NEW ORLEANS REPUBLICAN.

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VOLUME VII—NO. 242. NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1874. WHOLE NUMBER 2083.

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.
Proprietor and Manager....MR. DAVID BIDWELL

LYDIA THOMPSON
BURLESQUE TROUPE.

Every Night and Saturday Noon.
ja14

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.
BEN DeBAR.....Proprietor and Manager
ALEX. FITZGERALD.....Stage Manager

Engagement for a limited period of the charming Comedienne,
LOTTA,
Supported by the popular Comedian,
MR. E. A. LOCKE.
Monday Evening, January 19,
And until further notice, the
LITTLE DETECTIVE.
LOTTA IN SIX DIFFERENT CHARACTERS.
Friday—Benefit of Miss LOTTA.
Saturday—Grand LOTTA Matinee.
In preparation—ZIP and OLD LONDON.
ja20 P. GLEASON, Treasurer.

OPERA HOUSE.....OPERA HOUSE
Tuesday, January 20, 1874,
Comic Opera,
LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22—Matinee at 12 M., for the benefit, and last time, of PROFESSOR MEHAY.
ja20 1t

VARIETIES THEATRE.
GREAT SUCCESS OF THE
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS,
BILLY BIRCH,
D. S. WAMBOLD,
CHARLEY BACKUS,
And the
Finest Minstrel Organization
EVER PRESENTED IN THIS CITY.

GRAND MATINEE SATURDAY AT 12 M.

LAST PERFORMANCE
Sunday Evening, January 25.

Monday, January 26,
LAWRENCE BARRETT,
ja20

VARIETIES THEATRE.
J. C. DeLSON.....Sole Lessee
THE LEGITIMATE, FOR TWO WEEKS ONLY.
Commencing
Monday Evening, January 26, 1874,
Engagement of the
EMINENT TRAGEDIAN
LAWRENCE BARRETT.
Supported by Miss Louise Hawthorne, Mr. John W. Norton and a powerful company, chosen to support him.

MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY 26,
RICHELIEU.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27,
THE MARBLE HEART.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28,
HAMLET.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 29,
THE DUKE'S MOTTO.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 30,
KING LEAR.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 31,
RICHARD III.

TWO LADIES' MATINEES.
Wednesday, January 28, at Noon,
ROMEO AND JULIET MATINEE.
Saturday, January 31, at Noon,
MARBLE HEART MATINEE.

Notwithstanding the great expense attending Mr. BARRETT's engagement, there will be NO CHANGE OF PRICES.
Box office open for the sale of reserved seats for any evening, and for the Matinee on Thursday morning, January 22, at nine o'clock. ja18 3w

GRAND FANCY DRESS, MASK
AND
FIREMEN'S BALL
OF
LOUISIANA HOSE COMPANY,
AT GRUNEWALD HALL, SATURDAY EVENING, February 7, 1874, for the benefit of the Relief Fund.
COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS—R. H. Benners, chairman, James I. Day, A. J. Stringer, Joseph P. Hornor, H. Schierman, H. P. Buckley, Phil. Beck, Charles T. Howard, John Snider, Chris. Madden, John Cottreaux.
Tickets, $2. Application for Ladies' Invitations to be left at the Engine House. Proposals for rent of Bar Room and Restaurant to be addressed to R. H. BENNERS, No. 56 Camp street.
ja18 25 28 1m

ST. PATRICK'S FAIR.

TO OPEN IN ODD FELLOWS' HALL,

On Friday, January 30, 1874.

The following is the Programme of the Fair, both of the very attractive tables, as also of the fair ladies who have so kindly volunteered their services for the occasion:

SANCTUARY SOCIETY TABLE,
Presided over by the officers of the Sanctuary Society.

THE PRESIDENT'S TABLE,
By Mmes. P. E. and E. F. Herwig and Miss Kinsella.

ST. THERESA'S TABLE,
By Mrs. Finnegan.

ST. PATRICK'S TABLE,
By Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Murphy and Mrs. Houston.

ST. ALPHONSUS TABLE,
By Mrs. Fitzgerald and Mrs. Eagan.

THE HARP OF ERIN TABLE,
By Mrs. Mansfield, Mrs. Rice, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Hogan, Mrs. McCluskey and Mrs. Strong.

MORNING STAR TABLE,
By Mrs. Wilcox, Miss Byrne and Miss Richardson

THE HIBERNIA TABLE,
By Mrs. McCune, Mrs. Conway and Miss D. Kennedy.

THE CRESCENT CITY TABLE,
By Mrs. Dr. Folwell, Mrs. T. Gilmore and Mrs. Dr. Brickell.

