

MORNING STAR AND CATHOLIC MESSENGER

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NEW ORLEANS, SUNDAY, JULY 12, 1868.

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK.

Sunday.....July 12—Sixth Sunday after Pentecost.
Monday.....July 13—St. Anselmus, Pope and Martyr.
Tuesday.....July 14—St. Bonaventura, Bishop and Dr.
Wednesday.....July 15—St. Henry, Emperor.
Thursday.....July 16—Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.
Friday.....July 17—St. Leo IV, Pope.
Saturday.....July 18—St. Camillus de Lellis.

PAPAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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Mr. Richard Hickey is the agent for this paper at San Antonio, Texas.

A. L. Hays is authorized to act as agent for this paper in Northern Louisiana and Eastern Texas.

DIocese of New Orleans.—Confirmation.—On Sunday, July 5, the Most Rev. Archbishop confirmed one hundred and ten persons in the Church of St. Bartholemy, Algiers.

DECLARATION OF THE ARCHBISHOPS OF THE UNITED STATES.—We publish in another column the announcement of four Archbishops of the United States on the subject of the formation of a battalion for the Pontifical army. Of the seven Archbishops of the United States, four have signed this document. A fifth, our own Most Rev. Archbishop O'Din, unable to be present at the North, has given his adhesion to the document. The two other Archbishops, those of San Francisco and Oregon City, unable to be consulted on account of the distance, will, without any doubt, coincide with their Most Reverend colleagues.

This decision of the most Reverend Prelates is sufficiently cogent. There are obstacles in the way of the formation of a battalion for the Pontifical army almost insurmountable at present, and hence, they disapprove of all action having that end in view. This is not to be understood as disapproving of individual effort to augment the Pontifical army. The venerable prelates remark that pecuniary aid above all is what will most effectually prove useful to the Holy See. It was this thought which determined us to open some months ago, and which we still continue, a subscription list for the Pontifical army.

ST. PETER'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL.—The indomitable zeal of Reverend Cornelius Moynihan succeeded, a few months ago, in inaugurating a parochial school on quite an extensive scale in connection with his Church of St. Peter, in the Third District. Those who would like to see what Catholic zeal can do in the cause of education and religion, even when money is very scarce, will have an opportunity to do so by attending the examinations of this school on Thursday and Friday.

The examinations will, we are informed, in the day time, while in the evenings many pretty little pieces will be recited by the more prominent of the children, and variety secured by introducing other interesting exercises.

We hope that many visitors may be present, especially from parishes where the same efforts have not been made, or where the same success has not been attained as at this school. They might go home with the determination to co-operate more effectually with their pastors in similar works. What a pleasure than to see the light of a beautiful intelligence kindling in eyes that might otherwise be always darkened with the shadows of ignorance! What a satisfaction to know that a good religious training is rearing up to an honorable maturity those whom the hand of neglect might have left to develop in the ever open school of vice and corruption!

Let us take care of the children and the grown folks will not go far astray. Every Catholic child growing up has a right to instruction, not only in science, but in morality. It is in the power of every community, no matter how poor, to give it to all its children, no matter how numerous. If we neglect that duty through false economy, we must reap the reward in a harvest of crime which will cost tenfold more in its suppression than would have been necessary for its prevention.

The Pic-Nic.

If the weather should not be too unfavorable, the great St. Joseph's pic-nic will, certainly, present one of its programmes to the public to-day in practical performance. In anticipation of success this time, preparations for transportation are made on a much larger scale than heretofore. Last Sunday, the weather was so bad that the regular exercises of the day were postponed; yet so great was the crowd that two schooners were found insufficient to accommodate visitors coming and going. Consequently, Mr. McGuinn has increased his fleet to four vessels, so as to leave each end of the route regularly every half hour, commencing at one o'clock P. M., precisely.

After all, the bad weather which seemed to be so disastrous, may be the cause of a greater eventual success than would have been obtained on the days originally proposed. The unsuccessful attempts made on those two days were rehearsals for a more perfect performance than could have been had without some previous experience and practice. Not only is the packet system more thorough, but the foot-ball spirit has assumed far grander proportions. In the preliminary skirmish of last Sunday, several respectable gentlemen, whom we could name, were removed in an abrupt manner from their dignified perpendicular; in fact, to use technical language, their pins were knocked down under them. These gentlemen are, singularly enough, under the impression that this was mere accident, and can't be done again. Hence their ardor for another chance.

The booths, too, of the ladies, are, if possible, more scientifically managed than at first. Even in the art of infusing soda water and syrup, or of getting up champagne punches, practice will render more nimble the fairest of fingers.

