AUDITORIAL INVESTIGATION.

DIBBLE SAYS HE WAS JOHNSON'S PRIVATE ATTORNEY.

Clinton is Astonished to Learn that the Bond Books are Aus-Ka-Spiel.

The committee to examine the accounts of the late Auditors and the Treasurer met yesterday at the State-House, Senator Wheeler presiding, and Messrs. Leeds, Aldige and Keeting present.

H. C. Dibble was the first witness called and sworn, and in reply to inquiries propounded by Mr. Keeting (Rep.) he testified in substance as follows:

Was appointed Assistant Attorney General in March, 1874, and remained until March, 1875; then was succeeded by Judge Steele, and was reappointed in August, 1875, and continued until the succession of the Nicholls government. My recollection of the appropriation bill of 1875, for the payment of official journals, is somewhat indistinct, but will examine my letter books, if you will specify what particular items are in question. Don't believe that Col. Johnson issued any warrants under the items, if the injunction had

NOT BEEN REMOVED.

In one instance the Supreme Court passed upon the matter of printing, and that may have covered other cases.

Was Col. Johnson's solicitor or private attorney, although I received no compensation for my services. Think the decision of the Supreme Court covered the whole matter of $45,000 or the whole section, but of that I am not certain. If you will give me stated items I will examine my letter book, and see more particularly. My records will show what Col. Johnson did, and what he did was upon my advice, and I will produce such letters or advice as I gave on the subject.

To. Mr. Aldige—Will look through my letter books and will give you that which bears upon it on Monday.

Chas. Clinton was called next, and in reply to Mr. Keeting's questions about the Kellogg-Wills militia claims and warrants, said that it

WAS NOT THE CUSTOM

(as stated by the witness Stearn) to make out warrants in the name of clerks of the office or employes where various bills were rendered. We insisted upon having the party presenting the claim receive the vouchers; there were instances, however, where vouchers had been presented by merchants or brokers, and when fully identified warrants were issued.

In regard to the Wills vouchers I think now that they were first brought to me by Gov. Kellogg, some thirty or forty of them, and were for militia purposes of some kind, such as

THE OZARK CLAIM,

and for expeditions that went to the country; when the vouchers were first shown he told me that they were claims he had to cash; I told him they must be approved, and he said he did not want them in his own name. After that it turned out, by Mr. Street's looking into the matter, that they were issued against a fund they had no right to. My recollection is that Gov. Kellogg afterwards brought the warrants back and had them cancelled, except those which Street did not object to.

To Mr. Keeting—If we mistrusted the legality of a claim we always inquired into it, even if there was the least suspicion, and if there was we would not issue the warrant. Had no reason to think otherwise in the case referred to, and coming, as it did, from the Governor, had no reason to doubt its legality. His bringing it there satisfied me that it was right. Think the vouchers are there in the office yet.

To Mr. Aldige—The cause of his returning the warrants was that Street was paying a certain class of bills out of the appropriation, whereas Kellogg was paying his bills out of the same. After the objection was made by Street the Governor came to my office and told me to look over the vouchers, and if there were any questionable ones among them he wanted the warrants issued therefor canceled. We sorted them after having his idea, and found what part of them he did not want to go into that appropriation. He finally came back again and asked that if there were any that were objectionable to Street to have them canceled.

The appropriations, then, were very indefinite as to what they should be applied to, especially the militia appropriation, which was

MUDDLED UP ANYHOW.

I know that appropriation was entirely eaten up; there wasn't any left, and some of it had been enjoined.

Mr. Wills was not as effective a clerk as I wanted; he staid in the office longer than I wanted him to, on account of the Governor's request to keep him there, and that was done, although he was not efficient. He was not the Governor's cousin, though, I believe, he is the Governor's wife's cousin, or related in that way.

The Governor has visited my office to find out what amount of the appropriation was left and not warranted for. I presume these warrants might have been made in that way; in fact, am almost sure that was the case. The Governor, in many instances, tried to make me think it was proper to do things which I thought not proper. As a rule, warrants were canceled, but not destroyed. You will find many of them in the office now.

CANCELLED WITH A KNIFE.

In my time I kept them all and filed them in envelopes, with endorsements on each, so they could be referred to at any time.

Regarding the large bond books which are reported missing the witness testified that one was filled and the other had been begun on. Suppose they are both there. I turned them over to my successor. That was the book I prepared myself. Prepared it with Mr. Armstrong, in order to get a bird's eye view of the whole transactions of the Funding Board. This is the first time I have heard that they were missing. The whole history of the bonds received and funded and the new bonds issued is in those books. I don't believe it admissible for any officer to have them missing from his office.