We know that the friends of St. Patrick's Church will be pleased with the above list of ladies, who have been selected to do the honors of the coming Fair at their respective tables. The well known hospitality, sociability, beauty and talent of these fair champions in the cause of charity, place the success of the undertaking beyond a doubt, and will make it one of the most brilliant and enjoyable social entertainments ever given in New Orleans. We are sure that their friends, and all who wish to forward good works, will rally to their support, and make the Fair a brilliant fete from the opening to its close.

Among the friendly contests, many of them already being energetically canvassed, we can notice only a few. A HORSE AND BUGGY, for which the Hon. Mayor Wltz and the popular District Attorney, John McPhelan, are the contestants.

General Badger and Mr. John O'Neil are also in the field for a Patent Lever GOLD WATCH AND CHAIN. That the skillful General will outmaneuvre the favorite of Branch No. 1 of Hibernian Benevolent and Mutual Aid Association would be difficult to decide. The contest will be a sharp one, as both are popular, and count their friends by the host.

A splendid HORSE is also up for contest among the "boys," but who has thrown down the glove we are not as yet in a position to state.

A magnificent richly wrought SILVER PUNCH BOWL is causing great excitement among the many friends of the three popular contestants, viz: Messrs. W. Conway, S. McNamara, and H. Cassidy. Who will prove the victor, is most difficult to state.

A lady's valuable GOLD WATCH is also up for contest at St. Theresa's table. jall 130

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.—A PLANTATION CONTAINING 160 acres of the highest land on the Mississippi river, in the parish of Pointe Coupee, near the plantation of the late Zenon Porche. Eight new cabins, new fence around the entire place. In point of fertility the land has no equal in this parish. Will sell for cash, or part cash and balance in one year. Apply or address G. H. GRIFFIN,
Auctioneer and Real Estate Broker,
ja17 30t Pointe Coupee, Louisiana.

FOR SALE—ON THE TECHE, A VERY DESIRable small SUGAR PLANTATION, containing 100 acres of land one half cleared, in complete order, with laborers on the place, one mile and a half above Franklin. For full particulars address Lock Box No. 648, Postoffice. jall 1m

AUDITOR CLINTON RISES TO EXPLAIN.

A Supplemental Statement to His Annual Report.

Auditor Clinton has favored us with some additional information, in response to an inquiry contained in Sunday's REPUBLICAN. Like the *Times*, Mr. Clinton characterizes the article as "a stricture," but we let this pass as of small moment. We intended simply to ask for explanation, not censure before we received it, or failed in the search. It is due to the Auditor to say that the supplemental table furnished by him enables us to make proper balances so far as the Treasurer's report is concerned, and also imparts a new light in reference to the manner in which the financial books of the State are kept.

NEW ORLEANS, January 9, 1874.
EDITOR REPUBLICAN:

In justice to Auditor Clinton I deem it my duty to inform the public of the manner in which the "discrepancy" between the two reports occurred. Those who are familiar with the process of getting up the statement of receipts from the books of the Auditor's office, will see at once how mistakes might have occured, but inasmuch as the public in general are not versed in these matters, I give in detail, with a supplemental statement, the particulars of the case. The Auditor's ledger is entirely dependant on the ledger of the Treasurer for the actual receipts; therefore it is made the duty of the book-keepers in the two offices to check their ledgers before making the annual statement, in order to ascertain the actual amounts paid into the treasury, leaving off the outstanding orders. However, the book-keeper in the Treasurer's office did not assist in checking, saying that he did not have time; consequently, I was compelled to get some else to assist in that work. In the performance of that duty, I detected several errors in the Treasurer's ledger; consisting, mainly, of a wrong numbering of orders—for instance, a five, instead of three, and a nine, instead of seven, etc. This, in checking, would naturally cause any one to omit or overlook an order, where the numbers did not agree. As the number was called from my ledger, the assistant looking on the Treasurer's ledger, had only to scan the column of numbers, and if it did not appear, as called from my ledger, answered, "not paid." It will thus be easily seen how an order would be likely to be omitted, if the numbers did not agree.

I will state further that on the first of January, 1873, there was no record in the Auditor's office of outstanding orders at that time; therefore I had to resort to the Treasurer's books to ascertain the amount of such orders. This, to say the least, was an unreliable mode, as it was very difficult to distinguish the outstanding from the orders issued for the current year, but there was no other way. After the report of the Treasurer was printed, I discovered at once that orders to a large amount had been omitted, a statement of which I herewith attach, which, when added to the amount in the Auditor's report, will make the two statements agree.

J. A. GREEN,
First Book-keeper, Auditor's Office.

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT SHOWING THE AMOUNT OF ORDERS OMITTED IN THE AUDITOR'S REPORT—STATEMENT A.

