New Orleans Republican.
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE UNITED STATES
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NEW ORLEANS

The Metis Disaster—Who is Responsible?

We reproduce a New York special from the St. Louis *Republican:*

Now that all the circumstances connected with the Metis disaster are known, the journals are less cautious in their criticisms of the conduct of her captain and officers, and the general verdict is that they were to blame. The tone of comment is as follows: The evidence thus far leaves the fault of the collision with the management of the Metis. A still more heinous neglect occurred after the vessels met. Immediate and thorough search should have been made for possible leaks. There was a partial examination, not by the captain, but by the mate and engineers, and they reported nothing of consequence. It was fully fifteen minutes after the collision before any one seemed to be aware that the Metis had a hole in her hull. The discoverer of this remarkable fact was the engineer. Where again was the captain? How does it happen that he, the highest responsible officer on board, left this all important fact to be found out at second or third hands? Had the leak been promptly discovered the Metis might be afloat to-day.

Mattresses and blankets could have been stuffed into the hole, and the leak partly stopped before it had gained too much headway, and, with the pumps going, she could have been kept from sinking and beached, like the Bristol. Another journal says the collision was the result of gross carelessness. After the disaster the officers and crew of the vessel behaved like cowards, and there was not the proper life-saving apparatus on board necessary to the safety of the passengers in case of an emergency. Hardy sailors, used to all winds and weather, expert swimmers, stole silently away from the sinking ship in the life-boat, and left poor weak women and helpless children to save themselves as best they could. The *Tribune* thinks that if Captain Barton was blameless in respect to the collision, his conduct afterward was reckless to the last degree. Whatever the official judgment may be, it will be impossible to persuade mankind that when the vessel was struck, only twenty minutes from shore, and was able to keep in motion, and obey her helm, for more than an hour afterward, every creature on board could not have been brought safely to land.

Interesting Revenue Question.

We reproduce the subjoined special to the St. Louis *Globe:*

WASHINGTON, September 2.—The State Department is engaged in an interesting correspondence over the question whether the cargo of tea bought by the Japanese vessel which arrived a week ago in San Francisco is to be charged or not with the ten per cent discriminating duty which lies against all imports brought on vessels of countries which discriminate in favor of their own shipping.

So far as known, this is the first native vessel from Japan that has ever entered a Western or European port. If this is so, no imports have ever been made into Japan for that government to make a favorable discrimination on Japan trades with China and other Asiatic countries, but it is not known whether there are any defined duties collected.

The matter involves two points: First, whether a country which has not had hitherto any foreign commerce of her own, or with the United States, is entitled to reciprocal tariff here without a formal declaration on her own part of non-discrimination.

Second—Whether Japan has or not given her people a special custom privilege in thus trading with the Asiatic countries, and which, if it be the case, involves the secondary question of whether they can or not, within the meaning of the clause found in all our Asiatic treaties relative to the favored nation.

Mr. Mori claims that Japan is entitled to the same privileges with all European and American nations, except Spain, with regard to Cuba, under our laws and treaties. We do not dispute this, but want the formal proof that no discrimination exists.

The Shreveport *Telegram* of Monday reports a fire in Minden:

We learn from a young gentleman just across from Minden by stage, and who witnessed the conflagration, that between the hours of one and two o'clock this morning a destructive fire occurred in Minden, which did serious damage to the town. It broke out in the back portion of the Webster House, destroying that building, and communicating with two storehouses on each side of it, destroying in all eight business houses. We learn from our informant that the following is supposed to be an estimate of the losses: Dr. H. McFarland, $1000; Messrs. John Hart, $4000; Gerrin, $6000; Archmard, $4000; T. B. Miller, $3000; J. W. Berry, $4000; J. W. Holmes, $3000; Isaac Murrell, $3000. The only insurance our informant could hear of was for $2500 upon the hotel of Mr. John Hart. We very much regret this calamity to the prosperous town of Minden.

The Vicksburg *Times* has this to say about the Pensacola and Ship Island railroad from Vicksburg to Mississippi City:

We learn that the contractors on the Pensacola and Ship Island railroad have suspended, or will very soon suspend, temporarily, the work of grading. This work has progressed so rapidly that they have kept close up with the engineer corps. The work being completed to Big Black, the line is not located beyond that point, and the work must necessarily be suspended for the present. We learn from the officers of the road, however, that work will be resumed at an early day. The officers and contractors of the road all seem confident that nothing is likely to occur to prevent the early completion of this end of the road. The entire completion of the entire line will depend largely upon the people in the counties through which the road is to pass.