In them is a complete history of all the bonds funded and issued, with the proper dates of over thirty series or issues of bonds that have been funded. The books will show it all. I saw, after two or three meetings of the Funding Board, by the minutes as kept by the secretary, that the record would not be complete, and the way it was kept induced me to adopt the system which I did.

To Mr. Keeting—Never gave Gov. Kellogg any information in regard to appropriations unexpended that I would not have given to any other citizen.

To Mr. Wheeler—Don't remember the amount of warrants canceled, as it has gone out of my mind.

To Mr. Keeting—Art. 178, Revised Statutes, clothes the Auditor with authority to make compromises with defaulting tax collectors. Have had cases in which I couldn't have got a dollar in any other way.

To Mr. Aldige—There was no book kept showing the compromises with tax collectors; it was generally entered in the tax book, where credits were made when compromises were made; don't think I ever made one unless I had the examiner first examine the accounts of the tax collector. I made it a point to try and get just as much

OUT OF THE DEFAULTERS

as they had got from the State. Would try to get them to cover into the State what he had got, and got as much of the State paper (warrants) covered in as I could. They have offered me a little better transactions in money, and in one instance one offered to give me $1900 cash, where the State's claim was $5000. I insisted that I wanted as much money in the Treasury as he had to pay and gave him that one, and he went out and got in the same amount of warrants that he had owed the State. If I hadn't done this the State would have had to pay dollar for dollar for these warrants in time.

There were more defaulting tax collectors

UNDER WARMOTH'S ADMINISTRATION

than under Kellogg's. One defaulter under Warmoth amounted to as much as all of Kellogg's—that was the collector of the Fourth District in the city, and the amount was about $40,000, we believe.

I am astonished and annoyed to think that the bond books are missing.

Mr. Keeting stated that Mr. Street would be ready to testify at the next meeting of the committee; also that he had seen Mr. Johnson, who was willing to receive a subpœna from the committee at any time, and would respond and answer questions that would not have a bearing upon the case now before the courts.

The committee then adjourned until Saturday at 1 o'clock p. m.

If the Investigating Committee push their inquiries they will find that the vouchers for the

KELLOGG-WILLS MILITIA

claim are among other papers that are missing from the Auditor's office, and they may find also that while Wills was drawing a salary as Auditor's clerk he was drawing another as Kellogg's corresponding clerk.

An effort is, it seems, being made to break the testimony given by Mr. Brainard in the matter, but original documents are stronger than hearsay testimony, and consequently

THAT GAME WON'T WORK,

as the documents will be forthcoming at the proper time.

In relation to the statement that Kellogg had access to books, etc., to examine into unexpended appropriations, it is safe to assert that it can be proven that he made personal examination to ascertain that information in one or two instances; and it is known, too, that a daily statement was sent to him every morning from the Auditor's office showing the operations of the previous day to the close of business, which showed him just what had been ordered into the treasury and what amounts had been warranted for during the preceding twenty-four hours. This Kellogg used to say was for the purpose

OF WATCHING DUBUCLET,

but the impression even then was that he wanted to keep even with the State's financial condition.

CAPITOL GOSSIP.

The meeting of the State Printing Board was about all that enlivened the State-House circles on Thursday morning.

The late Fiscal Agent has, it is said, made a full settlement for 1876 and previous years with the State Treasurer, and the funds, etc., have now been transferred to the new Fiscal Agency, the amount checked for by the State Treasurer upon the former fiscal agent being $307,174 68, for three or four different funds.

The Governor has received a numerously signed petition from St. Landry, asking for the pardon of Guidry, who was convicted of murder, which he examined at his residence, as he was not able to make his appearance at the Executive office.

THE STATE ENGINEERS

have decided to assign to the three State districts the following parishes, viz: To Major Harrod's district, the river parishes north of the parish of Orleans to the line of the parish of Point Coupee. To the district in charge of Col. Hardee are assigned the parishes below the city and including Concordia, Point Coupee and the Red River parishes as far up as Alexandria. And to Major Richardson is assigned Madison, Tensas, Carroll and the Red River parishes above Alexandria.

OLD DEBTS CANCELLED.

Meeting of the Funding Board Yesterday, and List of the Bonds Acted Upon.

