New Orleans Daily Crescent.

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THE DAILY CRESCENT

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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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Ten.....	35 "	55 "	75 "	120 "	200 "
Fifteen..	50 "	75 "	100 "	150 "	250 "
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MONDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 12, 1866.

From a correspondence published in La Renaissance yesterday, we learn that Hon. Victor Burthe has been invited to deliver a discourse in French, on the opening of the State Fair on the 20th, and has accepted the invitation.

First Anniversary of the Caledonian Society.—The Caledonian Society of this city, are going to celebrate St. Andrew's Day with their characteristic spirit, hospitality, and love of enjoyment. They are going to have a grand ball and a grand supper at the Mechanics' Institute on the 30th, St. Andrew's Day, which is the anniversary of the society. Our Scotch friends, it is well known, never do anything by halves—and when the public see, as they will by the notice in to-day's paper, what first-class gentlemen make up the list of managers, the committee of arrangements, the floor managers, and the invitation and reception committee, they will guarantee in advance the complete success of an undertaking which is in such competent hands. Maunessier is to prepare the supper, with carte blanche to get it up in profusion and in his best style—and we think it highly probable there will also be a little something to wash it down. We have heard it whispered so, at all events. Those who wish to "lay themselves out" for a thoroughly enjoyable time—including a magnificent supper with most genial companions, and a grand ball—will do well to apply at once for tickets, for the occasion is an extraordinary one, and the hall will most certainly be crowded.

Fair at the Masonic Hall.—Notwithstanding the rain of Saturday evening, the fair at Masonic Hall was very well attended, and the competition for the beautiful "Crescent" banner was quite animated. No. 2 and No. 6 seemed to be in the lead, but the ingenuity of the young ladies who presided over the polls was exercised to keep the precise state of the vote, involved in profitable mystery. The contest is not over, as the fair will be continued to-night. We must not omit to return thanks to Misses Magdalena Gauche, Magdalena Braun, Ellen Bellow and Lizzie Dunn, for the delicious refreshments sent to us on Saturday night. These ladies preside with admirable tact and grace over one of the most popular tables in the room.

To-night is the last opportunity for a display of liberality on the part of those who wish to contribute to a truly charitable object, whilst yielding to the alluring influences of eyes as bright as can be found in New Orleans.

A Very Desirable Enterprise.—A very desirable object for New Orleans is the opening of commercial relations with Southwestern Georgia and the adjacent portions of Alabama and Florida. Much of that district of country is very productive in both long and short staple cotton and in naval stores, and it gives promise of a rapid development within the next few years. Most of the business of that section now goes to Savannah. Last year a portion was diverted to this city by the establishment of a line of steamers to Apalachicola; and the experiment showed that permanent success was practicable. We understand that there is a general desire among the planters to ship their products to New Orleans, and to make their purchases in this market. All they want is means of transportation and communication.

We are glad to know that a renewed effort is to be made to accomplish the object, and that two fine steamers, the Beaufort and the Tappahannock, are to be put in the Florida trade. One of these vessels will be commanded by our old friend, Capt. James Baker, who has as much experience as a navigator on that coast as any other man of his age that could be found. We hope that the project will meet with a liberal support, as we are sure that immense advantages will accrue to our city from the establishment of commercial relations with the large productive section of country drained by the Chattahoochee river.

New Music.—Mr. A. Ehle, music publisher and dealer, 48 Royal street, has favored us with the following pieces of new music:

"La Belle Creole," quadrille, for the piano, by Basile Barès, dedicated to Eugene Macarthy.

"La Coquette," grand polka, also by M. Barès, dedicated to Madame Louise Rust.

"Gendrillon," polka-mazurka, by Gaston de Lille.

These, and all the freshest and best musical publications, are for sale at Mr. Ehle's music store on Royal street, No. 48.

BUSINESS REACTION AND POLITICS.

When the doors of the present Congress were found closed against senators and representatives elect, who applied for admission with credentials of election from this and other Southern States, the applicants were not long in coming to the sensible conclusion that it was cheaper to wait at home than in Washington City for the uncertain day of the opening of those doors. And this conclusion was improved by a highly apposite amendment happily expressed by the venerable Jacob Barker, of this city, who, after remarking that he would go home to wait, added "and in the meantime I can attend to my own affairs." The example here set is typical of a disposition and a practice which have become more and more prevalent in the excluded States of the South as the prospect of admission has become more and more indefinite and distant.

The Southern people, not ambitious to figure in history as a community of Micawbers, by addressing their whole genius and energy to the business of waiting for something to turn up in the political world, have been, especially of late, strenuously endeavoring to attend to their own affairs and to abstain from political matters in which they have no voice. So far have they succeeded in the cultivation of this spirit that some Northern journals, which once complained of Southern alacrity to participate again in national politics, are beginning to denounce the growing political apathy manifest in the South as something still more deserving of rebuke and chastisement. Such critics—and their spirit pervades the dominant party in the North—can be satisfied by neither spontaneous action nor spontaneous inaction on the part of the South; the one they regard as equivalent to a new form of open rebellion, the other as nothing less than tacit treason.

