THE PENNY.

ITS RECEPTION IN ST. LOUIS—ITS MANY ADVANTAGES.

The St Louis Custom-House Charges of Fraud in Its Construction—All Night Cars, Etc.

[Special Correspondence N. O. Democrat.]

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 13, 1877.

An attempt is being made here to bring

THE PENNY CURRENCY

of the East into general circulation in St. Louis. Wm. Barr & Co. and Scruggs, Vandervoort & Barney, leading retail dry goods merchants on Fourth street, commenced paying out one, two and three cent pieces in change to their customers about a month ago, and since then a dozen or more smaller stores have adopted the small coin currency. Several prominent manufacturers of the city, including Charles Belcher, Gerard B. Allen and Giles Filley, are also doing what they can to further the introduction of the small coin currency. They are now paying their hands, as some of them have been doing for some time, the exact amount due each of them every pay day. The custom with them formerly was to pay their employes either two cents more or two cents less than the amount due them. If the amount due a certain employe on pay day was $9 11 or $9 12, he was paid only $9 10, and if the amount due was $9 13 or $9 14, he was paid $9 15. This is the custom still prevalent among a large majority of the manufacturers here. The supporters of the penny system claim that they are gradually putting pennies into general circulation. They say that as the leading dry goods houses on Fourth street have united with the penny paying manufacturers the smaller stores will soon be compelled to adopt the new currency. It is difficult to foretell the result. As a rule, Western people seem to have an aversion for coppers, and the attempt to introduce the penny currency in St. Louis will meet and is meeting with considerable opposition. "The penny will do for the close-fisted Yankee, but it is not the currency for the open handed Western man," said a prominent bag manufacturer of St. Louis the other day in conversation with a well-known railroad man, and the latter answered, "And it just shows that the country is getting poorer and poorer every day." Another

OBJECTION TO COPPERS

is that the money is too heavy for general circulation. "Who wants to be carrying a load of coppers around in his pockets all the time?" is one of the questions asked by the anti-penny man when addressed on the subject, and then without waiting for an answer he invariably adds, "No one wants to be weighted down that way and have his pockets all torn out besides." The proprietors of the cheap stores on Franklin Avenue, several of whom do a business nearly as large as the leading Fourth street firms, who are patronized chiefly by ladies of wealth and fashion, are, for the most part, opposed to the penny currency. "It's only an attempt of those Fourth street merchants," said a Franklin Avenue dry goods man the other day to a newspaper reporter, "to make the people believe that they are selling their goods at cost. Why, I'll venture the assertion that we are underselling them in everything; that every article of goods that they have marked down, say from 40 to 39 cents, we are selling for 35 cents."

Several of these cheap merchants on Franklin Avenue have followed the example of the Fourth street stores, and have changed their prices to suit the demands of the new currency. Articles marked "three for a quarter" are now sold at eight cents apiece and a reduction of one or two cents is made on the price of nearly every article of goods in the store. The reduction, though small, is sufficient to overcome any prejudice the people may have against copper currency, and the result is that the new converts to the penny system among the merchants are doing a large business. How long these merchants will retain their penny prices is another question. If the manufacturers generally follow the example of the few who are now paying out small coin every day to their hands there can be but one result, the adoption of the copper currency by all the merchants of the city. The employes of manufactories form a very large proportion of the population of this city, and it is not likely that they will throw away the pennies they receive from their employers weekly, or hoard them up until they have enough to exchange for money of a larger denomination. It is much more probable that they will make use of them as soon as they get them, and that the stores that have changed their prices to a penny basis will get their patronage. And as soon as this is evident there will be a general adoption of the penny currency among the merchants and, of course, among the people also.

THE TRIAL OF MICHAEL LYDDAN

for perjury was concluded last Tuesday in the United States District Court, and resulted in the acquittal of the defendant. The case attracted considerable attention, both here and in Washington City, from the fact that the trial of Lyddan necessitated an examination of the interior piers of the new custom-house here, claimed by some to be hollow, and an investigation, to some extent, into the charge against Thomas Walsh, who has been superintending the erection of

THE NEW CUSTOM-HOUSE,

and who has been recently indicted for conspiring to defraud the government by means of false pay rolls and false measurements of stone. It is very generally believed here, in St. Louis, that the government has paid for a good deal more stone than has been used, and a good deal more work than has been done on the building, now about half completed. Lyddan had personal superintendence of the work done, and must have been in the conspiracy, if one existed. Nearly all the witnesses that were instrumental in getting Mr. Walsh indicted testified before the grand jury that the interior piers of the new custom-house were hollow or filled with loose stone and concrete.

