The Louisiana Democrat.

VOLUME 15} ALEXANDRIA LA. WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14, 1859. {NUMBER 27.

Professional Cards.

LAW NOTICE.

MERCER CANFIELD, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW, AND NOTARY PUBLIC, will practice his profession in this and the adjoining Parishes. Office on second street, opposite Court Yard Square, one door below McCloskey's store, Office at Alexandria, La. ap13.

JAMES GRAHAM,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.

WILL practice in the Thirteenth and adjoining Districts. Office in Alexandria. nov231y

J. ORSBORN. W. P. SHROPSHIRE

Orsborn & Shropshire,
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law

WILL practice their profession in this and the adjoining Parishes.
Office in Alexandria, next Door to the Post Office. m18-1y.

Law Partnership.

WM. B. LEWIS. JNO. C. LEWIS. EDWARD T. LEWIS.

THE PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between Messrs. W. B. & J. C. Lewis, is this day dissolved, and a new one substituted therefor between Messrs. W. B., J. C. & E. T. Lewis, who will practice their profession in the parishes of Rapides, Avoyelles, Natchitoches and Catahoula. One of them will always be found at their office in Alexandria. Feb 23 '59-1y

H. S. LOSEE,
Attorney and Counsellor at Law,

WILL practice his profession in this and adjoining parishes.
Office 3d door below the Alexandria House.
jan12-1y ALEXANDRIA, LA.

W. B. HYMAN. A. CAZABAT
HYMAN & CAZABAT
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law,
dec30-1y Alexandria, La.

Law Notice.
J. H. & THOMAS OVERTON,
Attorneys and Counselors at Law.

HAVING associated themselves in the practice of their profession, will attend regularly the District Courts of the Parishes of St. Landry, Calcasieu, Rapides and Avoyelles, and the annual sessions of the Supreme Court at Alexandria and Opelousas. ....Office at Opelousas, La. ap27

J. N. RHORER,
NOTARY PUBLIC,
Office at the Court House, Alexandria, La.
March 30, 1859 1y

ROBT. B. LOTT,
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,
Alexandria, La.
Office on Third Street near the Methodist Church, and immediately in the rear of the Rapides House.
an12-1y

NOTICE.—ARCHIBALD M. GORDON, *CIVIL ENGINEER* and *SURVEYOR*, offers his services, in the above capacity, to the citizens of the Parish of Rapides. May 18, 1859-1y*

CHAS. H. MYERS & BRO.
IMPORTERS OF
BRANDIES, WINES, &c.
No. 72 Exchange Place,
Mch 16-1y BALTIMORE.

BELLOCQ, NOBLOM & CO.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
61 Carondelet Street,
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
References— I. Levy & Co., S. K. Johnson, } Alexandria, La.
July 6, 1859-1y.

F. G. RANDOLPH & CO.,
RECEIVING, FORWARDING,
—AND—
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
No. 50 Common Street,
Dec15, 1858-1y New Orleans.

JOS. H. MARKS. ISAAC N. MARKS.
JOS. H. & I. N. MARKS,
WHOLESALE GROCERS,
—AND—
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
Nos. 43, 45 and 47 *New Levee,*
And 32, 35 and 37 Fulton Street,
Between Poydras and Gravier Streets,
Dec15, 1858-1y *New Orleans.*
☞ Country orders promptly attended to.

W. O. DAMMON.
PAINTER, GLAZIER AND
PAPER HANGER.
☞ Country work done at the shortest notice.
Feb16-1y W. O. DAMMON.

A Large and complete assortment of Garss Rope for sale (very low) by
S. W. HENARIE

BAGGING, ROPE AND TWINE,
For sale by
sep29-tf S. W. HENARIE.

BELLS.—A large lot of Bells from the smallest the largest, just received and for sale at reduced prices, by je29 S. W. HENARIE

ORLEANS HOTEL,
Nos. 149 & 151 Chartres Street,
NEW ORLEANS.
MRS. CATHERINE LACHENMEYER,
PROPRIETRESS.

TRAVELERS may rest assured that they will constantly find comfortable rooms, excellent board, polite and attentive waiters.
☞ On parle Francais. Se habla Espanol. Man spricht Deutsch. sep 21, '59-1y.

A CARD.

