

MORNING STAR AND CATHOLIC MESSENGER. NEW ORLEANS, SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 1868.

Patrons of the Morning Star.

Outside of New Orleans, the parish of Iberville is entitled, thus far, beyond any other locality to the expression of our thanks for "aid and countenance." Not only has it favored us with a correspondence, which will be found elsewhere in this issue, but the number of names which it has placed on our subscription list is greater than that from any other similar source.

Apart from the Catholic spirit of the population, we must recognize in this result the zealous agency of our firm friend, the Rev. Charles d'Hemecourt, pastor of that parish.

We hope, in time, to be able to chronicle similar results in other quarters. We count entirely upon the co-operation of the Rev. Clergy throughout the archdiocese for the extension of our circulation, and hope that they will consider the occasion sufficiently laudable to call for the exertion of some influence on their part.

Before dropping the subject, we must express the hope, in reference to Father d'Hemecourt, that he will meet with complete success in the Tombola which he is getting up for his church. So well and widely known as he is, not only by his late parishioners of St. Patrick's Church, but to a large circle of friends besides, we cannot doubt that his success will be commensurate with his popularity, hard as are the times.

(For the Morning Star.)

THE WATER WORKS—WHO SHOULD OWN THEM.

The question of how shall we hereafter be supplied with a sufficient quantity of water for all purposes required by a great city seems, at the present time, to interest all our people, and we propose to say a few words upon the subject to the readers of the Morning Star.

The Commercial Banking and Waterworks Company has supplied dirty water from the river to some portions of the city for about thirty-five years. This company is a kind of co-partnership between the private stockholders, who own thirteen thousand shares, and the city, which owns five thousand shares; and the company complains that it is in consequence of the immense quantity of water wasted by the city authorities, for which the company gets no pay, that has heretofore made the supply so short and so dear, and the company propose to remedy both evils by buying the city's part of the stock, and making the city hereafter pay, like private individuals, for all the water used by the authorities. Many persons are in favor of the city selling out and taking the amount of \$300,000, to pay a portion of the city debts. Other persons, and we are amongst the number, think that the city ought to own all the works. The subject has been discussed in the city papers, and one of them, at least, has advocated, with great ability, both sides of the question.

No city in ancient or modern times has ever become great or prosperous without a proper system of sewerage and a plentiful supply of water. The remains of the Roman and Moorish aqueducts bear ample testimony to the immense amount of labor that was bestowed upon the procuring of an ample supply of water by the public authorities in ancient times. We know of no private corporation, either past or present, which has succeeded in supplying a great city with all its wants, and at such a price as to make it accessible to all.

This vital object for every city has, however, been accomplished by the public authorities in all countries and in all ages. In our own we may point out the cities of Richmond, Philadelphia, and New York. We believe in Richmond and Philadelphia the authorities own the gas works also.

Any person who remembers the operations of the old Manhattan company, forty years ago, and the opposition that was there made to the project of superceding that company by the corporation undertaking the introduction of the Croton water, will have no difficulty in making up his mind which to prefer, a private company or a board of public commissioners, with the works owned by the city.

The Croton water was introduced into New York in the year 1842. The revenue the first year was \$22,000. The income went on increasing, and for the year 1859 \$260,000. Up to that time only those who chose to take the water paid for it, but in that year the Croton Water Department was created, with a board of commissioners to control both the water-works and sewerage of the whole island, and the law was changed with regard to the payments for water—a small water-rent was substituted, which the landlord of every house has to pay. The result was that the income of the department doubled in 1850, and although the water-rent has been reduced, the income has been increasing, until it had reached \$800,000 in 1859. Complaints have rarely or never been heard of the water-tax or the want of a supply of water in New York since that date, and, in point of fact, the plentiful and cheap supply of water has materially contributed to make New York what it is.

The Times of February 23d opposes the city buying the works. The editor of "Talk on Change" asks, "How does the city propose to pay the interest on the bonds to be given?" We answer, from the water-rents. The expense of the thirteen thousand shares will be \$500,000. The interest on this sum, at seven per cent., will amount to \$350,000 per annum. The taxable real estate of the city is, say, one hundred millions of dollars; a mill tax on the amount will give \$100,000.

