MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

THE SHOEBLACK LICENSE.

An individual applied yesterday at the Treasury Department in the City Hall, to inquire what was the license tax on shoeblacks, saying, at the same time, that he intended to go into the business very soon. He was informed by the license clerk that, out of respect for public opinion, and as well for the honorability of the profession, which contains so many shining lights, it had been many years since no license tax had been imposed on shoeblacks. The fact was repeated once or twice to the applicant, who still lingered in doubt and with a dejected countenance around the desk of Mr. McPherson.

At first, in answer to a question, he replied that nobody had told him that he must first obtain a license before practicing his profession, but subsequently said that he had so been informed by a policeman in the neighborhood of the French Market. The man appeared to be very much in earnest. If his story be true, it is a sad commentary on the intelligence of the policeman he refers to, and if we were living under the Radical police regime, we would be disposed to question his motives. Under the circumstances it might be well for the Chief of Police to inform the men of the force that the shoe-shining business is not taxable, and besides, that under the new license ordinance, which goes into effect on the first, there are many other small industries, taxed formerly, that are exempted from paying a license tax.

A TIMELY ORDER.

Yesterday Administor of Police Diamond addressed a communication to the Chief of Police, directing him to particularly instruct all precinct commanders not only to avoid disturbances such as have occurred on several occasions at or near the Catholic Churches at the midnight mass, but also to maintain the strictest order and decorum in these sanctuaries and their vicinity. This order was a timely one, and justified by the extraordinary lack of duty manifested by the metropolitan police of late years in connection with the solemn celebration of the birth of Christ at our churches.

GAS ALL NIGHT.

Mr. Jackson, the president of the New Orleans Gas Light Company, paid a visit to the City Hall yesterday to ascertain whether the company would not be subjected to a penalty should it allow the street lamps to remain lighted on Christmas night for a couple of hours after 11 o'clock, the time specified in the contract for extinguishing them. His Honor the Mayor replied that, in consideration of the magnanimity thus evidenced by the Gas Company, he thought that the city could afford to be lenient, but he preferred to refer Mr. Jackson to Administrator Diamond, who has special charge of the illumination of the streets of the city. The Administrator of Police received Mr. Jackson's proposition quite gracefully, and even went so far as to suggest that the liberality of the Gas Company might be extended to keeping the street lamps burning until daylight on the 25th inst., without fear of being charged with a violation of the gas contract. The suggestion was adopted, and to-night we shall be treated to the unusual spectacle of the moon and the street lamps vieing with each other in lighting home those of our citizens who may have missed the last car after partaking to freely of newly laid eggs mixed with pomatum and soap suds, a combination generally known as "nogg."

THE BUDGET.

Administrator Brown says that he will have the financial budget of the city for 1878 ready for presentation to the City Council on Wednesday—the day to which the regular weekly meeting of the city Administrators has been postponed.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

Under this title our neighbor, the *City Item*, publishes one of the best pieces of humor that we have seen for some time in the daily press. We would like to improve upon it, but, believing that discretion is the better part of valor, we simply reproduce it:

We do not anticipate being very heavily burdened with Christmas gifts or presents, but what we should appreciate are additional advertisements and increased circulation.

If the *Item* could, it would gladly make the following presents:

To Boss Packard, a carpet-bag.

To R. B. Hayes, a bound volume of the "Trials and Tribulations of the Returning Board—8x7."

To Mad Wells, another chance to count votes.

To T. C. Anderson, time to repent.

To H. C. Warmoth, the promissory note of Col. G. W. Carter.

To Postmaster Parker, an additional supply of female clerks.

To Marshal Wharton, a fresh yarn.

To Judge Billings, another court or two to run.

To the Property Holders' Union, a Chinese wall; also a receipt in full for all taxes due, and exemption from all future taxation.

To the New Orleans DEMOCRAT, the entire printing "pap."

To the New Orleans *Times*, a few more imported editors and reporters.

To the New Orleans *Picayune*, a bottle of Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

To the "Peelers," leather medals and new hats.

To theatrical managers, free advertisements.

To H. M. Spofford, a seat in the Senate.

To P. B. S. Pinchback, a full hand.

To Casanave and Kenner, twenty years in Baton Rouge.

To the members of the Bar, complete control over their angry passions.

To J. R. G. Pitkin, a cask of soap.

To B. F. Flanders, more offices.

THE ACKLEN-DARRALL CONTEST EXPOSED.

The contest in the Third Congressional District has excited attention throughout the States from the startling facts brought to light. The election of Ackleu depended in the main on the vote of the parish of Iberville. As first counted it gave a majority for Darrall. Acklen, though, proved by a number of witnesses that votes were counted for Darrall that should have been counted for him as his name was printed on the Republican ticket. The court, under this showing, ordered a recount. Previous, however, to having the boxes opened, the commissioners of election appeared under subpœna of the court and identified the boxes, the seals and signatures thereon as being intact; then the boxes were opened in due form and the recount proceeded in open court and its results elected Acklen. Here, as was supposed, the case ended.

