New Orleans Daily Crescent.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
—OF—
THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

J. O. NIXON, Editor and Proprietor.

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THE DAILY CRESCENT

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Rates of Advertising:

Squares.	1 month.	2 mos.	3 mos.	6 mos.	12 mos.
One	$ 12 net.	$ 22 net.	$ 30 net.	$ 50 net.	$ 75 net.
Two	20 "	33 "	45 "	80 "	125 "
Three	30 "	53 "	70 "	110 "	175 "
Four	38 "	67 "	90 "	140 "	225 "
Five	46 "	80 "	105 "	170 "	270 "
Six	54 "	93 "	120 "	200 "	325 "
Seven	60 "	108 "	135 "	230 "	375 "
Eight	65 "	115 "	150 "	260 "	420 "
Nine	70 "	125 "	165 "	290 "	450 "
Ten	75 "	135 "	180 "	320 "	500 "
Eleven	80 "	145 "	195 "	350 "	550 "
Twelve	85 "	155 "	210 "	380 "	600 "
Thirteen	90 "	165 "	225 "	410 "	650 "
Fourteen	95 "	175 "	240 "	440 "	675 "
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Is published every Saturday morning. Subscription, $5 per annum, in advance; half-yearly and quarterly, same rates; single copies, 10 cents.

Rates of Advertising:

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Four	15 "	27 "	35 "	56 "	90 "
Five	18 "	32 "	42 "	68 "	110 "
Six	33 "	35 "	75 "	120 "	200 "
Fifteen	40 "	75 "	100 "	180 "	300 "
Thirty	70 "	130 "	180 "	300 "	450 "

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 18, 1866.

OUR JOB OFFICE is now the most complete and extensive establishment of the kind in the city. The type, presses, material and entire fixtures are new, having just been received from the foundries and machine shops of Connor & Sons, G. P. Gordon and R. Hoe & Co., of New York, and in variety and beauty cannot be excelled in the South. We have connected with this department one of the best ruling machines ever brought South, and can turn out all descriptions of job work, ruled, lettered and bound, at the shortest notice, in the most workman-like manner and upon most reasonable terms.

In addition to a corps of experienced printers, we have secured the services in this department of Mr. W. W. Brisbin and Mr. Charles W. Clark, so favorably known as job printers previous to the war, under the firm of Clark & Brisbin. Their friends and ours will bear this in mind and send in their orders.

The Courts.

Cases Set for Trial This Day.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT.

State vs. Patrick Duffy—Murder.

SECOND DISTRICT COURT.

Succession of Charles Ferguson—Commandeur, Cotton & Magne.

Succession of Poindexter—Bright. Rosellus & Philips.

Succession of E. Retand—Dirhamer, Redmond. Rosellus & Philips.

Succession of J. M. Forgey—Fellows & Mills. C. Dufour, Lemley.

Hanson vs. Pugh & Belmer—J. R. Cotton. E. Hunt.

H. S. Oliver vs. widow W. G. Mullen—R. H. Browne. T. McKay.

P. Materre vs. L. Castera—C. Dufour, Jas. McIntosh. Durant & Harrison. G. S. Lacey, J. T. Lanier, Buchanan & Gillmore.

THIRD DISTRICT COURT.

P. Dumas vs. J. A. Sherman et als—Ogden & Claiborne, Fellows. Kocnts.

J. N. Lyle vs. J. R. Williams et als—Bradford, Lea & Finney. Elmore & King.

Abensity vs. Sclorer—M. Foute. S. G. Hamilton.

APPEALS FROM JUSTICES' COURT.

McClure & Joice vs. W. H. Chambers—J. D. Augustin, Coleman. Molloy.

A. Brinzer vs. A. Kissinger—Mix & Robinson. J. D. Augustin.

Washington vs. Robinson—Mix & Robinson. Lambert.

Kreeln vs. Schonberg—Livaudais. Mix & Robinson.

Delaney vs. Haggerty—J. D. Augustin. E. Bermudez.

Rondeau vs. Gardner—J. D. Augustin. J. Q. Bradford. T. W. Collens.

Irwin vs. steamboat Kline.

Smith vs. the same—Mix & Robinson. Lemley.

Bothman vs. Block—Grivot. Wenck & Lynch.

Forhman vs. Williams and wife—Belden, Lemley. Redmond.

Watts vs. Haggerty—Lemley. Budd & Murphy.

Robinson and wife vs. Lucas and wife—Lemley. Mix & Robinson.

Erentell vs. Dallier—Lemley. Branch.

FOURTH DISTRICT COURT.

