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OUR LOST CENTENNIAL

An Event that Should Have Been Celebrated.

The First Attempt to Establish a Republic in America Occurred in New Orleans 107 Years Ago.

Its Brilliant Beginning and Tragical Termination.

To-day is the last anniversary of the birth of our country before the celebration of the centennial at Philadelphia, and to-day that jubilee is warmly anticipated by the entire people. It is nearly three years since the design of the centenary was made public. Then it was received with ridicule, scorn and contempt. To the element of disloyalty, then fast dying out, it was a mockery. To the more powerful States and cities it appeared an unwarranted assumption of peculiar glory. The press abused it. Congress was frightened from supporting it. The State Legislatures listened to the addresses of the delegates and forgot their appeals in discussing local politics. All this has changed. The scheme has steadily grown in favor and the hands of its originators become strengthened as the day came nearer. States are vieing with each other for opportunities to compete. Congress has indorsed it, and the United States issues an honorary commission to delegates. Since the last rebel opposition to the oath was shown to be founded on a concealment of the acknowledged error of the State Department in forwarding the iron-clad oath instead of its substitute, that objection is removed. All States and cities and towns of this continent will meet the representatives of the Old World in the City of Brotherly Love.

It is fitting that this celebration, marked by the exposition of the progress of civilization in science, art and industry, and sanctioned by the hallowed memories that give it birth, should take place in the Quaker City, where the representatives of the thirteen feeble colonies pledged themselves to hang together in the face of the certainty of hanging separately if they failed.

The opposition to the festival in different localities has ceased, for many reasons. Patriotic thoughts have become more frequent and brighter, and the glories of that day will be shared by all. Other days, too, are revered, and the good work done has not been forgotten. If the day and place of the signing of the declaration of independence were to be forgotten, then the recollections of all the deeds of those trying times might as well be blotted out. Each anniversary has been honored in its turn. Concord and Acton again come together in the spirit of seventy-six, and the story of the banquet has no reference to the old times that one furnished the ground for the fight, and the other the men. Rhode Island has recalled the capture of the Gaspee. The ruins of Ticonderoga have re-echoed the words of Allen without a question of the degree of their reverence. Bunker Hill has called within the Bay State a most wonderful assemblage, and the honored sons of her Southern sisters have received as unstinted a tribute of affection as the heart of man can conceive. Who can read the accounts of that seven mile procession, wherein the pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war, apart from battle's magnificently stern array, mingled with the devices and vans of every product of peaceful industry, moving through the wonderly gala crowd of a million happy, welcoming faces and not accept with a glow of pride the truth of the words of Colonel Andrews that "the golden chord of those ancient memories which runs from Moultrie to Bunker Hill" had been struck.

North Carolina has found that even in the little town of Mecklenburg there was a worthy act of independence for national celebration, and the Ohio river has been the scene of another. In a few days the name of Washington will recall his assumption of the command at Cambridge, and Washington's elm have a new significance in the tender eyes of Cambridge belles and the hearts of fair Harvard's students.

When 1876 dawns the Massachusetts General Court will revive the instructions of 100 years before that pledged her delegates to liberty, and in less than a year the pine and the palmetto can again be entwined when Charleston celebrates how her gunners successfully defied the British fleet. Six days from then music and cannon will usher in the second century of the republic.

It is good to be young and ardent in these days; to have the blood stirred by tales of the early struggles and the ambition fired by the prophesies of the future. These gatherings of generations of the nation are the more harmonious that they have at last come to be spontaneous. Each celebration that we have had has been more successful than the preceding one, more hearty and more patriotic, and when, in her turn, Charleston, now one of the most prosperous cities of the East, sends out her invitations, the response will be so universal that only the national fete day can overshadow it.

These are consecrations of laurels won—of toil and suffering and death rewarded by deserved success. But when, one year from to-day, the orator clothes in glowing words his praises of the heroes of other days, one small band should not be forgotten. They shed no blood but their own; they fell long after the hope of victory had passed from them, and there were no laurels to mingle with the cypress. Victims of delusion, treachery and pride, their story was told by their foes, their property confiscated, and their names declared infamous. In the city they loved, and for whose liberty they perished, there is but one who bears the name of any of them. They died for liberty before the blood of Crispus Attucks reddened the stones of King street, or the taxed tea was flung into the sea at Boston, or rotted in the cellars of Charleston. On October 25, 1768, five Louisianians, who had shed no blood, violated no oaths, broken no allegiance, but from love of country had defied the united power of France and Spain, were shot to death by the order of the Irish commander in the service of Spain.