This recount took place March 6, 1877. Darrall then took testimony during the forty days following, until April 17; none of the large number of his witnesses, however, swearing to any fraud or ballot-box stuffing. Two months after the time for taking testimony had expired, and during Acklen's absence, Darrall took the affidavits of three men, who swore that one *Loud* had told them he had stuffed the ballot boxes in Iberville in Acklen's interest before this recount. Previous to this, however, it appears, pp. 13 and 15 Record, Darrall had attempted to bribe Gordon and Loud to swear to ballot-box stuffing, but with these he failed, though he found more willing tools in Brookshier, Riddell and Monroe. Brookshcir, who is at present under criminal indictment for embezzlement, acted in this affair for Darrall as an agent when Monroe was first approached on the subject of testifying, but they could not agree as to the division of the money to be paid, so Brookshier left, but writes to Monroe from Abbeville. (See letter, p. 20.) Darrall then had Monroe come to his room, where the negotiations were closed. (See Monroe's letter, p. 20.)

Riddell based his whole testimony upon a memorandum which he filed in his testimony, but which, from the testimony of three witnesses in rebuttal, it appears was forged.

Monroe's testimony for Darrall was as strong as he could make it. He swore that he was party to the ballot-box stuffing to the extent of purchasing the lamp used on that occasion by Loud, and that he had full knowledge of the affair.

He states this took place in December, 1876, but lets nearly eight months pass, in which time he was wretchedly poor, with this valuable information locked in his bosom. Three days after his ex parte testimony he is sent to Texas, thence to Leesburg, where he is now Collector under Darrall's appointment. Thus far the sun set fair for Darrall, but Monroe's failings exposed the whole conspiracy. When in possession of the large sum of money paid him by Darrall, $200 only of which he gave his wife, (see page 10), he deserted her and took with him a woman of the town. This naturally enraged his wife, who wrote to him that if he did not abandon this woman and return to her she would disclose his conspiracy with Darrall to Acklen, or his friends. He wrote several letters in reply, begging her not to do so, and making many promises, etc., and finally saying: "I would never have testified for Darrall but to save you from want." But as he did not return, Mrs. Monroe wrote to Acklen, who, with his attorney, F. C. Zacharie, called on her, and the conspiracy and its details were fully exposed. All the documents referred to, which Monroe had left behind, were produced, besides the letters which so conclusively proved his guilt. Thus foiled and baffled at every point by Acklen, and the case being before the committee, Darrall makes one last desperate attempt for time. His lawyer has some of these witnesses before the Grand Jury, in the hope of securing an indictment against Loud; but failing here he secures, through his friendship with the United States District Attorney, the filing of an information. This officer's action, by the by, is open to serious comment. And here ends what is, perhaps, the most shameful and audacious attempt on record to subvert right and justice to party ends in the prolongation of a contest that can have but one final solution—the seating of Acklen.

SANTA CLAUS.

Yesterday we received a call from the original Santa Claus. He drove up to the DEMOCRAT office in a tiny carriage drawn by two young goats, splendidly harnessed. His coachman and footmen were in blazing livery, and the latter brought us a very neat card upon which was inscribed:

"SANTA CLAUS,
At Home, Varieties Theatre,
New Orleans, December 25, 12 m."

We suppose that this has some reference to the grand matinee which the old fellow will hold today at the Varieties.

MORTUARY REPORT.

We have received from Dr. B. F. Taylor, secretary of the Board of Health, the following report of the deaths that have occurred during the week ending Sunday, the 23d inst.:

Consumption 25, small-pox 6, malarial fevers 5, lung diseases (acute) 12, bowel diseases (acute) 12, other diseases 40; total 100.

Deaths in public institutions, 18; deaths certified by coroners, 20; deaths certified by midwives, 4; marriages, white 29, colored 7; births, colored 9, white 46.

ALCAZAR FRANCAIS.

To-morrow the artists attached to this prosperous little theatre will give an extraordinary performance for the benefit of Mr. Lepeintre, one of the most talented of their troupe. Two French vaudevilles will be played, and also "Lischen and Fritzchen," a bouffe operette of the inimitable Offenbach, the whole to conclude with "Les Chicards Parisiens," a renowned French quadrille.

PERSONAL.

Our young friend R. D. Carpenter left by the Mobile line yesterday evening for Jacksonville, Fla., where he will assume the duties of General Freight and Passenger Agent on the line running from that place to Tallahassee. Mr. Carpenter has been identified with the railroad interests at this place for a number of years, coming here first in the freight office of the New Orleans, Mobile and Texas Railroad. He served that road for a number of years as General Freight Agent, and has lately been discharging the duties of Chief Clerk under Major D. B. Morey of the New Orleans, St. Louis and Chicago Railroad. We commend Mr. Carpenter to our Florida friends as a thoroughly efficient officer and gentleman.

