

MUNICIPAL MATTERS. INTERESTING FIGURES.

The City Assessment Rolls Lower Than They Have Been for Years. Through the courtesy of Mr. E. L. Bower, secretary of the Mayor, we are enabled to put before our readers comparative tableaux on several subjects concerning our municipal affairs, which we hope will be found of interest.

The first tableau shows that the aggregate of the valuation of property, real and personal, by the present Board of Assessors amounts to \$100,000,000, which is less by \$10,000,000 than at any time during the past decade. It will be noticed that the year 1872 is not included in the list. This is due to a change in the method of assessment, which formerly used to be considered as made for the year previous to that during which the assessment was made.

CITY ASSESSMENTS. Year. Real Estate. Personal. Total. Rate of Taxation. 1867. \$109,087,200. \$20,544,120. \$129,631,320. 1 1/2 c. d. t. 1868. 105,913,634. 22,069,612. 127,983,246. 1 1/2 c. d. t. 1869. 106,259,295. 21,083,486. 127,342,781. 2 c. d. t. 1870. 116,665,541. 24,171,623. 140,837,164. 2 1/2 c. d. t. 1871. 114,637,723. 23,773,498. 138,411,221. 2 1/2 c. d. t. 1872. 111,730,094. 24,264,240. 135,994,334. 3 c. d. t. 1873. 107,330,372. 23,282,084. 130,612,456. 2 1/2 c. d. t. 1874. 98,976,449. 20,239,555. 119,216,004. 2 1/2 c. d. t. 1875. 95,255,293. 20,520,000. 115,775,293. 1 1/2 c. d. t. 1876. 90,608,389. 19,001,500. 109,609,889. 1 1/2 c. d. t. 1877. 90,608,389. 19,001,500. 109,609,889. 1 1/2 c. d. t.

TOTAL INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY. 1865. \$13,389,247 56 1866. 13,858,413 00 1867. 14,643,375 75 1868. 15,270,355 00 1869. 18,397,313 86 1870. 18,585,084 41 1871. 21,381,293 00 1872. 22,435,978 00 1873. 23,929,636 18 1874. 24,741,765 87 1875. 23,233,717 16 1876. 22,638,779 21 1877. 21,894,714 74

COST OF MAINTENANCE FOR THE FOLLOWING YEARS: 1871. \$8,702 92 1872. 79,856 90 1873. 64,702 86 1874. 70,511 65 1875. 94,838 80 1876. 82,000 00 Total. \$478,612 64

POLICE APPOINTMENTS.

The following applicants have been appointed as supernumeraries on the police force on the recommendation of the chief of police: Second Precinct—Dennis Burns, G. T. Thompson. Fifth Precinct—Julius Magnon, Thos. Hanlon. Sixth Precinct—George Jenkins, L. U. Gatens, Bartholomew Soanlin, J. O. Wilson. Harbor—J. E. Sage. A recapitulation of the police force shows that the aggregate of the persons employed in that department, exclusive of the 92 cordons' chief officers, is 481, divided as follows: One chief of police, four aids, three captains, fifteen sergeants, twenty-one corporals, 305 patrolmen, four clerks, twenty clerks and operators, eleven drummers, one principal clerk, four employes in the telegraph department, and two surgeons.

While on this subject we may as well report the rumor that is afloat concerning appointments on the police force. Several times, Mayor Filshy has transferred to the chief of police the power to select all the supernumeraries on the force, subject, however, to confirmation by the Mayor. This appointment of supernumeraries is equivalent to the appointment of patrolmen, for, in case of a riot, the chief of police is to be selected from among the supernumeraries. The Mayor bases his adoption of this course on his view of the necessity of placing the responsibility on the chief of police for the character of the men employed on the force. It is, however, to be noted, that the chief shall make his selection from among the men who served from the 9th of January until the reorganization of the force, in the limit of the legislative allowance for the maintenance of the police kept out many deserving men.

