

The Hon. John Slidell has our thanks for continued attentions.

The city of New Orleans still continues healthy. There has been no yellow fever reported yet.

The President has our thanks for a catalogue of the officers and students of Centenary College. It shows a list of 230 students, and unmistakable evidence of prosperity.

We call attention to the large number of sales that take place at the Court House to-day, as advertised in another part of this paper. There will, no doubt, be a fine chance to invest in Terrebonne property.

THE SUEZ CANAL.—The Paris journal, Le Pays, says that all the difficulties in the way of the construction of the canal across the Isthmus of Suez have been surmounted, and that more than the capital required for the execution of the work—which are already in progress—has been subscribed.

THE WEATHER, ETC.—Although we have had two or three exceedingly hot days recently, yet the weather, on the whole, is quite as pleasant as can be expected at this season of the year. We have fine showers two or three times a week, which serve to cool the atmosphere and lay the dust. Our roads are splendid now. The cane in this section has improved wonderfully of late, and we should not be surprised if Terrebonne should be the banner parish this year, so far as sugar is concerned.

MAGAZINES FOR AUGUST.—Harper's New Monthly is an exceedingly rich number, and may be procured on application to Mr. Brooks, at the Drug Store. "Little Dorrit," the new and charming tale by Charles Dickens, now being issued in England in monthly parts at twenty-five cents each, is republished in this magazine, with the illustration at a cost to subscribers of about two cents each.

Godey's Lady's Book contains two steel engravings—one a colored fashion plate, 100 pages, 47 engravings and 64 contributions. The present is an excellent time to subscribe to the Book, as July commenced the 53d volume, and a great variety of newly illustrated articles will be given in the succeeding numbers.

Arthur's Home Magazine.—This is about the best two-dollar magazine in the Union. The engraving on the first page is a gem, and the contents throughout is highly entertaining and instructive. Published by T. S. Arthur & Co., 103 Walnut street, Philadelphia.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE CALIFORNIA DIFFICULTIES.—A Washington correspondent says:

Senator Toombs, together with a number of Californians who arrived by last steamer, called on the President last evening, to ascertain what course he intended to pursue in reference to the requisition of the Governor of California. He informed them that he could take no action at present; that the Governor must convene the Legislature, and that if they refused to take action, then it would be the duty of the Federal Government to interfere. He informed them, also, that he had received letters from responsible persons in California, stating that the difficulties would be settled in thirty days. Letters from the President will be transmitted by the next steamer to the Governor, in substance as above.

"THE RICHES OF MEXICO" formerly expressed the highest idea of mineral wealth; but now we scarcely ever think of the products of the mines of that country. They have been cut off more by war and neglect, we think, than from the exhaustion of the supply. A late publication revives some facts connected with their history. In 1690 there was struck at the mine of Mexico coin of the value of five million dollars from 1700 to 1800, during a century, the quantity augmented each year and at last reached twenty-five million dollars. This was the culminating point of the annual fabrication. In 1810 it was reduced to seventeen millions; in 1817 it had declined to only half a million; then rose in 1838 to a million and a half; in 1850 to two millions; in 1852 to two millions and a half; and in 1854 to nearly four millions, or one million less than in 1800.

EXTENSION OF THE OPELOUSAS RAILROAD.—Mr. Sandidge, representative in Congress of the Fourth District of this State, has written a letter which is published in the Alexandria Democrat, on the subject of the Opelousas Railroad and its connections, and the importance of some decisive and immediate action on the subject of its location in this State, west of Opelousas. The following are the material points:

As I understand, the directors of the New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad have not determined the line of its location westwardly of Opelousas or Washington and there is reason to believe, that if the people of Rapides, Natchitoches, and De Soto will now make an effort, the road will be taken on the best route to Shreveport, by way of Mansfield, thus bringing it nearer to the towns of Alexandria and Natchitoches, than if it struck the Sabine river at any point within Sabine parish.

That road as projected, looked to a Texas trade, and connection in the State of Texas with a Southern Pacific Railway.

Now we expect to have a bill reported to congress very soon and passed, providing for two lines of rails to the Pacific—the main trunk of the Southern road to be on or near the 32d degree of north latitude and upon that line, at Shreveport, we hope to concentrate all the roads west of the Mississippi river, from, and including, the St. Louis Iron Mountain Road, to New Orleans—giving the latter city a good connection with St. Louis as well as with the Pacific Trunk Road, which would start from that place, Shreveport. The branch roads to be aided as well as the main line.

