THE NEW ORLEANS CRESCENT.

VOLUME XVII. SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 11, 1868. NUMBER 622.

THE CRESCENT'S DISPATCHES.

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Probable Action of the Supreme Court on the Reconstruction Acts—The McCardle Case—The Case of Captured Property—The Case of the Session of Certain Counties to West Virginia—Proceedings of Congress—Judge Trimble, of Kentucky, Sworn In—Bureau Disbursements.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Proceedings in the Supreme Court are attracting intense interest. The impression that the bench will decide adversely to the constitutionality of the reconstruction acts gains ground. To-day Judge Black moved that a day be appointed for hearing *ex parte* McCardle, but Mr. Stanbery objected to arguing the case on behalf of the government, because he had written an opinion sustaining the other side. The matter was deferred, upon Mr. Stanbery's suggestion, until the government could arrange to appear by some other counsel.

This case is that of Colonel McCardle, the editor, of Vicksburg, Mississippi, who was imprisoned by General Ord.

A decision in the case is looked for at an early day, and the impression is very general that a writ will be granted, which would virtually set aside the law.

The second case involves the constitutionality of the law by which Congress authorized the sale of captured property and directed proceeds to be paid into the treasury; at the same time providing that claimants might, at the end of two years, bring suit for recovery through the court of claims.

This case comes up through the action of owners of a lot of cotton, who brought suit directly against the officer making the seizure. This latter person pleads the law as his defense.

What is known as the Virginia case, affects the mode in which Congress can proceed in ratifying contracts between States. It comes into court on motion of the parties representing Virginia and claiming the cession of the counties of Berkley and Jefferson to West Virginia is not valid, although ratified by Congress. The State of West Virginia provided for receiving these counties upon the consent of Virginia being given. This consent was obtained and Congress was asked to ratify the contract. Before the action of this body was consummated, Virginia withdrew her consent, but Congress paid no attention to this action and proceeded to ratify the agreement. Virginia claims that such action was unconstitutional, and comes into the Supreme Court to test it.

Senate.—Proceedings were unimportant until the House bill suspending the contraction of the currency came up. An amendment that nothing in this or any existing act shall be construed to increase the United States currency, except the fifty millions of revenue notes already authorized, was defeated by 17 to 30. The bill was discussed to adjournment.

House.—The bill creating a new commission of five on whisky meters passed.

The Kentucky election case came up, and after three hours discussion, Judge Trimble was sworn in. Adjourned.

An official letter from General Howard states that the bureau disbursements from January 1st, 1865, to January 1st, 1868, were $5,959,000, and the funds on hand $5,736,000.

The reconstruction committee had their meetings this week; they are tolerable sure to report a new bill at an early day, in accordance with directions of the resolutions introduced on Monday, by Upson and Bouttrell.

The judgment of the committee is fully settled that the work of reconstruction must be put more directly under control of Gen. Grant. This is regarded as certain. They are also considering the proposition of Upson to allow the removal of the present State officers and the appointment of their successors by the reconstruction conventions. It is not yet certain that they will adopt this scheme, though it is strongly favored by some members.

It is confidently stated that the radicals have agreed upon a bill requiring two-thirds of the Supreme Court to concur before pronouncing any act of Congress unconstitutional. In this connection it is stated with equal confidence that the pending questions, involving the constitutionality of the reconstruction acts, will be postponed until Congress takes the proposed action.

Internal receipts to-day $568,000.

Charles G. Greene, editor of the Boston Post, has been nominated assistant U. S. treasurer at Boston.

Gen. Pope is here.

ne following is the text of the whisky bill passed by Congress and sent to the president:

"*Be it enacted, etc.*, That from and after this date no distilled spirits shall be withdrawn or removed from any warehouse for the purposes of transportation, rectification, change of package, exportation, or for any other purpose whatever, until the full tax on said spirits shall have been paid, and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

The following States have adopted the constitutional amendment, known as the fourteenth article: New Hampshire, Connecticut, Tennessee, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, New York, Ohio, Illinois, West Virginia, Kansas, Nevada, Missouri, Indiana, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Michigan, Massachusetts and Nevada.

FROM ATLANTA.

The Georgia Convention—The Relief Ordinance—Letter from Senator Sherman—Gen. Meade Addresses the Convention—Address by Ex-Gov. Brown.

ATLANTA, Jan. 9.—Convention adopted a resolution appointing a committee of one from each congressional district in the State to propose a list of persons in whose behalf Congress should be petitioned by the convention for the removal of disabilities imposed by acts of Congress.

An ordinance was introduced giving suffrage to all male citizens who can read the Constitution of the United States and have paid their taxes. And to give equal rights, irrespective of color, to all, in all public places and conveyances.

Resolution introduced to inquire into the propriety of selling the State road.