The story of their hopeless struggle and the troubles that caused it is a long one. No historian of theirs has told it, no friend has softened their faults or extolled their virtues. The official reports of their executioners, their own memorials for justice, the acts of their council, public proclamations and records of court martial are almost all the material which the researches of Martin, Monette, Forstall and Gayarre have brought to light. Their greatest crime was the love of liberty which should endear them to us. There is but little reference to this, but enough to show that it was common talk in the colony, that both the Spanish and French governors believed it to be the ultimate object of the conspiracy, and that the last act was an attempt to rally the people with that cry.

Briefly told, the history is this: For many years Louisiana had been a burden to France. She had cost more than $20,000,000; a debt of $7,000,000 was hung about her neck; her products were inferior; her people poor and loaded with boundless private debt. When Louis XV., perhaps the most despicable of all the creatures monarchy has ever corrupted, who was without "either the tenderness of a woman's heart, the pride of a King or the courage of a man," lost Canada, he consummated the sacrifice by a gift of Louisiana to Spain. That country took it to oblige France. The gift was made November 3, 1762, and accepted ten days later. It was a surprise to Spain, and received with reluctance, but had been determined by Louis nearly a year before and announced to Kerlerec. Aubry was the French Governor at the time of the transfer, and inclination and circumstances caused him to play the most contemptible part of all in the seven years that followed. The first reception of the news in the colony aroused them to petition the King for a revocation of the gift. Twice did Jean Milhet cross the ocean to beg for his people, and each time in vain. The petitions and memorials he carried were disregarded or unread, and even the tears of Bienville, as the aged founder of Louisiana, whose life the strength of labor and sorrow had prolonged beyond the allotted four score years, knelt at the feet of the minister whose policy had alienated his people, though they moved his heart they did not alter his will. France was sick of Louisiana, and the decree of cession to Spain could not be revoked. Milhet, without seeing the face of the King, returned to Louisiana to join in the conspiracy, behold the death of his brother and be exiled by his executioner.

Believe the stories of the French governors and other writers of their time, and Louisiana was indeed a pitiable place. They condemn her as settled by a set of reprobates "infected with the spirit of Republicanism" which prunes the thorns from this criticism. They declare her torn by intestine dissensions, half constantly arrayed against the other, and making counter accusations of shameless crimes. Her garrisons are cowardly and dissolute soldiery; she is a prey to rapacity; tributary to the Indian tribes and threatened by the English and is without resources or morals. D'Abadie called the colony a chaos of iniquity and fraud. Aubry knew no difference between the past and the present. De Ressac speaks of the existence of every variety of misery, abjection of the men, prostitution of the women, corruption and trading of officers, enslaving of soldiers, plunder by the governors, drunkenness, brawls and duels. Kerlerec wrote from the Bastile to Ulloa: "From the bottom of my heart I pity you for having been sent to such a country."

Grant that this picture was a true one, the debt of woe was due to her rulers. They came with no other object than a rapid fortune and speedy return. Their misgovernment had made the people what they were, and the sin was not atoned for by delivering them over to new masters, aliens in birth, strangers in language and hereditary foes by sentiment and education. What was to become of the seven millions of debt France, by the unfortunate advice of Bienville and Salmon, had given them, which passed at a value of only twenty-five per cent? Louisiana was in a starving condition. Not a man of note but was in debt. How was this load to be thrown off when Spain would not allow her tobacco to interfere with that of Havana, and her indigo could not compete with that of Guatemala? The colonists nursed their hopes of aid for France and loyal love of the King. The French, with all their faults, are strongest in their love of country, and only when this was repelled by extortion, violence, fraud and neglect, did the colonists of Louisiana think of liberty.

There was time enough for the colonists to prepare. Ulloa, the first Spanish Governor, did not come for three years and four months after the cession, and though Aubry had worked well for his masters, the people were as sullen as the storm that beat on the city as he landed. He did not dare to assume the government; he ruled through the French Governor Aubry. In happier times Ulloa might have been honored as a wise and loved as a beneficent ruler. He was a student of great learning, an officer of discretion and experience, a charming companion at his fireside, and impressed with the necessity of a benevolent policy. But the people were prepared for a monster of oppression, and tortured every act of his into the works of a tyrant. Not one word of approval could he obtain, and even Aubry, in his letters to the French government, condemns him, but, with the hope of Spanish gold, trusts that Ulloa is pleased with his efforts in behalf of Spain. At the same time denouncing the revolutionists he pronounces Ulloa arbitrary, unreasonable, and unfit to govern.

