THE EVENING NEWS.

Tuesday, . . Jan. 26, 1875.

The President's Confession and Avoidance.

The President having been summoned to the bar of public opinion, files what the lawyers would call "a plea of confession and avoidance." Without staying to review the faults of composition that banish this document from the society of English classics, we proceed to the consideration of its material features. Prefacing, however, the remark that while the Executive had for his guides the arguments of his apologists in the Senate—some ingenious, and some which charity itself cannot relieve from the charge of stupidity—he in obedience to his infallible predisposition to error, selected the latter to lighten his uncertain footsteps. The American people, through their grand jury of statesmen, lawyers and patriots—Schurz, Thurman, Bayard, Evarts, Bryant and others equally illustrious for their brains and virtues—having indicted General Grant of a crime greater even than open rebellion—the offense of employing, in the name of liberty, the power entrusted to him to subvert the very principles which it was given to sustain—he has, in the form of an answer to Mr. Thurman's resolution of inquiry, made the following defense:

Reviewing the somewhat paradoxical working of the re-construction acts, he fixes the beginning of his late policy and the late disorders in the court-room of Judge Durell, a judge whose resignation was recently accepted to save him from impeachment. General Grant admits that some of the orders of this judge, in the case of Kellogg vs. Warmoth, and the kindred case of Antoine, were illegal, and admits that he caused the army of the United States to be used to enforce those illegal orders without inquiry, or to use his own language, "It was only made known to me that the process of the United States court was resisted;" showing the same recklessness in the use of troops then as he does now, and classifying opposition to an illegal order as among the lawless acts of Louisiana.

The next element of his defence is the following statement: "I recognize the administration organized with Wm. P. Kellogg as governor. Whether he was or not elected is not altogether certain, nor is it any more certain that his competitor, McEnery, was chosen. The election was a gigantic fraud." This uncertainty of right and certainty of wrong would have furnished any other man with means for "a masterly inactivity" between the counter claimants. While these matters are not responsive to the resolution, they are not without significance. The answer of a man conscious that his acts were inspired by honest motives and what he believed to be the necessities of the occasion, would have been confined within the limits of the inquiry; but General Grant has traveled back into the past and revived a remembrance of men and things which, while intended as a palliation of his conduct, is cumulative of his guilt.

The President next dwells with evident satisfaction upon a lengthy detail of the murders and other outrages visited upon the negroes at Colfax, including in his vital statistics "some charred remains in addition to the fifty-nine bodies." Injustice to the living is a poor tribute to the memory of the dead, but we find the President indulging in expressions which are but the wild utterances of Sheridan's military dispatch toned down to the moderation of a State paper. "To say that the murder of a negro or white citizen was not considered a crime in Louisiana would *probably* be unjust to a great part of the people."

Insulted by the "banditti" of General Sheridan, how grateful must that people feel for the "probably" of General Grant; after having been driven into the wilds of barbarism by one, how sweet it is to be led back within the outer limits of civilization by the other.

After justifying the action of the returning board on the ground of his utter ignorance of what they did and how they did it, the President at last reaches the gist of the inquiry.

Before considering that part of the message which refers to the *corpus delecti* it might not be amiss to ask why, if the President was so intimately acquainted with the details of the disorders, outrages, murders and rebellions, as set forth in the first part of his statement, did he send his "faithful Achates" on his friendly mission of inquiry?

"I did not know that any such thing as the alleged interference of the military with the organization of the legislature on the 4th was anticipated."

"It is exceedingly unpalatable to use troops in anticipation of danger."

"Troops had been sent to the State; they were allowed to remain there to render the executive such aid as *might* become necessary to enforce the laws of the State and repress the continued violence, which seemed inevitable the moment Federal support should be withdrawn."

These excerpts, somewhat contradictory, it is true, explain in his characteristically cloudy manner how, why and what for the soldiers were in Louisiana. He informs the Senate next that "military interference with the organization of a State legislature is repugnant to our ideas of government," ignoring its repugnancy to the written Constitution and laws, but says it might be the duty, under certain circumstances for the governor to forcibly interfere in the organization of the legislature, a sentiment familiar to Cromwell, and one which inspired the "*L'etat c'est moi*" of the French monarch.

After having stated Louisiana to be in a terribly disorganized condition from the date of the reconstruction, after having stated on the other hand that he had no knowledge of anticipated troubles of the 4th instant, he says that General Sheridan was requested to go to Louisiana, observe and report the situation, and, if necessary, assume command; from this pinnacle of absurd contradictions, His Excellency slides down to the defense of his favorite trooper, and, by the assertion that if the barbarous recommendations of General Sheridan were adopted, they would put an end to the difficulties, regrets that they are liable to the objection of being illegal.

The country will be grateful for even this much constitutional consideration at the hands of the cavalryman's patron. Those who have the inviolability of person, property and life at heart will be pleased to learn from the exponent of his free lance's views that General Sheridan "never expressed a determination to proceed beyond what the law in the future might authorize." This either means nothing or means that General Sheridan never expressed a determination to hang the citizens of New Orleans to lamp-posts unless he had the President's assurance of an act of full indemnification after the victims were cut down and buried. While we have these two kindred spirits together—two who recognize every political complication as a Gordion knot to be cut by the sword—we cannot refrain from recommending to their consideration some nice words from John Milton; they will find them somewhere in his Areopagitica: "A dram of well-doing should be preferred before many times as much the forcible hindrance of evil."