The financial agent of the convention reported that Gen. Meade had handed him in writing the following: "Gen. Meade desires Dr. Angier to say to the convention that he is of opinion that they are clearly entitled to draw their pay and incidental expenses from the State treasury, and that he will endeavor as soon as possible to remove the obstacles now existing to their being paid."

ATLANTA, Jan. 10—*Reconstruction Convention.* An ordinance was introduced limiting the operation of the relief ordinance adopted by the convention in December to cases prior to the 1st of June, 1865.

A letter was read from Senator Sherman to a delegate, saying the convention should have no fears, but go head; if additional legislation is needed state what it is and it will be furnished.

Gen. Meade addressed the convention. Said he was sent to administer the reconstruction acts, which were law until decided otherwise by competent authority, and he should do so faithfully for the best interests of the people as he understood them. Said that it was a popular impression that he was bound to enforce the legislation of the convention, but prior to the adoption of the new Constitution such legislation was not valid. The law gave him a discretionary power, and he might enforce some measures, especially any well digested scheme of relief.

Ex-Gov. Brown addressed a large audience last night, advocating the reconstruction acts, which he said gave negroes suffrage, but not the right to vote. He defended Gen. Pope's administration of affairs in Georgia, and argued in favor of affording relief to State banks.

FROM JACKSON.

The Mississippi Convention—Printer Elected—The Vacation of Civil Offices.

JACKSON, Jan. 10.—James Dugan, of the Journal, was elected printer to the convention. The Journal made its first appearance after the assembling of the convention.

A resolution was offered to appoint a committee of seven to memorialize Congress to empower the convention to vacate all civil offices in the State, and appoint men of approved loyalty.

The resolution was discussed at length, and amended so as to instruct said committee to report to this convention as soon as practicable, and adopted by 59 to 25. Adjourned.

FROM EUROPE.

PARIS, Jan. 10.—Bullion in the Bank of France has decreased 530,000 francs.

BERLIN, Jan. 10.—At a conservative dinner Bismarck, reviewing the situation, said war with France this year was a phantom, and urged his hearers to dismiss all fear.

DUBLIN, Jan. 10.—Fennon, reported leader of an insurrection last autumn, was arrested on the charge of high treason.

Piggott is held for trial for alleged libels and seditious articles in the Irish American.

The clerks in the magnetic telegraph office at Belfast have been arrested on the charge of Fenianism.

FLORENCE, Jan. 10.—The new budget calls for one hundred and ninety millions of livres taxes, and 400,000,000 of livres loan.

FROM MOBILE.

Sinking of a Cotton Steamer.

MOBILE, Jan. 10.—The steamboat Lilly, loaded with cotton, from Tuscaloosa for Mobile, sunk on the Bigbee river. Boat a total loss. Cargo will be saved, but in a damaged condition.

FROM SOUTHWEST PASS.

SOUTHWEST PASS, Jan. 10, 12 M.—Barometer 30:10. Wind north northeast, strong. Sailed: Steamship Juniata, and the ship Mongolia.

6 P. M.—Barometer 30:80. Wind north, strong. Arrived: Ship Melicete, Stephenson master, to F. & J. S. Mills; Spanish brig Amable, Fries master, to Pablo Gilpi. Sailed: Steamship Oriental, ship Waverly, bark Annie and ship Endymion.

RIVER NEWS.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 10.—River rising fast; 2 feet rise since yesterday; abundance of water on the falls for all navigable purposes. Weather intensely cold.

Arrived: Great Republic from New Orleans.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 10.—River 10½ feet. Thermometer 18.

VICKSBURG, Jan. 10.—Passed down: Mississippi at 9 and the Dexter at 10 A. M. Palermo at 1, Swallow at 2 and the Rob't E. Lee at 7 P. M.

Passed up: Olive Branch at 1 and Emma No. 3 at 5 P. M. River rising.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 10.—River 43½ feet and rising. Mercury 22.

MISCELLANEOUS.

RICHMOND, Jan. 10.—The military officer sent to Halifax Court House two weeks ago to quell an apprehended disturbance, reports to headquarters that evidence of the Milroy organization of the blacks was formed, and George Coleman, one of its officers, had been arrested.

The report also states that the idea which prevailed among the blacks that they are to have lands, is now quite exploded.

Convention—The morning hour was spent by a conservative member reading from former editorials of Mr. Hunnicutt's, to convict him of political inconsistency.

The bill of rights was discussed until adjournment.

KNOXVILLE, Jan. 10.—Judge Trigg, of the United States District Court for Tennessee, has pronounced the law enfranchising the blacks null and void.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 10.—House met, but adjourned without a ballot, the bolters voting with the Republicans to carry adjournment.

BURLINGTON, Vt., Jan. 10.—Bishop Hopkins's funeral will take place on Wednesday, the 15th inst. A large attendance of bishops and the clergy from the United States and Canada is expected.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 9.—The annual report shows imports from foreign ports $15,000,000 valuation, yielding $5,000,000 revenue. Imports, via the Isthmus, $36,000,000, mostly currency valuation.