The following dispatch was received at Shreveport Monday by the Board of Trade:

SAN DIEGO, August 31, 1872.

To the President of the Shreveport Board of Trade:

San Diego greets Shreveport. Our citizens ratify with acclamation and enthusiasm the terminal agreement.

THOMAS L. NESMITH.
President Citizens' Railroad Committee.

Colonel Lindsay, in response, sent the following telegram:

SHREVEPORT, September 2, 1872.

Thomas L. Nesmith, President of Citizens' Railroad Committee:

Shreveport, the eastern terminus, returns greeting to San Diego, the western terminus of the Texas and Pacific railway, and hopes soon to meet her half way to drive the last spike.

R. H. LINDSAY,
Vice President Shreveport Board of Trade.

A prominent Liberal Republican, writing from Oswego, Kansas, to the campaign committee at Washington, says:

Every day witnesses changes for Greeley, and I am now of the opinion that we will be able to carry Kansas for the Cincinnati-Baltimore ticket. In this part of the State we have already about twenty-five one-hundredths of the Republicans in favor of Greeley, while I know of no Democrat that will support Grant, whereas, upon the contrary, all will support Greeley. The entire Democratic and twenty-five one-hundredths of the Republican vote will carry the State; and I confidently believe that by November Greeley will not only have the entire Democratic vote, but that he will receive thirty per cent of the Republican vote, thus securing the electoral vote of the State.

This is from the Chicago *Tribune:*

The official debt statement for September 1 shows that the decrease since March 1, 1869, including the cash in the treasury, is $348,141,289. As the cash on hand amounts, by the same statement, to $84,853,550, the real reduction, in three years and six months of Grant's administration, has been $263,287,730. In three years and seven months of Johnson's administration, the corresponding reduction was $470,256,650. To equal this showing, the debt must be reduced, during September, by $206,968,-

The British Adulteration Act.

The adulteration act recently passed by the British Parliament renders it unlawful not only to sell bad food, but also to make and sell mixtures such as the substance called "Jonathan," which was exhibited at a recent trial in England. Power is given to local boards to appoint analytical chemists, and inspectors of markets are compelled to prosecute offenders. Adulterations of a poisonous character are to be punished for the first offense by a fine of $250, and for the second offense by six months' imprisonment at hard labor. The intermixing of any substance with intent to fraudulently increase the weight or bulk of any article of food, drink or drug is punishable by a fine of $100, and on a second conviction the name of the offender is to be published.

Victor Hugo was terribly excited when he heard that Rochefort had been pardoned in consequence of his persistent solicitations. "This is the finest day of my life!" he exclaimed, tearfully.

OFFICIAL.

TREATIES AND PROCLAMATIONS.

A PROCLAMATION.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Supplemental Convention between the United States and Great Britain, concerning the Renunciation of Naturalization in certain Cases. Signed February 23, 1871; Ratified March 24, 1871; Ratifications exchanged May 3, 1871; Proclaimed May 5, 1871.

WHEREAS a convention supplemental to the convention of May 13, 1870, between the United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, concerning naturalization, was concluded and signed at Washington by their respective plenipotentiaries, on the twenty-third day of February, 1871, which supplemental convention is word for word as follows:

Whereas, By the second article of the convention between the United States of America and her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for regulating the citizenship of citizens and subjects of the contracting parties who have emigrated, or may emigrate, from the dominions of the one to those of the other party, signed at London on the thirteenth of May, 1870, it was stipulated that the manner in which the renunciation by such citizens and subjects of their naturalization, and the resumption of their native allegiance may be made and publicly declared, should be agreed upon by the governments of the respective countries, the President of the United States of America and her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for the purpose of effecting such agreement, have resolved to conclude a supplemental convention, and have named as their plenipotentiaries, that is to say, the President of the United States of America, Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State, and her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Sir Edward Thornton, Knight Commander of the most honorable Order of the Bath, and her envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States of America, who have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I.

Any person, being originally a citizen of the United States who had previously to May 13, 1870, been naturalized as a British subject, may, at any time before August 10, 1872, and any British subject who, at the date first aforesaid, had been naturalized as a citizen within the United States, may, at any time before May 12, 1872, publicly declare his renunciation of such naturalization by subscribing an instrument in writing, substantially in the form hereunto appended, and designated as annex A.

