FIFTH LEGISLATURE.

SECOND SESSION—SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The Senate.

The Senate was called to order at 12 m. by Lieut. Gov. Wiltz, there being present twenty-three Senators—a quorum.

On motion the reading of the journal was dispensed with.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS.

By Mr. Robertson—A petition from Alfred Lemore, asking relief and stating that he was the owner of certain vouchers issued by the chairmen of committees of the General Assembly of 1877, viz: No. 2604, issued under act No. 98, Senate voucher, and No. 2444, by the House, which he was unable to use owing to an injunction obtained by the Attorney General of the State. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

The Clerk read a communication from the Secretary of State submitting the papers in the case of J. D. Moore, Esq., contesting the seat of Senator T. A. Cage. Referred to the Committee on Elections and Qualifications.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Robertson, from the joint committee to investigate the affairs of the State Land Office, requested further time in which to present a report. Granted.

Mr. Wheeler, from the Auditorial Committee, made a similar request, asking an extension of fifteen days from the five days allowed by the joint resolution. Granted.

Mr. Ogden, from the committee to investigate the affairs of the office of State Superintendent of Public Education, made a similar request. Granted.

Mr. Goode, from the committee to investigate the affairs of the Executive office, asked further time in which to make a report. Granted.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The following bills were, under a suspension of the rules, read twice and referred to the Judiciary Committee:

By Mr. Boatner: To delegate to the police juries of the State power to prevent the destruction of fish in the fresh waters of their parishes, and to provide punishment for violation of the law.

By Mr. Boatner: An act to amend and re-enact section 3313, Revised Statutes of 1870, to make the rulings of district courts of the State uniform.

By Mr. Wheeler: To amend and re-enact section 8, act No. 44 of the regular session of 1877, relative to compensation of jurors.

By Mr. Goode: An act to provide for appeals in criminal cases, fixing the return days thereof, etc.

Also, an act to confer additional powers on judges of district courts other than the First district.

By Mr. Wheeler: An act to amend and re-act section 4, act No. 1 extra session of 1877, relative to the compensation of witnesses in criminal trials and before grand juries.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. Burch: Requesting and authorizing the Secretary of the State to furnish the members of the Senate each with a copy of the acts of 1877. Lies over.

By Mr. White: A concurrent resolution authorizing the appointment of a joint committee of five from the Senate and nine from the House to mature and report such amendments to the constitution of the State as may be necessary, and to report within twenty days.

Mr. Stamps moved to amend by making it seven from the Senate and nine from the House.

Mr. Texada remarked that such a number would not be proportionate.

Mr. Stubbs moved that the amendment be laid upon the table.

Mr. Stamps asked that the motion to table be withdrawn, that he might explain his amendment.

Mr. Stubbs withdrew his motion.

Mr. Stamps then moved as an amendment that the committee consist of nine from the Senate and thirteen from the House, stating that by this means his party could have a fair representation.

Mr. White accepted the amendment, and the resolution, as amended, was unanimously adopted.

Mr. White moved a reconsideration of the vote, and moved that that motion be laid upon the table. Carried.

Mr. Robertson called for executive session and the chamber was cleared.

The doors were opened again at 1:50 p. m., when the roll was called and thirty Senators responded to their names.

The Governor's private secretary was announced, and delivered to the clerk a communication containing the Governor's message, which was read.

Mr. Boatner moved that the message be received and spread upon the minutes, and that one thousand copies be printed.

Mr. Mitchell offered as an amendment that the words "five hundred" be substituted for one thousand.

Mr. Boatner did not think that number would be sufficient. There would necessarily be a large distribution, and the additional five hundred copies would cost but little more than the first five hundred. He presumed, of course, that the objection to printing the additional five hundred copies came from economical motives.

Mr. White stated, by an explanation of the legal rates of printing, that the expense for the additional five hundred copies would not be much more than $15, whereupon Mr. Mitchell withdrew his motion and the original motion was carried.

Mr. Burch moved that the various subjects referred to in the Governor's message be referred to appropriate committees, and that they be authorized to report by bill or otherwise. Carried.

Mr. Allain moved that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to have printed in the journal a list of the standing committees, with the names of the members.

Mr. White objected, stating that it would be an unnecessary expense.

Mr. Allain withdrew his motion.

The Lieutenant Governor informed the Senate that he would have laid upon their desks slips with the names of the standing committees.

Mr. Robertson asked leave of absence of ten days for Senator Will Steven. No objection.

Mr. White asked ten days' leave for Senator J. H. Bryant. No objection.

Adjourned until Thursday at 12 m.

The House

was called to order at noon. Speaker Bush in the chair; no quorum.

At 12:20 the Democrats came in from caucus, and ninety-one members and a quorum were announced.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Percival.

The Speaker instructed the Clerk to read the committees as appointed for the session.

