

Daily Express.
PUBLISHED BY THE
Express Printing Company

Wednesday Morning, November 12, 1879.

"THE MOUNTAIN LABORED AND BROUGHT FORTH A MOUSE."

For several days past—near a week—there have been rumors of wild-eyed men running about the streets soliciting signatures to a paper pledging the signers to withdraw their patronage from this paper. These men had a great grievance against the *Express*. They had been openly violating a revenue law by which they were evading a greater burden of taxes upon others, and the *Express* suggested that probably the people would not feel inclined to submit to such a proceeding, and advising that they obey the law, though an oppressive one, and place at least a portion of the burden, if not the whole, upon the state officials, and could secure the signature through the ballot box just as easily as was interested in having it observed, they threatened dire vengeance against any paper that would dare to not praise them for their unlawful acts. We heard much of the vast magnitude of the list of names attached to the paper. The people at large were showing their indignation that the *Express* should dare ask that a law be observed, and a stranger not so acquainted with the true state of affairs would have supposed the *Express* might as well strike a blow to Seguin or Goliadville. At last, after over a week devoted to their labor of destruction, the terror striking dogged reached the scene upon which it was to do the work of total annihilation, and with a fear and trepidation, no doubt, warranted by the grave and trying circumstances under which he found himself, the business manager broke the seal. The introduction was brief and to the point. All superiority of language had doubtless been exhausted in the securing of signatures, and the use of figures and accounts soon reached the bottom of the first page of news. It was indeed trying, an awe-inspiring time when he turned the sheet to continue the awful process; but lo! it was black. Over and over was turned the sheet; the b. m. looked around as though he had lost something; then he looked "foolish." Great Lord! it was possible that such a small array of talent could create such a stir in the world! Then it was remembered that all the stories told about the great indignation of the populace were told by the few who were "indignant," and the man of business proceeded to re-purify the name for private information; not so private, however, but we ascertained that the names of some of the gentlemen were not found on our subscription books at all; some of the others were there, but we are pained to state, were not accompanied by the credits usually found on the names of those subscribers considered valuable. A few were advertised to a limited extent from time to time, but, alas! in too many instances the debtor side of the ledger showed the longest column of figures. A bright gleam of hope lighted up the optics of the business manager as he "reckoned" the delinquents would now have the fairness to pay up; he seemed to forget that those men had declared that a law was oppressive upon them should be set at defiance, no matter what hardship it might impose upon others, and they might consider as a hardship the law that compels a man to pay an honest debt, and set that at defiance also. Some of the signers were good prompt-paying subscribers to the *Express*, and we really feel sorry to see them assume such a ridiculous attitude. Some of them, we know, feel the embarrassment of their position, but were forced by their scruples to join with the "rebels."

The following is the document, name and all:

San Antonio, Nov. 7, 1879.

To the proprietors San Antonio *Express*:—We, the undersigned, would hereby certify that you do desire all subscriptions or advertisements in your paper, in our names, shall remain from this date:

A. L. LINDNER & CO.,
F. J. Mayes,
Frank Cimino,
J. C. McLean,
E. N. Stoddard,
J. T. Tracy,
A. P. Tracy,
John Bergman,
Louis Sabin,
J. V. Williams,
W. B. Blewett,
Philip Dernerty,
Peter Jones,

We have been reliably informed that our contemporary, the *Horizon*, has been devoting itself to the cause of the gentlemen named above, and that the devoted head of the *Express* has received many a cut and stamp for its course in this matter. We command the above list to our contemporary. If all gratitude has not a flow from the human heart, it should have a list of subscribers at least as long as the above list of names.

Bogging our readers' padon for devoting so much space to such an insignificant matter, we bid the above named gentlemen a kindly adieu. They can secure copies of the *Express* from the newsboys, 5 cents per copy; advertising rates made known at the office.

NEEDS REGULATING.

The following letter from a subscriber of the *Express* explains itself:

LOUIS HILL, Nov. 8, 1879.

This morning a "free-bearer" party consisting of my father's Weekly, Cultivator and Country Doctor, and the *Express*, came to Paris, together with nearly all the paper mail for this office, reduced from a strip to Fredericksburg, to which place they had been sent by the postal authorities at San Antonio. Of course no one here seems to be very anxious to have your papers come along to a distance, and I go "galloping" away up into the country, so as to give full time for the next issue to beat time.

DAVID DURAKOW.

The *Express* well understands the nature of the business of distributing mails to and know that mistakes will sometimes occur in that connection, but the number of letters like the above owing to this office proves that there were carelessness or negligence on the part of the person or persons having charge of the work of distributing the newspaper mails in our postoffice. The postmaster will be subscriving the public to by making such regulations as will put an end to these complaints.

The people of Galveston appear to be given over to hardness of heart and stiffness of neck. The other evening when Maj. Penn asked those who were willing to be saved to come forward and occupy front seats not one responded, thereby exhibiting an unwillingness to be saved that is disconcerting. When they hear the furnace roar and the galloping stir at the door it turns them about as his toasting fork, they will soon change their minds.

There are now in the United States treasury vaults, according to Mr. Gilliland, nearly \$175,000,000 of gold coin and bullion, \$20,000,000 of standard silver dollars, \$17,000,000 of fractional silver coins, and \$1,000,000 of silver coin certificates and bullion.

SOME REFORM IDEAS.

Elsewhere we publish an article from the Galveston *News* on "Too Much and Too Little Government," that contains ideas which we believe will be brought prominently before the country in political discussions in the near future. We do not believe it would be practicable for congress to do all the work of the various state legislatures, but there are many laws passed by the legislatures of the different states all tending to the same general purpose but so conflicting in terms as to cause embarrassment and annoyance to the people of different states. By empowering congress to pass a general criminal and civil code making it uniform for all the states, there would be much less ignorance of the laws, and less complication and annoyance in governing them. The special work of legislatures could be accomplished in half the time and with one quarter the cost, for the representation could be cut down one half without detriment to the interests of the people. The people elect congressmen as well as state officials, and could secure their thoughts through the ballot box just as well today as yesterday. We have no more reason to fear that the government had too much power than that it had too little.

The *Express* suggests that the *Government* of the 5th inst., is filled with high-combed crowing cocks and booming cannon over a great victory in New York. According to our dispatches so far all this parade of victories and glories, we see, goes to way, little to no use.

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