ST. TAMMANY FARMER.

Official Journal of St. Tammany Parish.

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY.

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W. G. KENTZEL.....EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One copy, one year $2 00
One copy, six months..... 1 00
One copy, three months 50

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Ten lines of this (Brevier) type, or its equivalent in larger type, constitutes a square.

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Quar. column	8.00	18.00	30.00	50 00
Half column	12.00	30.00	50.00	75.00
Whole col'mn	20.00	50.00	75.00	100.00

Legal Advertisments—One Dollar per square for the first insertion, and Fifty Cents for each subsequent insertion.

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COVINGTON, LA.:

Saturday, December 7, 1878.

The "Ever Fateful Ile"—Petroleum.

A cold in the head is generally obtained by the contract system.—*Picayune.*

And the successful party always "nose" when he has secured the contract.

Grant is the best ex-President of the United States now living.

The *Phrenological Journal* says: "In choosing a wife, be governed by her chin."

After you are married, you may both be governed by "urchin."

The farmers of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, held a meeting recently and debated the question, "What shall we do with our apples?" There was no William Tell present to tell the farmers to shoot 'em.—*Picayune.*

They might contribute a few barrels of "sass" toward settling the Indian question.

The harangue of the President on Southern affairs, intended as a President's annual message to Congress and the country, was read in both houses last Tuesday.

Richland *Beacon:* "The man who has to mortgage his crop before it is made, to procure supplies, had better sell what he has and hire himself out to some good farmer for wages."

Seven citizens of Natchez, whose characters are above suspicion, were arrested this week by deputy United States marshals. It is thought that they are to be politically persecuted.

Presidential candidates should not be trotted out too soon. They are apt to get winded before they are needed to struggle on the final home stretch.—*Picayune.*

Exactly. The chances are that not more than one President will be elected, and most of the aspirants will probably spend the remainder of their days on the "home" stretch

BUSINESS REVIEW.

Last Sunday's *Democrat* contains a complete and lengthy review of the business of New Orleans for the past fifteen months, from September 1, 1877, to December 1, 1878.

There has been a large falling off in the receipts of cotton for the first quarter of the present commercial year, the receipts being 160,257 bales, whereas last year 224,027 bales had been received during the same time. This is largely due to the fact that the prevalence of yellow fever caused much of the cotton to seek inland routes to the East for shipment, which would otherwise have come to New Orleans. Owing to the same cause the stock on hand September 1, this year, was only 4086 bales, compared with 21,356 bales at that datelast year. The gross receipts up to August 31 of the present year, however, show an increase of some 300,000 bales over last year. Taking Middling cotton as a basis, the price has ruled lower this year than it did in 1877, with the exception of the month of August, when it was a little higher, being quoted at 11 3-16c., against 10⅞c. for the same month last year.

The receipts of sugar from the 1st of September, 1878, up to the 1st of December, show a decided increase, being 4725 hogsheads and 46 barrels, against 1670 hogsheads and 2160 barrels for the same time last year. The receipts up the 1st of September, 1878, were 125,100 hogsheads, against 169,331 hogsheads in 1877, showing a decrease this year of 44,231 hogsheads.

Molasses, rice and wool show an increase over last year.

Notwithstanding the damaging effects of the epidemic, business for the past three months has been gradually improving, and with good crops and a healthy season, New Orleans will doubtless recover much of her lost trade and regain her *ante bellum* prosperity, enabling her to maintain her social standing as the "Queen City of the South."

When a young man comes to believe that a glass of liquor is a daily necessity, he must soon quit drinking and attend to business, or quit business and attend to drinking.—*Picayune.*

If he has no business to attend to and nothing to drink, he can kill time and go to "court."

Mr. Wood, of Pennsylvania, presented a resolution in the House to abolish the tax on matches. This should not be put upon the shelf. We hope they will not strike out any portion nor make light of it. It is of matchless importance.

Says the Cincinnati *Price Current*: Only one person in ten, as shown by the record, that take out a life policy, continues it to maturity. Men procure life insurance as a necessity. They soon find that its cost puts it in the list of high-priced luxuries, and they have to discontinue. The fault is in the reserve system, which is beginning to be understood, and which, as it is being understood, is being abandoned. In life insurance, the best way is to pay as you go.

A SOLID SOUTH.

It is but natural, perhaps, that the party in power should resort to every conceivable plan for the purpose of enabling them to retain their position. But when, for the accomplishment of this object, they resort to vile aspersions and most base misrepresentations of the condition of affairs in the South, on the very doubtful theory that all is fair in politics, it remains for us to meet them at every point and refute their unmitigated slanders. There are influential and able journals in the North who come bravely to our assistance in doing this. We will mention the Boston *Globe* as one which seems to thoroughly understand and appreciate the situation. It says: "What is the cry about now? It is not even alleged that the negro is not paid for his labor. It is not charged that the negro is cheated in business affairs. It is not claimed that his rights of property are infringed. It is not asserted that he does not get his own. The indictment is that he doesn't vote the Republican ticket, as Republicans think he ought. 'Only this and nothing more.' It is not the happiness of the colored man, but the happiness of the Republican party that is disturbed. The black man votes with his friends, with the men that give him employment and pay him, or, attending to his humble business, he does not vote at all, and the Republicans in the North think that there has been a great outrage. This is a large fraction of the Southern question. The negro only asks to be let alone to earn his bread for his wife and children. It is chiefly Republicans who want his vote that will not let him alone. It is not the negro in the South who complains of being robbed of his rights; it is the Republican politicians in the North. The colored people have all the rights which the ballot was given them to secure. If the country were to wait for them to enter complaint, there would be no sectional question in our politics at all.