The leaders of the people are stated by Gayarre to have been the first citizens of the colony, and twelve of them are prominent in his pages. The master spirit was the Attorney General of the King, Nicholas Chauvin de Lafreniere. Him the historian, following the Spanish authorities, styles a plebeian; and so he was, if among those who break the way through the wilderness for the march of civilization, the son of one of four brothers who came with ax on shoulder but were unable to write their names, may be called so. England's nobility mark the axes their ancestors carried with Saxon blood, but otherwise their attainments are equaled by men who came with Bienville from Canada. Lafreniere sprang from the loins of labor, but he was the first man of the village, his rank second only to the Governor, his education the best that France could afford, his presence so commanding that his familiar title was Louis XIV., his strong brain controlling all around him, and he had the eloquence of a tribune of the people. Appointed Attorney General a month after the session, he and his compatriots must have known it could not be rescinded, but they used the hope as the lever to move the people. Pierre Marquis, a captain of the Swiss troops, was the only one who publicly proclaimed liberty, but he only did it when O'Reilly was ascending the river. Joseph Villere, who commanded the German coast; Jean Baptiste de Noyan, nephew to Bienville; Joseph Milhet and Pierre Caresse, wealthy merchants, were the others whose acts cost them their lives. With them were Balthasar de Masan, Jerome Doucet, a lawyer, Jean Milhet and Hardy de Boisblanc, who escaped death, but were condemned to imprisonment and banishment. At the bottom of the conspiracy was Foucault, the intendant commissary, a man false to every pledge, secret and cowardly treacherous, betraying alternately his King and his associates, and only true to his love of gain. With poetical justice his secretary played the spy and his disclosures ruined his master.

All of these men were deeply in debt, so says the Spanish prosecutor Del Rey, and he charges them heavily with epithets. If they had not the self sacrificing spirit of the more successful patriots of the later revolution; if they did not equal John Hancock's "bombard Boston and make me a beggar," or Samuel Adams with his gift of all he had—sixty hogsheads of Tobago rum—or Charles Carroll when he added Carrollton to his signature, it may be remembered they gave all they had—their lives. If the people were less virtuous and thrifty than those of New England it was because corrupt Governors, Parisian morals and luxury, want of love of home and an evil element forced by the law upon them had made them different. They were in debt, say the Spanish; they are miserable, say the French governors; we are abandoned, said the people themselves. And of the men who went out to David in the cave of Adullam, the Bible says: "And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him, and there were with him about 800 men."

For a little over two years and a half Ulloa tried to control this people by causing Aubry to govern, while he waited for more troops. The people were not in the humor to permit possession to be taken; but one charge made against Ulloa was that he neglected to do so. Yet he was also censured for raising the Spanish flag at the Balize and the Illinois. He paid the expenses of the government with hard dollars, and offered three times the current value for the paper money, but par was demanded. He reduced his soldiers' pay to that of the French, but that suited no one. His presence was intolerable, but his eight months residence at Balize, while he waited for his Peruvian bride, was construed into an insult. He offended when he promised there should be no change, but gave greater offense at each attempt at a beneficial one. The smuggling practiced injured the colony and oppressed the consumer, but his commercial ordinance against it roused all classes against him at the instigation of the importers. He and his wife were ostracised and then accused of haughty exclusiveness. The summing up of the charges included many things, evil and good, that had always existed without comment or cavil. Some of them were that he had continued the privileges of trading granted by D'Abadie, that he had closed the passes, interfered with the pilots, issued commercial decrees through Aubry, sent the citizens to mines, sequestered goods, created a new tribunal, abolished the Superior Council, intended to import foreign negroes, removed a brickyard where putrid matter had collected, freed imprisoned Germans for an Englishman's $15 per head, made the Arcadians slaves, remained away from French churches, violated the ecclesiastical laws of the colony by having his own chaplain say mass and perform the marriage ceremony, sent lepers to the Balize, forced the colonists to go six miles out of town to whip their slaves to please his wife, married without the consent of Father Dagobert, whereby timorous people were religiously alarmed, raised negroes to the condition of freedmen and sent to Havana for a nurse for his child. His personal character was summed up as inordinately avaricious, a horrible antipathy to humanity, a natural disposition to evil deeds, intolerable haughtiness, and desiring to starve the people and feed vampires with their blood.

