THE NEW ORLEANS CRESCENT.

VOLUME XVII. SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 8, 1868. NUMBER 151.

THE CRESCENT'S DISPATCHES.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Minister Thornton's Reception—Impeachment Gossip—Cabinet Meeting—Supreme Court—Customs and Internal Revenue Receipts—The Mails Between Washington and New Orleans—Proceedings of Congress—Dickens Visits the President—Report of the Southern Railroad Committee—The President's Forthcoming Letter.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Minister Thornton was presented to day. Speeches complimentary and cordial without pointed allusion to the pending question.

Impeachment gossip is being renewed. It is becoming serious.

General business unimportant.

The tenure of office bill passed. It provides that ten days after its passage no general or special agent of the president's departments, bureaus or branches, unless authorized by statutes specifying duty and compensation, shall be appointed, commissioned or employed, or continued in office, except five special agents of the State department, revenue agents, or inspectors of internal revenues, authorized by acts of March 3, 1863, June 13, 1864, March 3, 1865, or any other general or special agent, commissioned and compensated by law, shall continue ten days from the passage of this act, when the president shall appoint and the Senate shall confirm successors.

The president may appoint, with consent of the Senate, twenty-five general or special agents. For the treasury department, the secretary may appoint twenty-five detectives in the old manner. The postmaster general may appoint certain route agents and twenty-five special agents.

The bill authorizing a bridge over the Mississippi river at La Crosse passed.

After executive session, the Senate adjourned.

House.—Several members made personal explanations, when the House went into committee of the whole on the appropriation bill.

A proposition authorizing the secretary of war to replace capitol police by a detail of soldiers, was ruled out of order.

In considering the appropriation bill, discussion was stormy, and without action the House adjourned.

Dickens visited the president to-day.

The Southern railroad committee reported that the amount expended on roads while held was $45,000 000, exclusive of labor. The value of the property sold the various roads was $7,000,000. Unpaid January 1, 1868, $5,500,000. Total value of property restored, $78,000,000. The report takes the ground that the government obtained a clear title to the roads, and that their restoration by the president was illegal and invalid. The committee, in conclusion, ask the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the committee on the judiciary be instructed to report a resolution declaring, in substance, that no claim shall be entertained by any officer or department of the government in favor of any railroad or railroad company in any of the late rebel States, or in favor of any such State for use of any such road or rolling stock or other railroad property, or for transportation of troops, government property or passengers, or mails for any portion of time during the late rebellion, or prior to restoration of any such roads to the original owners, after the cessation of hostilities.

Resolved, That the committee on the judiciary are hereby instructed to report a joint resolution requiring a strict accountability from all railroads in the late rebel States, and that they be compelled to liquidate their indebtedness upon the terms now granted, without consideration or recognition in the least degree of any claims for use or damages by occupation of the United States, to the end that payments shall be enforced according to existing bonds, or in default thereof the government shall exercise its legal rights of possession and disposal.

There was a full cabinet meeting to-day except McCulloch and Stanton.

Supreme Court—Argument in the *ex parte* McCardle case was concluded. Decision held.

Bingham and Boutwell, sub committee of the reconstruction committee, will report to that committee on the legality of the president forbidding Grant to obey Stanton.

Receipts of customs for the week ending the 30th, $2,000,000.

Internal revenue receipts to-day, $249,000.

The postoffice department has ordered the transmission of mails to and from Washington and New Orleans via Louisville.

The president's letter will be given to the public on Monday. It will include a version of the disputed events by members of the cabinet, and it is stated will be accompanied by a letter from Gen. Sherman.

THE RECONSTRUCTION CONVENTIONS.

ATLANTA, Feb. 7.—The report of the committee on the executive department was adopted without amendments. It fixes the term of office at four years, and requires ten years residence in the State as a qualification.

The first section of the franchise committee's report was adopted. An amendment to strike out six and insert twelve months' residence in the State as a qualification was lost; thirty days' residence in the county as a qualification passed.

The convention adopted the report of the committee on the death of C. C. Richardson. His remains left at 6 P. M. to-day for Maine. Timmony has been held to bail in the sum of $12,000.

JACKSON, MISS., Feb. 7.—The committee appointed to request General Gillem to issue an order prohibiting sales by all officers and trustees, except for wages on plantations and mechanics' labor, submitted a letter from headquarters declining to comply with said request.

A supplemental report from the committee on destitution was adopted, appropriating the poll tax of 1867 as a temporary relief.

A resolution that the per diem of members shall cease after the forty-fifth's day's session was tabled.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 7.—The convention passed nine more sections of the bill of rights.

It is rumored that Gen. Canby will take the place of Gen. Meade, and that Sickles will be returned to this district.