Gen. Siegfried, of Pennsylvania, a prominent Republican politician, confesses that there was a complete understanding between the Republican party of Pennsylvania and the murderous Mollie Maguires of that State. In an interview, the General admits that he, as a friend of Gov. Hartranft, held frequent interviews with Jack Kehoe, leader of the Mollie Maguires, and now a convict under sentence of death in the Pennsylvania Penitentiary for murder. Kehoe came to him, he says, told him the influence he possessed, and promised to secure the entire Mollie Maguire vote for the Republican State ticket if they would give him $2000. The money was given and so were the votes. Siegfried says that Hartranft was unaware of this trade, but admits that the Republican Central Committee, from whom the money was obtained, knew all about it. Jack Kehoe is not yet hung. As the controller of a large vote in the Pennsylvania coal regions, the New Orleans *Democrat* thinks that he ought to be pardoned and given a place on the next Republican ticket. It asks: "How would Grant and Kehoe do as candidates of the Republican Mollie Maguire party in 1880?"

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

Domestic.

Congress assembled last Tuesday.

Senator Matthews spoke in favor of the Texas Pacific Railway bill.

Senator Eustis advocates the appropriation of $5,000,000 for the reconstruction of the Mississippi levees.

Several resolutions were offered in the House, for the conversion of the trade dollar into legal tender dollars, and to recoin the same.

Senators Lamar, Harris and Eustis each moved for the appointment of a joint commission to inquire into the origin and history of yellow fever. The movement meets with favor in both Houses, and no expense will be spared to make the investigation thorough and complete.

When Grant comes home he will be ovated in Boston.

Senator Sargent's death is denied. He is reported as improving.

In the House, on Tuesday, Mr. Wood defended the South against the aspersions contained in the President's message.

The Constitutional Convention of California adopted a memorial to Congress in opposition to the Franco-American commercial treaty.

The Commercial Convention is in session in New Orleans. The President, General Fitzhugh Lee, delivered a lengthy and able address. The Convention indorses the Texas Pacific Railway.

Foreign.

The British are still successful in Afghanistan.

A number of lady Socialists have been expelled from Berlin.

A ministerial crisis is threatened in Italy.

Prince Bismarck's health is again failing.

The Emperor of Germany will reassume the reins of government next Monday.

The granting of a patent to Professor Edison, for his electric light, will be opposed in London.

The Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise have arrived at Ridau Hall, Ottowa, their future home.

Another outbreak is reported in New Caledonia. Twenty French settlers were massacred.

A new ministry has been appointed in Constantinople, for the purpose of carrying out projected reforms.

On the opening of Parliament, Mr. Gladstone will move a vote of censure against the English Government for its Afghan policy.

Turkish troops have been sent to the Rhodope Mountains to maintain order among the refugees, who are murdering and depredating.

The speech of the Czar of Russia, at Moscow, is construed as having a sinister meaning. His remarks as to the future greatness of Russia is thought to be a reiteration of her claims to Constantinople.

The Socialists who were expelled from Berlin issued a manifesto denying that their presence endangered the peace of the city. The manifesto was seized and suppressed by the police.

DRIPPINGS FROM THE PRESS.

The Duchess of Edinburgh's girl baby is Queen Victoria's twenty-sixth grandchild.

Mr. Moody said: "If you can not be a light-house, be a candle." The New York Reporter the next day remarked that a candle is wicked.

A teacher in a female seminary in the country, on being asked by a young lady of her class what pig-iron was, replied: "Iron given in exchange for swine!"

Marriage doesn't transform a man into a disciple of Wagner, although it often inclines his mind to serious reflections upon the music of the future.

"Make your home happy," said a club man to a friend, "even if to do so you have to stay away from it, as I do."

"Jemima Susan, did you get my letter?" "Yes, Sambo." "I sent it for de purpose ob raisin' a flame." "Sambo, you succeeded, for it lit de gas!"

There was a reward offered the other day for the recovery of a "large leather lady's traveling bag." Whether the "large leather lady" has got it back has not been stated.

France claims the honor of inventing the first postoffice. It was invented for the use of the Government in 1464.

In the neighborhood of deep railway cuttings the life of large and old trees is much affected by the changes in the soil from which their roots draw their sustenance.

Queen Victoria is reported to have said, not long ago, when she had given an order to one of her domestics: "I am Queen of Great Britain and Empress of India, yet I have not power enough to make one of my servants put coals on the fire, if she has been hired to look after the bed chambers."

M. Jacotin, the French Senator and Judge who was caught cheating at cards, has resigned both of his dignities and will be expelled from the Legion of Honor.

On his return from India, Brown was asked how he liked tiger-hunting. "It is very good sport as you hunt the tiger," he replied, "but, if hard pressed, he sometimes takes it into his head to hunt you, and then it has its drawbacks."

The great coffee-house of Venice—Florian's, on the piazza of St. Mark—has never been closed, day or night, for one hundred and fifty years.

Cakes are still baked in Sweden, at Christmas, in the form of a boar. The peasants preserve pieces of them until spring, when they mix the cakes with the seed or with the oats of the horses used in plowing, or give the pieces as food to the plow boys who sow the seed. A good harvest is expected from the observance of this custom. Freyr was a ruler of rain and sunshine, a presiding deity of generation and growth. He therefore was also a household god. His boar-symbol, though no longer understood, is by popular superstition in the North regarded as efficient in agriculture even now.