The State Board of Liquidation met yesterday, Lieut. Gov. Wiltz presiding, and a quorum present. After the reading of the minutes, the following applications were passed upon in the order named, and the bonds mentioned funded and cancelled:

C. F. Hoffman, agent—	
2 bonds, $1000, 6 per cent, N. O., J. & G. N. R. R., with coupons	$2,080 00
1 bond, $500, 6 per cent, with coupon	515 00
1 bond, $1000, 6 per cent, N. O., O. and G. W. R. R., with coupon	1,045 00
3 bonds, $500, 6 per cent, R. S. Treasurer, with coupons	1,545 00
10 bonds, $1000, floating debt, with coupons	10,700 00
1 bond, $1000, N. O., O. and G. W. R. R., with coupon	1,040 00
3 bonds, $500, R. S. Treasurer, with coupons	1,545 00
1 bond, $1000, N. O., O. and G. W. R. R., with coupons	1,040 00
3 bonds, $500, R. S. Treasurer, with coupons	1,545 00
	$21,050 00
Paul Tulane—	
1 bond, $1000, Vicksburg, S. and T. R. R., with coupons	$1,060 00
2 bonds, $1000, do, with coupons	2,060 00
10 bonds, $500, N. O., O. and G. W. R. R., with coupons	5,150 00
1 bond, $1000, do	1,040 00
1 bond, $1000, do	1,030 00
	$10,340 00
Townsend & Lyman—	
1 bond, $1000, Penitentiary, with coupon	$1,023 33
3 bonds, $1000, B. R., G. T. and O. R. R.	3,030 00
1 bond, $1000, do	1,000 00
4 coupons	110 00
1 bond, $500, and coupon, R. S. T.	515 00
2 bonds, $1000, B. R. and Grosse Tete and 6 coupons	2,160 00
1 certificate	48 00
1 bond, $1000, and coupon, red backs	1,030 00
2 bonds, $1000, B. R., G. T. and O. R. R. and coupons	2,040 0
	$10,956 33
James Tarleton, Cashier of Citizens' Bank—	
1 bond, $500, R. S. Treasurer	$500 00
Pike, Brother & Co.—	
50 bonds, $1000, floating debt and coupons	50,500 00
Anderson & Simpson—	
4 bonds, $500 and coupons, R. S. Treasurer	2,060 00
1 bond, $500 and coupon, red back	515 00
6 bonds, $500 and coupons, R. S. Treasurer	3,090 00
1 bond and coupon, red back	515 00
3 bonds, $100, red backs	309 00
	$6,489 00
John B. Lafitte & Co.—	
2 bonds, $500 and coupons, R. S. Treasurer	$1,030 00
32 par certificates	1,575 27
	$2,605 27
M. Franck, President—	
50 bonds, $1000, Penitentiary and coupons	$50,500 00
Hellwege & Schaoffer—	
1 bond, $500, R. S. Treasurer and coupon	$515 00
2 par certificates	106 65
	$621 65
Total funded May 31	153,562 25
Total of bonds and certificates funded to date	1,742,693 90

Of the bonds yet to be funded which have been accepted as fundable there remains about $10,000, which will be funded to-day.

The warrants have all been referred to the experts.

The board adjourned until Friday at noon.

A Scene in Court.

In the United States Circuit Court, before Judge Billings, yesterday, came up a case that from the crowd of lawyers, attaches of the court and general by-standers, seemed to be of more than ordinary moment. On investigation it was discovered that a young gentleman of highly respectable connection and antecedents had been charged by some one with passing a counterfeit treasury note, the penalty for which is $5000 fine and fifteen years in the penitentiary at hard labor. There seemed no satisfactory proof of guilty knowledge, the bill having been borrowed from a friend a few moments before it was passed, and the jury shortly brought in a verdict of not guilty, on which the accused and his attorney, Mr. James Lingan, were heartily congratulated by a host of friends.

To-day, Friday, remnant day. Remnants of all kinds of goods at less than half price. M. L. Byrne & Co., 163 Canal street.

IMPORTANT TO EXCURSIONISTS AND TOURISTS.—From to-day the Jackson Railroad will have on sale excursionists and tourists' tickets to all watering places and points of summer resort. Call at the ticket office, 22 Camp street.

BURNETT'S FLAVORING EXTRACTS.—*The superiority of these extracts consists in their perfect purity and great strength.* They are warranted free from the poisonous oils and acids which enter into the composition of many of the factitious fruit flavors now in the market. They are not only true to their names, but are prepared from fruits of the best quality, and are so highly concentrated that a comparatively small quantity only need be used.

Silver Soapine.

There is no excuse for buying a cheap or old machine at $25 when $40 gets one of the latest improved *Singer's*, with all attachments. Office, 91 Canal street.

SCHOOL FUND STEALS.

TENSAS PARISH COMES TO THE FRONT.

Only One Parish Heard—From Fifty-Six More Yet to Report.

The committee to investigate the condition of the affairs of the ex-State Superintendent of Public Education met yesterday in that office; present, Senator Ogden, chairman, and Representatives Leonhard and Fitzpatrick.

Upon motion, it was decided that the following circular letter should be sent to the presidents and secretaries of the various

PARISH SCHOOL BOARDS

throughout the State.

OFFICE OF COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION, Department of Education, New Orleans, May 26, 1877.