Exports of treasury $40,500,000. Merchandise $22,500,000. The product os gold is the smallest isnce 1850.

MARKETS.

LONDON, Jan. 10, Noon.—Consols 92¼. Bonds flat 71¾.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 10, Noon.—Cotton firm; prices unchanged. Sales 10,000 bales. Sales for the last nine days 114,000 bales, of which 17,000 bales were for export, and 7000 bales for speculation. Stock on hand 419,000 bales, of which 94,000 are American. At sea from Bombay for Liverpool since last report of January 1st, 17,000 bales.

LONDON, Jan. 10—Afternoon.—Bonds 71¼@72.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 10—Afternoon.—Cotton firm and unchanged; more doing; sales 12,000 bales. Total stock at sea 211,000 bales, of which 115,000 are American.

Breadstuffs dull, mostly declined. Corn 46s. Provisions firmer. Beef 115s. Lard 49s. 9d. Tallow 43s. 9d.

LONDON, Jan. 10, Evening.—Bonds 71¼; others unchanged.

FRANKFORT, Jan. 10.—Bonds 76.

PARIS, Jan. 10.—Bourse firmer. Rentes up.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 10, Evening.—Markets steady. Common rosin 6s.

HAVANA, Jan. 10.—Exchange on New York, currency, 25¾@27; on London 11¾@12¼ premium. Sugar—heavy arrivals of new crop; sales light.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Stocks very strong. Money and sterling unchanged. Gold 137¼. Bonds, old, 108¼; new 105.

Flour dull and drooping. Wheat favors buyers. Corn a shade lower. Rye dull. Oats very dull—¼c. lower. Pork nominal—old $21 12.

Lard firm. Cotton steady; middling uplands 16@16¼c. Freights firm.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Cotton more active and firmer; sales 6000 bales; middlings 16¼c. Flour dull; State $8 80@11; Southern $10 30@15. Wheat drooping. Corn heavy; mixed Western $1 37@1 37½; Southern white $1 26@1 33. Provisions quiet and firmer. Pork unchanged. Groceries firm and quiet. Turpentine 51½@52c. Rosin $2 90@7. Freights quiet and very firm—cotton 7-16@¾.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—5-20s of 1862, with coupons, 108½; of 1864, 106¾; 10-40s, 102¾; 7-30s, 105¼.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Money exceedingly easy; call loans 6 ⅌ cent., some accommodations at 5 ⅌ cent. Prime discounts 7@8. Sterling heavy, 9⅌. Gold reached 137¼, but closed at 137¼. Stocks active and strong. Great speculation furore. 5-20s of 1862, with coupons, 108¼.

SAVANNAH, Jan. 10.—Cotton market active; prices advancing. Middlings 15c. Sales 1670 bales. Receipts 2060 bales.

AUGUSTA, Jan. 10.—Cotton market active and advancing. Sales 570 bales. Receipts 520 bales. Middlings 14@14½c.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 10.—Cotton active; advanced ½c. Sales 1700 bales. Middlings 16c. Receipts 1300 bales.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 10.—Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat dull at $2 15@$2 55. Corn quiet at 87@92c. Oats dull at 68c. Mess pork held firmly at $20@$21. Bacon dull; shoulders 9c., clear sides 11½c., clear rib sides 11c. Lard held at 12½c. Butter 35@40c. Apples $3@$5. Potatoes $2@$3 75.

ST LOUIS, Jan. 10.—Tobacco unchanged. Flour firm and unchanged. Wheat nominal. Corn—Shelled lower at 88@90c., ear higher at 80@86c. Oats very firm at 74@75c. Provisions entirely nominal. Lard 11½c.

Weather a little milder.

MOBILE, Jan. 10.—Cotton market closed firm. Middlings 14½c. Sales 2600. Receipts to-day 2186. Sales for the week 13,400. Receipts 17,658. Exports—foreign 5470; domestic 3960. Stock on hand 73,847.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 10.—Tobacco quiet; $4 25@$14 for light lugs to medium leaf. Cotton quiet—13¾@14c. Flour—$7 75@12 50 for superfine and fancy. Wheat $2 40@2 50. Corn 75@80c. for new ear. Oats 68@70c. Bacon—shoulders 9½c.; clear sides 12½c. Bulk meats—shoulders 8@8½c.; clear sides 11½c. Lard 12½@12¾c. Mess pork $21@21 50.

AN EXTENSIVE ASSORTMENT OF PLOWS.—The old and well known hardware house of Slark, Stauffer & Co., 71 Canal street, advertise to-day an extensive assortment of plows—more than nine thousand plows and of ten different kinds. These comprise every kind that can be made useful to cotton or sugar planters, or to those engaged in any kind of agricultural pursuit. Planters from the interior, now on a visit to the State Fair, will find at Messrs. Slark, Stauffer & Co.'s, not only the largest assortment of plows in the city, but a complete assortment of agricultural hardware of every description.

