

NEWS BY MAIL.

An accumulation of indebtedness against the State of \$234,537 10 each year, which, at the end of the contract, will amount to \$4,925,273 10.

Total tax assessed for levee purposes for the five years from 1871 to 1875, inclusive, \$3,779,165 65.

Showing the total that should have been paid, \$4,925,273 10.

This still leaves a balance against the State, under the most favorable circumstances, of about \$450,000, which, at the end of twenty-one years, would amount to \$1,800,000.

It is thus evident that to maintain the levees of the State in even their normal and very imperfect condition, will involve either an increase in taxation or a constantly increasing debt.

Sixth Year committee find that notwithstanding the large amount of work done and the commendable energy shown by the Levee Company that should entitle them to the thanks of all their fellow-citizens, the condition of the levees is retrograding rather than improving.

In view of all these facts, therefore, your committee conclude that the means provided are entirely inadequate to the work to be performed; that an increase of tax upon our impoverished and sorely tried State is impracticable; and that the continuance of this contract will be injurious to both the contracting parties, and will fall of the end in view; it should, therefore, be annulled without delay.

At this conclusion, your committee desire to express to your honorable body their conviction that the Levee Company have acted in perfect faith with the State; that they have striven to accomplish the protection from overflow of the greatest number of the citizens of the State; and that they deserve the thanks of their fellow-citizens for their efforts, and a just and speedy settlement of their affairs.

Your committee, therefore, beg to introduce two bills covering the following points: 1. That the contract with the Levee Company be annulled, and that a board of liquidation be appointed for the settlement of their affairs and means be provided to pay the indebtedness of the State.

2. For such protection in future from overflow as we are able to achieve, to provide that the State be divided into districts, each district to be in charge of a competent engineer.

That the revenues for levee purposes be divided pro rata among the districts. That no work shall be contracted for until there is money in the treasury to pay for the same, and that all contracts for work to be done hereafter shall be let to the lowest bidder who can give security for the performance of the work undertaken.

In addition to this, your committee urgently recommend that, if practicable, the large force of convicts serving out sentences at hard labor in the State Penitentiary be employed upon the levees, and that every effort be made to obtain the assistance of the general government in the matter.

In support of these views, we submit a statement of their affairs from the Levee Company, copies of the Annual Reports and of the Commission of Engineers and of persons, and such copies of the reports of the Auditor and Treasurer as we have been able to obtain.

All of which we respectfully submit. W. M. WASHINGTON, Chairman. P. H. TOLBE, J. G. TAYLOR, L. H. BOWDEN, JAMES S. ROBERTSON, WILLIAM RIDGELY.

AMUSEMENTS.

VARIETIES THEATRE.—Mr. Geo. Fawcett Rowe made his first bow last night as a star before a New Orleans audience in his own play of "Brass." We had read the first criticisms of Mr. Rowe's play, some of which were scathing, whilst others were highly eulogistic.

Gen. Babcock's Accounts. [Special to N. Y. World.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Judge Holman, chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds of the House, denies that the committee is responsible for the statement sent out to-day that Gen. Babcock, Commissioner of Public Buildings, is a defaulter to the extent of over \$300,000.

IN THE WEST. The Feeling Excited by the Action of the Tribunal. [Special to Chicago Times.] AT MILWAUKEE. MILWAUKEE, Feb. 16.—The elegant and spacious headquarters of the First Division Wisconsin Democratic and Republican Reform Association were filled this evening on the occasion of a regular meeting.

Natchez is threatened with the same fate as Vicksburg—that the Mississippi will desert it. The Natchez Democrat thinks it prudent that the authorities of that city take steps to avoid the possibility of having the city left three miles from the river.

THE ORGAN GRINDER'S LAMENT.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 15.—The reported assassination of Packard created intense excitement, and the Evening Dispatch came out with a double-edged editorial charging it to frenzied partisan hatred due to the teachings of Democracy, and for which that party at large was directly responsible, and asserting that it sealed the doom of Tilden, and with him the life of the party.