We had the pleasure last evening of shaking the hand of that genial gentleman, James Golding, Esq., Mayor of the thriving town of Brampton, Ontario, Canada. Mr. Golding is the brother of our well known and enterprising fellow-citizen, William Golding, Esq., so long and favorably known in connection with our foundry business. We wish our new guest a pleasant sojourn among us.

LOQUET-LEROY INSTITUTE.

The Kindergarten exercises of the Loquet-Leroy Institute took place yesterday morning at the institute. A large number of the parents and friends of the children were present and evidenced much approbation at the progress made by the little ones, as they reflected much credit upon their teacher, Mrs. N. Cooper.

The Kindergarten, the Froebel system, was first introduced by Miss S. E. Blow, in the American schools, which is more clearly explained by the following extract from addresses delivered by that lady before the Normal Teachers' Association, in St. Louis:

"It is a truth now universally recognized by educators that ideas are formed in the mind of a child by abstraction and generalization from the facts revealed to him through the senses; that only when he himself has perceived of the visible and tangible properties of things can serve as the basis of thought, and that upon the vividness and completeness of the impressions made upon him by external objects will depend the clearness of his inferences and the correctness of his judgments. It is equally true, and as generally recognized, that in young children the perceptive faculties are relatively stronger than at any later period, and that while the understanding and reason still sleep the sensitive mind is receiving those sharp impressions of external things which, held fast by memory, transformed by the imagination, and finally classified and organized through reflection, result in the determination of thought and the formation of character.

"The practical basis of the Kindergarten method is expressed in the formula 'We learn through doing.' It was a favorite saying of Froebel's that the world is sick with thinking and can only be cured by acting; and accordingly in the Kindergarten free activity is the essential thing. The children roll and throw their balls, build with their blocks and lay figures with the sticks; they fold, they sew, they weave, they model, and gradually the labor of the hand clears the thought of the mind, and by using objects as material for work their properties and powers are learned. In this lies the great difference between Pestalozzi and Froebel; for while the object lessons of the former appeal directly to the powers of observation, the latter realized that children would never carefully and exhaustively observe any object with which they were not practically occupied. Children in the Kindergarten observe, because they are constantly trying to reproduce; and their failure to attain satisfactory results causes them to notice objects more and more carefully. Another excellent result of Froebel's demand that the child shall learn through doing, is that it effectually prevents that rapid acquisition of superficial knowledge which is the bane of the present age. It is true that the path of learning should be made pleasant; it is not true that it should be made so smooth that it may be trodden without effort.

THE BOLD TRUMPETEER.

The man, boy and brother, was certainly, evidently and unmistakably abroad last night, and made us understand in clear tones what we never had understood before—that is, how the walls of Jericho fell before the trumpet's blast. We have no pretensions to being a wall, like the young lady that Solomon speaks of in his Song of Songs, but under the pernicious influence of last night's trumpets we certainly emulated the prostrate action of Jericho's walls—that is we were overthrown, or, so to speak, laid out.

Metaphorically speaking, we feel like a thousand bricks literally crushed down, by the noise. Several parties, armed with the deadly instrument, attacked the DEMOCRAT, under pretext of a serenade, last night, but in prevision, and with our usual forethought, we had had our walls doubly supported with iron bands, and the trumpets had but little effect except upon our ears, that tingle up to the present hour of going to press.

New American Sewing Machine, 185 Canal street.

WINES, LIQUORS, CIGARS, ETC.—See D. E. Morphy & Son's auction advertisement.

THE FIRELESS ENGINES.

The Residents of Tchoupitoulas Street Opposed to Them.

At the invitation of a gentleman connected with the Crescent City Railroad Company, a reporter of the DEMOCRAT witnessed yesterday the operations of the Lamm Fireless Locomotives on the Tchoupitoulas street line of cars. The public is too familiar already with these engines from their use for several years on the St. Charles street line to Carrollton, that a description of them should be needed here. The locomotives of the Tcoupitoulas street line are constructed on exactly the same principle as those on the latter line, and while they are not as handsome as those running to Carrollton, they seem to be quite as effective.

They will doubtless prove a valuable adjunct to the Crescent City Company's appliances when the line to Carrollton is completed, and, we are informed by the gentleman in question, will enable the company to fix the fare to and from Carrollton at 6¼ cents for each passenger. Our visit, however, was not limited to the capacity or availability of the locomotives in question. Having learned that there was "some" opposition to the use of these engines on that portion of Tchoupitoulas street between Jackson street and Louisiana Avenue, we sought by personal interview to ascertain the

NATURE OF THE OBJECTIONS.