Orleans, First District	$21,092 50
Orleans, Second District	3,621 83
Orleans, Third District	14,551 24
Orleans, Third District	25 11
Orleans, Sixth District	2,345 30
Pointe Coupee	1,309 50
Pointe Coupee	110 67
St. Martin	2,193 12
Tensas	936 22
LICENSES.	
Ascension	5,943 25
Assumption	85 42
DeSoto	112 85
East Baton Rouge	241 00
Jefferson	1,157 61
Iberville	1,953 56
Lafayette	435 25
Madison	405 00
Natchitoches	2,023 75
Plaquemines	639 75
Richland	268 00
St. John Baptist	94 15
St. Bernard	170 00
Terrebonne	933 70
Orleans, Fifth District	184 50
Orleans, Sixth District	230 50
Vernon	202 50
Fees collected by sheriff of Orleans	56 25
Poll tax for the year 1873	266 00
Sales of swamp land	125 00
Fees received from State Land Office	283 50
Grand total	$112,714 29
Less amount checked off through error	46 12
Balance	$112,668 17

STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE,
New Orleans, January 19, 1874.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN:

In reply to your strictures, in your issue of Sunday morning, on my annual report, permit me to make the following statement:

The discrepancy in one table between the figures of my report and those of the Treasurer, which you pronounce "astounding," is simply a clerical error, as will appear by the accompanying statement of the first book-keeper of this office. The error, if it had been a real one, being on the right side, should not, it seems to me, give rise to the alarm you profess to feel. Aside from this, the books are properly balanced, and there is no discrepancy except an overdraft of $280 on the Auditor's contingent fund.

In answer to your statement, that "the public has known for some months that the State Auditor had departed from the forms and mandates of the law in his management of the finances," I beg to say that the public has for some months been persistently misinformed in regard to the transactions of this office by agents over whom I had no control, and whose hostility to the measures I inaugurated was greater than their love for the State or for the truth. You do not specify the particulars in which I have "departed from the forms and mandates of the law," from which I infer that you concur in the opinion of the brokers that the "forms" heretofore observed were the forms of the law, and that a departure from them is a violation of law, which I respectfully, but emphatically deny. One of the most important of these changes was the separation of the general fund. Heretofore all taxes due the general fund, whether current or delinquent, were placed to the credit of one account and used indiscriminately to pay any demands (of whatever year) that were brought against it. This was the leak through which so much of the insufficient revenues of the State escaped into the hands of speculators. I procured a division of this fund into two parts, viz: a delinquent general fund to the credit of which delinquent taxes were placed, and which were used to pay liabilities of previous years, and a general fund to pay the current expenses of the State, to the credit of which current taxes were placed and used to pay current expenses. This division I assert to have been not only equitable and necessary, but sustained by the express language of every appropriation bill passed for years and by many judicial decisions.

Another important matter was the use made of general funds in the purchase of warrants, and upon this point I do not agree with you that the public is in the dark. The matter has been thoroughly canvassed, nothing has been concealed, and I am satisfied that all who really desired to know the truth in regard to it have been enabled to do so. I have only to reiterate that I have not intended nor do I believe I have departed from the law in the premises. There were no "forms of law" applicable to the case and I, therefore, under the circumstances, complied as nearly as possible with what I conceived to be the spirit of the law, being sustained therein by the other branches of the administration (except the Treasurer), and by the best legal advice I could obtain. Believing these things to have been right and legally justifiable, I did not see the necessity of special legislative action and hence did not ask for it in my report.

The financial panic and the sudden suspension of the banks, locking up of considerable amounts deposited by tax collectors, was the source of great confusion and difficulty in making settlements. There is no statute in regard to the course to be pursued in panics—the only resort must be to ordinary prudence and common sense. Tax collectors had large amounts scattered or deposited with the various banks. When they came to make their settlements they could get only certified checks, which the Treasurer refused to receive. The Governor and Fiscal Agent were both absent. It was not known how many or what banks might fail. I thought it the safest course to allow collectors to make their settlements, which I did, gathering in their scattered checks and depositing them all in the bank of the Fiscal Agent and one other institution, which was known to be one of the very soundest in the State. The latter portion was transferred to the Fiscal Agent shortly before the resumption of currency payments.

There were many other occasions on which, there being no precedent, I was called upon to exercise all the discretionary powers conferred upon me by law, but it is impossible for me to give, in this way, a detailed history of them all, and unreasonable to ask it. My office is open at all times to any and every citizen who comes, in the proper spirit, for information. There are no mysteries about it, and no one need be in the dark in regard to its transactions unless he so chooses. If you had made such application your criticisms might have been more just and accurate.

Very respectfully,
CHARLES CLINTON,
Auditor.

Mortuary Statistics.

