

The New Orleans Crescent

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 30, 1867.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

NATIONAL Grand German Opera Company—Flower's opera, 'Martha'.

ST. CHARLES—Shakespeare's comedy 'Midsummer Night's Dream'.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Fairy Extravaganza 'Little Red Riding Hood'.

VARIETIES—Grand dramatic sensation, 'Lancashire Lass'.

ORCHES-TRA AND MENAGERIE—10 and 12 St. Charles street—Open from 8 A. M. to 10 P. M.

ON INSIDE PAGES—Second Page: Editorial Paragraphs, City Topics, Local Reports of Common Council, Louisiana Items.

Third Page: Party-First Congress, The Great Family Feud, Northern and Southern News, The Lynn Fire, Dead Between an Army Officer and P. Foreman.

Sixth Page: Official Proceedings of Board of Aldermen Saturday Night's Session.

Seventh Page: Financial and Commercial Reports.

Reports are filed in Washington of a breach between General Grant and a portion of the Radical members of Congress, growing out of the natural desire of the President elect to have the tenure of office act repealed, and the struggle against the repeal on the part of the friends of the Radical office-holders, to protect whom against the President was the true intent and meaning of the act. It is stated that Gen. Grant, with his own military mouth, has demanded the repeal of the act, and has sworn an extra military oath that it shall be repealed. Unlike his great military predecessor in the Presidency he has a multitude of friends to reward, and not a few enemies to punish, but the tenure act bars the way both to his beneficence and to his resentment. As the whole meaning of Radicalism may be summed up in the expressive formula 'tenure of office,' and as everybody in the party of any note either hopes to get an office, or wants to keep an office, a difference on a point which involves the whole question of keeping and getting office would be sure to lead to an irreparable breach between the 'ins,' represented by the restful congressmen, and the 'outs' under the 'general commanding our armies.' A sort of compromise between them is proposed, by which Congress is to pass the repealing bill, but too late for it to become a law in case President Johnson declines to act on it, a course of action on his part which is taken for granted. It is quite probable that when the Radical leaders chose Grant they did not give him credit for much perspicacity, but they must consider him little better than an idiot if they presume that he can be deluded by so transparent a pretense. The conflict meanwhile continues to grow more and more animated, and affords a very instructive commentary on 'truly loof' patriotism.

The Republican seems to approve the action of the city government in declining to receive city money any longer in payment of taxes; but it says that tax-payers, by resorting to the courts, may compel the city to receive these notes. We think that the Republican is mistaken. We do not believe that the courts would interfere to compel the city to adopt a course which would soon, if persevered in, make a city government impossible. Graver questions than the mere legal technicality to which the Republican refers underlie this subject, including questions which, if pressed upon the city, might prove, in their judicial solution, far more disastrous to the note-holders than a delay of a few months in providing some plan for the final redemption of the class of obligations under consideration. If the note-holders are wise they will shun the courts and trust to the generosity of the city.

Senator Kellogg, it is said, has prepared a bill for re-constructing the Mississippi levees, which he will introduce after the holidays. Let us see what our senator proposes doing in this matter, whether he is going to devote his time and attention to perennial denunciation and slander of his theoretical constituents, or whether he will try to serve the interests of the State which he is supposed to represent in Congress. The character of his levee bill will probably show some light on this subject.

'LETTERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.' This is the title of a volume of sketches and stories from the pen of Mr. H. S. Armstrong, of this city, published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. The style is easy and vivacious without being licentious in its freedom, and furnishes a fitting medium for a train of humorous fancies and amusing conceits. Altogether it is a readable book for the holidays, and has merits above the rather deprecatory significance of its title.

A musical and literary entertainment by the pupils of the Carnitz Institute takes place to-day at 8 P. M. It will afford us much gratification to be present at the exercises, in response to an invitation tendered.