He stated that at the request of the Hon. R. D. Bridger, of Caldwell, that gentleman's resignation as chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections was accepted, and another name substituted in place of his.

The appointment of pages and other servitors of the House were also announced.

Mr. Hill, of Orleans, said, before the election of the other officers of the House, he desired to offer a resolution, the purport of which was, that all persons who were elected to any of these offices must accept them with the understanding that they were to submit to such reductions as the House may see fit to make in the salaries allowed. His resolution was passed and the House went into the election for officers.

Mr. P. J. Trezevant was put in nomination by Mr. Hill, and being the sole nominee, was re-elected Chief Clerk of the House by a vote of 104 to 1 blank.

Mr. Keeting, in seconding the nomination, asked his Republican associates to vote for Mr. Trezevant, and paid him a high compliment for his efficiency and justice.

A message from the Senate was announced, notifying the House that the Senate had passed a concurrent resolution appointing a committee of nine from the Senate and thirteen from the House to mature and recommend constitutional amendments within twenty days, and asking the concurrence of the House therein. Laid over under the rules.

Mr. Hill nominated Mr. J. T. Pecot for First Assistant Clerk.

To obviate a calling of the roll, Mr. Huntington moved a suspension of the rules and the passage of a resolution declaring J. T. Pecot First Assistant Clerk for the session of 1878.

In the same way the following gentlemen were respectively re-elected to the various positions heretofore occupied by them:

Minute Clerk, E. W. Halsey; Assistant Minute Clerk, B. R. Coleman; Enrolling Clerk, Chas. MacMurdo; Sergeant-at-Arms, E. Flood; Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, P. J. Kelly; Doorkeeper, Silas L. Morris.

Mr. Young asked for a clerk for the Committee on Contingent Expenses, which was accorded.

Mr. Lewis, of Natchitoches, sent to the Clerk to have read a petition from his constituents asking a repeal of the game law in that parish, so far as it forbids the killing of deer at certain seasons of the year. On motion of Mr. Sauer, the petition was referred to the Committee on Commerce and Agriculture.

Mr. Ryland sent up a resolution which he asked should be read, fixing the pay and salaries of all employes of the House.

Several members objected to the reading, moved its reference, and endeavored in various ways to escape listening to the reading, but Dr. Ryland insisted upon the ground of courtesy to himself. It was read, and a motion made to print.

Mr. Young, of Claiborne, objected to the printing. He urged that if all resolutions brought into this House were ordered printed it would be traveling in another direction than that of reform.

The resolution to print was withdrawn, after some discussion and upon the understanding that it would appear in the House journal of to-day.

The following is the resolution:

With a view of giving effect to the pledges solemnly made by both political parties at the last general election, pledges embodied in their respective platforms, promising economy, retrenchment and reform, and a diminution of the legislative expenditures, it is now resolved and ordered by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, and the Committee on Contingent Expenses are hereby directed and ordered to conform thereto, as follows, viz:

That act No. 11, approved January 2, 1872, the law by which the per diem and mileage of the members and the salaries of the employes of the House are fixed, be so modified and changed for this and all subsequent sessions of *this* Legislature that the per diem and mileage of members and the salaries of the employes shall be paid according to the following schedule, and not according to said statute No. 11 viz:

1. That the mileage specified in section one of said act No. 11 shall not be allowed or paid to any member, but that each member shall be allowed and paid his per diem for going to and returning from the sessions of the General Assembly in conformity to the rating of distances contained in said section 1 of act No. 11 for instance: The parish of Ascension, eighty miles, equal to three days going and three days returning from the session, and so on for each parish, and no more, and that the per diem thus allowed for traveling expenses, and the per diem for the sixty days of the regular session shall be allowed and computed and paid at the rate of five dollars per day, so that this session of the Legislature may conform as near as possible to the allowance made in the constitution of 1812, section nineteen, act No. 21, four dollars; 1845, article twenty-six, four dollars; and 1852, article twenty-five, four dollars.

2. That the Chief Clerk, the Assistant Clerk, the Minute Clerk and the Assistant Minute Clerk shall be allowed and paid as follows, viz:

I. The Chief Clerk at the rate of seven hundred and fifty dollars per annum, payable as provided in section 2 of said act No. 11.

II. The Assistant Clerk at the rate of six dollars per day.

III. The Minute Clerk at the rate of six dollars per day.

IV. The Assistant Minute Clerk at the rate of five dollars per day, payable cash at the end of every week.

3. That the Sergeant-at-Arms and one Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms shall be allowed and paid as follows, viz:

I. The Sergeant-at-Arms, at the rate of seven hundred and fifty dollars per annum, payable as provided in section 3 of said act No. 11.

II. The Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, at the rate of five dollars per day, payable cash at the end of every week.

