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THE LEGISLATURE YESTERDAY.

Senate.

On motion of Mr. Barber, the Senate has determined to have evening sessions from this until the close of the present Legislature.

A concurrent resolution from the Legislature of Missouri, passed, in obedience to a call made through a memorial from the Union Merchants' Exchange of St. Louis, concerning the improvement of the Mississippi river and its tributaries, was read in the Senate, with a view of having similar action taken by the Legislature of Louisiana. As the subject is interesting we refer our readers to the preamble and resolutions published in to-day's REPUBLICAN, in the official proceedings of the Senate of yesterday. Immediately after the reading of the above preamble and resolution, the Senate went into executive session, which lasted for some time.

After executive session, Mr. Ingraham obtained unanimous consent of the Senate to introduce two bills, as follows: One, Senate bill No. 464, an act to revive and re-enact sections one and two of act No. 19 of 1873, entitled an act to amend sections seven, eight and seventy of an act entitled an act to regulate the conduct and maintain the freedom and purity of elections.

The other, Senate bill No. 468, an act to repeal act No. 19 of 1873, entitled an act to amend sections seven, eight and seventy of an act to regulate the conduct and maintain the freedom and purity of elections, etc., which became a law February 4, 1873, and to revise, amend and re-enact sections seven and eight of act No. 98 of 1872, entitled an act to regulate the conduct and maintain the freedom and purity of elections, etc., approved November 20, 1872.

These bills, under a suspension of the rules, finally passed the Senate and the House yesterday, and now await the signature of the Governor to become laws.

Mr. Ingraham called up Senate bill No. 415, an act to amend the registration law. Under a suspension of the rules the bill finally passed the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Harris, the Senate authorized the appointment by the President of the Senate of an "omnibus committee" to be composed of five members, one to be taken from each congressional district of the State.

The President appointed the following gentlemen members of that committee: Senators Harris, Harper, Bovee, Anderson and Musicot.

Mr. Stamps obtained a suspension of the rules in order to take up House bill No. 435, an act annexing the city of Carrollton to the city of New Orleans, and for other purposes. The bill was read.

On motion of Mr. Chadbourn the rules were further suspended, and the bill finally passed.

Executive session being again called, the galleries were cleared and the Senate deliberated some time with closed doors.

After executive session, Mr. Burch obtained the unanimous consent of the Senate to take up the apportionment bill, originating in that body, and under a suspension of the rules it finally passed.

Mr. Harris called up House bill No. 176, together with the amendment reported by the Committee on Railroads and Internal Improvements. The act is entitled an act to enable the New Orleans, Mobile and Texas Railroad Company, existing under acts of the Legislature of Alabama, with powers from other States to construct railroads, to convey to the New Orleans and Texas Railroad Company a portion of their railroads, corporate property, rights, privileges and franchises, and to define the powers of said corporation.

The amendment reported by the committee was published in the REPUBLICAN of last Sunday.

On motion the amendment was adopted, and under a further suspension of the rules the bill finally passed.

Mr. Cage called up House bill No. 328, an act to reduce the expenses of holding inquests in the parish of Orleans; and, under a suspension of the rules, it finally passed.

The Senate then took up the calendar and went through House bills on their first reading. The most of them were read twice and referred to the "omnibus committee."

The bill incorporating the Fruit Growers' Association of the Gulf States was taken up, and, on motion of Mr. Brewster, finally passed.

Mr. Ingraham called up House bill No. 170, an act relative to the creation of a superior criminal court for the parish of Orleans, and for other purposes. Under a suspension of the rules this bill finally passed the Senate, as it came from the House, and requires but the signature of the Governor to make it law.

The Senate, on motion, then took a recess until 7 P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

Senate bill No. 218, an act to incorporate the town of St. Francesville, finally passed the Senate on motion of Mr. Weber.

Mr. Brewster called up the bill relinquishing the right of the State to land in Monroe and Shreveport upon which United States public buildings are erected, and it finally passed.

Mr. Herwig called up Senate bill No. 423, an act to incorporate the Sanitary and Excavating Company, and it finally passed by a vote of 19 yeas to 6 nays.

Mr. Harper called up Senate bill No. 332, an act relative to the Workingmen's Banking Association, and it finally passed.

Mr. Bovee called up Senate bill No. 348, an act relative to the payment of parish taxes by incorporated cities and towns, and it was made the special order of the day for Thursday next, immediately after the reading of the journal.

Mr. Burch called up Senate bill No. 417, an act relative to a code of reform and prison discipline for the Louisiana Penitentiary. It was amended, considered engrossed and made the special order of the day for Thursday next, at ten o'clock.