CASH ADVANCES.—Mr. A. F. Picton, the young and enterprising auctioneer at 167 Poydras street, announces that he is prepared to make liberal cash advances on all outside sales, either of furniture, groceries, dry goods, or anything else that has to be exposed to sale. Mr. Picton is an energetic and go-ahead auctioneer, and with his facilities for doing business, has acquired a name which is rapidly drawing business to him. We refer to his advertisement in another column.

Particular attention is called to the sale to take place to-day at 11 o'clock A. M. on the levee, foot of Lafayette street, of flour and bacon, by Chas. T. Nash. See advertisement.

Local Intelligence.

REPORTORIAL BREVITIES.—Robinson's great circus and menagerie paraded the streets yesterday, preceded by a fine band of music, and making a fine display.

Mr. Xavier Lambert, an old wine and liquor merchant, formerly of this city, died at Gourgeon, France, on the 15th of December last.

It is probable that, at its present rate of progress, the Dryades street convention will adjourn within ten days to come. Day and evening sessions were held yesterday, resulting in the adoption of twenty-three additional articles. Seventy-two out of one hundred and fifty have thus far been adopted.

In order that planters from Plaquemines may attend to-day's exercises at the State Fair, the steamer A. G. Brown has postponed her regular trip until to-morrow at 9 o'clock A. M.

The temperature yesterday, as shown by C. Duhamel's thermometer, corner Bienville and Chartres streets, was, at 6 o'clock A. M., 36 degrees; 12 A. M., 40 degrees; 3 P. M., 41 degrees; 6 P. M., 42 degrees.

The Public School Board have revised the Normal School, they have also passed a resolution appointing a music teacher for the high schools.

A negro man was found dead, on the levee, at post No. 26, about 11 o'clock on Thursday night.

The city officials are to be paid to-day.

Messrs. B. S. Harrison and John Bietry have purchased the right of way of the Dauphin and Dumaine street railroad.

BOARD OF PUBLIC SCHOOL DIRECTORS.—The regular meeting of this board was held last evening at the Central High School building.

President W. S. Mount in the chair, and the following members present: Messrs. Baker, Bermudez, Collens, Cronan, Huyghe, Leefe, Kelly, Macon, O'Neile, Philips, Parham, Ellison, Sambola, Shields, Stickney, Thieneman, Watkins and Zebender.

The minutes of the last meeting being read and approved, the chair read a letter from N. T. N. Robinson, in which he tenders his resignation as a member of the board.

Mr. Robinson's resignation was accepted. Mr. Joseph Ellison was nominated to fill the vacancy and unanimously elected. A committee was now appointed to wait upon the newly elected member and invite him to take his seat in the board. Mr. Ellison being sworn, took his seat, and the board proceeded to transact its regular business.

The finance committee presented their report approving of the pay-rolls for the months of November and December, amounting to $35,833 35 for November and $52,613 04 for December, leaving a balance to the credit of the white schools of $10,431 98 and a debit of $4170 23 against the colored schools, which will have to be deducted from the balance to the credit of the white schools, leaving a balance to the credit of the board, December 31st, of $6261 75. Report received.

The committee also presented a report of the expenditures of the schools for white children from January 1st to December 31st, 1867, amounting to $349,568 02, against appropriations of $360,000, leaving a balance of $10,431 98 to the credit of the white schools.

The report of the expenditures for the colored schools, for the three months ending December 31st, shows pay rolls amounting to $21,670 28, against appropriation $17,500 05.

The above reports were also received and ordered to be spread on the minutes.

On the motion of Mr. J. B. Leefe, copies of the two last reports were ordered to be forwarded to the joint finance committees of the Common Council.

The report of the committee on teachers reported the following resignations: Miss Alice Dolton, third assistant, McDonough School, and Mr. Wm. F. Mead, principal of Jefferson school. That certificates of examination have been awarded to the following applicants: Mr. John Scott, second assistant; Miss C. Dimitry, third assistant; Dr. Wm. T. Bell, first assistant; Mark Keynier; third assistant; H. C. Adams, second assistant; D. Irwin Rost, second assistant; Miss Mary Magrath; third assistant; Mrs. Mary J. Cheek, third assistant. That the following appointments as supernumeraries, have been made, most of whom are graduating members of the late graduating class of the girls' high schools: Miss B. Nolan and Miss Ann McCarthy, St. Philip School, Misses F. Tomes and Provie, Tanner, Fillmore School; Miss C. Fremeaux, St. Ann School; Miss M. J. O'Neile, Robertson School; Miss J. E. Luisler, Claiborne School; Misses Sarah Harris, J. Nugent and Ann Crooks, Rampart School; Misses Louisa A. Seymour, Francis Stewart, Celeste Neelly, A. Baumgartner and Belle Connor, Magnolia school; Misses Laura Tricou and Nora Collins, Jackson school; Miss Marcelle Cusack, Franklin and Marshal schools; Miss Mary Donoghue, Paulding school; Miss Ardie Harris, Washington school; Misses Caroline Forer, Josephine Hill and Jennie McConnell, Webster and Jefferson schools; Misses Caroline Burner, Matilda O'Brien and Catherine Johnson, Live Oak school; Misses Alice Wilson and Ida Purcell, Laurel and McDonough schools; Miss Louisa Pérès, Barracks school; Misses M. A. King and M. J. O'Neil, Bienville school; Miss M. E. Keene, DeSoto school. The committee, in making the appointments, followed the rule of selecting no one under 18 years of age. That upon the recommendation of Mr. Cronan they have transferred Miss Mettoxa, principal of the Barracks school, to the principalship of the St. Ann school; and Miss Marie Queyron, principal of the latter school, to the principalship of the former school.