THE DECISION. Gov. Tilden Receives the News with Spartan Stolidity. [Special Cincinnati Enquirer.] NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The news from Washington to-night that the Electoral Commission has decided not to go behind the Louisiana certificates helped to sell several thousand extra evening newspapers, but there was no excitement in the hotels and clubs.

A MEMORABLE SCENE. When Louisiana's Vote was Stolen by High Treason. [Special to Cincinnati Enquirer.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 1877.—At 4 o'clock the corridors in front of the Supreme Court were thronged with curious spectators.

AT COLUMBUS. COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 16.—The action of the High Commission on Louisiana returns created no especial excitement here, as the result was anticipated by most men of both parties.

AT LUDINGTON. LUDINGTON, Mich., Feb. 16.—The news of the decision by the Tribunal upon the Louisiana case is received here with much indignation by all honest men.

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partisan rulings and decisions, and in counting certain votes as legal in the face of the most overwhelming and notorious evidence of monstrous fraud and illegality, through which said votes were presented, which evidence Congress had collected at great expense of labor and money, and which it was the special province of this commission to consider, but which a partisan majority refused to consider, have thereby violated their oaths and prevented the object for which the commission was created; and Whereas, it is the especial duty of Congress, under the constitution, to count the electoral votes, and this commission is of doubtful legality and questionable expediency, and at best could only act advisory to Congress; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Congress should at once dissolve the Electoral Commission, by withdrawing its members from the office, and relegate to the people the whole subject of presidential-making, to the end that a great national crime may not be committed, and that the presidential question may be settled by the people who have more at stake than the partisans who are now urging the country into anarchy and confusion.

Resolved, That the Adjutant General be instructed to transmit copies of the above resolution to William Pitt Lynde and other members of the Wisconsin delegation in Congress, requesting their immediate attention to the same.

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HERE'S YOUR MULE!

Old Mad Wells as a Stock Raiser. The Ingenious Process by which He Made Mules Increase and Multiply.

Some twenty years ago J. Madison Wells was, as he is now, a cotton planter in Rapides parish, He, in common with all well-to-do Louisiana planters of that time, employed an overseer, who, in this instance, was a connection by marriage of Mad Wells and named Harry G—, who, for all we know to the contrary, may yet be alive.

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POLITICAL TALK.

The official announcement of the course Grant intended to pursue in regard to affairs in this State was received last evening with a general feeling of satisfaction, as the most sanguine had been fearful that Grant might be induced to overturn the established government. The announcement quieted the fears of the less hopeful.

The general opinion is that the position Grant has assumed indicates the position taken by the leaders of the party in Washington; that they, like him, have concluded that the Louisiana crowd is too much of a load to carry, and that the National party cannot longer afford to maintain in power the men who in their struggle for office have cared not how much discredit they brought on the party, or in how much trouble they involved it.

The dispatches received last night, giving the information that Grant was influenced to take his final stand by the advice of the prominent men of the party, show that this view of the matter is correct.

It is believed that the same influence which induced Grant to adopt his announced course will have considerable weight with Hayes in the event of his being made President, and in consequence there is a feeling of confidence in the final recognition of the State Government.

The crowd at the St. Louis Hotel was, yesterday morning, given to understand that the long-expected recognition dispatch would be received to-morrow. It was currently reported in the building that Packard had received a telegram, assuring him that it would come, and, notwithstanding the fact that it was the same old story, they believed it, and were in good humor.

Later in the day, however, when the first exhilarating effects of the report had worn off, and the dispatches in the evening paper were read, they became less hopeful; and when the dispatch containing Grant's views and intended policy was received last night, they relapsed into their old condition of melancholy.

It will be in order to-day to announce the receipt of telegrams containing assurances from Hayes, that one of the first acts of his administration will be to install Packard, and, of course, the duped adherents of the Boss will believe in them as implicitly as they did in the recognition dispatch.

The position which Grant would publicly assume in regard to affairs in this State was well known to the leaders of the Republican party here yesterday morning, dispatches having been received at the Custom-House, and, it is believed, also, at the St. Louis Hotel, and yet the information was kept from the followers, and they were led to believe that the news was encouraging. It shows that Packard and his staff appreciate what a slight hold they have on a large majority of their apparently steadfast supporters.