With such a prospect ahead, and the other inducements already offering a much greater amount of land to be received under the bill recently passed by Congress, should the road be carried to Shreveport, than if thrown out of the State at Burr's Ferry, or some point above, I can but believe, that a serious effort on the part of the people interested, would be successful, if they will but go to work immediately.

I have seen something in one of your papers about railroads; here is a chance for one that, failing to secure at this time will never offer again, and it is to be had, and will be, should you but expunge from your vocabulary that confounded little word upon which so many good things have been wrecked—if—and that other—can't. Fling out your motto—"we'll try!"

THE ARTESIAN WELL.—And so the City Fathers have decided the Artesian Well is to be dug no deeper. Through six hundred feet of alluvial deposit the exploring augers have descended, and have brought up shells which had been undisturbed for half a century of centuries. Strange secrets have come to light from the deep-delved earth of deposits made even in ante-diluvian times, and of the growth year by year, of the foundations of our city—"the home of men, where the wave hath been." The bottom of the alluvial deposit has now been penetrated to admit of six cypress forests one above the other. What time it would take the Father of waters to convert these six hundred feet of ocean water into solid land is a question which would puzzle the greatest of philosophers. The work of digging, we understand has been abandoned because it has been found impossible to force tubing any farther down into the depths, the casting being of insufficient strength to admit of the requisite pressure on the topmost end.—N. O. Picayune.

FRENCH DESPOTISM.—The London Press (Disraeli's weekly organ) has the following:

Let us relate a story—not of feudalism, but of the nineteenth century in France. A retired prefect of police in Paris, employed as clerk, a very respectable young married man, who, one day, about ten weeks ago, was missed from his home. His wife came to inquire at the house of the ex-prefect, but he had not arrived. Several days passed, and as it was known that he was habitually steady, regular and cautious, his disappearance caused the utmost surprise. At length his employer, anxious to relieve the distress of the young wife, determined to carry out an inquiry, and knowing something of French habits of Government, commenced his investigation at the Prefecture of Police. The Prefect saluted his dear predecessor, expressed his serious concern, called up an official, and directed an immediate investigation. The investigation appeared to be an easy affair, for he soon said: "Tell—that her husband is perfectly safe." That was not considered satisfactory. "Tell her not to be alarmed, for her husband has only gone abroad for a short time." How could he tell her this? That would be no consolation to her misery. She desired to know what had become of her husband; she would not believe he had left her. "He has not left her. He did not go; he was sent. The truth is, that—was a little of a tattler, and to keep him safe he has been sent out to Cayenne; and now, my dear predecessor, I sympathize with the lady's distress, but I need not advise you how to take this matter, for you know—we are a despotism."

Raising of the Atlantic's Safe.

WESTFIELD, N. Y., July 5th. According to promise, I send you a statement of the facts in relation to the raising of the Atlantic's safe. The Atlantic was sunk by collision with the propeller Opdenburgh in 1852, three miles off Long Point, in 170 feet of water. We arrived on the ground on the 18th of June, 1856; spent one day sounding the wreck and getting our vessel moored; on the 19th made the first dive, landed upon her upper deck, near her quarter. At the eighth dive I was opposite the stateroom that contained the safe. The rest of the time, until the 25th, I was busy in breaking in the window and casings. There was no door opening out upon the guards. On the fifteenth dive, I got a line fast to a ring in the lid, but found the hole too small to allow the safe to come out. The sixteenth I took a saw with me and sawed through the casing of the window; tried to break it out, but could not. On the 27th, made a line fast to the casing, and it was broken out by the crew of the vessel from above. On the 28th, I made my line fast to one of the end-rings, and it was hauled up. It is needless to say that all stories of seeing a "beautiful lady," &c. are false, as it was dark at eighty feet, and all the work done there was felt out. The apparatus used was a Wells & Gowan air pump, from Boston, with one manufactured and owned by M. Quigley. The armor was a common rubber one, and not protected by copper, as stated. I suffered no inconvenience from the pressure except in two or three instances, when my head-piece seemed to be filled with bright electric sparks—or, in other words "saw stars." When that occurred I immediately gave the signal and came up. E. P. HARRINGTON.