J. E. Van Wickle vs. Payne, Huntington & Co.—Collens. Harrison. Hunton.

Wolf & Pretto vs. National Fire and Marine Insurance Company—M. M. Cohen. Atocha & Howes.

Wolf & Pretto vs. bark Honduras, et als.—Hyams & Jonas. Cuvillier.

M. Cameron vs. M. Maher—Tully. Van Dalsen. Elizabeth Parker vs. Smith, Brosa and wife—McConnell. Collens.

Ezra Morse vs. steamboat Alone, et als—Robt. Gray vs. the same—Egan. Fellows & Mills.

FIFTH DISTRICT COURT.

P. H. Monsseaux vs. Thebens & Reynolds—Collens. Whittaker, Fellows & Mills.

Wm. C. Lytle vs. Jacob Simon—Egan, Day. Waples & Kellogg. Lacey.

Margaret S. Reddington vs. Louisiana State Bank—Benjamin, Bradford & Finney. Briggs.

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT.

A. M. Holbrook vs. his wife—P. H. Morgan. J. Ad. Bexier.

Maritz Stiewell vs. Flora Burdell—Field & Shackleford. S. H. Torry.

Jacob Barker vs. C. L. Chase—W. H. Hunt. G. S. Lacey.

TWO WHITE BOYS BROUGHT INTO FORT ARBUCKLE BY THE INDIANS.—We publish the following extract from a private letter from Gray and Swift, traders at Fort Arbuckle, C. N. Texas papers will please copy:

April 15, 1866.

We have two white boys here, which the second chief of the No-ko-ney band of Comanches, Tasey-a-que-hip, or Horseback, brought in. The children where taken from Palo Pinto county, Texas. Their father and two other men, with one woman, were killed at the time of their capture, almost three months since. Horseback has a young white woman still with him, which he has promised to bring in for a trade—of course we will redeem her. These boys give there names as Jimmie and Sammie Hauter, and are aged respectively six and eight years. Please publish this, that their relatives may hear of their whereabouts.

Truly yours, GRAY & SWIFT.

H. E. McKee & Co.
Fort Smith, Ark.

[Fort Smith Herald.

CROPS IN ALABAMA.—A reliable gentleman from Lowndes, a thorough planter, gives a gloomy account of crop prospects in that county, in consequence of sorry seed, and the great damage done by the late heavy rains.

The crop of wheat in Talladega and St. Clair was promising, but on Tuesday of last week a violent hail storm did a great deal of damage, and the corn was likewise beaten down. The unusual violence can be attested by the fact that many of the birds were actually killed by the hail stones.

A well informed gentleman from the lower part of this and Pike counties, states that the prospect for a promising crop was very good. Stands of corn and cotton were good, but the excessive rains have almost ruined them. In that locality there was but little complaint of bad seed.

[Montgomery Advertiser.

[Special to the New Orleans Crescent.]

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, May 11, 1866.

RADICALISM TRIUMPHANT.

The debates of the present week will long be remembered in the history of the United States, but not for the ability displayed, nor for the manner in which great questions of public interest were treated. With due impartiality, I must acknowledge that neither party could furnish an orator who "held Senates spell-bound with his eloquence." The radicals indulged in their staple elocution—the abuse militant; while the Democrats fought feebly against a foregone conclusion, and the conservative Republicans were engaged in the undignified task of political trimming. The debates were still interesting, and will doubtless be memorable. According to the half hour rule established for the occasion, no member could long impose himself on the House. Many persons were thus enabled to speak, and, with ordinary talent, they could not be very severe inflictions, on such an interesting topic. The parliamentary constructions of the Speaker also tended to curtail the debates, and limit the discussion on a subject which required six months' preparation and only three days' consideration.

Mr. N. P. Banks attracted more attention than any of his compeers. Having once been Speaker of the House, and possessing an agreeable delivery, the ex-commissary general is usually favored with an attentive audience. He is a ready speaker, but by no means fluent in his utterance, and spoiled by so much mannerism as to destroy the effect of his graceful form and courteous manner. It would be useless to review the sophisms which he urged in support of the committee's plan. They were almost immediately demolished by a member of his own party—Bingham, of Ohio. During the last day's debate the House was unusually disorderly. The Speaker's mallet was frequently useful in preserving the decorum of the assembly. Colfax is a very quick and observant Speaker, but he repeats his lessons with such parrot-like quickness as to render it almost impossible for a reporter to understand him. The main question, on the adoption of the amendment proposed by the committee, was put by yeas and nays. Each response announced a strict party vote, until the name of Henry J. Raymond was announced by an affirmative.

