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FROM NEW ORLEANS TO HOMER BY STEAMBOAT.

Grand and Romantic River Scenery—Black Forests of the Mississippi Bottoms—Inexhaustible Willow Growth Along the Shore—Old State House at Baton Rouge—The Political Outlook.

OFF MINDEN LANDING, }
Lake Bisteneau, La., May 10, 1875. }

EDITOR REPUBLICAN:

If Wyoming and Dakota are celebrated for their Black Hills, Louisiana should be no less so for her black bottoms along the Mississippi shores; and if the former teems with gold, the latter are none the less rich in natural wealth of production. No region of country upon earth offers more natural inducements than the alluvial lands of the Mississippi. All that is wanted is industry, backed with skill and science. As it is, the grand old bottoms of the Mississippi are allowed to lie comparatively idle and unproductive—gorged, as it were, with dormant richness. The natural and uncultivated magnificence of the scenery is unsurpassed—filled to grandeur with the romance and poetry of nature. To leave the dull and beggarly streets of New Orleans, filled with breadless lazzaroni, and in a few hours find yourself on a fine steamer, passing cool and pleasantly along the magnificent shores of the great and grand old Mississippi, and looking out upon the vast old fields—many of them yet well cultivated, and scanning as far as the eye can reach the yet untouched forest, whose solid and sombre-like foliage are black with the inexhaustible richness beneath, is indeed a treat and relief to the soul as well as to the body, and reminds one of what may possibly take place in the way of the change of scenery and inspiration as the released spirits shall pass on from a probation in purgatory to an endless bliss in paradise.

But these old black Mississippi bottoms are not now in the way of culture and artistic beauty what they were in the days of slavery, but the moral blot which is thus removed from the land more than compensates for all lack of momentary physical adornment. I say momentary, for verily it can not be possible that the mere absence of servile bondage can long be allowed to serve as an excuse for the languishing condition of our most inviting landed resources along this great alluvial basin. There is too much skill, too much enterprise and nerve in the American mind and in the American arm to allow such conclusion. On the contrary, these rich alluvial bottoms shall soon be made literally and in fact to bloom and blossom as the rose, under the free and contented skill and industry of those who shall own the rich soil which they cultivate. Yes, "own the rich soil which they cultivate;" for in my opinion in no other way and under no other system can this land be redeemed and made to produce what the common interests of the world demand. Let us hope for this, and let our statesmen and law-makers look to it.

I have ever been at a loss to divine for what purpose nature has produced such an inexhaustible supply of willow growth along the shores of our southern streams. From New Orleans to Monroe and Shreveport alone, via the Ouachita and Red rivers, there seems to be sufficient of this growth to supply the world for any ordinary and known purpose—enough, if converted into coal, to manufacture powder sufficient to blow the world into atoms. But now I see the purpose of this abundant and inexhaustible twig. Captain Eads will have a use for each and every one, in the formation of his "fascines," with which he hopes to deepen our lower Mississippi navigation by means of a submarine levee, so that nature never produces aught in vain.

I do not suppose that any of you "city editors" have ever traveled from New Orleans to Homer by steamboat or by any other route or means. You doubtless think it sufficient for your grandeur and glory to swelter and fume from week to week and from year to year amid the heat and stench and dirt of your magnificently decaying metropolis. Very well. But let me tell you a thing or two. While you remain where you are and fail to visit this portion of our great State, you will know but little of her munificent natural resources, and but little of the romance and poetry of her glorious natural scenery; and alike little of the true and unadulterated pleasures of life. Then come along by the next boat to Minden—within twenty miles of Homer—the nearest point you can reach by steamboat. Take the cleanly and clever steamer John Howard, the only boat now in the trade, and come along and enjoy one pure breath in your life and a few draughts of pure and sparkling water. It will do you good, in both body and soul. I will not promise you any whisky, for I believe the boys about Homer have swallowed the last drop—at least I hope so—and d—d be he who brings another jug full within striking distance! Come by way of Minden, up this sacred and romantic lake—old Lake Bisteneau—celebrated in all past time for its mystical legendary lore, and known during and since the war as the Saline Mecca of the Southern Confederacy. You will never regret the trip.

And then when you get out into this rural portion of our beloved State, you can the more philosophically moralize on her natural and inexhaustible resources, and the best and surest means of developing the same. And I think the first proposition you will agree to, after taking a parting look at the old St. Louis Hotel and then passing up and looking at the old State House at Baton Rouge, will be for the speedy and permanent removal of our State capital. I am myself thoroughly convinced this should be done, for more good and sufficient reasons than I will now undertake to enumerate. But suffice it for the present that the old State House at Baton Rouge still stands, with the walls intact, occupying the most pleasant and cleanly location, and but a comparatively small sum would put it in good repair; and the good results of which would, in my opinion, be almost incalculable.

And then, if you city gentlemen who may think you know everything of the political situation will take a stroll into the country and mix with the people—especially with the bone and sinew of the Republican party, the "poor but honest" freedman—you will find that you have been knowing, in a manner, nothing in this respect. And bring along with you Governor Kellogg, and let him also learn something for practical use. He may find that too much "compromise" is sometimes and in some places worse than not quite enough. So let him come along; he will not be hurt—at least after he reaches Homer.

And will Louisiana go Republican at the next election?

If she does, let me suggest that it will not be through the instrumentality of those who have mainly directed her destiny, and manipulated and adjusted her vote, for the last several years.

W. JASPER BLACKBURN.

COURT RECORD.

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1875.

United States Circuit Court.

Bayley & Pond vs. London and Lancashire Insurance Company.—Judge Woods charged the jury, in substance, as follows:

The facts conceded are that plaintiffs were grocers, doing business up to May 29, 1874; that they insured January 12, 1870, for $10,000 in defendant company, renewed yearly, and for one year from May 12, 1874, including the room No. 3 Tchoupitoulas street. May 29, 1874, the premises were burned.