4. That the salary of the Keeper of the State-House, provided for on the part of the House by section 4 of said act No. 11, shall cease when the said keeper delivers to the Sergeant-at-Arms the effects in his charge, which latter officer shall be and remain in charge until the end of the session, under the direction of the Speaker, of all the rooms, etc., used for the House. The use of the hall of the House shall never be allowed for any public meeting, whether political or otherwise.

5. That the Chief Enrolling Clerk shall be allowed and paid at the rate of six dollars per day, payable cash at the end of every week.

The Speaker shall be authorized to use one of the porters as doorkeeper, and when acting as such he shall be allowed and paid three dollars per day, and no more, payable at the end of every week.

6. That the officers specified in section 6 of said act No. 11 shall be allowed and paid the following salary, and no more, viz:

I. The Speaker's secretary, five dollars per day.

II. The Speaker's messenger, one dollar and twenty-five cents per day.

III. The messenger of the House, two dollars and fifty cents per day. All three, until discharged by the Speaker, payable cash at the end of every week, but none shall be retained over ten days after adjournment.

7. The Speaker shall be authorized to appoint fifteen pages, when necessary, who shall be allowed and paid cash at the end of every week one dollar and twenty-five cents for each day's service rendered. He shall also employ nine porters when necessary, who shall be allowed and paid cash at the end of every week one dollar and fifty cents for each day's service rendered, except when acting as doorkeeper, when the one so employed shall be allowed and paid three dollars per day.

8. That the clerks provided for in section 8 of said act No. 11, for the Committees on Judiciary, on Ways and Means, on Elections, on Claims, on Railroads and on Contingent Expenses shall not be appointed by any one of the said committees until direct permission has been given by the House in open session on the representation of the chairman that such clerk is needed, and specifying the time for which such clerk is needed, and specifying the time for which such clerk is to be employed.

When so employed, said clerks shall be allowed and paid four dollars per day, except the clerks of the Judiciary and Contingent Expenses Committees, who shall be allowed and paid five dollars per day, cash, at the end of every week, on the certificate of the chairman stating the number of days he has served.

That the Committee on Enrollment shall employ no clerk until after strict and careful examination made by the committee, aided by the Chief Enrolling Clerk, such person being found in every respect, by a majority of the committee, fully qualified for the position, of which fact the chairman shall issue a certificate, on production of which the appointee shall be sworn by the Speaker, from which time his salary shall commence; and such clerks shall be allowed and paid four dollars per day, cash, at the end of every week, on the certificate of the Chief Enrolling Clerk, approved by the chairman, in the form of a pay roll to be delivered to the chairman of the Committee on Contingent Expenses.

9. That the Speaker shall appoint a postmaster and a chaplain, who shall be allowed and paid each four dollars per day.

10. That the Speaker of the House, the Chairman of the Committee on Contingent Expenses and the Chairman of the Committee on Enrollment shall not be allowed or paid any extra or additional compensation, except for services rendered after adjournment, for which they shall be paid their regular per diem.

11. That the aforesaid employes shall be removable at pleasure, to wit: Those selected by the House, by said body; those appointed by the Speaker, by said officer, and those appointed by committees, by such committees, and they shall be entitled to compensation only for the time they have served.

12. That no allowance or compensation shall be made to any reporter.

The notice of contest from Cain Sartain, contestant for the seat occupied by Nicholas Burton, was read and referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, as was also the returns in case of contest on the part of Mr. Billiou of the seat occupied by J. Seveignes.

Mr. Bowden, of Franklin, offered a resolution authoring the Governor to send a commission to treat with the Governor of Arkansas with reference to certain levees. Laid over.

Mr. Kidd sent up the following, which was read and laid over under the rules:

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO UNITED STATES SENATOR.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened, That we, the representatives of the people of Louisiana, in their behalf and for ourselves, do earnestly protest against and repudiate the action of the United States Senate in admitting Wm. P. Kellogg to a seat in that body as Senator from this State, and emphatically deny that said Kellogg is in any manner whatever entitled to that position.

Resolved, That we will never recognize said Kellogg as a Senator of Louisiana, and we recommend to Hon. J. B. Eustis to use what measures may be practicable to enable this State to obtain her legitimate Senatorial rights and privileges.

A resolution was offered and read, instructing the Judiciary Committee of the House to compile and publish, in pamphlet form all the amendments that have been passed to the constitution of the State.

Mr. Hahn moved a suspension of the rules for the passage of the resolution. He stated that it was a curious fact that all of these amendments could not be found in any book. The rules were suspended and the motion passed.

The Governor's message was announced and read.

Mr. Toler moved that the reading be dispensed with, and the message printed, Mr. Drury seconding the motion.

Gov. Warmoth thought the House had nothing else to do but to listen to the message, and it would be little less than disrespect to decline doing so. He hoped the motion would not prevail.

Mr. Drury denied any such intention in seconding the motion.

The motion was laid on the table, and the reading proceeded with.

