

The New Orleans Crescent.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

G. O. NIXON, Editor and Proprietor.

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SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 3, 1888.

See Supplement.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

NEW OPERA HOUSE—Benefit of M. and Mrs. Gravier.

Opera in five acts and ten tableaux "La Dame de Monrovia."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Dramatic and Variety Entertainments.

New stars—Zigzag Drill—Songs, ballets, dramatic exercises, burlesques, etc.

GEN. S. B. BUCKNER—The Louisville Courier.

The many friends in Kentucky of this peerless gentleman and accomplished soldier will be gratified to hear that he has determined to resume his residence in Louisville, and it affords us no little pleasure to announce to the readers of the Courier that they are hereafter to have the benefit of his brilliant and scholarly pen.

Ever since the close of the war Gen. Buckner has resided and transacted business in New Orleans, although he all the while retained his citizenship in Louisville.

So soon as he can close his business South, which will be within a few weeks, he will return here with his family and at once assume his duties in the editorial rooms of the Courier, to which paper he will thereafter give his entire time and attention.

The readers of the Crescent, during the few months succeeding its revival, can bear witness that the encomiums bestowed on Gen. Buckner by the Courier, are well merited.

We congratulate that paper on its good fortune in securing the services of so brilliant and versatile a pen as that which is wielded by our former associate.

New Orleans regrets to lose Gen. Buckner, but our loss will be the gain of our Kentucky friends.

The man who has done more for the State of Louisiana abroad during the past two months than any of her sons could or would have done under the same difficulties—Mr. Edward Gottlieb—is on his way home, and we can expect in a day or two. It is well known that he was sent as chief commissioner to the great Paris Exposition; but it is not as well known that he has labored day and night for the best interests of Louisiana and her citizens.

We shall be glad to welcome him home, as doubtless all others will, who feel any pride or interest in the welfare of our State; and we will also be pleased to hear from Monsieur G.'s own lips, in public, an account of what he has seen and heard, and what he has accomplished for us during his long sojourn in France.

Professor A. F. Selover, who justly claims to be the "champion card-writer," and who is so well known in this community, still maintains his high reputation, as we have been convinced by specimens of his skill with which he has furnished us. He declares that he can furnish cards more cheaply and more elegantly written than any of his rivals. Try him; he is to be found at the corner of St. Charles and Gravier streets—Hawkins' branch.

EXCURSIONS ON THE RIVER.—This warm weather gives additional interest to the announcement made in another column that to-day, and every Sunday hereafter until further notice, the fast and comfortable steamer A. G. Brown will make excursion trips from the foot of Canal street to Carrollton, leaving at 1, 3 and 5 o'clock, and returning at 2, 4 and 7 o'clock, touching both ways at the Stock Landing, Washington street, Gretna, Jackson street and all other accessible wharves, when desired. To breathe the fresh air, feel the fresh, cool breeze, view at a glance the city and suburbs, and, above all, enjoy for awhile a freedom from the dust and noise of the crowded streets, are certainly attractions enough to tempt one on these pleasant Sunday afternoons.

The subject of life insurance is one to which we cannot too frequently call the attention of our readers. The means it affords the man of family in moderate circumstances to provide for his family in the event of death, and the security and profit it gives as a safe investment, should be inducements to all to avail themselves of its advantages. The Louisiana Equitable Life Insurance Company lately started here under the most favorable auspices presents peculiar and very great advantages to the assured. It is a home company; its stockholders, directors and officers are composed of gentlemen ranking among our best and most responsible citizens, and we cannot do better than to recommend it in every respect to the public.

CALVARY CHURCH, FORTIANA STREET, BETWEEN FIFTH AND SIXTH—Rev. D. S. Lewis, Rector.—Services on Sunday at 11 A. M. and 5 P. M. The Rev. Dr. Goodrich will preach this morning.

"Not for Josie!" is the title of a song to be sung by Miss Jennie Engle, at the Academy, on Tuesday evening, and a copy of which has been left upon our table.

THE NIGGER AND THE HEN-ROOST.—A Washington correspondent who has been on a visit to Arlington Heights, says:

A friend who accompanied me had heard of a bargain in real estate on the hill-top above Jackson city, and we went up to look at it. There were four acres of land and a two and a half-story house, habitable but modest, for \$1000, cash. For \$300 more an entire lot, well preserved, could be purchased, adjoining the property.