No reader of this message can fail to notice the constraint with which those portions relating to military interference in Louisiana affairs are written. Where the President would justify, he unwillingly is reduced to the mildness of an excuse. Public opinion has at last penetrated the inner walls of the White House, and made some impression on the Jupiter *Tonans* of the Republican party. We have called the reader's attention to General Grant's exposition of the Constitution and laws as he understands them, without dwelling upon the state of facts as he represents them, or as they really are. But one thing is certain: no state of facts will sustain the principle that Federal soldiers can be used by a State governor in "a debateable question."

The soldier's message closes by shifting the responsibility of the misgovernment in the South upon Congress, and that body, comparing their devoted support of his errors, with the unmanliness of the subterfuge, may well exclaim with the prophet, "I was wounded in the house of my friend."

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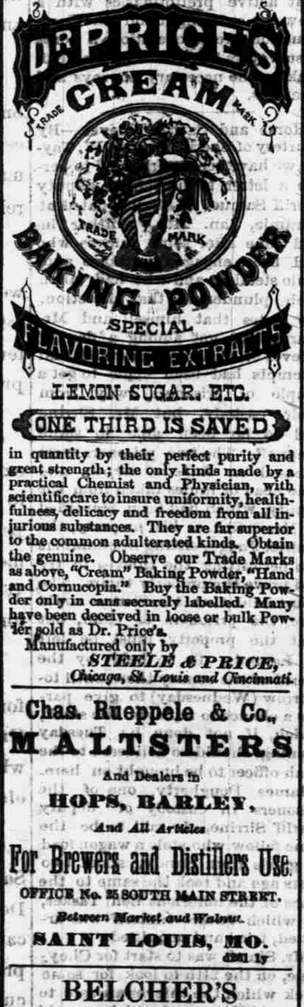

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Selectmen—Reuben Miller, Isaac M. Stewart and E. Maflin Weller;
Coroner—George J. Taylor;
Sheriff—R. T. Burton;
Prosecuting Attorney—Z. Snow;
Assessor and Collector—R. J. Golding;
Treasurer—Theodore McKean;
County Clerk—D. Bockholt;
County Recorder—Edwin D. Woolley;
School Superintendent—O. H. Riggs.

City Officers.

MAYOR:

Daniel H. Wells.

ALDERMEN:

1st Municipal Ward—Isaac Groo;
2d " " George Crismon;
3d " " A H Raleigh;
4th " " John Sharp;
5th " " Alex. C. Pyper.

COUNCILORS.

Brigham Young, Theodore McKean, Albert Carrington, John R. Winder, Henry Grow, N. H. Felt, David McKenzie, Feramorz Little; Henry Dinwoodey.
Treasurer—Paul A. Schettler;
Recorder—Robert Campbell;
Marshal—John D. T. McAllister;
Auditor of Public Accounts—Robert Campbell;
Assessor and Collector—John R. Winder.
Supervisor of Streets—Isaac Groo;
Surveyor—Jesse W. Fox;
Board of School Inspectors—Professor J. R. Park, Henry I. Doremus.
Sealer of Weights and Measures—N. Davis;
Captain of Police—Andrew Burt;
Water Master—Isaac Groo;
Inspector of Buildings—A. H. Raleigh;
Inspector of Wood and Lumber—H. Dinwoodey;
Inspector of Liquor—Robert Campbell;
Inspector of Provisions—Jesse C. Little;
Superintendent Insane Asylum and Hospital—Theodore McKean.
Physician Insane Asylum and Hospital—S B Young.

FENCE VIEWERS:

1st Municipal Ward—Levi Riter;
2d " " Samuel Turnbow;
3d " " Gideon H. C. Gibbs;
4th " " Millen Atwood;

POSTAL AFFAIRS.

Rates of Domestic Postage.

LETTERS:—The standard single rate weight is ½ oz. avoirdupois.
Single rate letter throughout the United States, ... 3 cents.
For each additional ½ oz. or fraction, ... 3 "
Drop Letters, single rate, ... 1 "

NEWSPAPERS:—The standard single rate is 4 oz avoirdupois.
Daily (seven times a week) 35c. per quar
" (six times a week) . 30c. "
Tri-weekly, ... 15c. "
Semi-weekly, ... 10c. "
Weekly, ... 5c. "
Monthly, ... 3c. "

These rates must be prepaid quarterly or yearly at the office where the newspaper is received.

Single newspapers, 1 cent. prepaid.

PERIODICALS:—The standard single rate is 4 oz. avoirdupois.
Semi-monthly, ... 6c. per quar.
Monthly, ... 3c. "
Quarterly, ... 1c. "

Samples of merchandise not over 12 oz., 2c. for each 2 oz. Miscellaneous printed matter, 2c. for each 4 oz. or fraction thereof.

