

We would earnestly remind a large number of our patrons, that they are now running over four months into a new year's subscription of the DEMOCRAT, and have so far failed or forgotten to call at the office and plank down the dough.

Arrival of Admiral Semmes.

We are pleased to record the fact that Admiral Raphael Semmes has arrived and entered upon the duties of the professorship of Moral Philosophy in the State Seminary, to which he was recently elected.

It seems that Mr. James Madison Wells, who was elected Governor of Louisiana as the embodiment of wisdom, virtue and patriotism, made an attempt to get General Sheridan to try the New Orleans rioters by a military commission.

Elections have been held in our town on the 2d and 7th inst. for Mayor and Councilmen of the town to serve for the year 1867.

Mayor—E. R. Blossat. Councilmen—Joseph Fellows, Julius Levin, Jacob Walker, W. O. Damon and Edouard Weil.

The New Orleans mail has been discontinued on the thunder and lightning nuisance, and will be henceforth conveyed by Steamboats.

The valuable and desirable town property, known as the Louisiana Bakery, and two other frame dwellings, are offered for sale.

W. T. Fuqua, of Cheneyville, pays his respects to his customers, this week in our paper. He has a fine, well selected and varied stock of merchandise, wares, liquors, notions and groceries not to be surpassed in the Parish.

The fine brick store of R. C. Hynson, Jr., is offered for rent. This store is the very finest and most commodious building in Alexandria, and peculiarly adapted for business of any kind.

Moses Rosenthal & Bro., with the best compliments of the store to their customers and a gentle reminder of "pay day come," respectfully refer them to their advertisement for the Winter of 1867, and beg to assure them, one and all, that they are ready and willing to serve them.

The regular weekly Packet, St. Nicholas, with a fair trip, touched our landing early Monday morning. She goes down this morning at 10 o'clock.

The Lamoth Bridges Store and other improvements, with one hundred and fourteen acres of good cleared land, are offered for rent.

The obliging officers of the Steamers F. D. Hine, Bart. Able, Navigator, New Era, St. Nicholas and National will please accept our thanks for favors.

The weather has been the past week cold, very cold, but beautifully clear and bracing, with the exception of a light shower of rain Monday night.

The River has fallen three feet in the last week, and keeps receding tolerably fast.

The Roman Catholic church of St. Thomas Manor, Charles county, Maryland, built one hundred and fifty years ago, was burned on the 4th inst.

That unshaking patriot, Holt, and the undaunted hero, Ben. Butler, were recently hob-nobbing together in the city of Washington. Whose lives are they plotting to take away by hired assassins next time? What unfortunate woman is the victim of their murderous devices?

Trouble in the Reconstruction Camp.

While Mr. Thad. Stevens is getting of his superfluous steam on his favorite scheme of reducing the Southern States to territories, a careful count of Radical Congressional noses is said to reveal the astounding information that a majority of the Black Republican members are in favor of admitting the Southern States on their adoption of the Constitutional amendment.

The Radicals, they say, are in favor of admitting the Southern States as soon as they shall adopt the Constitutional amendment, but in default thereof, they propose to legislate for them as territories.

The States were sovereign before the Federal government was formed, and will not cease to be sovereign, whether they form a part of the government of the United States or of the Confederate States.

This was the work of two of the greatest generals of the war, and if, as President Johnson said, "the hand of John C. Breckinridge was in it," they were assisted in their labors by a man who has more brains than all the occupants of the Presidential chair for the last thirty years put together.

Roderick and Florida.

We take from the columns of the New Orleans Sunday Times, and publish to-day a poem entitled "The Enchanted Tower of Toledo" from the polished pen of Mrs. M. B. Williams, of this Parish, whom the Times justly styles "one of the very best of the female writers of America."

mates that it is, and that these two writers share the honor of exhuming from the rubbish of Spanish romance a story which affords the groundwork of a production as interesting as the little poem before us. Now this is not strictly true.

