 per cent. increase; South Carolina, 6; Georgia, 5; Florida, 2; Alabama, 8; Mississippi, 10; Louisiana, 10; Texas, 30; Arkansas, 15, and Tennessee 1. This would give a crop exceeding 2,500,000 bales, but the indications of the season thus far and the reports since October 1st, and the probabilities of a favorable autumn for maturing and picking the crop, do not suggest or indicate a return of the remarkably favorable experience of the past season.

In these discouragements and drawbacks appeared with the plant in spring, and gradually disappeared, the season culminating in almost unexampled favor, with an exemption from destroying frosts, blighting rains, insects and disease.

The present crop was vigorous in early growth, running to weed rather than boll; it was then injured by the drought in August, and subsequently flooded with rain in September. It has endured vicissitudes unfavorable to a continued fruitfulness, as a general shedding of forms and occasional rotting of bolls attests; but the boll worm and army worm have been at work in places, and the rust is more or less prevalent in all the cotton States.

The opening of the later bolls is unusually well advanced in most places, and the late picking promises to be light.

These conditions, instead of pointing to an increase of a third of a million bales over a crop of canvass, owing to wind and sun, let go both the leaves and the whole length of cables and held on for fifteen minutes, when the port chain parted and the tank swung head to the southward and struck heavily, the sea making a clear breach over her; although it impossible to examine her masts; in less than half an hour after the bark struck, she was completely broken up, all hands being saved on a portion of the stern that was driven on the beach; on the morning of the 13th sent [illegible] and carpenter down the beach in search of assistance; they returned on the 14th, having been as far as Hillsboro, fourteen miles distant, and could find no aid; saw a steamer, bound south; could render us no assistance, on account of the heavy sea running; Oct. 17, saw a steamer, bound south, which proved to be the Mississippi, Capt. Henry, bound from New York to New Orleans, who took off the people in a boat ashore, which, after several attempts, succeeded in hanging me on board, owing to the heavy surf; the effects of the first officer and boat's crew.

To Capt. Henry and his officers I desire to express my heartfelt thanks for their many kind attentions, to the injured, my wounds and clothing me, and all other was administering to my comfort.

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The present crop was vigorous in early growth, running to weed rather than boll; it was then injured by the drought in August, and subsequently flooded with rain in September. It has endured vicissitudes unfavorable to a continued fruitfulness, as a general shedding of forms and occasional rotting of bolls attests; but the boll worm and army worm have been at work in places, and the rust is more or less prevalent in all the cotton States.

The opening of the later bolls is unusually well advanced in most places, and the late picking promises to be light.

These conditions, instead of pointing to an increase of a third of a million bales over a crop of canvass, owing to wind and sun, let go both the leaves and the whole length of cables and held on for fifteen minutes, when the port chain parted and the tank swung head to the southward and struck heavily, the sea making a clear breach over her; although it impossible to examine her masts; in less than half an hour after the bark struck, she was completely broken up, all hands being saved on a portion of the stern that was driven on the beach; on the morning of the 13th sent [illegible] and carpenter down the beach in search of assistance; they returned on the 14th, having been as far as Hillsboro, fourteen miles distant, and could find no aid; saw a steamer, bound south; could render us no assistance, on account of the heavy sea running; Oct. 17, saw a steamer, bound south, which proved to be the Mississippi, Capt. Henry, bound from New York to New Orleans, who took off the people in a boat ashore, which, after several attempts, succeeded in hanging me on board, owing to the heavy surf; the effects of the first officer and boat's crew.

To Capt. Henry and his officers I desire to express my heartfelt thanks for their many kind attentions, to the injured, my wounds and clothing me, and all other was administering to my comfort.

The steamship Island, Mamposa, Capt. Isaac Willets, cleared from this port for New York on the 4th inst. and sailed on the 5th. She carried no passengers, but had the following:

1,952 bales cotton, 234 bundles hides, 434 hides, 18 bales hides and moss, 29 barrels flour.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Fever.—There were 12 deaths from yellow fever in this city for the last 24 hours reported, nine of which occurred to-day before 2 P. M. This increase is attributed to the recent severe change in the weather, as we understand no new cases were reported.

The Steamers Ice and Natchez.—The Ice met the Natchez beating the time of the latter to Natchez, though beating her as far down as Bayou Sara, where she encountered the impeding weather. Capt. Cannon, of the former, asked the Champion for the time, and Capt. Leathers at Natchez, saying he expected to call again for them. Capt. Leathers replied that he thought he would manage to keep them himself. So we may expect another trial of speed by the Ice and then, may-hap, by the Natchez.