Plaintiffs allege damage of $181,608 05, and stock of $239,137 17. There was insurance in other companies of $187,500, making $197,500 in all. The plaintiffs allege proportionate loss of $9195 35.

You will consider: 1. Whether a particular account has been rendered. 2. Whether plaintiffs have by misfortune and not by fraud sustained this damage. 3. If the questions as to the loss have been truly answered. The plaintiffs must satisfy you they have complied with the policy. They are not bound to do impossibilities. If vouchers have been destroyed without their connivance the fact that they do not make an accurate statement in consequence ought not to go to their prejudice. If they have not come up to the policy you will consider if there has been a waver by the defendants. The proofs need not follow the exact words of the policy. If plaintiffs have complied with the meaning it is sufficient.

I instruct you further that if the plaintiffs have actually furnished the preliminary proofs and certificates, and they are so defective as not to be a substantial compliance with the requirements of the policy, it was the duty of the defendant to object to them. If the insurance company has received the proofs, etc., and retained them, and taken no exception to them, nor required further or more accurate compliance with the terms of the policy in this respect, and has entered into treaty with the assured for the payment of the loss, and has put its refusal to pay on other grounds than the defective preliminary proofs or the want of the proper certificate, that will amount to a waiver of the right of the company to require full and accurate performance and will cure any defect in the proofs, etc., furnished.

Heath vs. Franklin Ins. Co., 1 Cush. 257; Peacock vs. N. Y. Life Ins. Co., 1 Bosw., 338; Flanders on Insurance, 532; Underhill vs. The Insurance Co., 6 Cush. 440; St. Louis Ins. Co. vs. Kyle, 11 Mo. 278; Sexten vs. Montgomery Ins. Co., 9 Barb. 191; Proctection Ins. Co. vs. Harmar, 2 Ohio St. 452.

You will determine if there was a substantial compliance, and if not, if there was a waiver by defendants. The twelfth section of the policy declares against fraud. A contract of insurance depends on good faith. If the plaintiffs, by overcharging or false swearing, have been guilty of fraud, they can not recover. The burden of proof is on the defendant. There must have been a purpose to defraud. The naked fact that the estimate is greater than the actual loss will not justify a verdict against plaintiffs, unless you are satisfied they purposely exaggerated. The estimate is the true cash value on the day of fire, at the fair market value. If the fire was caused by plaintiffs, with intent to defraud, they can not recover. You must be convinced of this by proof offered by defendants. That it was set by employes of plaintiffs, is not enough, unless it was by their direction.

It is claimed plaintiffs kept saltpetre, classed as extra hazardous. Insurance companies take risks on their own terms. If you find that the policy was to be void if saltpetre was kept, and it was kept without the knowledge of the assurers, the policy is void. It would not avoid the policy if the plaintiffs were rectifiers as claimed by defense. It is not an unlawful act if the tax is paid, and if not paid until the United States asserts its title the plaintiffs have an insurable interest. If you find the defense has made good any one of these points you will find for the defendant. If you find it has not made any you will find for the plaintiff. And the rule for estimation of loss is in these words:

And in case of any other insurance upon the property hereby insured, whether prior or subsequent to the date of this policy, the insured shall not, in case of loss or damage, be entitled to demand or recover of this company any greater proportion of the loss or damage sustained than the amount hereby insured shall bear to the whole amount insured on said property.

As $197,500 is to $10,000, so is the amount of the loss to the amount to be paid by the defendant. The burden of proof is upon the plaintiff to show the actual cash value of the property destroyed at the time of the fire. You will not be authorized to guess at the amount. Policies to $197,500 were taken out. It is a simple sum in proportion as given. You have only to fix the loss to know the third term.

In arriving at your conclusions upon this part of the case you will exclude from your consideration any offer made for settlement by defendant in the way of compromise, or what has been done by other companies which had policies upon the plaintiffs' stock of goods.

If you shall find for the plaintiffs, you will return a verdict for the true and actual cash value of the property of the plaintiffs totally destroyed by the fire, to which you will add the actual damage to the other property of plaintiffs covered by the insurance, and upon this sum allow interest at five per cent, commencing sixty days from the fire.

The jury returned the following verdict: We, the jury, find for the plaintiff in the sum of $8714 87, with interest at five per cent from September 5, 1874.

JOHN D. COBB, Foreman.

Thomas R. Vaughn vs. Philip H. Sheridan, William H. Emory and Philip R. De Trobriand.—And now comes the said defendant, Philip R. De Trobriand, by J. R. Beckwith, United States attorney, appearing herein as his attorney in this behalf, and for answer to said plaintiff's petition denies all and singular, each and every, the allegations in said petition, pleaded, contained and set forth, except in so far as any of said allegations may hereinafter in this his answer be specially admitted and avoided, and prays judgment against the said plaintiff with costs, etc.

And for a further answer in this behalf said defendant saith that on the day and year in said plaintiff's petition mentioned, to wit: on the fourth day of January, A. D. 1875, and for a long time before that date, and at all time since that day and date, he was and still is a duly constituted, appointed, qualified and commissioned officer of and in the regular land forces and army of the United States of America in the service of the said United States, with and in said army, to wit: a colonel and Brevet Brigadier General of and in said regular land force, in the discharge of the duties, power and authority pertaining his rank as aforesaid.

