

MORNING STAR AND CATHOLIC MESSENGER.

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NEW ORLEANS, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1868.

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK.

Sunday... Dec. 6—Second Sunday in Advent.
Monday... Dec. 7—St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor.
Tuesday... Dec. 8—Feast of the Immaculate Concep-
tion.
Wednesday Dec. 9—St. Eutychien, Pope and Martyr.
Thursday... Dec. 10—Translation of the Holy Bones of
Loretto.
Friday... Dec. 11—St. Damasus, Pope.
Saturday... Dec. 12—St. Melchior, Pope and Martyr.

REMOVAL.—The Office of the Morning Star and
Catholic Messenger is removed from 140 Poydras
to 109 Gravier street.

NOTICE TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE NEW
ORLEANS CATHOLIC PUBLICATION COM-
PANY.

New Orleans, Oct. 17, 1868.
The second instalment to the subscription is now due.
All who have not as yet paid up, will please call at the
office of the MORNING STAR and CATHOLIC MESSENGER.
By order of the Board of Directors.
T. FITZWILLIAM, Secretary.

With the consent and approbation of the
Parish Priests, Mr. Martin Cadden has con-
sented to canvas the Fourth District, Mr. John
Hackett the parish of St. John the Baptist, Mr.
John Lawler the parish of St. Patrick, Mr.
J. J. Barton the parish of St. Joseph, and Mr.
Wm. Crotty for the whole of the Third District
and Algiers.

The general agent will attend to the parish
of St. Theresa, and all other portions of the city
and suburbs.

Our respected fellow-citizen, Jos. H. MOORE,
Esq., having occasion to visit Texas, has kindly con-
sented to receive subscriptions and advertisements for
the MORNING STAR AND CATHOLIC MESSENGER.

A. L. HAY, Esq., is authorized to act as country agent
for this paper.

R. McGovern, Esq., corner Dauphine and Jackson
streets, Mobile, is the authorized agent of this paper.

DIocese of New Orleans.—Confirmation.
The Most Rev. Archbishop Omb gave
confirmation as follows: On Sunday, No-
vember 15, one hundred and thirty-eight
persons in the Church of the Ascension,
Donaldsonville; 16th, ninety-eight in the
Church of St. Elizabeth, Paincourtville; 17th,
one hundred and ten in the Church of the
Assumption, Assumption Parish; 18th,
one hundred and thirty in St. Philomena's
Church, Labadieville; 20th, sixty-four in
St. Andrew's Church, Lockport; 21st, sev-
enty-two in St. Mary's Church, Bayou; 22d,
one hundred and eighty in St. Joseph's
Church, Thibadoux. One hundred and fif-
teen persons were confirmed the preceding
week at the churches in the parish of Iber-
ville.

After visiting the city, the Most Rev.
Archbishop again departed for the country,
and on the 24th ult. confirmed fifty-six per-
sons in the new Church of St. Charles, right
bank of the river; 25th, one hundred and
seventy-eight in the Church of St. John the
Baptist; 26th, one hundred and seventeen
in St. Peter's Church, parish of St. John
the Baptist, left bank; 27th, fifty-two in the
Chapel of Notre Dame of Good Succor,
attached to the Church of St. James; 28th,
sixty-eight in the Church of Our Lady of
Peace; 29th, sixty-one in the Church of St.
James. These, together with the confirma-
tions of the two preceding weeks, make a
total of fourteen hundred and thirty-nine
persons who received the holy rite during
the last three weeks of November.

The Most Rev. Archbishop returned to
the city on the 30th ult. On his arrival,
he found assembled at the Archbishopric
the Bishops of the Province, who had been
convoled for the 1st of December, to de-
liberate on important affairs.

On the 16th ult., twenty-three persons
were confirmed by the Right Rev. Bishop
Duibus in the Church of Mandeville; 18th,
thirty-four in the Church of Bonfouca, and
six in the Chapel of Bayou Lacombe; 21st,
twenty-seven at the station of Shappopill-
lar; 22d, thirty-five in the Church of Mad-
isonville. Returning to the city on the 26th,
Rt. Rev. Bishop Duibus visited St. Bernard,
where confirmation was given to seventy-
three persons on Sunday. The next day
the Rt. Rev. Prelate returned to the city.