Now, in certain circles it is admitted that while the men of the 9th of January should have the preference in appointments to vacancies on the force, it does not follow that the chief of police should be invested with what is claimed to be the extraordinary powers vested in him by the Mayor, and without casting any reflection upon our present chief of police, that to give such power to the executive officer of the force is to establish a precedent which will become a dangerous one, if not a wily or unscrupulous person; that hence, of the two evils (viewed from the light of "patronage") it would be better that the selections should be made by the City Administrators themselves, who, being outside of the force, are not subject to the same temptations as the chief of police, and who are besides apt to be better acquainted with the personal qualifications of the applicants for positions on the police. We said, at the beginning of this reference to the subject, that the facts are laid before you, and it is for you to decide there is more than rumor in the matter, and that an issue may be expected at an early day.

BIDS FOR BONDS.

The bids for ten wharf improvement bonds were opened yesterday in the Mayor's parlor, resulting in the acceptance of the bid of Mr. A. W. Bower, for forty eight cents, some of the bidders asked as high as fifty-four cents for their bonds.

COMMENDABLE ENTERPRISE.

We are glad to see that the New Orleans City Railroad Company are manifesting a commendable spirit of enterprise, among other things, towards remedying the disasters caused by the recent equinoctial storm. To-day several of the directors of the company, including the Mayor, and Surveyor of Harbors, to visit Millsburg, and examine the double-dock piling (seasoned cypress) upon around the pleasure boat pier about forty years ago. As we have said before, this close piling was laid by one of our grandfathers, and it was, who was not even a civil engineer, but simply a man of practical common sense; the space between the double line of piling was filled in with willow fascines and ballast, and to this day they offer a barrier to the waters of the lake which has never been overcome, even during the heaviest storm. It is proposed by the City Railroad Company, in conjunction with other interested parties, should the examination of to-day prove favorable to it.

MEET A SIMILAR BARBER.

From the north side of the New canal, at the mouth of the Spanish Fort, at the mouth of the Bayou St. John, A rough estimate made by Surveyor of Harbors, put the cost at about \$8000, of which amount the railroad company is willing to contribute \$5000. This, we understand, will be the first step towards erecting a protection levee behind the breaker there established.

We also understand that Mr. Kenner, the lessee of the New Canal, is working in harmony with the railroad company, and that the prospects for the construction of a steamboat wharf at the head and the extension of the track of the New Lake railroad is excellent.

THE SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The examination of the applicants for the primary grades of teachers closed yesterday at the Marshall and Franklin schoolhouses the same number, about six hundred, being present. It seems that the young ladies had a jolly time of it generally, and that the patience of the members of the committee on teachers was a little by their chatting and attempts to help out one another in solving the problems, in arithmetic particularly, this branch of the examinations having proven the great stumbling-block of many an applicant.

Now will begin the arduous task of Superintendent Rogers and the committee on teachers of making out the average attained by each applicant. The number of those who have answered the minimum number will then be reported to the Board of Directors, who will elect the teachers from among them.

THE POLICE BOARD.

The Police Board met at 6 o'clock last evening at their rooms in the Central Station, Mayor Filshy in the chair, and a quorum of the commissioners present.

The first chap that faced the music was Door-

man John Howard, of the Fourth Precinct, who was reprimanded for a slight offense.

Then came Corporal D. Mahoney, of the Sixth Precinct, on two charges. The first charge set forth that Corporal D. Mahoney did enter Mr. David O'Hara's house, No. 373 Brato street, and in the presence of the prosecutor's dead baby use harsh and abusive language to the prosecutor.

The second charge against the corporal was conduct unbecoming an officer, to wit: was intoxicated while on duty, and did insult without cause or provocation a subordinate officer. The prosecutor not appearing in either case, and the charges not being proved, the charges were dismissed.

Supernumerary Carroll, Sixth Precinct, charged with neglect of duty by being absent ten consecutive days without leave, was dropped from the rolls.

Supernumerary Robert McKenney, for being absent from duty since appointed, left the same fate.

James Dugan, for conduct unbecoming an officer, was dismissed the force.

Patrolman J. W. Sweet, for leaving his beat and going home to get a cup of coffee, gives five days pay to enrich the general fund.

Patrolman F. Hagan, Third Precinct, for drunkenness and conduct unbecoming an officer, was dismissed the force.

Patrick Doonan, for being drunk on his beat, was requested to hand in his batons, badge and club.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

Views of Some Members of the Board on the subject. The injunction granted by Judge N. H. Rightor, restraining the action of the School Board in the matter of separate schools for white and black children, having produced quite an excitement in the community, we thought that the views of some of the members of the school board on the question would be palatable reading, and proceeded to seek them and ascertain what they thought.