We have received from Dr. Russell, the estimable secretary of the Board of Health, a report of the deaths in the city of New Orleans for the year ending December 31, 1873. During the year there were 7505 deaths, of which number 2562—or more than one-third—were of children under five years of age; sixteen has reached the age of 100 and upward. The more general causes of death appear in the following order:

Consumption	550	Heart disease	176
Smallpox	505	Sporadic cholera	142
Pneumonia	322	Meningitis	120
Infantile convulsions	256	Adult debility	119
Tris Nascentium	256	Cholera infantum	118
Congestive fever	246	Apoplexy	114
Yellow fever	226	Infantile debility	109
Congestion of brain	207	Malarial fever	109
Infantile marasmus	194	Bronchitis	103
Inflammation of bowels	152	Chronic diarrhea	102

Intemperance or delirium tremens claimed thirty-nine for its quota; ninety-two died of old age; seventy seven were drowned; twenty-three died of syphilis in its various stages; fifteen died of sunstroke, and one by stroke of lightning. There were twenty-seven deaths caused by gunshot wounds, fifteen cases of infanticide; fifteen deaths of injuries; nine cases of suicide; six poisons; five were accounted for as murdered; and seven were accidentally killed. Insanity caused four deaths, and hiophobia two.

Of the whole number of deaths, 4739 were of whites; 1829 of blacks, and 855 of Mulattoes; 5517 were natives of the United States; 1111 were buried from public institutions, and 1289 on certificates of coroner.

Contested Election Cases.

It is complained by some who now come up from the *debris* of the late Fusion Legislature and contest for admission at the door of the constitutional body, that the Committee on Contested Elections in either house should show a disposition to observe the law in the premises. This is not strange when viewed from any standpoint from which it may be considered. It is not at all strange that the committees on contested election cases, as well as all other committees of that honorable body should be disposed to follow the law, nor is it at all strange, on the other side, that certain gentlemen should complain of this, and charge it to the Republican party as a "political necessity." But if such gentlemen suppose for a moment that to pamper their whims Republican committees are going to violate the law to unseat those who have been returned as legally elected, and who have aided to establish and build up the present State government, we imagine they will find themselves mistaken. And we think the least that is said of "mileage and per diem" in these premises by certain newly inspired seekers after power and place the better, and the more becoming. The people are hardly able to bear such gratuities just now, and such requests or expectations come with an exceedingly ill grace from those who have so recently been seeking to "save the people" under the specious plea of retrenchment and reform.

Let us have a little consistency—just a little—if it is only founded in necessity.

Billiards.

Last evening, at Mr. Charles Lacoume's, Messrs. Abrams and Maggioli contested a game for the State championship and the gold mounted cue. The game was the usual French carom, on a four and a half by nine table, 300 points. Maggioli won on the fifty-third inning, the score standing Maggioli 300, Abrams 239. Time of game one hour and forty minutes. Winner's average 5¾; Abrams' average 4½. Largest runs—Maggioli 46, Abrams 28.

Mr. Maggioli has now held the cue nearly five months, but must retain it for seven months longer, all contestants are required to have resided in the State one year to become its final owner. Mr. Arthur Coste will probably challenge him next.

Red (all wool) Shaker flannel undershirts and drawers for $1 50, at Garthwaite, Lewis & Miller's, No. 100 Common street.

Through Freights.

A through freight train left Chicago on the night of the eleventh instant, passed Cairo January 14, and arrived in New Orleans Saturday night, the seventeenth instant, over the Jackson road, the cars belonging to the Illinois Central railroad. The train will return to-day with sugar, molasses, coffee, etc., for Chicago and St. Louis.

The General Sherman.

The latest news from the wrecked steamer Sherman is that she is lying in about seven fathoms of water, with her topmasts and smokestack visible above the surface, off Tubb's inlet, about twenty-seven miles southwest of Cape Fear. Captain Halsey will go down some time this week to the wreck, to see if there are any prospects for raising the ship.

Dr. Holland says:

It would seem as if nature, in making up mankind, had been a little short of materials, so that, if special attention were bestowed on the form and face, the brain suffered, and if the brain received special attention, why, then there was something lacking in the body.

Snuff-takers are good upon a pinch.

THE LEGISLATURE YESTERDAY.

Senate.

Mr. Dalgle appeared in the Senate yesterday and answered roll call.

A petition signed by numerous citizens of the parish of Ouachita, respectfully asking that Bridget Fahey be exempted from all liabilities to the State for taxes for the years 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871 and 1872, and from the penalties due thereon, on the ground that Mrs. Fahey is a poor widow, with a large family of small children, and a confirmed invalid, was presented by Mr. Brewster. It was read and referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Alexander gave notice of a bill to abolish Grant parish.

The bill presented by Mr. Harper, for the relief of the taxpayers of Caddo, and referred to the Finance Committee, has been reported back to the Senate without action. The bill extends the collection of taxes sixty days from the time of its passage, in consideration of the suspension of business in that parish during the prevalence of yellow fever in Shreveport last summer and fall.

