

Continued from First Page.

excess or deficit undetermined for a long period after the goods had gone into consumption. We strongly condemn this practice, but understand it has been discontinued.

CASHING OF THE PAY-ROLLS.

We also desire to signify to the honorable Secretary our disapproval of the practice of drawing money on the Treasury account of expenses for collecting the revenues in bulk, and distributing them in currency, from the cashier's office, on memoranda furnished by the Secretary, and by the department upon representations made that it was a hardship for an employe to go a mile to the United States sub-treasury to draw his money, and then return to the Treasury building, and deposit it in the immediate vicinity of the Treasury. One or two detailed men have, however, drawn the money regularly in bulk, as above indicated, and brought it safely to the Custom-House, and deposited it in the vaults of the Treasury building as early as the 24th of the month preceding the day of payment—seldom later than the 25th; and, though the testimony before us is to the effect that the money was not distributed until the 26th or 27th of the month, it is evident that this irregular mode of paying the employes offers facilities for an improper use of government money, and should be discontinued.

SECURITY OF THE CUSTOM-HOUSE BUILDING.

The commission have observed, during their sessions, that the collector and approaches to the Custom-House and Post-Office are habitually made use of as a landing place by idlers and persons having no business with either department. The public records are not even safe from the raids of these worthless loafers, by means of a passage through the building, on the ground floor, from which stairways lead to the upper floors, access may be had to the public offices unseen by the watchmen at the main entrances. According to statements made in the public press, some advantage has been taken of this insecurity of the Custom-House building—first, to improperly secrete within the building, and subsequently to surreptitiously remove, the contents of the Treasury, and secondly, to facilitate the collection of the Louisiana. The collector was, and is, undoubtedly, ignorant of the time and manner in which this most reprehensible transaction was effected; but it is evident that some one in or about the building must have had knowledge of the transaction, and may have lent a helping hand. With a view of preventing a recurrence of such improper use of government buildings, and to protect those having legitimate business with the customs and Post-office departments from obstruction and annoyance, we recommend that the collector require the passages on the ground floor to be closed except for ingress and egress of Post-office and appraisers' wagons, and that the collector be directed to prevent the collection of idle and unauthorized persons in and around the Custom-House building.

PREVENTION OF SMUGGLING.

The commission have given much attention to the prevention of smuggling into this port. A casual study of the physics of this locality will convince any one that no place on this continent offers greater facilities for trade in violation of the revenue laws than this port. The water approaches to this port are numerous and shielded by swamps and forests. Shallow waters prevail in many places, and, if smuggling is not carried on to a large extent, it cannot be because the facilities are not ample. The water approaches to this port are numerous and shielded by swamps and forests. Shallow waters prevail in many places, and, if smuggling is not carried on to a large extent, it cannot be because the facilities are not ample. The water approaches to this port are numerous and shielded by swamps and forests. Shallow waters prevail in many places, and, if smuggling is not carried on to a large extent, it cannot be because the facilities are not ample.

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the injury which is now inflicted on the revenue in this regard.

In closing their report, the commission desire to say they are satisfied the administration of the Custom-House here could be brought to the highest standard of usefulness and efficiency by requiring greater personal attention to the duties of their offices than has heretofore been given by the heads of departments, together with the aid of the Treasury Department. In conducting their investigation the commission have endeavored faithfully to carry out the instructions of the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, sup- pressing no facts brought to their notice, shielding no person proved to have been derelict in his official duty. The recommendations contained in their preliminary report, which to a great extent have been put in operation, will effect an annual saving of over sixty thousand dollars in the cost of collecting the revenues of this port. They confidently believe that the further recommendations herein contained, if carried into effect, will redress some of the evils which have been the cause of the loss of the revenues of the customers service and enhance the efficiency of the government.

The commission, in their preliminary report, recommended that a small portion of the annual salary of one of the commissioners be paid in advance of the month of January. Their instructions contained the suggestion that "the administration of business should be conducted on the oldest principles; hence the recommendations of one member of the commission, suspension is not pursued by the largest and best-conducted houses of this city, and recommends that the department conform in this respect to the commercial practice of the city."