And he further saith that before the said fourth day of January, A. D. 1875, in said plaintiff's petition mentioned, to wit: on the fourteenth day of September, A. D. 1874, there was in existence, within the State of Louisiana, an insurrection against the constituted authorities and government of the State of Louisiana and the laws thereof. That pursuant to the constitution of the said United States, and the acts of the Congress thereof, in such case made and provided, the Governor of the State of Louisiana, William Pitt Kellogg, as he lawfully might (the Legislature of the said State not being then and there in session), did then and there, to wit: on the fourteenth of September, A. D. 1874, make application to the President of the said United States for such part of the military forces of the United States as should be sufficient and necessary to overthrow and suppress said domestic violence and insurrection against the constituted authorities of said State and the laws thereof, and restore order and peace, and enforce obedience to the laws thereof.

That the President of the said United States being then and there charged by law with the duty of suppressing insurrection and domestic violence in such case, considered the said application so made as aforesaid, and so considering the same did determine and find the fact to be, that such insurrection against the constituted authorities of the said State of Louisiana did exist, and then and there in the exercise of the authority and discretion in that respect and behalf vested in him by law considered it to be necessary to use the military forces of the said United States to suppress the same, and thereupon forthwith, to wit: on the fifteenth day of September, A. D. 1874, at the city of Washington, in due form of law, by public proclamation duly made and published, did command all turbulent and disorderly persons engaged in said violence and insurrection to disperse and return peaceably to their respective abodes within a time and period named in said public proclamation and submit themselves to the laws and constituted authorities of the said State of Louisiana, and did then and there forthwith, by lawful in that behalf cause to be dispatched to and concentrated in the State of Louisiana for the purpose of aiding to suppress said insurrection and violence, and of enforcing the commands of said public proclamation in the event of disobedience thereof, a portion of the regular army and land forces of the said United States, which said land forces then and there, being a portion of the regular army of the United States, continued to be and was within the limits of the State of Louisiana charged with said public duty as aforesaid until and on and after the said fourth day of January, A. D. 1875, then and there at all times charged with the duty aforesaid, and then and there subject and required to obey and execute the orders of the President of the United States, and all officers of and in the military forces of the United States entitled to command the same, without any election in that behalf.

And said defendant avers that the said turbulent and disorderly persons so engaged in said insurrection within said State of Louisiana, and opposing the lawful authorities thereof, did not in all things submit to and obey the lawful commands of the said public proclamation contained within the time limited in said proclamation, and did not become peaceable and submit themselves to the laws and constituted authorities of the State of Louisiana; but, on the contrary thereof, disregarded the same, and still continued to revolt against and oppose the laws and menace the constituted authorities of said State at all times, from the date of the said public proclamation until and including the said fourth day of January, A. D. 1875; that the said Governor of the said State, by law charged with the duty of enforcing the laws of the said State as he lawfully might (the Legislature of said State not then and there being in session at and during the said period of time aforesaid), further required the aid of said land force of the United States to aid him in enforcing the laws of said State to support the constituted authorities thereof, suppress insurrection and violence and preserve the public peace within said State. That on said fourth day of January A. D. 1875, this defendant was in said State of Louisiana, at the city of New Orleans, with said regular land forces of the United States, as and in his capacity of an officer of and in the regular army thereof, in pursuance of and obedience to the lawful commands and orders of his superior officers in said army, and was then and there by virtue of said orders in the direct command of the Thirteenth regiment of infantry of the regular army of the United States, and certain other detachments of the said regular land forces of the said United States, then and there stationed, and being in the city of New Orleans, at all times subject to and required to execute, fulfill and obey to the best of his ability and discretion military orders made and issued to him by Colonel and Brevet Brigadier General William H. Emory, his co-defendant herein, who then and there was his superior officer in command of the said United States forces in the State of Louisiana.

And said defendant further saith that the said regular forces of the United States, so under his command, were by the order of his said superior officer aforesaid, on said fourth day of January, A. D. 1875, under the direct command of this defendant, stationed and ordered to take position in the city of New Orleans, near or in the vicinity of the building occupied as the State House, in and for said State of Louisiana, charged with the duty of executing, fulfilling and obeying all orders of the said officer in command of said Department of the Gulf, made and issued in aid of the Governor and constituted authorities of said State in maintaining public peace and order in said State and said vicinity, and charged with the duty to support and maintain said constituted authorities of said State, and assist the same in suppressing affray, revolt or insurrection against such constituted State authorities, and to aid in maintaining and enforcing the authority and laws of said State against any and all riotous and turbulent persons resisting the same.

And said defendant further saith that on said fourth day of January, A. D. 1875, at New Orleans aforesaid, and while this defendant held the command as aforesaid, charged with the duties aforesaid, and subject to the orders and commands aforesaid, the said William Pitt Kellogg, then and there Governor of said State as aforesaid, charged by law with the duty to enforce obedience to the laws of said State, did make known officially and so represent unto the said Brevet Brigadier General William H. Emory, so commanding the said Military Department of the Gulf, including within its limits the said State of Louisiana, that a lawless, turbulent body of men, in the breach of the public peace of said State, and in opposition, and was then and there congregated about and in the vicinity of the building so used and occupied as such State House as aforesaid, and that a portion of said riotous and unlawful assemblage had forcibly invaded the said State House and had occupied or taken possession of the hall of the House of Representatives in said State House, in breach of the law and public peace, and further that the force of the State of Louisiana, at the command of the said Governor, was insufficient to restore the public peace and order, and suppress such resistance and affray, and enforce the laws of said State and support and sustain said constituted authorities then and there, being resisted and set at defiance, and then and there requested the aid of the land forces of the United States to assist in suppressing such violence and affray, and to enforce the law of the said State.