This unexpected reinforcement was immediately followed by loud acclamations, of which members on the floor were not wholly guiltless. For several minutes the radicals could not restrain a general grin; several turned in their seats to look at Raymond, and make sure of him. Even Thad. Stevens looked towards the editor of the New York Times with an approving smile, and seemed to imply that he was delighted to receive such a bright little prodigal son back to the bosom of his family. Raymond seemed to partake of the general satisfaction at his own expense, but it was more of an irrepressible smile, coming forth spontaneously, and directed rather at the general merriment than at its cause. The announcement of the result was followed by a scene of wild confusion and disorder. Mr. Rodgers, of New Jersey, moved that the negroes in the galleries be allowed to waive their handkerchiefs. A Democrat from Wisconsin moved that order be maintained, and the "nigger-heads" put down. The House adjourned shortly after, fortunately for its own reputation. With the most self-satisfied confidence the radicals dispersed in all parts of the capital and the country, as they are absolved from further attendance here until Monday. Some of the radical chiefs are very vainglorious over the prospect of a long session. A distinguished Senator said to a gentleman from Maine, "We were going to adjourn in April, were'nt we?" accompanying his boast with a large effusion of inward chuckling. Whatever their intentions may be they have not interfered with the executive appointments. Stokles and Smythe have both been confirmed, notwithstanding the Morgan-Raymond influence.

THE THIRD SECTION.

This bids fair to become as popular as the Missouri Compromise or the Wilmot Proviso. It was the only point upon which any disagreement among the radicals existed, and Stevens begged the House to give him the third section or nothing at all. Now that it has passed one branch of Congress, and will probably succeed in the Senate, we find it more profitable to discuss its effects than the policy of its enactment. I am, happily, enabled to present your readers with the opinion of an able lawyer on this topic. Regarding this amendment as having passed both Houses of Congress and being placed before the people, we may inquire into the reasons which should influence them in electing legislatures in favor of or opposed to the proposed changes in the Constitution. If this amendment becomes incorporated in the organic law, we find two classes in direct contradiction with one another.

The first section referred to rests the control of the suffrage in the States of the Union; the proposed amendment takes the regulation of the franchise out of the hands of the States and confers it on Congress. It may be said that Congress can only exercise its power in the case of disloyalty. But with the protecting clause of the Constitution annulled, what is there to prevent Congress from passing any law—not an amendment, but a simple law, limiting or extending the suffrage even to the negroes, if it sees fit or obtains the power. The great bulwark against the usurpation of Congress—the control of the States over the elective franchise—landed by Madison, is not to be easily relinquished. Rights which Hamilton declared that the people would march from the remotest corners of the land to defend, are not to be cheaply bartered away. But there is even a greater principle than this involved in the question. The radicals have declared that they are to be the judges of the qualifications of the members of the next electoral college. If an elector is chosen from a State where the disfranchising amendment is neither accepted nor regarded, we are told that the two Houses are to judge of the constitutionality of their own proceedings in the organic changes of the law. They are to decide whether two-thirds of both Houses have really accepted the plan of the committee, and they are to determine whether three-fourths of all the States have indorsed the action of Congress. The Supreme Court is not to be consulted. What Chancellor Kent declares to be an omission in the Constitution, these gentlemen, acting against the spirit of the great compact, will turn to their own advantage. By this jurisdiction they can control the choice of a President. They absorb the rights of the people to elect their chief magistrate by assuming to determine the conditions on which a man can vote for the President. But there is even a deeper point involved in this reversal of the coordinate powers of the governmental departments than is generally imagined. The pending amendment not only regulates the qualifications of voters for the President, but also for members of Congress. The people have heretofore supposed that they could exercise any control over the illegal proceedings of Congress by refusing to re-elect its members. If the principle of the proposed amendment is established, Congress can provide for its own continuance in office by regulating the suffrage in the States, and organizing a permanent legislative despotism. KANGAROO.

GEN. PAT. CLEBURNE.—A friend who is preparing a biography of the lamented Cleburne is anxious to collect material for that purpose. He desires us to request those of his soldiers who remember incidents or anecdotes of the "Stonewall of the West," to write out and forward the same to this office. As the biography is intended to be an extended and truthful record of one of the greatest and best of Confederate generals, it is hoped that his friends in Arkansas, to whom his memory will ever be sacred, will gladly contribute such facts as will illustrate his private or military character. Little Rock papers will confer a favor by copying the notice.—[Pine Bluff (Ark.) Dis.