Condition of Mr. Seelye.—We are pained to learn that Mr. A. B. Seelye, of Seelye & Taylor, proprietors of the cotton gin factory, still continues very ill. He was severely wounded by the falling of a wall at the burning of their establishment, Thursday morning. It was thought to be in a dying condition last night. The bone in the thigh of his left side broken, and was severely injured internally, to the neighborhood of the heart.

Sixth District Court.—Miss Caroline H. Hubbard vs. City of New Orleans.—In this case the plaintiff avers that she was injured by the fall of a tree in Canal street, through its proper officers, by which she was reached in the Second and Third District Courts, both of which, under the new law, ceased to exist September 1, 1870, and that the duties of his office devolved upon the Sixth District Court, for the year beginning 1st September, 1869, and ending the 1st of September, 1870, at a yearly salary of $7,500, payable monthly.

Mr. Seelye avers that he entered upon her duties on the 1st of September, 1869, and continued well and faithfully to discharge the same down to the 30th of June, 1870, when, without any cause or provocation, she was discharged, and in violation of her contract notified that her services would no longer be required.

Petitioner shows that the regular schedule term of the public schools consists of 10 months, and commences on the first Monday in the 1st of September and ending on the 1st of July of each year. During the months of July and August no services whatever are required from the officers of the public schools.

Plaintiff avers that she had fully complied to her by reason and was entitled to her salary in full. She received only $800, leaving a balance due of $350, for which amount she claims judgment.

Parish.—One company of artillery and two companies of infantry of the Louisiana Legion were on parade last evening on Lafayette Square.

Street Fall.—Last night a man named Thomas Long fell down the stairs leading to the upper circle of the Academy of Music, and was severely injured on the head, over the eye. He was taken to the Charity Hospital. He was under the influence of liquor at the time.

Fire.—About a quarter before 11 o'clock yesterday forenoon a fire broke out in a kitchen, owned by Mr. Belser Decoux, near the Bayou Bridge. The kitchen was destroyed. Loss about $100. Cause of fire unknown.

Recorder Stues' Court.—Octavia Wilson, alias Malvina Garridel, colored, was arrested yesterday charged with attempting to steal from the store of Mr. Schalk, No. 14 Chartres street. The Recorder sent her to prison. She is an old offender.

Serious Affray.—About 9 o'clock yesterday evening a difficulty occurred between two men named James Lane and Thomas Shore on Girod street, in which the latter was severely beaten and dangerously wounded by being struck on the head with an iron bar. Shore was taken to the Hospital and Lane arrested. The cause of the difficulty is not stated.

The Burned Beer Girl.—Anne Barbiere, the beer girl of the saloon No. 59 St. Charles street, who had her clothes burned on her head, it is supposed accidentally on the saloon the other night, is it appears, not dangerously injured, as was at first supposed, although she has lost some of her hair, and what despoiled of her beauty of face.

Serious Accidents.—About 6 o'clock last evening a boy named Wm. Lucier, 15 years old, and a native of this State, employed at the Crescent City Stables, Bienville House, accidentally fell down and stabbed himself.

It appears the boy was getting out of a skiff and had a newly sharpened sheath knife in his pocket which was plunged almost to the hilt in his left side of the abdomen. He was conveyed to the Alms-house Station and his wounds dressed by Dr. C. P. Ames, who pronounced it not dangerous.

About 4 o'clock Wednesday evening a carpenter on the corner of Grand Era, while at work on the wheel of that kind, fell, and it is feared was fatally injured.

The New York Herald on Collector Robb. Very Small Indeed.

Under the above head the New York *Herald* has the following article:

The death of General Robert E. Lee has impressed the public throughout the country with a feeling of profound sorrow of regret. Old prejudices and party bitterness, if any remained up to this time, seem to have been forgotten in the solemnity of his demise. The State of Virginia, now loyal and Republican, proposes to give him a public funeral. The Governor addresses a message to the Legislature to this effect, which was at once responded to by a unanimous approval, and committees of both Houses were appointed to make the necessary arrangements. All the cities of the South were wrapped in mourning for a great public citizen, cultivated, highly gifted, Christian gentlemen, who, if he erred—and no one believes that he erred consciously—survived the error, lived a noble, dignified life, and died in union with the whole people. Was it not a very small business, then, for the Collector of Savannah to cause the flag on the Custom-house there, which, in unison with the feeling of the community, was placed at half-staff yesterday, to be hoisted at the original position? Collector Robb telegraphed the information to Secretary Boutwell, alleging that the display of respect to the dead was paid by his deputies without consulting him, and stating that such bad feeling existed among citizens at his conduct.