But suppose the water commissioners at first collect a water-rent of two mills on the dollar. Let us see what difference that would make to the consumers of water. The writer lives in a double house that is assessed for \$7000. He pays this year \$20 for water, and his neighbor the same. Now let the city purchase the Waterworks and impose a water-tax of two mills, which will give \$200,000 revenue per annum, and allow the extension of the works to every part of the city, and we will have only to pay \$14, in place of \$40.

We will not now enlarge upon the moral and sanitary uses of water, but we all want it every where, and so cheap that no person, however poor, will be prevented from having a full supply.

D. P. S.

LETTERS FROM PLAQUEMINES.

PLAQUEMINES, March 2, 1868.

Messrs. Editors:—In evil times like the present, when the machinations of the world and of the inferno seem to have combined in a new crusade against everything true and holy, it is, indeed, both a pleasure and relief to see an enterprise for the accomplishment of good set on foot. Long have the Catholics of this diocese felt the want of an English Catholic journal, and often has it been wondered that the great and wealthy city of New Orleans, so lavish in its contribution to every enterprise of general good, and so open-handed in its charity, should be without a thing so essential to its own well-being.

The times are truly bad—the future dark and threatening, yet in the gloom that has gathered upon us, the publication of a Catholic paper is undertaken, and we are given what we trust will prove in reality as well as in name, in one respect at least, the "morning star" of a brighter and happier day. To make this undertaking a success—to effect this great and good object, much is to be done, yet it can be easily accomplished if the workers will only perform the little task assigned them.

To those who may ask who are the workers and what is the task, I will answer: In the establishment and maintenance of a thing so essential as an English Catholic paper, every English-reading Catholic family in the diocese is a worker, and the task is to support it by subscribing to it. The subscription price is not much, and will, without fail, be more than doubly repaid each year. Let us, then, one and all, to the good work, and the success of the Morning Star will be both immediate and permanent.

Now, Messrs. Editors, what shall I write about from this section "up in the country"? Of the hard times you know, for from all accounts they are bad enough in the Crescent City. This, however, is not the worst. These hard times are likely to continue, if not grow worse for some time, from appearances here in the country, at least until we can have a good crop. Out of old mother earth must come the dollars. In this section, aside from the many troubles which have followed in the wake of the late war, another serious trouble has befallen our people, and that is the floods which the old Father of Waters has poured through the broken and defective levees the past three years. The levees this season are in a sad plight, while the break in Grand Levee, in the parish of Pointe Coupee, the most destructive in the State, is still open. Under these circumstances you may well suppose many hesitate to undertake raising a crop. Should the water rise above the level of the banks of the river, and remain up for any length of time, a good deal of our State will be again inundated.

In these ugly times, and in face of these difficulties it will please your many readers to know that our holy religion continues to progress. Last April, Rev. C. V. d'Hemecourt, of your city, was sent here as pastor, and, finding that things had been somewhat neglected during the war, and that some of the members of the congregation of St. John had become more or less lukewarm, determined to leave nothing undone to arouse the better feelings of the easy-going church-goers of this place. Application was made to the Redemptorists of your city to give a mission here, and about the middle of May they came, and on the 2d of June concluded a most satisfactory mission. It is gratifying now to add that the good effects of the labors of Fathers Jacobs, Geisen, and Meredith have continued.

Our worthy Archbishop paid us a visit on the 12th ultimo, and administered confirmation to one hundred and forty-eight persons, among whom were several that the good Redemptorists had brought to the way of truth while here.

The church of this place, like many others in our diocese, is encumbered with debt, and will be, I much fear, for some time, despite the efforts being made to clear it. We are now getting up a tombola, which, to a certain extent, will be a success. Many valuable prizes have been contributed to it, and now the tickets are being sold. Rev. Father d'Hemecourt is in your city now for the latter purpose, while many of our good ladies are at work here. Dollars come slowly in these hard times, though we hope to be ready to proceed with the drawing at Easter. More anon.

Yours truly, PELICAN.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

CATHOLIC WORLD. A Magazine of General Literature and Science. March, 1868. New York Catholic Publication House. Terms, Five Dollars per year.

We have read each successive number of this monthly since its origin—except the last—and our admiration has gone on increasing with each new issue. We do not intend to be understood as saying that there were not some inequalities perceptible; but we unhesitatingly assert, that as a whole the Catholic World stands in the very first rank among the periodicals of the day. We have heard non-Catholics speak of it in terms of high commendation for the uniform fairness and courtesy which characterizes its tone, the soundness of its philosophical views, and the high literary position which it has assumed.

