

THE STATE FUNDING BOARD.

THE \$100,000 SEMINARY (TRUST FUND) BONDS REJECTED.

Mr. Bigney Asks for a Release of \$50,000 Bond River Improvement Bonds.

The State Board of Liquidation met yesterday. Present: The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker, Secretary of State, the Auditor, Treasurer and Fiscal Agent.

The Governor stated the object of the meeting to be the consideration of the matter of FUNDING THE SEMINARY BONDS.

The Auditor moved that the application be rejected, which motion was seconded by the Secretary of State.

The Speaker said he did not understand who had made the application.

Gov. Nichols then explained at some length the manner in which the bonds appeared before the board, stating that they were a trust fund (\$100,000) and that since the passage of the funding act no provision had been made by the Legislature for the payment of the interest.

He then referred to the action, published at the time in the DEMOCRAT, of the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, stating that the board had passed a resolution directing the custodian of the bonds—the Secretary of State—and Treasurer—to present the bonds to the Board of Liquidation for funding.

The custodians, the Governor said, had declined to do so, when a mandamus was taken and an order issued to the custodians to present them; and that the other board would not yield the 40 per cent discount if the bonds were funded, but would look to the Legislature for relief.

Mr. Bush remarked that he did not believe there was any authority for funding the bonds, as the action of the custodians in obeying the order of court was correct, but he did not think that the board was vested with authority to fund, as they were not a part of the State indebtedness.

The Secretary of State said the Attorney General considered it a debt of the State, and if they were funded it would be a release of that much of the State debt.

Mr. Bush thought it would be a violation of the constitutional provisions to take any action upon them. This was a trust fund, he thought, and was, therefore, inalienable.

The Governor said his idea was that the board should reject them. He knew that there was a legal objection involved, and it would be better to do so at once.

Mr. Bush did not think the bonds any evidence of debt.

The motion to reject was then carried without objection.

Mr. M. F. Bigney, who was present, then presented a claim to the board for the improvement of Red river, under a legislative act of 1895, explaining that it was done when Mr. McCullough was the chief of the department, and that the work was divided into four sections, and that three were completed while Mr. McCullough was in authority, they being the second, third and fourth sections, and that warrants amounting to \$83,000 were issued by Mr. Wickliffe, who was Auditor, by some sort of crookedness to parties who got the bonds without presenting the warrants or certificates.

The first section, he said, was completed when Jeff. Thompson was in authority, and for that \$50,000 in bonds had been issued by Gov. Kellogg, or sent to the Auditor's office, Clinton's. A litigation arose as to the first issue in which the parties be (Mr. Bigney) represented were defeated, and those parties now holding

presented them to the board for action. The \$50,000 in bonds issued had disappeared somehow, and he supposed they had been taken away when the Auditor's books and papers were taken; there was no record, at all events, showing that they had ever been paid to any one.

Warrant of these facts he desired to know if the original certificates now presented would entitle him, as a subrogee, to a release of the bonds.

Lieut. Gov. Willis moved to postpone further consideration of the matter until next meeting.

Mr. Bush remarked that he thought the bonds had been issued once, and if he was not mistaken, the Auditor's report, or some committee report, stated as much.

Mr. Bigney said he understood from Mr. H. Donohue, Chief of Gov. Kellogg's private secretary, that the \$50,000 bonds had been issued by Kellogg and sent to the Auditor's office but were not issued.

Mr. Bush thought the Auditor's report showed the whole \$100,000 had been issued.

Gov. Nichols moved to authorize Mr. Bigney to sue the State.

Lieut. Gov. Willis withdrew his motion to postpone and moved that the

APPLICATION BE REJECTED, that Mr. Bigney could go to the courts with the case.

Executive session was then called, and soon thereafter the board adjourned.

CUSTOM-HOUSE NOTES.

The fact that a regularly commissioned disbursing agent of the Treasury Department came here a few days ago to pay off the employees of the Custom-House has given rise to the conjecture as to the why and wherefore of such a move, which is explained by the fact that the Special Deputy is

NOT A BONDED OFFICER, and cannot, therefore, disburse, although all moneys collected from customs duties pass to the credit of the acting Collector.

In conversation with the acting Collector upon this subject yesterday, he remarked that this course was adopted upon his own suggestion, as he did not care to assume the responsibility, although it could have been arranged had he desired it.

Special Agent Latham, of the Internal Revenue branch of the Treasury Department, and some of the internal revenue office force through the department catechism yesterday, prior to an investigation to be made by him, this being the second examination of the office in the last three months. In connection with this subject some of the outsiders—one terribly anti-Hayes chap—said yesterday that the frequent investigations was the only way that the department was to get clear of its numerous special agency force, and that they had to be

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

THE COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION.