Passengers per steamship I. G. Harris, Charles Fowler, commander, from Indianola and Galveston, May 16, 1866:

Kellog, lady and children, Capt E Morris, lady and child, Mrs H Nichols, Miss Gillespie, Gray Nichs and two brothers, Mrs S e Sherrell, Miss Sallie Mitchel, Mrs Stringleman, Mrs Grant, Mrs Allen, Mrs C C Gillespie and children, Mrs Palmer and child, Sturgis, lady and daughter Miss Howell and servant, S M Thompson and lady, Mrs Cullen and two sons, J B Shaw, Capt J Blasecott, Capt Whitsil, Whitsell, Musser, Quinn, Cooper, Dr W S Smith, Priest, Eagan, Jalonick, Hirst, Bowles, Gabert, Ross, Fitzgerald, Chase Horan, Cudlip, Lt Hochhold, carrots, Kelly, Brown, Hanjenna, Rev Mr Hilyer, Kimbley, Reiber and brother, Edwards, Sullana, S S Jones—and 21 on deck.

[Letter from our Special Correspondent.]

FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

MATAMOROS, MEXICO, May 13, 1866.

On the night of the 5th inst., in this city, a large party of persons holding office under the Empire, and naturally supposed to be good Imperialists, held a celebration in secret, the occasion being the third anniversary of the great victory of the Liberals under Flores in Puebla. General Mejia, who seems to find out everything, has about twenty-five of these persons now safely under lock and key. This goes to show how uncertain is the fealty of the Matamorians to the Imperial government, and justifies the close watching of General Mejia upon the city.

A few days ago, a small train of wagons loaded with machinery for a mill of some sort, left this city for Monterey. After it started, the custom-house officers remembered that they had forgotten to inspect the interior parts of the machinery; and a guard was sent to fetch the train back. The machinery was looked into, when, lo and behold! the boiler and all the cylinders and pipes and things, were stuffed with contraband goods, to the value of about $100,000. A long face is to be seen here and there among the store-keepers of Matamoros, and among the American speculators in Brownsville. One Mexican dealer here loses $40,000 of the amount. Smuggling in a small way is going on here all the time; but it is not often that it is attempted on as large a scale as the above.

The military situation offers nothing startling. A special force is out in search of Cortina, who hovers nearer to Matamoros than any of the opposition leaders.

Canales lately was in Camargo with about 400 men, and some 3000 head of horses and mules, which he had taken from ranches in the interior. These animals he was selling at any price—mules as low as three dollars—in order to purchase arms and ammunition, which were ready on the Texas side, waiting for the money.

Hearing of the proceedings, the Liberal leaders beyond Camargo, to-wit, Escobedo, Trevino, and Naranjo, joined their forces, making a whole force of 1100 men, and came down to see about it. Canales receiving timely notice of their approach, "got up and dosted," and his present whereabouts are unknown.

At last accounts the three leaders above named held Camargo. What they were staying there for was not known, though conjecture said it was either to keep a lookout for Canales, or to intercept a large merchandise conducta which is to leave this place for Monterey on the 18th inst.

So the military situation stands thus: Canales outlaws Cortina, Escobedo & Co. outlaw both, and Mejia outlaws the whole gang. And a devil's dance of it they all lead, up and down the river and around through the chapparal. "Mine Gott, vot a country, and vat a peeples!"

Latest advices from Monterey represent that all is quiet in that vicinity. The whereabouts of Jeaningros and his French-Imperial troops was unknown. The Liberals keep out of his way without the trouble of either running or dodging.

It is believed to be very probable that the merchandise conducta to leave here this week will be attacked, not only by the Liberal force at Camargo, but by numerous others, from the Texas side, who are all in a twitter about it.

Affairs in Brownsville are quiet. The criminal court is in session, trying and condemning malefactors. A Mexican was sentenced the other day to be hung, for the murder of another Mexican. Out here it is considered a gross and inhuman outrage to hang a man, no matter what his crime may have been; consequently a subscription is on foot to raise $1000 to buy the doomed Mexican another trial. Bets are offered that he will never be hung, under any contingency. And if I were a betting man, I would bet the same way.

Two negro men the other day went into court in Brownsville and took their seats among the jurors, claiming their right to act as jurymen. The sheriff informed them that they would have to be drawn as jurymen before they could serve, and that he had jurors enough. Upon which the colored gentlemen retired.

I enclose photographs of Mejia and Cortina. Mejia, you will see, is a little native Mexican, or full-blood Indian. Cortina is of white parents, though born and raised among the Indians. The little withered Indian is a man of splendid education; his only deficiency is said to be his inability to speak English. The tall and handsome white man cannot write his name. What a contrast between the two leading spirits of this border. The likenesses are correct. I. G.

[Special Correspondence of the Crescent.]