Furniture and appurtenances saved from wreck of steamer Gen. Quitman, at auction this day, by Chas. T. Nash, auctioneer, at 11 o'clock A. M., at store of Messrs. Kennett & Bell, corner Front and Canal streets, will be sold without any limit or reserve whatever, all the furniture and appurtenances from wreck of said steamer, consisting in part of elegant brocade table sets, French piano mirrors, one square piano, extension and card tables, spring bottom chairs, chandeliers, feather pillows, a large lot of glassware and silver-plated ware, cutlery, castors, silver-plated water cooler, one large boat bell, two life-boats, and anchors. As this sale is positive, we would recommend dealers and other interested parties to attend. At same time, at mart, corner St. Charles and Perdido streets, an elegant assortment of furniture and sundries will also be sold.

ADVANTAGE OF BEING POOR.—A man never has any taxes to pay. He can sit down and laugh the assessor to scorn, and read off the big appropriations made by councils with a feeling of indescribable exhilaration.

A poor man can enjoy life. He lives in a rented house, and it needn't worry him any to see it burned, and his equanimity need not be disturbed if it burns down.

A poor man can repose in the bosom of his family, and know that there is no avoculous young man prowling around after any rich daughters.

Nobody wants the poor man to die; nobody is lying around in misery and impatience for him to die, so as to absorb his funds.

And, when a thing—no poor man is ever worried by debt, for nobody will ever trust him, and when he does so a greenback, he heartily enjoys it.

GRANT AND THE RINGS.

The illumination of Grant's silence is a fearful and wonderful thing to contemplate. We mean silence according to the conventional cant of the partisan idolaters and interpreters of this famous oracle with the cast iron head and the unresonant wooden tongue. But inexpressive he is not, unless he is totally without personal identity, and more of a myth than Hercules or Deucalion; unless, in a word, the daily telegrams emanating from Washington about his opinions and suggestions, his intentions and propensities, represent things which are no more tangible than moonshine, and no more real than the creatures of a German fable, or the liberty and philanthropy evolved from the triumph of the party of 'freedom' and of 'moral ideas.' Well, we prefer as yet to believe that he has a visible and individual existence, and that if not exactly human in the view of the transcendental funkyness which licks his military boots and kisses the skirts of his military coat, he is at least incarnate and anthropomorphic. Considering him in this light, we must say that, to all appearance, he is about the most communicative being who ever appeared in such a shape. Whether he communicates in articulate signs, vocal or written, it matters not. It is enough to know that he indicates, somehow, what he thinks and intends, or what he wishes the world to believe that he thinks and intends. And here is one of his latest indications: 'Dispatches hence (from Washington) say that Grant is determined to root out the whisky, railroad and other rings, even if he has to fill every civil office from the army or navy.' This statement, when well weighed, is positively amazing. The eye shrinks in terror from the picture of prospective labor and struggle which it reveals. Grant has before him in this reformatory campaign a contest compared to which that of Hercules with the hydra, or that of Apollo with the Python, was as simple, easy, and innocuous as the mock fight of a modern tournament, or a real set-to in logomachy between two Radical congressmen, after the chivalric and exquisite style of Donnelly and Washburne. It is almost incredible that he can have measured the strength of the enemy which he proposes to attack; an enemy whose shapes and weapons are infinite, whose name is Proteus. His great Odyssean namesake, it is true, conquered in a similar combat; but this was accomplished through the aid of a goddess. What god or goddess does our modern Ulysses, surnamed Hiram Simpson, expect to lack him in his meditated encounter with the awful TRINO, vulgarly known as the Ring? Not the goddess of Liberty, surely; for if there is any divinity particularly foreign to the epoch symbolized by Grant on the one hand, and by the Ring on the other, it is she. Indeed, there is but one divinity whose presence can be confidently expected in the arena of the coming combat—the almighty dollar himself; and that, beyond question, will be on the side of the TRINO. We are well aware of the unsatisfactory and tantalizing indefiniteness of this name for the terrible monster. But the fact is, its magnitude and multiplicity are such as to defy definition. We can do no more, at the utmost, than to faintly and distantly approximate to a description of it in words. The TRINO, be it known, is as comprehensive as the whole horizon of political affairs and secular activities; and it is as deep as perdition. The great difficulty is to know what it does not include; and yet without solving this difficulty to begin with, there is not the least hope of successfully assailing it. You must manage to stand outside of the countless convolutions of the monster, or you will be as impotent for offense, and as helpless for defense, as a young antelope in the embrace of a bon-constrictor. But where is the palpable and fixed fact, external to the Ring, which can afford you such a standpoint? If Grant knows where it is, then he has failed thus far, with all his indicativeness, to indicate it. Hence the Ring, apparently, comprises all things that come under contemporary observation in endless subdivisions which are themselves rings, and hence the fitness of the generic, though indefinite, appellation of TRINO which we have been constrained by the nature of the case to give it. All thoughts, all passions, all delights, whatever stirs amid the walks of men, minister to its pride, its insolence and its power. In these days, what is done, what can be done, outside of a ring? What is not done, what can not be done, inside of a ring? Echo answers what? It is clear, therefore, that, supposing present conditions to continue, Grant's threatened warfare against 'whisky, railroad, and other rings,' if we are to understand the phrase 'other rings' to be exhaustive of the category, is a foregone failure. It may be, indeed, that he has some suspicion of this, and that, despairing of his ability to conduct an exhaustive combat against rings in general, he will confine his ambition to making war upon a few rings in particular. This idea derives strength from the intimation that he is ready, if need be, to 'fill every civil office from the army and navy,' in order to 'root out the whisky, railroad and other rings.' It is obvious that, in this case, the contest would be one of rings against rings—the rings which should have their centers in the army and navy, against all those rings which are now supposed to have strongholds in the civil service. The final result of victory in a campaign, organized upon such a basis, may be easily divined. A military empire would swallow up or supplant all the rings, big and little. It would be, in fact, the TRINO; not less omnipotent, not less fearful perhaps, than ever; but much more simple, intelligible, and determinate, for it would have one visible center and a single head, and Grant would be its persouification.

