THE MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL.

ESTABLISHED 1840. MEMPHIS, TENN., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1874. VOL. 34.—NO. 49.

MARDI GRAS.

Celebration of the Great Day—Momus, Masks and Masquerades—Memphis and the Memphi.

The Mystic Crewe, the Noisy Crewe, the Motley Crewe, the Crazy Crewe, and the "Devil's Own" Crewe.

The Grand, Imposing and Magnificent Procession of the Memphi—A Wonderful and Brilliant Pageant.

All Nations, Creeds, Races, Animals, Birds and Fishes Represented—A Wild Carnival of Jollity and Fun.

The Balls—Our Whole Population, with Thousands of Visitors, in Attendance—A Day and Night of Mad and Glorious Revel.

If the hard-featured inhabitants of Labrador or Greenland could be lifted up and transported bodily to the shores of the Gulf of Mexico, in ten years they would put forth an annual Mardi Gras blossom more luxuriant and splendid than was ever exhibited by New Orleans with its strong infusion of Latin blood and its lingering aroma of ancient European traditions. But while they are located at the icy north where neither mackerel nor shad nor even herrings put in an appearance until late in May, Mardi Gras and its mummeries will never find favor with their inhabitants. If the people of these hypoborean countries find the corrugated outlines of the nasal protuberance, the most convenient surface on which to ignite lucifer matches at this season of the year, is that a valid reason why we in Memphis should eschew the mask and look blue? The thermometer, day and night for six weeks past, emphatically pronounces "no," a thousand times "no." The unhappy misfortune of some people governing us at a bountiful and wholesome table is no argument against sitting down to dinner. If the good Catholics of Naples and Rome and Venice indulge in a few genteel mummeries before assuming the long severities of Lent, should we therefore repudiate maccaroni and turn up our fastidious noses at the savory sausage of Bologna? Perish

THE ARCTIC PROPOSITION!

The celebration of Mardi Gras in Memphis is a thing of very recent date, and was instituted and carried out principally by public spirited gentlemen of European origin, ably and cheerfully supported by active workers of native growth. The name of Mr. Joseph Specht is indisolubly associated with the wonderful and spontaneous movement of seventy-two, which resulted in an unexpected and brilliant success. Lou Leubrie and the loveable and beloved late Lew Wexler were leading and effective spirits in that never-to-be-forgotten celebration which inaugurated Mardi Gras as an institution in Memphis—as much an institution as the bluffs, the cotton-sheds, the bayou, or the "corner of Main and Madison." Every city has its distinctive features. By taking away those just named, what would Memphis be? The Appeal alone, though its power and influence be immense, would be insufficient to uphold the glory of a city of such extent and prospects as this. It is true, we have the Cotton Exchange, the Peabody hotel, the elevator and the street railroad—yes, and the waterworks, and the sanitary police—all excellent in their way, but we could not live on them. They could not afford us even a brief spell of prosperous sunshine in the spring time of the year, ere yet young lambs and green peas have come to titillate into pleasurable energy the gastronomical lassitude of

THE HIBERNATING PUBLIC.

Then, at this time we usually have a period of torpor, characterizing the interval between, the seasons of activity. The business people of the city are familiar with the characteristic annual dullness that intervenes between the closing of the winter and the opening of the spring trade. Mardi Gras beneficently comes in to relieve the ennui of that time of unappreciated tranquility. Now, when the frost-afflicted and congealed liquor-dealers of Ohio and Indiana are trying to harp out in unison the Hullabastic incubration,

"Shall we gather at the river?"

the happier denizens of Memphis are gaily carolling in chorus, grand and lofty the celebrated Horatian ode,

"Let us be joyful," and so on. How much better is this in a hygienic sense. After the beneficial relaxation of yesterday the "boys" are in such good humor that they would even welcome the hydropathic ladies of Ohio, should their zeal prompt them to come hither on a praying expedition. This universal placability of temper is an inevitable result of the proper celebration of Mardi Gras by Memphians. This happy day of joy and gladness smoothed the wrinkles from many an anxious brow, and made the corroding influence of care inoperative, giving the weary heart a respite in the midst of trouble. The pioneers of Mardi Gras performed a service here similar in its effects to that produced by the public benefactor who caused two blades of grass to grow where but one flourished before.