TALLAHASSEE, Feb. 7.—The minority convention is still in session, having adopted a constitution. They are awaiting instructions from Gen. Meade before adjourning. The majority refuse to recognize the acts of the minority, or to allow British subjects or non-residents seats in the Convention. The majority consists of 4 negroes and 21 whites, all eligible. The minority number 21, of which 1 is a colored British subject, 3 are non-residents, and of the balance fifteen or sixteen are negroes.

RICHMOND, Feb. 7.—A substitute for a section in the ordinance on executive, making the secretary of state's, treasurer's and auditor's offices to be filled by the popular vote, was defeated by 54 yeas to 36 nays.

A section was then adopted allowing the legislature to fill these offices.

FROM MEMPHIS.

Failure of a Savings Bank—Depositors Excited.

MEMPHIS, Feb. 7.—There is great excitement here about the failure of the Gayoso Savings Bank, which was the depository for the working people. A party after the cashier with a rope failed to find him. Another officer was shot at.

FROM ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Burning of an Insane Asylum—Four Female Inmates Lose Their Lives.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 7.—The Insane Asylum was burned to-day, and four female inmates perished in the flames.

FROM HAVANA.

Storm at Vera Cruz—Loss of a Ship and Seven Lives—Bark Ashore—Rumors of More Revolution in Mexico—Various Mexican Items.

HAVANA, Feb. 6.—A heavy storm occurred at Vera Cruz on the 29th ult.

The steamer Nightingale foundered and seven persons drowned. The officers were saved.

The bark bienville, from New Orleans, went ashore and is a total wreck. All hands and part of the cargo were saved.

The following news has been received: There were rumors at Vera Cruz that several generals in the Mexican army had pronounced against the government. Fears are entertained that an attempt will be made to create a revolution. It is reported that Porfirio Diaz is soon to be appointed minister of war.

The bill revising the tariff had passed the Mexican Congress. The bill to abolish death penalty was defeated.

Escobedo had arrived at the capital, and it was rumored that he intended to resign the command of the third division of the army of Mexico.

Mexican travelers in Guatemala are treated badly by the inhabitants, whose hostility has been excited by threats of invasion.

A plan for uniting Mexico with the United States by a system of railroads has been placed in the hands of a commission, who are to examine the plan and report upon its feasibility.

Companies are forming for the purpose of developing the gold mines recently discovered in Oaxaca, which are reported very rich.

FROM EUROPE.

Discouraging News from the Abyssinian Expedition.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—Later Abyssinian advices are discouraging, forbidding the hope of a successful move this season.

RIVER NEWS.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 7.—River falling, with four and a half feet in the canal. There is an ice gorge at Six-mile Island, and one below Cloverport. Navigation wholly suspended. The low-pressure steamer Richmond will return to New Orleans on the first water. The Nick Longworth is laid up.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 7.—Weather cloudy and milder, with indications of rain.

VICKSBURG, Feb. 7.—Passed down: Allen at 3 P. M. and the Lee at 6. River stationary.

FROM SOUTHWEST PASS.

SOUTHWEST PASS, Feb. 7, 6 P. M.—Barometer 30.80. Wind N. E., strong.

Arrived: Steamship Austin, Farwell, master, and the steamship Crescent, Hawthorn, master, with merchandise and passengers, to C. A. Whitney & Co.

SOUTHWEST PASS, Feb. 7, 11 A. M.—Wind N. E. Barometer 30.20.

Sailed: Steamship George Cromwell. No arrivals.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MOBILE, Feb. 7.—The vote yesterday was 22 whites, 784 colored. To-day, whites 13, colored 392.

SAVANNAH, Feb. 7.—Patrick Russell, of New York, while repairing the spire of the Presbyterian Church, to-day, fell and was instantly killed.

In the Circuit Court to-day the judge decided that the attachment of Claflin & Co., of New York, for $48,000, for which Steinback & Co., here, was closed up, was not made on sufficient cause and should be abated.

The Republican State Committee, it is stated, will meet here on the 15th instant.

MARKETS.

LONDON, Feb. 7, Noon.—Consols 93½@93¾. Bonds 71¾@71⅞.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 7, Afternoon.—Cotton active and higher. Middling uplands 8c.; middling Orleans 8¼c.; sales 15,000 bales; sales of the week 105,000 bales, of which 9000 bales were for speculation and 18,000 for export; stock 340,000 bales, of which 134,000 bales were American. Corn 42s. 9d. Lard 34s. Tallow 42s. 3d. Sales of cotton yesterday 20,000 bales.

LONDON, Feb. 7—Evening.—Consols 93¼. Bonds 71¾.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 7—Evening.—Cotton market active, closing firm; uplands on the spot 8d., to arrive 7¾d., Orleans 8¼d. Sales 20,000 bales. It is estimated that there is now afloat for Liverpool 238,000 bales, including 130,000 bales American. Manchester advices favorable.