Ulloa's opinion of the people was not more favorable, characterizing them as provokingly unjust and unreasonable, though he is sparing of epithets, and is content in general with quoting the accounts of the French governors. His time was spent in scientific research, patiently awaiting the arrival of troops and money from Havana, and he seemed to have had no suspicion that the volcano he knew smouldering under him was on the eve of an eruption.

October 25, 1768, the explosion took place. The German coast was disaffected solely for lack of pay, and by means of this want Villere controlled them in the interest of the conspiracy. Ulloa sent $1500 for their relief. It was never allowed to reach them, but was seized by authority of Villere. Two nights later the guns at the Tchoupitoulas gate were spiked. Foucault called together the Superior Council, and all was combustion. Six hundred planters petitioned for a redress of grievances, old rights and new privileges, and the expulsion of Ulloa. Armed bands patrolled the streets. Ulloa retired to his frigate, and his associates barricaded his house. The Superior Council deliberated, listened to the impassioned words of Lefreniere, eliminated the lukewarm members, and adopted an address to the King, full of adulation and complaint, and beseeching that the flag of France might still wave over them. Marquis stood ready with 1000 armed men under his white cockade to enforce the decree of the Council.

The revolution was accomplished. Without shedding a drop of blood the colonists had maintained their allegiance to France, and with exhibitions of the most intense emotion again and again saluted its flag. In the light of all the facts before them there seemed no wrong done by their hands. They knew of the cession, but Ulloa had never heeded the terms of the letter of Louis XV. It was not, indeed, binding upon him, but the people thought it was. Ulloa's own letter did not accord with his conduct; he never took formal possession, nor did the people ever swear allegiance to him or his King. He paid the expenses of the government, but that was the affair of the officials, and when the crisis came the people left them to take care of it themselves.

In the meantime the leaders well knew that France would never concern herself again with the colony, nor would Spain yield the sovereignty she had assumed. While professing love for Louis, worship of the flag and unconquerable allegiance, they were secretly negotiating with the English commander at Pensacola for protection and preparing the minds of the people for a republic. There is sufficient evidence of this. Forstall found enough in the archives of Paris to authorize him to say that the project was to establish a republic similar to that of Switzerland and a bank under the name of the "Mont de Piete," and that a form of government had been prepared, which Marquis burned just before his arrest. Ulloa states that "one plan was to transform the colony into a republic, under the protection of England; but seeing that they could not obtain from her the assistance they wished for, they came to the determination to rise without it, and to trample under foot the orders of their sovereign." Our fathers of the revolution did no more. Three millions of people a decade later succeeded where the 13,000 Louisianians failed. They accomplished their purpose in driving away Ulloa in a French vessel, and afterwards forced the frigate that brought him to retire also.

For a few months the colonists were undisturbed, but a reaction set in. The few representatives of Spain who had been allowed to remain soon found that the fickle people no longer frowned, but greeted them as friends. Aubry, who had been powerless to prevent the outbreak, and though the nominal Governor by wish of Ulloa, and the actual ruler by demand of the colonists, could enforce no obedience, now found his authority respected once more. They began to believe that the return of Milhet showed that no hope was to come from France. Another petition had no effect. The English commander refused his aid. Spain recalled Ulloa from his refuge of Havana, and it was known a new commander with a powerful force would soon take possession in earnest. The people became aghast at what they had done, and fell away from the revolutionists. In a short time Ulloa might have returned and been received with open arms. A new terror took possession of the people. They did not now dread the inevitable transfer, the loss of trade, the introduction of the hard dollars of Spain for the depreciated paper money of France, but confiscation and death. What would be the contrast between the comparatively mild Ulloa and the unknown successor? Had King Log been rejected to make way for King Stork?

On the twenty-fourth day of July, 1769, New Orleans was startled on hearing that O'Reilly, with a fleet of twenty-four sail and more than 3000 picked troops, was at the Balize. Marquis raised his white standard at the market place, but only 100 timid men joined him, and these soon left him almost alone. Aubry urged the people to submit. Lafreniere, who had done much to promote tranquillity, proposed a deputation of submission, which Aubry warmly approved. Lafreniere, Marquis and Joseph Milhet descended the river, and carrying with them the acquiescence of the people, returned with assurances of the suave O'Reilly's freedom from prejudice, and strong hopes that their past faults should be forgotten.