CRYSTALS OF CARBON.—The diamond on account of its hardness, transparency, brilliancy and rarity, has always been regarded as one of the most valuable of the precious stones. It has been long known to consist of pure carbon in a crystalline state. Chemically, it differs little from charcoal, black lead or lampblack; it may readily be burned in oxygen gas and the resulting compound is carbonic acid—precisely what arises from the combustion of charcoal. In view of these facts, the production of diamonds in the laboratory has long been thought possible; and from a charcoal prepared from crystallized sugar, M. Despretz has produced crystals of carbon having all the properties of the diamond. This result was obtained by the long continued action of the galvanic battery. The crystals are microscopic, but clearly recognized as octahedra, some black, others transparent. Gauden, the famous lapidary, found these crystals to cut diamonds and rubies, like powdered diamonds themselves. It yet remains an achievement of chemical science to produce these crystals of a size sufficient for ornamental purposes.

BUILDING WITH WET BRICKS.—We notice in an exchange paper a paragraph upon this subject, which we think of considerable importance to builders. It is stated, on what is considered good authority, (that of experience,) that a wall twelve inches thick, built of good mortar, with bricks well soaked, is stronger, in every respect, than than one sixteen inches thick built dry. The reason of this is, that if the bricks are saturated with water, they will not abstract from the mortar the moisture which is necessary to its crystallization; but, on the contrary, they will chemically unite with the mortar and become as solid as a rock. On the other hand, if the bricks are put up dry, they immediately take all the moisture from the mortar, leaving it too dry to harden, and the consequence is that, when a building of this description is taken or tumbled down of its own accord, the mortar from it is like so much sand.

There is, no doubt, much truth in this assertion. The great absorbent power of baked clay naturally acts injudiciously on mortar, and the consequence is insecure and dangerous walls. In our opinion, no building should be erected in the city, the walls of which would not stand firmly if deprived of the support of the joints; and what wall will do this if the adhesive property of the mortar is destroyed by the absorption of moisture from it by the brick, before it has time to harden? Our builders would do well to give this subject their serious consideration.—Phil. Journal.

One of the English journals gives an account of a man who while ploughing in the field, was at once struck down by lightning, and both his horses were killed. He was so much injured that his life was despaired of. The doctor, during his attendance upon him discovered that he was suffering from malignant cancer of the lip, and upon his recovery proposed to remove it by an operation. But just as the surgical operation was about to be performed, it was discovered that a healing process had commenced, and in a short time the man was completely cured. This is an argument, indeed, in favor of "curing by electricity."

SCIENTIFIC.—"What is the cause of the potato rot?" "It is attributed to the rot-tory influence of the earth." "How was this ascertained?" "By consulting a great many common laters!"

A NICARAGUAN FLAG.—We copy the following from the New Orleans Delta of the 7th ult:

"We were pleased to see yesterday evening a beautiful Nicaraguan flag suspended in the bar-room of the City Hotel, which had been presented by the ladies of Memphis to Captain Jones, who is at present in our city, and is about to leave during the day for Nicaragua. The flag is somewhat curious in its way. It is edged on either side with a blue stripe, the middle being white, with a device on which some of the volcanoes of the country are faintly represented. On one side of the device is written in gilt letters 'Victory,' and on the other 'or Death.' Of course the appearance of so singular a visitor at the hotel attracted universal attention. There were few, however, who understood what it meant until its object was explained to them by some of the companions of Captain Jones, who seemed to take pleasure in gratifying the curiosity of the inquisitive. "To-day it will be carried on board the gallant ship that is destined to carry many a chivalrous adventurer to the land of promise, to which fortune beckons him on."

When the Emperor Napoleon III. undertook his last trip to Angres, he took particular pains to inquire which of the inundated districts were inhabited by the most violent of his opponents, and forthwith betook himself to the place indicated, attended only by the Bishop and Prefect of the Department. Here he mingled familiarly with men who he knew were thirsting for his blood, and when he got into a boat to visit the scene of ruin he selected his boatmen from among the most avowed, and fanatical of his Republican enemies. The utter contempt of danger thus manifested produced a complete reaction in the minds of the people, and persons who had been his bitterest opponents ever since the inauguration of his dynasty, were the first to rend the air with the shouts of Vive l'Empereur.

DIED.—In this place, on the 13th of July, after a short illness, MR. JAMES W. DE WOLF, a native of Wolfville, Nova Scotia, aged about 35 years.