Such renunciation, by an original citizen of the United States, of British nationality, shall, within the territories and jurisdiction of the United States, be made in duplicate, in the presence of any court authorized by law for the time being to admit aliens to naturalization, or before the clerk or prothonotary of any such court; if the declarant be beyond the territories of the United States, it shall be made in duplicate, before any diplomatic or consular officer of the United States. One of such duplicates shall remain of record in the custody of the court or officer in whose presence it was made; the other shall be, without delay, transmitted to the Department of State.

Such renunciation, if declared by an original British subject, of his acquired nationality as a citizen of the United States, shall, if the declarant be in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, be made in duplicate, in the presence of a justice of the peace; if elsewhere in Her Britannic Majesty's dominions, in triplicate, in the presence of any judge of civil or criminal jurisdiction, of any justice of the peace, or of any other officer for the time being authorized by law, in the place in which the declarant is, to administer an oath for any judicial or other legal purpose; if out of Her Majesty's dominions, in triplicate, in the presence of any officer in the diplomatic or consular service of Her Majesty.

ARTICLE II.

The contracting parties hereby engage to communicate each to the other, from time to time, lists of the persons who, within their respective dominions and territories, or before their diplomatic and consular officers, have declared their renunciation of naturalization, with the dates and places of making such declarations, and such information as to the abode of the declarants, and the times and places of their naturalization, as they may have furnished.

ARTICLE III.

The present convention shall be ratified by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof, and by Her Britannic Majesty, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington as soon as may be convenient.

In witness whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto their respective seals.

Done at Washington the twenty-third day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one.

HAMILTON FISH.
EDW'D THORNTON.

ANNEX A.

I, A. B., of [insert abode], being originally a citizen of the United States of America [or a British subject], and having become naturalized within the dominions of her Britannic Majesty as a British subject [or as a citizen within the United States of America], do hereby renounce my naturalization as a British subject [or citizen of the United States], and declare that it is my desire to resume my nationality as a citizen of the United States [or British subject].

(Signed) A. B.

Made and subscribed to before me, ——, in [insert country or other subdivision, and State, province, colony, legation, or consulate] this —— day of ——, 187–.

(Signed) E. F.,
Justice of the Peace, [or other title]

HAMILTON FISH,
EDW'D THORNTON.

And whereas the said supplemental convention has been duly ratified on both parts, and the respective ratifications of the same were exchanged in this city on the fourth day of May, 1871, by Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State of the United States, and Sir Edward Thornton, K. C. B., Her Britannic Majesty's envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary accredited to this government, on the part of their respective governments:

Now, therefore, be it known that I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States of America, have caused the said supplemental convention to be made public, to the end that the same and every clause and article thereof may be observed and fulfilled with good faith by the United States and the citizens thereof.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, and of the independence of the United States of America the ninety-fifth.

U. S. GRANT.

By the President:
HAMILTON FISH,
Secretary of State.

LAWS OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

No. 86.

AN ACT

To fix the terms of the district court in the Fourteenth Judicial District, designating certain weeks of said terms for the trial of civil cases, and certain weeks for the trial of criminal cases, and providing for the drawing and summoning of juries to said terms.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the terms of the district court in the Fourteenth Judicial District are hereby fixed, and shall commence as follows, to wit: For the parish of Ouachita, on the second Mondays of March and September; for the parish of Richland, on the third Mondays of April and October; for the parish of Morehouse, on the third Mondays of May and November.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That the first two weeks of each term shall be devoted exclusively to the transaction of the business on the civil docket of the court, to the business of the grand jury, and to the filing of criminal informations and the orders thereon; no other proceedings on the criminal docket of the court shall be had during the first two weeks.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That the remaining weeks of each term shall be devoted to the transaction and disposal of the criminal business of the court, and to the trial of civil jury cases. During said remaining weeks no proceeding shall be had in any civil case, unless an order for the trial of such case by a jury shall have been made previous to the third week; provided, that in all cases judgments may be signed, and motions for new trials and motions for appeals may be made and disposed of during said remaining weeks; and, provided further, that, by special permission of the court first obtained, together with consent of parties, proceedings may be had in any other case during said remaining weeks.

