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The Weekly Comet

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Cap. T. Duggan, at the Wharf Boat has our standing thanks. We wish for his sake, more than for our own that mere thanks could be put to profitable account. No boat passes either way without a favor from Capt. Tim.

THE MUSIC.—We have just had a visit from Capt. Tom. Ure, of the ill-fated Gipsy, who informs us that the Steamer Music has taken her place, and will keep up the regular trips.—The new steamer completed for this trade.—The Capitol, built by Capt. Ure, will be out as soon as the opening of the rivers above, will permit.

On Thursday evening last the Rev. George Blackney a member of the "order of the Jesuits, and a Priest of the Catholic religion, well known for his devotedness to the religious services of the church, died in New Orleans. We believe that Father Blackney performed the ceremony of laying the Corner stone of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, in this city.

The Masonic Fraternity in New Orleans, are to celebrate the 27th inst.—the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, by a procession, Oration, and Grand Fancy Ball, at their beautiful temple on St. Charles street. From arrangements already made, this will be the most brilliant and grand affair of the sort that ever came off in the Crescent City. Invitations have been distributed, to the subordinate Lodges throughout the State.

SENTENCE OF DEATH.—On Saturday last Wm. Young alias Jung, was brought before the First District court New Orleans, that sentence of death might be pronounced on him. This man was convicted of murder in the first degree; having most cruelly and inhumanly butchered an orphan girl under his charge. When the brute was asked if he had anything to say. He said he would like to be well fed before being executed, and would like to see his wife. He also said he would like the judge to order his head to be cut off with a hatchet instead of hanging him. He wanted a priest to attend him; but not one from the (Fourth District) as he had no confidence in them. The man was remanded to prison, from whence he will be taken and hung at such time as the Governor may appoint.

The Capital of Venezuela, Caracas, is as far advanced in the fine arts as any one of the time honored and workman cities, of the old world. By a recent letter from Caracas, it is stated that in October last, a new Opera house, capable of accommodating 3,000 persons, was inaugurated with great ceremony by an Italian company from Naples. Perhaps no place on the globe of the population of Caracas (35,000) is more eminent for its cultivation and patronage of music. There are thirty-one fine bands in the city, besides several musical societies. There are twenty-two churches, also, each one of which, has a fine band of wind and string instruments.

The Charleston Chamber of Commerce proposes that a convention of Southern railway directors be held in Augusta, for the purpose of concerting some plan by which the transportation of produce, mails and passengers can be facilitated.

What is the War For?

One who has watched the progress of the war in the East, and endeavored to sift the truth from the fiction, reported from time to time to fill up the newspaper columns; must certainly be at no little loss to know what it is for. Is it to defend the Ottoman Empire, from the Northmen? If so, the allied powers, so jealous of the autocracy of the north, had better turn their attention to the defences of Turkey—embrace the Sultan and admit him into the Christian family, and with the system of polygamy of the Latter Day Saints; make some new grafts on the fruitful "tree of life." There seems to have been a fatality attending the whole movement of the allied forces, since the design was conceived of taking possession of some strong hold in the Russian Empire; a conquest that bears upon its face the full stamp of a physical impossibility. It was not enough, that Napoleon Le Grande, suffered defeat; but here in the nineteenth century, with the full light of the world's past history and experience before us, teaching the almost certain defeat of an "army of invasion," here, we have an expedition by sea, with a few ships to conquer the ninth part of the habitable globe—The Russian Empire, stretching across Siberia, and the Caucasus—uniting Asia with America, reaching more than half round the globe and with a countless population of highly and semi-highly civilized, barbarous and savage people, each fitted for their several regions, and in which it is impossible for others to live. This is the dimensions of the undertaking now engaged in by France and England; the result of which needs no prophetic vision to foresee. The last battle of which we have reliable information, is the battle of Inkerman, in which 38 English officers were killed, 96 wounded, of rank and file 442 killed, 1760 wounded and 156 missing. Suppose by bare chance Sevastopol were taken; no power on the globe, independent of Russia, could hold it. As before said, we incline to the belief, that there is a destiny in these movements; they are directed by Providence, in order to bring about some great political and social revolution; a revolution to work out still another problem in the unsolved riddle of the existence of mankind.

In our account of the burning of the Steamer Gipsy, we set down John L. Wolf as a looser to the amount of about \$600. We are very happy to learn that owing to an "accident" his goods were not shipped by the Gipsy. The stock he expected to receive then, came up the other day per Laurel Hill, and is now in store. Wolf has now, an unsurpassed stock of fine and fashionable furniture, embracing every article in the catalogue. His Furniture ware-rooms are up Church street; near Penitentiary street, where it will be found to the interest of customers to call and examine his stock before purchasing elsewhere.