These gentlemen have been so busy of late, and until to-day, with the examination of postulants to teachership that it was hard to find them in a talking mood or with leisure enough to be interviewed. Last evening, however, we managed, by pursuing him into his own house and disturbing the equanimity of his post-prandial speculations, to have a talk on the subject with Superintendent Rogers.

Like the rest of the members of the school board, Mr. Rogers had had his mind preoccupied during the past few days with the examination of teachers. He said that he had had no time to speak with Mr. Semmes, the president of the Board of Public Education, on the subject, and did not like to express an opinion concerning the movements of the board in the present crisis. One question he had with the president and some of the members.

Answering the interrogatory whether the colored population had any cause of complaint as to the manner in which they had been treated by the board, Mr. Rogers stated that they possibly could have none; that they had been given, in the Second District alone, the Bayou Road school-house, one of the best furnished and located in the city, and also four other first-class school-houses, all for the exclusive benefit of the colored children. That he, for one, had even strained a point for the purpose of giving satisfaction, understanding that the spirit of the law under which he acted enjoined upon him to do so.

When being further interrogated as to what he thought about what the board would do concerning the injunction, Mr. Rogers repeated what has been first stated, and said, however, that he had no doubt that the battle would be fought against Mr. Trevigne's claims to the bitter end, and he thought that the board would be ultimately successful.

The only other member of the school board that could be found was Mr. Robert H. Barley, who gave a very cordial reception. He labored under the same difficulties as Superintendent Rogers. His time had been employed almost entirely by the examinations, and the Trevigne bomb had burst upon him when he was unprepared for the explosion. He was not, however, much taken aback by the blow, and thought the school board could stand it. He said that the board had as yet had no time for consultation together, but he doubted not would very soon agree upon a line of action. What it would be as to particulars he could not say at present, but he was certain that the injunction would be fought until the last man had been exhausted. He said that the colored people entered with bad grace into this contention, when the board had given them every advantage in the cause of satisfaction.

As an instance he stated that himself and Col. Archibald Mitchell were the prime movers in the institution of high schools for colored children, which was in fact an innovation even over the Republican system. Being generally recognized as to the examinations of teachers, he said that these had been happily closed yesterday. That the number of teachers to be selected was 450; formerly there were only 400, but fifty more were added by the board on account of the organization of the colored high schools, thus giving the chance to the colored people to have educated teachers of their own race.

THE PRESENTATIONS LAST NIGHT.

Last evening there was gathered a very large crowd over Hawk's saloon, the occasion being the presentation of the medals given by the State Amateur Rowing Association to the victors in the late regatta at the lake.

John Fitzpatrick, Esq., presided at the meeting, and after half past 7 o'clock had passed, order was called. The medals, which were exquisite specimens of the jeweler's art, were from the hands of that delicate worker in the finer metals, Mr. Otto Grabzin, of A. B. Griswold & Co., the well-known Canal street establishment.

E. H. Farrar, Esq., in a neat and most appropriate speech, made the presentations, and as each club came forward they were received with cheers.

The following were the happy recipients last evening: SINGLE SCULL SHELL—Two miles—Jas. O'Donnell, Hope Club.

DOUBLE SCULL SHELL—Two miles—W. Graham, stroke; Jas. Keegan, bow; Perseverance Club.

FOUR OARED GIG—Two miles—J. Egan, stroke; J. O'Hara, No. 3; A. Stern, No. 2; McLean, bow; Howard Club.

SINGLE SCULL WORKING BOAT—Two miles—John Garand, Hope Club.

FOUR OARED BARGE—Two miles—Jas. Robertson, No. 1; J. Staley, No. 2; Steve O'Leary, No. 3; Robert Diamond, stroke; Ed. Kline, coxswain; Riverside Club.

FOUR OARED SHELL—Three miles—Jas. Lusk, No. 1; John McNulty, No. 2; W. Tardily, No. 3; M. Carey, stroke; P. Bradley, coxswain; Hope Club.

With the medals were presented handsome champion flags, and Major J. H. Behan, responding on behalf of the Hope Club, made a most eloquent and at the same time eloquent address. He referred to the gallant exertions of the oarsmen and their dearly-bought victory, and referred to the Rowing Association as a means of social intercourse and strengthening of good feeling.