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

A. M. BARNEY, L. A. SHELDON, F. H. HATJON, Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C.

TO THE HON. JOHN SHERMAN, SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

In relation to the last paragraph, I am of the opinion that a sufficient number of skilled and trustworthy persons to do all the business of the Custom-House in ordinary times should be retained during the whole year, and that summer suspensions should only be made as to positions where no particular skill or experience is required.

WHAT THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE HAS IN THE WAY OF INFORMATION, DATA, ETC.

EX-TAX COLLECTOR FULLON AGAIN ON THE WITNESS STAND.

The Auditorial Committee met last night. Present: Senator Steven and representatives Aldige and Leeds.

The clerk and short-hand reporter submitted, as called for, a large portion of the testimony taken, and asked further time to complete the rest.

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CUSTOM-HOUSE SQUEALS.

AS HEARD FROM THE "INS" AND "OUTS."

How Tomanderson and Wells Carried the War Into Ohio.

The "ins" and "outs" at the Custom-House have not yet got through with their talk about the Returning Board delegation to Washington, nor is it likely that they will until the delegation gets a scalp or two.

MAKE A REPORT.

It is known now that both Anderson and Wells stopped over one train in Mansfield, Ohio, where they saw and interviewed Secretary Sherman, but with what effect is not known.

FOUL HIS COMPANIONS.

by leaving them at South Bend, Ind., while on the way to Washington, and while they continued their journey to that city, he would come along the next day, and stop over to see Sherman. Wells was too smart for that, however, and wanting no tricks in his, he waited for his partner, and stopped off with him that Tomanderson might not fly the traces and go over to his friend King.

Those who ought to know say, and it is a fact, that Tomanderson has in his coat pocket or car-pot-sack a letter from the Collector, appointing him as a special deputy, vice Champlin, and it is believed that Gantt will force him

TO ACCEPT THE POSITION.

even though Secretary Sherman should try to dissuade him from such acceptance, as is thought by some he will do.

Having the appointment with the tacit agreement that he shall reject it, Tomanderson might now fool the Collector by accepting, then should Sherman confirm his appointment, and he hardly dare do otherwise. Champlin's head would tumble, and the systematic workings of the Custom-House

MAY GET BEFUDGLED.

It is said that among the recent nominations sent to Washington for confirmation or rejection are those of B. Bloomfield as auditor, and a son of ex-Gov. Hobart as cigar inspector, both of which are made at the instance of the Tomanderson-Gantt influence, to take position on the 1st proximo, if confirmed.

The Collector denies, as stated in a contemporary, that he indorsed any list of nominations for Tomanderson, or that he has any such list indorsed by him, although he may, the Collector says, have one of his own.

Champlin does not seem to be much alarmed about his official top-knot, but is quietly awaiting the result of the

RAID ON WASHINGTON.

before he makes any move whatever. It was stated yesterday, by one who knows the circumstances, that soon after the Hayes administration had been inducted into office Mr. Champlin was highly and strongly recommended as the assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and came within an ace of securing that position. His recommendation, indorsed by Senators Ferry and Christianity of Michigan, Zach. Chandler and the entire Michigan delegation of Congressmen, and quite a heavy influence from this State,

ARE STILL ON FILE.

at the Treasury Department, as an indication of the esteem in which he is held by those men, and it may be that the Board party and Gantt may have an opportunity of glancing at them.

HAYES AND SHERMAN.

and talk with them about those trifling (?) information lodged against the Returning Board in the Superior Criminal Court, and get the views of these gentlemen upon that subject, and at the same time secure prominent Eastern counsel.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

How It Used to be Done Under Radical Rule.

A little incident occurred on Tuesday morning in the office of the assessors, at the City Hall, which is as good a sample of the demoralization wrought by Radical rule as can be well produced.