An act providing for a reduction in the salaries of the employes under the city government was called up by Mr. Chadbourn, and finally passed.

The act reorganizing and reducing the Metropolitan Police force, as amended by the House, passed.

The bill for the enforcement of the collection of back taxes in the parish of Orleans and city of New Orleans finally passed.

An act to confer additional authority on justices of the peace in the parish of St. Landry in criminal cases finally passed.

An act to incorporate the Longshoremen's Protective Association of the city of New Orleans, finally passed.

Mr. Harris called up Senate bill No. 418, an act to amend and re-enact section one of an act relative to defining the duties of the notaries public and sheriffs of the parish of Orleans, in certain cases.

On motion of Mr. Harris the bill was considered engrossed and made the special order of the day for Thursday at half past one o'clock.

The bill incorporating the Mississippi Valley and Brazil Steamship Company finally passed.

The Senate adjourned until Thursday at eleven o'clock.

House.

Speaker Lowell being still unwell, Mr. Mathews was called to the chair.

A number of resolutions, almost equal to those of the day before, directing the chairman of the Committee on Contingent Expenses to issue vouchers to clerks, etc., were adopted.

Mr. Estillette's bill, providing that only the English language need be used in publishing official advertisements, was passed.

Mr. Devezin called up the bill providing for the more efficient collection of taxes in New Orleans by the election of a collector by the Council, to whom should be transferred the duties of the Administrator of Finance in that respect, and whose pay shall be by a percentage on collections, was passed.

Mr. Lawes' substitute for the imigration bill was passed.

Mr. Murrell, of Madison, announced that the Louisiana members of Congress, Hon. George L. Smith and Hon. C. B. Darrall, were on the floor of the House, and moved they be invited to the platform, which was carried.

Mr. Murrell also moved, that as Mr. H. F. Vickers, member from Richland, was present, he be sworn in.

Mr. Hahn and many others objected.

Mr. Ward moved that the case be referred to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. Gair said it was out of the power of the House to prevent Mr. Vickers from being sworn in. Such action would be unprecedented. This was the first time the gentleman had appeared; there had been no contest, no notice of one, no objection raised until too late, and the simple duty of the Speaker was to administer the oath.

Mr. Martinet made the point of order that there was no case to refer, and the Speaker decided it well taken.

Mr. Ward appealed.

Mr. Bryant said the law might be in one way, but there was something else to be considered. The gentleman belonged to the Democratic party, which preached reform and practised it if they got into power. They did not succeed, but this gentleman was elected. He was called to this body at the extra session of 1872 by the proclamation of Governor Warmoth, and failed to come. He should have been present at the session of 1873, and failed to come. He only comes now, at the end of this session, to get his pay. He may be entitled to it, and it may be a specimen of the reform his party would have given us if they had succeeded, but what sort of a heart has a man who can do such a thing?

Mr. Bryant was interrupted, his time being up.

Mr. Murrell, of Madison, said the gentleman had acted throughout as his constituents dictated, and any Republican would have done the same.

The ruling of the Chair was sustained, and Mr. Vickers sworn in.

Mr. Montaldo obtained the consent of the House to introduce a bill at this time, and it finally passed.

It provides for the assessment of a tax of one and a half per cent on the gross premiums earned by fire insurance companies, to be collected by the city, and creating from the tax so collected a special fund to be applied solely to the payment of the obligations of the city under their contract with the Firemen's Charitable Association, which is ratified by the act. If the fund be not sufficient, the Administrator of Finance is directed to take sufficient from any other moneys, except receipts from the police, interest and school fund taxes. Any attempt to divert the special fund is punished by a fine of $5000.

Mr. Gair called up the bills which had been received last from the Senate.

Three of them were bills relative to the election laws, and repeal and modify portions of act No. 19 of 1873, and provide for a revision of votes, and were all passed.

The Senate bill providing for the paraphling of mortgage notes which would create chattel mortgages was indefinitely postponed.

House bills on their third reading were taken up.

The bills requiring certain records in criminal cases to be kept; authorizing parish jurors to establish landings on the river; and one or two minor bills were indefinitely postponed.

Several bills amending sections of the Code of Practice and Revised Statutes were passed.

Mr. Benham's bill relative to persons indebted to the State; Mr. Hahn's concerning the appointment of curators; Mr. Demas' regulating assessments; Mr. Landry's exempting certain property from seizure; Mr. Sewell's relative to back taxes of New Orleans; Mr. Montaldo's homestead bill; Mr. Williams' bill giving laborers and mechanics a lien on movables on which they have worked; the one giving laborers on plantations a lien on the crops; the prohibitory Sunday liquor law; the bill imposing a license tax of $1000 on cotton sellers; and a number of local bills were passed.

