

Our Agents.

Thomas McIntyre,.....New Orleans  
J. Curtis Waldo,..... " "  
S. M. Pettengill & Co.,.....New York

ALEXANDRIA, LA.

Wednesday,.....March 18, 1874.

**THE COLFAX PRISONERS.**—Our very latest intelligence from New Orleans, where in the U. S. Circuit Court, the prisoners from Grant Parish are being tried, states that the case was turned over to the Jury, on Friday morning last, and up to Sunday morning no verdict had been agreed on. From well authenticated gleanings and rumors it seems to be known that the Jury stood eleven for acquittal and one for conviction.—Judge Wood's charge to the Jury, which we have read in Saturday's Republican, is a very long, able, carefully and ingeniously composed document, and from first to last leans in the direction of aiming at the conviction of the prisoners.

In the case of Fluck vs. the Corporation, in which the District Court, through an ignorant negro Jury, rendered damages of eight hundred dollars against our Corporation, and from which decision our Town Fathers appealed to the Supreme Court, the decision and judgment have been reversed and rendered against Fluck, with all costs in both Courts. As this decision is an important one, and covers many vexed points, we shall publish the decree of the Supreme Court in full as soon as received here.

The fine and magnificent steamer South-Western, one of Red River's best and most reliable Packets, was burned and proved a total loss, at ill-fated Colfax, on Sunday morning at 2 o'clock. She was on her way up with a full freight, crowded with people and passed up on Saturday evening. We failed to learn particulars, except complete destruction of the boat and no lives lost. She was owned and officered by the "Jacobs and Lewis boys," who are good steamboatmen, true men and we fear that the loss of their peerless steamer will fall heavily on them.

The river here is now nearly full banks, and rising too fast for comfort. The weather, all the past week and as we write is very favorable for a continued rise. We are having the regular equinoctial showers, which just now are anything but of benefit to all Rapides creation. Rain, continued and steady rain has been our portion, hence all crop works have come to a dead stand still.

The Fair Grounds and Race Track of the Rapides Agricultural Fair Association, under the auspices of our fellow-townsmen, S. Cullen and J. C. French, the lessees, are undergoing complete repairs, renovation and additional improvements, which are bound to make them the most complete and perfect in the whole country. We trust to soon announce to the public a programme for grand and entertaining sports.

From reliable rumors we learn that Beckwith, the prosecuting Attorney in the Colfax case, gushed out in full war paint, wielded his tomahawk through the foul air of the Government Court, and made many Lilliputian thrusts at some of the Rapides boys, who were at home and not on trial. We thank you, Beckwith, for your renewal bond of your love and friendship, and may your dim shadow never be less.

Fire.

A disastrous fire occurred in our Town early on Friday morning last, in the second Ward, corner of Fourth and Fish Streets, which resulted in the total destruction of the large and fine building owned by J. J. Peterman. Some mystery seems to exist as to how the fire originated, for the whole front roof was in a perfect blaze when the first alarm was sounded, hence when our firemen reached the scene of action, nothing could be done to save the building, but as is usual with our fire boys good work was done, and all the surrounding buildings were saved. There was no insurance on the property, which falls hard on the owner; we learn, however, that the furniture of Mr. Kornheim, who was living with his family in the house, was fully insured.

Since our last we have to record the death, at his home, Buffalo, N. Y., of one of the best, purest and truly eminent men of our Country, Millard Fillmore, ex-President of the United States. Truly and historically can it be written that he was one of our great men, in the days of America's giant intellects and unselfish patriotism, and that he was the last of the long and noble line of Presidents who deserved the appellation in its strict sense. We fear that the present generation will have grown old when they live to see another Millard Fillmore Chief Magistrate of these United States.

Charles Sumner, the great Radical Chief and Senator from the old Bay State, died suddenly in the City of Washington, in full harness duty, on the 11th inst. He was born in 1811, was a man of fine cultivated Collegiate education, deep and lasting sectional prejudices, far below the true statesman of the pure days of the Republic, in the best qualities of mind and heart, which go to make up good and great men, and died with the forfeited confidence of the faithless party whose leader he had been from its cradle.

The witnesses for the defence, in the Colfax cases have all returned home with clear consciences and empty pockets. Those for the prosecution and persecution are yet in New Orleans, holding high carnival with damaged consciences and flushed pockets. Uncle Sam, as now administered, remembers moniedly his gracious wards, and always hits the white man a lick.

Clinton, Auditor de facto, has written a love letter to his de facto Governor, Kellogg, in which he informs him that the last Legislature failed to make an appropriation to pay the country radical Press for printing the laws of the State. Should this prove true and Kellogg don't strain a point in their favor, many a one of the radical Fourth Estate will fold his tent and depart for the place where the woodbine never was known to twine.