LYDDAN'S TESTIMONY

before the grand jury was to the effect that the piers were all solid—built of solid masonry—and it was for giving this testimony that he was indicted for perjury. His trial lasted about ten days, and gave promise at the start of showing up the frauds of a ring believed by some to be almost equal in proportions to the whisky ring of last year. The government introduced evidence to prove that the stones of the piers did not fit together on the inside; that, in fact, large cavities were left in the middle of every layer of stones, and afterwards filled up with spalls and concrete; that the government had paid for solid masonry, the heart of every pier being included in the measurement, and that the measurement charged the government included not only the loose stones and concrete inside of the piers, but also an extra inch on the outside of the five dressed sides of every stone put into the pier. The evidence for the defense was to the effect that the piers were all built in the usual way of constructing piers, the cavities between the rough sides of the stones being filled with the chips taken from the dressed sides of the stone, and spalls and concrete. Several of the witnesses for the defense testified that all piers had such cavities, and that the cavities, when filled up, were measured as solid masonry, and the piers called solid piers; but none of them knew of any rule or custom allowing government employes pay for an extra inch around the dressed sides of stones put into government buildings. During the trial the government attorneys applied to the court for authority to bore some of the custom-house piers, but the court claimed that it had no authority in the matter. The attorneys then telegraphed to Washington for permission, and, after a good deal of telegraphing, back and forth, permission was granted. Several of the piers were bored, and the result was that a cavity was reached at almost every boring, but not as large a one as the government attorneys had been led to expect.

THE ACQUITTAL OF THE DEFENDANT

was generally expected after the pier building experts of the defense had given their testimony on masonry in the piers, as observed from the outside, and as shown by the borings made by the government attorneys. Everything seemed to favor an acquittal. The defendant was represented by able counsel—ex-Gov. Fletcher and Hon. D. P. Dyer, U. S. District Attorney at the time of the whisky ring trials. The government attorneys, on the other hand, were young and comparatively inexperienced, the leading counsel, Mr. Bliss, never having had the management of a case before of half the importance as was attached to the one on trial. Judge Treat, who tried the case, is known to be a warm personal friend of Mr. Walsh, and it is claimed that in the present trial he showed a decided partiality for the defendant's interests.

An effort is being made in the city to compel the street railroad companies to run

ALL NIGHT CARS.

A bill with that object in view has been introduced into both houses of the Municipal Assembly, and a petition containing several thousand signatures, in favor of the bill, has been submitted to the Assembly as well. The bill provides for the running of street cars once an hour between midnight and 5 o'clock in the morning, on every street car line in the city. The people generally, and newspaper men in particular, are in favor of night cars, but it now looks as if the hackmen and street car companies would defeat the passage of the bill. A vote taken in the lower house last week showed but four supporters of the bill in a total number of twenty-three members present. An amendment providing for the running of street cars until 3 o'clock in the morning was received more favorably, ten members of the lower house voting for it and fourteen against it. The strength of neither the original bill nor the 3 o'clock amendment has ever been tested in the upper house, but a canvass of the members is said to show a majority in favor of the amendment. The warmest outside

SUPPORTERS OF THE BILL

are newspaper men and employes generally of the morning dailies, eight in number. Most of the men live a mile or more, some of them three or four miles, from the business portion of the city, and as their business keeps them at work until after the cars stop running at midnight, they are compelled to walk home, hack-riding being, of course, too expensive for newspaper men. The principal opponents of the bill are hackmen and the railroad companies themselves. The hackman's best hours are between midnight and 4 o'clock in the morning, and if the street cars ran at these hours he would of course lose a good deal of his present patronage. The railroad companies oppose the bill because they do not believe there is enough night travel to pay for running the extra teams which they would have to keep on the track after 12 o'clock. The only hope for the newspaper men now seems to lie in the upper house. If a majority of the members there should vote for the original bill, a committee of conference would be appointed by the two houses and a compromise attempted, probably the 3 o'clock amendment.

A meeting of merchants, manufacturers and business men generally was held here last week, and a society organized for getting up

AN EXHIBIT FOR THE PARIS EXPOSITION

next summer. An executive committee and several sub-committees were appointed to do the work of the society. The design is to make an exhibit of the natural resources and the educational facilities of the State, the principal feature being a display of minerals and cereals.

DAMON'S MOUND.

The following paper, relating to one of the most remarkable, and at the same time comparatively unknown, geological features of Texas, is from the pen of a gentleman long familiar with the facts he describes. It is almost a subject for regret, even in these times of verbose writings, that Mr. Huff has, in his anxiety to abridge his descriptions, given us scarcely more than a glimpse at the stores of his recorded observations upon the geology and paleontology of Southern Texas. It is earnestly hoped that he will make further contributions to the scientific knowledge of the great State in which he has been, for half a century, so careful and intelligent an observer.

This paper was read before the New Orleans Academy of Sciences, referred to its standing committee of publication, and leave granted to publish in our city papers.

Prof. Joseph Henry, writing to Dr. Copes, says: "We shall be glad to have the report of Mr. Huff to which you refer, and shall expect to find in it matter of interest in reference to the archæology of the Southwest."

RICHMOND, Fort Bend Co., Tex., October 28, 1877.