Mr. Whitney gave notice of a bill regulating the trial by jury in civil cases.

Under a suspension of the constitutional rules, Mr. Anderson introduced a bill extending the charter of the Citizens' Bank. It was read and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Chadbourn obtained permission to introduce a bill fixing the time of holding court in the Fourth Judicial District.

Mr. Cage introduced a bill fixing the time of holding court in the Fifteenth Judicial District.

On motion of Mr. Brewster ten days leave of absence was granted to Mr. Whitney.

Mr. Burch obtained leave to introduce a bill establishing a charity hospital at Baton Rouge.

The bill authorizing the Governor to appoint three commissioners to attend the one hundredth anniversary of the independence of the United States of America, to be celebrated in Philadelphia on the fourth of July, 1876, and present the progress our State has made in population, wealth, the development of its resources, etc., was taken up and finally passed.

Mr. Wharton called up the resolution, previously offered by him, asking what disposition had been made of the appropriation of 1873 for the use of the militia. On his motion it was so amended as to make it the duty of the Finance Committee to report such information to the Senate within twenty days. The resolution, thus amended, passed the Senate.

Senate bill No. 16, introduced by Mr. Burch, was called up by that gentleman and finally passed. It amends an act entitled an act to amend article 611 of the Code of Practice, approved April 23, 1872, so as to read as follows: The sheriff or constable can not seize the linen and clothes belonging to the debtor or his wife, nor those of his family, nor arms and military accoutrements, nor his tools and instruments, books and sewing machine, necessary for the exercise of his or her calling, trade or profession by which he makes his living; nor shall the sheriff or constable in any case seize the rights of personal servitude, of use and habitation, of usufruct to the estate of any minor child, nor the income of dotal property, nor money due for the salary of an officer, nor wages, nor recompense for personal wages, nor recompense for personal services, nor household and kitchen furniture to the value of six hundred dollars.

For a violation of this part of the act the penalty is a heavy fine and imprisonment.

As this act stood before amended, justices courts paid no attention to it, and constables, as they were not named in it, have been in the habit of seizing everything in sight to answer the claims of unfeeling and exacting creditors.

There was no executive session yesterday, and the Senate adjourned until to-day at 12 M.

House.

Speaker Lowell called the House to order at twelve o'clock, eighty-three members answering at roll call.

Rev. Mr. Green offered prayer.

The reading of the journal was dispensed with, and that of Tuesday last was approved.

Three messages from the Governor were received, inclosing the Auditor's report, one on the finances of the Louisiana State University, reports of the Adjutant General and the coroner of Natchitoches, and also calling the attention of the Legislature to the centennial celebration of American independence at Philadelphia in 1876. He recommended the appointment of a commission, without pay, to attend at the International Exhibition, and a small appropriation for a clerk. The message was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Harris, of Pointe Coupee, rose to a question of privilege:

The *Times* had for some days been publishing articles reflecting on the country members in general, and himself in particular. He read one of the articles where he was accused of being a country member introducing a bill relative to taxation in New Orleans. He pleaded guilty to the charge of being a country member, and, with others he saw around him, thought it his duty to take an interest in the affairs of Orleans. Some people considered the Legislature only as an assemblage of police jurors. He had introduced the bill and it had been referred to the proper committee. He was not a member of it and had no control over its action. The paragraphs in the *Times* were evidently prompted by outside parties. The city had $2,000,000 of uncollected back taxes; their employes were unpaid; they had passed an ordinance giving the sheriff extra compensation of five to seven per cent to collect them, and he had not done it; the treasury was not relieved; the city Administrators had failed to collect these taxes, and legislative action was demanded. It was the duty of the country members to inquire into the reason of this; to see why the tressury was empty; why the employe was unpaid; why the Administrators' feet repose on soft carpets under his rosewood table as he enjoyed his Havana, while the school teacher went to her poor home unpaid; why the poor man gave his tribute to Cæsar and the owners of horses and houses remained exempt. We country members violate no propriety in making these inquiries. We would say to the people and city fathers of New Orleans that we would be slower to speak of her affairs if she were represented here. While all of the other parishes of the State have full delegations, Orleans is shorn of her power by the refusal of her representatives to take their seats. Achilles sulks and refuses to take part. We say to the city fathers and the people, send your representatives here that Orleans may stand forth in her strength and do justice to herself and relieve us of the importunity of minority candidates. While on this subject I will return my thanks to the gentleman from Orleans (Montaldo) for his kind interest in the affairs of Point Coupee. He has proposed measures that have relieved me of the necessity of offering the same. The interest he has taken is enhanced by the motives which it is well known actuate the gentleman. His lofty patriotism and freedom from party spirit is manifest in his desire to have the wards of this city represented by his present friends.