COLLECTION FOR THE SEMINARY.—It may
not be too soon, particularly for the coun-
try, to remind the faithful of the collection
which is to be taken up for the Diocesan
Seminary, on Christmas. The announce-
ment should be made at High Mass on the
preceding Sunday.

A Free Reading Room will be open from
this date, at the MORNING STAR AND CATH-
OLIC MESSENGER office, 109 Gravier street,
where our exchanges, and the city daily
papers, will be on file for the use of the
public.

Free Schools.

Does the city of New Orleans really favor
education of the poor? If so, is it simply
education that it contemplates, or educa-
tion combined with something else?

We know of many schools of a high order
in this city, in each of which dozens, yes,
hundreds of children are receiving an ex-
cellent rudimentary education, without pay-
ing, and without being able to pay any-
thing for tuition. Why should not the city
make small allowance for their schooling,
when it collects taxes from their impover-
ished parents for that very purpose? Fifty
cents per month for each of these pupils
would afford great relief to those whose
charity prompts them to bear a burthen
which conscience renders imperative.

We have not the slightest intention, in
this article, of agitating the common school
question. That system might, even, for the
moment, be conceded to be superior in effi-
cacy to that of parochial or private schools,
without impairing the justice of their claim
to some assistance. If the common schools
are four or five times as good as others,
where children are educated gratuitously,
then allow only one-fourth or one-fifth as
much to these latter per pupil. Our Catho-
lic parochial schools will educate an equal
number of children for one-fourth the
amount now spent on common schools, and
guarantee their advancement to be as cred-
itable.

But conceding, as we have said, that their
system and success would not be compar-
able to that of the common schools, is that
a reason why no assistance whatever should
be given them? Suppose that some par-
ents in impoverished circumstances have
a mistaken prejudice against public schools,
of such strength that they will not consent
to their children going to them, even though
the result should be a total want of instruc-
tion. Would it be just towards those chil-
dren to refuse giving an inconsiderable
portion of the public school fund for their
tuition, at a school against which the parent
has no prejudice?

Honest prejudice in such a case ought to
be respected, even though erroneous. Would
our city fathers, in their zeal for the
public school system, require any man to
violate his conscience? If a parent really,
though mistakenly, believes that a certain
school will be the means of corrupting the
manners, polluting the morals, and ruining
the faith of his child, who could be so cruel
as to force him to send that child there,
while still under the influence of his error?
Such a course would be an enormity, an
outrage which the vengeance of God could
not forget. But to require that he send his
children there, under penalty of their re-
ceiving no education whatever, is a species
of moral force applied to him towards the
violation of his conscience.

Our city authorities are precisely in this
position now in regard to many of their con-
stituents and fellow-citizens. No practical
Catholic can consider the public school as
anything but a school of vice, a hot-bed of
immorality. An enlightened Protestant
public may be polite enough to laugh at
their folly, but what right has it to
laugh at their fears? Many of these Catho-
lics are too poor to pay anything whatever
for tuition. Shall they, in punishment of
an honest conviction, be reduced to the
alternative of committing what they may
firmly believe to be a grievous sin, or of
seeing their children grow up in ignorance?
This would be a singular style of devotion
to popular education on the part of our en-
thusiastic advocates of knowledge.

Our community hardly realizes that its
public school system, as now worked, is a
real persecution of Catholics. It takes for
granted that the Catholics are totally wrong
in their condemnation of that system—the
victims of unreasonable fear as to its effects.
They do not reflect that a man may be per-
secuted when he is in error as effectually
and as cruelly as when he is right.

A little reflection might bring this home.
Suppose that Gen. Grant should favor the
proscription policy, which would place the
negro race in permanent control over the
whites of this State? That policy would
then prevail. Mr. Conway's system of edu-
cation would be instantly revived and im-
proved on. Public moneys would not be
appropriated to any free school where negro
children would be excluded. The whites
could then immediately perceive how this
was an attempt to force them to send their
children to schools of which they did not ap-
prove. They would be very apt, also, to
consider a persecution and an injustice,
though the negro dynasty would smile at
their convictions as prejudice and bigotry.

They would then be in precisely the con-
dition to which they have now reduced their
Catholic fellow-citizens. They would find
themselves forced, by unscrupulous power,
to contribute towards a system of which
they could make no use, and denied a small
appropriation out of their own money, with

a sneer at their old fogyism in wishing it,
and at their presumption in asking it. With
the same measure you mete unto others it
shall be meted to you.

Silence Broken.