Every Catholic in these United States who has the least pretension to culture or taste should give this monthly the first place on his centre-table; to be without it would be a confession that he possessed neither the one nor the other.

It is creditable to Catholic literature, and Catholics should feel bound by honor and interest to give it hearty support.

Contents—Canada Thistle; Story of a Conscientious; The Old Roman World; The Rival Composers; The Irish in America; The Double Marriage; The Church and her Attributes; Magas; or Long Ago; Affairs in Italy; What Dr. Marks Died of; Bartolome Las Casas.

THE COMEDY OF CONVOCATION IN THE ENGLISH CHURCH. IN TWO SCENES. Edited by Archbishop Chasuble, D.D. New York Catholic Publication Society. 1868.

The authorship of this work has been attributed to persons eminent in literature and position, which in itself is a testimonial of its merits. The conception and execution show rare abilities, commanding unbounded admiration and an unprecedented circulation. Extracts or analysis would convey an adequate idea of its pungency and wit. Therefore, we recommend all to procure the pamphlet from Mr. Gogarty, No. 151 Camp street, opposite St. Patrick's Church.

CITY ITEMS.

Mr. Baker has been reinstated as Street Commissioner, by order of Gen. Grant.

Burglaries and larcenies are of frequent occurrence. Some half dozen cases are almost daily brought before the authorities.

Gen. Steedman charged a man by the name of Reggan with threatening to kill his family on the 3d inst. The accused was fined \$20.

At the meeting of the Public School Directors, held on the 4th inst., the total number of pupils attending was announced as 13,338 white and 2370 colored; total enrolled, 19,888.

After the dismissal of the firemen on the 4th, several of the companies in a body paid their respects to Jefferson Davis and family. The silence which prevailed was more eloquent than words.

A panic in regard to city money has prevailed for some days past. The poor are always the sufferers in such cases. The crowds around the brokers' offices caused some uneasiness, which led to a suspension of all transactions. It is to be hoped the Council will at once adopt some plan, which will not only allay the present excitement, but permanently restore confidence.

John Davis, boiler-maker, residing corner of Front and Julia streets, died on Thursday morning of hydrophobia. Six months ago he was bitten by his own dog, but recovering soon after, no more was thought about it. All the symptoms of hydrophobia, however, showed themselves a few days since, suffering the most agonizing pains before death released him.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.—Nothing of importance occurred at the session of the Board last Tuesday night. The frequent changes in the aldermen have not been favorable to consistent or wise action. The policy regarding the proper method of dealing with the city currency has been particularly shuffling and unstable, producing the usual unfortunate effects where there is no settled principle or dominant plan.

In the Assistant Board, the ordinance offered by Judge Whitaker at the previous meeting, authorizing the issuing of \$4,000,000 in bonds, came up for consideration. After some debate the matter was referred to the City Attorney for his opinion.

The only business of importance before the Board was a motion to increase the amount appropriated for the support of the public schools. The sum finally agreed upon was \$360,000.

On the 3d inst., the body of a man was found floating in the lake near Milneburg. It was supposed to be that of Capt. Brady, of Florida, who fell off the George W. Dill on the 24th of February.

FIREMEN'S PARADE.—Last Wednesday, the 4th, was a brilliant day for New Orleans. The weather conspired with the proceedings of the occasion to make it one of the most successful and enjoyable pageants ever witnessed in this city. The festival is one in which the whole community take especial interest, without regard to sect or party, unconnected as it is with any mooted question of the day, and unmarred by any bitterness of strife. It is essentially the people's feast—a spontaneous outpouring of popular sympathy and approval.

And truly our gallant Fire Department is a feature in which our city may well take pride. It is magnificent in its gala day dress, but it is not by any means a gala day institution. At any hour of the day or night, no matter what kind of weather is to be encountered, the alarm bells scarcely sound when the streets are alive with men, horses, and engines, gathering swiftly to the scene of disaster. The promptness and punctuality of our firemen are assuredly not surpassed in any city. The immense good thus done, without pay or reward, is almost incalculable. So when the gallant companies turn out for their annual parade, the whole population turns out to greet them. The streets are lined on either side with a dense crowd, forming an unbroken human avenue through which the procession passes, while all the galleries and windows from which the spectacle can be viewed are thronged with ladies and children.