Around the house some luscious silver poplars and maple grew. A good well, a garden and an unsurpassed view of the Capital City were among the advantages. Part of the land, freshly plowed, showed rich black at the base of the fort. It certainly was a cheap property, on Arlington Heights, and only one mile from Washington.

We asked the tenant if the negroes of the neighboring village troubled him. "The sight of 'em troubles me!" said this last family. "Dog dh 'em! I do hate a free nigger! As to stealing, if that's what you mean, they steal nothing much but the chickens."

"Then they do take poultry?"

"It's my belief," said the solitary tenant, "that there'll have to be chickens in a future state for the nigger. Heaven will not be heaven to him without hen coops. 'Pears to me that the chickens know him. They never cackle where a nigger comes. They roost low on his night. It's a sign to this 'nt, gentlemen, that in the State of Virginia nobody but a nigger can afford to eat chickens in five years! The whole adm't will be his speciality and monopoly. Chicking will be to a white family what pork is to a Jew."

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THE WEALTHY CLASS.

Avarice is a very useful servant, but a very depressing and emaciating master. A certain play of the acquisitive and preservative propensities is alike indispensable to a healthy and vigorous individuality and to a healthy and vigorous social organization. For both individuals and communities it furnishes the concrete basis of visible unity and continuity in life, character and purpose. Selfishness, in this sense, is a duty, for it is identical with the principle of self-preservation. And selfishness, in the sense of the utter suppression of the avaricious instinct, merges into vice; for it lays existence open to dissolution, and violates that loyalty to self which, as profoundly construed by the great dramatist, includes all other loyalties and excludes the possibility of falsehood "to any man." No one has a right to be poor, in the sinister acceptance of the word, if he can honestly be well off. Poverty that is honestly avoidable, is dishonest. Every man owes it to himself, to those whom nature or fortune makes dependent upon him, and to society which must feed its drones as well its producers, to acquire and preserve a substantial competency. Within these limits avarice is a virtue, and wealth a positive utility and blessing.

It is the pursuit of wealth, as the summum bonum of existence, which has been justly stigmatized, in both ancient and modern satire, as one of the capital vices. Widely spread, it impoverishes the spirit, and enfeebles the manhood, not only of the rich, but of those who abstractly worship the Almighty Dollar; rendering the one class mean and suspicious, and the other class mean and obsequious. And if all should worship this god on the same plane of universal opulence, the catastrophe that would follow is happily described by a Southern author of talent and promise, when he says: "Wealth is like the right of suffrage—make it universal, and mankind would start to the devil at lightning speed, and increase their velocity in ratio with the distance to their stopping place."

Laying aside these general reflections, it is to be remarked that one of the most curious, and perhaps the most ominous, phenomena connected with political and social conditions in the United States, is the general self-estrangement of the wealthy class of the country. A writer in a Northern magazine shows, by the statistics of taxable property owned in New York by Wm. B. Astor and nine others, that these ten men possess one tenth of the wealth of that city. The total valuation of their New York estates is \$51,565,500, while the whole taxable property of the city is valued at \$555,442,012. This estimate takes no account of property which they own outside of the city, and which in the case of Mr. Astor alone would swell his entire real estate to not less than sixty millions of dollars. Not one of these wealthy men discharge, or have ever sought to discharge any important public functions. Scarcely one of them is ever heard of in connection with political movements and struggles. And yet they are not inactive. They are powers, and within their sphere are constantly growing more powerful. In the words of a New York journal: "Most of these rich men grow in wealth in every year. Probably no one of them spends half his income; probably few of them spend more than ten per cent. The remainder is reinvested, and in the greater number of cases, in real estate. Thus half of the ten are, bit by bit, picking up New York; as a famous Mississippiian once said, they like New York, and mean to buy it."