We are indebted to some unknown friend for the Brazilian (Rio de Janeiro) Reflector of Nov. 25th, which announces the death, near that city, of Col. James Denford Porter, of Marengo county, Ala.

THE PROPOSED ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE ERIC AND THE CENTRAL.—The Sun says of the proposed adjustment between the Central and Erie Railroad: 'It contemplates an alliance of interests of the combined companies, both to be allowed secure and unbroken connection with the West, thus giving New York a wide and narrow gauge railroad to Chicago and St. Louis. In consideration of this arrangement, the pending suits against Vanderbilt are to be withdrawn or suffered to fall for want of prosecution, and no injunction shall be obtained against the New York Central scrip dividend. Vanderbilt withdraws his hostility to the Erie management, his financial operations and schemes for extension, and the two companies agree to conduct their respective roads as allies, both offensive and defensive. It is certain such a scheme of adjustment is now approaching perfection, and unless interrupted by unforeseen obstacles, will be perfected on or before the 1st of January.'

THE HANLONS ARE COMING.—This announcement is one to make our theater-goers pause, and give a good long thought to the matter. It is in our favor that these wonderful gymnasts have been here before, and then created such a sensation as has seldom been equalled by any performance whatever. They now come back improved by the travels that they have embraced all of Europe, and better, if such a thing were possible, than they were when they left us. They are accompanied by Pina, the Russian gymnast, a man whose talents in moving his action, compared to whom no leap seems to be too great, no feat too tremendous to be performed. We have before us hosts of testimonials to the wonderful strength and agility of the ladies appearing in their troupe. These wonderful gymnasts have been here before, and then created such a sensation as has seldom been equalled by any performance whatever. 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