There is but one item of the programme which we fear will be damaged by experience, and that is the slow mule race. From our own visual experience on the 4th inst., no man could reasonably hope to introduce a slower mule than the brown one that was exercised on that occasion. Many different jockeys tried their skill and prowess on him. One after another they would mount, with compressed lips and corrugated brows, indicative of a determination to get him into a run, or perish in the attempt. Whipping and sparring, scolding and encouraging, clucking and whistling—everything failed to hurry him beyond a certain submissive, melancholy "lope," which he evidently supposed to be faster than a walk. After a careful scrutiny into the phenomenon, we concluded the secret of his superior slowness to be, that he has learned to make shorter jumps and pause longer between them than any other known mule. We'll risk our stamps on him.

We predict a great success for the enterprise this afternoon, if the elements are not too hostile. Especially do we predict that every visitor will be well repaid for the trouble of going. The absence of all rodyism on the one hand, and of all exclusiveness and pretension on the other, the harmony, the innocent hilarity, the homelike independence of everybody, will render the spirit of enjoyment so contagious that the most cynical could not escape it.

The Water Supply.

New Orleans is a Southern city—a city of the far South, and one of the greatest rivers of the world flows along her front. It would seem that these two facts ought to be patent to our community, and yet that community appears to be totally ignorant of them in some of their most important relations. Great Southern cities generally are and always ought to be much addicted to water. Rome built her aqueducts, which stand to-day one of the wonders and triumphs of engineering skill, while her public baths were on a scale in extent and splendor unsurpassed by any of her other great achievements. Constantinople has nothing to excite the envy of the world in matters of art but her baths. In fact, the whole race of Mohammedans have invested the bath, so important in their climate, with the sacred character of a religious rite.

The immense value of frequent ablutions as a question of health in Southern latitudes is scarcely dreamed of by the mighty Anglo-Saxon race. It is true that the standard of taste is, for many things, very different in northern and southern latitudes. It is true that in the Northern regions of the British Isles, as among the Esquimaux of this continent, whale oil would be a highly palatable and desirable article of diet, that moralists substitute ice for fire in their pictures of future punishment, and that men look with grim displeasure on water as a declared enemy. It is true, also, that your genuine John Bull cannot conceive how anything in the air above or in the earth below or in the waters thereof can be better anywhere than in Middlesex; what suits in England ought to

suit in every place where reason rules. The custom of reducing five hearty meals a day to two light ones, and substituting fruits for roast-beef, of building airy piazzas to catch the south breeze, instead of heavy brick or stone fortresses to bar out the north wind—all this, to him and his progeny, is the conclusive mark of an inferior race, whose want of civilization is as much to be pitied as their want of manhood is to be despised.

Johnny is well satisfied with himself, and he does not fail to carry that admiration of everything British into every land and every clime. We, his descendants, have lost few of his prejudices, and cling faithfully to many of the follies of his self-conceit. Providence has blessed us with a far better land than that of our ancestors, and a far more favored climate for the development of the physical and intellectual man, yet we shake our heads with incredulity, and look back to the fogs and snows of the cradle of our race as the necessary conditions to full and perfect manhood.

Well, granted that Abraham, Moses, Isaiah, Solomon, Cyrus, Homer, Aristotle, Alexander, Virgil, Cæsar, and Napoleon were all born in Norway, and never listened to the music of the south wind among the palm leaves, let us, at least, make the most of our unfortunate exile, and have some water. A river front of eight miles, and not one bath-house! The mighty Mississippi running indignantly past our doors, while the gutters are choked, the streets deep in dust, and thousands of people suffering for water!

If we wish to redeem New Orleans from the ill-name for health that she bears abroad; let the laboring classes be provided with facilities for the bath. The river is too dangerous a bathing place in its natural condition, but convenient constructions could be stationed at intervals along the levee, at a trifling expense, which would render the indulgence in this practice perfectly safe. If the city cannot incur any expense of that kind at present, it might grant such immunities to private enterprise as to induce the introduction of a few such places by way of experiment.

Then, water for domestic purposes! How woefully imperfect all our arrangements for a supply from the river! The present plan is incomplete, ineffective, and very expensive. The water supply ought to be universal and unfailing, costing but little to the public and nothing to the individual. This could be easily effected by substituting pumps for hydrants. Instead of a reservoir of water raised by steam power, let the pipes run directly from the river at such depth as to insure a constant supply of the purest water at the lowest stage. If one pipe ran back towards the lake through the center of every line of squares, the rear of every lot would communicate with it, and by means of a pump would have an unfailing supply of water, free of the hydrant tax. In proportion as the river might rise, the level of the water in the pumps would rise also, giving, through a large portion of the year, a spontaneous flow, unless restrained by closing the mouths of the pumps.