The result was that everywhere we found that not only objections were urged but an emphatic opposition was manifested against the use of the engines below Louisiana Avenue. It was first objected that the Crescent City Railroad Company had no right to run their dummies from Jackson street to Louisiana Avenue, and yet had been doing so since Monday a week ago, their only privilege being to run them from Louisiana Avenue to Carrollton, and, on probation, on Sundays, from Canal street to Carrollton. So much for the legal grounds. The other objections are that the dummies have been running at

AN OUTRAGEOUSLY FAST RATE

between Jackson street and Louisiana Avenue, and that already several accidents have occurred in consequence. Last week a wagon was run into by one of the dummies and damaged, and, it is said, that upon application for redress to the company the owner was sneered at. Near Sorapuru Marketa boy was very nearly run over a day or two ago. Yesterday, at Seventh street, about 3 o'clock, a woman carrying some bundles was run down by one of the locomotives and thrown into the gutter, but happily sustained only slight injuries: a mule belonging to the Louisiana Ice Company is reported to have been crippled by another locomotive. It is also generally claimed that the engineers of the locomotives pay no heed to the warnings of the people in case of danger, however loudly manifested.

Objections are also made to the noise of the whistle and bell of the engines, but little importance is attached to these objections.

The citizens interviewed say, besides, that Thoupitoulas street is the only street east of Magazine street that is paved, and hence, owing to the fact that the shipping extends as far as the grain elevator, it is a great commercial thoroughfare, which should not even be hampered by a double track horse railroad, to which, by the way, they say they had objected at the time the *double* track was first proposed. And they add that a petition will be presented to the Council on Wednesday next, signed by nearly every resindent of Tchoupitoulas street, between Jackson street and Louisiana Avenue, and by others who are interested in avoiding the monopoly of a street, upon which there is such immense traffic, by a railroad corporation. That this petition is the result of the prevalence of better counsel at an informal meeting at which a manifest desire was expressed

TO TEAR UP THE TRACK

of the railroad if the company persisted in running their dummies in violation of the law and of the wishes of the people.

In short, it would seem that the objection to the dummies between the streets referred to is based on the narrowness of Tchoupitoulas street, which, according to actual measurement, is thirty-three feet wide from curb to curb, the double track of the railroad occupying the centre of the street, making it impracticable, according to the opinion of the persons interviewed, for floats and wagons, as well as foot-men, to circulate with ease and safety. No objection is made to the running of the dummies above Louisiana Avenue, which is wider than below that thoroughfare and where there is very little traffic.

THE CONVENTION YESTERDAY.

The Senatorial Convention of the Fourth District met yesterday at noon at the hall over the saloon at the corner of Camp and St. Mary streets. The body was called to order by W. H. Merkel, Esq., chairman of the convention appointed by the Parish Committee. Mr. A. S. Kelly, Secretary of the Parish Committee, then read the resolution authorizing the presidents of the Tenth and Eleventh Ward clubs to call their constituents together for the purpose of electing delegates to the District Convention. Nominations for temporary chairman were then made.

Messrs. Ledig and Kelly were then put in nomination, and Mr. Ledig was elected after a *viva voce* vote. A division was called, and on a rising vote Mr. Ledig was declared the chairman.

After a ballot, Mr. Mulvey was declared the secretary of the convention.

On motion of Mr. Kelly, of the Tenth Ward, a committee of three was appointed from the Tenth Ward to examine the credentials of delegates from said ward. Messrs. Kelly, Porteous and Mulligan were appointed as the committee on credentials.

A petition from Messrs. Phillips, Desmond and Buchert was read, protesting against the election of Messrs. Ward, Carroll and O'Neil, on the ground of their not having received a sufficient number of votes, and that they were elected by fraud.

The committee reported favorably on the following gentlemen:

Jas. O'Hara, Thos. Brennen, G. Porteous, W. Mulligan, A. J. Kelly, M. Ward, F. Carroll, John McKnight, E. McEnerny, J. O'Neil, Thos. Milan, T. J. Bath and T. L. Fairchild one-half vote each.

Considerable discussion arose as to points of order and Cushing and Jefferson's Manuel were attacked.

The chair decided that a motion to adjourn could be laid on the table.

A motion made to adjourn was lost, and a division being called for the following was the result: 8 noes, 13 ayes. Adjourned until 1 o'clock.

The chair decided Mr. Ledig elected by a viva voce vote. A division being called a rising vote was taken and Mr. Ledig was elected by a vote of 11 to 9. Mr. Mulvey was chosen temporary secretary.

Another was made to adjourn until Wednesday at 12 o'clock, which was lost by a vote of 14 to 9.

A motion by Mr. Blake of the Eleventh Ward, to go into permanent organization, and Mr. A. J. Kelly of the Tenth Ward being the only nominee, he was elected unanimously.