But it is the custom of these men of vast and progressive accumulations to live retired from the public eye. This retirement has become with them, intentionally or unintentionally, a mark of caste. They take pride in avoiding official life. They shun popular information and social ameliorations, the lives of these men are negative and sordid. The journal before quoted only indicates a part of the unimproved possibilities of their wealth when it says:

Suppose these ten took it into their heads to destroy the present crooked and debasing tenement-house system; without touching their principal, they could raise more than half their incomes to the purpose, they could in five years adorn the city with stately rows of healthful and well arranged tenement houses, and make decent and comfortable the lives of the working men and women of New York; and it is probable that in doing so they would double their wealth. Or suppose these ten wished to reform the city government, to break down the ring whose watchfulness and corruption every year drive the best citizens into the suburbs, and by a law of selection fatal to our future, more and more leaves in New York only the very rich and the very poor—will any man doubt that they could secure an economical and efficient administration, clean streets, clean rooms—for rents rise with the increase of taxes—every comfort to which so great a society as this is entitled for the taxes it pays?

This picture is noteworthy, for it applies with more or less force to the same class of men in all the other great cities of the United States, not excepting New Orleans. No one thinks of going to them for active assistance when important public enterprises are projected. It is men of moderate means, men in prosperous business perhaps, but not of wealth stored beyond the fluctuations of trade, upon whom such enterprises usually depend for successful prosecution. It would seem, indeed, to be the accepted American theory that, wealth once safely established, it is the supreme duty of its possessors to hold fast to it, and watch its growth for all the rest of their days; brooding over it forever, like so many griffins watching subterranean treasures. We have said that there was something ominous in the general abstention of the wealthy men of the country from various public activities. It is not altogether the result of self-estrangement. They have suspected the existence in popular opinion of a latent hostility to their caste—a vague sentiment, lying in the silent thoughts of the masses, like a sword in its scabbard, "that the possession of extraordinary wealth is a kind of wrong to the community." The suspicion that this American translation of the socialist dogma of Proudhon that "property is robbery" lurks in the politics of this country, has made them fearful of these politics, and anxious, in safe obscurity, to fortify their wealth by continually adding to it. They work in a vicious circle. At length they will be forced to face public responsibilities. The waves of the next revolution will dash against the inmost stronghold of their opulence; and they must manage to float upon them or go under. Perhaps they hope to be saved from this dilemma by siding, with the people, under a tranquil despotism erected on the ruins of republican government. Who knows?

THE CITY FINANCES.

Not long ago an article on the subject of the city finances appeared on the French side of our contemporary, the Bee, which attracted the attention of all thoughtful persons who had an opportunity to read it. It suggested a plan which, although not positively new, is certainly new in this country—a plan which is based on well ascertained principles of finance, and which brings to its aid, in order to assure success, an element hitherto entirely overlooked in all of our schemes for the redemption of the city credit. A translation of that article appears in the Crescent this morning. We hope that all of our readers will attentively peruse and consider it, and that they will not turn from it because the project to which it refers appears so different from anything which has heretofore been presented to them. It would be a great mistake to presume that because an enterprise wears the appearance of novelty, it must, necessarily, be chimerical, or, at least, empirical. If, indeed, our financial troubles could be cured by any of the familiar methods which have been so often tried, we should have little difficulty in solving the problem. It is precisely because we have no confidence in the methods with which we are familiar, and which we have tried, that we are compelled to resort to unfamiliar and untried expedients. What is necessary, is that any plan we may adopt shall be based on sound principles; and this, we are sure, is the case with the one now offered to the public. We may state, too, that it has already been tried, with complete success, in many European cities; and thus it has experience as well as theory to recommend it. In another article we shall take occasion to explain the project more fully. In the meantime we hope that no one will fail to read the translation which appears in this morning's Crescent.

NEW BOOKS.

A TRIP TO BRITISH HONDURAS, AND TO SAN PEDRO REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS, BY CHARLES SWETT, OF WAFFER COUNTY, MISS. New Orleans, Price Current. For sale by Geo. Ellis, opposite the Postoffice.

All who may contemplate visiting Honduras, either as commercial travelers or as settlers, will find in this volume much valuable information given in a clear and pleasant manner. After reading Mr. Swett's diary of his observations, and his general commentary, no one would go to Honduras and complain of disappointment. The volume will be sent by Mr. Ellis, free of postage, on receipt of \$1.

ABRAHAM PAPE, A Novel. Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1888. George Ellis, New Orleans, opposite the Post Office.

