

The New Orleans Crescent.

TURDAY MORNING, MARCH 28, 1898. Cotton Against Corn.

Our contemporary of the Natchitoches Times has an answer to a recent paragraph in the Crescent, on the above subject, and as we are sure willing that both sides of a question should be submitted, we have pleasure in printing reply:

The Crescent takes up to task for urging so much upon our planters the one and to plant more corn. It says we are 'too here,' and adds: 'If a man can make more money by planting than corn—or, if he has a reasonable expectation of making more in clear his land in plant cotton. It has been entirely too much on political economy about this thing cotton and corn. Let every man do what he can will advance his own interests and the interests of Louisiana.'

Now what we say may appear to be very unpolitical economy to a resident of New Orleans, but during the gathering seasons of 1866 and 1867 there were very few in this region who did not have sustained in a very common and public. But the fault of the planters is that they cling to the idea of cotton contrary to all as to experience under existing circumstances. In the grand central idea around which all their efforts of wealth revolve, it is a relic of the past, based wholly upon the experience of antebellum days, when cotton, as a remunerative crop, could be relied on. The experience of the 30 years just past had shaken their faith, but it is as if revived under the recent advances in the great staple.

We do not set up our opinion above that of all the planting community. If they insist upon planting cotton, let them do so. If they make any more shall rejoice more than ourselves. If a great disaster of 1865, 1866 and 1867—the situation of the army worm—is repeated in 1898, no seems probable, the whole country will succumb to the most pitiable condition. Therefore we have urged upon them, and do yet urge them, the folly of a reliance upon the single product of cotton. It has many enemies, all of which have increased astonishingly late. It will do to rely wholly on cotton. It is too uncertain in its market and too risky in its production, liable to failure—and certainly not on one which highly probable.

We preached sorghum, castor bean, castles, malt grain, grazing, and every conceivable industry in a diversity of crops and pursuits. We are firmly convinced that the South will never prosper under any one idea in agriculture. It is the duty of the Southern press to lead the people, in possible, into various pursuits. All men have a right to be engaged in the pursuit of a single industry. General prosperity will be attained, and our country, self-reliance and self-sustaining, will begin the true reconstruction—that of material interests.

What we desire, and what we shall contend for until experience proves the utter futility of the present, is a diversity of crops and pursuits. We are firmly convinced that the South will never prosper under any one idea in agriculture. It is the duty of the Southern press to lead the people, in possible, into various pursuits. All men have a right to be engaged in the pursuit of a single industry. General prosperity will be attained, and our country, self-reliance and self-sustaining, will begin the true reconstruction—that of material interests.

The New Constitution.

[From the Natchitoches Times.] The black and tan convention, lately in session at New Orleans, have at last wrapped their banting in swaddling clothes and sent it forth to receive the oscillatory salutations of its thick-lipped adherents and the occasional congratulations of its fair ally loyal white-skinned gentlemen of the African persuasion. It is a beauty in some respects. It looks more like a child than any monkey we ever saw. It is an admirable specimen of what is called a hybrid. We expected a hybrid, but here we have the pure and unadulterated African. No wonder the decent men in the convention protested against it. The nauseated stomach cannot stomach its retrograde action, and if there is not enough emetic in this Constitution to sicken any white man, we know but little of the political pharmacopoeia.

If anything was needed to prove to the moderate men of the Republican party that they should prevent the ascendancy of negro ideas while they have the supreme control of State affairs, this Constitution is simply sufficient. Those who have entered that party willing to sacrifice everything for the cause of a course of anything about it as long as the hope of political preferment remains. Social equality prevails in a provision, and it is to be enforced by statute. At all hotels, theaters, on steamboats and in cars, in every place of public character, there shall be no distinction or discrimination on account of race or color. All public schools are to be opened to children of all races—Indians, negroes and whites are to form the same classes in all the schools of the Louisiana State University, and the Law, Medical and Theological University at New Orleans; and the General Assembly is prohibited from establishing separate institutions of learning exclusively for any race.

Three-fourths of the stockholders in capital shall have the power to vote on any objection to the constitution. If a man has a perfect social equality with any African he takes a fancy to. He can invite them to dinner, sleep with his children to school with them, or do whatever he pleases to show his love for his favorite color. But we imagine that very few will do these things. It may be prejudice, or it may be pride—but the feeling of aversion to a perfect social equality with the blacks is inherent in our nature, and may be called an instinct. It exists everywhere, and has existed throughout all time. We cannot stifle it. The very white men who voted to enforce this equality by statute feel that they have an objection to it.

Mr. Valery Ledoux has been nominated for parish judge in Avoyelles. Persons who are entitled to register would do well to make application immediately for registration, as the office will be closed in a few days at the Court House in Marksville. It is absolutely necessary that our friends throughout this parish who have failed to register should now do so promptly. Therefore, we say, come and register, without any further objection, and if there is not a full house in full bloom, promising a bountiful yield. It has been many years since an encouraging prospect was offered by Dame Nature to the people of this latitude.