Hon. R. J. Calder, Attorney at Law, Richmond, Texas:

Esteemed Sir—The letter addressed to you by Dr. J. S. Copes, one of the members of the American Association of Science, and one of a detachment from that body which recently visited Texas for scientific purposes, handed to me by you, has been carefully perused. I hasten with pleasure to give any and all such information as my limited researches will permit.

The description given in a note of Hon. Guy Bryan to Dr. J. S. Copes, of Damon's Mound, situated in Brazoria county, and almost touching and running parallel with the lower line of Fort Bend county, is very good, but does not reach the geological facts which the mound presents.

Damon's Mound runs almost due east and west, and is about three miles in length. Its greatest altitude is nearer the western than the eastern end. The eastern end, for more than half of its length, slopes or falls off gradually down to the level prairie. The width is from a mile to a mile and a half, and it is entirely surrounded by the prairie. Its greatest altitude is about 140 or 150 feet. To the casual observer, placed three or four miles distant on the north side, the mound presents a uniform sameness of front and height, but upon standing anywhere within a stone's throw of the hole in the mound, the close observer will see that he is occupying higher ground than any other portion of the mound. The surface covering, or soil, on the top and sides of the mound, is of the same identical character as that of the surrounding level prairie, lying at its base. The same form, substance and character of the surface soil, on the top and sides of the mound, is easily identified all over the State

This being one of the geological features which the top and sides of the mound present, it is but reasonable to conclude that at the time the sedimentary deposit was precipitated the mound was deep down under the sea, or perhaps a great inland lake. The hole in the mound is simply a volcanic aperture or crater, from whence escaped the pent up gases and steam. I have never been so fortunate as to find any volcanic tufa, pumice or slag, indicative of its origin at the mound, but have discovered many facts, both at the mound and in the bed of the Brazos river, which disclosed the marks of fire. The limestone quarried from the mound is of the very best quality.

I saw many very fine specimens of pure crystalized limestone, the crystals being almost as clear as the finest glass, which had been blasted from near the original cone or crater. Some of the broken boulders or pieces of limestone bore strong marks of sulphur, as well as strong traces of the red and black oxide of iron.

The black oxide was the result of atmospheric deoxidation, water and fire. The red oxide was of a lively or living color, and clearly showed the extinct fire. The boulders had been originally solid masses or strata, and in the volcanic upheaval had been rent or broken into various sized fragments by the escape of the volcanic steam through fissures made by its expansive force. On my first visit to the mound in 1827, and also on my second visit in the year 1829, I threw small rocks or pebbles into the hole or crater, and could hear each one leaping from rock to rock downwards, until at last it was lost in the splashing of water at the bottom. The water from a well dug on the western spur of the mound was so impregnated with minerals as to render the taste very disagreeable. I have never heard of the water having been analyzed. Upon a close examination (with a view to strict application of analogy) of the water-worn gullies and dry ravines in the north side of the mound, I found that each stratum in the gullies or dry ravines of the mound corresponded exactly with those of the banks of the Brazos, Colorado, Buffalo bayou, San Jacinto, Trinity and Guadalupe rivers. In places where a lateral section of the banks of the gullies or ravines was exposed and had not been disturbed by the sliding down of the superincumbent strata, and had been freely acted upon by running water during heavy rains, I found iron pyrites and lumps of sulphuric nodules. Their external appearance indicated that they had been long and often acted upon by water as well as by fire. I also found some lumps of phosphate of lime and superphosphate of lime, which upon being pounded up and mixed with water made a beautiful and durable whitewash. The same kind of lumps of lime and superphosphate of lime are found in the corresponding strata in the bank of the Brazos river and other streams already named. I have seen these lumps varying in size and weight from one to one hundred pounds. As a fertilizer they are superior to guano. In the gullies and dry ravines of the mound I found diminutive specimens of shells, but so much worn as to render them impossible of classification. I find the same kind of shells in a petrified state in the same strata (fossil strata) in the banks of the Brazos river, but so worn as to be beyond my power of identification. The difference in altitude between those found in the banks of the Brazos and those in a corresponding stratum in the gullies of the mound being about 170 feet perpendicular. The shells are of marine or salt water origin, and must have lived in very deep water. I have never found anything like them in any other stratum nor upon the beach of the Gulf of Mexico.

The deposits or strata in the north side of the mound, as seen in the dry ravines or gullies, are horizontal, and do not show any warped or broken appearance, clearly indicating that the different layers or strata had been deposited long after the mound had been upheaved by sub-marine volcanic action.

At the base of the sand stratum the fossils were deposited at the time of the deposit of the immense quantity of sand, judging from the simple fact presenting itself, that in many places in the sand stratum petrifactions, pebbles and fragments of petrified bones are found; and the same characteristics are found mixed up among the fossils at the base of the stratum of sand. The small pools of water in the gullies or ravines of the mound, after standing for several days, present a dark leaden hue and emit a sulphurous smell.