For several months the nation has been
intently listening to catch any sounds from
Gen. Grant which might be taken as an ex-
pression of the oracle upon American des-
tiny. The South particularly is extremely
interested in the sentiments which may
animate the next President in her regard.
If he should be an ardent partisan, or a
pliant tool of Radicalism, we might reason-
ably look for further aggressions upon con-
stitutional guarantees and local rights.—
Proscription and disfranchisement would
extend instead of contracting their sphere,
and we all know that political disfranchise-
ment means subjection to plunder and ruin.

If, on the other hand, the President elect
should determine to exert his influence and
use his authority in the interest of general
prosperity; as Chief Magistrate, not as
party leader; as a patriot determined to
restore a union of fellowship, not as a big-
bent on gratifying low envy and narrow-
minded spite, then the whole country would
breathe more freely, and we should feel
great confidence in the speedy and perman-
ent restoration of political equality.

Well, the oracle has spoken at last. The
occasion of this communication with the ex-
terior world was indeed, merely the ne-
cessity of writing to the War Department,
but the topic happened to be one which
called for some allusion to the South. Gen.
Grant opposes any marked reduction of the
army, and gives as one reason that troops
are yet needed in the South.

We have looked in vain for learned com-
mentaries in our daily press upon this of-
ficial intimation from the Fates. So many
deductions could be drawn and such pro-
found arguments evoked from this commu-
nication, that the absence of comment on
the part of a long expectant press is sur-
prising.

On the one hand, how portentous the
declaration that "troops are still necessary
in the South!" The General, then, sympa-
thizes with Radical views, and adopts Rad-
ical slander as the condition of things here.
Law cannot make itself respected; military
repression is still necessary; reconstruction
is not completed in the Southern States.

On the other hand, read the letter care-
fully through, and a totally different im-
pression may be made. No increase of the
army is proposed, and a gradual reduction
is contemplated. The mode is pointed out
for procuring this reduction prudently, by
failing to recruit and by the non-appoint-
ment of second lieutenants, as well as by
consolidation of certain corps.

The sanguine will see, in this, a very
hopeful condition of mind on the part of
the President elect as to the prospects of
speedy pacification. By the system which
he suggests, depletion of the Southern force
would be very rapid, as he contends that
none of the diminution contemplated ought
to affect the forces in the field against the
Indians. The general expression first
used in opposition to reduction of the army,
might be considered merely a polite or
politic concession to the clamor of a party
which had been made useful, while the de-
tails afterwards given could be supposed
to indicate the private feelings and convic-
tions of the writer.

In default, then, of clearer data and of
newspaper commentaries, each one must still
expound the oracular indication according
to his own temperament or skill.

BISHOP ELDER'S LECTURE.—Our readers
will remember the lecture, to be given this
(Sunday) evening, at St. Theresa's Church,
by the Right Rev. Wm. H. Elder, Bishop of
Natchez. The subject is a historical one,
from an intensely interesting era, and the
scholarly eloquence of the learned lecturer
will be sure to present it in a most attrac-
tive garb. Entrance will be free. The lec-
ture to commence at 7 o'clock P. M.

On Tuesday next, 8th inst., the Festival
of the Immaculate Conception of B. V. M.,
St. Joseph's Church, in this city, will be
honored by the presence of the Illustrious
Bishop of Tamaulipas, Mexico, Don Fran-
cisco Ramirez. The Pontifical High Mass,
at which the Bishop officiates, will begin
at 9 o'clock A. M.

Bishop Ramirez is exiled from his Di-
ocese by the Juarez government, and during
his short stay in this city, is the guest of
our worthy fellow-citizen, Thos. Layton,
Esq.

Judge Leannont, in the Fifth District Court,
on Friday, decided that the acts of the Legis-
lature of 1865, creating a Board of Police Com-
missioners and for the establishment of a
Metropolitan Police District, were unconsti-
tutional.

The Republic in Spain.

Events are assuming such a shape in
Spain that the question may soon present
itself, Is a republic possible in that coun-
try? In other words, has the Christian
world entered upon the era of Republics?

There is no doubt that the warfare of the
church with evil is of all shapes; not only
spiritual, but physical; not merely moral,
but social and political. In the same way
its progress and its triumphs have not
alone been in extending the Faith, but in
developing every interest of man, his com-
fort, his intelligence, his liberty. This
movement is not always visible, but it is
always onward. The current is sometimes
strewn with wreck and ruin and its sur-
face driven in retrograde waves by an op-
posing storm, but its impetus is not stayed.