New Advertisements.

Succession of JAMES W. DE WOLF, deceased. STATE OF LOUISIANA—Parish of Terrebonne—Fifth Judicial District Court. Whereas, Thomas F. Brooks, of the Parish of Terrebonne, has filed his application with the Clerk of said Court praying to be appointed Administrator of said Succession—Therefore all persons are hereby warned and notified to file their objections, if any they have, to the said application, with the Clerk of said Court at his office in the Parish of Houma, in ten days after the first publication hereof, or the said application will be confirmed and granted in due course of Law.

WITNESS my hand and the impress of my seal of office this 22nd day of July, A. D. 1856. H. NEWELL, CLERK.

Succession of JAMES W. DE WOLF, deceased. ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—Cour du 5ème District Judiciaire—Paroisse Terrebonne. Arrête: Que Thomas F. Brooks, de la paroisse de Terrebonne, a fait son application au Greffier de la dite Cour, pour être nommé Administrateur de la dite Succession. En conséquence, toutes les personnes qui pourraient avoir des objections à la dite demande sont priées de présenter leurs objections au Greffier de la dite Cour à son Bureau de la ville de Houma, dans les dix jours qui suivront la première publication de cet avis, sinon la dite demande sera accordée et confirmée selon la loi. TEMOIN ma main et le sceau de mon office ce 22ème jour de Juillet, A. D. 1856. H. NEWELL, Greffier.

Notice to Tax Payers.

NOTICE is hereby given to all those who have not yet paid their taxes for the year 1855, to come forward and do so within the shortest possible delay. A. BOURG, Sheriff and Collector. July 31st, 1856. [5-1m]

Avis.

EST par le présent donné à tous ceux qui n'ont pas encore payé leurs taxes pour l'année 1856, de venir le faire dans le plus bref délai. A. BOURG, Sheriff et Collecteur. 31 Juillet 1856. [5-1m]

SUCCESSION SALE.

Succession of James W. De Wolf. STATE OF LOUISIANA—Fifth Judicial District Court—Parish of Terrebonne.

In the name and by the authority of the Hon. the Fifth Judicial District Court, sitting in and for the Parish of Terrebonne, there will be offered for sale at Public Auction by Aubin Bourg, Sheriff of said Parish of Terrebonne, at the Drug Store in Houma.

On Thursday, 14th of August, 1856, at 10 o'clock A. M., all the property belonging to the said Estate, to wit:

Carpenter's Tools, one Lot of Corn, one Revolver, Bed and Bedding, one Black Mare, Saddle and Bridle, Wagon and Harness, &c., &c., &c.

Terms:—CASH. A. BOURG, Sheriff. Parish of Terrebonne, July 31st 1856.

VENTE DE SUCCESSION.

Succession de James W. DeWolf. ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—Cour du 5ème District Judiciaire—Paroisse Terrebonne.

Au nom et par l'autorité de l'Hon. la Cour du Cinquième District Judiciaire, siégeant dans et pour la Paroisse Terrebonne, il sera offert en vente à l'encher publique par Aubin Bourg, Sheriff de la dite Paroisse, à la Pharmacie de Houma.

Joué, le 14 Aout, 1856, à 10 heures A. M., toutes les propriétés appartenant à la dite Succession, savoir:

D'outils de Charpentier, un Lot de Mais, un Pistolet, Bols de lit et fournitures, une Jument noire, Scelle et Bride, Wagon et Harnais, etc., etc.

Termes:—COMPTANT. A. BOURG, Sheriff. Paroisse Terrebonne, ce 31 Juillet 1856.

SUCCESSION SALE. Succession of Auguste Uzo, deceased. STATE OF LOUISIANA—Parish of Terrebonne—Fifth Judicial District Court.

In the name and by the authority of the Hon. the Fifth Judicial District Court, sitting in and for the Parish of Terrebonne, there will be offered for sale at Public Auction by Aubin Bourg, Sheriff of said Parish of Terrebonne,

On Thursday, 4th of September, 1856, at 10 o'clock A. M., on the premises on the Bayou Chacahoula, in said Parish, the following described property belonging to said Estate, to wit:

1st. Horses, Cows, Calves, Heifers, Farming Utensils, Household & Kitchen Furniture, Saddle, Bridle & Martingale, Horse Cart, 94 heads of poultry, &c., &c.