Last Wednesday there were some twenty-five or thirty companies in line, comprising probably from fifteen hundred to two thousand men. These with their handsome uniforms, their engines burnished up till they glittered like gold, their trucks and ladders surmounted with statues, wreaths, and prizes, the horses with their gay trappings, the bands of music, the various banners waving to the breeze, all composed a spectacle worthy of the admiration it excited. The children were in raptures, the ladies were delighted, and even old gentlemen whose notes have been lately in danger of protest, were seen to smile and nod approval quite continuously.

Doubtless many, as they looked up and down that long line of uniformed men, and noticed their manly bearing, and their hardy, physical appearance, thought what a splendid body of soldiery they would make. There was no one, though, we hope, who would willingly see an occasion arise which would place muskets again in their hands, no matter how gloriously they would be wielded.

John Hecker, a large flour dealer, has addressed a letter to the New York World on the "situation" at Washington, the concluding paragraph of which is appended: "I hereby declare that I will retain no man in my employ who will support the fanatical party which is now dominant in our national councils, that I will have no intercourse whatsoever with any man who will not uphold the President of the United States in this fearful juncture; and, in the event of impeachment, I call upon all citizens whose sentiments accord with my own to make public their views, and unite as a vigilance committee in his support, and resolve never to yield until our constitutional rights are secured."

EDITORIAL AND OTHER ITEMS.

Cardinal Antonelli is reported very sick. In Japan the civil war was still progressing. The free-fourths of Jefferson, Texas, has been burnt.

St. Anthony Falls, like those of Niagara, are receding. Congress refused to provide for the salary of a minister.

The British captives in Abyssinia are safe at Magdella. No less than 220 persons have died at Tunis of starvation.

The President has determined not to relieve Gen. Hancock. George Francis Train has been arrested for debt in Dublin.

The London underground railway cost about \$4,000,000 per mile. Miramon's widow receives a pension of \$1500 a year from Austria.

At the 24th ultimo, a heavy snow storm passed over Baltimore. A sensation picture is announced in London—the explosion at Clerkenwell.

Admiral Tegethoff has been made commander-in-chief of the Austrian navy. George F. Reicker, has been elected United States Senator from Maryland.

Death by starvation in London is reported by the papers as an unusual thing. Ten thousand persons were struck by lightning in France within thirty years.

Huge icicles and mountains of solid ice have been formed at the foot of Niagara Falls. Hydrophobia, it is said, can be cured by vipers' veins. Remedy as bad as disease.

Napoleon has raised Mr. Dupont, printer, to the rank of officer in the Legion of Honor. Great activity prevails in the military department of France. Does it mean peace?

The Signe seizes the trial of Nagle has been postponed, and a change of venue granted. About 700,000,000 letters pass through the post offices in Great Britain and Ireland yearly.

Farragut has arrived at Spezia, the Italian minister waiting on him on board the steamer Frolic. Alexis Robert has been recognized by the President as consul of the Pontifical States in this city.

A calculation in the Brownsville customhouse has been discovered to the amount of \$100,000.

Great activity prevails in the Russian war department, as if hostilities were soon to be commenced.

It is reported that a conspiracy has been discovered to assassinate Juarez, and rob the Mexican treasury.

A bill has passed the House of Representatives, appropriating \$50,000 in aid of American citizens abroad.

It is said that 50,000 head of cattle are annually stolen from citizens of the United States and taken to Mexico.

The Democrats have gained in the late charter election at Portland, Me., nearly four hundred votes since last fall.

No attempt, as was apprehended, was made to rescue Burk, Casgate, and Shaw, who were safely lodged in Newgate.

The New York Tribune says the President cannot muster a corporal's guard to sustain him in his opposition to Congress.

People will gamble on strange subjects. A large amount of money is staked on the result of President Johnson's impeachment.

The quickest railroad time is that of the English Great Western railway, which runs at the rate of forty-three miles per hour.

An important Democratic meeting took place in Philadelphia on the 1st inst., endorsing the President's course, and pledging themselves to sustain him.

Nearly half of the Iberville South, published in Plaquemine, is filled with advertisements of sheriff's sales. This does not indicate a state of prosperity.