PARIS, Feb. 6.—Bullion in the Bank of France has increased 21,000,000 francs. Bourse firm. Rentes higher.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Money easy; call loans 5 ⅌ cent. Sub-treasury balance, $161,500,000.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Governments closed steady. Gold was active and buoyant during the day, but closed at 142½. Cotton buoyant; ¼@½c. higher. Sales to day 5600 bales; middlings 19¾@20c. Flour—Rather more doing at a decline; State $8 25@$8 75, Southern $10@$15. Wheat 1@2c. lower. Corn—Western mixed $1 23@$1 27; Southern white $1 21@$1 27½. Oats heavy at 82½c. Mess pork dull; new $22 50, old $21 50. Lard steady. Groceries firm and quiet. Turpentine 60@60½c. Rosin $2@$7. Freights a shade firmer; cotton by steam 7-16@½d., flour 2s. 6d.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 7.—Tobacco firm and unchanged. Flour very firm; superfine $7 25@8 25. Wheat firm. Corn 76@85c. Oats 67@72c. Pork nominal at $21 50@22. Bacon—clear sides 12½c. Lard quiet at 13½c.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 7.—Cotton market active; advanced ⅛@¼c. Sales 1500 bales. Middlings 18@18½c. Receipts 1538 bales.

AUGUSTA, Feb. 7.—Cotton market advanced ⅛@¼c. Sales to-day 1200 bales. Receipts 900 bales. Middlings 18@18½c.

SAVANNAH, Feb. 7.—Cotton—demand firm, at an advance. Sales to-day 736 bales. Middlings 18¾@19c. Holders too high for buyers. Receipts 2500 bales.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 7.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat dull at $2 18@2 55. Corn quiet at 85@90c. Whisky nominal. Mess pork $21 75@22. Bacon—9¾c. for shoulders; rib sides 11½c.; clear sides 12@12¼c.; sugar-cured hams 15@16c. Lard 13½c. Butter 33@37c. Eggs 30c.

MOBILE, Feb. 7.—Cotton closed firm; sales to-day 4200 bales; middlings 18½c.; receipts 1567 bales. Sales for the week 5400 bales. Receipts 12,093 bales. Exports, foreign, 15,821 bales; coastwise 7182 bales. Stock on hand 71,213 bales.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 7.—Tobacco—sales to-day 75 hhds. Market firm; lugs to medium leaf $5 15 to $15. Flour—superfine $7 75@8; fancy $12 50. Wheat $2 40@2 45. Oats 67@68c. Corn—Ear and shelled 75@78c. Mess Pork $22. Lard 13½c. Bacon shoulders, 10c.; clear sides, 13c. Bulk meats—Shoulders, 9c.; clear sides, 12½c. Cotton 16¾@17½c.

SIXTY YEARS OF INSANITY.—The Massachusetts papers announce the death of Joseph Spaulding, the maniac pauper of Buckland, whose sad case has often been referred to by the press. Mr. Spaulding was the only son of the late Rev. Josiah Spaulding, pastor of the Congregational church in Buckland, who died in 1826. Just as he was nearly ready for college, being twenty-one years of age, he became violently and hopelessly deranged. The first public outbreak of insanity was at church on Sunday, while his father was at prayer, when he suddenly threw the psalm book at his mother's head.

For nearly two years he was not confined, until his family had been repeatedly endangered by his violence, when he was restrained with chains for a couple of years, and then was placed in a strong cage in the garret of the house, from which he never came forth while he lived. No clothing could be kept on him; but in severe weather he would allow himself to be covered with a blanket, which lasted only till his propensity for destruction became stronger than his fear of the cold. His cage was not high enough for him to stand erect, and he remained constantly in a sitting posture, leaning back against the timber when he slept. His limbs could not be straightened, his hair was never trimmed, and for cleanliness he received only the attention given to a poorly kept animal.

In fact, he lost the appearance of a human being, nearly lost the faculty of speech, and, for many years before his death, became demented and idiotic. For some years before the death of his parents, their poverty compelled them to throw their only son upon the town for support as a pauper, in a town where rigid penuriousness toward the poor was the law of public opinion. Thus lived for sixty years, and thus died, one of the "chronic insane poor." We find no record in the medical journals of so long a period of insanity.

St. Petersburg has lately been the scene of a horrible tragedy. The patronness of a boarding-school for young ladies had expressed her disapprobation of their coiffure, which she considered as too coquettish. The lady who had the superintendence of the class was so much affected by this censure that she ordered all the young ladies' hair to be cropped quite short. This was regarded as a great indignity, and as soon as it was dark the young ladies attacked the supposed offender, threw a sheet over her head, knocked her down, and maltreated her so seriously that she died in a few hours. It turned out afterwards that these parsgons of feminine propriety had made a mistake in the dark, and vented their fury on the wrong person. The unhappy victim was what would be called in England a parlor boarder, who, on the evening in question, had undertaken to discharge the duties of the usual class teacher.