August 17 the fleet anchored in front of the city, and the next day formal possession was taken, with the most imposing ceremonies O'Reilly could command. On the nineteenth he asked for information of the revolution of Aubry, who had a voluminous document, containing the minutest details, ready for him the next day. August 21, nine of the leaders, assembling at O'Reilly's house on his invitation, were arrested and imprisoned. Three others were arrested in the Town Hall. Villere had prepared for flight, but relying on Aubry's representations, had remained, and was almost frenzied by the catastrophe. Confined on board a Spanish frigate, he saw his wife driven from him and in endeavoring to reach her perished on the bayonets of his guard. The evidence that he ceased to live was his bloody shirt flung to his wife. Foucault was guarded by his own secretary, who was relied on to do that duty faithfully, as he "had always disapproved the conduct of his superior." It would be difficult to find anything to approve in it. He was dishonest in office, a fraudulent debtor, with a false tongue for his King and a treacherous heart for his friends. Giving the house of his mistress for a rendezvous to the conspirators, he was plotting himself to clear his skirts in the event of failure. Urging them on in their course, he wrote of them to France that they were bad fellows, loaded with debt, bankrupts, thieves and detestable incendiaries. Banishment saved this meanest life, and rewarded his miserable shuffling.

Aubry was not much better. A Frenchman, he prostrated himself before Ulloa and O'Reilly and protested that "no one ever loved and venerated the Spanish nation more than I do." Too weak to prevent the outbreak, he dared only file a feeble protest, yet became a bully when the reaction set in. He induced the conspirators to trust to Spanish clemency, but was at the same time preparing the evidence that made clemency impossible. "A dozen of firebrands" is his term for the unfortunate victims, and he hopes that Ulloa will testify to his good conduct. It appears that his hopes were well founded, for Gayarre states Spain paid him $3000. He, too, feared treachery as he justly should, for he writes that he could not trust his own secretary.

The trial lasted a month, conducted on the peculiar system of Spanish jurisprudence of solitary confinement, combined with daily inquisition. The charges were all admitted, as they could not well be denied. October 20 the prisoners were found guilty. October 24 O'Reilly condemned six to imprisonment and banishment, and the rest to be hanged the next day. The circumstance of the lack of a hangman respited the victims one day more, and they were then shot. On the same day all the records and printed documents O'Reilly could gather were publicly burned. The King's printer, Brand, would have suffered with the others if he had not proved he was compelled by law to print what the King's commissary ordered. As his execution would have deprived O'Reilly of the services of the only one of his craft in the colony, his plea was allowed.

October 26, 1769, then consummated the act of weakness of Louis XV. in the death of six of Louisiana's citizens and perpetual banishment of seven others. Eight days more would have made the day of the sacrifice the anniversary of the disgraceful cession, and given the tragedy a more poetical ending. But it was not Spanish policy to harrass the minds of its victims with too long intervals between condemnation and death, and the Irish commander firmly believed he was in strict accordance with the traditions of his master. Aubry loads O'Reilly with praise for his moderation in executing so few, but says he believed his instructions limited his punishment to banishment. That Charles of Spain regarded it differently is shown by his pardon of the six who were deprived of their liberty though left with their lives, and his refusal to receive O'Reilly at court when he returned to Spain.

One sentence from Lafreniere's address to the Council, which was intended for more distant and powerful auditors than his compatriots, may well close this brief review of his failure:

Without population there can be no commerce, and without commerce no population. In proportion to the extent of both is the solidity of thrones: both are fed by liberty and competition, which are the nursing mothers of the State, of which the spirit of monopoly is the tyrant and stepmother. Without liberty there are but few virtues. Despotism breeds pusillanimity and deepens the abyss of vices. Man is considered as sinning before God, only because he retains his free will.

The Feasibility of Direct Trade With South America.

Some persons, when spoken to upon the subject of direct trade between St. Louis and South America, are inclined to ridicule the idea of St. Louis competing with Baltimore, New York or Europe, and assume that because this is an inland city we should be content to let other and sea-board cities act as factors or middle men and handle our products. Possibly, this may be answered fairly by an extract from the *American Manufacturer*, which says, referring to the subject of which we write: "A few months ago a Pittsburg glassware manufacturer received an order from a Hamburg (Germany) house for goods for South America."