Damon's Mound is of very great value on account of its fine limestone. It is my opinion that at some no very distant day, by shafting or boring it, mineral waters of great value will be found. That the mound contains sulphur, iron, manganese and other minerals there can be no doubt.

In relation to the fossils of Texas I believe that I can safely assert that no known portion of the civilized globe presents such a wide and varied field of fossil remains, and especially fossil osteolog. It is here that the paleontologist, or fossil osteologist, or comparative anatomist can gloat and feast over specimens of a past creation. From San Antonio to the Sabine, from the mountains to tide water, the remains of the Elephas Giganticus (mastodon), Megatherium, Deinotherium, Loflodon Gastherion, Fossil Bos, Saurian, and (their varied congeners) that I have never been able to classify, have been, and are yet to be, found scattered in the beds of the rivers by the denudation of the streams coming in contact with the fossiliferous stratum at ordinary high water.

Five miles below the town of San Felipe, in Austin county, in the bed of the Brazos river, at very low water, I found a single tooth of the grand mastodon which weighed sixty-four pounds. The tooth was free from all foreign matter. Adhering to one side of the tooth there was a small piece of the alveolar process not larger than the size of an ordinary hand of a man, and in weight it could not have exceeded one pound. Four miles below San Felipe I exhumed from the fossiliferous strata *one single tusk* of the grand mastodon, which measured nine feet six inches in length, following the outside curve of the tusk. Its greatest diameter was *nine* inches. That portion of the tusk which grew into the jawbone was wanting. The dimensions of the ossa innominata, vertebræ, tibia, clivicle, etc., were simply incredible. Pieces of the frontal portion of the skull were three and some of them four inches thick. At this time I do not recollect that the frontal portion of the skull had any more than three sinuses. One was perpendicular, running from the apex of the skull down to the nose. The others were at right angles from the perpendicular sinus. The internal cellular tissues were very large, dividing and separating the lobes of the brain from each other, but all converging and uniting with each other at the bottom or junction of the neck bones with the skull. The denuding action of the river had torn away and carried off the greater portion of this masterly skeleton. I have often found joints or balls as well as those portions making the sockets (acetabulæ) which were eight, nine, ten, eleven, and in two instances twelve inches in diameter.

The fossiliferous stratum is twenty-one feet below the present surface of the earth one mile west of Richmond, in Fort Bend county. This stratum contains the fossil remains of those extinct animals already mentioned. At the town of San Felipe, in Austin county, the fossil stratum lies at a greater depth, but that is on account of a local position. The actual horizontal position is the same. All the layers, or strata, overlying the fossiliferous are void of vegetable or fossil remains, and those under this stratum down to the surface of the Brazos river are also free of fossil or any organic remains.

Four miles below San Felipe I found the claws of the megatherium, (they may have been the Loflodon,) one of which weighed four pounds, and the largest weighed seven pounds, with the sheath or covering in a most perfect and beautiful state of preservation by petrifaction. From every indication it would seem that petrifaction commenced its action upon the claws of the animal almost in the article of death.

The jawbone, containing *one* tooth, with the entire condoloid process, was in a perfect state of preservation by petrifaction.

The wedge-like protuberances of the tooth were but little worn and evidently showed that this was the second change of teeth (the first having been shed) which the animal had at the time of its death, and that it had hardly reached its full growth. The megatherium evidently lived on succulent roots. This animal could not have been carnivorous.

The teeth of the fossil bos, in appearance, conformed to and were almost the exact representation of our living buffalo, but on a much larger scale. The sutures of the skull were indented, only much larger and more deeply knit together.

I am satisfied that the fossil bos inhabited the same clime, altitudes and latitudes, and were congeners, and perhaps gregarious, with the mastodon. If such should ever prove to be the fact, then the mastodon and fossil bos are not lost links in the almost endless chain of animal creation, for the simple reason that the elephant of the present day is but the pigmy representative of the mastodon, and the buffalo is but the fossil bos on a smaller scale.

I have never found a horse bone nor a human bone in the fossil strata, with but one solitary possible exception, and that was the tibia or thigh bone of what was supposed to be a giant man. Many anatomists, comparative anatomists, and fossil osteologists carefully examined this bone, but disagreed as to the genus to which it belonged. Some said that it was human, others said that it was not of the genus homo. All, however, frankly acknowledged that it belonged to a class of animals that had an erect walk and stature. Twenty years after I found the thigh bone in question, I saw the skeleton of what had been a very tall man exhumed from the grave where it had been reposing for ten years previous to exhumation. Upon examination I found a complete uniformity in curve, make, structure and position, all except in size, length and color.

These teeth were round and solid, and were evidently carnivorous. No. 1 was seven inches long, two inches wide on the crown or apex, and weighed two pounds. No. 2 was seven inches long by one and three-quarter inches wide at the crown or apex, and weighed one and a half pounds. No. 3 was seven inches long by three inches and a half wide on the crown or apex, and weighed nearly five pounds. No. 4 was six and a half inches long and four inches wide on the apex or crown. To give a full and perfect description of the most important fossil specimens which I obtained during eight years of untiring and rigid search, would require a letter of too great length for your purposes, and would only interest the scientist.