Secretary Boutwell approved the conduct of the Collector, for which he may not be blameable, assuming that the honor was intended to be paid to General Lee as rebel officer, and not as a citizen of the United States; but it does not appear that is the case either in Savannah or any where else. Gen. Lee was a great citizen of America, whom his own people, especially had shut his eyes to that fact, and he had not bothered the Secretary about it. It is such very small matters that keep up the acerbity which every honest man in the republic desires to see abandoned.

The New York *Tribune* declares that "there is no governmental authority in France which could make peace." If this is true, what France really needs is General Grant.

Norfolk, Oct. 21.—Sales to-day 100 bales; receipts 772; exports coastwise 100; stock 3260. Receipts of the week 4065; exports coastwise 3664; sales of the week 4065.

[Previous Dispatches.]

New York, Oct. 21.—A split in the Republican party has been consummated by the exclusion of those under the leadership of Collector Murphy from a regular meeting.

The Murphyites held a separate meeting, and resolved to support the candidates of the Independent Democrats for local offices, and request Federal interference by forces, if necessary, on election day. The Tammany Hall party was denounced for opposition to Congressional laws.

The meeting of Regular Republicans did nothing but discuss a resolution urging the State Central Committee to greater efforts. This was opposed by some as an insult to the Central Committee.

The resolution was finally referred to a committee, a committee was appointed to confer with the committee.

Finally the meeting adjourned.

Berlin, Oct. 21.—The *South Saxonier* advertises a loan of six and a half million thalers, at 5¾ per cent., payable in six months.

Only 250 citizens were killed at Strasburg.

At Verdun, as at Paris, the French are squandering their ammunition.

London, Oct. 21.—Specie in the Bank of England has decreased £92,000.

Florence, Oct. 21.—Mazzini has been ordered to remain at Lugheri.

London, Oct. 21.—It is stated that the United States Government has ordered Bernadet, Sheridan and Forsyth to return to London immediately.

The Gazette de Cologne, which makes the statement, says that owing to the engagements of these officers, it is evident United States Minister Washburne has been so unenergetic that he has been compelled to demand separation for the frequent arrest of Americans as spies.

London, Oct. 21.—*World's* Special: Twenty thousand people marched into the palace yard and remained a long time sympathizing with Republican France.

The speakers denounced King Williams. Almost in Bright's apathy were received with cries of "Shame."

Gladstone's Government was bitterly reproached for abstention.

Resolutions were adopted demanding the abolition of pensions to German princes, and declaring that the sooner Kings and princes are abolished the better.

Washington, Oct. 21.—Senator Morton's friends say he declines the mission to England.

Cincinnati, Oct. 21.—A large assembly witnessed practical operations of the California steam plow. Their verdict was favorable to its adaptability West and South.

San Francisco, Oct. 21.—The block of buildings bounded by Market, Mission, Fremont and Real streets was burned last night. Loss, one million dollar.

Warmoth at Shreveport—Business Mental Energy.

The Shreveport *Southwestern* of the 15th inst., comments as follows upon Governor Warmoth's visit to that place:

Gov. Warmoth, Gen. Sheridan and P. B. S. Pinchback addressed quite a large audience here on Monday night. The blacks rendezvous from the stand at the corner of Market and Texas streets. We were gratified to see that the speeches were orderly and respectful attention to the speakers. There was less disturbance than we have been accustomed to witness in political meetings before the war. No complaint on the part of the Democratic party has come to our knowledge of this fact gave the speakers large attitude in their assertions. We shall not retrace the speeches or arguments, but would remark that Gov. Warmoth is a young man of rather attractive personal appearance, and is a good delivery, and is a very plausible debater. He is much more youthful in appearance than we had supposed. His line of argument was an able one, and showed that the Radical Legislature had been less extravagant than the Democratic one of 1868. He insisted that the present manifestation of self and colleagues by the assurance they had not stolen more than they could carry.

Gen. Sheridan, the at-least of the caravan, is a good-natured looking personage, appears a large, fat gentleman, but which has undeniable talent