Now, this is but one instance of many that might be furnished. It can not, we believe, be doubted that St. Louis can furnish glassware as cheaply and of as good quality as Pittsburg. If any of our readers should disbelieve it, let them ask Mr. Cummings, of the St. Louis Glass Works (the pioneer in this industry), or President Burch, of the Great Western Glass Company, whether they do not compete successfully with the "Smoky City." This point settled, it is readily understood that Germany sent the order for glass to go to South America only for the very simple reason that Pittsburg can furnish that article more cheaply than Europe. It is a well settled fact that already there are many articles which the United States can and does produce at a less cost than England or the continent; so much cheaper, in fact, that we are now exporting to England very many articles which but a few months since we obtained from the further side of the Atlantic. The tide which left us stranded high and dry at the close of the war, has turned in our favor once more, and the United States are again nearing the day that shall see our people something more than mere tillers of the soil for the enrichment of other nations.

The *American Manufacturer* strikes the nail pretty fairly on the head when it further remarks: "Americans certainly show a great lack of enterprise in the matter of cultivating trade with other countries. Notwithstanding the manufactories are idle in all parts of the country, and have been for eighteen months, our manufacturers, with more patience than energy are waiting for their old customers to commence buying again, when, by a fair degree of effort, they might secure any number of new ones. If they don't feel like carrying the war into Africa, they might make an onslaught on the West Indies, Mexico and South America."

Manufacturers, not only here in the West, but all over the country, have been "waiting for something to turn up," while the English and Dutch have sailed their vessels past our very doors, as it were, gathering a rich harvest, and each year more firmly establishing their trade with the West Indies and South America. Millions of dollars worth of the products of these countries are annually brought to the United States in foreign ships, and the merchants of the Mississippi valley are supremely content to divide their profits with foreign trading companies, solely because they have lacked the energy to strike out for themselves. Especially is this true of the Valley States. The cities of the Atlantic seaboard know the value of the South American trade, and as a result Baltimore and New York receive and distribute nearly all the coffee and other tropical products consumed in the country east of the Rocky Mountains. We ask the attention of our readers to the following list of articles exported from Baltimore to the ports named during the two weeks ending June 17, 1875: To Matanzas—Flour, 1000 barrels; rice, 1614 bags; lard, 49,078 pounds; hams, 4239 pounds; shooks and handles, 4564; empty casks, 767; hops, 4225 barrels. To Demarara—Flour, 1500 barrels; meal, 100 barrels; crackers, 100 barrels; pork, 182 barrels; tar, 25 barrels; pitch, 25 barrels; beef, 27 barrels; hams, 6766 pounds; lard, 2000 pounds; kerosene, 5000 gallons; lard oil, 427 gallons; paper, 3000 reams; tobacco, 8 hogsheads; tobacco manufacture, 3747 pounds; leather, 13 rolls; vinegar, 10 hogsheads; canned goods, 65 cases; corn, 3000 bushels; shooks, 1540; sheep, 110; cow, 1; sundries, 13 packages. To Pernambuco—Flour, 5115 barrels. Mayagues—Flour, 500 barrels; pork, 50 barrels; lard, 4440 pounds; soap, 100 boxes; coal oil, 1500 gallons; rice, 135 bags; paper, 800 reams; lumber, 4597 feet. To Rio Janeiro—Lard, 219,890 pounds, butter, 1592 pounds; bacon, 600 pounds; flour, 6140 barrels; rosin, 200 barrels; coal; 200 tons; canned goods, 135 cases; lumber, 39,000 feet; sundries, 25 packages.

And now, but a word more at present. It has been customary to speak of this direct trade with South America and the West Indies as a St. Louis and New Orleans plan. A prominent paper published in the latter city, with a spice of the same old spirit which has cost New Orleans very dearly in the past, and which had best be submerged in the future, referred a few days ago to a plan now being developed in this city as something into which "New Orleans may, as usual, come in." The entire Mississippi valley is as much interested in this matter as either St. Louis or New Orleans, and if the other Valley States and towns will lend a hand, they will be but assisting to develop their own future.—*St. Louis Trade Journal.*

Mrs. Fawcett on Women's Suffrage.