Immediately lying on the boulder stratum the fossil remains are found, mixed with shale, broken sand rock, pebbles of flint and petrifactions.

The boulders of the boulder stratum are composed of the finest red clay, free from any vegetable or mineral matter. When dry the fracture or cleanage is at every conceivable angle. I have broken a great many, but only in a few instances concentric circles could be discovered. On the outside of all of them is a thin covering of a dark reddish or black oxide of iron, with small gravel or pebbles adherent.

When the boulder stratum was formed underneath the great volume of water which must have kept the boulders continually agitated or in a rolling condition, a powerful current of water much stronger than that of the Gulf stream must have acted upon them. The boulders vary in size from that of an egg to 10 or 15 inches in diameter. The next layer below the boulder stratum is red clay, mixed with boulders having seams of phosphate of lime running all through it in every conceivable direction. It contains no vegetable or animal remains. The next layer or stratum, and which reaches into the water of the river, is of a bluish gray color and is clay. It contains no vegetable or animal remains.

Fragments of the turtle shell, very thick, are found in the fossil stratum. In the sand layer, which overlies the boulder stratum, I have frequently seen lumps of various sizes and forms of the decomposed phosphate and superphosphate of lime. On the outside they were coated in the same manner as the boulders in the boulder stratum. They were in every conceivable shape approaching to that of round, and with the clay boulders had been long acted upon by waves of running water.

I cannot give you much information in relation to the botany of the State of Texas, never having applied myself to that branch of the natural sciences.

As a special article of information I may state that we have in abundance the best sarsaparilla, the white flower dogwood (a species of the cinchona), the wild cherry, the sassafras, the myrtle, the wild sage, wild senna, wild indigo (for strength and quality unsurpassed), wild camomile, red cayenne pepper, the medicinal pink, seneca snake root and a very great abundance of the wild mint, now becoming so justly popular as a remedy for the relief of paralysis.

The mustang grape grows in wild profusion all over the State, from which a very palatable wine is made. In the post oak region the post oak grape grows abundantly, from which alcohol and wine are made of superior qualities. The muscadine is abundant in the forests of Buffalo Bayou, San Jacinto, Trinity and Sabine. The blackberry and the dewberry also abound. The materia medica and pharmacopia would receive great additional resources if some first-class botanists would visit the forests and prairies of the State of Texas. It would repay the patient research of the botanist well.

In relation to the mineralogy of Texas you will get better and more reliable information from the Texas Almanac and the Galveston *News*, published at Galveston, Texas. Communications from correspondents and occasional letter writers from every portion of the State are continually pouring into the Galveston *News*, from which source nearly every new discovery made is given to the public. I am well satisfied that a mineralogical survey or search of Northwestern Texas would develop facts and resources of great value.

My letter has grown much longer than I had intended. I hope, however, that it may prove sufficiently interesting to remunerate you and your correspondents for the perusal.

Very respectfully, your most obedient,
WILLIAM P. HUFF.

I have inadvertantly omitted to give any account of a most valuable shrub which grows abundantly and is indigenous, perhaps peculiar, to our soil and clime. It is known as the Yapon or Yopon, and grows from two to three feet high, with many spreading branches. In the early spring the new leaf is a pale green. The winter leaf (it being an evergreen) is a dark green. The leaf varies in size, none being longer than an inch. When prepared according to the Indian mode, it makes an excellent and finely flavored tea. I have seen it made into a decoction so strong, by boiling over a slow fire, that it produced intoxication. If the leaf of the Yopon could be prepared in a similar way to that of the China or Japan tea, it would become a valuable article of commerce. The Yopon possesses medicinal qualities and will cause free perspiration without acting on the nervous system. There are three varieties of it.

Very respectfully. WM. P. HUFF.

Personalities in the French Assembly.

Edward King, the correspondent of the Boston *Journal*, thus describes a scene in the French Assembly: It was eminently fitting that Gambetta should be De Broglie's antagonist in the combat of yesterday. The great orator, although suffering somewhat from hoarseness, was in fine vein. During his speech the Chamber was from time to time an extraordinary spectacle. The Bonapartists raged and made every effort in their power to silence the orator. When he came to that point in his speech where he said that the government had "gained forty seats by theft and fraud," such a row as one never sees in America, even at a primary meeting, occurred.

"The investigation will establish this," said Gambetta.

"Take back the word theft," yelled Paul de Cassagnac.

"I have no orders to receive from you," thundered Gambetta.

"You will get them from the Chamber," cried Paul.

"Let the orator explain himself," said Grevy, the president.