FROM HAVANA.

HAVANA, May 11, 1866.

The weather, though a little warm, is still pleasant, and the health of the population is unusually good. The city was never in a better condition. No yellow fever, and what is more important news, now-a-days, no cholera. Even the fear of the latter has passed away, and the people begin to think we shall escape the visitation of the Asiatic destroyer.

By the way, there is not, perhaps, a city in the world as healthy as Havana. Until 9 o'clock in the morning it is always sufficiently cool; and after 4 o'clock in midsummer the sun loses his power. Unlike New York and New Orleans, the evenings are always pleasant in hot weather; and at midnight we always require blankets. The city lies on the sea; and gentle breezes are constantly wafting away the seeds of disease that may be scattered about. Those who come here as strangers and get sick and die, are generally themselves wholly in fault. Mariners, who have not had a drop of good grog for several weeks, essay, on reaching the city, to make up, alas! too often, for lost time; and good round-bodied captains naturally wish, on reaching here, to indulge a little with old comrades or to make acquaintance with new ones. To over-drinking a little overeating is added; and then an exposure to late night air; and, in the daytime, between 10 to 3, to a hot sun, and no wonder these sea folks get sick. All the business of Havana is done by 9 o'clock in the morning. The merchants and brokers meet at the wharf, (or *vaseile* as it is called,) at about 7 a. m. There cargoes are sold, and rates of exchange fixed for the day. After 9 or half-past 9 o'clock everybody goes home for breakfast; and breakfast ended, at leisure the transactions of the day are transferred to ledgers and correspondence finished. Dinner comes on at 4 to 5; that over, everybody goes on the promenade. This latter is frequently kept up to a late hour; but the busy world is up and in motion at 7 the next morning. By pursuing this course the great heat of the day is escaped and perfect health is enjoyed.

General Dulcé is in bad health, and is only awaiting his successor previous to departing for Spain. His excellency has cancer in the throat, and was operated upon a few days ago, with what success I do not know. I can only say that he has been twice lately to the Isle of Pinos in quest of health. General Lersundi is now supposed to be en route for Cuba. He is to assume the reins of power here as captain and governor general; is a man of high character; is fifty-one years of age, distinguished as a warrior and as a man of letters. In the revolution of 1848, it was he who at Madrid seized the banner of Spain, and with ten soldiers only rallied his flying regiments, and won immortal renown at the same time with victory. His acquirements as a literateur are said to be considerable; is rather conservative in politics, and is, altogether, a man who will command universal confidence here. General Dulcé has been always regarded here as a fair man, but General Lersundi figures among the great men of Spain. He has been secretary of war and president of the council of ministers. On his arrival he will be welcomed with warm hearts and open arms.

A subscription is on the tapis for money to prosecute the Chilian-Peruvian war. A considerable amount was subscribed last week, and canvassers are now going the rounds of the city to get up more. There is, however, no great warmth manifested in the matter. Many think the war a little hasty and imprudent, and predict so far as "much money spent and little glory gained," another San Domingo affair. That San Domingo business was an uncomfortable one for Spanish glory. It cost $23,000,000 and ten thousand soldiers, two-thirds of the latter dying of disease. Will the cost be less in Chili and Peru? And will the glory be as little? The Spanish treasury was exhausted by the former war. In fact, preferred bonds are only worth 48c. on the dollar, while deferred are about 39 40-100.

At the end of this other and latter war where will Spanish funds be? And the fact is, reasonable men ask the question: In what is Chili at fault? Spain refused for twenty-five years to recognize her as an independent power, while all the world was recognizing her. Under what obligations was Chili to salute the red and yellow flag when Spain had persistently and insultingly refused time and again to recognize her as one of the sister nationalities of the world? It is to be hoped that this unfortunate war will soon close, and that the kind offices of other nations will interpose to prevent the further effusion of blood and destruction of property. And really what a silly thing is war at best! How much better had it been for us if some of the leading powers of the world had, at the right moment, interposed and saved our country from the horrors of what we have all seen! Will not that good day soon come when disputes arising among nations will be settled by a congress of powers, and when war shall be heard of no more? Then will the war-god's chariot wheels crush no more victims; but his implements of destruction be turned into "pruning hooks" and "ploughshares," and the universal alleluiah swell from all hearts: "Peace on earth and good will to men."

The opera troupe's gross receipts were a little over $75,000; deduct $40,000 for expenses, and the net gain would be $35,000. Ristori will be here next winter and will, doubtless, make much money.

The markets are: Brown good grocery Sugar 8¼@8½ reals. Molasses, Muscovado, 6@6½ reals, barrel 5½ gallons; Miel depurga 5@5½ reales.