Snow at Union Springs, Ala., last Thursday.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

A BANQUET TO ALBERT PIKE.

INTERESTING INCIDENTS.

Under the auspices of the Grand Consistory there was given, last evening, at Masonic Hall, a banquet in honor of Albert Pike, sovereign grand commander supreme council, Scotch Rite Masonry, who has been for some time past in this city upon important business relating to the order, and to whom, on the eve of his departure, his brethren desired to tender some such token of their appreciation of his usefulness as a Mason, and his nobility as a man. The table, arranged to seat precisely one hundred guests, was laid in the form of three sides of a square, the center chair of the head table being occupied by the illustrious guest. Upon his right sat Generals Harry Hays and Buckner, upon his left Grand Master S. M. Todd, Deputy Grand Master Hy. R. Swasey, M. W. G. Master Abel J. Norwood, R. W. Grand Treasurer J. C. Batchelor, and numerous other distinguished members of the order. The bill of fare was gotten up under the directions of Brother Miller, the well known restaurateur of St. Charles street, and comprised game, fish and meats, the rarest fruits and desserts, and wines such as even connoisseurs rarely find set upon a public table. Grace having been offered by the R. W. J. C. Gordy, the company addressed itself with vigor to the good things rapidly placed upon the table by active waiters, and for a while the clatter of knives, forks and glasses reigned supreme. But all delights cloy, and when the table was cleared and cigars and wine came exclusively in order, we venture to say no company was ever more ready to enter upon a toasting campaign. The first toast was: "The President of the United States."

To this General J. B. Steedman was to have responded. But unfortunately he had been prevented by a slight indisposition from attending the festivities. In his absence, Bro. Charles Case was called upon, and delivered some excellent remarks eulogizing the chief magistrate of the nation, both as a ruler and as a Mason.

The second toast, "The Grand Master of the State of Louisiana," was briefly responded to by M. W. Abel J. Norwood, who excused himself from any lengthy remarks, on account of ill health.

"Our Invited Guest," the third toast, elicited from Ill. Bro. Albert Pike, an eloquent address, full of wisdom, of poetic fervor, of historical lore, which we only regret our inability to have reported entire. "The Supreme Council A. and A. Rite," "The Grand Consistory of Louisiana," and "The Grand Orient of France" were responded to respectively by Ill. Bro. Walker, Ill. Bro. S. M. Todd and Sub. P. Jos. Santini, after which a song by Bro. Mackenzie, varied the entertainment.

"The Grand Commandery of Louisiana" was next proposed and responded to by Sub. P. Jos. P. Hornor, and "The Grand Chapter of Louisiana" by Grand High Priest H. P. Buckley. Bro. W. R. Floyd sang the "Wearin' of the Green" with more than his usual good taste and effect, and Bro. Edwin Adams recited Hamlet's soliloquy "To Be or Not to Be," in a telling manner, which brought forth vociferous applause. The following toasts were given and responded to in order, viz:

"Albert Pike Council PP. of J. and Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection"—Ill. Bro. Emmet D. Craig.

"The Constituent Lodges of Louisiana"—Bro. C. H. Luzenberg.

"Universal Masonry"—R. W. S. O. Scruggs.

"The State of Louisiana"—Sub. P. Harry T. Hays.

"Absent Friends"—Sub. P. Geo. W. Race.

"The Press, the Fourth Estate"—In the unavoidable absence of Col. J. O. Nixon, who was to have responded to this toast, Bro. Geo. L. Catlin, of the CRESCENT, replied to the sentiment.

The regular toasts of the evening were concluded by that familiar and always welcome one, "Woman," to which Sub. P. S. B. Buckner responded appropriately, introducing in the course of his remarks some rare little gems of poetry.

At the time we left the hall the festivities were still in progress. We feel positively assured that in the minds of both hosts and guests the memory of that joyous occasion, marked by naught but fraternal feeling, will ever live fresh and green.

Local Intelligence.

REPORTORIAL BREVITIES.—The temperature, yesterday, as shown by the thermometer at C. Duhamel's, corner Bienville and Chartres streets, was as follows: At 6 A. M., 38 degrees; at 12 M., 49; at 3 P. M., 53; at 6 P. M., 52.

A CASE OF FETICIDE.—The coroner has been engaged nearly two weeks in the investigation of a case of feticide, and it was not until yesterday that a jury he had summoned on Thursday, and before whom all the facts were laid, could come to a conclusion.

On the 25th January last, Mr. Powell, a tobacconist, having an establishment on Poeyfarre street, between Magazine and Foucher streets, found a fetus between two empty hogsheads in the yard of his premises. The fetus was taken to the apothecary shop of Dr. McEvoy, at the corner of Magazine and Foucher streets. Its age was variously estimated at from six to eight months. Dr. Bradford, the coroner, having been advised of the circumstance, set about an inquiry, which was closed yesterday.