The student of Spanish history is as familiar with the ravishing of Florinda, as with the exploits of the Cid, the defeat of Boabdil Chico, or the abdication of Charles, the Fifth. We remember to have read, about the time this poem was written, an elaborate account of it in a ponderous Spanish history of twenty volumes, whose author, with much gravity, ascribed to this crime the "woes unnumbered" to which the people of Spain were subjected, from the time when the "last of the Goths" lost his crown, to the time when the "last of the Moors" heaved his "last sigh."

Loss of the Fashion.

The New Orleans papers are filled with accounts of the destruction by fire of the splendid Vicksburg packet Fashion about ten miles above Baton Rouge on the 27th ult. We publish in another column the statement of Captain Pratt, which gives the most intelligible account of the catastrophe that we have yet seen.

It is impossible to say how long the list of the lost may prove to be. We have seen the number stated as high as sixty, the large majority of whom were the colored passengers on deck. Only one lady is known to have been lost, Miss Belle Edwards, of Iberville, sister-in-law of our friend Wm. A. Seay, Esq., of this Parish.

FASHION. FOR THE GENTLEMEN.

[Written for the Democrat.]

Last week we promised a renewal of our strictures on this subject, promising that the "lords of creation" might expect to come in for a share of the well-merited chastisement due the universal follies of the age.

We once heard a gentleman learned in the law say that he considered a liking for moustaches a sufficient evidence of a weak spot in the brain; but we acknowledge a difference of opinion on that point. Yes, we like the moustache and whisker, and consider them great ornaments to a man's face; but we plead guilty to no such tolerance for goatee or imperial, one of which reminds us too forcibly of the animal from which it takes its name, and the other of a chimpanzee only partially acquainted with razors.

Woman and Marriage. I have speculated a great deal on matrimony. I have seen young and beautiful women, and pride of gay circles, married, as the world says, well. Some have moved into their costly houses, and their friends have all come and looked at their furniture and their splendid home for happiness, and have gone away and committed them to their sunny homes cheerfully and without fear.

The New York Citizen is a little more explicit about that great game of faro in New York last week. It says "the most vigorous and pertinacious fight against the 'tiger' ever made in this country, came off on Wednesday night. The assailing party was an ex-member of Congress of this city, while the bank was backed by a member elect."

Laws making Sunday a day of gloom and penance, and we have never been averse to the enjoyment of any innocent amusement on that day. But we must say that men such as we have described can find a better and more profitable mode of spending their Sabbaths than at the card or billiard table.

The Congressional Committee appointed to investigate the rise and progress of the Convention riot, which occurred here in July last, is here and prepared for work. They have called on the Mayor for a list of the Police, special and regular, of that period and are collecting other evidence bearing upon the subject.

The Metairie Course which has been so long neglected has been put in thorough order and was reopened last Saturday. When the first races of the season took place, great preparations had been made for this event, which was looked forward to with interest by the sporting men and thousands of others who loved a good horse.

Billiard playing on Sunday! and who are the players? Doubtless you will say some low rowdies, or else laborers who after spending the week in toil choose this mode of relaxation on Sunday. Perhaps so, and perhaps not.

A HEAD OF MONEY.—The vast indemnity of twenty million dollars, paid by Austria to Prussia, was conveyed to Berlin in one railroad express train. The whole amount was paid in silver. It was loaded by the ton, and took twenty men six days to count it.

NEW ORLEANS CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW ORLEANS, December 23, 1866.

Friend Democrat.—One of those mysterious tragedies that occasionally startle the world and shock humanity, occurred here on Friday night a week ago. At the house of a Mr. McLin, corner of Magazine and Sixth streets, a social meeting of three or four gentlemen took place. They played cards and were entertained by Mr. McLin with cakes and wine—and during the evening the party were waited upon by Miss Hendricks, a young lady who had been an inmate of the house for about two months.