The late firm of A. Heyman & Co., of our Town, have been adjudged as bankrupts, on the 11th inst., and a meeting of their creditors to prove their debts, and choose one or more assignees of their estate, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy, on the 31st of this month, at the Custom House building, New Orleans, before C. S. Kellogg, Register.

And yet another one in Jefferson, destroying valuable property, making the fourth in less than twelve months. And another, the third in same space of time, at Conshatta City. Verily the torch of the incendiary is always a blaze.

Ben. Butler and Dawes were announced to desire to step into dead Charles Sumner's shoes, before the mortuary arrangements were perfected with the undertaker.

The Pineville Cemetery.

EDITOR DEMOCRAT—

Dear Sir—In a recent visit to the ancient burial ground of Rapides in Pineville, I was so shocked at its present disgraceful condition, that I can not refrain from calling the attention of our good people to the subject, in the confident hope that something may be done and will be done at once to improve the condition of affairs.

Sometime ago there was a charter obtained under the general laws of the State for an association proposing to take charge of the matter, which is now in force and can be seen in the Recorder's office.

The incorporators are men who have the confidence of the people, the shares are only five dollars each and the object is certainly one that should interest the public of Rapides.

Notwithstanding all these facts, through the want of a little energy the matter was dropped, and the charter is likely to remain a dead letter upon the Recorder's books, until we shall have all gone there, and Gabriel's trumpet awakes fifty generations yet to go there, unless somebody takes hold of the matter.

I am much afraid that my self-imposed task will be productive of but little good, as all interest seems to be centered in private burial grounds belonging to the different Churches in close proximity to the old Cemetery to the entire exclusion of any regard for the old one.

This should not be, for I venture the assertion, that there is not a man, woman or child in Rapides who has not some relative or friend buried in the old grave yard.

A decent regard for their memory and even a small respect for ourselves makes it imperative that something should be done to improve its condition at once.

The Chartered Association proposed to acquire the title to the land either by purchase or donation, and as it belongs to one of our most liberal and public spirited citizens of the old time, there is no doubt but that it would be donated without hesitation.

It is absolutely necessary that they should have the title in trust for the public, so that they could control the interments in the future. Our recently enfranchised "wards of the nation" have up to this time assumed as much or more control and ownership, than those who by previous occupancy, had acquired a prima facie title, at least and in more than one instance, have encroached upon the sanctity of the grave.

The first object should be to put a fence around the grave yard; then it will be an easy matter to find some person to take charge of it, and by giving him the right to dig all graves and from contributions of persons having lots, he would derive a sufficient salary to pay him for cleaning out the nuder brush, making walks and otherwise beautifying the ground so that they would be a credit rather than a disgrace to the people of the parish.

Five Hundred Dollars, I think, will be sufficient for present purposes and assuredly that amount can be raised in Rapides, always noted for the generosity of her people.

Won't the ladies and our Thespian friends take hold of the matter?

You, Mr. Editor, through the columns of your valuable paper, can promote the interests of those concerned, by stirring them up to the necessity of action in the premises.

Yours,  
TOBIAS.

We have thanks to treasure up for the officers of the South-Western, Lessie Taylor, and our own little St. Mary.

The Great Antagonist of Disease.

What is the natural antagonist of disease? It is the vital principle. From the moment that disease is developed in the system, this champion fights the intruder until it either conquers or is conquered. Which side should medicinal science espouse in this life and death struggle? Should it depress and cripple the physical energies of the patient, thereby helping the disorder, or should it reinforce the vitality of the patient and thereby assist in quelling the ailment? Of course the proper answer to this question must be obvious to every one above the grade of an idiot or a lunatic, and hence it follows that the weak and broken down invalid who chooses to dose himself with depleting slops, instead of toning, invigorating and vitalizing his enervated frame with Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, must be either feeble minded or deranged. Surely nothing short of imbecility or insanity could induce a person laboring under bodily weakness and nervous prostration, to take day after day powerful doses of some drastic purgative in the hope of gaining strength thereby. Although charlatans may advertise preparations of this character as tonics, people in the full possession of their reason can not, one would think, accept them as such. If they do the penalty of their credulity may be the shortening of their lives. The rheumatic, the dyspeptic, the bilious, the debilitated and nervous, and all who are subject to intermittents, or other diseases brought on by the inclement weather which prevails at this season, will do well to strengthen their nerves, tone their stomachs and regulate their bowels with the Bitters. The two-fold operation of the restorative as an invigorant and an aperient, in addition to its direct and specific effect upon the disordered liver, renders it a most efficient remedy for complaints of the digestive, secretive and excretive organs, at present in use. This fact is concealed by eminent members of the faculty whose testimony to that effect is published in Hostetter's Almanac for 1874.