THEY CAUSED TWO SMILES ON THE FACE

that was scarcely lit up by one in the flinty-featured days that preceded. It was in the latter days of the year 1871 that the Appeal started the movement of Mardi Gras celebration in this city by publishing a lengthy paper on that festival from the facile and pleasing pen of DeLeon, of Mobile. Suggestion was also made, in connection with said article, that it would be a good thing to attempt, at least, a celebration here in Memphis on the evening thirteenth of February, which was Shrove-Tuesday that year. Very little urging was required to rouse up to energetic action scores of people who had fell for years the great want of amusement and the still greater want of variety in amusement in Memphis. We were threatened, in truth, with a deluge of baked-beans doctrine and salt-cod theology altogether unsuited to our constitutions, both physical and psychical. We needed laughter; and when a few gentlemen, about New Year's of 1872, expressed their determination to cultivate Mardi Gras, they received such encouragement on every hand, and from all quarters, that success was bound to follow. A meeting was called in the club hall, which was attended principally by members of the club, to consider Mardi Gras matters. The idea was new. Most of the members were astonished, yet pleased, at the novelty, for such the mummeries of the festival would be considered by the good people of

THE JOLLY BLUFF.

Propositions were piled on propositions, and plans heaped on plans, and suggestions rang through the hall until one might almost imagine chaos had come in earnest. Debate waxed loud and high, and a regular storm of words raged when Leubrie, perceiving in the energy and excitement of the hour a presage of success if those elements were only properly managed, sprang to his feet and started a practical movement by heading a subscription list as a guarantee fund, and calling for the appointment of an executive committee whose business it would be to give body and effect to the various plans, propositions and suggestions made. The committee was at once established, and the subscription list opened. That was the only meeting held in the club hall on that business. The German Casino rooms, on Adams street, thenceforth became the head quarters. The business men of the city generally gave the movement cordial support, many of them subscribing to the fund. Mr. Joseph Specht was made chairman of the committee, Lew Wexler secretary, and indefatigable Leubrie treasurer. Besides being chief of the exchequer and chief controller of contributions, Leubrie performed all the onerous duties that appertain to a minister of state, for he was premier to his majesty, Momus. The truth is, Leubrie and Specht, and a few others, had to assume the financial responsibilities and risks themselves. They had faith and hesitated not. They were

ENCOURAGED BY THE PRESS OF THE CITY,

and were assured of protection and support from the city government. Captain Athy, chief of police, guaranteed all the protection to the mummers and maskers that his force could afford, and the mayor also spoke words of sympathy. The committee, thus emboldened, went on with constantly increasing zeal. Before the middle of January, the prospects looked so flattering that it was resolved to have all the available rooms in the city converted into ballrooms for Mardi Gras night. The Grand Duke Alexis of Russia made a sort of triumphal entry into the city, and was entertained right royally by our enthusiastic citizens, and they felt in the humor to carry on the frolic till Mardi Gras. The prime minister issued a manifesto like this:

"BY HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE CARNIVAL.

Our royal cousin, "His Nibs," ye Duke of Texas, having departed for the Crescent City, we, the only sovereign within a bounds of ye bayous, hereby assume ye crown. Know therefore, by the power in us vested, as King of ye Carnival, Prince of Misrule, Master of Shanks' Mare, Grand Juke Paynix, etc., we command

"Ye knights of ye tape-line,
"Ye knights of ye exchequer,
"Ye knights of ye quill,
"Ye knights of ye scale,
"Ye knights of ye razor,
"Ye knights of ye ink-sling,
"Ye knights of ye glosling,

"to appear in the court in full fancy dress to attend the carnival held in our honor. You are further commanded to close your marts at the hour of three, that your henchmen, retainers, and your subjects may attend the festival, under penalty of being compelled to carry a card of invitation to ye grand dukes' ball.

Thus the prospective fun prospered. Memphis Club hall, the Greenlaw Operahouse, Assembly hall, Cochran hall, New Theater, Worsham house ball-room, were engaged, and all the music that was within reach was pressed into service, so that the masquers might be merry.