The fetus was found on the 25th January. There was strong evidence in the case which cannot be published with propriety, but it can be said that it has been established that the fetus was thrown into the yard of Mr. Powel's premises from an adjoining house; that a quadroon girl, Angeline LeRoy, living with her mother in that house, was the mother, and Dr. McEvoy and one J. Baldwin Duff, who passes as a doctor, and is associated with Dr. McEvoy, were called upon by the mother of the girl to treat her for something which resulted from pregnancy, the cause of which, however, was not known to the mother at the time. The girl was to be cured for ten dollars. Duff attended her. Some time before the 25th January he was at her bedside, and the day after a membrane which the girl passed was given by the mother to the firm of McEvoy & Duff. This membrane was put in the hands of Dr. Barnes, city physician, and he found it to be part of a pig's bladder, or the bladder of some other inferior animal. Mr. Duff was called in when the girl was very sick, and used a probe. It was the next day after the use of the probe that the so-called membrane appeared.

When the jury of inquest was assembled on Thursday, the coroner was asked by one of the jurors who or what the man Duff was. Dr. Bradford replied that he knew nothing of the man himself, but in the course of the investigation he had thought proper to call upon the chief of police, who had informed him that Duff was reputed to have been connected with an abortion establishment which was broken up about a year ago, and which was referred to in the newspapers at the time.

With the evidence before the jury they found that "one Angeline LeRoy, a quadroon girl, is the mother of said fetus, and that one J. Baldwin Duff is guilty of mal-practice in the case, in making an examination with a probe."

The law is that if any woman shall endeavor privately, by drowning, or by secret burying, to conceal the issue of her body, whether that issue come into the world alive or not, such woman shall suffer imprisonment for a period not less than five years and not more than fifteen years. And it is enacted that whoever shall feloniously administer "any drug, potion, or any other thing to a woman for the purpose of procuring premature delivery, etc.," shall be imprisoned at hard labor for a period not less than one year and not more than ten years.

Mr. Duff has been arrested upon the complaint of the coroner.

THE CITY COUNCIL.—This body was to have held a special meeting last evening, at the call of the mayor, probably for the purpose of having laid before them the order of General Hancock relating to the removal of several of its members, but although many were present, there was no meeting held. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday next.

PLEASANT CORRECTION.—Some time ago we stated that the concert at the National Theater for the benefit of the Beauregard Asylum, which was given under the auspices of the noble and charitable Father Turgis, had been so unproductive that the venerable gentleman might find himself compelled to call upon the friends of the institution to help him defray the expenses which had been incurred. We are called upon to day to state that our authority was mistaken when he gave us the information. We have seldom, if ever, been called upon to make such a gratifying correction, and congratulate the directors of the asylum upon their success, due to the exertions of Father Turgis and a whole-souled lady, Miss Romey.

PAYING THE SCHOOL TEACHERS.—The teachers of the public schools of this city will be happy to learn that they will receive their salaries for the month of January to-day, at 11 o'clock.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT—*Judge Howe, Feb. 7.*—J. Longhouse, tried for receiving two mules, the property of Mrs. C. Waggaman, knowing that they had been stolen, was acquitted.

James Adams was found guilty of stealing $100 from J. Klein.

In the case of James McDonald, charged with stealing a watch valued at $30, the property of Henry Ballard, there was a mistrial, and the accused was admitted to bail in the sum of $100.

William Johnson, a negro, was convicted of stealing a watch and some clothing from another negro named Samuel Johnson.

Daniel Henry was acquitted of a charge of stealing a pocket-book, containing five dollars, from Thomas Renfry.

Lizzie Frank was found guilty of an assault and battery on Mary Proctor.

John Chain, colored, pleaded guilty to an information accusing him of stealing a quantity of wearing apparel from Charles Lavender.

In the case of James Croghan, accused of assault and battery on one Speyerer, the district attorney entered *nolle prosequi*.

RECORDER NEVILLE'S COURT.—James McGeehan was sent to the Parish Prison for fifteen days, on a charge of stealing a pair of drawers valued at 75c., from the store of C. J. Dillon.

Mary Ryan, a lewd and abandoned woman, was mulcted in the sum of ten dollars and admonished to mend her course of life.

Nathan Davis, an important witness in the matter of the State against Coyle, charged with receiving stolen property, was sent to the Parish Prison in default of $500 bonds to answer for his appearance when the case is tried.

M. Coyle, the party alluded to above, is charged with having two stolen mules, the property of O. B. Wagner and his partner, in his possession. The case is fixed for the 11th.

William Gibson, colored, who had charged Thomas Harrod, colored, with assaulting, cutting and wounding him, was fined $10 for withdrawing the charge.

RECORDER GASTINEL'S COURT.—Nothing of public interest transpired in Recorder Gastinel's court yesterday.

