

Read the list of letters.

Cuban insurgents are laying down their arms.

The Legislature, as usual, is doing nothing in particular.

The President is still receiving assurances that Gov. Nicholls will pardon Anderson.

We are indebted to Theo. Kortum, Esq., for late copies of the London (Ont.) Daily Free Press.

The appeal in State vs. Anderson is to be tried to-day before the Supreme Court in New Orleans.

Now that the weather is growing more pleasant we notice that the congregations at the churches grow larger.

The merchants inform us that the assortment of calico has suffered terribly on account of the Mardi Gras festivities.

The wonderful prophetic Almanac of Prof. Tice at the post office. If the stock is all out leave your name for others.

What is proposed on memorial day in Homer? Should preparations be made now, there is ample time for a fitting observance.

Again, greatly to our sorrow, many valuable contributions are crowded out. Space may be found for them in the next two or three weeks.

We await with impatient expectation the official account of Mardi Gras at Shreveport. We regret exceedingly our inability to attend the royal reception, for, after the assurances given us by friend Battle of the Times, we are certain that the sights would repay the ride of fifty miles over bad roads.

March came in damp, with considerable wind in the evening. Prof. Tice may make a small mistake occasionally but is generally correct we suppose. True, he said the first would be fair, and it was very nearly so. The clouds were broken and not enough rain to give him the absolute lie.

If you want any book published in the United States D. W. Harris will furnish it to you at publishers' prices. Let him order your books and papers. By so doing you are at no expense for the transmission of money and you run no risk. Don't forget to call at the post office and see the choice selection now on hand—look at his catalogue and order others.

In the Darrall-Acklen contest before the national House of Representatives Acklen has been seated. Darrall was the Republican candidate and was seated at the extra session of Congress upon a prima facie showing. The evidence before the committee to whom the contest was referred disclosed fraud and perjury in large quantities. Yet still Hayes is President and the vote of Louisiana was counted for him.

We are in receipt of the first number of the Malvern Home Journal, published and edited by W. Jasper Blackburn, at Malvern Junction, Arkansas. The appearance of the paper is rather better than ordinary. The salutatory and other original articles are of course known to be good when it is remembered who is the editor. We wish the Home Journal an abundance of prosperity.

In the article in the Ouachita Telegraph entitled "How country papers rise and fall," publishers will find almost a complete epitome of human wisdom upon that particular subject. We know how it is ourselves and regret our inability to express the facts so strongly as does Mr. McCranie. Thanks to a dreadful experience we have been able to avoid many of those rocks upon which other new ventures have split. Our brethren will find profitable reading in this article of the Telegraph.

Mardi Gras is over and two hundred and seventy-five young folks have a mask to sell. Parti-colored calico suits may be bought cheap; spanglers may be had for the asking; tinsel, etc., is no longer at a premium, and the only article wanted is an individual of ordinary intelligence who wore a mask last night that is certain that he did not make a fool of himself. To that conclusion no one person has made up his mind. However certain he may have been last night, this morning he has lingering doubts.

Beulah's Six Lovers—T. P. Peterson—12 mo pp 240.

We have received from the publishers through D. W. Harris the above named novel. To the young lady or gentleman who is not partial to harrowing details this book will be of refreshing interest. The story is simple and unpretending, yet is written in such choice language and has about it so much that is natural and pure that the untroubled mind will find it interesting. We can consistently recommend it to the young people as worth reading and author better than the ordinary novel of the day. Mr. Harris, at the post office, has the book for sale, as well as many other of Peterson's standard publications.

Will Anderson Be Pardon?

The people, after an experience of twelve years, have learned so much of the peculiar ways of public officials that they are astonished at no political event. The crime with which Anderson is charged in the eyes of some politicians is thought to be a political offense, and is believed to be one among those anomalous crimes excepted from punishment by a resolution of the Legislature. Therefore it is urged that in pursuance of the tenor of said resolution and of a certain agreement made in a most mysterious manner by somebody, to the world unknown, that Anderson should be pardoned and the prosecution against Wells, Kenner, and Casanova be discontinued. Now what Gov. Nicholls will do we can't say. The people of Louisiana made him their Governor because they believed him to be a true, pure, and good man, with a profound respect for the laws, and likely to enforce them in a firm and just manner. Believing this of him, and having found him so thus far in his administration we will come near being surprised if he should pardon Anderson.

It may be possible that there is in existence some character of agreement or some understanding which might serve as the Governor's excuse for what all must consider misplaced clemency. If these things are expected of Gov. Nicholls and he proposes to pardon the prisoner lately convicted, we consider it extremely unfortunate for his future usefulness in a public capacity that the people are in total ignorance of such good and sufficient reasons as he may have for the executive clemency.