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, etc., That, in the manner provided by law, two juries shall be drawn for each of said terms of court, to be designated as the "first jury" and the "second jury." The first jury shall be summoned to attend on the first day of the term. From the first jury the grand jury shall be selected and drawn in the manner provided by law. The remaining jurors of the first jury shall then be discharged till the third Monday of the term, when they shall again attend, and shall serve for the third week. The second jury shall be summoned to attend on the fourth Monday of the term, and shall serve for the fourth week, and as much longer as they may be needed. Any of the first jury who may be impanneled on the trial of a case shall be retained until the termination of said case. All objections or exceptions to the formation, construction, drawing, or summoning of said juries shall be filed on the first day of the term, and not afterward; and if the juries should be set aside a new first jury shall be immediately drawn and summoned for the second Monday, and a new second jury for the fourth Monday of the term, and the court shall proceed. Juries drawn for the first term of court under this act shall be legal, without regard to the time when drawn, if in other respects legal.

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, etc., That all laws or parts of laws conflicting with this act are hereby repealed so far as they conflict, and that this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

(Signed) O. H. BREWSTER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) P. B. S. PINCHBACK,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved June 14, 1872.
(Signed) H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
F. J. HERRON,
Secretary of State.

No. 94.

AN ACT

To provide for the construction of a shell road in the parish of Jefferson by the police jury of the left bank of said parish, and for the payment thereof; for the keeping of the same in repair, and to authorize said police jury to levy a special tax for said purpose.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That it shall be the duty of the police jury of the left bank, parish of Jefferson, and it is hereby authorized and empowered to pass and adopt, within ten days from the passage of this act, the necessary ordinances and resolutions for the construction within one year from the adjudication of the contract, of a shell road extending along the Metairie ridge in said parish of Jefferson, from the New Orleans canal west as far as the Labarre road, and at the option of said police jury along the Labarre road to the river Mississippi; said road shall be in all respects a first-class shell road, and shall be built in accordance with the specifications to be furnished by the surveyor of the parish; and it shall be the duty of the police jury to cause the surveyor of said parish, or of some other, in case there be no such officer, to furnish the necessary plans, lines, grades, levels, curves, etc., and to take the general superintendence, in accordance with the specifications furnished, and the cost of this shall be assumed by the contractors.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That the cost of the construction of said shell road shall be borne in equal proportions, one-half each by the front proprietors bordering on said road, pro rata, and the said police jury of the left bank, parish of Jefferson, and the proportion of the front proprietors shall remain a lien and privilege superior to all other liens and privileges upon the property fronting on said road in favor of the contractors thereof, until fully paid, by recording the bills for the same, duly certified by the surveyor of said parish, in the office of the recorder of said parish.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That it shall be the duty of said police jury of the left bank, parish of Jefferson, within ten days from the passage of this act, to advertise for ten days in the official papers of the parishes of Jefferson and Orleans for proposals, to be sealed and directed to said police jury, and to be opened by them in open and public meeting of said police jury on a day to be named in said advertisement, when said police jury shall proceed to adjudicate the contract to build said road to the lowest bidder, and shall proceed, in such form as said police jury shall determine, to make a formal contract in accordance with the plans and specifications, and said lowest proposal, with said lowest bidder, and may require of such lowest bidder such security as said police jury may think proper for the faithful performance of the contract within such time as the said police jury and said contractors may agree, it being understood that this shall not exceed one year.

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, etc., That from and after the completion of said shell road hereinbefore provided for, it shall be the duty of said police jury, during the month of December of each and every year, to appropriate a sufficient sum of money out of its treasury to keep said road in repair during the current year, which sum shall not be appropriated to any other purpose.

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, etc., That upon the completion of said shell road, and said completion having been duly certified to, according to the provisions of this act, it shall be the duty of said police jury of the left bank, parish of Jefferson, to at once pay to the builders of said road, or otherwise settle with them, as both parties to the contract may agree, the proportion of the police jury being one-half the total cost thereof; and should there not be sufficient funds in the treasury, the police jury are hereby authorized to levy a special tax sufficient to pay the sum required upon all the taxable property in the left bank, parish of Jefferson, to be equally assessed according to the last assessment made before the levying of such special tax; and upon the collection of such special tax, which shall be immediately proceeded with, said police jury shall pay its proportion of the cost of the shell road herein provided for.

SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, etc., That all laws or parts of laws contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 7. Be it further enacted, etc., That this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

(Signed) O. H. BREWSTER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) P. B. S. PINCHBACK,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

A true copy:
J. W. FAIRFAX,
Assistant Secretary of State.

Received in the office of Secretary of State August 6, 1872.