THE DAY CAME,

and it was fine, though a little chilly. In the early part of the forenoon people seemed dubious as to how the frolic would "take," and hesitated to throw themselves into it for some hours. Some few bold ones that had ventured an early promenade down Main street, in mask, met with such a good-natured, hearty reception, and created so much fun, that the timid became assured, hurried to their apartments and disguised themselves in the slender habiliments they had provided, and thus, before two o'clock half the city at least was given up to gaiety and harmless revelry. It may be said that from noon till dark the streets presented a kaleidescope of wonders and amusement that caused the most grave and solemn-faced to relax into smiles. The committee's halls, those just named, were open to all maskers who had procured a ticket for one dollar. The same talisman admitted the bearer to all. The Knights of Malta, the Mystic Krew, and several other improvised organizations had arranged a procession for the evening, which set out after dark from the vicinity of the Charleston depot, and moved through the principal streets, followed by a train as large and brilliant and wild as that of an erratic comet. Extravagance had reached its high, and yet propriety was not once violated. The devil himself could not find a flaw upon which he could construct an indictment against the celebration. He made several vain, ill-natured attempts to do it, but the old scoundrel failed as effectually as when he appeared disguised in the garb of an angel of light among the sons of God accusing Job the patient. This ancient monster hates above all things

TO SEE MANKIND HAPPY,

and if he can't stop the sport by his own specific of unadulterated wickedness, he will attempt to make it appear wicked anyhow. He has so thoroughly inoculated the souls of some with his own ideas that they regard an unusually broad smile upon the face as a sure prognostic of inevitable perdition. A pious correspondent of this paper regarded the free distribution of "piping hot" maccaroni out of a certain sort of vessel, last Mardi Gras, as a piece of monstrous iniquity. People ought to learn to distinguish the difference between what is merely vulgar and what is actually sinful. People ought also be provided with a large mantle of charity with which to cover the foibles of their neighbors, and not be ready, like the devil, to prefer charges and swear away their good name. Zeal for the divine law is very often but a manifestation of hate for our brethren.

Passing from this little "spurt" of proverbial philosophy, it is pleasant to find in the strands of our yarn concerning Mardi Gras in Memphis that the beneficent and practical result of the celebration was a large accession of funds to the various orphan asylums of the city. At a meeting of the executive committee, held within a week of the celebration in the Casino, it was found that, financially talking, the affair had been a success. There were present at the meeting Joseph Specht (Momus), president; Lou Leubrie, treasurer and minister of state; Lew Wexler, secretary; Sam Hirsch, F. Lavigne, F. W. Buttinglaus, H. T. Tomlinson, Maurice Kahn, Charles LeClere, W. McLean, J. Seligman, R. Ackerman, J. Bachmann, E. L. Topp, G. W. Alexander, F. Furstenheim, H. Able, A. Loeb, J. A. Graunaur, A. E. Fruhland and Duncan McLean. The total receipts of the committee were found to have been $3776 and the expenditures $2051, leaving a balance of $1726, which was decided should be divided among

THE ORPHAN ASYLUMS.

After all demands against the committee should have been squared up, one hundred dollars were voted to the secretary as compensation for his services, and suitable testimonials were decreed to be bestowed upon Mr. Specht and Mr. Leubrie for their indefatigable and successful exertions in bringing about the great celebration in the city. The public who had witnessed the show, and laughed, were satisfied; the five thousand maskers that attended the balls were thoroughly pleased. The authorities had nothing to complain of, for there was not a crime committed during the festival, and the stationhouses had fewer lodgers than any other night. The chief of police and his active and efficient aids were on duty for about forty consecutive hours, and were so vigilant that had there been any evil disposed persons determined to make mischief, such persons were deterred from their bad designs by the ubiquitous presence of the police. If a well deserved presentation be ever made to Chief Athy from the citizens, whatever it may be, ought to have the simple inscription,

SEMPER ET UBIQUE FIDELIS.