Mr. Mulvey of the Tenth Ward was elected secretary, and Mr. Chas. Boyle of the Eleventh Ward as assistant secretary.

Messrs. O'Leary, Tennison, Bell and Roper were appointed sergeants-at-arms.

A resolution was offered by M. D. Sheehan, Esq., holding proxy of Thos. Milan, Esq., that Messrs. Carroll, Wheless and Mooney be appointed a committee on rules and allowed fifteen minutes to report.

The following is the report of the committee:

Resolved, That we proceed to the nomination and election of a Senator to represent the Fourth District for the unexpired term of J. B. Eustis, resigned; also, that whoever receives a majority of the votes cast shall be the nominee of this convention.

Carried.

The following gentlemen were then nominated, and received the following votes: C. O'Donnell, 12; Charles H. Reed, 3; Thomas C. Murphy, 8; total, 23.

O'Donnell was then declared elected.

The nomination of Mr. C. O'Donnell was made unanimous, and the convention adjourned.

A RICH BASKET.

Under the benign influence of curly-headed Bacchus, who appeared in our sanctum yesterday evening under the shape and form of a basket of champagne, we will sing of the virtues of Krug. People may talk about Roederer, because it is fashionable, about Piper Heidsieck, because it has a good name, about Veuve Clicquot, because that lady is a bewitching widow, but give us "Krug," the real, old, genuine article, that sparkles in the glass and makes sunshine at the convivial table. It is not too dry, it is not too sweet, it is full of life, and yet it is not too strong. There is not a headache in a basket of it. There is Elysium in a single bottle. Messrs. A. Rochereau & Co., Nos. 16 and 18 St. Louis street, are agents for that excellent wine, and no finer gentlemen can be found with whom to trade for the divine nectar.

We must not forget to state that a great point has been made by the Krug Co. in the way of wires. These are so easily made away with that it is no trouble in the world; one part of the wire broken lets everything loose.

THE POSTAL COMMISSION.

Matters and Facts Connected Therewith That Are Important.

No information has yet been received from the Postal Commission, and it is impossible to say when they will reach here. Major Tupper informs us that he will leave on the 2d of January for New York and Washington, stopping en route at Atlanta, Montgomery, and other points in Georgia and Alabama, to talk over

THE HAVANA MAIL

with the people of those places. These States have the same claim—the shortest water route—to this line that New Orleans has to the Central and South American line, and it is thought that the two claims may be joined in the same bill.

Major Tupper's visit will be entirely in the

INTERESTS OF THE BRAZILIAN MAIL LINE,

and to secure at least a portion of the proposed subsidy for New Orleans. He tells us, and the information is authentic, that the Brazilian government is entering into the contract with Mr. John Roache, the great New York ship owner, by which it granted him a subsidy of $100,000 for a line of monthly steamers from Rio to the United States, expressed a preference for New Orleans as the point of connection in this country.

There is no question but that

NEW ORLEANS IS PREFERRED,

both in New York and Rio, as the port with which this trade is to be built up, and it now seems as if we were to secure this great advantage, despite the indifference and apathy of our own people.

In our statement in Sunday's DEMOCRAT with reference to the arrival of the Northern mail

VIA THE MOBILE ROAD,

it seems that we did that road an injustice, at least it has so been construed. The time of arrival is 8:35 a. m., but ten minutes is allowed for the delivery of the mail. By this allowance there were eighteen arrivals on time, instead of one, as we reported, in forty-nine days. It is also due to the Mobile road to say that the delays were at and beyond Montgomery.

CAPITOL GOSSIP.

Levee Contracts Awarded—More to Come—Discouraging News Relative to the Sugar Crop.

Gov. Nicholls returned to the city on Sunday evening, and on yesterday was at his office, where during the day he presided at a meeting of the State Board of Engineers, when contracts were awarded for the construction of two levees. The first was the Bondurant levee, parish of Tensas, and was awarded to A. L. Gervin at twenty-four cents per cubic yard; the second being the Jesuit Bend levee,

PARISH OF PLAQUEMINES,

to John Cleary, at 22 cents per cubic yard. On the 29th inst., as will be noticed by the official announcement, contracts will be awarded for the construction of three more levees, viz: the Reine and Forstall levees, parish of St. James, and Pliney levee, parish of Iberville, and that will complete the levee work for the current year.

Gov. Nicholls reports a loss in the parish of Assumption, where he has been, of nearly all of the "windrowed" cane, and places the estimated loss at fully 75 per cent in adjoining parishes. The planters in that locality are very much discouraged, he says, though they are trying to make the best of it.

THE COMING PARADE.

A Fine Military Display Expected—The "Zoozoos" To Be In Line.

