

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

NEW ORLEANS, MAY 21, 1874.

The New Orleans Central High School picnics at the Fair Grounds to-morrow.

The Twelve Wise Men announce a picnic at City Park on the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth days of May, 1874.

Edith O'Gorman has always been becomingly attired on the platform, and has never appeared in a nudress costume.

The "Votaries of Pleasure" will appear at their second grand fancy dress soiree at Carondelet Hall, Exposition building, on Saturday evening next.

The prizes to be raffled for at the German-American School's May festival, on Sunday and Monday next, can be seen at the store of Peck Brothers, No. 119 Canal street.

United States Marshal Packard informs us that he will to-day commence paying all jurors of the Circuit and District courts their fees for services rendered up to the present time.

The principal of the Austerlitz School has our thanks for an invitation to attend a picnic to be given by the pupils of the school at the hospital grounds, in the Sixth District, on Monday next.

You can save five hours in time to Louisville and eight to St. Louis and Chicago over any connecting line from New Orleans by taking the Jackson railroad. Through Pullman sleepers on all trains.

A writer inquires of an agricultural paper for information regarding the best way of starting a nursery. He did not get full instructions in detail, but was told that at all events he should first get married.

It is said that whippers can be heard at the distance of half a mile in Siberia, and instead of saying, with the old song, "O, whispy what thou feelest," young men carry slates and write it down.

Put not your faith in him who predicts a hot season, he keeps ice; nor in him who predicts a cold one, he owns a cheap clothing store; nor yet in him who declares a wet one, he has umbrellas; nor a dry one, he sells beer.

An old lady who had insisted on her minister's praying for rain, had her cabages cut up by a hail storm, and on viewing the wreck, remarked that she "never knew him to undertake anything without overdoing the matter."

A new method of bringing long sermons to a close has been discovered. The plan is to start an alarm of fire in the church. This should only be resorted to in extreme cases, or where a minister has preached for an hour and a half.

"Superintendence" has just been coined to express a justifiable line of conduct when a Sunday school finds it impossible to get rid of an imbecile and highly respectable, inane and amiable, good and good for nothing superintendant.

The Washington Chronicle, in mentioning that Miss Pauline Markham is residing in New Orleans, says: "So the twice lost arms of the Venus of Milo are spared to the world, and the world in consequence may breathe free again."

Octave Feuillet has trained a lap dog to keep the place for him in any book he may be reading by holding its paws between the leaves. This allows the reader to pause at his leisure, and prevents the corners of his books from getting dog-eared.

The government of Guatemala has issued a decree prohibiting priests and clergymen from wearing the usual distinctive dresses of long robes, etc., except when they are engaged in the performance of their sacred duties, under a fine of from \$10 to \$50.

The sheriff of the parish of Orleans sells at auction, this day at 10:30 A. M., on the premises, the stock of goods and merchandise, fixtures, etc., in store of L. Uer, No. 135 Canal street, between Royal and Bourbon streets, Second District of this city.

With compliments of Ernest Wiltz, Esq., agent, No. 45 Exchange alley, we have received two pamphlets, giving descriptions of the White Sulphur Springs, and the Red Sweet Springs, of Greenbrier county, West Virginia, with analyses of their waters.

In the House of Representatives, last Saturday, a bill passed to appropriate \$25,000 for the relief of the owners of the steamer Clara Dolson—a vessel used during the war by the federal authorities at New Orleans, but whose services were never paid for.

Charles Reade, the novelist with a purpose, is reported to be engaged on a story of which the sinking of an unseaworthy but insured vessel, and other incidents of maritime life and disaster, will be the main features. Mr. Pimssoll, M. P., it is said, has furnished the data to Mr. Reade.

We are now informed that General Joe Lane, who ran for Vice President in 1860, is still living in Oregon, and that he has joined the Catholic Church. This follows hard upon the news of Frank P. Blair's hard upon the news of the Presbyterian forces, "While the lamp holds out to burn," where is Andy Johnson!

In reference to the removal of army headquarters from Washington to St. Louis, the Cincinnati Commercial gives circulation to a rumor that, as Sherman is a favorite in the West, where there is a strong element who wish to see him made President, he is to be removed to St. Louis in order to strengthen the movement, and that this is done with the consent and by the advice of Grant; that if Sherman is elected President, Grant is to be made once more General of the army, etc.