Exchange on London 18 ¾ cent. prem., on Paris 4@4¼ prem., on Spain 3¼@3½ prem., on New York 13@13½ discount, American Gold 7 ¾ cent. prem., Bills payable in Gold in New York at 8½@9.

The distinguished statesman Gen. R. Toombs left on the last English steamer for England. W. S. F.

Suicide of Sterling King by Starvation.

[From the Cincinnati Commercial, May 11.]

Sterling King, known throughout the war as a Confederate spy and bearer of dispatches, with the rank of colonel, was born in England in 1834, and while yet a boy came with his parents to this country, and found a permanent home near Richmond, Va. He received a very good collegiate education, studied law, and practiced in Richmond, Va. Upon the inauguration of the war, he was among the very first to enlist as a private under Stonewall Jackson. Badly wounded in an engagement in the first year, and distinguished for reckless courage, he was soon promoted to a colonelcy and detailed to act as a spy. In this capacity he traveled all through the North, managing, as he brought experience to the aid of natural abilities, to work successfully in procuring passes, passing the lines, and procuring information useful to the cause. He made trips through all the Northern and Eastern States, to Cuba, Canada, and even to Europe. He several times had business in this city, and on one occasion occupied a small office near the soldiers' home, on Third street, where, under the guise of a claim agent, he occupied himself, during several weeks, in collecting from the inmates of the home statistics as to the strength and location of all the regiments represented by them.

He was fully acquainted with all the business of the Confederate mail service, and was at one time employed in selecting men and routes for that business. A couple of years since he was captured here, and imprisoned as a spy. Propositions were made to release him in the event of his giving information that would lead to the arrest of certain agents in this vicinity; but he stubbornly refused, stating that he intended to make his escape with his hands, and this promise he made good by working his way out one night, and passing the guard, despite a bayonet thrust in the thigh.

Having thus given the main points in King's history as a colonel and spy, we come now to his operations as a horse-thief. Pretending to the honor and punctilio of a gentleman of the first-class of chivalry, while in the service, in which he continued until the war closed, he nevertheless turned a professional thief upon again being thrown upon his own resources. Coming to this city about three months since, he planned, and for a time successfully executed, thefts of valuable horses and vehicles from three livery stables—Fay's, Bigler's and Hierman's. He would make himself familiar with the proprietors—one after the other—hire and return a few times, talk of purchasing a fine horse, and when ready for the theft, hire the most valuable "turn-out" of the stable as if to go a few miles out, and then take the whole establishment, horse, buggy, and harness, to Bowling Green or Louisville, and sell it.

On the 12th of March last he was recognized as a horse thief, in the Louisville Hotel, of Louisville, and was immediately arrested and placed in jail to await the necessary requisitions from Governor Cox. Then it was that he invented the lie as to the assassination of President Lincoln, declaring that he was the assessin, and that John Wilkes Booth had nothing further to do with it than to hold his (King's) horse, while he entered the theater, fired the pistol-shot, made his escape and remounted. His object in telling this story was to induce the authorities to take him to Washington, where he would be liberated, and so escape both charges.

Failing in this, and being reduced to the extreme of despondency and mortification at the position to which he had degraded himself, he resolved to put an end to his wretched and apparently unendurable existence. At about 11 o'clock last night, when all save himself in the jail were in bed, he cut an artery of the left arm, and allowed the blood to gush out unimpeded. The loss of blood produced sickness of the stomach and violent vomiting, which awakened a fellow-prisoner who was sleeping in the same cell. This man gave the alarm, and assistance came in time to save the life that the would-be suicide had sought to thus cast off.

But the resolution to die was not to be thus conquered. Sterling King was a man of inflexible will. He ceased entirely to eat of any thing that would feed the fire of life, which soon began to wane; and then, day by day, grew more and more feeble. In forty days this man tasted but five times of food, and all that he ate in that entire time did not amount to one full dinner for a hungry man. Rapidly his flesh began to disappear, and the bones of limbs that could be easily spanned with the hand grew horribly prominent. He ceased to walk or stand; he only reclined, breathed, and refused to eat. They told him that the requisition from the Governor of Ohio would reach him at certain time. He wanted to die—not in the jail of Louisville, but out somewhere where he could breathe the pure air, and see nature once more. And so this living skeleton coolly calculated the length of time he had yet to live, and finding that, if he did not eat, he would die too soon, he took some soup, bread and preserves—five times, as already mentioned.