MRS. BENNETT would invite the citizens of Alexandria and vicinity to call at her ROOM No. 19, Fulton House, and examine her Oil Painting, Wax Flowers, and Hair Flowers. She will [illegible] elegant Boquets for Parlor Ornaments; Hair [illegible] Wreaths, and Party Head Dressing; family Work is a beautiful method of preserving hair. By hair, and also very fine head [illegible] a few of her many references she will mention, Lockport [illegible] from her former places [illegible] and Niagara Falls, N. Y., Lamont and Lady, Mr. [illegible] Dr. Gould and Lady, Snell and Lady, Messrs. [illegible] Buck and Lady, merchants, and others. [illegible] Crysler & Brevett will give instructions in the Art. Mrs. BENNETT. Nov1-tf

The Democrat.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, AT

$4 00 per Annum.....In Advance

DECEMBER.....14, 1859.

ADVERTISING RATES:

The following rates will be charged for advertisements:—

10 lines or less, one insertion	$1 00
Each subsequent insertion	50
10 lines or less, one month	2 50

The following rates will be charged for a longer period than one month:

	3 mos.	6 mos.	12 mos.
10 lines or less	$ 5 00	$ 8 00	$10 00
20 " " "	8 00	12 00	15 00
30 " " "	12 00	15 00	20 00
¼ column or less	17 50	25 00	30 00

☞ Obituary Notices exceeding one square, will be charged regular advertising rates.

PEKIN AND THE AMERICAN MISSION.

A gentleman attached to the late mission to China furnishes to the Journal of Commerce an account of the journey from Shanghai to Pekin, of the country passed through, of the capital city and of the entertainment of Minister WARD and his diplomatic companions. We give one of these interesting letters:

PEKIN, (China,) August 10, 1859.

My last communication left us at a Government house, a sort of caravanseral, as I was told, for travelers and pilgrims, quite neat, though not large in size or commanding in appearance, and the more agreeable from its being set back some distance from the road, and having a spacious court in front, all carpeted in living green. It is about two miles outside of the walls, which as yet had not risen before our eyes, so thick were the trees and groves between them and us on this great plain, extending from the Gulf to the city, which nowhere has either elevation or depression. Here those dismounted who had been favored with horses, and others crawled out of their dens who had been caged in them; and all, having rested one hour and taken a cup of tea, which is uniformly offered instead of wine and other liquors, returned to their carriages, forgetting aches and bruises in the thought of the shortness of the distance which remained, and the wonders which were so soon to startle our vision. Onward we moved, every one solemn, silent, his heart beating quicker, till at last it throbbed with big emotion, when, there! there! rose the walls and there the immense bastion towered over the gate, armed with tier above tier of cannon, and we had fairly reached Pekin!

Long before reaching the walls, however, we were surrounded by crowds whom no man could number. They did not come there; they seemed to have grown there; they did not move, they only stood—acres and acres, and field after field of human flesh and bones, compacted into one solid body, out of which grew innumerable heads, arms, and shoulders. It added to the impressiveness of the scene, that not one wore a hat or cap; not one covered his back and shoulders with shirt or coat; not one wore a vest to protect his bosom. A single article constituted the whole of their dress and wardrobe—a piece of blue cotton made into an Oriental petticoat, and tied about the loins and reaching below the knee. All that met the eye, therefore, was naked flesh, glistening with the sweat which oiled it as the sun shone down his burning rays; while those thousands and thousands of piercing, prying, steady eyes and upturned faces, all with a smile, and solemn in their wonder, indicated that all was not a mass of flesh there; mind was there; humanity was there; our brothers were there; almost the population of a common city was seen outside of the walls; nor can any estimate within amazing amount of the population saw what there and stagger me, when in one suburb only was around one great shout was raised; not without. Not heard; not one foot or one voice moved. The last European hand was that of Lord Amherst in forty-three years ago, more than a period of a generation—and most of the living population of Pekin had never seen a white man. We passed under two imposing portals, something like triumphal archways, about half a mile from the city, which, however, with the walls, the gates, the bastions, the towers, and other objects of interest within and without the city, must be the subject of another letter.