That first celebration of Mardi Gras in Memphis left no stains behind it. No bickerings were indulged in, no jealousies and no regrets embitter the pleasant recollections of a day of unalloyed merriment. It was the unexpected and astounding success of the day that inspired the conception and led to the creation of the Memphi, a mystic and adumbrated association of wealthy gentlemen that made a thirty-thousand-dollar promenade through the streets on Mardi Gras night one year ago, which was supplemented by a scenic display and ball in the Theater of unprecedented grandeur. The Memphi had held weekly meetings for six months previous, and elaborated their designs with such success that the public were bewildered and amazed at the ornithological display made on that memorable night of the twenty-fifth of February, 1873. Issuing suddenly and mysteriously from a cotton-shed on Jackson street, in the upper part of town, at the hour of seven, preceded by dazzling electric lights, the great pageant moved southward, illuminated by a blaze of glory such as one may imagine would attend the course of a flaming world, let loose from its moorings of gravity, and moving portentously through the silence and darkness of illimitable space. Headed by the chief of police and a detail of brigadier-generals, mounted on white horses, and marshaled in echelon by platoons,

THE METEORIC PROCESSION

moved down Main street. A caravan of ancient Egyptian quartermaster-chariots attended by aboriginal employes, and loaded with two hundred live birds for the army of Ptolmy Soter, formed a leading feature of the display. There were all sorts of birds, from the flaming flamingo to ducks, Mother Carey's chickens, and ostriches, and canaries, and peacocks, and king-fishers, and pelicans, together with stately swans and ganders, flapped their wings, crowing and fluttering as they moved on their merry way.

This veracious though irresponsible chronicler is apt to become erratic. We anticipate. Let us go back and pick up the thread of the silken tale. Having disposed of the first celebration by giving the surplus proceeds to the orphans, let us see how that feature of the business appeared at the next festival. The big Exposition building had reared its magnificent proportions in the course of the summer, and the enterprising gentlemen that formed so effective a working committee at first resolved to secure that building for the mask-ball the night of the second celebration. The king made a triumphal entry to the city from the adjoining hights of Chelsea on Monday evening. The mayor of the city gracefully delivered the keys of the city (made from two thousand feet of seasoned poplar) and a sweet speech of welcome. His majesty was attended by his court and entered into full possession in peace. All hands had prepared to make his stay among us as jolly as possible. The great procession started from the Charleston avenue at three o'clock the following day and trailed its interminable length for miles through the streets. The whole town was out, and neither the dampness under foot nor the chilliness of the superincumbent atmosphere prevented ten thousand people from "joining in." It was

A DAY OF WILD REVELRY,

followed by a night of still greater abandon. The king and his court were right royally entertained. Thousands thronged all the public places. The Exposition building was "jammed" with dancers, maskers, mummers, revellers and spectators. Other places were equally well patronized. The theater was given up for the exclusive use of the Memphi and those that had been honored by an elaborate three-cornered pictorial card of invitation. Mask balls were held on "private account" all over the city, and were crowded. The revels were carried on till after midnight. The display at the Memphis theater was gorgeous, the stage being occupied by the wonderful Memphi in their dazzling plumage, and the auditorium being filled by ladies and gentlemen without masks. The Grand Ouro installed a queen of the Memphi that had been selected by lottery, each lady in turn selecting a golden nut from a vase which, upon a given signal from the Grand Ouro, were opened. That one containing a certain sign, entitled the holder to the honor of royalty. The ceremonies were of the most fascinating character. There was promenading, and a ball, and great but

PLEASURABLE EXCITEMENT.

The committee that had worked assiduously to insure the success of the second celebration made a loss, many of them having volunteered to advance large sums to bear the necessary expenses of the great show. The rent of the Exposition building was greater than the whole expenses of the previous year. The committee, however, was not composed of growlers, but of public spirited and large-hearted men. A set of diamond studs was presented to Lou Leubrie, and a gold watch to Joseph Specht as a slight token of the esteem in which those gentlemen were held, and as a small recompense for their long and arduous efforts in the cause of popular amusement. The mysterious Memphi, though forming by long odds the grandest and most attractive feature of the day's celebration, did not at all interfere with the operations of those who worked for the incoherent and independent crowd of outsiders. Everything went along harmoniously, and the police found little difficulty in preserving order. It was said that some indiscreet, unfortunate female had appeared on the streets during the day so thinly clad in gauze that she took a cold and died. This was the only misfortune that was laid to the charge of Mardi Gras of 1873 in Memphis.

THE STREET SCENES OF YESTERDAY.