That the said defendant W. H. Emory, then and there being as such public officer, to-wit: Brevet Brigadier General in the army of the United States, in command of the land forces of the United States in the said Department of the Gulf, as aforesaid, and then and there charged with the duty to assist in preserving the public order in said State, and to assist in suppressing revolt, insurrection or resistance to the laws and constituted authorities of the said State of Louisiana, by virtue of lawful orders to that effect made and delivered to him by the President of the United States, and his superior officers in said army, in that behalf in compliance therewith and obedience thereto did make, issue and deliver to this defendant, so being an officer as aforesaid, with the command, authority and duties aforesaid, a military order to be obeyed and executed by this defendant, which said order and command in substance and effect commanded this defendant, with the said force then and there under his immediate command, to give the Governor and constituted authorities of said State such military aid as should be or become necessary to restore the public peace and order, and suppress violence and any affray in said locality, and remove from the hall of the House of Representatives in the State House such persons as were then and there in breach of the public peace, or then and there engaged in an affray, or resisting, opposing or refusing to obey and submit to the laws and constituted authorities of said State.

That at the time when said order and command was received by the defendant, as aforesaid, he at once notified the said William Pitt Kellogg, Governor of said State, of the fact that he, this defendant, had been so ordered and commanded in the premises, and the tenor and purport of such order; that this defendant was then and there by the said Governor advised and informed that there was an unlawful assemblage of riotous persons in forcible possession of the hall of the House of Representatives in said State House, engaged in an affray and breach of the public peace of said State and defying the laws and authorities thereof; that the force of the State at the command of said Governor was inadequate and insufficient to suppress said revolt, affray and breach of the peace, and did then and there insist to this defendant that he obey the said order of the said military commander of the said United States forces, to wit: Brevet Brigadier General W. H. Emory, in that behalf, and aid him, the said Governor, and the said constituted authorities of said State, with the military force so then and there under his command, to suppress such affray, turbulence, revolt and resistance to the laws and authorities of said State then and there in existence as aforesaid; that in order to accomplish said object with the least chance and possibility of bloodshed and further unlawful violence on the part of said riotous persons so assembled as aforesaid, said Governor did then and there particularly request and desire that the defendant so obey and execute his said order from his said superior military officer by removing from the said hall of the House of Representatives all persons not entitled by law to participate in the organization of the House of Representatives then and there afterward on said fourth day of January to be convened and organized in said hall of the House of Representatives; that, therefore, this defendant, considering his premises and his duty therein in the execution of the said order of his said superior military officer, proceeded to said State House, and to the said hall of the House of Representatives, and believing, from an inspection of said premises and the condition of affairs and state of violence, turbulence, riot and breach of the peace then and there existing, said representations of the said Governor to be true, and that in obedience to the tenor, substance and effect of said military orders to him addressed it was his duty to use the military means at his command to restore order, the public peace, and to enforce obedience to the laws and the constituted authorities of said State and suppress such revolt against the same, that this defendant then and there as such public officer as aforesaid, in the rank and command as aforesaid, did then and there take such military steps and proceedings as did produce the effect to restore public order and prevent any further breach of the public peace; that such steps and proceedings so taken by this defendant were all and singular determined upon and performed by this defendant as and in his capacity of a military officer, and with the rank and duty aforesaid, and in no other character or capacity whatsoever, and in the obedience and execution of the military commands aforesaid, addressed to him by his superior military officer, according to the very best of the knowledge, judgment and discretion of this defendant in the premises.

And said defendant further saith, that in the execution of said military order, and in aiding the Governor of said State aforesaid, this defendant, believing it to be necessary and expedient so to do, and that bloodshed and further affray and rioting would be best prevented in that manner and by that means, did cause to be removed from the said Hall of the House of Representatives a large number of such turbulent persons who had invaded such hall, and were then and there, as this defendant verily believed, by their presence, acts and example inciting and encouraging such affray and violence and resistance to the law of said State, or were then and there actually engaged in such unlawful acts; that this defendant had no personal knowledge of or acquaintance with the said plaintiff, but is informed by the said plaintiff, petitioner herein, that the said plaintiff was one of the said persons so by this defendant caused to be removed from said hall of the House of Representatives as aforesaid; that in the execution of his said orders as aforesaid, in the suppression of said affray and violence aforesaid, defendant used and exercised the very best of his knowledge and discretion as aforesaid with special care, and intention on the part of this defendant to in no manner use or exercise more force than should be or was necessary to restore order and public peace, and obedience to the laws and authorities of said State, and did then and there take and exercise particular care and caution not to remove from said hall of the House of Representatives or said premises any person or persons whatsoever who by the statutes of the State of Louisiana then and there in force, and in such case made and provided, had any right to participate in the organization of the assembly of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Legislature of said State, then and there, in said hall of the House of Representatives, then and there about to be convened and organized at the time and in the manner as provided by the statute of said State then and there in force as the law of said State in such case. And this defendant avers and saith that said plaintiff was not then and there by force of and by the terms of the statute of said State entitled to or permitted to act or in any manner participate in the organization of the said House of Representatives of said State as he is and was informed and verily believed and still believes and avers.

And said defendant further saith that in and about all of the acts so done and performed by this defendant as a public officer aforesaid in the execution of and obedience to the military orders to him addressed as aforesaid and in the removal of said persons from the hall of the House of Representatives and premises aforesaid, under the circumstances aforesaid, this defendant as to each, every, all and singular the persons so removed from said premises, then and there used and employed no more force than was absolutely necessary in the premises, and that in no case or to any person so removed from the said premises did he commit or cause to be committed any act of violence or bodily injury either upon the person of the plaintiff or any other person whatsoever, and that he might do no bodily hurt or harm to any such person, he then and there in no case used more violence than to gently lay his hands upon such person or persons as then and there refused to comply with the request of this defendant, politely and gently made that they so desist from such affray and leave such premises.

And said defendant saith that he hath in no manner done and performed any other act or thing to which the allegations in said plaintiff's petition can or do in any manner refer or allude, and that said acts of this defendant are and constitute the alleged ill treatment and assault in said plaintiff's petition mentioned.