A real estate owner, a man between sixty-five and seventy years old, addressed himself to Mr. Payne, the assessor of the First District, and calling him mysteriously aside, told him that he wanted a further reduction of his assessments, and for that purpose had prepared his applications, and at the same time he handed the folded documents to Mr. Payne. The latter, on unfolding the applications, was taken aback on discovering that they contained two twenty-dollar and one ten-dollar note snugly wrapped up in a piece of paper. Mr. Payne, realizing the significance of their presence there, was about

RESENTING THE RESULT.

in a striking manner, but controlled himself in consideration of the age of the offender, who had by this time become so badly frightened that he could scarcely keep on his feet.

In conversation with this taxpayer, he told us that formerly he used to transact his business with the assessment department through brokers, but that they were in the habit of pocketing his money without obtaining any reductions, and this year he thought he would attend to his business himself and bargain directly with the assessor. He was informed that times had changed, and allowed to go on the promise that he would do so no more, and after he had made due apologies to Mr. Payne.

THE MAYOR IS CONSIDERING.

The Mayor is considering the expediency of taking steps to recover for the city the revenues of the building at the south corner of Cuscuta and Bourbon streets, donated by the late Mr. J. Fisk to maintain the Fisk Free Library, located in Mechanics' Institute.

In the opinion of the Mayor the Mechanics' Society, to whom the library and revenues have been turned over under certain conditions, has failed to comply with such conditions under the extension of their charter granted to them at the last session of the Legislature, as they had failed under their original charter. Mayor Pilsbury says that he is induced to take action in this matter, not only on the ground of justice, but that it has been hinted to him by one of the heirs of the legatee that they may claim the property if the provisions of the will of Mr. Fisk are not complied with.

THE WHARVES.

The wharf lessees are bringing material for the reconstruction of the wharves in the Third District and by next week the caving will have ceased sufficiently to permit them to begin work on the wharves and by doing so will gratify the public generally, and particularly the working classes and trades people of the Third District. The batture at the head of Canal street is being dredged out by the tugboat, Sufeyeur d'Home, and the wharf lessees, Sufeyeur d'Home, are sending there should be extended further out into the river.

ASSESSMENTS.

The Board of Underwriters have had a preliminary conference with the Board of Assessors, and were to have had a meeting of their own to further discuss the matter. It appears that some of the insurance companies, at least, claim that nearly all their capital is invested in United States 5-20's and city premium bonds, both of which, under the law, are exempted from taxation. Should the assessment of the insurance companies prevail, it will cut down the expectations of the city and State treasurers quite materially. Doubtless, however, the matter will be referred to the Attorney General of the State for his legal opinion.

Approve, the assessors fear that they will have

to pass favorably upon many assessments on capital on the face of the sworn applications of the taxpayers, owing to the unwillingness of other capitalists to act as arbitrators in disputed cases.

THE NEWBORN'S HOME.

is claimed to be a nuisance in a petition addressed to the Council yesterday, signed by residents of the neighborhood of Franklin street, between Poydras and Lafayette, and representing property assessed at between one hundred and fifty thousand and two hundred thousand dollars. The assessor insists, it seems, in the existence of the home, but in the congregation in its vicinity of a noisy and troublesome set of boys, not belonging to the home, who make themselves disagreeable, besides, in defacing and degrading the property of people. It seems that the matter might be regulated by the police, without interfering with

THE WORTHY PORTION.

of the newboys who patronize the institution. Mayor Pilsbury was yesterday examining into the city ordinances to see what could be done with

THE LEWD WOMEN.

residing in the Second District, against whose misbehavior complaints have been made. This matter embarrasses the Mayor considerably. It is one of very old standing, which ever and anon has occupied the attention of our legislators, who have failed to hit the nail on the head. The last ordinance which prohibits this class of people from living on the ground floor of residences within certain localities, and from drinking-houses, etc., has, we believe, been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, and the Mayor says that he will have to submit the question to the City Attorney for information. It is not surprising when law makers have been pronounced that the Mayor should find himself embarrassed, and we may add a little of the writer's experience on the subject. While there are property holders who justly say that

THE PROXIMITY OF THESE WOMEN.

to their properties deteriorates their value greatly, it is well known that the prostitutes are asked to pay higher rents to other proprietors, and we have even seen some of the last mentioned property holders intervene through well paid attorneys to secure their tenants, however notorious was their avocation.