At the annual meeting of the English National Society for Women's Suffrage one of the chief speakers was Mrs. Millicent Garrett Fawcett. She said, among other things:

"We approach the subject of women's suffrage, not from the point of view of abstract right, but from the point of view of practical justice and political and social convenience. The 'abstract right' theorists have never much weight in English politics. The progress of freedom in English history has been by a series of compromises and half-measures, which have been looked on with unutterable scorn by the sentimental advocates of abstract right. There were radicals in 1832, who would have defeated the reform bill because it did not introduce manhood suffrage. There were people who professed contempt for the Catholic emancipation bill because some of the most important of Catholic disabilities were not removed by it, and in the same way there are no doubt some advocates of women suffrage who say that they will not be satisfied until married women have votes. But this has not been the attitude of the bulk of the women's suffrage party either in or out of Parliament. We ask for woman suffrage because we believe that women have a practical grievance, and suffer practical hardship in consequence of their want of representation. I need not go into particulars; every one who knows the subject knows that there are many laws which are especially injurious to women.

"A certain number of women wish to study medicine; a much larger number of women wish to be attended in sickness by persons of their own sex; and yet every door into the profession is kept resolutely closed in the face of women. Such a state of things would be absolutely impossible if women were represented in Parliament. And, then, again in the matter of education, what is being done? I most gratefully acknowledge the services of the late endowed schools commission to girls' education. But that is one of the things of the past. The government has apparently discovered that little popularity is to be gained in constituencies, as at present constituted, by devoting endowments to girls' education. In the Dulwich Hospital, although the original foundation was for the maintenance of a warden, fellows, and a certain number of poor brothers and poor sisters, I hear on good authority that that part of the scheme which provided a high school for girls has been discarded by the government, and the money it would have cost is proposed to be appropriated to build a gymnasium for the boys."

She spoke of the prominent position which the question of women's suffrage occupies in England compared with the position it occupies in all other countries. "In no other country can it be said to have any recognized position as a public question. In America it is nowhere. It is well known that Mr. Goldwin Smith was astonished and almost terrified to find what a very much more important position the subject occupies here than in the United States. In France, in Germany, in Spain the question has no existence whatever, whereas in England the moderate and constitutional measure now in the hands of Mr. Forsyth has met with constantly increasing support, and with constantly diminishing opposition, both in and out of Parliament. It is an instance of the unsentimental and practical character of the English people that the majority against this bill has been reduced to the moderate number of thirty-five votes, when five years ago the majority against it was 126. It is because we are making an unsentimental and practical request of an unsentimental and practicable people that we believe our request will in time be granted. I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution."

The Dangers of Chloral.

The London *Lancet* prints a warning against the habitual use of the now fashionable hypnotic chloral. Because it does not produce the immediate evil consequences due to opium, and is a far more powerful sedative than bromide of potassium, it has become popular, and is even, as the *Lancet* deplores, largely recommended by medical men. It has taken its place in the medicine chest and on the dressing table, and is often employed without advice or precaution. In some cases the use of it has resulted in death in healthy persons, and in other cases its action has given play to diseases which have proved fatal, although without its aid they would not have done so. But these cases are too rare to have the effect on the public which in professional eyes should be assigned to them. Still, where no such immediately serious consequences ensue or are to be apprehended, the habitual use of chloral can not fail to be attended by injury to the nervous system. As the *Lancet* explains, in sleep the sensory recipient and lower motor centres are separated from those of consciousness and will, with which during the waking state they are in such close connection. This separation can only take place under certain conditions which vary much in different individuals. Chloral introduces an artificial influence, and separates forcibly those functions of the nervous system which would otherwise have been linked together. It stills unpleasant emotion—removes disagreeable sensation—paralyzes the will. This can hardly occur repeatdly without some permanent effect. Each region of its influence presents an example of perverted action. The will becomes weakened; emotional manifestations are in the chloral drinker more easily produced; the evidence of the senses is perverted, and their action is no longer under the same control of associated impressions. All influences of a depressing character are felt more keenly. The sufferer becomes "nervous," emotional, hysterical. Neuralgia and other sensory disturbances become frequent, and with them various paretic phenomena depending chiefly on defective will. Ultimately still graver consequences may result. Delirium, imbecility, and paralysis of the pharynx and œsophagus are among the symptoms that have occurred in recorded cases, and which have ceased when the habitual dose was discontinued. All the time the supposed need for the sedative increases, the craving may become as intense, as intolerable, as in the case of opium—the patient moaning for the chloral, which he can hardly swallow, and sleep gradually becomes almost impossible, except under artificial influence.

SHERIFF'S SALES.