Personal. The many friends of Mr. R. N. Farquhar will learn with pleasure of his return to our city yesterday, thoroughly recuperated after his sojourn by the "sad sea waves." That he may be able to compass the press of the winter's business is our sincere wish.

Attempt at Suicide. Between 2 and 3 o'clock yesterday a man named James H. Clough attempted to commit suicide by stabbing himself in the neck with a broken table knife, at his residence, No. 379 Pryor street. The cause which prompted the act was his financial embarrassment.

FURNITURE—Contents of the elegantly furnished residence, No. 78 St. Peter street, Pontalba Building, consisting of elegant bedroom, parlor and dining-room furniture, glassware, crockery, cook stove, etc., to be sold this day at 11 o'clock by Messrs. Montgomery. See advertisement.

TREASURY INQUIRIES.

KELOGG'S GERRYMANDERING, AS RELATED BY DUNAS.

Who Says Massicot and Jourdain Mulcted Him to the Tune of \$10,000.

The legislative committee having in charge the investigation of the treasury met yesterday at the State House. Present, Senator White, chairman, and Representative Keotting.

The first witness examined was Morris M. Samuels, a broker, who, in response to inquiries propounded by the chairman, testified that he had TRANSACTORS WITH THE TREASURY, and had warrants filed there, some of which had been paid. Since 1872 he had filed but few for payment; no more than \$500 or \$600. Some remained in the treasury from one and a half to two years. These were judges' warrants. One was paid about a year ago, and the others have been there since. They were warrants issued in 1874. Had been to the treasury to demand payment, and they said there was no money. When I called at the counter some one went into the inside room, and came back and said there was no money. Have seen people go into the back room. Never went in there myself.

Know nothing relative to Mr. Augusto being in warrants and know nothing of the dealings of the office, except as stated.

To Mr. Keotting—Have no positive knowledge that favoritism was shown in the payment of warrants by the Treasurer or in his office; only know that from hearsay; believe I feared as well as the others.

B. F. Joubert was next sworn—Was tax collector of the Second District two years; never received instructions from the Treasurer's office to pay to or

CASH STATE WARRANTS. Don't recollect anything about an order to advance money on a warrant drawn from Mr. Hill of St. Landry, or the death of Attorney General Field. His wife came to me and asked if I would cash a warrant for \$600. I told her if the Treasurer would accept it I would. She went to the Treasurer, and returning, said he would receive it if my settlement was made. I said my son had a claim and the Treasurer refused it. While tax collector making settlements, did not see that

ANYTHING WAS UNFAIR in the transactions at the Treasurer's office. Never said to any person that I possessed knowledge of facts that would send the majority of those in the Treasurer's office to the Penitentiary.

May have said that there was a general rumor that Herwig was receiving a large portion or amount of the funds received in the Treasury. This was a private opinion, based on the fact of different people

COMING TO SEE ME, that had warrants, and asking when I would make a settlement. After I had settled they told me their warrants had not been paid. Never saw Herwig in the office while I was settling; approved some warrants, but he was coming out, but he did not stay in there. Never divided with any public or State official the fees of my office; no such condition was required of me.

EX-GOV. JOHN McENERY was the next witness called, and testified in substance that he was employed as an attorney by Major Richardson to draw a warrant against the office here in 1875, to secure the payment of orders for cancelled land warrants. Major Richardson understood that the Auditor would not issue the warrants upon the order, as there was appropriation to warrant against. I examined the law, and, allying to certain sections was of the opinion that the Auditor could issue the warrants even though there was no appropriation. I went to see the Auditor, Johnson, and

and he said he would refer the matter to the Attorney General. He said, however, that if he did issue them the Treasurer would not pay them, and that we had better wait until 1875, when an appropriation would be made. That was the quantity made, and when we succeeded in obtaining the warrants we employed Mr. Joseph Hernandez to collect them. He presented them at the treasury and

THE TREASURER OBJECTED, said the warrants were for 1875, and could not be paid on an appropriation made in 1876. I told Hernandez to go to the Auditor, and he got them paid. Major Richardson told me that Hernandez paid \$250 to get them cashed.