Passing through the Russian wall by the "Eastern Gate," *Chaou-yeng men*, we entered the Tartar division of the city, and moving along a street, compared with which Pennsylvania avenue, in Washington, is a narrow lane, when we had gone a mile and a half, we turned at right angles to the right, when, proceeding a quarter or half of a mile further, we reached the quarters which the Government had assigned for our residence. A wall ran along in front, excluding all sight of the houses from the street; for they were a *cluster*, instead of one, and were owned and occupied a few years since by the Prime Minister, who lost them by confiscation for the crime of defeating the rebels. It is called "*Lau-kiuen-tang*," or the "Hall of the Loutsz"—a name given in honor of Loutsz, who was the founder of one of the religious systems and sects of China. First was the wall on the street, at the end of which, on the right, a gate opened into stables located in that quarter. Another gate on the left opened into a long narrow space between the street wall and a long parallel building for the use of servants and for offices Beyond this was another court, with a wall separating it from another and larger court, in which were several trees, and a handsome building called the "Reception Hall," in which Mr. Ward held his interviews with the Imperial Commissioners when they called upon him, and his Secretary and interpreters their interviews with inferior officers when they come to transact business. Back of this edifice was another wall, with a central gate, which opened into a court fifty feet by seventy-five, a fine building being erected on the right and left hand for domestic purposes, and in front a large edifice, but, like all the others, of one story only, which was the principal house, and, with its wings, was above one hundred feet long. It was constructed of brick painted blue, the roof curving in the Chinese style, and covered with handsome tiles, while the eaves projected eight or ten feet over a platform, sustaining handsome pillars running in front of the house from end to end. In the rear of the house was extended a well-made block of buildings, for the use of domestics or children, while back of the central court and the house on the right side of it was a large area, part of it occupied by small houses for the cooks and kitchen, and the rest as a yard for fowls, sheep, provisions, and fuel. All the courts were covered with flag-stones, while over two of them, and they the largest and most important to our party, mat awnings were thrown, supported by bamboo poles, and raised thirty feet above the pavement They were so constructed that, by pulling a rope, great windows could be raised or shut, either to exclude the sun or admit the air, as circumstances might require. Not a pane of glass was to be seen, strong semi-transparent paper being used instead; and handsome thick and strong paper covered the walls and the ceiling, attached to wooden frame-work, and not to boards or plastering. Much handsome carved work ornamented the inside partitions, while both front and rear elegant lattice-work, covered with paper, and taking the place of windows, reached from three or four feet above the floor to the height of the rooms. All was neat and tasteful, even to us, and must have been magnificent according to Chinese ideas. Nothing met our eyes in Pekin superior to it; and we found a happy home where the Prime Minister, who built and occupied it, found the bitterest misery, though he held in his hand the power of life and death over four hundred millions.

Having reached our quarters at three o'clock on Wednesday, July 27th, under the guidance of Commissioner Tsung and his twenty sub-mandarins, the rest of the day was devoted to selecting and arranging our rooms, copious ablution, recuperation of our strength, gazing upon the strange objects which met our eyes, and and questioning ourselves whether all this was reality or dreaming. Upon our reaching the house two principal officers were found awaiting our arrival, who were directed to make provision for our wants and attend to our wishes, and who, upon retiring, left behind some inferior officers, who were permanently present. Dinner was served about sunset, in Chinese style of dishes and cookery; but after this provisions were sent in of fine quality, and great variety and abundance, which were cooked in American style by the cooks we brought with us.

Mr. Ward did not send a communication to Kweiliang, the Prime Minister, on the day of his arrival, since this would not have been in accordance with Chinese etiquette; but the next day, Thursday, the 28th, he addressed to him a letter, or rather to the two Imperial Commissioners, Hwashana being the other, informing them of his arrival in Pekin, and his desire to pay his respects to them at such time and place as they might designate. During the whole of this day not an individual called, not even Tsung, who had been our kind and attentive escort from the commencement of our journey; and our palatial house began to lose its charm in suspicions and apprehensions of what might be brewing in high quarters, though no one had a momentary fear of personal danger coming over him. The next day Mr. Ward received a reply from the Commissioners, couched in the most respectful terms, congratulating him on his safe arrival in the capital, and appointing the next day, Saturday, the 30th, at two o'clock, for the time of the proposed interview, and Kia-king, a Buddhist monastery, for the place of meeting—a temple being converted into a public house for travelers or a place for the transaction of public business without the least scruple, both by the Chinese and Japanese. The name of the monastery or temple was "Excellent Prosperity." On the morning of the 29th the sub-Commissioner Sieh called upon Mr. Williams, the interpreter of the Legation, with the request from the Commissioners that Mr. Ward would take with him, not his whole suite, but only his two interpreters and Wallace Ward, Esq., the Secretary of the Legation, as the Commissioners were desirous that the interview should be strictly private. The sub-Commissioner, or Judge, as he is usually called, as he has been advanced to that office in one of the most important provinces, also stated that the Emperor was desirous of granting the American Minister an audience, for which purpose some previous arragements were necessary.