The only effective manner that has ever been suggested or practiced to rid a neighborhood of these fallen women has been the rigid enforcement of the general police ordinances localities, and to visit the recorders. But to effect this the police and recorders must be above reproach, for the women have money and friends who have money, and the flesh is weak and blood money acceptable in hard times. We do not wish to be understood as casting any reflections upon our present police or recorders, for they have not been tested in this matter. We only hope that when the test comes, for it will certainly come, if we may judge from the Mayor's avowed policy, he will be sufficiently instructed in the law to issue his instructions to the police.

RAILROAD EXTENSION.

New Orleans, August 21, 1877. Editor Democrat.—Please advocate through the valuable columns of the New Orleans DEMOCRAT the extension of the Ohio and Erie street cars up Front, Louist or Magnolia street to Sixth street. A visit in the morning of the Tenth and Eleventh wards will at once assure the railroad company that we are sadly in need of the extension, and that it will certainly repay them for their outlay. A word or two in favor of this project will assist us materially. Yours, resp. et al.,

WE ARE ACQUAINTED WITH THE LOCALITY REFERRED TO BY OUR CORRESPONDENT, AND WHICH EMBRACES THE KELLER MARKET DISTRICT, AND IS THICKLY POPULATED BY WORKING PEOPLE WHO DESERVE THE ACCOMMODATION SUGGESTED. BESIDES THAT, IN OUR OPINION,

IT WOULD PAY

the St. Charles Street Railroad Company to extend their line (the Bourbon and Royal streets line), as the line is, with one or two exceptions, the best paying street railroad line in the city. The company is well able to afford this boon to a large number of their patrons, who have to do some long walking now before they can reach the station near the Jackson Barracks and depot at Sixth street. A visit in the morning of the Tenth and Eleventh wards will at once assure the railroad company that we are sadly in need of the extension, and that it will certainly repay them for their outlay. A word or two in favor of this project will assist us materially.

MR. MYRA CLARK GAINES.

A Proposition to the City to Compromise the Gaines Cases.

New Orleans, August 15, 1877.

To the Hon. Ed. Pilsbury, Mayor, and Administrators of the City of New Orleans: GENTLEMEN.—I had the honor of addressing a petition to the Mayor and Common Council on the 1st of September, 1875, which was transmitted by Mayor Conway to the Council, and by the latter respectfully referred to the Finance Committee of both boards, relative to my claim against the city, amounting then to the sum of \$2,530.91.

The petition being referred, it was followed by an elaborate report from the committee, who stated in part as follows: "Your committee do not deem it within the province of their duty to give any opinion upon the legality of the claim of the petitioner; but, as it is a question of great importance, not only to the city, but to a large number of persons who have acquired titles to property from the city, and in view of the magnitude of the claim, and that the other duties of the City Attorney precluded him from giving his time and attention to the study of this claim and case, we have asked the opinion of an attorney of known ability, who has no bias of opinion for or against the claimant, and whose opinion, attached hereto, we recommend as a basis for final action, and offer the accompanying resolution for the sanction of the Council."

I have now only to call your attention to the opinion of E. Woolridge, Esq., attorney, addressed to the "Honorable chairman and members of the Finance Committee, especially charged by the Council with a thorough investigation of this claim, and his answer to interrogatories propounded by the committee. He was sustained by C. E. Whitney, Esq., attorney, in a written opinion, also addressed to the Finance Committee, and accordingly the claim, in both opinions, "that to further oppose the claims of one who has the indorsement of the Supreme Court would be unwise." And further: "One thing is sure: This resistance will do so long continued as to beget against further objection, the city will have lost in taxes, which it would have otherwise collected, and in money expended in litigation, double or triple the sum for which the whole matter can now be compromised." And a strong recommendation is made as would increase the revenues of the city largely.

This indorsement of the highest tribunal of our country, the Supreme Court of the United States, stands in approval of a decision rendered by Justice Davis, and to which your particular attention is called, whilst the recent decision of the United States Circuit Court of Louisiana in my favor, with which your honorable body are familiar, should be considered against further objection by the city, which, I respectfully submit, cannot but result in heavy loss by failure to avail itself of the offer on my part to compromise a valid and just claim as previously made by me in 1865.