That as all of the said acts of this defendant were done and performed by this defendant as such public officer of and in the said army of the United States in the discharge of a lawful public duty as aforesaid, in the fulfillment and obedience of lawful military orders as aforesaid, and in the exercise of the best judgment and discretion of this defendant as such officer, used and exercised by him in the discharge of such public duty, and as well in the manner and form in which he so discharged and performed his duty and obeyed said orders, and without any malice, desire or revenge or intention to wrong or in any manner injure or oppress the said plaintiff or any other person whatsoever.

Wherefore defendant prays judgment against the said plaintiff herein against the said demand, and for costs, and will ever pray, etc.

General W. H. Emory answers in substance the same, varying only in statement of rank; that at the time and under the circumstances set forth, as commander of the land forces of the United States, he obeyed the orders of his superior officers; that he never laid violent hands on or saw the said plaintiff; that he made such disposition of his forces as in his discretion best provided for the suppression of revolt in compliance with the lawful orders of the military authorities; that he delivered to Colonel De Trobriand an order to give the constituted authorities the necessary aid to suppress any affray.

The answer of Lieutenant General P. H. Sheridan is similar to that of General Emory, except in statement of rank; that he has no knowledge of the wrongs complained of by plaintiff, unless the approval of the military orders of his codefendant, General W. H. Emory, can be so construed; and that this approval was as a public officer to the best of his discretion.

Superior District Court.

New Orleans Sanitary Excavating Company vs. John Adams, John Buhler, Owen Fitzpatrick, Francois Fouir, Charles Gaudon, J. Goudrixon, P. Laumann, G. Mascaro, R. Meekins, M. Miller, Simon Murray, Joseph Oser, William Piper, J. R. Relin, James Roth, J. Schondlerson, J. Schwab, Charles Smith, H. Weisenbach and Charles Zacharia. Petition sets forth that the plaintiff company was incorporated for public and sanitary purposes; to excavate vaults, etc., without incommoding the public; that it has prepared itself for this purpose at a great expense and is now the proprietor of the "odorless excavating apparatus;" that it has the exclusive privilege of such work, and that defendants in defiance of the law, and to plaintiff's damage and great injury to the health of the public, persist in the business. Injunction issued on bond of $100 in each case. Bond of $2000 given.

THE YELLOW FEVER.

Official Report on the Malady by Dr. J. M. Woodworth.

The report of Dr. John M. Woodworth, supervising surgeon of marine hospitals, which was made to the Secretary of the Treasury last December, has just been completely printed at the government office, with several tables and papers accompanying, which together form a volume of about 250 pages. The first 100 pages of the volume comprise the papers pertaining more particularly to the hospital service. The remaining 150 pages are an appendix, containing several contributed medical essays on subjects more or less nearly connected with the topics treated in the report. One or two of these essays are, by reason of the attention recently attracted to yellow fever, timely and generally interesting.

One of them is upon the yellow fever epidemic at Pensacola in 1874, and is from the pen of Dr. James S. Herron, surgeon in charge of the Marine Hospital patients at that port. There were upward of 275 cases of fever at Pensacola last year, the disease having been epidemic there for a considerable time during the latter part of the summer, till driven away by the early winter frosts. As the pestilence did not visit other parts of the country then, there may be found in the circumstances attending its progress some hope that through the approaching summer the ravages of the disease may at least be confined to Key West and its immediate neighborhood.

Dr. Herron says the epidemic of last year appears not to have been of local origin, but to have been, as on all previous occasions, the result of importation. Quarantine was established, and, on the twenty-fifth of May, the Spanish bark Virtuoso, from Havana, arrived and was duly detained. One of the crew was reported ill with the yellow fever, and two were said to have died on the passage. On the twenty-ninth a man was brought in an insensible condition to the Marine Hospital, and was supposed to have congestion of the brain. He died next day of black vomit, and after death the body turned quite yellow. His disease was, of course, yellow fever. It was subsequently learned that he had been engaged in removing ballast from the Virtuoso. No other case occurred in the city until August, though fever continued to prevail at the quarantine station, four miles away.

On the eleventh of August three negroes came to the city from the Laura Maria, a German bark, which had contracted the disease from the Virtuoso, and one of them died on shore. On the sixteenth an American bark from Aspinwall, named the Laura Combs, arrived in port, and through communication with the Spanish bark her crew took the yellow fever, and after being discharged they went on a "spree," and the next day were all taken down at "Kelley's Sailor Boardinghouse." Thus the dreaded plague advanced, step by step, till it assumed the form of an epidemic early in September.

Dr. Herron states that the number of cases outside the hospital is set down at 225, with fifty-five deaths. This was a mortality of nearly twenty-five per cent. There were admitted to the hospital fifty-one yellow fever patients, including thirty-six merchant sailors, and twelve county, one city, and two private patients. Of them all, ten died. This was a mortality of nearly twenty per cent. The report states that of these ten, two were treated for yellow fever, and the true character of their disease was only recognized after death. Four of the remaining deaths were of patients admitted in a dying condition, having been previously sick from five to seven days without medical attendance. Of those admitted within the first forty-eight hours there were forty-three, with two deaths. Thus it appears that of cases treated under favorable circumstances, the mortality was not above five per cent. There were some cases in the navy yard, of which no report was obtained. The last deaths from yellow fever were on the first of December. It is suggested that sailors kept on ship board or in boardinghouses more than forty-eight hours after being taken sick should not be moved, but should be treated where they were attacked.