The loss of the Fashion has determined me to discontinue my connection with you for the present, as a steamboat captain, and I feel like making some acknowledgment, and interest manifested and extended to me during the past four years. Next to this great misfortune that has befallen the community and myself, there is nothing so much regret as losing the opportunity to meet you all at intervals, and receive the extended hand and earnest grasp with which I was greeted by many. For we have so much cause to be proud of the kindness of his friends, and their patience, as I have had, and I thank you sincerely for it.

The steamship Fashion was lost under the following circumstances, with 2582 passengers on board: She left Bayou Sara on the afternoon of December 27th. At about 2 o'clock she landed at Waterloo, Louisiana, below Fort Hudson. When the boat had fully entered Prophet's Island chute I laid down, with orders to be wakened at Poplar Grove, about twelve miles below, the last point on which we were to stop. In half an hour I was awakened by the cry of fire, and heard the order to mate to stop the engines, when I came at once on deck and took command of the boat, ordering the pilot to land her, as she swung with the shape of the river, and was to stop the engines, as the shore was flat and shoal, and I knew she would remain there.

There was but one lady passenger lost, four or five children and two gentlemen passengers. From twenty to thirty were on deck passengers, the exact number I am unable to now state. Out of the crew of five hundred men, only one was lost, but one of them was believed to be lost. At low water it was stated that I know of the officers and crew remaining on the boat, and was captured by means of the yawl, and was picked up by me in the yawl. The steward was last seen on the deck endeavoring to aid those in the water. The pilot, Mr. Thomas Morgan, and the first engineer, Mr. Oliver Fairbank, remained at their posts, as I knew from my previous knowledge of the men they would do. Mr. Shaw, whom I have before spoken of, the first clerk, Mr. Lawrence, saved the valuable letters and packages from the safe. To you whom I have known and who have known me, I have kind words to say in conclusion, that the meaning officers of the boat were well as meeting. Remember them as kindly as I have always remembered the Fashion and myself, and as New Orleans is my home, hoping to associate myself in business there, may we meet as cordially, although at greater intervals, as we have done before in the past.

Always cordially yours, P. D. PRATT. Late Captain Fashion. Congress is about to pass a law providing that there shall be no distinction on account of color in the public schools of the District of Columbia. The object is, we presume, to accustom the white children to the small of the negro, so that the next generation may not feel the repugnance of the present to negro equality. Mixing them in the schools will prepare them for mixing in society, and thus the darky will have reached the position which he was colored and perfidious to.

and I trust that our friends are to be joyfully contented, if not a very prominent condition.

This being a time for works of unfeeling charity, I would appeal to our friends of Rapides in behalf of the Louisiana Literary Society of this city. The Society was organized on the 23d of February, 1847, was chartered in 1853, and now for the first time appeals to the generosity of our State for aid. During the property of the society was damaged, but they yet have a library of value to increase which, and to be kept in a comfortable manner in their object. The society affords a noble and beneficial recreation to the members of our city, and has assisted in giving many of the best lawyers and writers of our State. Many brave spirits were once the pride of the society, and numbered with the martyrs of the "last cause," and the love in which their memory is cherished, makes the wish to perpetuate the society still stronger with the comrades yet living. Those who look books that they can spare will please name them, they will be thankfully received. Money is also required, and our friends are requested to give what they can, no matter how small the amount. Young men from all parts of our State come here to enter business, and there is no institution that will tend more to elevate and improve society than this one, it is therefore a matter of interest to the people of the whole State that it should be fostered and encouraged.

Yours Truly, TIM. LINKINWATER.

LOSS OF THE FASHION.

STATEMENT OF CAPTAIN PRATT.

To my Friends and Patrons of the "New Trade": The loss of the Fashion has determined me to discontinue my connection with you for the present, as a steamboat captain, and I feel like making some acknowledgment, and interest manifested and extended to me during the past four years. Next to this great misfortune that has befallen the community and myself, there is nothing so much regret as losing the opportunity to meet you all at intervals, and receive the extended hand and earnest grasp with which I was greeted by many. For we have so much cause to be proud of the kindness of his friends, and their patience, as I have had, and I thank you sincerely for it.

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