The officers of the independent military commands and those of the organized militia have decided that the parade on the 8th proximo shall be the finest seen in the city either before or since the war, and having arrived at that determination each is striving to outdo the others in the way of arranging for a full company on the day named, for the uniforms, arms, accoutrements, etc., and by the time the parade day arrives all will be provided.

One of the features of the parade will be a

FULL COMPANY OF ZOUAVES,

and in full Zouave uniform, while other companies will don bright new uniforms. The three hundred Sharp's rifles ordered by the State will arrive here in time, and, to be prepared for the occasion, accoutrements will be ordered (made here) for that number of guns. The question of the selection of a commanding officer, or grand marshal, for the occasion has been abandoned, it having been agreed that each command, while forming the column, shall remain under the immediate control of its commanding officer, the arrangements as to positions in the line, etc., to be agreed upon by the commanding officers.

In view of the fact that a large number of the members of the various companies are employed in counting-houses, stores, banks, etc., and can not well devote the morning to the parade, it has been decided that it shall start from a given point at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and that the marching shall consume but little time. Arrangements will, it is said, be made to convey the United States troops

FROM THE BARRACKS

to the city and return by steamboat, the distance being a little too great to march up and back.

THE LESSIE TAYLOR EXPLOSION.

And Now It's Said the Government is Not Responsible.

The Lessie Taylor explosion investigation was resumed yesterday before the Local Board of Inspectors, the only witness called upon being Mr. Elisha M. Staats, chief engineer of the steamship Hudson.

Mr. Staats testified that

THE PIECE OF BOILER

shown him had been overheated, and he did not think that it would be safe with a pressure of over eighty pounds of steam. He thought that under all circumstances the chief or first engineer of a boat was the proper person to take charge of the donkey when the main boilers were being inspected, and did not consider the local inspector responsible for any accident that might occur to the donkey boiler.

The Board of Local Inspectors on Friday last addressed a letter to Capt. Kenison inviting him to furnish a list of such persons as he would like to have examined, but up to last evening no reply had been received, nor had a list been furnished. It is now stated upon the authority of a legal gentleman well versed in such matters, that action for damages in the case of the late explosion

CANNOT BE BROUGHT

against the United States government, but if any is brought it must be against the sureties on the bond of the inspector in charge. This course, it is said, will be pursued by the owners of the boat.

DANGEROUS COUNTERFEIT.

The United States Treasury secret service agent, located in this city, has received the following circular letter:

UNITED STATES TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 21, 1877.

Sir—A new counterfeit $5 note on the First National Bank of Hanover, Pa., has made its appearance. The paper is thin and color dark. Bank, No. 187, dated February 20, 1864, and bearing signatures of F. E. Spinner and L. E. Chittenden. It is printed from the same plate as the First National Bank of Tamaqua, Pa., which made its appearance about September 20, 1877.

Respectfully, JAMES J. BROOKS,
Chief Secret Service.

Oh, for a month of Grant now to put the right kind of an end to the Mexican troubles.—[St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE TOY MATINEES.

The attendance at the only two theatres that are open in our city will be immense at the matinees to-day, and the probabilities are that many people will have to be turned away, from sheer want of accommodation. At the Varieties "Daniel Druce" will be presented for the first time in this city, and will afford enjoyment to the grown up people, whilst the younger folks will find their pleasure in the splendid gifts that Manager Hall has provided for them, not forgetting the magnificent doll "Dolly Druce," which goes to the young spectator whose number will be drawn first from among the numbers thrown into Pandora's box.

At the Academy, "Humpty Dumpty" will entertain the audience, and everybody buying a ticket will also receive a present.

CAL WAGNER'S MINSTRELS

will be the attraction at the St. Charles on Sunday next. Sam Price is the bone end man of the company.

THE FRENCH TROUPE

open on Thursday night at the Opera House in "Nos Alliees," with Clarence in the leading role.

WEATHER AND RIVERS.

Frigerio's record—that which he keeps of the temperature—makes the lowest point on Sunday night 54, and the variations yesterday between 63 and 69 degrees above zero.

The Signal Service telegrams, compiled at 3:45 p. m., shows rain to have fallen yesterday at Cairo, Davenport, Dubuque, Indianola, Louisville, Memphis, Nashville, St. Louis, Augusta, Key West, Mobile, Savannah and Montgomery, there having been a fall of over two inches at the last named point, while at the others it scarcely exceeded half an inch in any instance.

The river telegrams show an unexpected rise of 9 inches at Cairo, 3 at Dubuque, 3 at Keokuk, 2 at St. Louis, 5 at Omaha, 2 at Leavenworth; also, a rise of 2 inches in the Cumberland at Nashville.

NEW ORLEANS INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

The election of directors of this association took place yesterday, and the following named gentlemen were unanimously elected:

A. J. Gomila, Henry Abraham, J. B. Camors, I. K. Small, J. Plaisent, L. J. Webster, Pierre Lanaux, E. M. Scott, Wm. A. Bell, John Dymond, John Rocchi, M. Musson.