Mr. Bridger offered the following resolution, after the conclusion of the reading:

Resolved, That the message of the Governor be printed in pamphlet form to the number of 1000.

It was amended to 500 copies and so passed.

A resolution was offered and passed appointing a committee of five to subdivide the message for reference to the proper committees. Committee—Bridger, Warmoth, Bowden, Lewis and Randolph.

Mr. A. Voorhies, of Orleans, offered the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be requested to investigate the matter of the rates of taxes and licenses, State, parochial and municipal, with the view—

1. Of reducing the rate of taxation.
2. Of equalizing the burdens of taxes and licenses and introducing uniformity in the system of taxation.
3. Of imposing on municipal and parochial authorities a maximum limit to the rate of taxes and licenses which they may levy; and that said committee report at an early day by bill or otherwise.

The rules were suspended for reference to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Berry stated that he objected to the suspension and informed the House that the Committee on Commercial Restrictions had had the matter under consideration all summer.

The matter was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The notice of contest of the seat of Dejoie by Ferguson, and of the seat of Gaudet, of Latourche, by Octave Harring, were filed.

Mr. Carville called up his resolution ordering copies of the acts of 1877 for members of the Legislature. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Carville called for the order of the day—the consideration of the Governor's message vetoing bills.

On motion the special order was postponed till Thursday at 1 o'clock.

Mr. Voorhies offered a memorial and petition, which was referred to the Committee on Public Charities. Also a memorial and petition from retail grocers; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Toler, under a suspension of the rules, offered a bill for the relief of the tax collector of Richland parish. The bill was placed on its second reading and referred to the Committee on Claims.

BANK ELECTIONS.

Wednesday, the 9th, was the legally appointed day for the election of directors of five prominent banking institutions of this city; and we note as a most significant and favorable fact that in each instance there was but one ticket presented and voted for. We give below the names of the directors elected:

LOUISIANA NATIONAL BANK.

J. F. D. Lanier, Thos. L. Airey, A. M. Bickham, Wm. H. Matthews, Louis Bush, Theodore Heliman, Jos. H. Oglesby.

MUTUAL NATIONAL BANK.

John T. Hardie, P. Maspero, P. Fourchy, A. W. Bosworth, C. L. Chase, E. S. Keep, Lloyd R. Coleman, J. C. Van Wickle, Adolph Meyer.

UNION NATIONAL BANK.

J. C. Denis, A. J. Gomila, W. S. Bailey, Scott McGehee, Wm. Hartwell, N. D. Wallace, T. C. Herndon, E. F. Lavillebeuvre, Victor Meyer, Carl Kohn.

GERMANIA NATIONAL BANK.

L. B. Cain, Jules Cassard, Henry Abraham, J. W. Burmann, H. R. Gogreve, John F. Kranz, Aug. Koenig, T. Poudhomme, I. K. Small.

HIBERNIA NATIONAL BANK.

John I. Adams, Emile Gauche, Patrick Irwin, Andrew Stewart, Thomas Smith, Adam Thompson, George R. Preston.

REPORT OF THE GRAND JURY.

What They Say of the Sixth and Seventh Districts.

The following was submitted yesterday to Judge Don. A. Pardee, of the Second Judicial District Court:

The Grand Jury duly impaneled and sworn in and for the body of the Sixth and Seventh Municipal Districts of the parish of Orleans, on Thursday, December 6, 1877, presented themselves in open court through their foreman, L. A. Fournier, Esq., submitted the following special reports, which were ordered spread on the minutes of the court and a certified copy served on the City Council, with the recommendation of the court that the City Council give their early attention to the matters contained in said reports:

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT, Parish of Orleans.
Carrollton, La., December 31, 1877.

To the Hon. Don A. Pardee, Judge of the Second Judicial District Court:

Your grand jury beg leave to submit this their special report:

They have inspected the condition of the various streets and thoroughfares of the Sixth and Seventh Municipal Districts of the city of New Orleans, and are compelled to declare that, in so far as the Sixth District is concerned, they are a disgrace to any corporation, much more to one of the size and wealth of our own. The majority of them are far inferior to the ordinary country roads, and in any but dryest weather are all but impassible. The people of this District certainly contribute their share of the general taxes, but they are in this respect far from receiving their share of attention. The cause of this neglect is that these matters have been delegated to contractors, whose interest lay in allowing themselves margins as large as possible, which can be accomplished only by curtailing the work required. We have examined the contract between the city and contractors, and find that they have obligated themselves to maintain the streets in perfect order, to open and drain all gutters and drains, and to keep out all grass and garbage. This the contractors signally failed to do. They have had scarcely any force in the District, and have hardly extended their efforts beyond cleaning out a little grass in a few of the main streets, leaving, however, the great majority without any attention whatever, and conferring not the slightest notice upon cross streets. Our thoroughfares are, in wet weather, mere *lines* of bog holes, and, as a rule, the gutters and ditches are so neglected as to lose all value as drains, subjecting many of our streets and lots to overflow and long standing water, in view of the terms of the contract and the utter failure on the part of the contractors to fulfill the same. It is strange that our Administrators approve and pays the monthly bills. There is no excuse that the sum bid is too low for the work done is far from a fair consideration for the amount paid, and, moreover, these bidders assumed their obligations knowingly, and kept out others who for fairer prices would and could have done justice to the city and its inhabitants. We have been urged by many of our fellow-citizens to give special attention to this matter, and have prepared the foregoing as our report in that connection. L. A. FOURNIER, Foreman.