Mr. Decker rose to a question of privilege. His remarks will be found in full in the minutes.

Mr. Davidson offered a substitute for the funding bill, but the House refused to refer it to the committee.

On motion of Mr. Young, the House resolved itself into committee of the whole to consider the funding bill, Mr. Mathews being in the chair.

Mr. Allain, after the reading of the first section, said:

The measure was the cause of the people; it demands the closest attention and mature deliberation, for its aim is to relieve the State of a large proportion of taxation, and place the finances on a sound basis. The bill has been drawn with great care and profound foresight. The Senate bill was a very good one, but its framers forgot that such bills must originate in this House. The bill before the committee proposes to convert our indebtedness into $15,000,000 of bonds, payable forty years from January 1 1874, with interest at seven per cent. This will give us forty years to pay our debt in, during which time our State will increase a hundred fold in prosperity. The framers of the bill have carefully guarded against fraud and malversation. Every provision has been made that there shall be no jobbery or malfeasance in respect to the new issue of bonds, as they can only be used by the board of control in exchange. The payment of the interest is provided for by a tax of five mills, which is set apart for this and no other purpose. The present tax is twenty-one and a half mills, but this bill provides that it shall never exceed thirteen mills, which is a saving of thirty-three per cent per annum. The bill provides for the destruction of the outstanding bonds as received in exchange. Severe penalties are provided for any violation or obstruction of the provisions of this act. Each provision of the act is declared to be a contract between the State and the holders of the bonds. Never has there been a document displaying more legal ingenuity for the protection of both State and creditor, and giving so perfect and entire security. The bill provides all lapsed grants shall be repudiated, and that the State debt shall never be more than $15,000,000 until the year 1914. The bill is a signal proof of the falsity of the charges that the Republican party is a band of public plunderers, and that this House is actuated solely with a view to its own aggrandizement. In it are all the elements of our future prosperity. It will be taken as an earnest by the people that the Republican pledge of economy has been redeemed. I am glad this measure originated with Governor Kellogg, because when in 1872 the majority of the people voted for him they believed his administration would redeem the State from the pangs of exhaustion and depletion that she suffered under. When this measure becomes a law, peace will reign supreme in our beloved State. I advocate this measure because I am a native of Louisiana; because I love her soil, her people, and the constitution of my country, and I believe it will bring about and promote the mutual good feeling which I long to see permanently established in our State. Aside from the manifest justice of this law, there is a paramount reason for advocating it: the interest of the people, regardless of nationalities and political sympathies, demand it. When this measure passes, the banks of the river will be whitened with cotton, the levees sweetened with sugar, printing presses will multiply, and schoolhouses be established in every ward in our country parishes; then will the pure gospel of peace and good will to men be preached in every church and practiced in every family, and then will Louisiana become what she ought to be—the garden spot of America; then shall we stand together, shoulder to shoulder, and exclaim, Happy, happy, proud Louisiana! thine is the higher law, and thine the consecrated home of liberty!

Mr. Murrell, of Madison, gave the bill his hearty support. In the course of his remarks he called attention to a discrepancy of $50,000 between the reports of the Auditor and Treasurer, and called for an explanation.

[Mr. Allain in the chair.]

The committee proceeded to consider the bill in detail.

The first section was amended by striking out the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and of that of the House on Ways and Means.

Mr. Davidson offered two sections as a substitute for the first section. His amendment recited the several acts making railroad appropriations and repealed them. He spoke for some time on the amendments.

Mr. Gair said:

It seemed to him there was something underneath all this to defeat the bill. He urged members to abandon their personal prejudices and give the bill a calm consideration, and not propose frivolous amendments. At present it was an impossibility for people to prosecute their business. Capitalists could not buy plantations because it was a detriment to own land at the rate of twenty-one and a half mills of taxation. They could do better by receiving interest, by depositing it in the bank, and that was the reason why there were so many unemployed men in this city. Our time ought not to be filibustered away in frivolous amendments. His friend from Livingston had passed many honorable years in the public service. His head was whitened with the frosts of age. It might be said, without offense, that but a little time remained for him to act with us. He hoped to have seen a more magnanimous spirit in him, and not see him oppose a measure that all the newspapers, all the people, and even the children were stretching out their hands for.

Mr. Murrell, of Lafourche, here objected to personalities, but on receiving the assurance of the Chair that Mr. Davidson was being eulogized, and observing that the latter seemed to rather like it, subsided.

Mr. Gair proceeded: When the Republican party came into power in 1868, every levee was down, no tax was collected, and the State staggered under a debt she could not support. The party has now to meet those who created that debt in opposition in these measures of reform, because they are not willing the Republican party should have the credit of doing more for the good of the State in six years than they had ever done. He urged all who knew the condition of the country and the burden of taxation to support the measure.