Mr. Souer called up the Senate bill explaining paragraph fifteen, section one, of act No. 14 of 1872, to mean that the license tax imposed on insurance companies was all that could be imposed, and it was passed.

Mr. Hahn called up the Senate bill authorizing the parish of St. Charles to build a road, and it passed.

Mr. Guichard called up Senate bill No. 241, extending the charter of the Citizens' Bank twenty-five years, which would cause it to expire in 1911.

Mr. Hahn opposed the bill. Banks, in general, were no better than the community in which they existed, but here was a monstrous overgrown corporation, governed by old fogies and ruled by old fogy ideas entirely opposed to the people of the State. It was organized thirty-seven years ago, and had gathered into its clutches an immense number of large plantations which it did not work and would not divide or sell except as a whole. It owned one or two in every parish, and believes in the old fogy idea of keeping them consolidated because the managers are not in sympathy with the people of the State. This bill proposes to extend their charter, which has already thirteen years to run, twenty-five years more. It will make this appeal every year, because its policy is to keep these plantations unworked rather than divide them into small farms. The sooner it is forced to gather in its assets, release this land so that it can be sold for small farms, with a small payment in cash and the balance on a long mortgage, the better for the State and the people.

Mr. Guichard said the bank owned many more plantations than the gentleman supposed. He believed they owned over one hundred, and it was not a good policy to force them to sell them at a ruinous price. On the contrary it was an advantage to the State to have these plantations owned by the bank. In the parish of St. Bernard the bank owned a dozen, and they were all worked.

The bill was finally passed.

On Mr. Demas' motion, the House agreed to the Senate amendment to the House bill relative to the Texas railroad, and on motion of Mr. Stewart, the House adjourned to eight o'clock in the evening.

EVENING SESSION.

The members assembled at eight o'clock, Mr. Mathews calling them to order.

Mr. Benham moved to go into the committee of the whole to consider the appropriation bill, which was lost.

Mr. Heffner submitted a report from the Committee on Health and Quarantine, recommending the Senate bill for the more efficient government of the Board of Health for passage with amendments.

Mr. Stewart moved that all the amendments be rejected, and the motion was carried and the bill passed.

Mr. Tureaud submitted a report from the Committee on Elections which was ordered printed.

Mr. Souer called up Senate bill No. 202, which provides for the assessment of State and city property, and appointment of collectors.

Mr. Gair opposed the bill. He said the bill was one which placed every foot of property in the State in the hands of men who were ignorant of its value, and yet compelled to assess it. He moved the indefinite postponement of the bill, and called the previous question, which was ordered, and the bill indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Benham moved to go into the committee of the whole to consider the appropriation bill, and the motion was carried.

The Speaker called Mr. Allain, of West Baton Rouge, to the chair.

The first question discussed was the motion to reject the proposition of Mr. Williams to appropriate $200,000 for the repair of the State House at Baton Rouge, made by Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Bryant said it was impossible to understand what objection there was to the item. The people desired the capital to be at Baton Rouge; it would save money, and if it was not adopted all the money already spent would be lost.

Mr. Murrell, of Madison, hoped the amendment would be adopted.

Mr. Young wished the yeas and nays could be called that it might be known who opposed the measure. He believed the moving of the capital would save $1,000,000.

Mr. Demas thought a bill to move the capital should be the first in order. This seemed to be putting the cart before the horse.

Mr. Gair said the State House could be repaired for $175,000, and it would do away with the annual expense of $50,000 or $100,000 for rents. There would be no trouble in getting the necessary two-thirds to remove, when the building was repaired.

The amendment was adopted, several substitutes, inserting other places instead of Baton Rouge, being ruled out by order of the chairman.

Some discussion arose on the sum appropriated for the judge of the Superior District Court, but it was finally adopted.

The committee worked about half through the first section, when Mr. Gair moved that it be read as a whole, and amendments offered afterward, which was carried.

Nearly every member had an amendment, some of which were acted on.

Mr. Souer offered an item appropriating $5000 to the Firemen's Charitable Association for the benefit of the widows and orphans.

Mr. Sewell said he would explain that item, as he knew something about it. The city paid $175,000 yearly to the association, and out of that they had saved more than enough for all their widows and orphans. They had exacted this sum from the city, and it was an extortion to attempt to get anything more. It was infamy to suggest any such appropriation when they were so well paid. The institution itself was one that ought to be put down.

Mr. Benham attempted to speak, but Mr. Souer said he had not yielded the floor to any one. He said the city ought to have paid the sum named, but the association had never received it. This appropriation was little enough to offer to show the appreciation the firemen were held in.

The item was adopted.