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT, PARISH OF ORLEANS,
Carrollton, December 31, 1877.

Hon. Don A. Pardee, Judge:

The Grand Jury respectfully submit to your Honor the following special report:

Our attention has been called to the wretched condition of the wooden banquettes throughout the Sixth and Seventh Districts, not only causing great inconvenience, but in many cases dangerous to life and limb. We have been informed that the present ordinance requiring the owners to keep them in repair is inoperative and a dead letter.

Such being the case, and believing that force should be used when reason fails to convince, we earnestly recommend the City Council to enact such an ordinance as will remedy the evil. L. A. FOURNIER, Foreman.

Extract from the minutes of the Second Judicial District Court, Sixth and Seventh Municipal Districts of the parish of Orleans.

A true copy; FRANK HEBERT, Deputy Clerk.

PERSONAL.

The many friends of Mr. Charles L. Chase, formerly of the well-known house of C. H. Lawrence & Co., are happy to greet him on his return to the scene of his former business operations.

We would call the attention of the public to I. C. Levi's jewelry sale, 108 Canal street. He will offer to-night a stock of fine and rich jewelry, comprising a full assortment of the latest styles gold and silver watches, of American, English Swiss, German and French factories; gold vest and opera chains, mainees and leontines; gold guard chains, with and without slides; half sets of brooches and earrings of stone cameo, plain coral, coral and gold, Etruscan and plain gold, amethyst and onyx, plain and with pearls; diamonds, ear-rings and studs in solitaire, from one-fourth to four karats; diamond crosses in different styles; diamond rings in solitaire and cluster, ornamented with rubies, sapphires, emeralds, opals, pearls, etc; silverware in trunks and cases—tablespoons, forks and teaspoons; clocks, statuary, opera glasses, silver plated ware, and other articles, too numerous to mention, which will be sold at private sale at auction prices. Auction sales every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, at 7 o'clock, at 108 Canal street, I. C. Levi, auctioneer.

NATIONAL BANKS.—The Controller of the Currency has called for the reports of all national banks, December 28, 1877. These reports will be examined with interest, as they exhibit the exact condition of the banks at that date and detailed figures of the assets and liabilities. We are glad to see that the Fiscal Agent Bank, the "State National" of this city, shows a statement of strength and active position, such as is required by the wants of our community and the condition of things at the present time. We commend it to the attention of our business men and its many patrons.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

THE TAX BILLS.

The city tax bills for 1878 are all made out, and will probably be delivered to-day by Administrator Brown to Administrator Denis. The collection of city taxes will not, however, (as we have already said) begin before the 15th—until the city treasury department shall have been relieved of the pressure of applicants to pay their city licenses.

THE CARONDELET STREET RAILROAD.

Yesterday the Council adopted Administrator McCaffrey's resolution relating to the Carondelet Street Railroad.

Notwithstanding repeated notices to the owners of this railroad, which runs from Carrollton to Eighth street, the track and rails have not been removed. The resolution referred to authorizes the Administrator of Improvements to replace the street in traveling condition at the expense of the railroad company.

THE CITY PRINTING.

The Council Awards It to the Democrat Again.

The official proceedings of the City Council, to be found elsewhere, will show the reasons why the Mayor vetoed the award made at its previous meeting of the city printing to the DEMOCRAT. As soon as the veto was read Administrator Cavanac arose and, saying that he did not agree with his honor, moved that the resolution pass, the veto notwithstanding. The roll was called, the following Administrators voting yes—Brown, Cavanac, Denis, Diamond, Edwards and Hengstorff; nay—Administrator McCaffrey. Whereupon the Mayor declared that the resolution had passed over his veto.

Before voting Col. Denis said that he would vote for the DEMOCRAT, because the law said the printing should be awarded to the lowest and *best* bidder, and that this was not the only time that a contract had been awarded to a higher bidder.

Administrator Diamond said "on the same grounds I will vote 'yes.'"

The Mayor replied that he did not know of any cases where contracts had not been awarded to the lowest bidder, and yet he did not presume to say that because a person was the lowest bidder he should be awarded a contract.