The foregoing act having been presented to the Governor of the State of Louisiana for his approval, and not having been returned by him to the house of the General Assembly in which it originated within the time prescribed by the constitution of the State of Louisiana, has become a law without his approval.

No. 42.

AN ACT

Making Shrove Tuesday, or Mardi-Gras, a legal holiday.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the day known as Shrove Tuesday, or Mardi-Gras, be and is hereby declared a legal holiday throughout the State of Louisiana.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

(Signed) O. H. BREWSTER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) P. B. S. PINCHBACK,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved April 23, 1872.
(Signed) H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy.
F. J. HERRON,
Secretary of State.

No. 93.

AN ACT

To incorporate the city of Natchitoches, and provide for the government of the same.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That all that portion of land within the following boundaries, to wit: bounded on the east by Red river, including the left bank of said river; on the south by the lower line of the land belonging to Auguste Martin; on the north by a line beginning at Red river, and running due west across the highest point of Badin's Hill to Bayou Ides or Yaco; thence on the west by a line running due south until it intersects the southern line, shall be known and distinguished by the name of the city of Natchitoches.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That to provide for the government of the city of Natchitoches, there shall be elected on the first Monday in May of every year, by the qualified voters of said corporation from among themselves, one mayor and six councilmen, with the powers and duties hereinafter set forth.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That the election of the officers created by the second section of this act shall be held at the courthouse in said city, and be previously notified to the inhabitants by public advertisement at the door of the courthouse and two other public places in said city, which notice shall be given by the mayor of said city, ten days before holding the election; and said election shall commence at six o'clock A. M. and close at six o'clock P. M. of the same day, and the said election shall be conducted in all respects according to the laws of the State regulating elections, and the returns to be made and commissions issued according to the election laws of the State, which may be in force at such time.

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, etc., That in case of a tie vote at said election, or in case of the death or resignation of any of the officers mentioned in the third section of this act the clerk of the district court or his deputy shall order an election in the manner set forth in the third section of this act, and a plurality of votes at all elections shall be sufficient.

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, etc., That on receiving their commissions of election the mayor and councilmen shall meet and organize themselves into a body to be known as the "mayor and council of Natchitoches," and shall proceed to elect one suitable person to be assessor and collector of the city taxes and licenses, and to elect a treasurer of the city of Natchitoches, who shall be ex officio secretary of the city council.

SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, etc., That the Mayor shall preside at all meetings of city council, shall call meetings of the council when he deems necessary, shall approve all laws, ordinances and resolutions of the city council, shall vote as other members of the council upon all questions, and shall be vested with the same powers as are now exercised by the recorders of the city of New Orleans. He shall be committing magistrate, with full power to examine and commit in all cases arising under the laws of the State, for all crimes, offenses and misdemeanors against the State in the same manner and to the same extent as justices of the peace now or hereafter may do. He is hereby authorized and empowered to examine, try and sentence persons for violation of the laws and ordinances of the corporation of the city of Natchitoches, and offenses against the same; and shall hold his court daily, from nine o'clock A. M., until three o'clock P. M., or longer if necessary. All fines collected by said mayor's court under the provisions of this act, shall be paid into the treasury of the city of Natchitoches monthly.

SEC. 7. Be it further enacted, etc., That the mayor shall hold his office for the term of one year from the first Monday in May, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, or until his successor shall have been elected and duly qualified, and he shall be entitled to and receive an annual salary to be fixed by the city council, which shall be neither increased nor diminished during the term of office in which it shall be established.

SEC. 8. Be it further enacted, etc., That the mayor of the city of Natchitoches is hereby authorized to appoint one court officer, who shall be at all times subject to the orders of the mayor; and said court officer shall be empowered and authorized to serve warrants, summons, search warrants, attachments and mittimus issued by the mayor in offenses against the State and city incorporation, and shall receive the same fees for such services as are by law allowed to constables, to be paid by the city of Natchitoches.

SEC. 9. Be it further enacted, etc., That that the mayor and city council, and their duly elected and qualified successors in office, shall have perpetual succession; that they shall be capable of instituting and defending suits in all courts of this State, under the title of "The Mayor and City Council of Natchitoches," and that citations and other legal process shall be served on the mayor.