The registration will be opened on 25th April, and continue five days. Let every white man register. General Hancock construes the reconstruction acts liberally (or rather justly), and many who were before denied registration will now be permitted to register.

The little steamer built at this place by our enterprising townsman, Mr. Ridley, will be completed in a day or two, and will run in connection with the St. Louis and New Orleans line. Beautiful, delightful spring weather, the whole of the past week, has been our inheritance. It was much needed by our planters, who are at least three weeks behind time, owing to the long continued rains that have opened in a few days. The fruit trees are in full bloom, promising a bountiful yield. It has been many years since an encouraging prospect was offered by Dame Nature to the people of this latitude.

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N. O. STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

CHARTER..... CHARTER NATIONAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY. CHARTER..... CHARTER NEW ORLEANS STEAMSHIP COMPANY. CHARTER..... CHARTER

Be it known, that on this eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and of the independence of the United States the thirty-second, before me, Edward J. Ryan, a justice public in and for the City and Parish of New Orleans, State of Louisiana, a duly sworn, legal and approved notary public, and duly qualified, and approved the parties hereto named and subscribed, who severally swore and affirmed that they were the true and lawful owners of the property and the status of the State of Louisiana relative to the organization of corporations in this State, they have consented and agreed to the following articles, covenants, and conditions, and those whom they represent to form themselves into a corporation, and to be known as the NATIONAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY, and to be organized, with valuable franchise conferred by a recent act of Congress, for the purpose of establishing TRUST LINES OF TELEGRAPH ON all the principal railroads and mail routes in the United States. The Stock to be issued upon the same principle as that of the Merchants' Union Express Company, which recently commenced operations. The design is to interest the entire business community in the enterprise. This is done, not so much to dispose of the Stock as it is to secure, the best of the country through which the lines pass.

The Capital to be paid in cash is \$10,000,000.

The affairs of said Company shall be under the direction and management of Edward Higgins, who may at any time have the privilege of associating with him one or more persons from among the stockholders of the Company, subject to the approval of the Board of Control, who shall act as a Board of Agents to assist in transacting the business of said Company.

ARTICLE V. The regular meetings of the stockholders of the Company shall be held annually, commencing on the first Tuesday in February 1899, at which meeting a majority in capital shall choose five of their number to serve as Directors for the ensuing year, who shall constitute the Board of Directors, and shall have the right to elect a Chairman and entitled to one vote on all matters brought before it; and until the election of Directors as aforesaid, the said Edward Higgins, or his assigns, shall constitute the Board of Control, who shall have the right to elect a Chairman and entitled to one vote on all matters brought before it; and until the election of Directors as aforesaid, the said Edward Higgins, or his assigns, shall constitute the Board of Control, who shall have the right to elect a Chairman and entitled to one vote on all matters brought before it.

ARTICLE VI. The Board of Control shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the said Board is hereby invested, with full power to frame and adopt such by-laws, rules and regulations as they may deem proper and necessary for the Company and the transaction of its business, provided, the same shall not conflict with the true intent and spirit of the Act of Incorporation, or with the laws of this State. And in the temporary absence of the Chairman or any Director, the Board of Control shall have the right to elect a Chairman and entitled to one vote on all matters brought before it.

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INSURANCE.

LOUISIANA MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY. FOURTEENTH ANNUAL STATEMENT.

In conformity with the requirements of their Charter the Company publish the following statement: For the year ending 31st Dec. 1897. Amount of premiums for the year ending 31st Dec. 1897, \$268,932 47

On Fire Risks..... \$108,471 52 On Marine Risks..... 63,909 94 On other Risks..... 96,550 91

Less unearned premiums..... 40,145 90 Net Earned Premiums..... \$228,786 57

Less Reserve for Unpaid Losses..... \$107,519 72 Retained for 1897..... 120,266 85

Net earned premiums 31st Dec. 1897, \$121,266 85

Losses paid during the year, viz: On fire risks..... \$108,471 52 On marine risks..... 63,909 94 On other risks..... 96,550 91

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Less reserve for unpaid losses..... 40,145 90 Net earned premiums 31st Dec. 1897, \$121,266 85

Losses paid during the year, viz: On fire risks..... \$108,471 52 On marine risks..... 63,909 94 On other risks..... 96,550 91

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INSURANCE.

SUN MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY. TWELFTH ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE AFFAIRS.

Amount of premiums for the year ending 31st Dec. 1897, \$108,471 52

On Fire Risks..... \$108,471 52 On Marine Risks..... 63,909 94 On other Risks..... 96,550 91

Less unearned premiums..... 40,145 90 Net Earned Premiums..... \$228,786 57

Less Reserve for Unpaid Losses..... \$107,519 72 Retained for 1897..... 120,266 85

Net earned premiums 31st Dec. 1897, \$121,266 85

Losses paid during the year, viz: On fire risks..... \$108,471 52 On marine risks..... 63,909 94 On other risks..... 96,550 91

Less reserve for unpaid losses..... 40,145 90 Net earned premiums 31st Dec. 1897, \$121,266 85

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Losses paid during the year, viz: On fire risks..... \$108,471 52 On marine risks..... 63,