**PUBLIC LAZCENY PRACTISED BY THE PRESIDENT.**—A Washington dispatch to the New York Sun, says: The picking and stealing game, as practised in the different departments of the Government, has been pretty well illuminated. From time to time the Sun has shown on these little villainies and brought them out in bold relief, until they are known of by all men. Nevertheless, many good honest people, who have read with shame our exposures of the manner in which horses and carriages, with drivers and footmen, are kept at the public expense for the private use of Government officials, are reluctant to believe that the President countenances this robbery.

It is indeed sad to know that the President of the United States sanctions petty stealing of this sort from the public treasury. But when he himself practises the same game there is no longer room for doubt. His coachmen, footmen, harber, and all the male employees about the White House not provided for in the Congressional appropriations for the Executive Mansion are borne on the rolls of the Adjutant-General's office as enlisted men, and are paid from the appropriations for the support of the army.

These facts are as notorious in Washington as they are incontrovertible; yet there is not a member of Congress on either side who has the courage to call attention to them, and introduce a bill to remedy the evil.

The election in New Hampshire for State officers and members of the Legislature, which took place on the 9th, has resulted in a complete triumph for the "dead" Democracy. The star that never sets in the East once more shines democratically, and evinces that the old corpse is still fresh and alive.

We call special attention to the card of Capt. Beinn, elsewhere in our columns. En passant we learn that the old Captain has met with good luck among his old friends, and that his stock book is being well filled.

The Edinburgh Review for January

The Leonard Scott Publishing Co.'s reprint of the Edinburgh Review for January has just reached us. The following is a summary of the contents:

I. "Libraries, Ancient and Modern." A short account of the histories of ancient libraries, and of the nature and circumstances of book-collecting in early times, followed by a survey of the progress made within the past few years by the library of the British Museum and its rivals abroad—an attractive article to bibliographers.

II. "Memoir and Letters of Sara Coleridge." A thorough review of the work; interspersed with many quotations, illustrating the moral and intellectual characteristics of a highly gifted woman.

III. "The Diplomatic Service." Dwells mainly on the difficulties with which the younger members of the service have to contend.

IV. "Autobiography of John Stuart Mill." The most interesting of the many reviews we have seen of this work, written by one who was personally acquainted with the author. It will be no fault of the periodical press if the public fails to form a correct estimate of this distinguished author.

V. "Ninth census of the United States." Comments mainly on the Southern States and the effect produced by the war and emancipation.

VI. "Heer's Primeval Life in Switzerland." Describes the remains of ancient animal and vegetable life that abound in its mountains, from base to the very summit.

VII. "Life and Correspondence of the First Earl of Minto." After a glimpse at the early records of the Elliot family, we have here a condensed narrative of the life of Sir Gilbert Elliot, now better known as the first Earl of Minto. Many interesting details are given connected with his career in Parliament during the anxious times of the American and French revolutions. For many years Elliot was intrusted with various important foreign missions and embassies; and he was raised to the peerage, with the title of Earl of Minto, as a reward for his services in Corsica. Eventually appointed Governor-General of India, he won no mean place in history by his efficient administration of the government.

VIII. "Results of the Education Act."

IX. "The Doctrine of the Sacred Heart." Suggests that the style and metaphorical language of the worship of the Sacred Heart had possibly their origin in the mystical effusions of the famous Puritan divine, Thomas Goodwin, the Jesuits only giving "the additional body coloring, which Romanism imparts and admits, to the vigorous but less definite outlines traced by the Calvinist."

X. "Disraeli's Glasgow Speeches." A timely paper, considering the present state of parties in England.

General Butler has introduced a bill into the Federal House of Representatives, to authorize a commutation and shortening of sentence for good conduct to prisoners in such States and Territories as have no commutation laws of their own, and provides for inquiry into their treatment wherever they are now confined. The bill also contemplates the erection of Federal penitentiaries for the confinement of convicts under United States laws.

An exchange says: The question is finally settled. After the autopsy the Philadelphia faculty has given the following verdict, which must stand forever as a monument showing what science can do for dead twins: "The Siamese twins were xiphophagus of the class of terata-anacatadidyma, and may be called, for short, omphelophagus xiphodidymus."

The United States Senate have adopted the instructions of Mr. Merrimon to the Finance Committee to bring in a bill increasing the volume of the currency forty-six millions, or to provide that its limit shall be \$400,000,000. Mr. Cooper's convertible bond project was reconsidered and voted down by a large majority.