In conversation yesterday with Col. Denis on the subject he repeated to us what he had said in the Council, and added that section 19 of act No. 49, relating to the public printing, made it,

BEYOND QUESTION,

discretionary with the Council as to whom they should award the printing, and he read the section, as follows:

"*Be it further enacted, etc.*, That the police juries and municipal corporations in all parishes, including the parish of Orleans, shall not hereafter order public printing of any kind unless the same be done under contract and adjudication to the lowest

AND BEST BIDDER,

under such rules and regulations as they may establish, after due public notice of at least ten days, and the price thereof shall not in any case exceed the price fixed as aforesaid for judicial advertisements; and for other printing or job work they shall in no case exceed the maximum price fixed for State printing in this act. The said police juries and municipal corporations *shall always have reserved to them the right of rejecting any and all bids,* and shall require adequate security in the parish for the *lowest and* BEST bidder for the complete fulfillment of the contract resulting from the adjudication."

LICENSING GAMBLING.

One of our contemporaries in its yesterday's afternoon edition contained a funny report from the City Hall upon this subject. The facts of the case are that Senator Grover, who is our Assistant City Attorney, after the report made by the last Grand Jury, undertook to inquire into the matter, to ascertain whether it would be expedient to license gambling in this state (rather than allow it to be practiced clandestinely), thereby securing a certain amount of additional revenue to the city and State, and Senator Grover had an interview with the Mayor yesterday on the subject.

As to the members of the police force that he had requested to call on him, his intention was not to obtain from them their views (as the report in the paper mentioned would imply) about gambling houses, but to ascertain, beyond question, whether they had any legal proofs in their possession to establish the fact that any particular persons had been engaged in gambling in violation of the law. Further than this his inquiry did not extend.

HOPE NO. 3's CHRISTENING.

Last evening the gallant boys of Hope Hook and Ladder Company No. 3 turned out in full force to participate in the christening of their new and handsome truck, just built for them by Messrs. Joseph Schwartz & Co., of this city. The company paraded our principal streets, headed by a band, and drawing their truck, which was brilliantly illuminated by gas jets and neatly ornamented with ribbons. The ceremony took place in front of the truck-house, and Father Fortier in a most impressive address named the truck "A. P. Kip," in honor of one of Hope's most respected veterans.

After the ceremony the line of march was taken up, and the friends of the company, including the DEMOCRAT, were serenaded.

The truck, which has already been described, is one of the most finished pieces of work that has been seen here for many a day. In artistic build and thoroughness of detail it is a *chef d'œuvre.*

CUSTOM-HOUSE NOTES.

The United States Marshal will sell the Florida parish logs on the 13th and 15th instants.

The government detectives are working on the crooked cotton cases, which are to come up soon.

The Acting Collector has no idea that he will be succeeded before the first or middle of February.

Internal Revenue Collector Cockrem has not seen his successor yet, and does not think he will soon.

The Marble Hall clerks complain that their chairs and stools are terribly rough on their pantaloons, hence their large tailor bills.

Another rumor has been started that there is a dark horse somewhere who will be the Collector if Packard is made Sergeant-at-Arms of the United States Senate.

One or two prominent Republicans (Federal office-seekers) will leave for Washington in a day or two, and one or two office-holders will leave for that point to-day.

Some of the "boys" think Dr. Darrall's chances for a prolongation, so to speak, of that seat in the House of Representatives rather slim since the nol. pros. in the Loud case.

Nothing has yet been heard of the missing dredgeboat McAlester by the Collector. A telegram was sent yesterday to the revenue cutter Dix, via Morgan City, ordering her to go in search of the missing boat, but she had gone to Calcasieu, and the order was sent there. A revenue cutter from Galveston has also been sent to search for the McAlester.

CAPITOL NOTES.

The Land Office Committee will meet at 7:30 this evening.

The Auditorial Investigating Committee will not take any more testimony.

The Hon. Randall L. Gibson paid his respects to Gov. Nicholls yesterday, and will leave for Washington this evening.

Some of the country members having committed themselves to their constituents upon the "Moffett register" system of tax reduction, a bill having that object in view will be introduced during the session.

Mr. W. H. Goodale, secretary of the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, has presented the report of that board to the printer for publication.

The Democratic members held a caucus yesterday morning, before the meeting of either house, and discussed the measures that were introduced during the day, which will be found in our legislative report. Representa-

Legislative "orders," with his signature by members upon the chairmen of the Contingent Expense Committees for their per diem, are quoted at 90 cents by the brokers who frequent the State-House and the legislative lobbies. Some of them say they will raise a point if needed.

The Republican members caucussed yesterday morning at Turner Hall over rumors received by them to the effect that the Democrats contemplated unseating the five Republicans whose seats are contested in the House, the determination agreed upon being to oppose solidly any such move, should it come even in the shape of a report from the proper committee. They talked also about the constitutional convention question, but came to no definite conclusion.