Day before yesterday, detective Larry Hazen, of this city, reached his prison, produced the requisition, took King up as though he were a child, and conveyed him to the carriage, and thence to a berth on the mail boat. He then endeavored to induce him to eat; and, said King, in a voice scarcely audible, "Mr. Hazen, if you will promise me to make such arrangement as will enable me to compromise this matter, I will commence eating to-day." Mr. Hazen could not promise this. And the dying man shook his head and refused the food. He calculated that he had three days to live, which would enable him to reach Cincinnati and settle up his little affairs; but about 2 o'clock yesterday morning, a little after the boat reached the landing here, the death-rattle sounded in his throat, and the detective found him dead.

The jury called by Coroner Cary, yesterday, rendered a verdict of suicide by starvation. We understand that the deceased has friends in Bowling Green, Ky.

LETTER FROM GEN. R. E. LEE. In response to an invitation to be present at the inaugural obsequies in Richmond in commemoration of the Confederate dead, Gen. Lee addressed the following letter to the ladies of the association:

LEXINGTON, VA., May 5, 1866.

Mrs. William Couling:

I am much obliged to the ladies of the "Memorial Association for Confederate Dead," for their invitation to attend the inaugural celebration of their society on the 10th inst.

It would be most grateful to my feelings to unite in the celebration of a society formed for so pious an object, but it will be impossible for me to do so.

The graves of the Confederate dead will always be green in my memory, and their deeds be hallowed in my recollection.

With great respect, your obedient servant,
R. E. LEE.

An Edinburg clergyman, of a rare and quaint genius, was one day seen gazing at the Carlisle mail as it came thundering down the Bridges. "What are you thinking of?" said a reverend brother. "I'm thinkin' that, next to preachin' the everlastin' Gospel, I would like to drive the mail."

The steamship Exact, Capt. C. P. Washburn, arrived last night from Ruatan Island, with a cargo of fruit, and the following passengers:

W G Goodrich, V T Rogers, Wm S Cary, John Martin.

Facts and Fictions.

PUNNING.—Notwithstanding the dictum of Dr. Johnson, punning has been practised, by all capable of it, from the beginning, and doubtless will be to the end. Writers sacred and profane alike indulge in it. Why Dr. Johnson did not like it, must be pretty evident to all who reflect upon the ponderosity of his reflections and the sesquipedalianism of his language. These would no more admit of successful punning than molten gold could supply the place of hydrogen gas in elevating a balloon. They would not even admit of his appreciating a pun, as a general rule; because this would necessarily carry him too far away from himself—from his mode of thinking and expression. But every one who affects to despise a pun is not a Johnson. Many a one who does this is, in fact, too obtuse to comprehend it when made by another, and far too stolid to be capable of making one himself. Many another is too vain to accord the little superiority that a good pun often secures for the perpetrator, in the course of light conversation; and, unable to wrest the advantage to himself by making a better one, he assumes a contempt for it. In fact, a good pun in season, is a good thing. As of all good things, there may be too much of punning; but that in no way affects the moderate indulgence in it.

It is true that Addison affected to despise punning as much as Johnson did; but in his efforts to establish his theory he proves a great deal too much. He says, for instance: "As true wit generally consists in this resemblance and congruity of ideas, false wit chiefly consists in the resemblance and congruity sometimes of single letters, as in anagrams, chronograms, lipograms, and acrostics; sometimes of syllables, as in echoes and doggerel rhymes; sometimes of words, as in puns and quibbles; and sometimes of whole sentences or poems, cast into the figures of eggs, axes, or altars." Now, in the first place, there can at least be no poems, sentences or words played upon without ideas; and, therefore, to that extent his definition falls to the ground. When Sheridan, or friend I——h, for instance, said:

"If I were pun-ished
For every pun I shed,
I should not find a penny-less shed
Whereis to lay my pun-ished head."

Had he no ideas? Not very exalted ones, truly; but wit does not mean piety, or solemnity, or sanctimoniousness, or logic, or pomposity, or mathematics. Wit means lightness, amusement,—frivolity, if you will, as compared with the graver duties of life. So much for his definition.