The committee present the following applicants for election: Miss Julia Dunbar, to vacancy in the MacDonough School; Miss Mary King to a vacancy in the Rampart School made by the promotion of Miss Ludwig.

The committee recommend the following permutations: Mr. Read, principal Paulding School, to the principalship of the Jefferson School; Mr. Thos. M. Dyer, first assistant Jefferson School, to be promoted to principalship of the Paulding School; Dr. W. T. Bell to the position of first assistant Jefferson School; Miss Mills to be promoted to the position of first assistant Paulding School; the other assistants in the Paulding School to be promoted in accordance with the above changes, and Miss Mary A. Nugent appointed to the vacancy thus made in the primary department. The report and the letter of resignation of Mr. Wm. F. Mead were accepted by the board.

The committee on text books reported favorably upon the bid of Mr. Goetzel for furnishing text books to the schools, submitting at the same time a list of prices of the party offering to contract with the board; favorably on the substitution of Richardson's (Prof. Holmes) for Parker & Watson's spelling books, and Venable's arithmetic to Greenleaf & Town's.

The committee recommend that, in view of the straightened circumstances of the city, the pupils of the high schools be required to supply themselves with text books during the annual scholastic year.

A motion to postpone indefinitely that portion of the report relating to text books, was lost.

A motion to postpone the same portion until the next meeting, was also lost.

After a great deal of discussion, and an attempt to refer the matter to the superintendent of public schools, a motion to vote on each book separately, was adopted.

Judge Collens gave notice that he would move a reconsideration at the next meeting.

Mr. Thieneman moved an immediate reconsideration.

Mr. Macon, chairman of the committee on text books, then moved to refer the whole report to the superintendent of public schools, his decision to be final. A good deal of speechifying ensued. A motion to adjourn was lost. The previous question was called for. And the matter was referred to the superintendent of public schools.

Mr. Leefe gave notice he would reconsider his vote at the next meeting. Mr. Thieneman moved an immediate reconsideration, which was carried. Mr. Kelly moved that the opinion of Mr. Dimitry, assistant superintendent of public schools, be also received as to the propriety of changing the text books. A motion to adjourn, subject to the call of the president, was lost.

A lengthy report from the committee on high schools was received.

A resolution to employ a music teacher for the Girls' High Schools and the Central High School, as far as practicable, at a salary not exceeding $75 per month, was adopted.

The question of the adoption of the committee on High Schools now came up.

Judge Collens objected to the removal of the Second and Third Districts Girls' High School from the building on Esplanade street to the former location in the basement of the church opposite Washington Square. Mr. Thieneman said that the present location was too small, besides being unhealthy. Judge Collens said that if it was unhealthy for one school it would be as unhealthy for another. The resolution to move the High School was adopted.

The committee on supervision reported in favor of suspending J. R. Longshore from the Bienville School for creating a disturbance in the school; that the schools are well attended. Good discipline exists in all the schools except the St. Ann Street School. The committee recommend the removal of the Rampart Street School to some suitable building, the present one being unsafe and unfit for a schoolhouse; calls the attention of the board to the bad condition of the Claiborne School and the Bayou Road Schools. The Rampart and the Barracks schools, as well as other schools in the Second District, have lost many of their best pupils in consequence of the opening of the Catholic schools. The St. Philip School is in need of repairs, which the committee recommend to be made. The Second and Third District Girls' High School the committee find in no manner suitable for a schoolhouse. The committee also report that on the 23d of December Miss English, of the St. Philip Street School, was suspended for sixty days for violently whipping a small boy, leaving marks upon his face. The report was adopted, except that portion relating to schoolhouses, which was referred to the committee on schoolhouses.

The question of reinstating Miss English coming up, was after some discussion, lost.

Mr. Bermudez presented a lengthy and interesting report relative to the Normal School, which provides for the revival of this institution. The report was adopted as well as the rules and resolutions accompanying it.

On motion it was decided that notice in the daily papers shall be given of the revival of this school.

The committee on colored schools presented their report.