The report of the Attorney General will include quite a number of recommendations as to laws which should be passed and those which should be amended. The report will show also the expenses of the Attorney General's office as compared with the expenses of former years, and will show a saving of thousands of dollars in outside fees alone. The report will also show that while a handsome contingent fund has been appropriated to the office in former years, the office expenses, such as the printing of briefs, purchase of office paper, etc., during 1877, was paid for out of the Attorney General's private purse.

THE NEW ORLEANS PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

Yesterday there was the annual election of directors of the above named company, with the following result, there being no opposition to this ticket. The only change made in the personnel of last year's directory was the substitution of the name of Col. Sam Boyd for that of Mr. George Jonas, deceased:

E. B. Wheelock, Hugh Kennedy, E. L. Ranlett, John H. Kennard, B. W. Taylor, E. A. Palfrey, Sam'l H. Kennedy, Albert Baldwin, W. B. Schmidt, G. W. Cary, Aug. Schreiber, Julius Weis, Cyrus Bussey, Emory Clapp, Sam Boyd.

MURDEROUS BROWN.

He Beats a Woman With a Club Until Her Life Is Despaired Of.

George Brown, the second mate of the steamboat Isabel, was yesterday arraigned before Judge Miltenberger and remanded to the Parish Prison without the benefit of bail, on the charge of having on the night of the 31st December assaulted with a blunt instrument a Mrs. Theresa Flassaschand beat her in such a terrible manner that her life is despaired of.

It appears the accused repaired to the victim's domicile on Marais street, between St. Louis and Conti streets, on the night in question, and on gaining admittance into the house the wretch seized the unfortunate woman by the hair of the head and with a billy that he held in his right hand he beat her head almost into a jelly, at the same time hitting her several times about the body.

Although the unfortunate woman cried frantically for help while she struggled with her would-be murderer, no one came to her assistance.

The wretch, after he had satisfied his brutal propensities, and after his victim had fainted away from the loss of blood and from the blows he had showered upon her, threw her on the floor and left the scene of his crime, believing his victim dead. When the woman was discovered she was still lying on the floor weltering in her blood, which flowed from many wounds.

Dr. Hays was called to attend the woman, and has up to this time declined to give a certificate.

Geo. Brown, after making his escape, evaded justice until the 8th January.

The victim of this brutality on the part of Brown stated to a DEMOCRAT reporter that at the time she was so terribly beaten she was occupying a room which was adjoining one occupied by a young woman named Minnie Golding and her mother, in the house situated on Marais street, between St. Louis and Conti; that on the night of the 31st of December the accused entered my room and asked to occupy my bed.

I told him that he could not, that I had been sitting up for three or four nights with a sick friend, and that I was going to occupy my bed myself. After I told him this I undressed and retired to bed. Between 9 and 10 o'clock I was slumbering when I was suddenly pulled out of the bed by the hair, and struck with some blunt instrument several times over the head and about the body. I did not realize who was beating me until I saw Geo. Brown in the act of blowing out the candle. When the candle went out I became insensible.

Last evening the physicians sent word to Judge Miltenberger that it was impossible for the wounded woman to recover, and requested that his honor come and take her dying declaration. The judge repaired to the woman's bedside; she could not be forced to believe she was going to die, and the declaration could not be taken.

THE LOUD TRIAL.

The Acklen-Darrall Contest Virtually Decided by a Nolle Pros.

The United States Circuit Court was crowded yesterday by persons anxious to witness the promised developments in the Loud trial, which has become, in its connection with the Acklen-Darrall contest in Congress, quite a *cause celebre.* It has been fully within the knowledge of all who have paid any attention to this case that the information filed against Loud was secured through certain political influences to delay, if possible, the action of the House Committee of Elections in the Acklen-Darrall contest, and the results of this trial yesterday conclusively demonstrated this fact.

The District Attorney first entered a nolle pros. and was permitted by the defense, who insisted on a trial of the case on its merits, to file another information against Loud, so that the witnesses present might be examined and the jury render their verdict.

The District Attorney then presented the certificate upon which he relied, and Hon. James Orowell, parish judge of Iberville, after the jury had been impanneled, was put upon the stand and sworn. At this stage of the proceedings the prosecution utterly broke down, and the United States District Attorney requested permission of the court to enter another nolle pros in the case.

Gen. Sheldon, who appeared for the defense, here made a speech, in which he said that the witnesses for the defendant were all in court, and that the defense desired that this case be thoroughly investigated. That such an investigation would disclose the "true inwardness" of this prosecution, which had been attempted to affect interests entirely outside of the case. That such an investigation would further disclose the startling facts that the basis of the information filed had been obtained through the subornation of witnesses. The court, however, held that the District Attorney could not be debarred from entering a nolle pros.

TWO AMAZONS.

A Whole Congregation Quietly Witness a Stabbing Match.