Is the Republic a progress? The Jews
were the chosen people of Faith, and they
decided in favor of Monarchy, but the Al-
mighty was not pleased with this choice,
though he acquiesced in it as a punishment
of their pusillanimity. In its own organi-
zation the Church has given no place to
Aristocracy, and it is the birth-place of
genuine Democracy, yet it does not prefer
one form of legitimate government to an-
other. It has set the example of perfection
in all things while accepting and protecting
institutions which it found existing, and
which were better borne with in their im-
perfection for a time than supplanted by
more perfect systems for which society was
not prepared. It is better, indeed, to run
than to walk with crutches, but not for a
man with a broken leg.

Will Christian society generally ever be
sufficiently intelligent and virtuous to imi-
tate with safety the institutions of the
Church, in its political government? Can
it ever dispense with the sacred character
which tradition throws around hereditary
royalty, the veneration attracted by an il-
lustrious ancestry, and, like the ecclesias-
tical body, confer its honors and its respect
upon individual merit alone?

Upon this question the Church only says
that each form of government is best where-
in it is most in accordance with the genius
of the people. It accepts all, and prefers
none. The tendency of this age is evi-
dently towards Republicanism, and all that
Catholic Republicans must claim for it is
that it is one of the family of legitimate gov-
ernments, neither an outcast of the Church
nor a special favorite.

The theory has been advanced by the
ablest Catholic lay writer of France, and
under the very baton of imperial censor-
ship, that the Royal Era of Christendom
has virtually reached its term and must
soon crumble away. Monarchy, he says,
has been tried and found wanting. It has
from the beginning been a contumacious
son, and has now finally allied itself fully
and universally with infidelity and religious
oppression.

These studies of a profound thinker seem
to be fortified by the course of recent events.
England is drifting calmly and majestical-
ly towards popular rule and the abrogation
of hereditary power. Spain is in the throes
of a revolution which already stretches one
hand towards Republicanism, and now we
are told that Germany is heaving with the
universal surge which appears to come from
the very foundations of social existence.
Thrones are rocking.

If the theory is correct; if the Era of
Royalty is passing while that of Republi-
canism dawns; if the human heart is kind-
led with the spark of a new social life, and
the current of humanity has commenced
to move towards self-government, the
movement will be irresistible and univer-
sal. It will be unnecessary to discuss
whether this or that people is prepared for
it. If seed is scattered abroad, it will
spring up in due season in greater or less
perfection as the soil is better or worse
prepared for it. The only question is, has
the season come?

But not being prophets, we can only
speculate on these things. Hereditary
rank and power may continue to sway the
world for centuries to come, as they have
done for centuries past. The future will
be revealed only as time lifts the curtain,
but meanwhile portents and signs arouse
attention to the anticipation of great
events. We await developments with
interest.

WILCOX & GIBBS SEWING MACHINES.—
Sewing Machines had been invented before 1800's time,
our language would be wanting in one of its most
moving songs. Heretofore has much to be thankful for,
however in the present day and the only question now
is which machine to choose. As tastes and judgments
differ about this, operators themselves must decide, we
merely content ourselves with stating that the one
named above has a wide spread and doubtless well de-
served popularity. See advertisement.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—We are indebted to the sun
for many blessings, but none come more welcome to our
hearts and homes than that which enables us to perpetu-
ate the remembrance of dear ones. Wiley's gallery,
265 Magazine street, is among those where a fine photo-
graph can be procured.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Some of our readers, we are told, may
have misunderstood the announcement in
reference to this feast, which was inserted
in our last issue as taken from the Balti-
more Mirror.

That announcement is official for the arch-
diocese of Baltimore only. The feast be-
comes of obligation throughout the United
States, as it is proclaimed to the faithful
by their diocesan authorities, and not other-
wise. Hence, what is official in Baltimore
is not official in New Orleans. In fact, mo-
tives of prudence may, for a considerable
time, prevent the promulgation of this feast
as of obligation in the dioceses of the South.

It will, therefore, be celebrated as
heretofore, on the Sunday next ensuing
after its occurrence. For all Catholics,
however, who can afford the time, the im-
portance of manifesting some special devo-
tion on Tuesday next, the feast day proper,
must be apparent. It is the patronal feast
of the whole United States, and of this di-
ocese locally.