By eight o'clock yesterday morning hundreds of masqueraders were seen upon the different streets of the city, and it was evident while it was apparent that the carnival would receive an appreciative attention despite

THE INCLEMENT WEATHER

which, to the vexation of thousands, made its appearance by the time the sun arose. The rain had poured, during the night, in a continued stream, and in consequence the streets were quite muddy, and many believed that there would be no Mardi Gras. But the king of misrule had his *pronunciamiento*, and fiends, clowns, kings, queens, fairies, nymphs, mythological characters, and all manner of creatures were to be seen upon the streets. By eleven o'clock the streets were thronged with thousands of spectators, who were anxious to behold the many weird, fantastic, and characteristic of the carnival. The rain continued to fall in a mysic way, but this had no terror for the many who were so eager to enjoy the sight of the king of misrule. Between the hours of eleven and twelve o'clock Main street, from Exchange to Beale, was crowded with people, to a greater extent than for years from a distance. Mounted knights, ugly clowns, and other comic characters, many of whom bestrode bony mules, moved along the streets, to the great delight and wonder of the over-anxious crowd. At the

CORNER OF MAIN AND ADAMS STREET

the crowd was jammed, and of the many there, every person evinced the greatest solicitude for the success of the Memphis Mardi Gras. The windows, entrances and doors of all the stores were filled with ladies and gentlemen, who looked out upon the street with expressions of some grotesque figure or richly-clad knight. In the meantime the masqueraders had increased and were to be seen everywhere. If history, mythology or poetry had ever conceived any character of beauty, burlesque, ugliness or terror, it was represented yesterday.

By one o'clock

THE CROWD

upon the streets was so large that it was almost impossible for any person to pass along the pavement. In front of the Peabody hotel, and from the corner of Main and Adams, over ten thousand spectators. The same interest manifested elsewhere in the city was to be observed any time by hundreds who looked upon the great crowd on Main street. Knights, dressed in silver, gold, purple and costly laces, rode through the streets. Their horses were not spirited to any degree, and more than one animal was as slow as the mule of Sancho Panza. While the crowd was swaying to and fro along Main street as far as the eye could see, a large character was observed following three clowns, one of whom turned somersaults at every lamp-post, which brulin insisted upon squeezing, and in his desires proved quite an adept.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

The beast, however, made several mistakes, and hugged at least a dozen maidens, who vainly shrieked when in contact with the brute, and cried aloud for the assistance of their male friends, who seemed to shrink in dread from the contact of the savage monster. The terror of the bear was soon dispelled by the wit of the clown who had something humorous to say to almost every body. The ladies, as well as the visitors from the rural districts followed the clowns and the beast, seeing all possible fun to provoke the brute to an encounter. The challenge, though continually renewed, was refused by the quadruped, which was more docile than any member of his species ever have been. After promenading to his hide's content, the animal was chained by a man who led it about, the latter great amusement of the beholder. The beast finally mounted a steed, and then enjoyed a ride, provoking peals of laughter and critical comments from the spectators. At several places, especially near the corner of Main and Monroe streets the interest as to the personal identity of the bear became so intense that the pavements were blockaded and the clown found it impossible to proceed further. The bear finally opened his way, the younger spectators gave back at the outstretching of his paws. The clown with an air of immodest dignity, attributed this happy opening to his own numerous influence, and his grimaces were only equaled by those of

THE BRAZILIAN APE,

which upon its first appearance attracted the attention of every spectator. This ape was one of the veritable type, and from his astonishment upon beholding the garb of civilized beings, we judge that it had just arrived from Brazil. The ape, upon reaching Court square, was beset by the squirrels, and then ensued a wondering scene. The ape then gave evidence of his classic education, for after playing sad havoc with the little creatures, and climbing about the trees, he suspended himself from the limb of a magnolia and cried aloud *miserabile visu!* He had hardly uttered this virgilian exclamation before the limb gave way and the animal fell to the ground, where it remained several minutes, uttering the most piteous groans. The administration of *spiritus frumenti* by a kind-hearted man revived the ape, which then regained its feet and went on its way rejoicing, mid the yells of thousands of spectators assembled in that locality. Upon reaching the middle of Main street, the ape mounted an odd-looking vehicle, in which were seated a clown, an old woman, and a Chinaman. After puffing off the latter's cue, he departed for some unknown place. The vehicle was a dilapidated one, the bed of which bore the inscription "Old Hickory." Several spokes were missing from the wheels, which were patched with rude boards. The upper part of the vehicle was handsomely finished, and over the door of one side was the inscription, "Elegante, from Bruce's;" on the other side were the words, "Brackett's Best." The illustration of the great improvement of the present vehicles over those used by our ancesters, this turnout was a success, and its get-up reflects great credit upon Bruce, the well-known carriage manufacturer, and Brackett, the popular horseman.