The competitive examination of five applicants for teachership in the public schools, which began yesterday at the Franklin school house, in answer to the invitation of Superintendent Rogers, was participated in by 177 candidates.

The examinations were in geography and English grammar, the following questions being put in writing to the applicants:

- 1. What is the longitude of New Orleans from Greenwich? What other cities of the United States have the same, or nearly the same longitude?
2. Name and locate the ten largest cities of the United States?
3. Name the principal cities on the coast of North America, between Panama and Nova Scotia?
4. What British provinces form the Dominion of Canada?
5. Bound V. Venezuela, and name its capital. What river flows through it?
6. What waters on the coast of Wales? How is Wales separated from Ireland?
7. Name three large islands contiguous to Italy. Name six important cities in Italy.
8. Name the three principal islands of the Japanese group.
9. What large lakes in the equatorial regions of Africa?
10. Name the principal island groups of Polynesia. Which is the most important of these groups.

ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

- 1. Write a sentence containing an abstract noun.
2. How is the superlative degree of adjectives formed? What is the rule for adding 'er' and 'est' to adjectives?
3. Name the relative pronouns. When are the relatives 'what' and 'which' used?
4. Which verbs have the passive voice only? Why? Write three sentences, each of which shall contain a verb in the passive voice.
5. How are the perfect tenses of verbs formed? Write the present, past and future perfect tenses, indicative mood, first person singular number, of the following verbs: Bind, creep, hang, make, ride.
6. Where is the subject placed in interrogative sentences?
7. Define a conjunctive adverb. Give an example of each.
8. Write a sentence which shall contain a compound predicate.
9. When is the nominative case used without a verb?
10. Analyze the following sentence and parse the words in italics:
On London when the sun was low,
All bloodless lay the untrodden snow,
And dark as water was the flow
Of Isar, rolling rapidly.

These questions were put to all applicants, whether for teachership in the grammar or primary schools, and the answers to the questions establish the classification of the persons examined.

Today the applicants are to be examined in arithmetic and history.

THE PRINTING CONTRACT.

The bids for printing the city ordinances, the proceedings of the Council, and for the general job printing work of the city were opened yesterday in the Mayor's parlor, at the City Hall.

The bid of the New Orleans Times proposes to do the work as follows: For publishing the official proceedings, city ordinances, official notices of the various departments, twenty cents per square of the space of 100 words, solid matter, for five days each subsequent insertion.

The Democrat offers to do the work for 20 cents per square all around.

The City Item was represented by two bids. One signed by Mr. Mark F. Bigney, President of the City Item Publishing Company, offering to do the city printing for 15 cents a square for each and every insertion. Another is signed by Mr. Clarke, as business manager of the same paper, offering to do the same work at 10 cents a square.

THE JOB PRINTING.

A mob mixed up affair, the following concerns appearing as bidders: T. Fitzwilliam & Co., Ellis & Bro., A. W. Hyatt, F. F. Hansell, Peter O'Donnell, Seymour & Stevens, J. S. Rivers, Clark & Hoffman, the New Orleans Democrat.

About thirty items are bid for. The bids of Messrs. Fitzwilliam & Co., Peter O'Donnell and A. W. Hyatt have mystified the city administrators to such an extent that it will require two or three days to clear up the confusion.

For example, Messrs. Fitzwilliam & Co.'s bid offers to supply the cap paper needed by the city at \$10, the medium cap at the same price, and another item at \$10, all the other items at "one cent," whether cap paper, printing or binding.

The bids of Mr. Peter O'Donnell and Mr. A. W. Hyatt present nearly the same peculiarity.

BIDS FOR BONDS.

Bids for selling town wharf bonds to the city were also opened at the City Hall yesterday. Mr. M. Bonner's bid to sell at 48 cents being accepted. The other bids were: E. J. Hurbert, 42 cents; G. L. Thomas, 50 cents; A. K. Pendleton, 42 1/2 cents.

A SPECIAL MEETING.

There will be a special meeting of the City Council to-morrow (Saturday) at noon.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE FRENCH DRAMATIC COMPANY made their first appearance at the Opera House last evening in two charming comedies, "Le Feu au Couvent" and "Nos Allies."

Without any desire to slight the other members of Mr. Darand's company, we must devote our entire attention to day to Mr. Martal, the *jeune premier comique* of the troupe, who appeared in both comedies in high, eccentric parts.

newcomer took the audience by surprise, and carried the house by storm. Mr. Martal is quite a young man, probably not yet twenty-five, whose native talent would secure a fortune for him in this country if he could act in English.