KILLED BY A STREET CAR.

Another Unfortunate Ushered into Eternity. At 8 o'clock Monday morning, while a little colored boy named John Bartlett, aged two years, was playing on Chippewa street, between Josephine and St. Andrew, he was run over and instantly killed by car No. 58 of the Annunciation street line, driven by Cain Comfort.

It appears that the mother of the child is in the habit of allowing him to play in the street, and this morning he attempted to run across the track while the driver was heading some change to a passenger in the car; the mule knocked him down, and before the driver could put on his break the wheels passed over him, killing him instantly.

BRASS-KNUCKLED.

The Hellish Work of Negro Highwaymen. At 5 o'clock Friday morning a most daring highway robbery was committed in the Le Breton Market.

It appears that a lady was passing through the market buying her market, when she was struck on the head with a pair of brass-knuckles by a negro, who, after bringing his victim to earth, robbed her of her pocketbook and then made his escape.

It appears singular that a negro could assault a lady where there were so many persons about, and be allowed to escape. It is impossible to learn who the lady was, as the police in that precinct knew nothing of the affair, or where she was conveyed after being wounded.

POLICE AND CITY ITEMS.

A RECOUNT.—Some little excitement was created in the hall way of the court building yesterday by a recounter between two well known gentlemen of this city. The parties were separated before either had received any serious bodily injury.

NEW FIRE WELL.—Chief Engineer H. P. Phillips, of the Fire Department of the Sixth District, has just finished a new fire well at the corner of St. Charles avenue and General Taylor street, at a cost of only \$65. The well is eight feet square and fifteen feet deep, and a few others in that district will be a great benefit in saving property, as generally there is a complaint of "no water" at fires.

VIGILANT POLICEMEN.—Jack McDonald, alias Ham and George Whitfield, was collared at ten minutes past three o'clock this morning by officers Garlio and O'Connor and looked up in the Central Station charged with being vagrants and also about to commit a burglary on the store of E. N. Rumba, on Girod street, between Thonpoulous and Commerce streets. McDonald was also booked for carrying a concealed weapon, to wit, a revolver.

THE COURTS.

Superior Criminal Court. SENTENCES. Alfred Townsend, who was convicted of burglary in the junk store of Mrs. Sarah Rosenzweig, No. 79, Canal street, was sentenced to fourteen years in the Penitentiary, the full extent of the law.

It will be remembered that Mrs. Rosenzweig was found dead in her bed in the morning after the burglary, when the accused was discovered under a pile of rags in the premises. There being no careful investigation in the case at the time, the accused escaped to trial for murder.

Geo. Bowser, colored, ex-police officer, for false imprisonment of Anne K. B. 15 days, and for false imprisonment of Ernest Munchow, 15 days Parish Prison. ACQUITTED. Shooting with intent to kill—James Clark charged with shooting and wounding J. H. Murphy, in front of the Tiroll Garden, on Chartras street, February 22, 1876.

First District Court. INFORMATION. Petty larceny—Amelia Sanders, John Rutledge. Assault and battery—Eliott Smith, Henry Cramer, John Martin, Charles Cohagan. Entering a coffeehouse in the day time with intent to steal—R. J. Vance.

Obtaining money under false pretences—J. H. Jensen, charged with obtaining from the Metropolitan Loan Bank \$310 on the 16th of February, 1875, by representing to Mr. Frank, president, that a certain lot of plows, then in the Boston Warehouse, belonged to him, and obtaining said money on the warehouse receipt. When the money was not repaid by accused, the bank was to sell the plows, but had to deliver them up to the agent of the Louisville Excelsior Manufacturing Company, who claimed them as their property, the accused having been entrusted with them merely as a commission merchant. Ex-Judge Geo. H. Braughn, prosecuted in behalf of the bank, and the jury after a short deliberation found a verdict of guilty.