Hon. ——— and ———, President and Secretary, respectively, of the School Board of the parish of ———:

Gentlemen—In the exercise of authority conferred by the General Assembly of the State upon this committee, you are hereby requested to make a thorough examination of the books and records of the former school boards of ——— parish, and to report to this committee at the earliest moment practicable.

For your guidance we send you herewith statements of the current school fund apportioned, by the State Superintendent of Public Education, to the parish of ———, in the years 1870-1-2-3-4-5-6, which was drawn from the State treasury, at the time and in the amounts designated, by the several treasurers of the ward, town and parish school boards.

These statements, however, do not exhibit all the school money for which many of the treasurers are responsible. This is particularly true of town and parish school treasurers. You will, therefore, in your examinations, make inquiry as to the amounts turned over to them by parish treasurers; the amount of local school tax paid to them by the tax collectors, also the amount of the free school fund (the interest that annually accrues from the invested proceeds of school lands sold), which they have received.

The school laws under which your predecessors worked made the school boards bodies corporate and politic in law; they elected their own officers and audited their own accounts. The records of the boards should show every transaction. If these records have been faithfully kept, your duties will be comparatively light. If not, your responsibility to make thorough examinations will be greatly enhanced, and your labors correspondingly increased.

In your report to the committee please furnish, as far as practicable, information as to the number of schools in operation each year since 1869; and the number of permanent public school buildings in the parish, also the number of teachers employed, pupils in attendance, and the average length of time the schools were maintained each year; also, if there be any sums not accounted for, state what steps have been or will be taken to recover the same.

Very respectfully,

Chairman of the Committee.

The board then considered the following report, which shows a

DEFICIT OF $19,486 60

in the school affairs of the parish of Tensas.

The report explains itself as follows:

To the Honorable the Parish Board of School Directors of the parish of Tensas, Louisiana:

The undersigned committee appointed by your honorable body to investigate the books of John P. Harlow, late Secretary and Treasurer of the Parish School Board, respectfully submit this as their additional report and result of as thorough an examination of the affairs of said treasurer as we can do.

We find no material difference in our first figures; although we have allowed Mr. Harlow, in our presence to examine the books.

And in addition to the sum already found to be due by him as treasurer, to wit: $10,302 22, we find he is also indebted to the school fund as follows, to wit:

To amount due on apportionment funds received by him and not accounted for, as per returns of State Treasurer sent us, $9164 38.

We find that in warrant 587 he has committed an error in his own favor of $20.

Making the total amount due the school fund of this parish by him as follows, viz:

To amount first reported, as per his own showing	$10,302 22
To amount on apportionment fund	9,164 38
To error in warrant 587	20 00
Total	$19,486 60

All of which, with accompanying statement, is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) T. C. SACHSE, President.
REEVE LEWIS, Secretary,
WILLIAM MURDOCK.

Without taking any action the Committee adjourned subject to call.

PITKIN'S KICK.

That Made by Beast Butler, and the Rejoicing Thereover by the Packard "Covey."

Kellogg and Blaine to Raid the President—Secret Meetings of the Big Chiefs.

The Pitkin-Butler sensation tickled the palates of the Packard birds at the Custom-House on Thursday morning, when a general rejoicing was noticed about the Marshal's office, where the covey collected numbered nearly the entire flock that had been "flushed" by Packard when he first started in the field with his breech-loading, ten-gauge greener. The

GREAT PRESIDENTIAL BULLDOZER,

Pitkin, was actually rosy with smiles, chuckling with his friends over the first triumph over Hayes and Dumont, and the rest seemed to think that the winning over of the one-eyed spoon-snatcher was an immense acquisition.

Kellogg was gallivanting about the building, paying visits to various offices, and at noon the halls and corridors were crowded with ex-Metropolitans and others who are waiting for employment.

His almost unannounced appearance here, and the immediate expose by the DEMOCRAT of his intentions to capture the Collector and monopolize the customs patronage, gave a check to his movements for the time being, and he

WARBLED ON THE GUDGEON

for a few days, holding private confabs with the chiefs at his parlors at the St. Charles Hotel, vibrating between the city and the plantation on the Teche to such an extent that his movements completely befuddled some of those who did not understand him.

It seems now that he had a double object in coming here, and that with the Custom-House monopoly he wanted to work in a friend as a member of the Custom-House investigating commission, in order that in that way he might cover up some of his former rascality in Custom-House affairs while he was Collector.

Rumor has it that some of these operations were not uncovered by the Gibson investigating committee last summer.

Whisky shipments to Mexico and all that sort of crookedness is freely spoken of by his enemies in the Custom-House, and if the commission get at the bottom of the operations they will make some rich developments.