SEC. 10. Be it further enacted, etc., That the mayor and city council shall have full power and authority to make and pass such laws and ordinances as are necessary and proper; first, to regulate and preserve the peace and good order of the city, and provide for and maintain its cleanliness and salubrity, in a manner not inconsistent with the laws of this State; second, to adopt and use a common seal; third, to purchase, hold and convey, alienate any estate, real or personal, to accept any gift, grant or inheritance of property for public or charitable purposes, to erect school, market and fire engine houses, and such other buildings as may be for the public benefit, and to build a city workhouse; fourth, to establish a quarantine for the protection of the city against contagious diseases and epidemics; fifth, to levy and collect such annual and special taxes on the real and personal, movable and immovable property of the city of Natchitoches as shall be deemed necessary by them; provided, that said taxes shall in no one year exceed two per centum on the assessed value of the real and personal estate within said city for the year for which the assessment of taxes is made; sixth, to impose an annual license tax on trades, professions and callings, said license to expire on the thirty-first day of December in the year in which it was obtained, and which license tax shall be due and payable at the office of the city treasurer from the first day of January to the twenty-eighth day of February inclusive; seventh, to fix the amount of bonds to be given by the city officers from whom bonds are required; eighth, to organize, appoint and uniform and commission a police force, and to appoint as many police officers as may be necessary; to fix their salaries and compensation of all officers and others appointed or elected by them; to remove for sufficient cause any of the appointees or officers elected by themselves, and to define the duties of all such officers and appointees; ninth, to survey and lay out streets, public squares, to regulate and make improvements to the streets and squares and other public property, and provide for lighting and watering the same; to construct a wharf within the corporate limits, and fix the wharfage dues thereon; to order and direct the ditching, filling, opening, widening and continuing of any of the streets, and if for the above or other public purposes the land of any private person or body corporate is necessary to be had, to purchase the same at a reasonable price, or to cause the same to be expropriated according to the mode and formalities prescribed by existing laws upon the subject, to regulate the proportions and to make and repair all common drains, public roads, levees, causeways and bridges, to determine the completion and pavement of the streets, to fix the squaring, and to prevent encroachment upon the stopping and obstructing of the streets, public squares, sidewalks, levees, public roads or river banks of the city of Natchitoches, and to order any object, whatsoever may be its value, which may incumber the said places or prevent and embarass the free use of the same, to be removed or sold for whom it may concern, in the same manner and after such advertisement as shall be required by ordinance; tenth, to clear the banks of Cane river, or other streams within the limits of the city, and reopen such ancient and natural drains as have been obstructed by the owners of adjacent land; eleventh, to determine what animals shall run at large within the corporate limits, and prohibit others from doing so, to impound all animals running at large in violation of the laws and ordinances of the city, to fix the penalties and fines which the owners thereof shall pay before the animal so impounded shall be delivered up, and to pass laws and ordinances for the sale of said animals, after three days' notice in a newspaper, or by posting; twelfth, to abate nuisances, suppress houses of ill-fame, and cause the arrest and punishment of vagrants; thirteenth, to enact laws and ordinances, and to make appropriations for the purpose of building a city workhouse, and providing for the government of the same; fourteenth, to pass laws and ordinances imposing a fine upon all persons who shall conduct any business or pursue any occupation for which a license is to be collected, whenever such persons shall conduct such business or pursue said occupation without previously obtaining such license; fifteenth, to regulate the police of theatres, public balls, taverns, places for shows and exhibitions, houses of public entertainment, saloons and shops for retailing liquors, and to order the same to be closed whenever the public safety and tranquillity shall require it, and impose such duties and regulations upon persons keeping such places as they may deem necessary and proper; sixteenth, to regulate the proper government of carts and drays, carriages, omnibuses and other vehicles of every description; seventeenth, to establish market places, and adopt regulations by ordinances governing said market houses and places.

SEC. 11. Be it further enacted, etc., That the mayor and city council of Natchitoches shall succeed to, and be invested with, all the rights, property and possessions of the town of Natchitoches, as previously incorporated.

SEC. 12. Be it further enacted, etc., That the mayor and four councilmen, and no less number, shall constitute a quorum to transact business, but to levy any tax, toll or impost, or to fix any license, or to make any appropriation, it shall require a vote of the majority of the councilmen and mayor, and the affirmative and negative of each vote shall be recorded on the minutes.