Other amendments were offered and adopted, and, on motion of Mr. Gair, the committee rose and reported the bill as a whole for passage.

On Mr. Montaldo's motion the bill finally passed, and the House adjourned to Thursday, at 10 A. M.

The Tehuantepec Canal Suit Ended.

A concession was made by the Mexican government, during the presidency of Juarez, to an American company to build a canal, railroad and postroad on the Tehuantepec route. This concession fell ultimately into the hands of Marshall O. Roberts, but meanwhile Maximilian had become master. Mr. Roberts sent down Mr. John P. O'Sullivan to secure a renewal of the grant, paying his expenses, and with some further agreement for payment in the case of success, which has been for some days the subject of a trial before Judge Curtis in the Superior Court, trial term. Mr. O'Sullivan did succeed, but his success was useless, since almost immediately afterward President Juares ousted Maximilian. Mr. O'Sullivan claimed $50,000 cash for what he had done. Mr. Roberts insisted that beyond his expenses his payment was to be dependent on the success of the enterprise of which his mission was but an incident, and that he was only to be paid in the stock of the company, to be founded on the two exceptions. The jury gave a medium verdict of $13,651 90 for the plaintiff.—*New York World.*

MEMORIAL OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF NEW ORLEANS.

Praying that National Aid shall be Extended by Congress to the Texas and Pacific Railroad Company.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The New Orleans Chamber of Commerce respectfully represents:

That they are deeply concerned to learn that the Texas and Pacific Railway Company, notwithstanding that the ultimate resources of that work are valuable almost beyond computation, have found that its immediate accomplishment by corporate means can not be effected with sufficient rapidity to comply with the public demand. The co-operation of the federal government becomes, therefore, necessary to the development of the national interests involved in the completion of the corporate undertaking. These national interests may be thus indicated:

1. A national highway to the Pacific coast, uninterrupted by snow, undisturbed by savage raid, located on more favorable grades, and throughout a more productive territory, than any other.

2. A line developing to American settlement a region of unequaled capacity for the production of cattle, cotton, sugar and tobacco, and not otherwise accessible for want of navigable waters.

3. The most direct line of transit between the capital and great commercial centres of the Union and the coasts of commercial Asia and Africa.

4. A route penetrating by its main trunk and branches the richest States of Mexico, thus giving to the manufacturing and mercantile interests of the Union a monopoly of commerce with these States beyond the possibility of competition on the part of foreign merchants, who can neither employ navigable waters nor transitable highways from their ocean coast across the mountains to the rich and populous cities of interior Mexico. Thus the precious metals may be again, as formerly, sent from Chihuahua, Coahiula, Neuva Leon and New Mexico, through the territory of Texas, to New Orleans, as the nearest wholesale market, in exchange for the various manufactures, imported and domestic, and sent also to other cities of the Union.

5. The attraction of population will rapidly fill our own territory, and not improbably spread, by purchase and lawful acquisition, into States adjacent to our own. The effect of this migration upon the power, wealth and development of the Union, is only to be estimated by the result of similar expansion in its past history.

6. The expenditure of national aid will stimulate the employment of thousands, now idle, and thus spread throughout the whole system of industrial circulation this relief to unemployed labor, this demand for unsalable surplus, is an incident of fair consideration among the consequences which must follow the assistance asked at the hands of the government.

In estimating the trade thus made accessible, the value of the precious metals exportable from the Mexican States of Sonora, Durango, Guadalajara and Guanajuato alone, may be stated at $20,000,000. To this it may be added that the capacity of these interior States to produce sugar and coffee is only restricted by the cost of getting these products to market. The comprehensive statement statement is made that there are 9,600,000 Mexican people with an interior trade of more than $500,000,000, and a foreign export and import trade of $55,000,000, all within five days rail of Chicago!

The government will thus see that the completion of this last link of communication is alone wanted to place these great elements of reciprocal interest in direct connection with each other. Humboldt said sixty years since that "coaches will one day roll between Washington city and the city of Mexico." It is your province to realize this prediction.

With such a demonstration of undeveloped values only awaiting the connubial ceremony of intermarriage, does not your honorable body perceive that in postponing this consummation to the comparatively slow agencies of a corporation however powerful, Congress is depriving the American people of the full fruits, which should not be deferred one day beyond the possibility of completion? The production and consumption of distant and accordant countries now stand betrothed before you; will you withhold the parental blessing that will at once facilitate and legitimate their offspring? You have explored a mine. It is of inestimable value. Will you, by a narrow economy, exclude yourselves from its immediate revenue, or will you by a prompt energy enter at once upon the enjoyment of these values?