Meantime the efforts of the Southern people to reorganize their chaotic industry, and to develop their various resources, have been made under fearful disadvantages, some of the gravest of which have resulted from a political situation which, however deprecated in the South, cannot be controlled by any power residing there. Much has been accomplished, nevertheless, against immense odds; but not enough to satisfy those sanguine and capacious spirits in the North who have pictured the South as realizing for them an impossible combination of felicities, including the triumph of their political and social theories, the gratification of their sectional jealousy and hatred, and an unlimited opening to commercial enterprise and speculative adventure. Their disappointment and their wrath are not disguised, as they begin to discover that the general rain which they sincerely helped to make in the South refuses to be coined at once into dollars and eagles, or to blossom in a single season into countless greenbacks.

The New York Times, which seems to parade a profession of friendly feeling towards the South as a cover to enable it to approach and give fatal force to its blows, is among the foremost Northern journals to charge the exclusive responsibility of business miscarriages in the South to the Southern people. The results of overstocking the market, of introducing merchandise not suited to the demand, of the inability of the population, by reason of shortness of crops, to buy miscellaneous goods at inflated prices, are not, as both generosity and logic would require, referred to their proper causes, but are debited against the South in the catalogue of her political offenses. For example, after stating that most of the Northern traders and operators who had gone to Southern cities had sent back reports "calculated to dishearten and to disgust," the Times adds:

> There is no longer reason to doubt that, as a rule, the Northerners who have gone South to trade, to grow cotton, or to farm, have encountered a reception the reverse of friendly. There are localities, of course, where courtesy and kindness have been displayed. Generally speaking, however, there has not been kindness, or courtesy, or fair play, or even adequate protection to life and property.

The same journal says: "The South is terribly in need of capital and labor. With resources excelling those of any other region of the globe, it is poor even to beggary." This is most true, and the impoverished condition here indicated would enlist the pity and secure the forbearance of a generous enemy. But the Times represents the class who cannot pardon misfortunes and miseries of others which are unprofitable to themselves. The helpless plight of the Southern people has contributed to disappoint business expectations in the North. This is enough to add another ingredient to an unappeasable sectional rancor. For, if there be any truth in the misanthropic saying that there is something pleasant in the misfortune of one's best friend, it is unquestionably true that there is sometimes nothing pleasant in the misfortune of one's most detested enemy. The Northern chagrin at the unexpected results of Southern impoverishment looks much like a verification of the latter remark. The South, alas! has been left rich in little, aside from the unassisted bounties of nature, except the bones and the memories of her glorious dead. Yet she is insulted, upbraided, and threatened, because moss will grow over ruins, because golden harvests will not spring where desolation has been sown, because graves are not hoards of golden ingots, and sepulchral stones will not sweat liquid pearls.

A New Orleans correspondent of the New York Times, who appears to fulfill the office of giving convenient cues for the animadversions of that journal on affairs in the South, says in a recent letter:

> The banks have ceased loaning money, and everybody seems to be inclined to curtail expenses, and they all grumble about the hard times. The great impulse toward this reaction is found in the threatened and actual withdrawal of Northern capital, and the swamping of business interests resulting from it. It is useless to deny these startling facts, and it is still more useless to attempt to give any other reason for the withdrawal of Northern money than the disturbed political condition of this section.

It required no remarkable acuteness to perceive signs of a business reaction such as this correspondent refers to; but it is no ordinary malice and impudence that could deliberately ignore plain and palpable causes of the reaction which were, in their immediate aspect and relations, entirely non-political. It is needless to renumerate these. Yet it is undeniable that the commercial prospect would look much brighter if the political situation were less gloomy. The South, excluded from national politics, can only bear, as patiently as she may, political gloom and commercial disaster.

Rev. Samuel G. Brown, professor at Dartmouth College, has been elected professor of Hamilton College at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of that institution.

It is stated that all the cases for treason where bills have been found in the United States courts of Kentucky, *nolle prosequis* have been entered.

METEORS.

On the night of the 12th or morning of the 13th of November, 1833, took place the most magnificent celestial display recorded in history. This was the great "meteoric shower"—a phenomenon which enlisted the earnest attention of the scientific world, and which furnished data upon which some remarkable astronomical hypotheses have been superposed. This grand exhibition extended from the Northern lakes of America to the South of Jamaica, and from 61 degrees of longitude in the Atlantic, to 100 degrees of longitude in Central Mexico. Mrs. Somerville says that "shooting stars and meteors of the apparent size of Jupiter, Venus and even the full moon, darted in myriads toward the horizon, as if all the stars in the heavens had started from their spheres. They are described as having been frequent as flakes of snow in a snow storm, and to have been seen with equal brilliancy over the greater part of the continent of North America."