On January 7, after hearing Parson Jones preach the gospel on the Cut-Off road, six miles below Algiers, two of Africa's daughters, Lizzie Hamilton and Sarah McDaniels, who are as black as two aces of spades, had a carving affray, which was to decide which of the two should have the moke over whom they were rivals. Lizzie proved the winner, as she was fortunate enough to get her knife out first and stab Sarah five times before the latter could draw a weapon to defend herself.

Sarah howled "Fair play," but it was a free fight and to the death of one of the combatants, and Lizzie showed her no quarter.

The balance of the congregation formed a ring around the two Amazons, and as the arrangement had been made that neither one should be interfered with until one or the other had thrown up the sponge, they stood calmly by and saw, without interfering, one woman literally carve the other almost to the point of death

When Sarah had received her fifth wound she sank to the earth exhausted from loss of blood.

When the wounded woman was earthed Lizzie Hamilton threw her knife on the ground, folded her arms and quietly gazed upon her vanquished rival with a barbarous smile. She then withdrew from the scene, made good her escape, and is still at large.

The wounded woman was conveyed to the Eighth Precinct Station, and afterward to the Charity Hospital, where she was examined and found to have received five wounds, two in the shoulder and three in the abdomen. The wounds, although in vital portions of the body, are not considered mortal.

SETTLES' STORY.

A colored man named John Settles, on arriving in this city, stated to an officer that while he was coming down the river, on board the steamboat Thompson Dean, he was assaulted by one John Lyttle who, meditating robbery, assaulted him three times with a knife, wounding him in the hand, wrist and shoulder. The accused made his escape before the boat reached the city.

BREVITIES.

After the adjournment of the House there was a meeting of the Committee on Rules in the Speaker's room. The rules of the last session of the House were considered, and the committee concluded to recommend the increase of all House committees so as to consist of nine members, instead of seven, as they are now constituted.

In our report of the competitive drill of the Crescent Rifles we stated that the silver badge for the best drilled soldier was awarded to Mr. Walter Cook. The award was really made to Mr. Ferd. Cook, one of the most thorough soldiers of the company.

WILSON'S LITTLE GAME.

The One that Landed Him in the Parish Prison.

Yesterday Mr. W. F. Cottam, of the firm of Wang & Cottam, produce merchants, doing business on Poydras street, appeared before Judge Smith, of the First Municipal Police Court, and swore out an affidavit against their book-keeper, J. T. Wilson, charging him with breach of trust and embezzlement of $150 in currency.

It appears the accused, while in the employ of the firm, embezzled the amount stated, and the proprietors, not wishing to be bothered with prosecuting him, discharged him from their service, and charged the amount stolen to profit and loss.

After the accused had left the firm he attempted to collect some of their bills, and when they heard of his second financial transaction they had him arrested, as above stated.

The accused, on being arraigned before Recorder Smith, was sent to the Parish Prison in default of $1000.

CURTIS IN BALTIMORE.

He Is Identified by Three Different Parties as the Right Man.

Through the courtesy of Aid Minor we yesterday saw a letter to that gentleman from Marshal Fry, of Baltimore, in which he stated that he had arrived safe with his prisoner, E. H. Curtis, alias Hay, with some dozen other aliases, who is charged in that city with rape, and who was arrested in this city by Aid Minor.

The accused, since his arrival, has been identified by the two clerks of the hotel in which he stopped with his fair victim last March, and also by an employe of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad, on which train he and the lady went to Washington.

This proves, regardless of Curtis' statement to the contrary, as published in the *Times* a few days before the accused left the Crescent City for the scene of his crime, that he is the right man, and from appearances he is under fair bail for condign punishment.

POLICE BOARD.

The Police Board met in regular session last evening at the Central Station, Mayor Pilsbury in the chair, and a quorum of the commissioners present.

Patrolman A. Martin gave up two days' pay for sitting down and sleeping on his beat.

Supernumerary B. F. Tiller was up on two charges; first charge sets forth that the officer was brought to the station so drunk that he was unable to attend to his duties. The second charge was failing to patrol his beat. For these very serious charges the officer was fined only two days' pay.

Patrolman T. Ryder, for absenting himself from his beat without leave, was reprimanded.

Patrolman Thos. North, for leaving his beat and entering a coffee-house for the purpose of taking a drink, was fined one day's pay.

CITY ECHOES.

Charlie Williams, for larceny, was locked up in the First.

Jules Clark, for assault and battery, was arrested and locked up in the Central Station.

John Hanlin, a clerk by occupation, for attempting to tap a till, was locked up in the Third Precinct.

The shed on Peters street, near the corner of Julia, is liable to fall at any moment and injure pedestrians.

M. Garcia was locked up in the Third Precinct Station, charged by Ernest Buet with assault and battery on his wife.

Robinson Winfrey and William Bober were lodged in the Seventh Station, charged with stealing wood from the Ocean Saw Mill by Henry Belson.

By virtue of a warrant Alfred Loyd was arrested and locked up in