The very system of pipes now laid could, with small expense, be arranged to work on this principle, thus doing away with the immense costliness of the present plan, and securing an unfailing supply of water under all contingencies. There would then be no complaint from housekeepers and fire engines. They would connect directly with the river itself—a reservoir which never fails.

Hibernian Benevolent Association.

Our readers will find in another column a call for a meeting of the Hibernian Benevolent association. We are informed that this association starts with one hundred and thirty members, and, consequently, with the fairest prospect of success. That such associations can be successful is not a question yet to be solved. They are already practical and eminent successes in probably every other city of any importance in the United States, and in many of the smaller towns.

At this point there is peculiar need of something of the kind. Its object is not to keep up a spirit of nationality of such character as to conflict with those interests which every Irishman adopts in good faith with the land where his children are born and his bones are to be deposited. It is not Fenian or political in any aspect, but simply what its name implies, Hibernian and benevolent.

Are there not plenty of objects here for the proper exercise of a benevolence exclusively Hibernian? The French, the Alsaciens, the Portuguese, the Germans, and other nationalities have their organizations of this character, and with peculiar propriety. A community of language, customs, and sympathies enables each race to minister more fittingly to the wants of its own people. And in the case of the Irish race, there is an ample field here for such minis-

trations. The constant influx of emigration, the equally constant stream of pecuniary aid sent back by unforgetting love to the necessities of the old home, the discretion necessary to be used in depositing or investing the earnings of those unfamiliar with general business—all this furnishes scope for the display of an intelligent and benevolent interest.

This society will be a kind of bureau for the systematic and unselfish regulation of all these things. Its familiarity with the necessary routine, its respectability and influence will enable it to negotiate arrangements and accomplish results of the greatest importance to those who will most need such assistance. Well ordered and directed, it cannot be productive of any improper results, and may be as efficacious in good as its distinguished prototype in New York.

Catholic Reading Room.

We have often heard it suggested that there should be in the city some place of social gathering for Catholic gentlemen. There would appear to be some elements of success in such an enterprise. The principle of combination for amusement is inherent with man. We see its manifestations in all the clubs that characterize, and, generally demoralize modern society. If it is a natural element, however, we ought not to be disheartened at its abuse, but wisely to provide for its proper exercise, and to obtain the natural advantages of its legitimate use.

These advantages are many. The mind receives a healthful exercise, the spirits are rendered more cheerful and courageous, the disposition becomes more accustomed to compromise, selfishness is discouraged, and manners are softened. The mind can never be idle; it craves constant occupation; and when fatigued with too earnest an attention, seeks something lighter and more amusing. Newspaper files, works of fiction of the proper character, chess, back-gammon, billiards, and other known amusements, neatly and comfortably provided for, would prove highly attractive in moments of relaxation. With all the guards of moderation and decorum thrown around it, such a place would be free from the objectionable features of the club—late hours, high gaming, intemperance, immorality, and alienation from home. It would retain the gold, expelling the dross. Catholicism is always willing to adopt and profit by the developments of the age and the wisdom of the world, divorced from its folly.

A place of social reunion like this, besides furnishing innocent amusement and withdrawing many from the pursuit of pleasure under more questionable circumstances, would have valuable results of an indirect nature. It would tend to unite Catholic society. Interchange of views would, naturally, produce more unity of sentiment and harmony of action, and we all know the difference of results where the same forces act in an organized form and where they act independently. The old Roman exemplified it to his sons with a bundle of rods, each one was easily snapped, one after the other, by a slight exertion, while their combination presented a resistance which defied violence.

Any result, however, other than amusement, ought to be strictly secondary in an undertaking of the kind we advocate. Simplicity is the great rule of success. By attempting several things in one operation, too many elements of opposition and of failure are generally combined. A place of social amusement ought to be as strictly such as the counting-room is a place of business. Any expansive zeal which would make it assume the additional characters of a literary society and a charitable association, would effectually kill it. It won't do to mix wine, cider, and beer in the same bottle.

Moreover, any attempt of the kind suggested in this article, ought to be made on a scale proportioned to its assured patronage only. Any expansion based on loose expectations would probably prove burdensome and, perhaps, disastrous. Experiments ought always to be tried on a small scale, and then if the expected success follows, expansion will be easy and effective.