Judge Klempner's Court. Pauline Grosse, charged with burglary and larceny of goods, valued at about fifty dollars, from the grocery store of Mrs. Mary Donohue, 150 Peters street, corner of Notre Dame, on the night of the 22d January, 1877, was sent before the Superior Criminal Court. John Grosse, Henry Will and Mary Green were discharged on the above complaint.

C. Williams, C. Adams and Jack Hartnett, charged with robbing Jas. Cooney on South Market, near Tchoupoulous street, were sent before the Superior Criminal Court. HUNG TO DEATH. The Manner in Which Henry C. Warner Chose to Die. Although a few years more would have laid Wm. C. Warner peacefully in his grave, he refused to live longer, and at noon on Sunday he put his fate in his own hands, and destroyed himself at his residence at Madame Schneider, where he was boarding, No. 23 Old Levee street.

The facts connected with the affair show conclusively that the deceased had for some weeks past MEDITATED SELF-DESTRUCTION, this being his second attempt. Warner is a native of Germany, aged 55 years, and was a resident of this city some thirty years ago. At the time of the Mexican war he joined the Mexican army.

After this war he settled in San Francisco, married, reared quite a family and plied his vocation of ship carpenter. About a year ago he came to New Orleans with the hope of getting work. After remaining here several months he had employment and lost a small amount of money; the amount was small, but large to him, as it was the last cent he had on earth.

The lass seemed to SET HIM CRAZY, and he made up his mind to destroy himself. Sunday week ago he remained at the river and jumped in, but was frustrated in his attempt by parties who saw him take the fatal leap and fished him out. He was sent to his home, but from that hour he seemed despondent at having been fished in the attempt.

He still seemed determined to make way with himself, and on Sunday evening entered his room, and was not seen until last evening at half-past 4 o'clock, when Madame Schneider, becoming alarmed at not having seen him for so long a period repaired to his room and called him by name. Receiving no response she repaired to the Third Precinct station and reported the fact. Officer Young was detailed to go and force open the door with his team, and he located the body inside. As the door flew back from the force of the jimmy a horrible spectacle met their gaze, for there,

DANGLING BETWEEN HEAVEN AND EARTH, was the body of Wm. Warner, he having committed suicide by hanging himself. The bed-chamber in which this horrible spectacle lay was a filthy hole; the bed was rampled, and the room was in a general state of disorder. The deceased was about five feet from the floor suspended by a pocket-handkerchief attached to a piece of wood which he had passed through the stovepipe hole in the chimney parallel with the mantelpiece.

All being in readiness for the final leap he stepped off of the mantelpiece, the fall not being sufficient to break his neck, death ensued from strangulation. From the appearance of the corpse it had evidently been hanging for about twelve hours. The coroner held an inquest and returned a verdict in accord with the above facts of the case. The deceased leaves two grown daughters and a son, all of whom are now residing in California.

WORK FOR INSURANCE DETECTIVES.

An Incendiary Fire Last Night. At 10:15 o'clock last night an incendiary fire was discovered in the grocery store of E. Blanchard, corner St. Peter and Roman streets. The flames were extinguished with slight damage. The proprietor of the place was absent at the time of the fire, but his wife was in the back room, and she stated that the cause of the fire was the explosion of a coal oil lamp that had been placed behind the door.

Chief O'Connor made diligent search for some of the fragments of the lamp, but was unsuccessful. The stock in the store was valued at \$75, and is insured for \$600, but in what company could not be ascertained. Important to sugar planters. See Trouard's advertisement. By reference to notice, published in another column, it will be seen that the New Orleans Gas Light Company has put down the price of coke to forty cents a barrel. Let those who are in need of fuel make a note of it.

FINE ARTS.—The new fine collection of oil paintings, steel engravings, chromos, etc., will continue this week at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m., at No. 30 Camp street, by Messrs. Montgomery. VIRGINIA HONEY, 236 BARBOUR STREET.—The polite and reasonable prices of the fall not being sufficient to break his neck, death ensued from strangulation. From the appearance of the corpse it had evidently been hanging for about twelve hours. The coroner held an inquest and returned a verdict in accord with the above facts of the case. The deceased leaves two grown daughters and a son, all of whom are now residing in California.