Mr. Kelly asked that his name be stricken from the report as he did not agree with the portion recommending that the colored schools be closed until the legislature can grant relief, or the council can provide means to the board for the continuance of said school.

Mr. Leefe also wished his name stricken off the report, as he, too, did not agree with it.

Both gentlemen were allowed to withdraw their names from the document which was referred back to the committee.

A communication from Miss English, alluded to above, asking the leniency of the board in her favor, was referred to the committee on supervision.

Mr. Macon sent his resignation as chairman of the committee on text books, which was accepted, and Mr. Ellison was appointed in his stead.

Mr. Kelly offered a resolution to stop all expenditures except such as may be absolutely necessary. Postponed to next meeting.

Mr. Eugene Desdernier, secretary of the board, reports having paid over to the chairman of the committee on library the sum of $108, received from parents, non-residents, for the admission of their children into the public schools of the city.

A resolution to appoint a committee on printing composed of four, prevailed.

A motion by Mr. Cronan, to print the rules and regulations of the Normal School, was referred to the committee on printing, with power to act.

A motion by Mr. Kelly, that when this board adjourns it adjourn to Wednesday next, at six o'clock.

A resolution by Mr. Parham, that, as a matter of courtesy, the press be notified when this board meets, was adopted.

Mr. Kelly offered a resolution that Mr. Dimitry, the assistant superintendent of public schools, give in writing his opinion, pending which the board adjourned to Wednesday next, at six o'clock.

THE DRAYMEN'S MEETING.—The Draymen's meeting, which had been advertised several days, took place last evening in the Commercial Pavilion, on the levee, at the head of Poydras street.

Mr. Alexander Porteus, or Sandy Porteus, the name by which the true hearted and generous Scot, who is president of the Draymen's Association, is best known, was in the chair, and Mr. John Magnus officiated as secretary.

Mr. Porteus having called the meeting to order, explained the object for which it was convened. They had met, he observed, to see what could be done in regard to the charge of ten dollars for a license for a two horse wagon, and five dollars for a one horse wagon, imposed by the present City Council for this year, more than was charged last year. It was needless for him to say that draymen as well as every other class of people were sufferers by the dullness of trade, for all knew how hard the times were, and it was for the meeting to determine what steps should be taken to get an abatement of the license tax. He would call upon the oldest New Orleans drayman present, Judge Michael Finch, to express his views.

Judge Finch rising, in respone to this summons, remarked that very little was needed to be said. The hard times were pressing upon every body, draymen as well as other people, and the five or ten dollars additional tax, that in former years would be a trifling matter had now become a matter worthy of general consideration. The draymen were willing to take their share of the public burdens, so far as they were able, but it should be considered that while taxation on wagons was increased the income of the owners was becoming less and less every day. There was much less for draymen to do than there had been last year or the year before, and they could not ask higher rates from the merchants. There were railroads on all the great business streets, too, and they were multiplying. Collisions between the cars and drays and wagons were unavoidable, and the drayman was always the sufferer for damages. Taking these things into consideration he thought it very unjust to make the licenses higher than they had been. If any change had been made it should have been to make the licenses lower.

On motion of Mr. P. Fitzimmons a committee of three was appointed to draft resolutions and prepare a petition to the council. The chair appointed as this committee Judge Finch and Messrs. Dominick Madden and Thos. Egan.

The committee having retired, the chair again addressed the meeting, dwelling upon matters which he thought should be considered by the council when they were fixing taxes. Draymen had to be out every day, wet and dry, whether they got a load or not. They had to pay their drivers and to feed their stock, work or no work. Theirs was an uncertain income. Judge Finch had spoken of the railroads. Every drayman knew how much they were losers by those railroads. It was only a few days ago that he (Mr. Porteus) himself, hauling a load, got stuck on the track, and a car coming along, the driver run into him and the car was damaged. A bill of fifteen dollars was sent to him by the railroad company, and although he knew it was unjust, rather than go into a lawsuit, and pay a lawyer more than the sum demanded, he submitted. Losses such as these were often falling upon draymen now. Another trouble draymen have they did not have until this convention sort at the Mechanics' Institute got into power. The convention policemen now make it a business to go on the levee and take up draymen for fast driving, to get fines out of them. He saw a dray seized, in this way the other day, and he knew that the mule could not be whipped into a trot. But what remedy had the man? The fellow who arrested him would swear that the mule was going at 2:40, if it was necessary for him to swear it. This drayman's association, Mr. Porteus continued, could make itself one of the most influential associations in New Orleans. They were as useful and as necessary to carry on the commerce of New Orleans, as the merchants themselves, and if they would but work harmoniously they would soon find their society in its sphere as influential as the Chamber of Commerce is, in its sphere.

Mr. Porteus was continuing his suggestions when the committee returned, and, through Judge Finch, reported the following petition and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

PETITION.