W. W. Handlin vs. Joaquin Rodriguez.

FIFTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans, No. 6623.—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, on MONDAY, July 12, 1875, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

ALL THE RIGHT, TITLE AND INTEREST of defendant herein in and to a certain suit now pending in the United States District Court for the District of Louisiana, No. 10,669, entitled Joaquin Rodriguez vs. Carlos Pie, and all the right, title and interest of said Joaquin Rodriguez in his claims therein against said Carlos Pie, as Consul of Spain.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

EUGENE WAGGAMAN,

Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.

je29 jy4 3 11

John Henderson, Jr., vs. John F. Coffey.

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF Orleans, No. 7785.—By virtue of a writ of seizure and sale to me directed by the honorable the Sixth 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 MONDAY, July 5, 1875, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

A CERTAIN PIECE OR PORTION OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, situated in the Fourth District of this city, in the square bounded by St. Mary, Annunciation (late Jersey), St. Andrew and Laurel streets, designated by the number two on a sketch annexed to an act of mortgage in the records of S. Magner, late a notary public in this city, of date April 19, 1869, and measuring, according to said sketch, thirty-five feet eleven inches two and a half lines front on St. Mary street, by one hundred and twenty-seven feet ten inches five lines in depth; which portion of ground forms part of the original lot of ground designated by the number sixteen on a plan of eighty-three lots of ground drawn by J. Pilie, late surveyor, deposited in the office of William Christy, late notary public in this city, and which lot number sixteen was acquired by the defendant herein by purchase from the estate of J. W. Butler, deceased, by act passed before L. R. Kenny, late a notary public for the parish of Jefferson, on the twenty-fifth of March, 1851.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

EUGENE WAGGAMAN,

je22 jy4 3 11 Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.

The City of New Orleans vs. G. P. Blanchard.

SUPERIOR DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans, No. 69,761.—By virtue of a writ of fieri facias to me directed by the honorable the Superior District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled cause, for city taxes of 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 FRIDAY, July 23, 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 one hundred and twenty-eight, bounded by Franklin, Canal, Customhouse and Liberty streets, designated as lot number sixteen, measuring twenty-eight feet front on Franklin street, by seventy-nine feet in depth.

ONE CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated in the Second District of this city, in square number forty-eight, bounded by Chartres, Royal, St. Philip and Dumaine streets, designated as lot number four, measuring sixty feet on Chartres street, by one hundred and twenty-seven feet in depth.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

EUGENE WAGGAMAN,

je22 jy4 22 Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.

SHERIFF'S SALES.

William Bogel vs. P. A. Desforges.

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF Orleans, No. 6731.—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 FRIDAY, July 16, 1875, at twelve o'clock M., the following described property, to wit—

1. A CERTAIN PORTION OF GROUND, together with the improvements thereon, and all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situated in the Third District of this city, in the square bounded by Clouet, Greatmen, Louisa and Cassacalva streets, said portion of ground beginning at a distance of one hundred and twenty feet from the corner of Greatmen street, measures forty feet front on Clouet street, by a depth of one hundred and fifty feet, between parallel lines, English measure.

2. A CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated in the Faubourg Treme, in the Second District of this city, in the square bounded by St. Philip, Ursulines, Galvez and Miro streets, and designated by the number ten, on a plan deposited in the office of E. G. Gottschalk, late one of the notaries public in this city, as plan number fifteen, said lot having, in American measure, according to said plan, thirty feet ten inches three lines front on Miro street, by one hundred and thirty-two feet in depth, and thirty feet nine inches five and one-third lines in width in the year.

3. A CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated in the above said Faubourg Treme, in the same square bounded by St. Philip, Ursulines, Galvez and Miro streets, designated as lot number nine on the above recited plan, said lot having, in American measure, according to said plan, thirty feet ten inches three lines front on Miro street, by one hundred and thirty-two feet in depth, and thirty feet nine inches five and a third lines in width in the rear; together with the improvements existing on the said two lots of ground, and all the rights, ways, servitudes, privileges and advantages thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining.

The above described property was acquired by the defendant herein in the manner following, to wit: the one firstly described by purchase from David Oscar Barry, by act passed before Abel Dreyfus notary public in this city, on the twenty-second of December, 1871, and the one secondly and thirdly described by purchase from Alfred Brontin, by act passed before Ernest Rude, notary public in this city, on the sixth of March, 1872.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—This being the second and last auction, the said property will be definitely adjudicated to the highest and last bidder for what it will bring, at twelve months' credit, the purchaser furnishing b