Mr. Davidson said needless alarm had been created, for he intended to support the bill. He thought the railroad acts ought to be repealed by it, because it would have to be done some time.

The amendment was laid on the table, and the first section adopted.

The second section was carried without opposition.

Mr. Demas moved to amend the third section by providing that all warrants should be received for the new bonds as well as existing bonds.

Mr. Gair vigorously opposed this amendment as another device to defeat the bill.

A great deal of confusion was in the committee at this time, and repeated readings of the amendment called for, Mr. Bryant having it read for his especial benefit three times.

On Mr. Demas accepting an amendment, making his amendment read "all valid warrants," it was adopted. This interlineation was subsequently inserted in all succeeding sections.

With a few changes the bill was adopted, to be recommended for passage as far as section fifteen, which provides that all valid warrants shall be receivable for taxes and licenses.

Mr. Baker moved to strike out the entire section.

Mr. Demas approved of the motion. This was an act for the relief of poor people, and this section destroyed its effect. The poor people had paid their taxes and the rich had not. This section was for their benefit.

Mr. Mathews earnestly urged the adoption of the section. He called attention to the Auditor's report, which showed there were $9,000,000 of uncollected taxes and only $2,000,000 of outstanding warrants. The operation of the section would cancel these warrants and leave $7,000,000 of taxes to carry on the government. He was opposed to exchanging warrants for bonds. This measure had the approval of the papers, the people and the bondholders.

Mr. Bryant opposed the section, considering it a brokers' measure.

Mr. Lowell corrected some statements that had been made by the different speakers. The section was not in the interest of brokers. The measure had been carefully considered twelve months. The Chamber of Commerce approved of it; a committee of merchants whose ability and integrity none could question recommended it. He had only objected to the second section as giving too much power to the board. In an eloquent speech of an hour he urged every one to give their support to the bill.

Mr. Montaldo opposed the section as offering a premium to tax-resisters. All who supported this government had paid their taxes, and its opponents never would pay them any way, unless compelled by the law. He desired the laws compelling the payment of taxes enforced. On his motion the committee rose to report progress, and request to sit again on Tuesday at twelve o'clock.

[Mr. Mathews in the chair.]

The committee having reported, the House adjourned to twelve o'clock to-day.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Opera.

To-night the comic opera "La Fille de Mme. Angot" will be performed. After the opera Professor Mehay will give one of his wonderful seances. On Thursday at the matinee Professor Mehay takes a benefit. As this is to be his last appearance we would recommend those who desire to witness his remarkable feats of illusion and sleight of hand to avail themselves of the opportunity.

Thursday evening will occur the third representation this season of Meyerbeer's grand opera "Robert le Diable." We hope Messrs. Gueymard and Mayan will be in better form for this their third attempt than they were on the past occasions.

We would also hint that much improvement should be made in the ballet and stage accessories to place them at all in keeping with the grand theme of the opera.

Varieties Theatre.

Notwithstanding the threatening weather of last night, a large and enthusiastic audience greeted the first appearance in this city of the famous Birch, Wambold & Backus' San Francisco Minstrels. This troupe stands in the front line of negro minstrelsy, and will play a short and merry engagement. Numerically the company is not the largest in the world, but it is well organized, and every individual member is an artist of the best quality in the line for which selected. The entertainment given was refined and pleasing, and new songs, acts and sketches followed each other in rapid succession. Birch and Backus are the funniest end men in the business, and their small talks are all new. The singing is of the best description. Mr. D. S. Wambold has a fine tenor voice, and his ballads are tastefully rendered. Mr. C. Henry has an equally pleasing baritone voice. Mr. Beaumont Read has a remarkable natural alto voice of great power and sweetness, which told effectively in the ballad "Mother, Bear Me to the Window." The Ricardo prima donna, and Johnson and Powers, song and dance artists, are all good, and all lovers of fun, sentiment and song, can not do better than to spend one evening with the Friscos.

St. Charles Theatre.

Lotta, the bright particular star of the theatrical firmament, twinkled upon an old-time audience at the St. Charles last night. She comes back to us after a two years' absence all the more warmly welcomed, and the house was filled with her friends and admirers. Lotta is beyond the pale of sober dramatic criticism. We are told that she is not an actress; that she can not sing; that her pieces are without merit; and yet crowds flock to see her, year after year, and her success has been most remarkable. Time has not dimmed her lustre, nor taken from her eyes and face the merry twinkle and sunshine that made her irresitible when she came here a stranger and won her way to hearts that hold her yet. Mr. E. A. Locke, who accompanies Lotta this season, is a clever young comedian, and renders her efficient support. "The Little Detective" will be repeated until further notice.