To the Honorable the Mayor and Board of Assistant Aldermen of the City of New Orleans:

Gentlemen—We, the undersigned petitioners, beg leave to represent to your honorable body the grievances we labor under by reason of the tax ordinance, passed and approved December 24th, 1867, advancing the rate of license ten dollars for wagons, and for drays in same proportion.

Your petitioners would most respectfully ask you to reconsider your action in the matter and reduce the license to the former rates. We have not paid more than forty dollars per wagon for the last thirty years. We have not for the last eight months made our expenses, and many of us have got in debt during that time to keep up our establishments. We have to keep out mules, wagons and drivers every day, and the mules must be fed and the drivers paid, while at the end of the month we find our receipts to fall short of our expenses.

We would most respectfully represent to you that if we are compelled to pay the present license we shall have to charge more than present rates, which we consider would be detrimental to the interests of the city, as it should be the great aim to reduce the expenses of transfer as much as possible to compete with rival channels of trade.

Knowing also that we pay the highest license in any city in the country, we most respectfully ask you to reconsider your action, and your petitioners will ever pray.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. *Resolved*, That taxation, without representation, is wrong and unconstitutional; that we are unjustly and wrongfully taxed for our vehicles; that we have always understood the reconstruction laws passed by Congress to mean that every law in existence should remain in force until the adoption of a new Constitution, or until revoked by the commanding general.

2. *Resolved*, That we protest against the advanced rates of license on the ground that our stock have depreciated; our expenses have increased double what they were before the war, and that we cannot pay more than we have heretofore.

3. *Resolved*, That we make no insidious comparisons, but beg the public to study the tax ordinance and see if the draymen are not taxed more than any other class, according to receipts and expenses.

4. *Resolved*, That we as a law and constitutional abiding organization pledge ourselves to abide by the decisions that have been agreed upon at this meeting. That we cannot recognize the right of the council to impose a tax of $50 on what can be bought at the present time for $500.

5. *Resolved*, That we, the Draymen's Association, protest against any advance in license for the simple reason that the produce will have to pay it while rival channels of trade stand ready to take what little business is left to us. For these reasons we hope our honorable council will view this with a public spirit as we are doing, and let each add our mite to the advancement of our city.

Mr. Thomas Cronan suggested that there was an omission in the petition, in the failure to notice the fact that while draymen were paid in city money, they had to buy greenbacks at a premium to purchase feed for animals. The chair, noticing the suggestion, remarked that the matter referred to by Mr. Cronan was universally known, and as the evil, it was hoped, would soon cease to exist, it was not necessary to embody it in the petition. Mr. Cronan acquiesced, and made no motion to amend.

The representative of the CRESCENT was spoken of in complimentary terms, and the thanks of the meeting were voted to him.

A subscription of five dollars from each drayman present was taken up to defray the expenses of the organization, and to contest, with the street railroad companies, any attempt that may be made to exact from draymen unjustly, bills for damages.

Judge Finch, Captain Farwell, and Messrs. Christie, Riley, James Cluney and P. Quinn were appointed a committee to present the petition and confer with members of the council.

The petition will be at the Commercial Pavilion to-day, to be signed by such draymen as were not present at the meeting.

The thanks of the meeting were voted to the president for his exertions in getting up the movement, and in acknowledging the compliment, he said that although they might not succeed, they would have the satisfaction of knowing that that they had acted as free men should, in protesting against injustice; that they knew their rights and would maintain them as far as they were able.

THE LOCQUET INSTITUTE EXAMINATION.—There was a pleasant assemblage of the families and friends of the pupils of the Locquet Institute, directed by Mr. Burr, on Thursday night, upon the occasion of the examination of this excellent school. A charming play in French, written by Mr. Felix Privailles, the talented editor of Le Journal du Soir, and professor of French at this institute, was well interpreted by the young ladies to whom the different parts were intrusted. The music portion of the examination was most satisfactorily executed under the supervision of Mr. Prevost, professor of music. Among the young ladies who obtained the most success, we might name Misses M. Lea, Judson, Hyman, Gordon, Jones, Smith, Marks and Crawcour. Altogether the examination was a most gratifying one.

RESIGNATION OF AN OLD TEACHER.—Mr. Wm. F. Mead, a gentleman connected with our schools since the year 1844, until recently principal of the Paulding School, has resigned his position to accept a more lucrative one in the same profession. The board of public schools accepted his resignation last night, upon the recommendation of the committee on teachers, who eulogize him in their report.

THE RIVAL CROOKS.—Judge Durell has denied the injunction asked for by Messrs. DeBar, Barras and others, proprietors of the "Black Crook," to restrain the performance of the "Tale of Enchantment," recently played at the Academy of Music. On Thursday, ex-Governor Wells and Mr. M. M. Cohen, who had been appointed experts to inquire into the various points of resemblance and difference between the two plays, made a minute, lengthy, and accurate report to the judge, stating that several scenes in the "Black Crook" have been heretofore produced, both in Europe and America, and that many years since the beautiful transformation scene in the last act was presented on the stage of a London theater.