The maximum weight of any package of printed or miscellaneous matter is 4 lbs. avoirdupois.

Registered Letters and Money Orders.

REGISTRATION:—Letters may be registered on payment of a fee of eight cents, but the government takes no responsibility for safe carriage or compensation in case of loss.

MONEY ORDERS:—All principal post offices now receive small sums of money and issue drafts for the same upon other post-offices, subject to the following charges and regulations:

On orders not exceeding $10, . . . 5 cents.
On orders not exceeding $20, . . . 10 "
Over $20 and not exceeding $30, 15 "
Over $30 and not exceeding $40, 20 "
Over $40 and not exceeding $50, 25 "

INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDERS on Great Britain, Germany and Switzerland, to be transmitted by the Postmaster at New York, may be obtained upon the payment of the following fees, viz:

GREAT BRITAIN:

On orders not exceeding $10, . . . 25 cts.
Over $10 and not exceeding $20 50 "
Over $20 and not exceeding $30, 75 "
Over $30 and not exceeding $40, $1.00 "
Over $40 and not exceeding $50, 1.25 "

South American States, Atlantic Coast, *via* England,	28 cts.	4 cts.
Brazil alone, from New York,	15 cts.	2 cts.
Argentine Republic and Uruguay, *via* American packet from New York,	18 cts.	4 cts.
Pacific Coast, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia and Chile,	22 cts.	4 cts.
Spain, *via* New Orleans,	10 cts.	2 cts.
Spain, open mail,	4 cts.	....
Sweden, *via* North German Union direct,	*10 cts.	3 cts.
Sweden, closed mail *via* England,	*11 cts.	9 cts.
(Newspapers under 2 oz., 4 cts. each by direct mail, and 7 cts. by closed mail via England).		
Switzerland, direct closed mail *via* England,	*10 cts.	4 cts.
Switzerland, by North German Union direct,	*3 cts.	3 cts.
West Indies, (British and Danish,) American packet from New York,	10 cts.	2 cts.
(British), British mail *via* St. Thomas,	10 cts.	2 cts.
Not British),	8 cts.	4 cts.

United States and British North American Provinces.

LETTERS.—The standard single rate is ½ oz. avoirdupois. To or from the Dominion of Canada, irrespective of distance, if prepaid, 6 cents; otherwise, 10 cents. To and from other British North American Provinces, for distance of not over 2,500 miles, 10 cents.

Rates of Foreign Postage.

The standard single rate to Great Britain by Bremen steamships, to France and the Continent (by French mail), is 15 grammes, or one-quarter ounce avoirdupois. The asterisk (*) indicates that prepayment is optional.

	Letters not Noncontracting.	Letters not exceeding papers half oz. each.
England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales,	*8 cts.	2 cts
German States and free cities, including Austria, Bavaria, Baden, Bremen, Brunswick, Frankfort, Hamburg, Hanover, Lubec, Luxemburg, Mecklenburg, Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxe-Altenburg, Coburg-Gotha, Meiningen, Weimar, Saxony and Wurtemburg, by North German Union,	*8 cts.	3 cts.
By closed mail, *via* England,	*7 cts.	4 cts.
Australia, British mail, *via* Southampton,	16 cts.	4 cts.
Belgium,	*10 cts.	4 cts.
Central America (Pacific Coast),	10 cts.	2 cts.
China, American Packet, *via* San Francisco,	10 cts.	2 cts.
Cuba,	10 cts.	2 cts.
Denmark, *via* North German Union,	*7 cts.	6 cts.
Denmark, closed mail *via* England,	*10 cts.	7 cts.
East Indies, British Mail *via* San Francisco,	10 cts.	2 cts.
France, direct packet,	10 cts.	2 cts.
Greece, *via* North German Union direct,	14 cts.	3 cts
Greece, closed mail, *via* England,	15 cts.	10 cts.
Hong Kong, American packet, *via* San Francisco,	10 cts.	2 cts.
Italy, direct closed mail, *via* England,	*10 cts.	4 cts
Italy, *via* North German Union direct,	10 cts.	6 cts
Japan, American packet *via* San Francisco,	10 cts.	2 cts.
Mexico,	10 cts.	2 cts.
New Zealand, *via* Southampton,	16 cts.	4 cts.
Norway, *via* North German Union direct,	10 cts.	6 cts
Norway, closed mail, *via* England,	11 cts.	7 cts
Portugal, *via* England,	*8 cts.	4 cts
Russia, *via* North German Union direct,	*10 cts.	8 cts
Russia, closed mail *via* England,	*11 cts.	8 cts.
Sandwich Islands, by mail from San Francisco,	6 cts.	2 cts

Nil Desperandum!

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And to patronize the working

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☞ Our goods are kept by Z. C. M. I. and all its Branch Stores, and also by all the Co-operative Stores of the Territory.

M. D. WELLS & CO.,

Manufacturers of and

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

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M. D. WELLS, H. J. MACFARLAND,
H. BENDERSON, S. P. McINTYRE.
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J. BAUER