The progress of the age is undoubted—as the Sultan of Turkey has decided to give his son an European education, under the supervision of a French teacher.

Six actresses in Paris have an aggregate fortune of \$1,500,000. Humboldt, Agassiz, and thousands of kindred intellects, can they not such an exhibit?

Chief Justice Chase communicated to Senate his views on the rules adopted by the body to govern while trying the President. suggests some changes.

The organ bellows of St. Paul's Church during service, lately, and the congregation, panic-stricken, fled; thinking the Fenian about blowing them up.

The court of impeachment is now fully organized. In a point relative to the rules governing that body, Chief Justice Chase was sustained by a vote of 24 to 20.

Jenkins says Queen Victoria's letter of condolence to Mrs. Kean was signed with her hand. If it was to be signed at all, such a hand was most appropriate.

The news from Mexico is to the effect Ortega has been offered the Vice-President more troops have been sent to Guana many towns have rebelled, etc.

Best culture for sugar manufacture recommended to be introduced into Ireland if it is to sweeten their temper, and them to Britain's merciful rule?

A man named Burke, of Dakota, Minn jumped out of his stage on to the bar deer, which was entangled in a snare. After a few minutes' ride he cut the deer with his penknife.

On the 5th inst., all the preparatory completed for the trial of the President Justice Chase presiding. Objection to Senator Wade serving on the court an interested party in the result.

The water supply of our city moment attracts some attention. Water Works Company and the come to terms, a supply may be being from the Monongahela.

The Sandwich Islands, before the Protestant missionaries, had a population of 200,000, now it numbers 55,000. May anniversaries the conversion of the usually figures in a grand way.

The Seventh Ward Democratic Club last meeting at the Spanish Cock-pit, to infer from this that they will do Resolutions were passed spurring up members to activity in the approaching election.

Mr. Hammond, of the British Foreign Office has acknowledged the receipt of George Train's claim for £10,000, for damages count of his arrest. Mr. Train, so it give Mr. Hammond a receipt when the sum is paid.

The Boston Post says, "Thomas name with the Radicals, whether in sets, Maryland, the War Department candidate for a brevet." Perhaps T offended, by his "doubts," of the of Congress.

Disraeli, the new British pre speech forshawdoing his policy, re: continuance of the suspension of habeas corpus in Ireland, and from the "grievances of Ireland should with tender regard."

Potatoes are ninety cents a bushel in City, Indiana. If some well-wisher would make a small investment article and send it to its namesake we would see that they were p hands of the "peelers." Neither la favors are eschewed by us.

THE MORNING STAR.—We welcome with sincere pleasure to the field of American Catholic journalism, THE MORNING STAR AND CATHOLIC MESSENGER of New Orleans. The second number is on our table, and, like the first, affords evidence of ability, energy, industry, and enterprise in the conductors and managers of the new weekly. We had intended to prepare a notice of the MORNING STAR last week, when we received the first number, but a friend came in and borrowed the paper before our notice could be written, and we therefore postponed a notice of our new cotemporary and co-laborer until the present. We like the tone of the paper, and consider it a get-up very creditable to the managers. It is conservative and Catholic, and we doubt not that the able corps of gentlemen who conduct the paper, and who are headed by the zealous and learned Archbishop Olin as President of the New Orleans Catholic Publishing Company, by which the paper is published, are determined to spare no efforts in order to secure the success of the new and most praiseworthy enterprise. The beautiful, but oft-stricken, Catholic city of New Orleans deserves to have such an English champion in its literary and political life, and we hail its appearance in the MORNING STAR, and we hail its entrance into the noble field of Catholic journalism, with sentiments of gratification and pride. (Times Mirror.)

A SLIGHT CHANGE.—We beg to call the attention of Messrs. Darwin and Tegetmeier to this curious case of development. Dovecot has enjoyed three months, three happy months, of wedded life. Formerly his Amelia was his "chuck," now he calls her "a pigeon" and "truth compels us to add—a pointer."

We learn that the negroes on plantations are ready to enter into contracts, and on terms that show the times are beginning to tell on them.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

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THE COMEDY OF CONVOCATION

IN THE ENGLISH CHURCH. IN TWO SCENES.

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Venerable Archdeacons.....

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Scene II.—Dr. Esay's Drawing Room. Subject: Anglican Orders.

THE COMEDY

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TH

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