Mr. Ward met the Commissioners at the place and time appointed, going on horseback with his three officials, accompanied by a large body of Mandarins of all colors of buttons, from the blue, the highest in distinction, down through all the grades, who were emulous of showing him all courtesy and honor. The distance from our quarters to the temple is about a mile and a half, in reaching which Mr. Ward passed close to the gate of "Eternal Repose," opening into the *adytum*, the *sanctum sanctorum* of the Imperial Palace, around which is thrown what is called the "Prohibited Wall," or rather *prohibiting*, as no mortal is allowed to pass through its gates into the sacred interior without the Emperor's special permission. Both Mr. Ward and the rest of his party say that nothing wonderful or admirable met the eye in the walls, the gate, or whatever was reached by the eye within. The temple, also, in which they met had nothing about it worthy of note, either in its dimensions, workmanship, or adornments. It was secluded, neat, and quiet, and thus adapted to the purpose for which it was selected.

After the usual civilities upon such occasions Mr. Ward introduced the object of his mission, the exchange of the ratifications of the late treaty, and the delivery of the President's letter to the Emperor; but the Commissioners would discuss nothing but the proposed audience with the Emperor, which Mr. Ward did not request, aware of the embarrassments and even serious difficulties which the subject might create even by the discussion, and the utter impossibility of his submitting to the humiliations which an audience invariably requires. On the other hand the Commissioners were solicitous that Mr. Ward should request an audience, which, as the third Commissioner told Mr. Williams, the Emperor himself was desirous of conferring, having evidently been favorably impressed by what he had learned of America and Americans, and wishing to see the first representative of that nation and that continent who had ever appeared in his capital. The Emperor, whose name is Hien-fung, is a young man, being only twenty-nine years old, and, in addition to naturally good powers of mind, devotes himself, as one of the ministers stated, earnestly to business every day, early and late with them. Whatever exaggeration there may possibly be in this, enough remains to indicate even inquisitiveness of mind and the dawning of new ideas, which, joined to the ardent temperament of a young man, may have prompted the expressed desire to see Mr. Ward. The Commissioners urged Mr. Ward to comply with the old and established usages upon presentation to the Emperor; insisting that, as he had come to the capital, he must conform to the "rites," as they called them, or customs of the Empire. The rite called the *ko-tow* is performed whenever the highest native dignitaries approach the Emperor, and was performed by the Dutch and Portuguese Ministers in repeated instances, and, as the Chinese affirm and circumstances lead almost every one to believe, by Lord Macartney, the English Ambassador, in 1793.

It will not surprise our countrymen that their Minister refused peremptorily and persistently from the beginning to perform a ceremony so degrading to himself and to them. He expressed the determination in the most respectful terms, not reproaching the Chinese for their Court customs, or rites, as they call them but lamenting there was such a difference between American ideas and rites that compliance was impossible, since it would offend his Government and his country, and disgrace him in the estimation of both. He would be most happy to render to the Emperor all the marks of high respect which he would to the President of the United States, but no more. Though the discussion was a good deal animated no bad feeling was exhibited, and the debate closed by appointing the 2d day of August to return the visit of Mr. Ward, when they would resume the consideration of the subject. They sat down to a magnificent dinner, prepared with all the gastronomic science and art which the Soyers at work in the imperial kitchen could command. I have not space to name the various dishes, birds' nests, sharks' fins, heifers' teats, watermelon seeds, &c., &c., the whole amounting to no less than thirty courses, and including dishes, apart from those not agreeable to American taste and fancy, which the gentlemen upon their return declared were hardly equalled by any thing within their experience or knowledge. The gentlemen of the suite, who have resided for many years in China, said they had never known any thing equal in sumptuousness, delicacy, and richness, and even one of the Commissioners, when the dinner was complimented, said nothing better could be got up for the Emperor himself. Though only the three Chinese Commissioners and Mr. Ward, his secretary, and two interpreters were present and sat down to it, the supply was enough for at least a hundred, and the expense was estimated at $1,500.

Mr. Ward having learned before the interview that his quarters were surrounded with soldiers, asked the Commissioners if they had placed them as a guard about him in order to restrain his movements. They denied any such intention, saying the soldiers were there simply to preserve order and quiet among the crowds which gathered around his quarters, prompted by their strong curiosity. Mr. Ward also inquired if he could fix the day for his departure from the capitol, at which they hesitated; but Mr. Ward asserting that the discussion must close unless this was understood they assented to the designation of the day, when Mr. Ward decided upon the 11th of August as the time of his departure.