Dr. Herron makes this important statement: "After an experience of three epidemics, viz., those of 1867, 1873 and 1874, I am of the opinion that the mortality of yellow fever need not necessarily, when the patient is seen within the first thirty-six hours, exceed ten per cent for hospital and five per cent for civil practice." Speaking generally of the epidemic at Pensacola last year, he says: "Yellow fever was introduced here by vessels from Cuba, and was propagated and disseminated by a worthless quarantine and the sailors' boardinghouses. At the latter men were kept without medical attendance until it was of little avail, and were then sent to hospital, at the very time when they should not have been moved." It can be no matter of surprise that under such circumstances the mortality should have reached the high percentage shown by the report.

The paper gives a brief account of the peculiarities of this last epidemic, among which may be mentioned a strong tendency to typhoid symptoms, and the inability to bear medicine of any kind. The method of treatment is also briefly discussed. No medicine was administered except in a few instances. In the beginning a hot mustard footbath was given. By each bed a pan of broken ice or a pitcher of ice water was kept, so that the patient, if neglected by his attendant, could reach them night and day. On the fourth or fifth day, according to circumstances, nourishment was first given, very cautiously, in teaspoonful doses, every two hours for the first half day, and then every hour for the remainder of the day. Dr. Herron preferred beef tea made from Liebig's extract. He did not in this epidemic, as a rule, sweat the patient so profusely as ordinarily, on account of the depressing effect and strong typhoid tendency. There was also a tendency for the fever to run on to the fifth day, instead of terminating on the third, as it ought. Quinine was given in only one case, and in that had no effect upon the continuance of the fever. The patient was supposed to be ill with Chagres fever.

Still more fruitful in lessons is the history of the epidemic of 1873. The second paper upon yellow fever in the Marine Hospital report treats of this epidemic. The article occupies forty pages, and is contributed by Frank W. Reilly, M. D. Dr. Reilly was detailed to prepare the report in obedience to a resolution of Congress passed a year ago last winter. It is impossible, of course to give in the limits of a newspaper article more than a fragment of this long paper; but a few of the more generally interesting facts, gathered almost at random from the document, especially such facts as may aid in comprehending and measuring the present danger, which, it must be confessed, is not to be lightly disregarded, deserve consideration.

Much of the terror inspired by yellow fever is due to the mystery which conceals its origin and progress. In 1873 it was the cause of 3397 deaths in the United States. During the same period of the year in which it prevailed, there occurred from the group of malarial fevers 9200 deaths, and yet there was no panic in any city on account of these latter fevers; while in several large cities, and indeed throughout a large portion of the country, business was paralyzed and commerce almost suspended by the lesser ravages of "Yellow Jack." In respect to the popular fear inspired, yellow fever and cholera are near cousins. From the beginning to the end of the cholera epidemic in 1873 it caused 3825 deaths, while during the same period there died 20,000 persons, in round numbers, from diarrhea, dysentery, and cholera infantum. It is not even known that the annual death rate is materially increased by these dreaded scourges.

The only practical lesson taught by the epidemic of 1873 is summed up in two words: *General sanitation.* In this are included thorough cleanliness, pure air, unpolluted water, wholesome food, and individual hygiene. "No partial exclusion will suffice to prevent an explosion when the mine is ready, as it was in Memphis and in Shreveport, for months before the spark was applied. And no multiplication of the spark will create an explosion where the explosive elements are absent, as was abundantly proved at Mobile and at New Orleans." No measures can prevent the introduction of yellow fever germs along the coast between Key West and Brownsville. Once introduced in a community living under the semi-tropical sun of a Southern summer, with defective sewerage, imperfect scavenging, polluted water supply, neglected cloacæ, and *invidia absit*, with the lowered moral as well as physical tone these conditions inevitably produce, an epidemic of yellow fever is no more to be wondered at than is any other natural result the effect of a sufficient cause." The truth of the foregoing remarks upon the importance of general sanitary measures and individual carefulness of general health is well shown by a comparison between the experience of New Orleans and Memphis.

In New Orleans the first case of yellow fever occurred on the fourth of July. Whether it originated from germs which had survived from the previous season or from germs freshly imported from Cuba is undetermined. The disease was, however, supposed to have been brought to the city by the Spanish bark Valparaiso from Havana. The next case was on the river steamer Belle Lee, which lay about 100 feet from the Valparaiso. However the disease originated, one vessel after another became infected, and all efforts to keep the city free from invasion proved futile. In July there were eight cases, of which five died. During August there were forty cases, with twenty-nine deaths. The greatest mortality was in September, when the number of cases was 183, with 108 deaths; in October there were 135 cases and seventy deaths; and in November twenty-two cases, with fourteen deaths. During the season the entire number of cases was 388, of which 226 were fatal—a mortality of over fifty-eight per cent.

Yellow fever reached Memphis in August, and began its ravages in a low, flat portion of the city, near the river, called "Happy Hollow." The disease was communicated by the Bee, a steamer from New Orleans. It spread from house to house without its true character being recognized. In this way it obtained a firm foothold before it met with any resistance. About a month after its first appearance in the city, yellow fever was declared to have become epidemic. In seven weeks, out of a population reduced to 20,000 by the flight of all who could get away, 1800 died. Another authority claims that no more than 15,000 people slept in the city at night, and of that number at least 7000 had the fever. The lowest estimate of the rate of mortality is twenty-five cent.

In New Orleans, a city of near 200,000 inhabitants, 388 cases of fever, against 7000 cases in Memphis, with less than 50,000 people! And New Orleans, too, exposed, by its more southern situation, to far greater danger. There must be some fact by which this great difference can be explained. If yellow fever could be successfully combated in New Orleans in 1873, why not in other cities in other years? Dr. Reilly, from whose report these facts are taken, finds in the sanitary condition of the two cities, and in the means with which the pestilence was fought against by the local authority, a contrast which he thinks conveys the needed lesson.