Then, again, the example of names among the greatest of all ages shows his judgment to be entirely opposed to theirs, and little likely, therefore, to be correct. To quote from himself again, for instance, he tells us: "When Cæsar was one of the masters of the Roman mint, he placed the figure of an elephant upon the reverse of the public money—the word Cæsar signifying an elephant in the Punic language. * * * Cicero, who was so called from the founder of his family, that was marked on the nose with a little wen like a vetch (which is Cicer in Latin), instead of Marcus Tullius Cicero, ordered the words Marcus Tullius, with the figure of a vetch at the end of them, to be inscribed on a public monument. * * * In the same manner we read of a famous building that was marked in several parts of it with the figures of a frog and a lizard; those words in Greek having been the names of the architects. * * * It is thought that the forelock of the horse in the antique equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, represents at a distance the shape of an owl, to intimate the country of the statuary, who in all probability was an Athenian. * * * Mr. Newbery, to represent his name by a picture, hung up at his door the sign of a *yew* tree that had several *berries* upon it, and in the midst of them a great golden N hung upon the bough of the tree. * * * I shall conclude this topic with a rebus, which has lately been hewn out in free-stone and erected over two of the portals of Blenheim House, being the figure of a monstrous lion tearing to pieces a little cock. For the better understanding of which device I must acquaint my English readers that a cock has the misfortune to be called in Latin by the same word that signifies a Frenchman, as a lion is the emblem of the English nation."

Is it not ludicrous enough to find that in one of the kinds of wit which he stigmatizes as false, because they do not consist in congruity of ideas, he thus finds it necessary to explain what are the ideas the wit conveys? And is it not odd to find him recording instances of that form of wit given from Cæsar to Marlborough, and from Cicero to Ralph Newbery, and thinking himself justified in condemning it?

As of puns, so of all the other species of wit he condemns. To return to puns, the highest authority ever on earth, with reverence be it said, may be found for them in the eighteenth verse of the sixteenth chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, although curiously enough, in English it is entirely destroyed and the force of the expression lost. Even in Greek it is not so accurate as it was in the Syro-Chaldaic or Aramaic in which this Gospel is generally believed to have been originally written, or as it is in French. "Rock" and "Peter" have no verbal congruity; but "Cephas" was the name given to Bar-Jona, and means "rock;" and substituting "Cephas" for "Peter" and for "rock," we have the actual play upon the word and the idea intended to be conveyed by it, as we have in French in the word "Pierre," meaning precisely what "Cephas" did—rock or stone, as well as the name Peter.

The truth of the matter is that these objections to the lighter forms of wit are but the puritanisms of literature. As some religionists denounce, as mortal sins, laughter, dancing, theatricals, jewelry, and many other such things, and as some political economists would prohibit the poor from marrying, and do tear the helpless, poor husband from wife, and parents from children, so these extremists are unable to understand that in these cases, as in all others, truth lies in "the golden mean." Let punning be considered trifling if you will; but to trifle is sometimes pleasant—*Dulce est desipere in loco*—and sometimes it is not only that, but useful—aye, and even absolutely necessary. The mental bow must not be kept always strung, or it will as surely lose its elasticity as does the physical one.

We will close this column of Facts and Fictions with the most notable of echo verses—which species of writing Addison includes in his category of false wit. Although in French, they will doubtless be none the less appreciated by our readers. They appeared in a work sold by Johann Philip Palm, a bookseller of Nuremberg, who, in 1806, on the French occupying that city, was arrested under orders from Paris, carried to Brunau, arraigned before a military commission, condemned by this mock tribunal to be shot, and executed the same day, although he declared he did not know the author, and notwithstanding the intercession of the inhabitants of Brunau in his behalf. Some have endeavored to relieve Bonaparte of this murder by attributing it to Berthier. Here are the memorable lines—the work in which they appeared being styled "Germany in her deepest humiliation"—

ECHO.

Je suis seul en ce lieu, personne ne m'écoute,
Écoute.
Mortion! qui me répond? Qui est avec moi?
Moi.
Sais-tu si Londres *existera?*
Existera.
Si Vienne et d'autres cours m'opposeront *longtemps?*
Toujours.
Ah, dis! que dois-je attendre après tant de malheurs?
Malheurs.
Après tant de hauts faits, que dois-je *espérer?*
Rendre.
Rendre! ce que j'ai acquis par des exploits *inouïs?*
Ouï.
Et quel serait le fin de tant des soins et des peines?
Peines.
Enfin, que deviendrait de mon peuple malheureux?
Heureux.
Que serais-je alors—moi, qui me crois immortel?
Mortel.
L'univers n'est il pas rempli de mon nom?
Nom.
Autrefois mon nom seul inspirait la terreur.
Erreur.
Triste écho! laisse moi, je m'ennuye, je me meurs.
Meurs.

AN ALLIGATOR KILLED.—We learn that an alligator, measuring twelve feet and six inches, was killed on the bay shore, this side of the long bridge, by a creole boy, on Sunday afternoon. It seems that the reptile gave chase to a dog, which was paddling among the snags, and followed him to the shore, when the boy attacked him and after a hard struggle killed him by ripping his bowels out with a knife.—[Mobile Register.

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