A little later, M. Creneo d'Ornano, a picturesque Bonapartist, who recently announced that his party "would make such a paste out of the Republicans that even the dogs wouldn't touch it," interrupted Gambetta again, asking the orator if he thought he was "still in the Cafe Procope, or in the styes which he used to frequent."

"Go care for the kennel where you are preparing your Republican paste, M. Creneo d'Ornana," was Gambetta's contemptuous response. At this juncture M. Creneo d'Ornano ran down from his seat to the foot of the tribune stairs, and shrieked out provocation after provocation at Gambetta. The noise on both right and left was almost deafening. Finally M. Grevy, in his stern impartiality, made Gambetta take back his phrase about "theft and fraud."

The orator did so, as he thought it premature; but he remarked, "When the investigation gets to work you will have the proof of what I have advanced." Which reminds one of the actor in the opera bouffe, who says, "I take back what I said, but maintain it."

Poor M. Grevy was so much called upon that his work was tripled. At one point Cassagnac said, "Mr. President, we cannot tolerate such language." "Do you not know how to tolerate anything from others, sir?" inquired Grevy, imperturbably.

The Palais Royal holiday catalogue tells you what to buy for every age and sex. Get one.

A Coup d'Etat.

[N. Y. Tribune.]

If President MacMahon had ordered a coup d'etat on the 16th of May, military discipline would have prevailed, and the soldiers would have obeyed. Seven months of political agitation have intervened; the officers have discussed public affairs in their mess-rooms, and the rank and file have mingled with the people in wine-shop and boulevard; it is now too late to give a signal for a Napoleonic stroke. A curious bit of dialogue reported in a Paris letter is more significant than columns of inflated rhetoric in the Bonapartist journals. A Marshal of France—the correspondent does not name him, but it is undoubtedly Canrobert—was met by one of the leaders of the reactionary faction, and invited to form a ministry and save the nation. "By what method can I save France?" asked the famous soldier. "Oh! there will not be another election—that is certain. A coup d'etat has become a necessity, and you can execute it successfully." "But that would be civil war!" exclaimed the Marshal. "True!" was the response; "but great evils demand great remedies." "Ah!" rejoined the veteran; "if it were merely civil war in the streets, and we could purge the land from Republicanism in that way, I might think of it; but at present it would mean civil war in the barracks."

Grand doll show at the Palais Royal.

A Horrible Crime and Its Horrible Punishment.

[Brookhaven Ledger.]

On the 8th inst., while Mr. Jas. S. Deas and Mr. Cyrus Allen were hunting in Clarke county, they came upon the bodies of Mrs. Fannie Burnett and her daughter Miss Kansas Burnett, about seventeen years of age, who had disappeared from their home, near Choctow Bluff, in Clarke county, since November 29.

A negro, Mark Woodard, was immediately arrested, and a jury of inquest found that he cut the throat of the mother and brained the daughter with a lightwood knot, after ravishing her; and also found that the negro was guilty of the supposed death of Wm. Burnett, a son and brother, about ten years old, who disappeared at the same time as the mother and sister. When the proceedings had gone thus far the negro informed the constable that he would take him to where the body of the boy was, which he did, and the boy's throat was cut from ear to ear. The negro was then forcibly taken from the constable by a crowd of citizens, white and colored, and after making a full confession, was burned near the place where the boy was found.

Monday, misses' cloaks at the Palais Royal.

Hayes' Position.

[Cincinnati Enquirer.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—A leading Republican Senator, whose name I am not at liberty to quote, says to-night: "Within two weeks after Congress assembles following the holiday recess Hayes will either make terms with the Republicans who antagonize him or he will be forced to make his bed in the Democratic camp. We are done with trifling; we must either say to the Democrats, 'take this man, whom we repudiate in office as yours, or force us to abandon him, whom you said before he was inaugurated that he was a fraud, and whom you still believe to be one, but use him for the selfish purpose of gratifying your own desire for office. We repudiate him. If you want him, take him, and be responsible for his acts.'"

The Palais Royal will keep open to-day till 3 p. m., for the accommodation of the public.

The Nicaraguan Inter-Oceanic Canal.

The Department of State is seriously considering the subject of a government investment in the proposed Nicaraguan inter-oceanic canal. We observe that several journals habitually opposing the Texas Pacific railroad bill and the construction of levees on the Mississippi river are warm advocates of this foreign water improvement, which will cost the government not less than $100,000,000. You see Nicarargua is not in the southern part of the United States.

Secure a fine ebony cabinet from the Palais Royal, a most suitable present for a lady.

Dr. J. R. Walker, dental surgery, 180 Delord street.

New American Sewing Machine, 185 Canal street.

Call at Miller & Dielmann's and get your California wines, candies and fireworks. Prices are very low.

CHRISTMAS, 1877.—Under this heading, Mr. B. T. Walshe, of No. 110 Canal street, announces the most varied and refined stock of gentlemen's furnishing goods ever offered. His price list, with the description of the almost innumerable articles with which his store is stocked, will give the faint idea of the resources of his complete establishment. Gentlemen who wish to follow the latest styles may rely upon the judgment of the head of this emporium, as he has made this branch of business a lifelong

THE PATTERSON CASE.