SEC. 13. Be it further enacted, etc., That whenever the owner of the property in front of which a sidewalk, banquette or ditch shall have been ordered to be made, filled up, cleaned out or repaired, shall fail to do so in the time required by the laws and ordinances of the corporation, the mayor and city council shall cause it to be done at the expense of the owner of the property, and the said corporation shall have a special privilege on said property to secure the payment so due, which privelege shall hold until the corporation be paid; and in case such owner shall be absent from or have no authorized agent living in the corporation or parish of Natchitoches, or be unknown, the corporation shall have the right to proceed *in rem* against the property in the manner pointed out by article 292 and seq. of the Code of Practice; and the corporation shall be entitled to eight per cent interest upon the amount paid.

SEC. 14. Be it further enacted, etc., That in case of the absence or inability of the mayor to attend, the city council shall elect one of their number mayor pro tempore.

SEC. 15. Be it further enacted, etc., That the treasurer shall be ex-officio secretary of the city council, and as such he shall keep minutes of the proceedings of each meeting, and he shall read all laws, ordinances and resolutions, and all other proceedings of the city council; he shall file all the bonds of the officers of the city and record them in a separate book, and certified copies of said bonds and of all laws and ordinances shall be evidence in all courts of this State; he shall furnish, free of costs, to the mayor of the city certified copies of all laws and ordinances which impose a fine or penalty, or both, for their infraction, and he shall do and perform such other duties as may be imposed upon him by the ordinances of the city.

SEC. 16. Be it further enacted, etc., That as treasurer he shall keep a correct account of all moneys received and disbursed, he shall keep separate and apart from each other all moneys received by taxation on real and personal estates, licenses, fines and forfeitures, and he shall exhibit his account whenever required to do so by the mayor and city council.

SEC. 17. Be it further enacted, etc., That it shall be the duty of the assessor and collector to assess the taxes on real and personal estate in the city, in the manner pointed out by the laws and ordinances of the city, and to collect the same.

SEC. 18. Be it further enacted, etc., That for the purpose of levying and collecting taxes and licenses, the mayor and city council are hereby invested with full power to pass all laws not inconsistent with the constitution of the United States or of this State, to compel the payment, by compulsory process, of all taxes or licenses which may be due, and they are hereby authorized to confer on the assessor and collector power sufficient to carry into effect the laws and ordinances pertaining to the levying and collecting of such taxes and licenses.

SEC. 19. Be it further enacted, etc., That from and after the passage of this act the powers of the police jury of the parish of Natchitoches shall cease and determine within said city of Natchitoches, and the mayor and the city council shall possess all the powers within said corporation which have been heretofore exercised by the police jury, except so far as it relates to public buildings and property within said city which belong to said parish of Natchitoches, and that the inhabitants and property within the corporate limits of said city of Natchitoches shall be exempt from the payment of all parish taxes.

SEC. 20. Be it further enacted, etc., That all the laws and ordinances of the mayor and city council shall have effect two days after publication in the official journal of the parish, or after certified copies of them are posted at three public places in said town.

SEC. 21. Be it further enacted, etc., That no inconvenience may arise in the administration of the affairs of the city of Natchitoches in consequence of a failure or neglect to elect the municipal officers thereof, it is hereby declared that all officers elected under this act shall remain until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

SEC. 22. Be it further enacted, etc., That this act shall take effect from and after its passage, and the officers elected under the former charter shall hold their offices until the first Monday in May, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two, or until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified, and the clerk of the court shall order an election under this act as soon as the same is promulgated, and the officers elected at said election shall enter upon the discharge of their duties on the first Monday of May, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two, or as soon hereafter as they may qualify; provided, that if any officer elected shall refuse or fail to qualify within thirty days from the date of his election, the office for which he was elected shall be deemed vacant, and a new election to fill such vacancy shall be ordered, and held in accordance with the provisions of this act.

SEC. 23. Be it further enacted, etc., That the right of appeal shall exist in all cases where fixed penalties and forfeitures shall be decreed under the provisions of this act, to the parish court of the parish of Natchitoches in the manner and under the same formalities as in the cases of appeal, and such appeals shall be tried in preference to appeals in ordinary cases.

SEC. 24. Be it further enacted, etc., That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act, and on the same subject matter, except the general laws of the State relative to municipal corporations, be and the same are hereby repealed.

(Signed) O. H. BREWSTER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) P. B. S. PINCHBACK,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved July 5, 1872.
(Signed) H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
F. J. HERRON,
Secretary of State.

No. 79.

AN ACT

For the relief of the heirs of the late J. H. Wisner, Sheriff of Ouachita parish, and for the relief of his deputy, Henry G. Dobson.