Your honorable body will not forget that you may secure by a few peaceful words that which England has made wars, expended millions and traversed broad oceans to obtain. You will have access to the trade of China, Japan and Australia. You will place your manufacturers in close commercial communication with the tropical countries. You will bring an India to your doors. What prevents the immediate consummation of this simple yet gigantic policy?

The Texas and Pacific Railway Company have need of immediate aid. It can not be obtained in the financial centres of Europe, because the faith of capital in American corporate securities has been shaken by the misadventure of another great transcontinental railroad company. This company imprudently complicated its own speculative enterprises with the business and financial affairs of the whole country, and, indeed, of the whole world. It is unfortunately true that even such enterprises as that of the Texas and Pacific Railway Company have suffered from the general distrust that has followed the panic of 1873.

Your memorialists have thus recited the motives which should, in their judgment, induce the government of the United States to aid the Texas and Pacific Railway Company by granting the government guarantee for the periodical payment of five per cent interest on the bonds of the company upon the terms proposed by them, at as early a day as may be compatible with the forms of deliberate legislation. They expect Congress to examine carefully the resources and securities offered by this company, and to protect the government against the possibility of fraud or failure in the application of the funds to be thus provided directly to the purpose for which it is asked.

Your memorialists commend this object to Congress and confide in your wise integrity to protect the public against any possible repetition of the national shame involved in the Credit Mobilier application. The aid asked in this case is vindicated by the reasons assigned, but it should be so bestowed and applied that no mercenary motive can be assigned to its advocates. Every member of Congress must be enabled to hold up clean hands before his constituents and invoke their grateful blessings for a vote which has placed them in present possession of a commercial empire—an empire for which the world has contested for centuries, and which will have been secured by judicious national aid, without one drop of blood, one stain of fraud, and, as your memorialists sincerely believe, without the ultimate cost of one public dollar.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress are respectfully requested to support the application of the Texas and Pacific Railroad Company for material aid, on such terms as a due regard to the protection of the national treasury and the immediate prosecution of a great national route may render proper.

Respectfully submitted.

Adopted and ordered to be certified and transmitted to the Congress of the United States.

After twenty years' work the women of Charleston, South Carolina, succeeded in raising $28,000 for a monument to John C. Calhoun, only to end their labors by voting down a resolution to erect a monument, after all. Now it is proposed to devote the money to educational purposes.

Railroad Matters.

Colonel H. S. McComb is in the city stopping at the St. Charles Hotel. The presence of this railroad magnate in our midst naturally suggests the idea and hope that some effort will be made by the proper parties looking to the completion of a through railroad connection with Texas. What is known as the western branch of the Mobile and New Orleans road appears to be in a hopeless condition of "statu quo." Whatever legal injunction may be in force against certain supposed or proposed owners, one thing is certain, the progress of the road is enjoined almost perpetually unless a change is speedily made.

Such a condition of affairs is truly deplorable. Relief can only come by disposing of that portion of the road that is finished, and by offering for sale the rolling stock to some responsible party who will guarantee the speedy completion of the work.

We are not prepared to state that Colonel McComb is in the market, even in the event of a sale of this railroad, but we confidently assert that the opportunity to offer him the refusal should not be lost. So prudent a business man as Colonel McComb would scarcely allow his intents or proposed enterprises to be made known, but from his persistent and successful endeavor to gain through railroad connection between this city and the lakes and Northwest, it may fairly be presumed that he would regard the completion of the connection between this point and Texas as a favorable and proper enterprise. His speedy fulfillment of his last great railroad undertaking argues favorably for his ability to do the like again. An able financier and possessing ample resources, he would not require State aid or subsidy in any form. We have no information that Colonel McComb is at all desirous of extending his operations in this railroad enterprise; but in homely phrase, we say, that if those parties having the matter in hand can not run the matter successfully, let them sell out to those who can.

Our Firemen To-day.

For the thirty-seventh time our volunteer fire department will parade to-day, making its annual display. This, compared with the first representation, will be as of a new generation, for the changes made by time, in men and machinery, are great. Few of the original members will be on the streets to-day, and none of the old machines. It would be a novelty if one of the first engines could be shown in the parade to-day. Quite a number of strangers are here to witness the sight, and doubtless they will be pleased at seeing what they will see. It is believed that the department will outdo itself on this occasion. Let our citizens remember that it is a legal holiday.

The Hebrew Benevolent Association Ball.

The fair daughters of our Jewish friends are busy with preparation for the coming ball—fancy dress and mask—to be given next Saturday evening, at Exposition Hall, by the Gentlemen's Hebrew Benevolent Association. The occasion will be that of the thirtieth anniversary of the organization of this excellent association—a society composed of the most substantial members of our mercantile community—and the ball bids fair to be one of the most elegant and recherche affairs of the season, where lovely forms and faces, and tasteful costumes will abound, and sparkling eyes and diamonds vie for superior brightness.