The Views of Gov. Hampton on This Subject.

[New York Times.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Gov. Hampton has to-day declared himself firmly opposed to any bargain with Mr. Patterson. Whether Gov. Hampton was favorable or unfavorable to an investigation of Mr. Patterson's case in the beginning, he says that since the proof of that person's guilt has been made apparent to the public authorities it would be a disgrace to South Carolina if criminal proceedings based upon such overwhelming testimony were not earnestly and energetically pressed to an issue. He sought to rescue the State, not from Republicans, but from plunderers; otherwise he would not have abandoned private life to enter upon the strifes, anxieties and responsibilities of such a campaign as that of 1876. To condone now the offenses of Patterson in return for mere political services, no matter how valuable, would be to abandon the high grounds upon which he consented to make the effort to redeem the State when the task was well nigh hopeless. Gov. Hampton rejoices that Mr. Patterson's vote secured a seat in the United States Senate to Gen. Butler. He has no doubt but that it may be used hereafter to the advantage of the Democratic party, but to allow him to go unpunished would justify the charges which have been made by Patterson's friends that the prosecutions against him originated in political hostility, and have looked solely to political results, and would place the Democratic party of South Carolina in the position of buying a seat for a United States Senator by the condonement of felonies committed against the people of the State. If Senator Patterson has rendered a service to Gen. Butler, with or without the promise of a consideration, Gov. Hampton is quite willing for Gen. Butler to reward Senator Patterson as best he may. But whatever settlement is to be made between the old Senator and the new, Gov. Hampton does not think that his administration should be made a party to it.

The Palais Royal will keep open to-day till 3 p. m., for the accommodation of the public.

JUDICIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

AUCTION SALES.

By Hoey, Macon & O'Connor.

THE ESTATE OF HUGH McCLOSKEY AT AUCTION.

THE SUMTER SALOON, FRONTING THE POSTOFFICE AND CUSTOM-HOUSE.

THAT ELEGANT SALOON PROPERTY ON St. Charles street, fronting Union street, between Commercial Alley and Gravier streets.

THE THREE AND A HALF STORY BRICK dwelling, corner of Lafayette and Carondelet streets.

AND A SQUARE OF GROUND ON GASQUET STREET.

SUCCESSION OF HUGH McCLOSKEY.

Second District Court for the Parish of Orleans—No. 36,083.

BY HOEY, MACON & O'CONNOR—Nicholas J. Hoey, Auctioneer—Office No. 11 Carondelet street—On SATURDAY, January 19, 1878, at 12 o'clock m., at the St. Charles Hotel Auction Exchange, by virtue of an order of the honorable the Second District Court for the parish of Orleans, dated the 8th of December, 1877, will be sold by public auction, for account of the succession of Hugh McCloskey, the following described valuable property, to wit—

1. THE SUMTER SALOON, in the Second District of this city, in the square bounded by Old Levee or Decatur, Canal, Customhouse and Dorsiere streets, known as lot No. 7, and measuring 29 feet front on each of Old Levee or Decatur streets by 71 feet 3 inches in depth. The improvements comprise the choice two-story brick building, constructed especially for saloon purposes, and long known as the "Sumter House," faces the Custom-House and Postoffice, adjacent to the Peoples' Bank, and in the centre of our European and West Indies trade; will always command good rental from prompt tenants, and is sold subject to the lease expiring September 30, 1878, at $100 per month, payable monthly in advance; certain fixtures, such as marble top counter, cigar stand, chandeliers, clock, range, etc., are sold with the property, to be delivered by the tenant at the expiration of his lease.

2. THAT CHOICE PROFESSIONAL STAND on the corner of Lafayette and Carondelet streets, designated as lot No. 1, in the square bounded by Carondelet, St. Charles, Lafayette and Girod streets, and measures 25 feet 9 inches front on Carondelet street by about 150 feet 4 inches in depth and front on Lafayette street (be the whole measurement more or less), and bounded in the rear by a common alley 20 feet in width, opening on said Lafayette street; which said alley is common to this lot and others. The improvements comprise a three and a half story brick building, with pressed brick front, is retired from the banquette, and has double iron balconies front, the rear wing is two-story brick. This choice property is not only a complete, convenient and attractive family residence, but from its location in the city centre will always command a certain and remunerative rental as an established position for professional purposes, and is sold subject to the lease or rental thereon, expiring September 30, 1878, at $80 per month, payable monthly.