RECORDER LETTEN'S COURT.—M. Michel appeared before Recorder Letten yesterday to answer a charge of having stolen property in his possession. A few days since some silver and plated ware was stolen from Joseph Israel, corner of Enghein and Greatmen streets. A silver-plated pitcher was found in the possession of the accused, at his residence on Levee street, near St. Ferdinand. The case was continued and Michel was allowed to give bail. Wm. Brooks and Wm. Peterson were arrested as the parties who stole the pitcher.

Barbarism in Illinois.

THE SHELBY COUNTY POOR FARM—A SICKENING PICTURE OF VICE, RUFFIANISM AND IGNORANT BRUTALITY.

[From the Decatur (Ill.) Magnet, Jan. 29.]

A committee was lately appointed by the Shelby county supervisors to examine and inquire into the condition of the Poor Farm. The committee was accompanied by the editor of the Commercial, who draws a ghastly and revolting picture of the horrid sights witnessed in that institution. It has been an abode of woe, famine and torture, the unfortunate inmates suffering slow, miserable deaths! They were found huddled together like beasts in a filthy shed, freezing and starving! During the examination a half idiot boy was found with black and frozen feet, (mortification had set in,) owing to the insufficiency of clothing and shelter; the snow and sleet beat upon his bed—the blankets were too short and thin to cover his feet, and they were frozen! The catalogue of horrors enumerated is enough to sicken the reader, and make him wonder if we really live in the humane and enlightened nineteenth century. The stolid, brutal wretch who thus commits these crimes upon his helpless victims is richly deserving of the gallows, and every believer in righteous retribution will only regret that the rack and thumbscrew of the middle ages cannot be revived, so that the unnatural monster might be adequately and fitly punished.

The following fearful summing up of charges we transfer to our columns, in the hope that the pious and benevolent people of Central Illinois will perceive that missionary work is of far more urgent need here in our own midst than among the cannibals or Hottentots:

"The paupers are fed on coarse corn bread, fat pork, and rye coffee; no butter, milk, nor sugar. Sick or well, the diet is the same. Their washing is done by a crazy pauper, named Eliza Jane Tilley, who also waits on the table and washes the dishes. Her filthy practices in performing these duties are of such a disgusting nature that decency compels us to withhold them. The neighbors have seen her two-thirds nude, standing at the wash-tub in front of Price's house, and before his family and the other paupers. She has but one ragged dress—nor have any of the female paupers a change of clothing. Up to a short time ago the male and female paupers have mingled indiscriminately, day and night, in the one shed we spoke of. Upon several occasions a beastly pauper named Webster and the idiot girl Tilley were discovered * * * A pauper named William Johnson, a thin, sickly, emaciated boy, was cruelly beaten with a large stick, a few days ago, by the keeper's wife, upon a very trifling provocation.

"Blackguardism, profanity and rowdyism is the daily programme of the Shelby County Poor Farm.

"No preacher of the Gospel has ever been called there, no religious devotions have ever been held there; the dead are buried without ceremony there; and, reader, go there, if you would find a hell on earth; go there, if you would learn the details of the most damnable, blackening shame that ever disgraced any community.

"A few weeks ago a half-crazed girl named Lizzie Watkins, died, and in a new shroud which came down only to her knees, was put in a coffin and carted down to the woods, buried beside the road, and her grave covered with brush. No religious ceremonies were performed, no slab shows her resting place, and over it and around it graze the cattle, and wallow the hogs, which roam at large through the forest.

"We could disclose many more disgraceful facts, but forbear for the present.

"The above is so true that thirteen witnesses stand ready to substantiate it on oath."

SLEIGH RIDING.—Hinsdale, N. H., bears off the palm in sleigh riding. Westmoreland proposed to send to that town a party surpassing in numbers, weight, and pretty ladies all that the latter could produce in return; and fifty couple turned out to enforce the challenge. Hinsdale responded on Friday with one hundred and thirty-four couple, drawn by one hundred and fifteen horses in sixty-nine single sleighs, seventeen double, and three four-in-hands, making their procession a mile long, headed by their brass band. They were met at the town line and escorted into Westmoreland by a cavalcade. Hinsdale's heaviest man weighed ninety pounds more than the heavy weight of the opposite party, and that town was also awarded the palm for pretty ladies. Wherefore Hinsdale is jubilant.—[Springfield Republican, 27th.

PRURIENT PUBLICATIONS IN BOSTON.—The Boston correspondent of the New York Times says: "Within a stone's throw, almost, of Cornhill, where religious tracts, Sunday school books and a dozen denominational newspapers are published, there is issued weekly one of the most sensational sheets in the country; and to judge by the very large edition it throws off, one would think that a prurient curiosity had entirely absorbed the reading community. The toleration of this sort of 'information,' overflowing with voluptuous illustrations and other designs calculated to gratify the sensual eye, is to be wondered at, notwithstanding our clergymen denounce it every Sabbath from the pulpit. Those show windows that attract the largest crowds are filled with this stuff, and, to the shame of the sex, among its regular patrons are young girls and old women, who, if they do not purchase it publicly, secure it clandestinely. The proprietor of one of these sheets pays to a single artist $6000 a year for designs. How much he pays his 'subjects' is another matter entirely. The prurient publications here stare the religious press out of countenance. The rising generation is certainly being treated to immoral 'impressions.'"