We are venturing a great deal in saying so much of this young actor, and yet we are satisfied that we are not wandering from the truth. On Saturday the company will play "Le Genere de Monsieur" and "Le Veve de Comedie," both excellent comedies and well known in this city, and in both of which Mr. Martal will appear, when we will have more to say of him and his company. Our old acquaintance, Chamoin, will appear in a leading part before a public whose recollections of him are of the pleasantest kind.

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Blaine on the Political Situation.

(From an interview in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Dec. 21.)

Mr. Hayes nor no other man, can disintegrate the Republican party. A presidential policy which disintegrated it would be a disaster for the time being, but the underlying principles of the party are too deeply imbedded in the public mind to be so easily disintegrated.

Mr. Hayes is in a position where he cannot afford to be disintegrated. He is in a position where he cannot afford to be disintegrated. He is in a position where he cannot afford to be disintegrated.

There is considerable curiosity expressed on the part of many as to whether in the coming Mardi-Gras parade, the great unattached will be allowed in the day procession. In former years it was one of the most unique and amusing features of the great and Rex on the parade.

We had the pleasure of meeting yesterday Mr. Jackson Douglas, tax collector of De Soto parish, who is in the city on business.

THE COURTS.

[Merchants and others interested in cases in the district courts, as principals or as witnesses, can be notified by telegraph when to appear in court, thus avoiding the necessity of a constant attendance.]

SUCCESSION OF ELIZABETH SCHOPP, deceased wife of Christian Schopp, opened.

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT.

Louis Sincer vs. New Orleans City Railroad Company.—Suit for \$25,000 damages for the death of plaintiff's son, Louis S. Sincer, caused by the cars of this road on July 29, 1877.

United States Circuit Court.

United States vs. Hiram Gaines.—In this case, on the application of the District Attorney, an order was made for the seizure in the parishes of Livingston, St. Tammany and Ascension by said

United States District Court.

A. Sheridan, J. Sheridan and M. Gannon vs. Steamer Carrie A. Thorn.—In each of these cases there was judgment for the defendant.

Underwriters' Wrecking Company vs. Steamer Kent.—Suit for \$100,000 damages for the loss of John B. Davis and the claim and petition of Miles Owen be dismissed, and that the purchase price of the boat, represented by a bond, be decreed to belong to the mortgagees.

Charles Lacourne, assignee vs. Succession of Francois Lacourne.—Judgment for plaintiff as prayed for.

Jordan Taylor vs. B. D. Woods.—Exception sustained and libel dismissed.

Charles Lacourne, assignee, having been adjudged a bankrupt, prays for a composition with his creditors at thirty cents on the dollar.

New York Life Insurance Company.

It is gratifying, though not surprising after its thirty years' continuance in this city, to present to our readers what the Insurance Department of the State of New York has to say about this venerable institution.

The convention which was held in Baltimore, Md., two days last week, to consider the tramp problem, was the first of the kind ever held in this State.

Whereas, the several towns and counties of this State are infested with vagabonds and tramps, to the detriment of honest labor, to the ruin of the farmers, and the endangering of the lives and property of the citizens.

Resolved, That the president of this convention be authorized to call a meeting of the committee of seven, whose duty it shall be to memorialize the Legislature to enact such laws as may be deemed best for the suppression of vagrancy.

Resolved, That the committee so appointed shall use all proper means toward securing the enactment of such laws, and that they shall advise others who may aid them in the drafting of the proposed enactments, visiting and consulting with such committees as may be appointed by the Legislature for the same purpose.

Resolved, That the cooperation of all who are interested in the proposed legislation should embrace the following features:

- 1. Every tramp and vagabond shall be liable to arrest and imprisonment for a specified term at labor.
2. That such labor may be required to be performed by the State, or by the contractor of works, at the option of the county commissioners of the several counties.
3. That the House of Correction should be completed and opened for the reception of tramps at the earliest day practicable.
4. That the lodging and incarceration of tramps in jails and in the House of Correction shall, as far as practicable, be discontinued, and, if necessary, district workhouses shall be established to co-operate with the House of Correction in reducing the number of tramps and vagabonds who are liable to be punished.

The imprisonment of paupers and criminals alike shall have for its object reformation and instruction, with the protection of the community, rather than punishment.

The sale of intoxicating liquors to known tramps and vagabonds shall be forbidden.

The first proposition was amended to embrace the definition of a tramp as follows: "Every person who wanders from place to place, having no permanent home, and lodges in bars, out-houses, or in the open air, and has no visible means of support, and begs for a living."