3. THAT SPLENDID PROPERTY ON ST. CHARLES STREET,

With a large front and great depth, in the square bounded by St. Charles, Camp, Gravier and (Commercial Alley) Poydras streets, the same being described as follows, to wit—

1. A PORTION OF GROUND known as lot A, measuring 50 feet 11 inches 1 line front on St. Charles street by 170 feet 6 inches 4 lines in depth on the upper side towards Commercial Alley, and 125 feet 6 inches on the lower side line towards Gravier street, at which depth it widens parallel to St. Charles street 24 feet 11 inches 5 lines, and thence runs towards Camp street 45 feet 4 lines, at which point the said property has a rear width parallel to St. Charles street of 75 feet 10 inches 6 lines. The improvements thereon comprise that splendid four-story brick store and dwelling known as "McCloskey's soda water saloon," and a two-story brick store known as "Rock's hat store," which latter is leased until September 30, 1878, at $55 per month.

2. A PORTION OF GROUND, known as lot B, adjoining the above on the lower side, towards Gravier street, measuring 50 feet 11 inches 1 line front on St. Charles street by 125 feet 6 inches in depth. The improvements thereon comprise two-story brick buildings, leased until the 30th of September, 1878—the restaurant Nos. 70 and 72 St. Charles street to Richard McCloskey, and No. 74 St. Charles street to H. Goldsmith; the former at $125, and the latter at $40 per month. The marble-top counters, mirrors, stools, etc., in the restaurant Nos. 70 and 72 St. Charles street are sold with the property, subject to the lease; all movable fixtures in Nos. 74, 76 and 78 St. Charles street belong to the tenant.

4. A CHOICE SQUARE OF GROUND, in the First District of this city, bounded by Gasquet, Palmyra, Cortez and St. John streets, and containing twenty-six lots of ground—an admirable location for gardening or dairy; frequent and easy communication with the business centre of the city.

Terms of Sale—Cash, and purchasers to assume payment, over and above the amounts of their bids, of all taxes on said property for the year 1877, payable in 1878.

The whole of the above described property will be sold according to surveys and plans thereof by Louis H. Pilie, surveyor.

Acts of sale at the expense of the purchasers, before Wm. J. Castell, Esq., notary public.

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AUCTION SALES.

By Placide J. Spear.

FORFEITED PLEDGES.

BY PLACIDE J. SPEAR, Auctioneer—Office 46 Royal street—TUESDAY, December 18, at 11 o'clock, will be sold at the corner of St. Louis and Dauphine streets—

THE PLEDGES FORFEITED TO SAID OFFICE, comprising a large and select assortment of Gold and Silver Watches of the best French, English, Swiss and American manufactures, Diamond Rings, Brooches, Ear-rings and Pins, Gold, Silver and Plated Chains, Jewelry of every description, Silverware and Platedware, Double-barrel Guns, Revolvers, Clocks, and a great variety of other goods too numerous to mention.

—ALSO—

A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF GENTLEMEN'S AND LADIES' WEARING APPAREL.

Terms—Cash.

N. B.—Mrs. Widow Thierry, retiring from the business, notifies those who may have pledges at her establishment to come forward and redeem the same prior to the day of sale. de15

JUDICIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

SHERIFF SALES.

Citizens' Bank of Louisiana vs. Ed. M. Ivens et al.

THIRD DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans. No. 24,915 (No. 26,471 of the late Superior District Court)—By virtue of a writ of seizure and sale, directed by the honorable the late Superior District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled suit, to Eugene Waggaman, late Sheriff, and by said late Sheriff to me transferred, I will proceed to sell at public auction, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, between Canal and Customhouse streets, in the Second District of this city, on MONDAY, January 7, 1878, at 12 o'clock m., the following described property, to wit—

A CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, situated in the First District of this city, in the square bounded by Prytania, Erato, Nayades and Clio streets, measuring twenty-one feet eleven inches front on Prytania street by one hundred and twenty-seven feet three inches four lines in depth, between parallel lines, American measure, bounded in the rear by an alley eight feet wide, for the common use of said lot and others adjacent thereto; which said lot is designated by the letter C on a plan drawn by L. Surgi, late architect, on the twenty-first day of August, 1844, deposited in the records of Charles Boudousquie, formerly a notary public in this city; together with the sixteen shares of mortgage stock thereto attached. Being the same property acquired by the defendant herein, Edmund M. Ivens, from Mrs. Laura Lewis, wife of Anthony Forster Axsen, per act passed before Adolphe Boudousquie, late a notary public in this city, on the thirteenth of March, 1862.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—The purchaser to furnish a stock note for the sum of one hundred and fifty-three dollars, falling due on the first day of April, 1878, and renewable according to the charter of the Citizens' Bank of Louisiana, and the balance cash, the purchaser to assume all the obligations and responsibilities of a stockholder of the Citizens' Bank of Louisiana, and the stock note so furnished to be identified with the act of mortgage passed before J. Seghers, notary, on the fourth of October, 1836, the act of division passed before Charles Boudousquie, late notary public in this city, on the thirtieth of September, 1844, and with the sheriff's deed of sale in this case.

THOMAS H. HANDY,
Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.

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LEGAL NOTICES.

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF ORLEANS.

MRS.