I am now anxious to avoid the execution of a judgment against the parties defendant, which the city, by an amicable compromise and settlement with me, can now avoid, and in thus consenting will, in the language of the minutes con- on behalf of the city, "protect them from eviction from their homes, built in firm reliance upon the good faith and protection of this city."

Any further information or consultation in the premises required may be made through the Hon. John K. Conway, who will present this letter on my behalf. Respectfully, MYRA CLARK GAINES.

THE POLICE BOARD.

The Police Board met as usual at the Central Station last evening, Mayor Pilsbury in the chair and a quorum of the commissioners present. Patrolman John Druggans, First Precinct, lost ten days pay for sitting down on his beat with his shoes off.

The celebrated Wm. Bateman, First Precinct, who was so ignominiously named by Mrs. Murphy, was dismissed from the force for not appearing for trial on the charge of conducting unbecomingly an officer.

Patrolman J. Foreground, Third Precinct, for drunkenness, was dismissed from the force. The case claimed that he was not on duty at the time he was inebriated, and this plea was sustained by the evidence, but the board ruled that an officer was always on duty, and Foreground was requested to hand in his buttons, badge and club.

Officer John Daily, First Precinct, for sitting down on his beat with his coat off, was fined ten days pay. Just before the board adjourned, Commissioner Dejean offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted: Resolved, That any patrolman who shall be convicted either of neglect of duty or gross violation of the rules three times in one year, singly or together, shall, on the third conviction, be dismissed from the force, unless there be some mitigating circumstances.

Burglars. Since Col. Boylan has been Chief of Police burglaries have been quite scarce; in fact it has been a rare thing for months that a residence in this city has been entered, and this is due to the watchfulness of the patrolmen. But accidents will happen, etc., and burglars will slip sometimes on a policeman unawares, and this was the case Friday night last. It was between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock

CAPITOL GOSSIP.

NEW BONDS AND TONE'S BAYOUT.

The State Officers Signing the Former and an Open Letter from the Governor Relative to the Latter.

The attention of the Governor, Secretary of State and Auditor is now monopolized during business hours in the matter of State finances, their particular and joint labor being that of signing the new consols issued in exchange for old indebtedness.

On Tuesday morning Capt. Mat. Joyce and Allen called upon the Governor to secure from him an open letter announcing his willingness to recommend that the next General Assembly appropriate \$5000 to aid in furnishing supplies to the convict labor to be

USED AT TONE'S BAYOUT.

upon which the Board of Underwriters will doubtless take action. The letter is as follows: STATE OF LOUISIANA, Executive Department, New Orleans, Aug. 21, 1877. To the Board of Underwriters, New Orleans: Gentlemen.—I hear that your board, in common with the commercial interests of this city, are deeply interested in closing the State's bayout and are willing to take steps to raise money to effect such purpose, the work to be done under the superintendence and control of the Board of State Engineers and the means raised to be placed under their control. There exists at present no fund from which these

EXPENSES CAN BE MET from the State Treasury. I am told that you desire an expression from me of a willingness on my part to assist in causing to be refunded by the State such amount as may be now raised by private subscription for the object above mentioned. I will be pleased to do so as far as I have the legal ability. It is but right, however, to say to you that there may be legal questions involved arising from this matter, upon which you will have to run the risk of a decision. Very respectfully,

FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS, Governor of Louisiana.

In connection with the same subject the Governor received yesterday the following telegram from the government engineer who has in charge the improvements of Red river, in response to a dispatch sent by him: MEMPHIS, TENN., August 20. Francis T. Nicholls, Governor of Louisiana: I cannot thoroughly complete the necessary repairs at Tone's bayout dam, as the funds now at my disposal for Red river improvements are less than \$2000. If I can get the steamer Florence out of Cypress bayou I will endeavor at low water to close the gap at the east end of the dam, so far as the means at my disposal will admit. Of this I will advise you as soon as I can hear from the Florence. BENJAMIN, Engineer.

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