"INFANTS' MAY-DAY CELEBRATION."

This was the motto painted on a sign carried in the midst of a motly crowd of youngsters, who seemed to vie with each other not only in the grotesqueness and absurdity of costumes, but in the internal din each one tried to make with tin-horns, tin-pans, sheet-iron drums, etc. Their masks were all of the comical order, and funny antics seemed to characterize the crowd. We will bet a gingerbake they enjoyed Mardi Gras more than any other squad that appeared on the streets.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Among the attractive characters upon the street was "La Petite Marquise," handsomely dressed in a suit of the time of Louis XIV. The costume was of rare elegance, being satin throughout. The body was of red satin, while the stockings were white. The court sword added very much to the appearance of the little marquis, who received so many compliments that he could not respond to one-tenth part of them. The ladies admired his costume, and were extravagant in their praises, which the recipient acknowledged by frequent bows and a wave of the hand.

Among the notables on the street was a German count, accompanied by his secretary. They went to a wholesale grocery-store on Shelby street, and after making due inquiries about the astral-named heir of one of the firm, proceeded to partake of some Bourbon. The gentleman of the house procured in India-rubber tube, which he inserted in a jug, the other end being quickly seized by the count, who soon exhausted nearly a quart of the fluid. He then thanked Chasley, and sung: "*Charley is a honest man, Charley is not a dandy.*" He finally left, but in consequence of his feet wishing to occupy both sides of the street at the same time, he was soon put into his little bed. The count arrived by a canoe from an Arkansas swamp yesterday morning, and owing to the fact that he had left his baggage in a yellow bandanna handkerchief at the Hopefield elevator, was necessarily prevented from taking part in the joy the terpsichorean entertainments last night.

One individual rigged up as a monk, handed us some tickets, on which was printed the mysterious word, "Coming." Our reporter asked him if it was the "good time" that was coming, and if so could he name the day and the hour. With a gesture of ignorance he departed. The word "coming" is printed on a new slip of paper, and when we pressed it in our hands it exploded with a loud noise. The reporter was seriously injured about the face, and on the left cheek was left the word "coming" tattooed painfully rushed out, but only to see the monk mounted upon a swift steed and swiftly disappear. What the word means, or how it was arranged, no one knows.

Two parties, evidently of the better sex, dressed in black dominoes, with black masks, called at our office and left behind a black card, on which was printed in white letters: "Beware! Never let midnight catch you with snakes in your boots." They certainly mistook the place, for printers always follow that *rule* without any advice from J. Ickers.

Hardly had the "Beware" individual disappeared, when the office-door swung open, and we beheld three persons. One was a man with an organ, on which he played the *Witch's Dance, Yankee Doodle, Lang Syne*, and other familiar airs, and his companion was a little boyhood. His female companions were from the country of the Rhine, both being dressed in the costumes characteristic of that land. The girl with the tamborine, and the maiden with the white apron and wooden shoes, told us that they had dwelt near to Rotterdam. These characters were unique, and afforded much pleasure wherever they went. The dancing of Margarette and Gretchen won applause, but it was difficult to keep them from compressing them, even upon the streets.

During the afternoon two men dressed to represent a Siamese twin, called at our office, and very soon a large crowd collected around them. Their suits were made of soft turkey feathers, and were a good imitation of the domestic fowl. One had an elegantly wrought yelper, and appeared the very image of a turkey stuffed with oysters—he had just come from a restaurant.