SPIRITS AT PORT HUDSON.—It is stated, that on Thursday evening last, Mr. J. C. Wingard delivered a lecture at the Methodist Church in Port Hudson, on spirits. This looks very bad. Where's that benevolent temperance society the Ugly Club? What have they been doing to let spirits and spiritual subjects get into the very heart of the city?

AS WE EXPECTED.—The reflections indulged in the other day by this paper in reference to the fact that Balls are going out of fashion, we expected to "call down the house;" and in another column to-day, it will be seen, how savagely we are dealt with, by one who gives a local habitation to "general indignation." A word "explanatory" is necessary. If we understand ourself (many facile local writers do not) we did not intend our article to bear upon, the gay company at the Harney House. We only took that event, as a basis of ground work, to give a few very cogent reasons (as we think) why Balls, are not as well attended now, as they were years ago. "If"—as Dr. Dow would say, "the brick thrown, parted into many fragments to do execution on many heads, it is no fault of ours." If the cap fits all, all in turn are at liberty to wear it. "Fashion" we are inclined to believe, makes more cowards than "conscience," and in order to keep the fickle wench within the bounds of propriety, it is a duty of the super-sentimental moralist, to abuse her now and then, until virtuous indignation is aroused, and then her edicts loose their force. We say the manner of dressing for balls, now fashionable, is neither elegant chaste or proper—that many—if not all the *Schottisches, Polkas*, etc., of late invention, are not only vulgar but lewd, and unfit for Christian people to indulge in. We like dancing in the same way we like other good and wholesome things; for instance wine; "Temperately." We feel very keenly "W's" sarcasm, when he talks of our being "The Grog Shop Advocate," we are willing to be called so for Temperance sake. That we often "lie" we feel it, and therefore have put in one or two parenthesis in W's communication for which he will pardon us.

Any one who is not true to the times; that is, who does not endorse all the folly and excess of the age—lies; therefore we lie, and are very free to confess it.

WORTHY OF EXAMPLE.—We see it stated that a private subscription has been raised to improve the mail service between Vicksburg Mi. and Jackson. It is entirely useless to petition those in authority on the subject.—This department of the national government, was never in a more hopeless state of decline. A very good old gentleman called 'Campbell' is, at the head of this tailless branch of national affairs, the ramifications of which, no man alive is acquainted with. It is the most important branch of the government, directly effecting the nearest and dearest interests of the people; yet so shamefully mis-managed has it been of late years, that all confidence is lost in it. It is neither certain or safe.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The latest classification of the House of Representatives in Massachusetts is as follows:

Democrat	-	-	1
Whig	-	-	1
Republican	-	-	1
Know Nothings	-	-	362.

EXPULSION OF THE JESUITS FROM SPAIN.—The government has ordered the Jesuits, eighty in number, who are established at Loyola, in the Basque provinces, to proceed immediately to Majorca. They, however, refuse to obey. If they resist, they will be expelled by force, and all the ministers will approve of such a measure. The reason of their expulsion is, that they have made themselves the most active agents in Chartist conspiracies.

Foreign Items.

The usual amount of foreign items have not appeared in our columns lately, for several obvious reasons. In reference to the war question, we have not said much; because we do not desire to commit ourselves until the end of the campaign; then we may be able to express a learned opinion on the result. Whether we are right or not in the opinion we now entertain of that great undertaking depends solely on the important question, "What party will be victorious. All we have now to say is, that the war so far as it has progressed meets our entire approbation. As many have been killed and wounded as could reasonably be expected in the short time—as many have died of frost, famine and pestilence, as could be looked for by the fondest anticipation, and the matter is being conducted on the best christian principles. We cannot and will not commit ourselves just now in reference to the Eastern Question, not only on account of the three several reasons already given, but because we are so overburdened with compliments at home—there are so many kind hearted fellows doing us the honor of expressing themselves in reference to our ability and merit as a political writer, that we are overpowered with compliments. The last thing of this sort, is in the way of a communication to that model newspaper in Church street, the Daily Democrat—"official paper for publishing the laws of the U. States." It goes thus:

Friend Advocate—As there is a ceaseless din kept up in the columns of that delightful organ of the popular will, yecept the "Baton Rouge Daily Gazette," and that mongrel concern, remarkable only for the stupidity of its daily utterances—known as the "Comet"—in regard to "Caucuses," "party nominations," "dictation by the few to the many," etc., etc., and, as those patriotic, virtue-loving, and moral-reforming sheets, are both in favor of the election of Dr. Jehu Perkins for the Legislature," &c., &c., more of the same kind, to fill a half column. To all this, we may as well exclaim, in default of any other poetic exclamation at hand, "Give me another horse,—bind up my wounds,—Have mercy Je u!"—If a horse is not convenient a mule will answer; any kind of conveyance to get out of the way of the vigorous writer, who penned the above. It wounds us—it galls us—it cuts down our pomp and pride of dignified position; it stabs us in our wind pipe, it chokes us, it rends our honor in pieces, and lets the base sunlight shine upon our tenderest sensibilities to melt them into air, thin air. The writer calls us "virtue-loving." This is slanderous. We know not what is virtue, and it is unreasonable to expect a man to love the thing he does not know. The writer is evidently rewarded for the virtue within him, which declares that there is no virtue in us. It is very evident to us that he is virtuously inclined, according to the definition of that word given in this paper the other day. Will the writer furnish the public with more of the same spirited appeals to the good sense of this Community, they are of faultless style—full of truth, and tickle our fancy to immoderate laughter, and laughter clears our head and heart.

The Cincinnati Enquirer says that the late robber of Adams & Co.'s Express Office, at Vincennes, Ia., has been discovered. The amount stolen was \$3500, and the thief was an employe of the company.

DR. HINES.—The Doctor came in yesterday, unexpectedly, to pay us a short visit, prior to taking a final leave of the hospitable shores of Red Stick. During his sojourn the past year, the Doct. has not appeared much in public, but devoted his leisure to study and reflection. Nor has his pen been idle; during the time, he has composed an epic poem, the M. S. of which we have had our eye on, also a moral story or so, designed for the columns of some popular periodical; besides other papers on various subjects in verse and prose. We must say for the Doctor, that his talent is good, and we hope now, he has gone forth, to put it to good account.

Count Nesselrode, during his short stay in Baton Rouge, found time to call on the Doctor, in company with one of the State executive. The Doctor regrets that he could not speak to the Count, at the time, owing to the fact, that he had seen him under other circumstances and could not meet him as a gentleman. The Doctor left here yesterday to retrieve his lost fortunes in the Crescent city.

CHRISTMAS TIMES.—Inasmuch as Christmas is at hand, we beg our lady readers to pardon the introduction of a recipe for something very appropriate to the season. We have no doubt that all our fair daughters understand the quality of the thing, which results from the judicious combination below, but we publish it in order they may know the quantity:

Boil three pounds of lean beef till tender, and when cold chop it fine.—Chop three pounds of clear beef suet, and mix the meat, sprinkling in a tablespoonful of salt. Pare, core and chop fine six pounds of good apples; stone four pounds of raisins and chop them; wash and dry two pounds of currants; and mix them all with the meat. Season with a spoonful of powdered cinnamon, a powdered nutmeg, a little mace, and a few cloves, pounded, and one pound of brown sugar; add a quart of Madeira wine and a half pound of citron, cut into small bits. This mixture put down in a jar and closely covered will keep several weeks. It makes a rich pie for Christmas.

Spain and Cuba.—The Paris correspondent of the National Intelligencer, in his letter of November 13 speaking of negotiations with the Spanish Government, for the transfer of Cuba to the United States, says:

On this point, neither Mr. Soule nor any one else could have effected anything; for it is a perfect impracticability to obtain, on any terms, the relinquishment of that island by Spain; and she will not even allow the subject to be discussed, or admit any negotiation respecting it. I can state, on what I consider most reliable authority, that Mr. Soule has made no attempt to negotiate as regards the transfer of that island, and he would be old to be silent if he broached the subject.

RELIC.—The editor of the Memphis Eagle has been shown a ring which was purchased in St. Augustine, Florida, in the year 1758, now nearly one hundred years ago. In the meantime it had served as a pledge of love in four engagements, and had once remained ten days in St. Mary's river, upon the finger of a fair girl of about seventeen summers, who had been drowned by the upsetting of a canoe in which she and an only brother were indulging the pleasures of angling. The ring was of Spanish importation.

From the 1st of January to the 30th of November, 293,827 alien emigrants arrived at the port of New York, being 23,707 more than during the same period last year. The total receipts of the Commissioners of emigrants amounted to \$634,821 55, and the disbursements to \$542,185 48.