A High Compliment.

Major William Murrell, of the Governor's staff, has been the recipient of a high and well merited compliment. The line officers of the Fourth Infantry, Louisiana State National Guards, have petitioned his excellency to release him from personal service, and promote him to the lieutenant colonelcy of their regiment, a request which will, doubtless, be complied with, even though the commander-in-chief might prefer to retain the major's services.

The fourth regiment has been assigned to General Souer's brigade, and we congratulate the General on the accession to his command of so earnest, enthusiastic and capable an officer as Colonel Murrell.

We were pleased to meet yesterday Colonel W. H. Sparks, who is on a visit to his old friends in our city. The Colonel is general agent for the sale of Appleton's "Cyclopedia," one of the most valuable works of the kind ever published in any country, and which should form a part of the library of every reading man. As the author of "Memoirs of Fifty Years," Colonel Sparks has won a high rank among the literary men of the Union, as his book has not only reached an extended sale but ranks as one of the standard historical works of the country. Although he has passed three score and ten, still he is as hale and as vigorous as most men of forty, and we feel assured that he will yet live to add other inestimable gems to Southern literature.

PABLO & CO.'S MINERAL WATER AND GINGER ALE.—It appears that some unprincipled parties have been pirating upon the great reputation of Messrs. Pablo & Co., as manufacturers of mineral waters and ginger ale, by using their bottles to vend a spurious article. Notice is given elsewhere to the public to look well from whom they purchase hereafter. The really excellent articles made by that respectable old house will only be sold by parties having its written authority.

Josh Billings gives a remarkably just definition of a country newspaper editor: "An editor iz a male being whose biziness iz to navigate a nuze paper. He writes editorials, grinds out poetry, inserts deths and weddings, sorts out manuskripts, keeps a waste basket, blows up the 'devil,' steals matter, fites other people's battles, sells his paper for $1 50 a year, takes white beans and apple sass for pay when he can git it, raizes a large family, works nineteen hours out of every twenty-four, knows no Sunday, gits damned bi everybody, and once in a while whipt bi somebody, lives poor, dies middle aged and often broken-hearted, leaves no money, and iz rewarded for a life of toil with a short but free obituary puff in the nuze papers."

Saturday, the seventh, decides the question
Saturday, the seventh, decides the question
Saturday, the seventh, decides the question
Saturday, the seventh, decides the question
Saturday, the seventh, decides the question
As to who will win the capital prize.
As to who will win the capital prize.
As to who will win the capital prize.
As to who will win the capital prize.
As to who will win the capital prize.

The Colfax Heroes on the War Path Again.

CATAHOULA PARISH, February 25, 1874.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN:

The heroes of Colfax are still unhappy—their cry is still for war. Since the trial commenced in the United States court, they have been making it lively for the poor negroes—visiting their homes at night and dragging the poor creatures out into the woods and beating them shamefully. Their first movement was in the neighborhood of White Sulphur Springs. They beat several poor negro women nearly to death. On Wednesday night, the eighteenth instant, twelve or fifteen men entered the cabins on J. M. Tarpley's place, which is situated on Catahoula lake, beat and whipped three negroes nearly to death. The wife of one of these negroes begged the heroes not to kill her poor husband, and she was knocked down and stamped.

The negroes are not accused of any bad acts, but the heroes say they want "no damned negroes" down in their part of the vineyard. They ordered the poor creatures to leave by twelve o'clock next night, and to go by way of Donahue's ferry, and by no other route. If not gone by that time they were told that they would swing, and if they went any other road than the one ordered they would be killed. The negroes are still in the woods. The citizens are afraid to take any steps to protect them. To-day Tarpley has not a hand on his place; his life is threatened and he is in danger.

The men who are doing these deeds of darkness are not disguised. The negroes say that J. W. Wiggins, W. F. Paul, another Paul, G. W. Wainright, Thompson and others, were the men. It is said that J. W. Wiggins swears he will rule this parish, and says he can raise more men than the sheriff. RAKE STRAW.

St. Mary's Orphan Asylum.

The venerable and much revered Archbishop Perche publishes to-day an appeal to the benevolent of this city in behalf of the poor orphan boys. In addition to the ills that straitened circumstances have necessarily entailed upon this institution, that terrible scourge, the small-pox, has attacked many of the inmates. The good Sisters of Charity, who devote their lives to the care of the helpless and suffering, now find themselves in sore need of material aid. Their self-sacrifice and devotion alone can not suffice to provide means for the relief of the helpless and suffering. Ministering angels are they, but a generous public should provide means to aid them. We refer our readers to the noble appeal of his grace, the Archbishop, elsewhere published in our columns to-day. If, after reading it, those able to respond should fail to do so, we fear that no word of ours could move their pity.