This is by a Southern author, Mr. John Holt of Natchez, Miss., and is much out of the beaten track of fiction, and is marked by ability much above that of ordinary novelists. Of the peculiar features of the work we shall speak more at length hereafter.

Order Discharging Boards of Registrars

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH MILITARY DISTRICT, OFFICE OF SECRETARY FOR CIVIL AFFAIRS, New Orleans, La., May 2, 1888. Circular No. 15.

The several boards of registrars in the parish of Orleans are hereby discharged. The registration books and other records pertaining thereto, in possession of boards in the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth wards, will be transferred to J. E. Scott, late chairman of board in the third ward.

Those in possession of boards for the first, second, third, tenth and eleventh wards will be transferred to Theo. A. James, late chairman of board in the tenth ward. The ballot-boxes and other public property will be transferred for safe keeping to the sheriff, who will be held responsible for their security.

In each case receipts will be taken and filed in the bureau of civil affairs at the headquarters. Those in possession of boards for the parish of Orleans, are hereby appointed special agents to complete the ward registration books and records, and will report to these headquarters for instructions.

By command of Brev. Maj.-Gen. BUCHANAN, B. S. KRUEGER, Secretary for Civil Affairs.

MURDER AND OUTRAGE.—A young man named Gilead and his sister, traveling in a two-horse wagon, had camped for the night on Saturday, in the upper edge of Tins county. They were soon after joined by two drunken men, who conducted themselves so badly as to force the young man and his sister to remove their camp half a mile further on, where they were again interrupted. They, to be entirely rid of their annoyance, they abandoned their wagon, and started to home not far off; but they had only advanced a few yards when they were ordered to halt, but not obeying the command, the young man was shot in the back of the neck, and instantly killed. The lady was then attacked, but obtaining protection by her cries for help, her assailant fled in the direction of Sulphur Springs, at which place they died the next day, and then proceeded to Black Jack Grove; but in a ravine near that place they were confronted by some men who had come in search of them to arrest them, and on their showing resistance, fired and killed the murderer, and severely wounded his accomplice. The dead man, (whose name we have not yet learned) was left lying in the road, and the other, Green, was taken to Sulphur Springs, where he has a brother in the grocery business.

DECEASED.

May 1st, 1888, Mr. LAWRENCE G. ALEXANDER, of Prince William county, Va., in the 64th year of his age. Buried Frederick, Va., and Galveston, Texas, papers of the latter place.

On Friday evening, May 1, at half past 9 o'clock, ROBERT LEE BAERINGER, aged two years and ten months, son of John L. Baeringer.

For Summer Wear.

Wholesale and Retail.

Cartwright & Warner's Celebrated GAUZE MEXIKO SHIRTS AND DRAWERS, all sizes and qualities, MEXIKO FINISH.

WHITE AND BROWN GAUZE COTTON, CROSS BARRED MUSLIN, and PLAIN COTTON UNDERSHIRTS, WHITE JEAN, MUSLIN AND LINEN DRAWERS, All sizes and qualities, and a full line of White, Brown and Gray Cotton and Linen Towels, very cheap.

A complete stock of Light, Heavy, Silk, and Rib Mixed Summer Gowns, Ties, Bats and Ribbons in endless variety. A new lot of those Champion Stripes SIX for NINE DOLLARS, just received at

S. N. MOODY'S, Shirt and Furnishing Goods Emporium, Corner Canal and Royal streets.

Six of those Flowing BOSOM SHIRTS, IN BOX, FOR NINE DOLLARS.

SIX fine full bosom SHIRTS, in box, for \$9. SIX small plaited linen bosom SHIRTS, in box, for \$9. SIX linen bosom SHIRTS, in box, for \$9. SIX extra large SHIRTS, in box, for \$9. Look at them in the window.

Corner of St. Charles and Canal streets, GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS EQUALLY CHEAP.

N.B.—No horse in this city can understand us.

LEIGHTON & HAYMAN, BOSONS.

Extra Long and Large SHIRTS; NIGHT SHIRTS and BOY'S SHIRTS; CUFFS and COLLARS to put on Shirts; Look at them in the window.

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LEIGHTON & HAYMAN, BOSONS.

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