IRISH SERVANT GIRLS.—We are very glad to see our article on Irish servant girls copied into the Boston Pilot, even though it is credited to a Charleston cotemporary. However, as some of the facts stated lose their point unless connected with New Orleans, where they occurred, we allude to the matter merely to state that fact, and not to complain of what is, evidently, an unintentional miscredit.

GROCERIES.—We would call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Mr. Gannon in another column, announcing his removal to the corner of St. Andrew and Magnolia streets, Keller's Row. His stock is large, the goods are fresh, and what is of prime importance, he will sell at rates challenging competition.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

CITY COUNCIL.—At the Board of Aldermen a resolution was adopted prohibiting the payment of bills, unless approved and signed by the chairman and four members of the finance committee of both boards. Messrs. Brady, Kaiser, Prados, and Poynot were appointed a committee to ascertain what retrenchment can be made in the city finances. This board likewise adopted a resolution that all the city money or coupons paid into the treasury be cancelled by clipping the same in the usual manner, before a receipt is given for it.

The Assistant Board passed a resolution that a joint committee of both boards, with the mayor as chairman, should lay before the Legislature the condition of the city finances, and request such action as would restore them to a healthy state. After this resolution was returned from the upper board, with an amendment which it was thought would cause unnecessary delay, the assistant aldermen resolved to act singly, and wait on the Legislature in its independent capacity.

A retrenchment committee of one member from each district was appointed, with power to send for persons and papers. In joint session, the Crescent was elected city printer.

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS.—This newly organized board met on Friday last. The president stated that an interview held with Mayor Conway, he (the Mayor) recognized the legality of the board, and promised to transmit the proper books and papers to their custody. After making a few appointments the board adjourned.

FINANCIAL.—Governor Warmoth, in reply to the committee of the Board of Assistant Aldermen, who waited on him, assured them that he would give the subject of the currency his earliest attention.

LEGISLATURE.—Many important measures have been introduced in both houses—some of them, if enacted as originally drafted, fraught with much mischief—reference is more particularly made to the act placing almost unlimited power in the hands of the Governor, and the printing bill, which squanders a half million dollars per year for four years upon some irresponsible favorite.

On Wednesday, 8th inst., both houses met in joint session for the election of United States Senators, which resulted in the choice of Wm. Pitt Kellogg, of Illinois, for the long term, and James S. Harris for the short term, to the great disappointment of local aspirants.

On the 9th, the Senate passed bill number three, which gives the Governor power to appoint five commissioners, who shall take charge of the police of New Orleans. The new commissioners are rumored to be the following: Dr. Southworth, president, and Messrs. Isabelle, George, Raynal, and —.

On the 10th, a bill was introduced in the House, providing for the appointment of a board of school directors, seventeen in number, to be appointed by the Governor, one half of whom to serve for one year, and the other half for two years. Even legislative omnipotence can hardly accomplish this—the half of seven men being rather a problem not laid down in the books.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.—After several days voting, the National Democratic Convention nominated, on the 9th inst., Hon. Horatio Seymour, of New York, for President, and Francis P. Blair, of Missouri, for Vice-President. The issue is now made, both parties having chosen standard bearers. Let the people do their duty.

COURTS.—All the courts, except the Second District, have taken their usual summer recess. Lawyers and clients will have till the month of November to cogitate over their suits.

ENGLISH PROTESTANT PRELATES.—The London Exchange thus hits off the preposterous pretensions of the English Protestant hierarchy:

Certain members of the Anglican Church and of the ritualistic press are very fond of advocating a union between the Greek and the English Churches. We wonder what the bishops of the former denomination—ascetic celibates—would say if they could see some of the dashing carriages with mitres on the panels, which are to be met in every fashionable place of resort at the present season, and filled with the ultra-fashionably dressed female members of some Anglican prelate's family! During the Derby week, when a number of Frenchmen of good standing were in London, the fact of utter amusements which some of them put on when shown an English bishop's turnout in the park, or an English bishop's wife and daughters at the opera, was a caution to behold. But their surprise at Anglican Episcopal life would be as nothing compared to what the Orientals would think of it if they could only be shown the apostolic-like establishments of the Right Rev. Fathers in God who sit in the House of Peers. And yet to read the Anglican papers it might be supposed that the bishops in this land were, as Mr. Sothorn would say, "like any other" bishops. A corporate reunion between the English and Greek Churches is about as likely as between the former and the Catholic Church, and we all know how probable, or how possible that is,