Still another piece of Kellogg's strategy is coming to light which brings his name prominently forward as a leading spirit in

THE BLAINE MOVEMENT

against Hayes. Kellogg has, it is said, been engineering Pitkin and Packard's war in Washington, and it was through him that the great American spoon snatcher arrayed himself as a champion of Pitkin's cause, and in so doing meant to bulldoze Hayes into a quiet submission to their wishes for patronage.

In this they must, as one ex-Returning Board member said yesterday, make a square issue with the Returning Board, as they were bound to stick to Hayes, and by so doing they would unite the Warmoth-Wharton element with the Returning Board, and in that case Kellogg and his crowd would have a nice time in swallowing all of the public patronage of this State.

It is generally conceded that Tom Anderson secured the appointment of the present Collector, and it is not known that Kellogg possesses influence enough to prevent his confirmation, hence it stands to reason that neither Anderson nor Collector King should fear the

MILITIA WARRANT GRABBER

to any alarming extent, nor is it likely that they will.

From all that could be learned yesterday, Kellogg had expressed to some of Packard's intimate supporters the programme for the raid on the President, but just what that is could not be ascertained, the "intimate supporters" mentioned, refusing even to say a word concerning the matter, and appearing much surprised to learn that the fact of the move had leaked out. It is said that in his requests for places for some of the faithful in the Custom-House Kellogg has indorsed applicants who are over forty-five years of age, when, as one of the old attaches of the Custom-House says, there is a rule of the Treasury Department or a law

WHICH FORBIDS SUCH APPOINTMENTS,

and that fact will be brought to the attention of the indorsers when the applications are considered.

The pay rolls for the month of May for all of the employes was completed yesterday, showing a total salary expense of $25,000, or thereabouts, for the month, and to-day the employes will receive their checks.

There has been a time in the last ten or eleven years when the monthly pay-rolls amounted to $55,000 per month, but from what can be learned it is not the intention of the present Collector to let them be run up to that figure again, and it may be that

THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

can reduce them to $15,000 or $18,000, in which event the government might make a profit upon its customs business here.

The rooms prepared for the Sub-Treasurer of the United States in the northeast corner of the building have been nearly completed and will be ready for occupancy about the 15th inst., when it is expected that the Sub-Treasurer will change his quarters from the Mint to the Custom-House, where it will be much more convenient for the various officers to make their deposits.

The Marshal's office, on the opposite side, has also been lavishly and handsomely fitted up, and will also be ready during the month.

The Collector has appointed as citizen

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

to investigate Custom-House matters, Gen. L. A. Sheldon as the Republican member and Col. F. B. Hatch as the Democratic member, the latter having once filled the position of Collector of the Port.

STATE PRINTING BOARD.

Opening of Bids for Special Printing, Supreme Court Decisions, Etc.

The State Printing Board met at the State-House on Thursday morning, Lieut. Gov. Wiltz presiding, and Messrs. Strong, Bush, Lamarre and Leonard present.

The board, before opening the bids, decided that proof reading must be done by the Supreme Court reporter.

The bids were then opened, as follows: From Clark & Hofeline, to print the decisions of the Supreme Court, in accordance with act No. 100, and allow the State a bonus of $250.

From F. F. Hansell, proposing to give the State $100 for each volume, and to receive one cent per page for each page published.

On motion, both bids were rejected, and it was decided to readvertise for bids, and specify in that advertisement that the bids should include the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth Annuals.

Speaker Bush suggested that the Board do now proceed to consider the printing required for the office of Registrar of Voters for the parish of Orleans, which was done.

The Secretary of State and Parish Registrar were present with various blank forms and books required for the proper discharge of their duties, and gave the Board information in regard to their requirements.

On motion then the matter was postponed, and the Secretary of State and Registrar were requested to furnish the board

AT ITS NEXT MEETING

a detailed statement of all the printing required by registration acts of 1877.

The board then adjourned subject to call.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

Surveyor D'Hemecourt has appointed Louis H. Pilie, Esq., deputy city surveyor, vice Capt. B. M Harrod, resigned. Mr. Pilie is too well known in this city, where he has occupied the honorable post of City Surveyor, himself, for many years, to need any commendation from the press.

SUPERIOR CRIMINAL COURT.

Judge Whitaker's Address of Thanks to the Discharged Jurymen.

Gentlemen of the Petit Jury—Your labors are now ended. I thank you for the zeal, assiduity and discretion with which you have discharged the responsible duties devolving on you during this month.

The petit jury of this court has been composed during the present term, of the white, black and mixed races, and of members of different political organizations.

Your verdicts have been, in the opinion of the court, carefully considered, impartial and just.

The court regrets to part with you, gentlemen, but under the law the court is compelled to grant you exemption from further jury service for the term of two years.

The Sacred Concert.