But we are at a loss to understand how any honorable man, with all the facts before him, could find it consistent with his own integrity to extend any degree of clemency to the criminal who is so guilty as is Anderson. No agreement can effect the discharge of any prisoner absolutely guilty of a felony. The executive pardon would make of all proceedings in the trial a stupendous farce—would show a contemptuous disregard of the law, and would set free, without adequate cause, a vile criminal who has been for years at the head of the very worst band of scoundrels who have cursed the State. The crime is an outrage of itself, but beyond that, public policy demands that an example be made of the class of offenders who have most injured the commonwealth; not only because of the separate special crimes they have committed, but because public opinion has been to a certain extent degraded, the public sense of honor blunted, and self-sacrificing patriotism almost obliterated from the State, simply because this man and others like him have been let go free so long that people had begun to look upon their questionable method of managing elections and suppressing the voice of the people as warranted by the supreme power in the Union. While they knew them to be base and guilty, they had seen so much of such work that they no longer looked upon it with that horror which in better days animated the honest masses in view of such outrages. The very fact that men of respectability are heard to plead for Anderson shows to what a pit of degradation we have fallen. If this man was ignorant there might be urged some excuse for him. But he was a senator, a law-maker, a man of wealth and education. There is no excuse. If his moral sense is deadened, let it be quickened into life by the punishment the law demands. Let the people learn that there is yet some honor, some purity in our government. Let Gov. Nicholls not make himself a partner with Anderson and his crowd by any foolish clemency.

For the Sunday Schools.

Some of our young friends, pupils of the sabbath schools, have become interested in the enigmas published in Kind Words and other Sunday school papers. They would like them better were the answers usually the name of some person or place familiar to them. Such enigmas are comparatively easy and if our young friends want space for the publication of one or two each week we will willingly give it to them.

The following is submitted to the pupils of these schools for their amusement and possible instruction: What prophet did the Lord shelter from the sun's rays with a gourd vine? What Prince was caught in the branches of a tree by the hair of his head and there killed? What kind of birds were brought by the navy of Tarshish once every three years to King Solomon? What man was stricken dead for fraudulent deceit? What woman guarded the dead bodies of her two sons and five others that were hanged, day and night protecting them from the birds of the air and beasts of the field? Who did Abraham marry after the death of Sarah? Who slew the brother of Goliath the Hittite? What woman clove unto her mother-in-law? The initials to the answers will spell the name of a very able minister whose works lie in the parish of Claiborne.

The silver bill was vetoed by the President but was passed over his veto by the necessary majority in both houses. The Secretary of the Treasury has the power, under the bill, to restrict the coinage of silver to two million dollars per month. This quantity is comparatively small when the very large amount of currency in circulation is considered.

A Good Law.

Some time ago we published the text of a bill proposed by Senator Stubbs. The bill finally passed but not until several changes had been made. We publish the act as it now stands, it being a new part of the law of the land:

AN ACT

Relative to crimes and offenses, authorizing judges, in certain cases, to sentence convicts to work on the public works and roads, or in workhouses, and delegating the power to parochial and municipal authorities necessary to enforce the same.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened, That in all criminal prosecutions where any person is convicted in any of the courts of this State of any crime or offense punishable under the law with imprisonment at hard labor, but not necessarily so, the judge before whom such conviction is had may sentence the person so convicted to work on the public works, roads or streets of the parish or city in which the crime or offense has been committed, and which may be eventually chargeable with the costs of the prosecution, and for a term not exceeding the term now specified under existing laws; provided, that when a fine, in said cases, is imposed as a part of the penalty in default of the payment of such fine and the costs the judge may enforce the liquidation thereof by sentence of additional labor at the rate of one dollar per diem.

SEC. 2. Be it enacted, etc., That in the city of New Orleans the City Council, and in the several parishes the police Jury are hereby delegated full authority to pass all ordinances and laws which they may deem necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this act and for the discipline, working and employment of such convicts; provided, that no Police Jury shall have power to pass any ordinance to cause any person so convicted to wear a ball and chain, or any other sign or symbol of degradation, and that the person so convicted shall not be worked more than ten (10) hours a day, and shall not, in any case, be put at work before six o'clock in the morning; provided, that such convicts shall not be employed out of the parish having venue of the crime or offense; or in any other labor than upon the public works, bridges, roads or streets of the parish or city or in such workhouses as they may establish.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That all laws in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

[Signed] LOUIS BUSH, Speaker of the House of Representatives. [Signed] LOUIS A. WILTZ, Lieut. Gov. and President of Senate. Approved February 23, 1878. [Signed] F. T. NICHOLLS, Governor of the State of Louisiana. A true copy: W. A. STRONG, Secretary of State.