Cuban Dinner to the Press.

General Rafael Quesada yesterday entertained a number of the representatives of the press at the Cosmopolitan. There were present a full delegation from each of the daily papers and a number of other invited guests, among whom were several gentlemen noted for their sympathy with Cuba.

Many pleasant addresses were made by those present, every member of the press responding when called on, and Docteur Hava making an impressive speech on Cuban affairs.

General Quesada responded through one of the members of the press present.

A Hint from the Tax Collectors.

Our readers will please observe the suggestions of the tax collectors, published in another column, and bear in mind that this is the "last call." After the fifteenth instant the penalties prescribed by law will be rigidly and impartially enforced. Parties, therefore, who have licenses or capital tax to pay would do well to interview the polite and accommodating officials of the tax collectors' offices, without delay.

The Temperature.

The thermometer at Louis Frigerio's, No. 50 Chartres street, on March 3, stood as follows: At 8 A. M., 58°; at 2 P. M., 71°; at 6 P. M., 71°. Lowest point during the night of March 2, 49°.

Murder.

We understand that a foul and dastardly murder was perpetrated in this parish, on the eighteenth instant, at a shingle yard on Black bayou, near the Erwin Bluff. Some trivial misunderstanding had taken place between Jacob Herndon, a man of mixed blood, being about one-quarter African, and a man by the name of William Johnson. Jacob, who had a family, and lived within a mile, or less, of the shingle yard, called to have the matter adjusted, and while talking with a man by the name of Durfee, proprietor of the yard, was shot in the back by Johnson with a load of buckshot, and died some eighteen hours afterward. Johnson is still at large. He is supposed not to be more than eighteen years of age, is slender built, has sandy hair, and, what is peculiar, both little fingers crook toward the palms of the hands—so our informant has learned. It is believed that he came down on the steamer Clifford Sunday evening, and left on the cars the next morning.

The murdered man was, we understand, a sober, inoffensive and industrious man, and it is the opinion of our informant that he was killed because he was looking strictly after and endeavoring to take care of his little property.—*Shreveport Times.*

The Towboat Question in Congress.

The Washington correspondent of the St. Louis *Times* of February 28 says:

Colonel A. E. Yorke, of New Orleans, appeared before the House Committee on Commerce to-day, and made a defense of the Towboat Association, who have been complained of as obstructing the mouth of the Mississippi, and hindering the performance of the work of dredging by the government boats. He fully traverses the statement made by Major Howell, in charge of the government dredging service, and says that he has a certificate, signed by all the insurance and bank presidents and nearly all of the merchants, shippers and business men of New Orleans, completely controverting the charges brought against the towing association and establishing the fact that the association have been performing their duties faithfully and honestly in all respects.

The Pistol Again.

We regret to have to record the shooting of Jack Web, though we are glad to state that the same is not considered dangerous by his attending physician. Jack is sometimes very wicked when under influence of liquor, and we understand that this was the case when he was shot, and Alphonse Migues, who did the shooting, and those who witnessed the affair, state that it was justifiable, as there is no doubt but otherwise he stood a good chance to lose his own life. We regret the occurence much, for when sober there is no better citizen in our town than Jack.—*Iberia Progress.*

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONGRESS.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—Mr. Fenton presented a memorial from a large number of business men of New York, expressing alarm at the unlawful action of the Secretary of the Treasury in issuing revenues that never before were resorted to by any civilized government, putting out irredeemable paper currency in time of peace, and asking Congress to immediately prohibit the Secretary from issuing any more of the reserve, and to withdraw at once the amount issued to this date.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Fenton said the signers to the memorial represented at least $500,000,000.

Mr. West submitted a resolution instructing the Committee on Contingent Expenses to inquire as to the propriety of furnishing each Senator with a copy of the text-book published by W. H. & O. H. Morrison, also including the national banking laws, and information concerning the public debt. Adopted.

Mr. West moved to postpone the centennial bill and take up the army appropriation bill.

Mr. Sherman suggested the centennial bill could be disposed of in an hour, and that the finance resolution, which had been deferred until to-day, could be proceeded with.

Mr. Sumner advocated proceeding with the appropriation bill, and expressed the belief that if Congress went into the centennial business, it would result in an expenditure of $30,000,000.

The motion of Senator West was lost—yeas 16, nays 30.

Mr. Carpenter said that to-morrow, when the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Morton), who was now detained from the chamber by indisposition, would be present, he would ask to take up his Louisiana bill for the purpose of making his promised remarks.