We refer to this phenomenon to-day, because the computations of astronomers, based on the phenomena of these and other similar asteroidal displays, fix the 12th and 13th of November of this year, for the recurrence of this grand celestial exhibition. In 1831 and 1832, and likewise in 1834, 1835 and 1836, the 13th of November was signalized by meteoric showers. In all of these cases observation showed that the source of the meteoric shower was altogether independent of the earth's rotation, and that its position was far above the earth's atmosphere. Of course it is unnecessary to state here the process by which these conclusions are reached. It is sufficient for the purpose that they are indisputably settled. What then are meteors and aerolites? The favorite scientific conjecture now is that they are bodies revolving around the sun in immense numbers, and in a plane which cuts that of the earth's orbit in November and April. At such times the nearest of these little planets would be brought within the sphere of the earth's attraction, which, by reason of proximity, overcomes that of the sun, and the bodies thus affected would rush towards the earth with tremendous velocity. On entering the terrestrial atmosphere they become ignited in consequence of the loss of motion caused by atmospheric resistance or friction, since the development of molecular motion or heat, is always in a direct ratio to the extinguishment of mechanical motion or the motion of masses. The small and very combustible bodies are almost immediately consumed by the intense heat thus generated, and are dissipated into vapor. These are meteors. The larger and more refractory are precipitated on the earth's surface. These are aerolites.

So numerous are these cosmical atoms, or asteroids, as Arago calls them, that, in all probability, the interplanetary spaces are swarming with them. It is computed that the number which come near the earth in the course of a year, must amount to many thousand millions; and the total of those which move round the sun, must, on the calculus of probabilities approach the infinite. It is presumed, in fact, that the additions made to the earth by the falling of aerolites, will finally appreciably augment the mass of of our globe, and thus affect the length of the terrestrial day.

Professor Olmsted, of Yale College, more than thirty years ago, conjectured that the phenomenon of shooting stars originated in the zodiacal light. Dr. Mayer, of Heilbronn, has since given more precision to this hypothesis, and has implicated it in the great doctrine of the "correlation of forces." Dr. Mayer supposes that immense numbers of aerolites continually come within the bounds of the solar system, being gathered up as our system traverses the vast regions of space towards the constellation Hercules—the point on which astronomers have fixed as that towards which our sun is tending. The resistance of the interstellar ether acts much more powerfully on these small bodies than on the immense masses of the planets, and they consequently tend more or less rapidly towards the sun, in the vicinity of which they are crowded in vast numbers, and on whose surface they are continually falling, to renew, by the extinguishment of their mechanical motion, the heat and light which the sun is constantly expending. The general form of this asteroidal mass, or nebula of cosmical atoms, is that of a great convex lens, and as its plane of rotation is nearly coincident with that of the earth, we look through through it edgewise, and see its center rising around the sun like a pyramid of light. This is the zodiacal light—a phenomenon which has been a *quæsio vexata* with astronomers, but which appears now to be satisfactorily accounted for by Dr. Mayer's hypothesis. This theory has the additional merit of making an attempt at least to explain the origin and constancy of the sun's heat. It may not be uninteresting to state, in this connection, that it is computed that the fall of an asteroid or aerolite into the sun would generate from 4600 to 9200 times as much heat as would be developed by the combustion of an equal amount of coal. The immense numbers of these little bodies, small as they are, would suffice to keep up the sun's heat to its present temperature as long as the process continues. Thus the thermal effects of the mechanical action of the universe, even as illustrated by those little meteors which dart through our midnight sky, far surpass anything that can be conceived of the most energetic chemical processes.

Monarchs will Kill Themselves by Gluttony.—The homicidal attempts of the Atlantic telegraph upon the life of the emperor of France are likely to come to grief, as he manifests no disposition to gratify the sensational propensities of the cable by dying at this time.

There can, we imagine however, be no doubt of the fact that the health of Louis Napoleon has been gradually failing for many months, and that long before his son emerges from his minority, the imperial father will have passed away. In early life the emperor was not exempt from those vices which tell terribly in middle age, and a medical friend, who saw and closely observed Napoleon when he was sojourning in London twenty years ago, informs us that, at that time he bore evident marks of a man whose constitution had been undermined by early dissipation as well as by the rigors of long imprisonment.

For many years, however, his life has been respectable and regular, and all the time which he could spare from affairs of State has been devoted to those amusements of cel pier his disreputable ancestors, Louis the Fifteenth and Louis the Sixteenth, were addicted to—the chase and the table. Hence, the Emperor is a gourmand, and a gourmand he will continue to be, despite the admonitions of his physicians. Napoleon is a man of great muscular strength, and he has been accustomed to take exercise in the chase, which, in his case, has been a substitute for the dissipations of his predecessors. He is, moreover, a man of great nerve, and he has been accustomed to take his pleasure in the chase, regardless of the fatigue it entailed upon his attendants. He is, in fact, a man who, if he lived in the country, would be a great sportsman, and who would, if he lived in the country, be a great sportsman, and who would, if he lived in the country, be a great sportsman, and who would, if he lived in the country,