This association is not only strong in its financial condition, but has the advantage of having a president, Mr. Musson, who is not only an able financier but a most accomplished and genial gentleman. His administration of the affairs of the "association" has been satisfactory to all parties concerned, as has been the services of Mr. Lanaux, the secretary.

RELIGIOUS.

The public are cordially invited to attend the Christmas services at St. Philip's Church, corner Calliope and Prytania streets, on Christmas Day, at 11 o'clock a. m. The singing will be under the direction of Mr. G. H. Fayerweather, and will consist of solos, duos, trios and quartettes. Messrs. Dudley Buck, Samuel Jackson, James Loreatz, James Hunt and others compose the choir. Rev. Dr. C. H. Thompson will conduct the services.

BREVITIES.

Acting Collector Anderson drops a line to the city papers announcing that all customs offices at this port will be closed to-day.

The Custom-House employes were paid off yesterday for December by Paymaster Porter, who arrived yesterday morning from Washington.

We have received a series of Christmas carols from the pupils of St. John's Sunday school, with an invitation to attend their annual Christmas festival on Tuesday next.

The Working Boys' Union give their first grand fancy dress and phantom ball, for the benefit of their library fund, at Grunewald Hall, on Thursday, the 17th of January next.

CITY ECHOES.

Peter Gregroin, for reckless driving, was incarcerated in the Third Station.

Clinton Moder, at the request of C. Hendon, was lodged in the Second Precinct Station, charged with the larceny of $58.

Michael Andrew and Thomas Kelly were furnished appartments in the Third, charged by J. M. Oriole with the larceny of $25.

Thos. Nolan was locked up in the Seventh Precinct Station, charged with interfering with Officer Belson in the discharge of his duty.

Ed. Bachmen was locked up in the Third Station-house, charged with passing counterfeit money and threatening to cut Natale Gouers with a knife.

Louis Henskell, charged with petty larceny, was yesterday sent before the First District Court by Recorder Smith, and his bonds were fixed at $500.

J. Trepagnier was immured in the Fourth Calaboose, charged with interfering with an officer in the discharge of his duty, and attempting to rescue a prisoner.

Sunday evening two little girls, aged seven and ten years, daughters of Mr. Waldman, residing at No. 377 Conti street, were attacked and severely bitten by a vicious dog about the limbs and arms. The animal was killed by the officer of the beat.

Rough on West.

A negro named Robert West, who was charged with murder and sentenced to the Penitentiary for life, and who was pardoned by Kellogg, yesterday took the stand in Recorder Smith's court to prosecute one James Sebastian for an alleged assault and battery. The counsel for the defense objected to the prosecutor West giving testimony, on the grounds that the Senate had not confirmed his pardon. His Honor ruled the objection well taken, and the accused was discharged.

Butter and Cheese.

It appears from statements made at the Chicago Butter and Cheese Convention that the people of this country and their British cousins devour more cheese than any people on the face of the earth. One speaking, after stating that 30,000,000 Englishmen eat 300,000,000 pounds of cheese annually and 40,000,000 of Americans eat 180,000,000 pounds in the same period, argued that since Englishmen live much longer than Americans, the fact is due entirely to their heavier consumption of cheese. It may be true; indeed, we think it is true, and that a terrible mistake has been made in sending so much American cheese to England, when the average life of the present generation of Americans might have been prolonged. Let us eat cheese and live.

Some people are curious to know, says the *Courier-Journal*, why Grant left Paris after so short a stay. A letter from that city says: "Parisians never treat. In public resorts, cafes, buffets, &c., the French system of every one paying for his own drinks is strictly observed." And so Grant left.

LEWIS' PREPARATION
of Fine Cast Steel to the Sulphuretted Dust.

Those having used and tested the value of this compound, are respectfully informed that it can be had at the Drug Store of I. L. LYON and many other druggists of this city.

To the uninitiated and skeptical I will say that, in placing it before the public, I have deviated from the whole conclave of inventors "of the surest and best anti-bilious medicines," etc. I allude to their invariable secresy of ingredients. The usual and only other mode in producing Sulphuretted Iron is by the hydrogen process, where it is made by hundreds of pounds for the commerce of the world, and is not to be depended on, as it contains too great a proportion of carbon (charcoal), which cannot be avoided in the process of their manufacturing it.

This Sulphuret of Refined Steel is the pure sulphuret of steel, having not a particle of foreign matter in its combination. It is made by hand.

Those eminent professors of chemistry and physicians of France, together with the United States Dispensatory, state that the great object in administering iron is to get the greatest quantity into the gastric juice of the stomach, as it is intendad to renovate and purify the blood, and its known value as a tonic.

my4 W. T. L.

JUDICIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

SHERIFF SALES.

Hyppolite Belot vs. Mary Louise Meier.

FIFTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans, No. 8734—By virtue of a writ of seizure and sale, to me directed by the honorable the Fifth District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled cause, 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 FRIDAY, January 18, 1878, at 12 o'clock m., the following described property, to wit—

A LOT OF GROUND, situated in the Second District of this city, designated by the number eleven, in the square bounded by Orleans, Prieur, Johnson and St. Ann streets, on a plan drawn by Henry Moelhausen, late surveyor, dated ninth of June, 1845, and deposited in the office of Lucien Hermann, then a notary public in this city, said lot forming the corner of Prieur and St. Ann streets, and measuring, in American measure, thirty-eight feet ten inches one line front on St. Ann street, thirty-nine feet four inches in width in the rear, seventy-eight feet eight inches one line in depth and front on Prieur street and seventy-eight feet eleven inches two lines in depth on the other side line. Together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, without exception or reservation. Being the same property acquired by the defendant herein by purchase from Myrtle Courcelle, as per act passed before Abel Dreyfous, on the eighth of March, 1867.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

THOMAS H. HANDY,
Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.
de17 27 ja7 18

William A. Thomas vs. Mrs. Elizabeth Kennelly.

FOURTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE parish of Orleans, No. 44,749—By virtue of a writ of seizure and sale, to me directed by the honorable the Fourth District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled cause, 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 FRIDAY, January 18, 1878, at 12 o'clock m., the following described property, to wit—

A CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated, lying and being in the First District of this city, in the square bounded by Thalia, Melpomene, Freret and Howard streets, designated by the number two on a plan drawn by J. A. d'Hemecourt, surveyor, dated the fifteenth day of April, 1861, and deposited in the office of Edward Barnett, late a notary public in this city, and measuring agreeably to said plan thirty-one feet seven inches six and a half lines front on Thalia street by one hundred and twenty-one feet nine inches in depth, between parallel lines, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, rights, ways and advantages thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining. Being the same property which the defendant herein acquired by purchase from Thomas Reilly, as per act before William J. Castell, a notary public in this city, dated seventeenth December, 1874.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

THOMAS H. HANDY,
Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.
de17 27 ja7 18

Joseph Harder vs. Mrs. Sarah Bradley, widow of John Maginnis.

FIFTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH of Orleans, No. 8743—By virtue of a writ of seizure and sale, to me directed by the honorable the Fifth District Court for the parish of Orleans, in the above entitled cause, 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 FRIDAY, January 18, 1878, at 12 o'clock m., the following described property, to wit—

1. A CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND situated in the First District of this city in the square bounded by Gasquet (late Jackson), Villere, Robertson and Common streets, and designated by the number eighteen on a plan drawn by H. Grant, deputy surveyor, on the ninth of February, 1838, and deposited in the office of H. B. Cenas, then a notary public in this city, and also on a plan drawn by L. Surgi, United States deputy surveyor, on the twenty-third of February, 1844, and deposited in the office of L. T. Caire, then a notary public in this city, on the tenth of May, 1844. Said lot forms the corner of Gasquet and Robertson streets, and measures thirty feet front on said Gasquet street by one hundred feet in depth and front on Robertson street. Together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, without exception or reservation. Being the same property the defendant herein acquired from Hugh McCloskey, as per act passed on the twenty-eighth of September, 1864, before William Shannon, late a notary public in this city.

2. A CERTAIN LOT OF GROUND, situated in the First District of this city, in the square bounded by Felicity, Richard, Constance and Magazine streets; said lot is designated by the letter B on a sketch annexed to an act of family meeting, held before William L. Poole, notary public in this city, on the eighth August, 1868, a certified copy of which sketch is annexed for reference to an act passed before T. J. Beck, late a notary public in this city, on the twenty-sixth September, 1868. Said lot measures, according to said sketch, twenty-four feet nine inches seven lines front on Felicity Road, twenty-one feet three inches six lines in width on the rear line, by a depth of eighty-two feet five inches, more or less, on the side line nearest to Constance street, dividing it from lot number one on said sketch, and of seventy-six feet on the line dividing it from lot A on said sketch, and forms part of a larger lot of ground designated by the number two, on a plan drawn by Hedin & Schlarbaum, surveyors, dated February 22, 1854, deposited in the office of T. O. Stark, late a notary public in this city. Together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, without exception or reservation. Being the same property the defendant herein acquired from the succession of James Donohue, as appears by an act passed on the fourth September, 1873, before William J. Castell, a notary public in this city.

Seized in the above suit.

Terms—Cash on the spot.

THOMAS H. HANDY,
Civil Sheriff of the Parish of Orleans.
de17 27 ja7 18

Alphonse Bechet vs. Luc Beebe.

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT FOR THE P