Tariff and Income Taxes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The subcommittee, of which Fernando Wood is chairman, charged with the subject of revising the tariff, will meet here for active work during the coming week. The indications are that at the coming session there will be a vigorous effort in which the members from the West and South will be generally united, to restore the income tax. Connected with this is the purpose on the part of the Senate to reduce taxes on whisky and tobacco, and as an offset to this they propose to restore the tax on incomes. It is believed that this latter part of the bill will receive the sanction of the Treasury Department, as Secretary Sherman always held, after the abolition of the income tax, that the time would shortly come when its restoration would be necessary to sustain the revenue of the government.

THE NEW FLOUR MILL.—Two of our most enterprising citizens, Messrs. Webster & Dillingham, seeing the importance of erecting a flour mill to supply this market with an article for home use, erected a mill at New Orleans, La., on the banks of the Mississippi, between St. Charles and St. Louis streets, and between the levee and the river. The capacity of this mill at present is 250 barrels per day, but will be increased to 500 barrels per day. Messrs. Webster & Dillingham make a specialty of their one and two dollar packages, for which they have a great demand. In the North and West such enterprises are not so common, and we are glad to see that the enterprise of Messrs. Webster & Dillingham will meet with the success so richly deserved.

INSURANCE.

FACTORS AND TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

87.....Canal Street.....87

Paid up Capital, \$1,000,000.

Assets April 30, 1877, \$1,287,905 00.

ISSUES POLICIES COVERING FIRE, MARINE AND MARINE RISKS.

LOWEST TARIFF RATES.

ED. A. PALFREY, President. JNO. CHAFFE, Vice President. THOS. F. WALKER, Secretary.

John I. Noble, John Olin, Richard Miliken, J. I. Warren, R. T. Buckner, Sam'l. Friedlander, A. A. Yates, John L. Adams, Isaac Roberts, R. M. Wainwright, A. H. May, S. H. Snowden, T. Lytle Lyon, Samuel H. Boyd, Joseph McFarry, Wm. Bohan, W. F. Eschelman, Wm. C. Brock, Chas. Chaffin, G. O. Jarry, Wm. Hartwell, C. J. Lewis, A. J. Smith, Jos. Bowling, A. M. Bickham.

MERCHANTS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ORLEANS.

104.....Canal Street.....104

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL STATEMENT.

In conformity with the requirements of their charter, the Company publish the following statement:

Premiums received during the year ending May 31, 1877, including unearned premiums of the previous year—

On Fire Risks.....\$661,200 00

On Marine Risks.....34,473

On River Risks.....26,979 87

Total Premiums.....\$722,652 67

Less Unearned Premiums.....118,116 00

Net Earned Premiums May 31, 1877.....\$604,536 67

Losses paid—

On Fire Risks.....\$117,867 98

On Marine Risks.....17,653 00

On River Risks.....3,000 00

Taxes and expenses, less interest.....26,899 38

Reinsurances and Returned Premiums.....16,104 00—\$158,514 40

Profit.....\$446,022 27

The Company have the following assets:

Real Estate.....\$269,707 48

City Bonds.....110,419 30

Bank, Railroad and other Stocks and Mortgage Bonds.....169,228 86

Notes secured by mortgage.....214,904 00

Notes secured by pledge.....42,307 97

Bills receivable.....75,164 19

Premium in course of collection.....49,087 89

Cash on hand.....77,007 29

Total.....\$1,026,844 20

The above statement is a just, true and correct transcript from the books of the Company and is subject to the audit of the Board of Directors.

G. W. NOTT, Secretary.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, Parish of Orleans, City of New Orleans, Shown to and subscribed before me on the seventh day of June, 1877. JAMES FARREY, Notary Public.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held on the seventh day of June, 1877, it was resolved to declare a cash dividend of twenty per cent on the net earned participating premiums for the year ending May 31, 1877, payable on the third Monday of July next.

Also, to pay to the Stockholders, on demand interest at the rate of five per cent per annum on their stock.

DIRECTORS: P. Maspero, Hy. Boobe, G. Chaffin, R. J. M. Allen, P. Farrey, M. W. Smith, S. Z. Reil, Charles Legite, M. F. J. Fernandez, J. J. Fernandez.

HOTELS.

TREMONT HOUSE,

Corner Tremont and Church Streets, Galveston, Texas.

WISSA & ORFILA, Lessees. (Formerly of the Grand Southern Hotel.)

The Palace Hotel of Galveston. This elegant Hotel, lately completed, IS NOW OPEN.

FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF THE PUBLIC

Being built at a cost of \$400,000, it will be first class in every respect, with all the latest improvements, ELEVATORS, ELECTRO-ANNUNCIATORS, etc.

BATH ROOMS ON EVERY FLOOR.

We therefore take pleasure in soliciting A CONTINUANCE OF THE PATRONAGE extended by the commercial men to the late Grand Southern Hotel.