Thursday, August 2d, the three Commissioners returned Mr. Ward's call, attended by a great retinue of Mandarins of different grades, who had a long conference with Mr. Ward in the reception hall, where the only subject discussed was Mr. Ward's performance of the *Ko-tow*, against which he was as presistent as before. After a long discussion they adjourned for dinner at three o'clock, which was served in the spacious and handsome dining-hall of the main house occupied by Mr. Ward. A table was set at the head of the room, at which sat Mr. Ward at the head, Kweiliang on his left, as the most honorable place, and belonging to the Prime Minister; while the other Commissioner Hawashana, sat on the right; and the third, or Deputy Commissioner, Sieh, on the left of Kweiliang; the Secretary and interpreters occupying positions at the foot of the table. A table was set for the rest of Mr. Ward's suite towards the other end of the room, and at first in a line with the other table, which an astute Chinese official observing, he requested it might be removed out of the line a little, as it would not be in harmony with Chinese ideas to have a table placed in a straight line with that of the first Minister of the State. A crowd of Mandarins came in with the Commissioners, to whom we offered to give up our table and seats, which was not allowed by the Commissioners. Even when it was ascertained that the nephew of one of the Commissioner was among them, and all were desirous he should sit down to dinner, his uncle peremptorily refused, as it would violate the Chinese rites to have an inferior, even of his rank and relationship, seated at table with officers of such high dignity. The simplicity of their dress would astonish the poorest American clerk, and be thought discreditable for those who do not own the coats on their backs; but it was neat, and bore the usual marks of authority and place. It was hard for us, the lookers-on at the other table, to divine the result of the conference from what we saw and heard; for while at times there was a play of pleasantry in the conversation, or a smile in the countenance, or course loud laugh, all suddenly subsided into the solemnity of a Quaker meeting, showing that the pleasantry and good humor were forced, and not natural.

Dinner being at last ended, Mr. Ward and the Commissioners returned to the reception hall, where the discussions were continued for an hour or more, when the conference was closed and the result made known. Every argument was used to induce Mr. Ward to performe the *ko-tow* which he refused, while he professed his readiness to tender all the homage customary in European Courts, of which he was well informed, since he had but recently been presented to Louis Napoleon. He was ready even *to bend one knee*, esteeming it no more improper and dishonorable than to bend the whole body, which every one does, but he would call it simply *bowing*, and not the *ko-tow*, nor would he have the term used in the Imperial records. After a long debate, and sometimes a good deal exciting, the Commissioners remarked that, as evidently the parties could not come to an agreement, so different were Eastern and Western rites, they would dismiss the subject, and attended to other matters; at the same time saying that Sieh, the Deputy Commissioner, would call on the 4th, and inform Mr. Williams about the preparations to be made for Mr. Ward's departure.

The simple reason why the Commissioners refused to have the ratifications exchanged in the Imperial city was Mr. Ward's refusal to perform the *ko-tow* to its imperial master. It was a sort of *set-off* in the final balancing of accounts. But as the treaty did not require the exchange in Pekin, Mr. Ward could not consistently make any objection.

On the 4th the Deputy Commissioner Sieh, called upon Mr. Williams at our Minister's quarters, but instead of making the promised arrangements for Mr. Ward's departure, he was intent only on discussing again the subject of the audience with the Emperor, when the question was put, if the Commissioners would address him a letter, asking him if he would perform all the ceremonies on coming into the presence of the Emperor which he would in visiting the President of the United States he would assent to the proposal? If Mr. Ward would do this the Emperor would appoint the 8th instant for an audience, and the ratifications would be exchanged on the day following. Mr. Ward consented to this through Mr. Williams, and the forms of the letters to be written were agreed upon. But on the 5th the Deputy Commissioner returned, saying it was absolutely necessary for Mr. Ward to kneel on one of his knees upon being admitted into the presence of the Emperor, otherwise the proposed audience could not be granted. This again Mr. Ward refused to do, and the Commissioner retired.

The same night Mr. Ward received a letter from the Commissioners, stating that as he had then been for many days in the capital, and after repeated interviews had obstinately adhered to his decision in regard to the *ko-tow*, no audience could be had with the Emperor; and they were at a loss to know, therefor, for what reason he had come to the capital? Mr. Ward replied that he had come there to exchange the ratifications of the treaty, and present the President's letter to the Emperor; but, as the forms of the Court render it impossible to do this in person to the Emperor, he proposed to deliver the letter to the Prime Minister, and that he was ready to exchange the ratifications any day which might be designated previous to the 11th. On the 6th the Commissioners replied, that as Mr. Ward declined an audience with the Emperor, both according to the old "rites" and the lowered terms, they should refuse receiving