

The *Republican*, in its report of the Radical pow-wow at Guion's plantation, has the following reference to Michael Hahn, the illustrious :

"They had sent a committee to New Orleans to procure orators, fireworks, etc.; but the same train which left Algiers on Saturday evening and carried their committee, fireworks and orators, also carried ex-Gov. Hahn and a party of Republicans, who were also going to Lafourche to advocate the rights of the people."

The committee very naturally concluded that Mike would serve very well as an addition to the pyrotechnic display, and took him along with the other rockets and fizzing contrivances. Mike seems to have justified this opinion of his explosive nature, for never before was the trite but forcible metaphor which compares the ambitious orator to a rocket that goes up a meteor and comes down a stick, more happily exhibited than in Mike's effort in Guion's sugar house. In all the qualities of fiery eloquence, explosive declamation and combusitive satire, Mike's performance on this occasion was never equalled save by the display of his own, in the spring of 1861, when he addressed Capt. Strong's company of Confederate Avengers, in a coffeehouse on St. Charles street, presenting them a flag and urging them to bear it bravely into the very centre of the hostile North, and plant it amid the ruins of cities, and the slaughter of their enemies. Poor Strong, as gallant a son of Erin as ever drew a sword, literally fulfilled the pledge which Mike exacted of him and his followers, and died at the foot of the flag Mike had presented to him, after it had been planted in Northern soil. The frank and brave Irishman believed that Mike meant what he said, and that he was only prevented by his physical incapacity from carrying out his heroic injunction. He little suspected that long ere he had offered up his valuable life, that the impetuous and devoted orator, who so stimulated and warmed his own valor, would have sold out to the very enemy he was so earnest and eloquent in counselling other people to slaughter!

But stop! What right have we to rake up these antecedents? Have they not been erased from the record of history by an indulgent and forgiving nation? Is not Michael a true loyal man by act of Congress, as the witty actor said to the lawyer who taunted him with the vagabondism of players, that lawyers were gentlemen by act of Parliament. See statutes of the Fortieth Congress, one of the last enacted, in one of which the name of Michael Hahn of Louisiana will be found to head a long list of those who have been purged of the treason and sin of the rebellion by the special grace and favor of Congress. It is true it looks awkward that Michael had been filling so many offices in the State and National Government, before his incapacity had been removed and his "treason" condoned; that he should now be able to boast of having sat in the same Congress with that illustrious statesman Colfax, when he was not by this very enactment of the 40th Congress eligible thereto, having to swear in his installation the tightest sort of a test oath; but such little discrepancies and irregularities are pardonable in men of Mike's pluck and genius—we must confess that he now stands forth fully purged of all his sins and errors anterior to the passage of the Congressional enabling act, and is fully commissioned and authorized—nay, he is placed under special obligations of gratitude and a sincere penitence—to pitch into all rebels, traitors and disloyal people, and "spare them not."

And this obligation, we have the authority of the *Republican* for saying, he fully discharged in his recent explosion at Guion's sugar-house.

In others of our old residents, and Mike, we believe, is "native and to the manor born," such language as the following would be considered as quite too cruel and severe, not to say calumnious and incendiary; but in a new and deeply penitent convert like Mike, having a special expurgation and expiation to perform, it is quite appropriate and effective. Saith the *Republican* reporter :

Gov. Hahn's description of the auction block, where a mother was sold to one man and taken off to one parish, and her child was sold to another person and ruthlessly taken off to another parish, and the two separated forever in this world; an auction block sustained and protected by Democratic legislation, drew tears to the eyes of many mothers who were present.

Who has a better right to denounce this peculiar feature of the horrors of slavery, the transfer of these human beings by notarial act, and the consequent separation of families, than the little ex-notary of Commercial Place, who has made so many five dollar fees for drawing up such acts of sale, and guaranteeing so many of our present fellow-citizens and brothers, but former "chattels," against the vices and diseases proscribed by law. How often has the tender-hearted Michael been compelled to wring his heart with unspeakable and never-before-spoken agony, by the careful and deliberate penning of these and other phrases—common to all acts of sales of slaves—the legal fees for which recordation were \$6 25! What a relief it must be to so tender-hearted and sympathetic a humanitarian as Michael to be allowed and authorized now by solemn act of Congress to give full vent to his pent-up sorrows and gushing sympathy for the down trodden race, whose frequent change of masters in times gone by supplied the principal source of profit and subsistence, which nourished and strengthened the young ambition of the thrifty notary of 1861, who ripened into the renowned Governor of 1861, culminated in the Senator of 1865, and crowned his greatness and glory with the laurels and title of the Demosthenes of Guion's plantation.