The Duke and Countess of Edinburg, from Shelby. The duke was dressed *a la* clown, his costume being of red and white calico, with tuttons made of the same material, and a large springtime, when dogwood trees are in blossom. The countess was a female Chinese, dressed in the style of the ladies of rank in the Celestial Empire. They afforded fun and amusement wherever they went, and the burlesque was one of the best of the thousands seeking to make fun.

The Memphis wood-works establishment was represented by a most ingenious get up, consisting of a four-horse wagon, on which was fixed a large bed, representing a workroom. A circular saw was in motion, propelled by a well conceived attachment to one of the horses's legs. As the wagon with the wagon moved along the streets the saw was kept in motion with sufficient velocity and force to do business, with the timber fed to it by a machinist. The work-shop also contained a joiner's bench at which a workman was busily engaged in dressing lumber. Many other appointments of a well regulated work-shop were represented, which we regret not being able to give a complete description of. The affair attracted much attention and favorable comments from the spectators.

A skiff or, more properly, batteaux, mounted upon a wagon drawn by two mules, had a number of maskers standing therein, on whose backs the following placards were conspicuous: "Dis ship no stand de storm vot I bet." "Who for?" "My friend." "Good-by."

A pair of turkeys strutted and gobbled, to the enjoyment of themselves and thousands of spectators.

An old, shackly and broken carriage, drawn by two mules, contained several occupants, while signs containing the words, "Equal rights for all," and "Women's rights," were posted on the sides and end.

The Siamese twins promenaded through Main street and created much science talk among the learned—but as we know the connecting link was stuffed with cotton, our medical friends need not worry their brains about the subject.

A promenader carried a placard on his back with the following words thereon: "Cease your admirations." It is hoped that the make-up of costume no one could possibly know the character assumed, and we entertain doubts if the wearer himself knew.

A wagon, drawn by two mules and oxen, in it, drawn by two mules and oxen, had numerous occupants as well as decorations in the shape of mottoes. Among the latter "Duke I lick Us," and on the side, "Calls Made in all Hours of the Night—Baggage Checked to Eatingsville." She crowd within looked as if they could enjoy themselves at a Christmas and for drinking lager, well, no reasonable calculator could make an estimate.

By three o'clock the streets were crowded with twenty thousand people on Main street, which from Beale to Exchange, was densely packed with the over-delighted spectators. The masquerders, has by this time, become tired of the leaves of Vallambrosa, and every conceivable character was represented. The wild Camanche Indian was promenading with a European peasant girl, while an old-fashioned darkey was seen escorting a Beau Brummel, whose exquisite dress was the admiration of a Mississippi river clown. Children hardly large enough to reach a door-knob were *en masque*, and the variety of ridiculous beings was so great that no pen could do them an adequate description or give a just conception of the scene. Main street was one mass of wondering humanity, of every nation, creed and color. Scores of anxious spectators who drank in the grand sight with eager appreciation. At many places on Main street seats had been erected for the accommodation of the spectators. At one time within the vicinity of Court square, and thence as far south as Union street, the crowd was so dense that no one could move. Even the middle of the street was at times crowded near the Peabody hotel and there was a general admixture, presenting a scene of confusion equaled only by that at the tower of Babel. At five o'clock there was a perfect blockade in the above named localities, and little small space was left for horsemen or vehicles.

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"INFANTS' MAY-DAY CELEBRATION."

This was the motto painted on a sign carried in the midst of a motly crowd of youngsters, who seemed to vie with each other not only in the grotesqueness and absurdity of costumes, but in the internal din each one tried to make with tin-horns, tin-pans, sheet-iron drums, etc. Their masks were all of the comical order, and funny antics seemed to characterize the crowd. We will bet a gingerbake they enjoyed Mardi Gras more than any other squad that appeared on the streets.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Among the attractive characters upon the street was "La Petite Marquise," handsomely dressed in a suit of the time of Louis XIV. The costume was of rare elegance, being satin throughout. The body was of red satin, while the stockings were white. The court sword added very much to the appearance of the little marquis, who received so many compliments that he could not respond to one-tenth part of them. The ladies admired his costume, and were extravagant in their praises, which the recipient acknowledged by frequent bows and a wave of the hand.