It has been intimated that the judge's decision upon the petition for an injunction may be followed by the withdrawal of the ulterior suit now pending between the parties.

FIRE.—About 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon a fire broke out in a house at the corner of Tchoupitoulas and Terpsichore streets, owned by Mr. Penn, and occupied by Simon McCaffery and others. The fire originated in a room occupied by a colored woman named Elizabeth Meyers, and is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary, as it is ascertained several articles were stolen from the room and the fire then kindled. The fire was extinguished without any alarm being given. Damage trifling.

ATTEMPT AT ARSON.—Sam Nowlan, a colored man, supposed to be insane, was arrested last evening by officer Wilson, on the above charge. Wilson resides at No. 290 Gravier street, where he created quite an alarm among his neighbors by kindling an immense fire in the fire place of his room. Notwithstanding the admonition of the officer, he persisted in piling en wood over the fire, and threatened to kill anybody with an ax, which he held in his hand, should he be interfered with, saying at the same time that all h—ll was afire, and he would go for them with this ax. Officer Wilson was plucky enough, however, to enter the room through a window and succeeded in bringing the offender to the station.

FIRE.—The alarm of fire, yesterday about 3 A. M., was caused by the house in a coal and wood yard, on Old Magazine street, near St. Mary street, catching fire. The building together with a one story frame house adjoining, belonging to Mrs. Peno, which was insured for $1000; a one story frame house at the corner, a two story frame house on Magazine street, occupied by Mrs. Bensadon, and owned by W. C. Raymond, which was partly insured; another one story frame house on St. Mary street, occupied by Richard Behan, insured for $1000, were also totally consumed. Three mules also perished in the flames. The loss cannot fall short of twenty thousand dollars.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT—*Judge Howe—Jan.* 10. Charles Fox, colored, accused of assaulting Louis Carter with a knife, was tried and acquitted, and in another case, in which said Fox was charged with an assault and battery on John Murphy, *nolle prosequi* was entered.

Charles Stewart was convicted of obtaining from Hettie Hamilton champagne and money by false pretenses.

Leon Johnson, colored, was found guilty of stealing a wheelbarrow and some other articles, the property of Jordan Noble.

Mike Sullivan, accused of stealing two gold rings of Ann Sullivan, was tried and acquitted.

RECORDER NEVILLE'S COURT.—Peter Tiernan was arrested on the steamboat landing on Thursday, accused by officer Maes of stabbing with intent to kill and dangerously wounding John Buggs and Sam Reuben, colored men. The recorder ordered that Tiernan be remanded, without privilege of bail, to await the result of both men's wounds.

Geo. Weisse was sent to the Workhouse for six months on the charge of obtaining goods under false pretenses.

Peter Martin, a drunkard and vagrant, shared a similar fate.

A. Morgan, another vagrant, went to the same institution for ninety days.

James Williams, alias Geo. Ellis, also a vagrant, will spend the same period in that institution, unless he furnish vouchers for his behavior.

Thomas Ford, charged with robbery, was sent to the Parish Prison for thirty years.

Wm. Johnson, of a decided color but of suspicious character, was sent to the Workhouse for ninety days.

John Lee got drunk, disturbed the peace and assaulted a citizen with a Bowie knife, on Thursday, at the New Basin, for which he was fined $25.

RECORDER GASTINEL'S COURT.—The charge against T. E. Tremé of beating Mr. G. Childs, the mayor's secretary, in the Orleans ball room on New Year's night, came up for examination this morning, and it being announced that Mr. Childs would not prosecute, the complaint was dismissed. The same disposition, and for the same reason, was made of the case of Arthur Guerin, charged with an assault and battery on police officer William G. Howard.

The affray, in which Mr. Childs was concerned, occurred about half-past one o'clock in the morning, and officer Howard went to his assistance, when he was severely handled as well as Mr. Childs.

Mrs. Mindeek, who keeps a store at No. 111 Old Levee street, was sent before the First District Court to be tried for larceny, which is alleged to have been committed in refusing to return a balance due upon two five dollar notes which an ignorant negro, Jean Louis, handed her to pay for a purchase, supposing one of the notes to be a one dollar bill and the other a two dollar bill, and she gave him back change accordingly.

Theophile Baptiste, colored, was committed to be tried for burglariously entering the store of Emile Dussuan, No. 233 Dauphin street, and stealing therefrom boots and shoes valued at over $200.

Isaac Blumenkron has been arrested and given bond to appear to answer a charge of having instituted a false and malicious prosecution against Leopold Shotlander for larceny.

George Bailey, colored, accused of stealing a pair of shoes from the shop of Giuseppe Possalayna, corner of Ursulines and Old Levee streets, was examined and the case was dismissed.

Theatrical.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The programme informs us that the Academy is the only theater in the South heated