Since 1854 the sanitary of New Orleans has been gradually improved, and during the military occupation it was in better condition than any city had ever before been seen on the continent. Efforts have been made to hold the advantage then gained. When the fever threatened, great credit is given to the Board of Health for its energy and persistence in placing the city in the best possible condition to meet the attack. Never was disinfection before undertaken upon so extensive a scale. Crude carbolic acid was sprinkled by hand sprinkling pots at the rate of about twenty gallons to every hundred square yards. This was repeated at intervals of from five to ten days. It was by such vigorous measures that New Orleans was saved the horrors of Memphis.

In Memphis, it was not until two months after the disease was introduced that the Board of Health was reorganized and made ready for general work. The day was already past, and night was come wherein the board could do no work. One of the local papers gave the following account of the sanitary condition of the city:

"We have no system of sewerage in Memphis, and the necessary consequence is that the filth of the city is left to take care of itself. Our sanitary police consists, for the most part, of some half dozen of the chain-gang, who occasionally do little more than emancipate the confined odors of the kennels of Main street, and give wings to imprisoned effluvia. Our alleys and obscure streets are left to the rag pickers, to porcine and canine scavengers, to cleanse them of their superfluous foulness, and were it not for the rains of pitying heaven, would of themselves give abundant employment to our undertakers and grave diggers. And yet these are the least of the objectionable features touching the violation of the laws of hygiene in Memphis. Nearly every family in this city is dependent upon a cistern for its supply of water; nearly every cistern is in the same yard, in close proximity to and generally in a direct geographical line with the privy. No intelligent man need be told of the percolative and absorbent qualities of the earth, and no Memphian need be reminded of the difficulty of finding cistern water in the city free from the impurities of animalculæ, induced by decomposition."

In Shreveport, where the conditions were even more favorable to the spread of fever than in Memphis, the devastation was proportionately greater. Mobile followed the example of New Orleans, and, though the fever was repeatedly introduced, prevented the disease from becoming epidemic, except in small portions of the city. It is impossible for one to read the history of the yellow fever epidemic of 1873 without being deeply impressed with the truthfulness of the conclusion reached by Dr. Reilly, that in sanitary efforts lies all there is of promise for the future in dealing with yellow fever. Nor does the evidence seem less conclusive that, by proper efforts, the ravages of the disease may be greatly limited, if not wholly prevented.—*New York Times.*

Marriages have occurred in balloons, and when ballooning becomes more common it is not improbable that a child may be born far above the earth. In that case the parents will have to sky rock it.

SHERIFF'S SALES.

The City of New Orleans vs. Emanuel Perraudat; same vs. same; same vs. same; same vs. same; same vs. same; same vs. same; same vs. same; same vs. John Petit and E. Perraudat.

SUPERIOR DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans, Nos. 67,532, 5549, 67,593, 67,592, 67,300, 67,305, 33,954, and 41,900.—By virtue of eight writs of fieri facias to me directed by the honorable the Superior District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled causes, for city taxes of 1860, 1863, 1865, 1866 and 1868, I will proceed to sell at public auction, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, between Canal and Customhouse streets, in the Second District of this city, on WEDNESDAY, June 9, 1875, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

A CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND, on the Gentilly road, or Bayou Sauvage, in the rear of the Third District of this city, measuring five arpents seventy-two feet front on each side of the said Gentilly road, by twenty arpents on each side of the said road, French measure, and divided in ten portions or lots of ground, five on each side of said road, numbered as numbers one hundred and nine, one hundred and eleven, one hundred and thirteen, one hundred fifteen and one hundred and seventeen on one side, and one hundred and eighteen, one hundred and twenty, one hundred and twenty-two, one hundred and twenty-four and one hundred and twenty-six on the other side.

A CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND, situated on the Gentilly road or Bayou Sauvage, in the rear of the Third District of this city, measuring five arpents thirty-six feet front on each side of said road, by about twenty arpents, also on each side of said road, French measure, and divided in ten portions of ground, five on each side of said road, numbered one hundred and thirty-nine, one hundred and forty-one, one hundred and forty-three, one hundred and forty-five and one hundred and forty-seven on one side, and one hundred and forty-eight, one hundred and fifty, one hundred and fifty-two, one hundred and fifty-four and one hundred and fifty six on the other side.

A CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND, situated on the Gentilly road or Bayou Sauvage, in the rear of the Third District of this city, measuring five arpents front on each side of said Gentilly road, by about twenty arpents, also on each side of the road, French measure, and divided in ten portions of ground, five on each side of said road, numbered one hundred and nineteen, one hundred and twenty-one, one hundred and twenty-three, one hundred and twenty-five, one hundred and twenty-seven, on one side of the road, one hundred and twenty-eight, one hundred and thirty, one hundred and thirty-two, one hundred and thirty-four and one hundred and thirty-six on the other side.

A CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND, situated on the Gentilly road, or Bayou Sauvage, measuring five arpents front on Gentilly, on each side, by twenty arpents in depth on each side of said road, numbered one hundred and twenty-nine, one hundred and thirty-one, one hundred and thirty-three, one hundred and thirty-five and one hundred and thirty-seven on one side, and one hundred and thirty-eight, one hundred and forty, one hundred and forty-two, one hundred and forty-four and one hundred and forty-six on the other side.

ONE CERTAIN PORTION OF GROUND, situated in the Third District of this city, in square number fifteen hundred and thirty, bounded by Gentilly road, Laharpe and White streets, designated as lot number two, measuring sixty six feet on Gentilly road, by one hundred feet in depth.

ONE CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated in the Third District of this city, in square number two hundred and sixty, bounded by White street, Gentilly road, Laharpe and Columbus streets, measuring sixty six feet on Gentilly road, by one hundred feet in depth.

ONE CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated in the Third District of this city, in Milneburg, measuring thirty feet, by one hundred and thirty feet in depth.