Among the notables on the street was a German count, accompanied by his secretary. They went to a wholesale grocery-store on Shelby street, and after making due inquiries about the astral-named heir of one of the firm, proceeded to partake of some Bourbon. The gentleman of the house procured in India-rubber tube, which he inserted in a jug, the other end being quickly seized by the count, who soon exhausted nearly a quart of the fluid. He then thanked Chasley, and sung: "*Charley is a honest man, Charley is not a dandy.*" He finally left, but in consequence of his feet wishing to occupy both sides of the street at the same time, he was soon put into his little bed. The count arrived by a canoe from an Arkansas swamp yesterday morning, and owing to the fact that he had left his baggage in a yellow bandanna handkerchief at the Hopefield elevator, was necessarily prevented from taking part in the joy the terpsichorean entertainments last night.

One individual rigged up as a monk, handed us some tickets, on which was printed the mysterious word, "Coming." Our reporter asked him if it was the "good time" that was coming, and if so could he name the day and the hour. With a gesture of ignorance he departed. The word "coming" is printed on a new slip of paper, and when we pressed it in our hands it exploded with a loud noise. The reporter was seriously injured about the face, and on the left cheek was left the word "coming" tattooed painfully rushed out, but only to see the monk mounted upon a swift steed and swiftly disappear. What the word means, or how it was arranged, no one knows.

Two parties, evidently of the better sex, dressed in black dominoes, with black masks, called at our office and left behind a black card, on which was printed in white letters: "Beware! Never let midnight catch you with snakes in your boots." They certainly mistook the place, for printers always follow that *rule* without any advice from J. Ickers.

Hardly had the "Beware" individual disappeared, when the office-door swung open, and we beheld three persons. One was a man with an organ, on which he played the *Witch's Dance, Yankee Doodle, Lang Syne*, and other familiar airs, and his companion was a little boyhood. His female companions were from the country of the Rhine, both being dressed in the costumes characteristic of that land. The girl with the tamborine, and the maiden with the white apron and wooden shoes, told us that they had dwelt near to Rotterdam. These characters were unique, and afforded much pleasure wherever they went. The dancing of Margarette and Gretchen won applause, but it was difficult to keep them from compressing them, even upon the streets.

During the afternoon two men dressed to represent a Siamese twin, called at our office, and very soon a large crowd collected around them. Their suits were made of soft turkey feathers, and were a good imitation of the domestic fowl. One had an elegantly wrought yelper, and appeared the very image of a turkey stuffed with oysters—he had just come from a restaurant.

The Duke and Countess of Edinburg, from Shelby. The duke was dressed *a la* clown, his costume being of red and white calico, with tuttons made of the same material, and a large springtime, when dogwood trees are in blossom. The countess was a female Chinese, dressed in the style of the ladies of rank in the Celestial Empire. They afforded fun and amusement wherever they went, and the burlesque was one of the best of the thousands seeking to make fun.

The Memphis wood-works establishment was represented by a most ingenious get up, consisting of a four-horse wagon, on which was fixed a large bed, representing a work-room. A circular saw was in motion, propelled by a well conceived attachment to one of the horses's legs. As the wagon with the wagon moved along the streets the saw was kept in motion with sufficient velocity and force to do business, with the timber fed to it by a machinist. The work-shop also contained a joiner's bench at which a workman was busily engaged in dressing lumber. Many other appointments of a well regulated work-shop were represented, which we regret not being able to give a complete description of. The affair attracted much attention and favorable comments from the spectators.

A skiff or, more properly, batteaux, mounted upon a wagon drawn by two mules, had a number of maskers standing therein, on whose backs the following placards were conspicuous: "Dis ship no stand de storm vot I bet." "Who for?" "My friend." "Good-by."

A pair of turkeys strutted and gobbled, to the enjoyment of themselves and thousands of spectators.

An old, shackly and broken carriage, drawn by two mules, contained several occupants, while signs containing the words, "Equal rights for all," and "Women's rights," were posted on the sides and end.

The Siamese twins promenaded through Main street and created much science talk among the learned—but as we know the connecting link was stuffed with cotton, our medical friends need not worry their brains about the subject.

A promenader carried a placard on his back with the following words thereon: "Cease your admirations." It is hoped that the make-up of costume no one could possibly know the character assumed, and we entertain doubts if the wearer himself knew.

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