WHEREAS, His Excellency H. C. Warmoth, Governor of the State of Louisiana, did, on the twenty-second day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, cause to be published his proclamation offering a reward of one thousand dollars for the arrest and conviction of one T. B. Beavers, charged with the crime of murder; and

Whereas, J. H. Wisner, sheriff of Ouachita parish, and his deputy, Henry G. Dobson, did arrest the said T. B. Beavers after incurring much trouble and expense; and

Whereas, The said Beavers, after an examination before the Hon. Robert Ray, parish judge of Ouachita parish, was committed to jail on the charge of murder; and

Whereas, The said jail was soon after broken open, the sheriff and one of the principal witnesses in the Beavers' case were murdered, and the said T. B. Beavers rescued from jail by a mob of unknown men; therefore

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the sum of one thousand dollars be and is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of reimbursing and compensating the heirs and legal representatives of J. H. Wisner and his deputy, H. G. Dobson.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

(Signed) O. H. BREWSTER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) P. B. S. PINCHBACK,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved May 8, 1872.
(Signed) H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
F. J. HERRON,
Secretary of State.

No. 91.

AN ACT

For the relief of W. H. Vaughn.

WHEREAS, W. H. Vaugh, State tax collector of the parish of Morehouse, has overpaid the amount of taxes charged to him for the year 1866, to the amount of four hundred dollars, as shown per certificates of the Auditor herewith annexed; therefore,

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the sum of four hundred dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, in payment thereof, and that this act go into effect from and after its passage.

(Signed) O. H. BREWSTER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) P. B. S. PINCHBACK,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved July 1, 1872.
(Signed) H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
F. J. HERRON,
Secretary of State.

No. 7.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Relative to the removal of a duty from rice by the Congress of the United States, and instructing our Senators and Representatives relative thereto.

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States of America are contemplating, i. the readjusting of the national tariff, to remove tax or duty from rice, which act materially affects one of the largest productive interests of our State, and otherwise fails in the first duty of a government in the protection of its material interests, by the enforcement of healthy revenue laws in the interest of protection to American industry; therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That, in the deliberate judgment of the General Assembly thereof, it would be an unjust measure and against a sound public policy for the Congress of the United States of America to remove the duty or tax on rice at this time, in view of the large national debt, and the depressing condition of the business interest and agricultural industry of the South. Therefore, we instruct the Senators and request our Representatives in Congress to oppose all such legislation at this time; and that the Governor of this State is hereby requested to communicate this joint resolution to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, so that they may take prompt action thereon in the interest of the people of the State of Louisiana.

Adopted in General Assembly, in the city of New Orleans, on the twelfth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

(Signed) O. H. BREWSTER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) P. B. S. PINCHBACK,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved February 20, 1872.
(Signed) H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
F. J. HERRON,
Secretary of State.

No. 95.

AN ACT

To incorporate the Shreveport Bridge Company, and to authorize the company to issue its bonds and to build a road from Red river to and across Red Chute to the hills, in Bossier parish, and to collect tolls thereon, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That Frank M. Smith, A. H. Leonard, E. P. O'Key, Charles W. Keating, S. Peters, George W. Dillard, M. H. Crowell, M. A. Walsh, D. D. Smith, S. M. Thomas, and their successors and assigns, and such other persons as they may hereafter associate with themselves, be and are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, to act in their corporate capacity as one person, and are hereby authorized, in their corporate capacity, to do and perform all acts an individual can do, to purchase, lease, sell or exchange real or personal property, rights or credits, as an individual can do, and to sue and be sued, and to do all things an incorporation can do; that service of citation or other legal process shall be made on the president of the company, or, in the absence of the president, on the secretary thereof; that the domicile of this company is fixed in the city of Shreveport, in the parish of Caddo, in the State of Louisiana. This company shall have a seal, and may change or alter the same at pleasure.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That the name and style of this corporation shall be "The Shreveport Bridge Company," and the capital stock of this company shall be five hundred thousand dollars, to be divided into shares of one hundred dollars each, making five thousand shares. It shall be competent for the stockholders of this company to fix the amount of the capital stock from time to time, as in their judgment they may deem best, not to exceed one million dollars.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That this company shall have the exclusive right to build, equip and maintain a bridge across the Red river, to terminate on the east bank of Red river, opposite the city of Shreveport, for the purpose of passing vehicles of all kinds, animals, produce of all kinds, merchandise and foot passengers, and for all purposes a bridge may