2d. A certain tract of land situated, lying, and being on the right descending bank of the Bayou Chacahoula, measuring one arpent front, with such depth as the Survey or Confirmation calls for, bounded above by land of Jean Bte. Navarre, and below by land of Nicholas Malbroux, with all the buildings and improvements thereon.

3d. Another tract of land, situated, lying and being on the right descending bank of Bayou Chacahoula, measuring one arpent front with such depth as the Survey or Confirmation calls for, bounded above by land of Nicholas Malbroux, and below by land of Drausin Bergeron, with all the improvements thereon.

4th. Another tract of land situated, lying, and being on the right descending Bank of the Bayou Little Caillon, measuring two arpents in front more or less, with such depth as the Survey or Confirmation calls for, bounded above and below by land of Jean Baptiste Duplantis, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The moneys, all sums of Ten Dollars and under payable in the month of March 1857; and all sums over that amount payable one half in March 1857, and the other half in March 1858; the immovable property payable in four equal instalments, payable respectively in all and each of the months of March of the years 1857, 1858, 1859 and 1860, the purchasers to give their notes with good and approved security to the order of the representative of said Estate, and all sums not punctually paid, to bear eight per cent per annum interest after maturity till paid, the immovable property to remain specially mortgaged and hypothecated until the full and entire payment of the purchase price and the interest thereon to accrue.

The delivery of the lands to be given on the first day of January A. D. 1857.

A. BOURG, Sheriff. Parish of Terrebonne, July 28th 1856.

Succession de son Auguste Uzo.

ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—Paroisse Terrebonne—Cour du 5ème District Judiciaire. Au nom et par l'autorité de l'Hon. la Cour du Cinquième District Judiciaire, siégeant dans et pour la Paroisse Terrebonne, il sera offert en vente à l'encher publique par Aubin Bourg, Sheriff de la dite Paroisse,

Joué, le 4 Septembre 1856, à 10 heures A. M., sur les lieux sur le Bayou Chacahoula dans la dite Paroisse, les propriétés ci-apres décrites, appartenant à la sus-dite Succession, savoir:

1. Chevaux, Bêtes à cornes, Outils aratoires, Meubles de Bricole et Batterie de Cuisine, Scelle, Bride et Martingale, Chariote à Cheval, 94 Têtes de Volailles etc., etc., etc.

2o. Un certain morceau de terre situé sur la rive droite en descendant du Bayou Chacahoula, mesurant un arpent de face, avec telle profondeur que porte l'arpentage ou la confirmation, borné en haut par la terre de Jean Baptiste Navarre, et en bas par la terre de Nicolas Malbroux, avec toutes les bâtisses et améliorations qui s'y trouvent.

3o. Un autre morceau de terre situé sur la rive droite en descendant du Bayou Chacahoula, mesurant un arpent de face, par telle profondeur que porte l'arpentage ou la confirmation, borné en haut par la terre de Nicolas Malbroux, et en bas par la terre de Drausin Bergeron, avec toutes les améliorations qui s'y trouvent.

4o. Un autre morceau de terre situé sur la rive droite en descendant du Bayou Petit Caillon, mesurant deux arpents de face plus ou moins, avec telle profondeur que porte l'arpentage ou la confirmation, borné en haut et en bas par la terre de Jean Baptiste Duplantis, ensemble avec toutes les bâtisses et améliorations qui s'y trouvent.

TERMS ET CONDITIONS.—Les mobiliers, toutes sommes de Dix Piastres et au-dessous payables dans le mois de Mars 1857, et toutes sommes au-dessus de ce montant, payables une moitié en Mars 1857, et l'autre moitié en Mars 1858; Les propriétés immobilières payables en quatre termes égaux, payables respectivement en tous et chacun des mois de Mars des années 1857, 1858, 1859 et 1860, les acquéreurs devant fournir leurs billets avec caution, bonne et approuvée à l'ordon de représentant de la dite Succession, et toutes sommes non punctuellement payées, porteront huit pour cent par an d'intérêt après échéance jusqu'au paiement, les propriétés immobilières demeurant spécialement hypothéquées et affectées jusqu'à plein et entier paiement du prix d'achat et l'intérêt qui pourra accrotre.

Les terres seront livrées le premier Janvier 1857. A. BOURG, Sheriff. Paroisse Terrebonne, ce 29 Juillet 1856.