This evening has been fixed for the sacred concert which has been offered to Professor G. Collignon by the ladies of the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The programme, as advertised, is choice in all its particulars, and its artistic execution is warranted by the well established reputation of the maestro who is to be beneficiary, and that of the artists who have volunteered in his behalf. It is due to the eminent professor that the Church of the Immaculate Conception be crowded to-night.

The Servants of the Poor.

The ladies who glory in the name of "Servants of the Poor" have engaged for their charitable concert the choicest amateur talent of the city, and Miss Corinne Bouligny has volunteered, as we have said before, to sing on that occasion, lending her sweet voice to the holy work of charity. The whole proceeds will be devoted to the use of the "Servants of the Poor," and it is imperative, even for those who cannot assist, to buy tickets for the concert.

Personal.

We were favored, last evening, with the visit of Mr. Frank A. Small, formerly city editor of the Houston *Age*, now interested in and soliciting patronage for that lively and intelligent sheet. We wish all success, pecuniary and otherwise, to Mr. Small in his trip through our State.

The Children Again.

The May festival for the benefit of the Coliseum Place Baptist Church came off as had been announced at St. Patrick's Hall last evening. A crowd of ladies and children, with a fair besprinkling of youthful, middle aged and elderly gentlemen filled the hall, and everything went on in a lovely way. The performance began with the "Crowning of the May Queen," a tableau, after which came a recitation by Mr. B. Shields, then a comic song was sung by Mr. F. B. Guthrie, succeeded by the "May Pole Dance," a lively and entertaining tableau.

After an intermission for relaxation from the strain of all these pleasing sights several other entertaining performances were gone through, among which "The Children of the Past and Future," a tableau, a beautiful recitation by Miss A. S., a song, the "Little Brown Jug," by Mr. C. D. Sturtevant, the whole closing with the tableau "Nid, Nid, Nodding."

The whole thing, from beginning to end was a success, and left pleasing remembrances with all those who were present.

Fire.

At 12:30 o'clock yesterday a fire was discovered in the house No. 167 St. Thomas street. This property, which is owned by Mr. O'Brien, and occupied by several families, was damaged to the extent of $100. The property is insured for $2000 in the Hibernia Insurance Company.

Buy only the Singer; they were the first to reduce the prices. Office 91 Canal street.

REMNANT DAY.—Don't forget Messrs. M. L. Byrne & Co. have a sale of remnants to-day. The large business that this establishment does, necessarily leaves many valuable remnants, that will be sold for a mere trifle.

AN OPEN LETTER.

Showing What Is Expected of the Custom-House Commission.

The following is a copy of the letter addressed by Collector King to the members of the Custom-House Investigating Commission:

CUSTOM-HOUSE, New Orleans, La., Collector's Office, May 31, 1877.

Gen. L. A. Sheldon and Col. F. B. Hatch:

Gentlemen—I have been instructed by the Secretary of the Treasury to have a thorough examination made into the method of business and the efficiency and the character of the force employed in the office of Collector of Customs at New Orleans. To accomplish this object I have been authorized to appoint two persons to act in conjunction with Gen. A. M. Barney, the special agent of the treasury, now on duty in this department.

In the exercise of the authority thus vested in me I have sought for representative men of conceded capacity and integrity, of irreproachable antecedents, of enlarged and liberal views, who are familiar with the practical operation of the revenue laws, and who would inspire the confidence of the commercial public. Added to this I think that the two political parties should be represented in the proposed examination, and I am confident that this view will accord with the policy and wishes of the national administration.

The position of one of you (Gen. Sheldon) as an active and distinguished member of the Committee of Commerce, when in Congress, gave you an opportunity to familiarize yourself with the business necessities of the Mississippi Valley, and of the requirements of New Orleans. The former connection of the other of you (Col. Hatch) with this department as Collector of Customs, your intelligent, faithful and efficient administration of its affairs, and your acknowledged character for integrity, eminently fit you to subserve the interests of the country and the wishes of the President, as a member of the proposed commission. I have, therefore, selected you as the two members who, with Gen. Barney, are to compose the examining committee.

It will be your duty to make a thorough examination of this office in its various departments; to suggest any improvements that you may deem necessary in the manner of conducting its business; to ascertain where there are any existing abuses or irregularities, and, if any exist, to indicate the manner in which they may be corrected; to look into the practicability of diminishing the force now employed, and of reducing the pay in any cases where it may appear to be excessive; and, generally, to make any suggestions tending to the improvement of the civil service, in accordance with the policy of the Administration at Washington.

In the prosecution of our investigation, I think it will not be unwise to seek for information outside of the officers and employes of the Custom-House, and to consult the business men of this city, and more especially the merchants, whose intelligence and sagacity have enabled them to study advantageously the practical relations of this office to the commerce of the country.

To aid you in the discharge of your responsible duty, you will be supplied with the written detailed instructions from the Treasury Department, and with such information as may be derived from the officers and employes under my control.