IMPROVED REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION BY THE SHERIFF.—We are requestad to call public attention to the sales at auction, to be made this day at noon, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, by the sheriff of the parish of Orleans, of three undivided fourths of two lots of ground and a small portion of ground, adjoining each other, with the improvements thereon, situated in the Fourth District of this city, on Washington street, between Live Oak and Magazine streets. For particulars and terms see advertisement.

General Crook Confirmed.

Lieutenant Colonel George Crook, of the Twenty-third Infantry, was confirmed as Brigadier General, United States army, vice Philip St. George Cooke, retired, by the Senate, on Wednesday last.

Compulsory Education.

In the New York Assembly, last week, a bill compelling parents and guardians who have children between the ages of eight and fourteen in their charge to send them to some private or public school for three months of each scholastic year, was introduced in the House by Mr. Lynde, of St. Lawrence. The penalty for non-compliance is a fine of not less than $10 and not exceeding $20 for each offense. The trustees of each school district are charged with the prosecution of offenders, and must institute proceedings upon a representation of any taxpayer that the law has been violated.

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONGRESS.

House.

WASHINGTON, January 19.—Bills were introduced for purchasing Monticello, the homestead of Thomas Jefferson, and granting all the public land in Alabama for school purposes.

Mr. Wilson, of Indiana, moved to suspend the rules and adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, By reason of the present monetary stringency and the insufficiency of the amount of circulating medium, the industry and commercial affairs of the country have been greatly depressed; and

Whereas, By reason of such stringency the revenues of the government have been largely diminished, in consequence whereof Congress has been asked to increase taxation to the amount of $42,000,000; and

Whereas, Until the recent panic the revenues were ample to meet the current expenses of the government; therefore

Resolved, That instead of levying additional taxes the true policy lies in the enactment of such a law or laws as will relieve such stringency and supply the means necessary to the business wants of the country by increasing the circulating medium, thereby reviving business, increasing the revenues, and thus avoiding the necessity of increasing the present rates of taxation or the imposition of additional taxes or duties.

Resolved, That the Committee on Banking and Currency be instructed to prepare and report to the House without delay a bill for the purpose in the first resolution expressed, and that said committee have leave to report at any time.

Mr. McCrery, of Iowa, called for the yeas and nays.

Mr. Speer, of Pennsylvania, inquired whether the question of consideration could be raised.

The Speaker said that that question was raised. The motion was to suspend that rule and all other rules.

Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, remarked that the subject was before two committees at present, and had been discussed in the House last Saturday. He suggested that instead of having to vote now the resolutions be simply introduced, and set down for debate at some time, so that the various view of members might be brought out, and that the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Banking and Currency might have the benefit of those views. The Committee on Ways and Means proposed to report something to-morrow, which would be the subject of debate confined to this matter.

Mr. Holman, of Indiana, objected to discussion.

Mr. Randall, of Pennsylvania, remarked that the Committee on Banking and Currency was holding sessions every day, even during the sittings of the House, listening to the views of gentlemen from various parts of the country.

Mr. Wilson said that this question of increased currency was exciting a great deal of public attention, and, therefore, he had drawn these resolutions for the express purpose of testing the sense of the House, and letting the country know whether or not there was to be an increase of currency.

Mr. Cox, of Ohio, wanted to offer an amendment, but the Speaker informed him that he could not do so under a motion to suspend the rules.

The vote was taken and resulted: Yeas, 135; nays, 98, so two-thirds not voting in the affirmative, the resolutions were rejected.

The negative votes were Albert, Archer, Banning, Bass, Beck, Bromberg, Buffington, Burchard, Burleigh, Caldwell, Clark of New York, Clayton, Clymer, Colton, Cox, Crocker, Crooke, Darrall, Dawes, Dewitt, Durham, Eames, Edes, Eldridge, Elliott, Fort, Faye, Garfield, Giddings, Gooch, Gunkel, Hale of Maine, Hale of New York, Hamilton, Harris of Massachusetts, Hawthorne, Hawley of Connecticut, Hender, Herndon, Hersey, G. F. Hoar, Hooper, Hoskins, Kasson, Kellogg, Kendall, Lowndes, Lutterell, Maynard, McDill of Iowa McDonald, Mellish, Milliken, Mitchell, Moore, Morrison, Nesmith, O'Brien, O'Neil, Parker of New Hampshire; Parson, Pendleton, Phelps, Pierce, Platt of Virginia, Platt of New York, Poland, Potter, Randall, Rainey, Rice, Read, E. H. Roberts, Sawyer, Schumaker of New York, Scofield, Scudder of New York, Scudder of New Jersey, Small, Smith of Pennsylvania, Smith of Louisiana, Smith of Ohio, Speer, Starkweather, Storm, Swann, Townsend, Waldron, Ward of New Jersey, Wallace, Wheeler, Wilber, Willard of V