The witness was then handed a warrant for \$500 drawn in favor of the parish judge of Livingston Parish, and asked if he would cash the warrant, and both endorsed "John McENERY," and another warrant drawn in favor of R. E. Rivers, of the Building and Loan Association, for \$500, for the purchase of the State House, and endorsed "John McENERY," and both endorsed "John McENERY," indicating that both warrants and checks had been paid to his order.

The witness—That signature is not mine. The chairman remarked that the record would show that the warrants were cashed by the Treasurer. Witness—It may be these claims were sent to our firm for collection, but that is

NOT MY SIGNATURE on them. To Mr. Keotting—The land warrant, or order, was in 1876 for \$1000, and was cashed when the warrant was presented by Mr. Hernandez; it was after that that they were paid; know nothing about the other warrants or checks.

To Mr. White—The statement made by Hernandez was written to me, and I signed it. Subsequently the witness examined the two warrants and checks, and said they may have been signed by another party by his name, as there was such a party in the city, under the St. Charles Hotel, who clerked for Mr. Rivers.

MR. DUNAS WAS CALLED and sworn: Was appointed tax collector of the Third District January 9, 1875; remained until December 21, when I was removed; Gov. Kellogg said he was obliged to remove me on account of the Senator and Representative from my district; Angomart came to my office, and said the President ordered me to cash a warrant for \$242; I refused, because I did it some time before, and had to keep the warrant; the Treasurer's cashier then came to my office and

TOLD ME TO CASH IT. In 1872 was tax collector seven months; a warrant for \$200 was cashed by me on risks, and another for a judge was cashed; those two orders were in writing, and came from the Treasurer's office. Parties came frequently with such instructions, but I refused, because I did not want to be bothered by going from the Treasurer to his son. When I was removed it was because I refused to give more money. Kellogg said the office was given to the Senator and Representative from my district; I had given them

BETWEEN \$9000 AND \$10,000. Don't want to say to whom I paid the money; it was to the people who Kellogg said the office belonged; when there parties called I paid it; they thought Kellogg had the money; they wanted more money from me.

When making settlements with the Treasurer Mr. Augusto there in the office, Herwig called on me, and I told him that I had not seen him. He further represented that the clerk's cost amount to \$79 84, and the own's of the sheriff to \$1240 50, making a total of \$1329 34.

THE ONLY OCCASION that I saw any one in there but Cashier Dubuclet and the clerk.

The Senator from my district was Mr. Massicot and the Representative G. B. Jourdain. I refer to them. Was removed at the end of December, 1875, and went into court, as Kellogg advised me. Nail was made to use State money for political purposes.

The \$10,000 were not paid out of the commissions of the office, but out of the money collected for taxes. Couldn't pay it out of the fees, as they were all first made. This payment extended from the day I first made a monthly settlement until

November. When they first came didn't refuse them, as I thought it

THE BEST WAY to give them satisfaction. When the Governor removed me I made this statement of facts, and he said he knew it, but removed me. If there is any collector in my account with the State as tax collector it was brought about in this way. Kellogg said he knew Massicot and Jourdain were accountants and thieves, but he must remove me. After the first settlement I was not short. In September I was. Saw it was impossible to

GIVE THEM MORE MONEY. Had to borrow from friends to make good my early settlements. Had to settle once a month. To Mr. Keotting—Massicot and Jourdain were Senator and Representative. It was through their influence I was appointed. There was no understanding that I should pay them money for political purposes. Don't know some of the money paid to my clerks and they to Massicot and Jourdain. The money paid belonged to the State.

To Mr. White—When they came to me for more money and I refused, they went and secured my removal.

To Mr. Keotting—Told Gov. Kellogg I was paying them State money; told him in the presence of witnesses, Joubert and Delage were there. Kellogg said the time he was obliged to give them the money. He said when he removed me he would appoint me again in December, but I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.

Major Richardson was the next witness sworn. Placed in Gov. McENERY's hands warrants or orders on swamp land funds in 1875. They were in the hands of Mr. Hernandez and were paid in 1876. The amount was \$2000 or \$3000. He charged me \$250 for collecting them. Put them in his hands, because I had borrowed money on them. Thought the charge absurd. He told me he would have to pay that much to get the warrants cashed. He said when he removed me he would appoint me again in December, but I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.

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