Mr. Hamilton, of Maryland, gave notice of his intention to submit remarks upon Louisiana affairs. The centennial bill was discussed to the adjournment.

House.

The House took up the bill to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain. The bill was amended by adding a proviso that no oath should be required of any one desiring to secure a homestead, except the oath to support the constitution of the United States. This was mainly for the benefit of the people in the Southern States, who, under the existing laws requiring the taking of the ironclad oath, can not avail themselves of the benefit of pre-emption laws. The bill also repeals the pre-emption laws. It was further amended by a proviso that all lands granted to railroads shall be subject to the provisions of the bill in all cases where such roads have failed to comply with the conditions of their grants.

The bill was then passed as amended.

The House had under consideration the bill reported from the Committee on Railways and Canals to regulate commerce by railroad among the several States, and which proposes to prevent the imposition of unreasonable rates and to prohibit discrimination of rates. It provides for a board of commissioners, to be appointed by the President, who are to institute a thorough investigation and inquiry into the rates of toll and compensation charged for transporting freight and passengers and into the reasonableness thereof. The commissioners are to fix for each railroad line a separate schedule of reasonable maximum rates of charges for the transportation of freight and passengers, and cars, loaded and unloaded, and the railroad companies are to be bound by these rates.

Speeches were made by Mr. McCreery, of Iowa, in support of the bill, and by Mr. Arthur, of Kentucky, against it. The bill is the special order from day to day.

WASHINGTON.

The Howard Courtmartial.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—The Howard court of inquiry adjourned till March 10.

Nominations.

The following nominations were made to-day: Charles P. Ramsdell, as marshal of the eastern district of Virginia, and R. E. McDonald, as postmaster at Charlotte, North Carolina.

Supreme Court Decisions.

Among the decisions of the Supreme Court to-day were the following: In the case of Chaffee and others vs. United States, brought to recover the penalty prescribed by the forty-eighth section of the internal revenue act, June 30, 1864, against plaintiffs in error for having in their possession distilled spirits for the purpose of sale, with the design of avoiding the duties imposed thereon. This court reverses the judgment of conviction on various grounds of evidence, and for the following error in instruction to the jury. In this class of cases the government need only prove the defendants were presumptively guilty, and the duty devolved on them to establish their innocence, and if not, they were guilty beyond reasonable doubt. On this point it is held that the error is palpable. On its statement all the authorities condemn it. It sets at naught established principles, and justifies the criticism of counsel that it virtually withdrew from defendants their right of trial by jury, and converted—what at law was intended for their protection, the right to refuse to testify—into machinery for their sure destruction.

Mr. Field delivered an opinion in the case of Bullard, trustee, vs. National Eagle Bank of Boston. The court holds that a national bank, organized under the act of 1864, can not acquire a valid lien upon shares of its stockholders by virtue of articles of association or by-laws. This reaffirms the decision versus Lanier, 11 Wallace 369; Mr. Justice Strong delivered the opinion; Mr. Justice Clifford dissented.

Sykes vs. Spencer.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections to-day heard the closing arguments in the Sykes-Spencer contest for a seat in the Senate from Alabama, General J. T. Morgan speaking two hours for Sykes, and William E. Chandler an equal time for Spencer.

Sheridan vs. Pinchback.

The argument closed in the Sheridan vs. Pinchback affair and the case is now with the Committee on Elections. Early action is expected.

Carpenter's Bill.

Mr. Carpenter withheld his bill to-day on account of Mr. Morton's absence, who is sick. It will probably come up to-morrow.

General Hebert's Address Before the House Committee on Railroads and Canals in Opposition to the Eads Plan.

Governor Hebert addressed the House Committee on Railroads and Canals at length this morning. He was listened to with marked attention throughout, producing an evidently favorable impression. He condemned in strong language, supported by arguments and an array of facts, the jetty system as proposed to be applied to the mouths of the Mississippi, pronouncing the system as fallacious in every respect, contrary to experience, and in direct violation of every principle of sound engineering. He said that the Mississippi river had been jettying itself for thousands of years, pushing the bar farther and farther into the Gulf of Mexico. Artificial jetties would only accelerate the process, but the bars would still be there, and there they would be for all time to come. So long as the river carries alluvion to the sea this result is inevitable.

Whenever the cause of an evil is periodical or constantly recurrent, the remedy must be of the same nature; this is self-evident. Will you, therefore, for year after year, for all future ages, as to that matter, continue to fight nature and its remorseless workings at the mouth of the Mississippi, or will you adopt the simple remedy of tapping the river into deep

[CONTINUED ON EIGHTH PAGE.]