Though the poverty of our people, and
the general distress may for a while prevent
the day from being promulgated among us
as a holiday of obligation, these reasons do
not apply to all individuals, and many,
doubtless, will be present at the various
churches of the city on the approaching oc-
casior.

It is to be hoped that the day is not far
distant when the Feast of the Immaculate
Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will
be celebrated with great magnificence and
devotion throughout the length and breadth
of a land which she has taken under her
special favor, but which as yet, for the most
part knows her not.

THE REV. FATHER JOHN HAYDEN.—The
friends of Rev. Father Hayden, who are
not only very warm but very numerous in
this community, will be glad to hear that
they may receive a visit from him about
Christmas or New-Year. Owing to the
nomination of Rev. Father Ryan as Bishop
of Buffalo, Father Hayden has been called
to be Visitor of the Congregation of the
Mission, known as Lazarists, of the United
States. His old parishioners of St. Joseph's
and his friends generally will be delighted
to greet him.

T. FITZWILLIAM & Co., General Stationers,
Blank Book Manufacturers and Job Printers, 76 Camp
street, have the largest, most varied and excellent stock
of goods in their line of any house in the South. In
some particulars this establishment is unsurpassed. Its
Blank Books are a specialty which have secured for
them the patronage of the largest establishments, such as
banks, insurance companies and wholesale and retail
merchants, who value durability of material, excellence
of workmanship and permanency of impression as re-
gards ink. This firm is no ephemeral affair, whose only
ambition is to make money irrespective of principle.
They are identified with the South, and have already
built up a reputation for honor, reliability and prompt-
ness, which has had its natural result in a patronage co-
extensive with the whole Southwest. The connection
of Messrs. T. Fitzwilliam & Co. with the most extensive
concerns, both foreign and domestic, enable them to fill
orders, however diverse, not only promptly, but in a
manner that will enable their customers to participate
in the benefits of a decline in the price of goods. The
printing office attached has, this last summer, been re-
plenished with the latest novelties, both ornamental
and useful, in the founders' art thus increasing the
facility for executing all descriptions of printing with
an accuracy and style of excellence heretofore unattain-
able in the South. See advertisement.

PHENIX HOUSE.—People will eat; and al-
though tastes are diverse, rational people eat to live.
Johnson thought pork an abomination; Charles Lamb
considered roast pig a feast fit for the gods. But both of
these authors, though not gourmets, had a keen relish
for good eating, and if they lived in our day, would no
doubt make the Phoenix House their headquarters—per-
haps revive the famous "Kit Kat Club," or some other
equally celebrated rendezvous for the elite of the age.
The proprietors of the above establishment have a world-
wide fame—Bidwell in Europe—Andy Paie in America,
and these who try 96 St. Charles street will corroborate
the universal opinion, that both know how to cater for
the most refined palates.

DRUGS, MEDICINES, &c.—You may have a
skilful physician and an attentive nurse, but the science
of the one and the faithfulness of the other may be ren-
dered nugatory by spurious medicines and careless hand-
ling. Mr. Painsfather, 373 Common street, has the best
materials and careful attendants, which, with the other
things enumerated in his advertisement, printed else-
where readers his establishment well worthy of patron-
age.

DR. DENNIS.—The Doctor's card our readers
will find in another column, and judging by what has
been imparted to us, he is entitled to confidence as a
judicious practitioner.

GROCERIES.—Choice, fresh groceries are al-
ways a desideratum; and not less pleasing, even if not
so important, is a reliable grocer. Both are united and
to be found at 273 Carondelet street, corner of Callope.
See advertisement.

GLYNN & WINTZ.—Pope has not thought it
degraded to his net to draw a simile from "leather and
prunella." Whether he was moved thereby by inspecting
the elegant costume of Lady Mary Wortley Montague—
for whom, it is well known, he had a tender liking, we
do not know positively, but think it very likely. Now,
Lady Mary had a reputation for solid and elegant parts,
and even Horace Walpole, the most fastidious of critics,
paid deference to her understanding. We all know that
this word is susceptible of two meanings, and that which
displays a neat foot and ankle is worthy of all attention.
Glynn and Wintz, No. 9 Camp street, is the place where
the ladies can suit themselves most advantageously in
boots and shoes—and the sterner sex will do well to ac-
company them with the same object in view. Don't
forget No. 9 Camp street.