Among the news items coming by mail from Japan is the following: "The newspaper lately started at Yokohama moved into new quarters and set up, outside its door, a large box, intended to receive communications for the editor. This was quite a novelty, and a country woman passing stopped, wondered a little and then, taking it for a temple-shrine, prayed very earnestly for a time, threw into the box, her offering of cash and passed on. The editor, the next morning, came out with a long article, lauding the religious feeling of the country people."

HOME PROTECTION AGAINST OVERFLOW.

Organization for home protection is not a new thing. In all the States of the American Union there is an organized militia to guard against insurrection and give protection to life and property. Organizations of fire companies in cities and towns for home protection also exist all over the country as a means of suppressing fires. These organizations have been of great benefit to society, without being the cause of any serious evil. The expense of a State militia is sometimes objected to, it is true, and so is government for that matter; but as we can have no civilization at the present time without these little eteteras, the people have decided to possess them in order to be prepared to meet a common enemy that has long existed in the shape of an incendiary. The militia forms a breastwork against insurrection, while the fire brigade stands ready to combat another dangerous element, when left to pursue its own course, in the shape of a fire. With these examples of what organization can do to benefit society, it should not be deemed strange, in view of all the circumstances, that organization is now being sought to aid in giving protection against the future inundation of our State. The St. James Sentinel, of the thirteenth instant, contains a communication from Mr. V. E. M. Anderson, suggesting that citizens of parishes subject to overflows from the Mississippi form themselves into companies for the purpose of watching the levees in time of danger and preventing overflows. His idea is to have an organized company, similar to our fire companies, in every ward in a parish, the members of the same to hold themselves in readiness, with tools and material, to aid in averting the dangers of overflow. In order that there shall be no conflict between the organizations and the Levee Company he proposes that it shall be the duty of the officers of said companies to co-operate with the Levee Company and the State engineers in the work of preserving the levees, and for so doing expects that a sufficient compensation will be allowed by the Levee Company to keep up said organizations. Mr. Anderson thinks they could be made very serviceable even in case the general government should determine to take the levees in hand, for as they would be composed of citizens directly interested they would always be on the alert and labor hard to prevent overflows.

While we are pleased to note the efforts of our own citizens to give protection against a repetition of our present alarming disasters, resulting from inundation, we are glad also to be able to say that in every section of the country a growing feeling is perceptible as to the importance and actual necessity of having the national government take the levees of the Mississippi in hand. It is conceded that this course is necessary in order that the rich lands of the Mississippi valley may be successfully cultivated and made a great source of wealth, not only to individuals and the State of Louisiana, but to the nation at large. With our homes protected against a periodical avalanche of water, drained from a section of our country thousands of miles in the interior, a great obstacle in the way of the settlement of the Mississippi valley—a valley that is susceptible of being made the garden spot of the world—would be removed. And from the date of this protection will commence in earnest the growth of that portion of our country which, it has been predicted, will be at no very remote period the seat of its greatest wealth and civilization. But it requires the fostering hand of the national government to rescue the prolific lands of this broad valley from inundation. Let this be extended, and the time is certainly not far distant when every acre of it will be made to bloom with the seed of the sugar cane, cotton, rice and other products that can be grown with profit. Then the noble river that is now so much a source of dread at times, will only be a source of pride, profit and convenience to our people, and they will not be compelled to ask, as now, the assistance of their fellow-citizens in other States to save them from starvation. And while, under the circumstances, we consider it no disgrace to ask and receive aid from those who have been driven from their homes by the present overflow of the Mississippi, it is consoling in the midst of this dire affliction to know that the present condition of Louisiana's calamity is not underrated abroad, and that our fellow-citizens, North, East and West, are contributing bounteously for the relief of the sufferers. The New York Evening Mail of a recent date thus speaks of the desolations and dangers that are upon a portion of our people at this time, and makes suggestions commensurate with the afflictions that are upon them:

The situation of the people in the vast, overgrown regions of Louisiana and Arkansas ought by this time to be well understood. Where one of these States has been given over to the elements, the other has been given over to the elements. For hundreds of miles along the lower Mississippi, and over tracts large enough to make several of our smaller States, there is now a "waste of waters," which have not only ruined thousands of plantations, but have deprived from 50,000 to 70,000 people of homes and the means of subsistence. Such a calamity as this should arouse every decent and more universal sympathy than was developed by the Chicago fire. What has been done so far is but a trifle compared with the demands of the hour. Where one of these States has been given over to the elements, the other has been given over to the elements. 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