It is needless to add that I shall be pleased to confer with you freely and frequently during the progress of the thorough examination you are expected to make.

Hoping that you will find it convenient to accept the responsible trust to which I have felt it my duty to repose in you, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. KING,
Collector of Customs.

A Serenade.

The Sixteenth U. S. Infantry band serenaded the New Orleans Club last night with the following airs, beautifully interpreted:

"New Orleans Club March."
"Heart Bowed Down" (Bohemian Girl)—Balfe.
"Le Sabre de Mon Pere," march—Offenbach.
"Blue Danube," waltz—Strauss.
"Ask Me Not Why," song—Donizetti.
"The Violet," schottish—Herrmann.
"Auld Robin Gray," song.
"Journey for Luck, galopade—Faust.

Short Items.

Last night John Wiltz and Henry Watkins were arrested and locked up in the Suburban Station, charged with representing themselves to be police officers.

At 9 o'clock last night, at the corner of Tchoupitoulas and Julia streets, Frank McDermott was was stabbed and slightly wounded by Bernard O'Keefe. The wounded man was taken to his home, 140 Magazine street. The accused is still at large.

The bridge at the corner of St. Joseph and Baronne streets requires the immediate attention of the city authorities.

Twenty-five vehicles went to pound yesterday for running without the proper license.

For petty larceny, Mira Adams was lodged in the Central Station.

Douglas Wheeler attempted to pick the pocke of Robert Crawford, but was caught in the act and locked up in the Central Station.

George Charles, charged by John Zahn with breach of trust and embezzlement, was yesterday sent by Judge Smith before the Superior Criminal Court.

George Waters, charged by his brother James and sister Kate with breach of trust and embezzlement, was yesterday honorably discharged by Judge Smith.

Mary McCarthy is in the Central Station, charged with the larceny of one shade, one frying pan and one codfish.

At half-past 11 o'clock yesterday morning, the house No. 227½ Gravier street, occupied by negroes, was damaged by fire to the extent of $10.

F. Charleville was arrested and locked up in the Seventh Precinct Station, charged with having issued and caused to be placarded in Jefferson City posters of a libelous nature.

Brevities.

The Crescent City Rifle Club, at their meeting on Wednesday night, extended an invitaton to the Continentals and Washington Artillery to use the rifle range in their practice shooting.

SUPREME COURT.

THURSDAY, May 31, 1877.

Present—Associate Justices Marr, DeBlanc and Egan.

BY JUSTICE DEBLANC.

No. 6601—Edward Meyer vs. G. Deffarge; H. Mehnert, garnishee and appellant.—Appeal from the Fourth District Court, parish of Orleans.

A motion to dismiss the appeal in this case was made on the 6th of March, and the appeal dismissed on the 2d of April, on the ground that the certificate of the clerk of the lower court is informal and does not show that the transcript is complete. On the 14th of May a delay of fifteen days was allowed appellant for the correction of the error and irregularities mentioned in the motion to dismiss the appeal. The delay allowed for said correction has expired and the informality urged by appellee has not been corrected.

The motion to dismiss has been renewed and must prevail.

It is, therefore, ordered that the appeal taken in the case entitled as above be and is hereby dismissed at appellant's costs.

Adjourned *sine die*.

AN AVERAGE CALIFORNIA CROP.

One Full Crop in Three Years.

[San Francisco Cor. of the Baltimore Sun.]

The average of crops in California is not over one full crop in three years; one fair crop and one failure. But with reliable irrigation every year will be sure of a full crop if well farmed and free from rust, etc. This is amply proved on some 20,000 acres now irrigated, where the harvest promise excites the envy and admiration of every one. Besides, irrigation enables the farmer to vary his crops and to double his hay and pasture. It is to be remembered that it trebles the toil, but it quadruples the product. Farming in California without artificial irrigation is vexatious, and in the end unprofitable; but with water plenty farming in this country will be fascinating and remunerative, if you get your land at about half its present value.

The Singer is acknowledged by all to be the best sewing-machine in the market.

A SMALLER CURRENCY.

Editor Democrat—Since the settlement of our political troubles, and in the process of adjusting our disordered affairs, commercial and financial, it behooves us to consider every measure of economy.

As a people we find ourselves in a truly impoverished condition, and we must turn our attention to devising every means of developing the resources at our command.

The writer ventures to call the attention of the public to a measure, the subject of which, though seemingly insignificant of itself, is of the largest importance—the introduction and use of currency of smaller denominations than the five-cent piece, the present minimum.

It is difficult to account for the fact that the use of the three-cent, two-cent and one-cent pieces, which prevails in the more wealthy and prosperous communities of the Northern and Western States, has never obtained here.