Seized in the above suits.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

EUGENE WAGGAMAN,
my5 16 je9 Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.

John R. Clay vs. Charles Ruding.

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF Orleans, No. 6754.—By virtue of a writ of seizure and sale directed by the honorable the Sixth District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled cause to W. P. Harper, late sheriff, and by said late sheriff to me transferred, I will proceed to sell at public auction, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, between Canal and Customhouse streets, in the Second District of this city, on SATURDAY, May 29, 1875, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

1. A CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, with all the improvements thereon, situated in the Fourth District of this city, in the square bounded by Annunciation, or Jersey, Philip, Chippewa and Soraparu streets, designated by the number one, on a plan drawn by F. N. Tourne, surveyor, dated the tenth of June, 1859, deposited as plan number one hundred and thirty-six in the records of James Graham, notary public in this city; said lot of ground measures, thirty-one feet eleven inches five lines front on Annunciation or Jersey street, by one hundred and twenty feet in depth, between parallel lines.

2. AND A CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated in the Fourth District of this city, in the square bounded by Claiborne, Josephine, Willow and Jackson streets, designated by the number twenty-two of square number three hundred and ninety-eight, on a certain plan annexed to an act of deposit in the office of S. Magner, late a notary public in this city, dated the eighth of February, 1863; said lot measures, according to said plan, twenty-nine feet front on Claiborne street, by one hundred and twenty feet in depth, between parallel lines, with all the buildings and improvements thereon, without exception or reservation.

The property firstly described was purchased by defendant from J. P. Benjamin, by act of the twenty-third of June, 1859, before James Graham, notary; and that secondly described was purchased by said defendant from James L. Frith, as per act passed on the fifth of May, 1870, before W. J. Castell, notary public in this city.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

EUGENE WAGGAMAN,
ap27 my9 16 29 Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.

The City of New Orleans vs. Widow J. C. de St. Romes; same vs. same.

SUPERIOR DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans, Nos. 63,734 and 67,014.—By virtue of two writs of fieri facias to me directed by the honorable the Superior District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled causes, for city taxes of 1870 and 1871, I will proceed to sell at public auction at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, between Canal and Customhouse streets, in the Second District of this city, on MONDAY, June 7, 1875, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

ONE CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated in the Second District of this city, in square number fifty-one, bounded by Barracks, Royal, Chartres and Hospital streets, designated as lot number eleven, measuring sixty-five feet on Royal street by one hundred and five feet on Barracks street, said lot forming the corner of Royal and Barracks streets.

Seized in the above suits.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

EUGENE WAGGAMAN,
my4 16 je6 Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.

The City of New Orleans vs. Alfred Hennen; same vs. same; same vs. same; same vs. same; same vs. same.

SUPERIOR DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans, Nos. 11,002, 10,365, 3400, 10,369 and 10,703.—By virtue of five writs of fieri facias to me directed by the honorable the Superior District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled causes, for city taxes of 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864 and 1865, I will proceed to sell at public auction, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, between Canal and Customhouse streets, in the Second District of this city, on MONDAY, June 7, 1875, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

ONE CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated in the Second District of this city, in square number thirty-five, bounded by Royal, Customhouse and Bienville streets and Exchange alley, measuring thirty-two feet front on Royal street, by one hundred and twenty-six feet in depth.

Seized in the above suits.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

EUGENE WAGGAMAN,
my4 16 je6 Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.

The City of New Orleans vs. John M. Carr; same vs. same; same vs. Mrs. S. E. Carr.

SUPERIOR DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans, Nos. 11,975, 12,301 and 76,077.—By virtue of three writs of fieri facias to me directed by the honorable the Superior District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled causes, for city taxes of 1870, 1871 and 1874, I will proceed to sell at public auction, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, between Canal and Customhouse streets, in the Second District of this city, on WEDNESDAY, June 9, 1875, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

FIVE CERTAIN LOTS OF GROUND, situated in the Sixth District of this city, in square number three hundred and ninety, bounded by St. Charles, Valence, Pitt and Cadiz streets, designated as lots numbers eight to twelve, measuring one hundred and twenty-five feet on St. Charles street, by one hundred feet on Valence street.

Seized in the above suits.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

EUGENE WAGGAMAN,
my5 16 je9 Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.

Emile Bouny vs. Pedro Moliere.

FIFTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF Orleans, No. 6358.—By virtue of a writ of fieri facias to me directed by the honorable the Fifth District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled cause, I will proceed to sell at public auction, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, between Canal and Customhouse streets, in the Second District of this city, on SATURDAY, May 22, 1875, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

TWO CERTAIN LOTS OF GROUND, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon and all the rights, ways, servitudes, privileges and advantages thereunto belonging, situated in the Third District of this city, in the square bounded by Rocheblave, Columbus and the projected opening of Kerlerec and Tonti streets, designated by the numbers five and six on a plan made by L. H. Pilie, late surveyor, dated tenth of December, 1860, and deposited in the office of C. E. Fortier, late a notary public in this city, as plan number fifty-eight of his book of plans number one. Lot number five measures thirty-one feet seven inches one and a half lines front on Rocheblave street, thirty-two feet five lines in the rear, by a depth of ninety-eight feet ten inches on the side of lot number four, and ninety-three feet six lines on the side of lot number six, and said lot number six measures thirty-one feet seven inches one and a half lines front on Rocheblave street, thirty-two feet five lines in the rear, by a depth of ninety-three feet six lines on the side of lot number five, and eighty-seven feet three inches four lines on the side of lot number seven. Which property was acquired by the defendant herein by purchase from Mrs. C. O. Hubert, per act passed before E. Bouny, notary public in this city, on the eighteenth of April, 1872.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

EUGENE WAGGAMAN,
ap21 my2 9 22 Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.