ORGANIZING.—The Baton Rouge Advocate says: "The mass meeting to be held next Saturday will, it is expected select a parish central committee and delegates to the Democratic State convention. A large attendance is expected from the country."

Ralph Waldo Emerson is a free-trader.

IMPORTANT ORDER FROM GEN. HANCOCK.

Members of the City Council Removed for Contempt of Military Orders.

NEW APPOINTMENTS.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH MILITARY DISTRICT, New Orleans, La., Feb. 7, 1868.

[Extract.]

Special Orders No. 28.]

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4. For proceeding to hold an election for recorder of the Second District, city of New Orleans, in contempt of orders from these headquarters, the following members of the Boards of Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen, of the city of New Orleans, who voted for the resolution, (military appointments) are hereby removed, viz: Jas. Graham, F. E. Dumas, Jno. R. Clay, of the Board of Aldermen; and A. Mary, S. Thesan, O. J. Dunn, S. Straight, B. F. Joubert, C. S. Sauvinet, of the Board of Assistant Aldermen.

J. N. Lea, Robt. J. Watson, Guy Duplantier, are hereby appointed members of the Board of Aldermen; and Williamson Smith, George Urquhart, J. H. Moore, P. H. Morgan, Chas. Laumont, J. S. Whitaker, appointed members of the Board of Assistant Aldermen.

J. H. Oglesby is appointed a member of the Board of Assistant Aldermen, in place of C. L. Gumbel, resigned.

Upon accepting these appointments, the above named persons will transmit to these headquarters a copy of the oath prescribed by law.

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By command of Major Gen. Hancock:

Official: GEO. L. HARTSUFF, Assistant Adjutant General.

Amusements.

THE OPERA.—To-night is subscription night at the Opera House, and besides, "If I were King," one of the charming composer, Adams, best inspirations, will be performed. Although a comic opera, there is little speech in "If I were King," and it abounds in melodies which deserve the highest place in music. This opera will be sung by Lambélé, Damiani, Lechavalier, and others of the opera troupe. The fashion of the city will be present on this occasion, and as there are few seats not taken, we would advise all who are desirous of witnessing a fine musical conception, and beautiful *chambree*, to call early at the box office and secure seats. After the performance the third of the *bals de l'opera* will take place. On Sunday, a fine spectacle will be presented, consisting of the admirable drama of "Don Cæsar de Bazan," and the side splitting musical criticism of "La Belle Hélène," by Offenbach, instead of "Le Rosen," as previously announced.

LOTTI'S GRAND GERMAN OPERA.—It was a pleasing sight to see the National Theater again filled last evening upon the occasion of the first representation in this city of Flotow's sweet effusion, "Stradella," in which Mr. Himmer, the tenor, once more displayed his excellent qualities as a singer and actor. The *Leonore* of M'lle Clara Lang was all that could be expected. Her pure and sympathetic voice several times brought down the house and a few bouquets. Messrs. Anton Graff as *Malvolio*, Steinecke as *Barbarino* and Weinlich as *Bassi*, gave new evidences that they are conscientious and good singers. There will be no operatic performance at this theater to-night. On Sunday, "Der Frieschutz," probably the immortal Carl Von Weber's masterpiece, will be sung by the best talent of Mr. Lotti's company. New scenceries will add to the attraction of the occasion.

ST. CHARLES.—Dan Bryant, the excellent Irish comedian, whose truthful and comical personations place him so high among those who now occupy the American stage, had but a small attendance at his benefit last night. Personally and professionally, he was entitled to the compliment of a full house. The eccentricities of "O'Rafferty," however, both in his original Celtic character and in his garb of an Italian count, could not have been better delineated, and his songs were admirably rendered, to the intense gratification of his audience, who *encored* them, all without exception. Miss Hattie Vallée's "Cachuca" was also repeated at the request of the house. To-night Dan Bryant will appear in "Shams O'Brien," and we hope the public will not *shame-us* on the occasion by showing so little interest in "Dan," who is one of the best delineators of Irish character on the stage; and such an actor, who can crowd Wallack's capacious theater in New York, nightly, whenever he appears, should be better encouraged in New Orleans, where the stage is usually so well appreciated, and where the people always "see the players well bestowed." As "Dan" cannot go and see all the people separately, all the people together should go and see "Dan."