It cannot be that this community, as a people, or the individuals who compose it, are so wealthy and prosperous that a smaller circulating medium is beneath their consideration, or why is it that the communities in the North continue the use of the smaller denominations, and decline to dispense with them, while they are more prosperous and richer than we?

When it is considered that the estimate of political economists of the average amount of currency to each person among the more wealthy communities is fixed at about fifteen dollars, it can well be appreciated that we, who are among the poorest of the States, would find that a smaller currency, when once introduced, would constitute such a necessary factor in our everyday transactions, and such an important feature in our domestic economy, that its use would soon become indispensable. Much more could be said to illustrate the advantage it would be to poorer classes whose revenue consists sometimes of only a very few dollars per week.

We find many who admit the advantages, utility and necessity of the smaller circulating medium, but who argue that its introduction in this country is impracticable.

The writer suggests that the smaller denominations of currency can be introduced and brought into use within a month, by the concurrence and co-operation of the various boards of directors of the banks in this city.

There has never been a time so opportune for the introduction of the measure, or when it was so much needed, as at the present.

If each bank will provide itself with a few hundred dollars worth of the three-cent, two-cent and one-cent pieces, and direct their tellers to pay out and to exact in payment the odd cents in all instances, the introduction of these smaller pieces can be readily established, and the directors will find that they will have conferred a greater benefit upon the community than can at present be estimated.

DECIMAL.

THE TURK AND MAGYAR.

Turkish Courtesy to Hungary.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The State Department is to-day in receipt of information that the Turkish government has restored to the University of Pesth the valuable library known as the Corvinus Library, which was carried off by the Turks when they overran Hungary. The restoration was celebrated by the Hungarians with speeches and various public demonstrations of joy. These speeches and others made in various parts of Hungary have been in tone decidedly favorable to Turkey and antagonistic to Russia. The inference drawn from these and similar indications of public sentiment is that Austria may become involved in the present Eastern war through Hungarian influence.

POOL SELLERS.

How the New York Pool Sellers Evade the Anti-Pool Law.

[N. Y. Sun.]

The New York pool sellers who recently removed to Jersey City are doing a fair business. Tattersall's has removed to Otto Cottage, near the Hoboken ferry, and Lovell is to follow next week. John Morrissey is fitting up rooms at Greene and Montgomery streets, Jersey City. Johnson is in the Philadelphia Hotel. The origination of a system of pool exchange, cunningly devised to evade the law, enables New York betters to lay their wagers without crossing the ferry, and hence comparatively few New York faces are seen in the Jersey pool rooms.

POPULAR OPINION.

Its Sudden Changes and Contradictions.

[N. Y. Tribune.]

Mr. Theodore Tilton made some reflections the other day in San Francisco upon the ephemeral character of popular opinion. "Observe," he remarked, "how Salvini was received on his second visit to this country. Why, he played one night in some city to a $88 house. Who could witness this coldness and believe that the same man only a few years before drew so well that people were turned away from the door? Ristori had an experience almost similar. It seems to be impossible for any one to hold popularity for any great length of time, no matter how great he or she may be?"

THE KHEDIVE'S MIXED COURT.

American Judges in Egypt.

[Special to the N. Y. News.]

WASHINGTON, May 26.—Judge Morgan, of New Orleans, who has been appointed judge of the mixed tribunal created by the Khedive of Egypt, is in this city making preparations for his departure for Cairo. The mixed tribunal is composed of twelve judges, partly foreigners and partly natives. Three of them are Americans.

The work of the court, which has been highly successful, is to decide cases between foreigners and those in which foreigners and natives are interested. There are 100,000 foreign residents in Egypt, and consequently the court or tribunal has a good deal of work to perform. Its decisions have been so impartial and just that native Egyptians often sell their claims to foreigners so that their cases may be heard before it.

A LIGHT VOTE.

Poll Tax and the Virginia Election.

WASHINGTON, May 26.—Last autumn Virginia adopted a constitutional amendment requiring every voter to prepay a State poll tax. Last Thursday, county elections were held all over the State. Dispatches received to-day say that the vote cast was very light, in some counties not a single person voting, members of both parties having forgotten or neglected to pay the requisite tax.

A Difference.

The New York *Express* pithily observes that the difference between the friends of Tilden and Hendricks in the United States and the friends of Gov. Nicholls is very properly settled by saying that Gov. Tilden and his friends preferred a commission to the consequences which might follow Republican resistance to right, while the people of Louisiana undertook to face the consequences, and were successful. The result teaches a lesson the fruits of which come too late for present use.

To-day, Friday, remnant day. Remnants of all kinds of goods at less than half price. M. L. Byrne & Co., 163 Canal street.

Cheap sewing machines are guaranteed for a few years; the Singer is guaranteed forever, if properly cared for. Office, 91 Canal street.