VARIETIES.—Jefferson had his last benefit for this engagement, at the Varieties last evening, and if a "house" is any indication of popularity, he ought to leave New Orleans with feelings of pride and satisfaction. There was hardly a "vacant chair," and the audience was merry and enthusiastic as any *artiste* could wish. The actors and actresses seemingly partook of the general feeling, and never acted with more spirit. In the first piece, entitled "Woodcock's Little Game," Jefferson kept the audience in a roar of laughter, as also in his great burlesque part of "Mazeppa." He was equally happy in the character of *Dickory*, in "The Spectre Bridegroom," of which we have spoken before. Mr. Jefferson's engagement has been a highly successful one, as usual, wherever he appears, and we shall part with him with regret. To-night he appears in his greatest character, *Rip Van Winkle*, and as it is his last appearance in this city, he will of course have a full house.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—There was a large and apparently appreciative attendance, delighted with the many and various attractions offered at this place of amusement last evening. The performances, however diversified, went off as usual without any flaw, and the performers, animated with a commendable spirit of rivalry, tried to surpass each other in their different spheres of acting, singing and dancing. Billy Emerson and Harry Bloodgood are excellent delineators of the negro character, and their songs, like the Clinetop's terpsichorean performances, Miss Addie St. Clair's songs and the Miaco Brothers' *volantes en ario*, were all warmly applauded by the house. Speaking of Bloodgood, it is but justice to say that he is growing more popular, and will make "his mark" whenever he has the opportunity. He was *encored* three times last evening—a fair indication that the public know his merits. The *finale* of "Arrah-na-Pogue" is a very amusing and interesting burlesque well worth seeing. No changes of any importance in the bill for to-night.

CRESCENT CITY MUSEUM.—Those passing down St. Charles street, toward Canal, cannot have failed being attracted by the display of many colored flags and paintings adorning the exterior of a building directly opposite the St. Charles Hotel. To the few who may as yet be ignorant of the fact, we would state that within the building aforesaid are collected ten thousand curiosities of all kinds, brought from all lands, and claiming the inspection of all lovers of the wonderful. The Museum is open daily from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M.

GENTLEMEN CONNOISSEURS, BEWARE.—If, after a good meal, you feel that a fine Havana cigar will promote digestion, go to our friend J. Guma, 155 Common street, who will sell you a genuine Havana for ten cents. He is now offering to his friends and the public 35,000, at this price, and to the smoking community we say that to give Mr. Guma a trial, is to surrender yourself to the delights of dreamland, a state of beatitude, during these hard times, much to be desired.

A young widow is the keeper of a restaurant in Paris, and being of prepossessing appearance, she had plenty of admirers among her customers, and, indeed, makes no secret of her intention to take another husband when a good offer should be made. One of her waiters, named Apollinaire aspired to that situation, and recently ventured to address to her a letter making a formal proposal, and in which he said that a refusal would be his death. The only answer he received was a summary dismissal from his employment. A few evenings ago he suddenly presented himself before his late mistress while she was seated at the comptoir, saying: "I told you that you would be the cause of my death; I shall die on the scaffold." He took a pistol from his pocket, and pointing it at the woman, drew the trigger, but fortunately the arm missed fire. The man was immediately secured and handed over to the police.

Fifty dollars! Sloat elliptic sewing machine triumphant. Highest premium Louisiana State Fair. For sale 87 Canal street.

One hundred and fifty thousand dollars worth of dried fruit—apples, peaches, plums and blackberries—have been sent North from Forsyth county, N. C., this season.

Grant, Stanton and the President.

QUESTION OF VERACITY BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND GEN. GRANT.

The Issue Squarely Presented.

Correspondence Between Gen. Grant and the President.

Washington dispatches of the 4th, to the Western press have the following:

The speaker laid before the House to-day a communication from the war department, inclosing the following document:

"WAR DEPARTMENT, Feb. 4, 1868.

"*Sir*—In answer to the resolution of the House of Representatives, of the 3d, I transmit herewith copies furnished me by General Grant, of the correspondence between him and the president, relating to the secretary of war, which he reports to be all the correspondence he has had with the president on the subject. I have had no correspondence with the president since the 12th of August last.

"After the action of the Senate on his alleged reasons for my suspension from the office of secretary of war, I have resumed the duties of that office, as required by the acts of Congress, and have continued to discharge them without any personal or written communication with the president. No orders have been issued from this department in the name of the president, with my knowledge, and I have received no orders from him.

"The correspondence sent herewith embraces all the correspondence known to me on the subject referred to in the resolution of the House of Representatives.

"I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

"EDWIN M. STANTON,
"Secretary of War."

"Hon. Schuyler Colfax, Speaker of the House of Representatives."

GENERAL GRANT TO THE PRESIDENT.

"HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF UNITED STATES, Washington, D. C., Jan. 25, 1868.

"His Excellency Andrew Johnson, President of the United States:

"*Sir*—On the 24th instant, I requested you to give me in writing instructions which you had previously given me verbally, not to obey any order from Hon. E. M. Stanton, secretary of war, unless