Musical Rattlesnakes.

Something that Could Happen Only in the Wilds of Pennsylvania.

READING, Feb. 9.—Old Jim Rodgers, as his few familiar friends of this town call him, turned up here on Feb. 1 to draw his annual \$200, which is the interest of all that is left of a large fortune. In early life Jim squandered his patrimony, and so ruined his health and constitution that now, at the age of 40, he looks 65, and is but a wreck of his former self. Notwithstanding his bent and decrepit appearance, Jim is still quite active; he does nothing but tramp through the country, his principal wanderings being the wilds of the Allegheny and Blue mountains in this State. Most of his money goes for ammunition for his old shotgun, without which he is never seen. He lives mainly on rabbits and birds, as he is oftentimes alone for weeks on the mountains.

When Jim makes his annual appearance here, he remains about a week, and during that time frequents a certain corner grocery, which is the loafing place of a number of old stagers, who spin some wonderful yarns. Jim can outdo them all. One night he told us about a large nest of rattlesnakes which on five days gave regular concerts; the music, Jim said, was better than that of any singing society in the country. These concerts were led by an old snake that had lost his rattles, but was yet the boss of the crowd.

We laughed at him. This made him angry. "If you don't believe me," he said, "I can show it to you. If any man here has spunk enough to stand a little hard traveling, and can sleep out on the rocks for a few nights with nothing but a blanket, let him say the word, and I'll contract to show him a sight that he never saw before."

I said I would go with him to see such a great curiosity, and Jim told

me to be ready the next morning to start.

On the second day we reached the Welsh mountains, just over the line of the Berks and Lancaster. After clambering and crawling up hills and down deep ravines, and wading through mountain streams for a whole day, with nothing to eat but some hard tack and a rabbit Jim shot, we were compelled to camp on the lee side of a large rock. Next morning we started on, and, after a few hours' walk, reached a cave-like ravine, walled in on three sides. The floor was of smooth, solid moss. Here and there a few huge boulders were scattered. At the further end, in the mountain side, was a large opening which Jim said was the mouth of a cave. We crawled to the top of one of the large rocks, about fifty feet from the mouth of the cave, lay down, and remained there the rest of the day, seeing and hearing nothing.

I was tired and hungry and vexed, and reproached Jim for having taken me into that wild country for the purpose of hoaxing me. "Never mind," said he; "they don't come out every day. If it's a nice day tomorrow, you'll see the queerest sight you ever laid eyes on."

Next day we took up the same position on the rock, and, after waiting until noon, our patience was rewarded.

At the mouth of the cave appeared a large snake, having the appearance of a rattlesnake, but without rattles. Following this leader came perhaps a hundred rattlesnakes of different sizes, from three to ten feet in length. The bobtailed leader was at least twelve feet long. This boss snake came on until he was about in the centre of the arena, and the rest grouped in circles around him, the smaller snakes inside. All seemed to be intently watching him.

I began to feel nervous, but Jim said he had been in the same place alone many a time.

The boss snake, coiled himself half up, and the rest followed his example. Then he began springing up and down, at one moment flat on the ground, and, the next, seemingly standing on the end of his tail, and hissed. This was a signal for the other snakes. First one began hissing, then another, and another, until at last it was a grand chorus of hisses. Then the big fellow suddenly stopped and waved his tail to and fro. All the snakes began rattling furiously.

The alternate hissing and rattling went on for some time; then the head snake began to wriggle and squirm about until he was all knots and tangles, whereupon the other snakes hissed and rattled together, making a most hideous noise. It was very trying to the nerves at first. This concert had been kept up about an hour, when, in a lull in the music, I thought I heard hisses behind the rock on which we were lying. Turning around and looking down, I saw three huge black snakes, erect and hissing vigorously at the music. In a minute they dropped and glided back to the entrance of the ravine. Soon they reappeared, and behind them a crowd of other black snakes, nearly equal in number to the rattlesnakes.

"Now for a scene that I didn't know was on programme," said Jim.

We watched them come on, hissing with all their might, until they reached our rock, when they suddenly quieted. Then a huge fellow equal in length to the rattlesnake leader, but much thicker, advanced alone until he was perceived by the rattlesnakes. The concert was stopped, and the director gave an angry hiss at the intruder. This the black snake answered. Immediately all the rattlesnakes fell back toward their cave. Then we saw a snake duel. The black snake advanced cautiously, and the two, after much wriggling about, darted at each other. The contest lasted twenty minutes, the rattlesnake striking his fangs repeatedly into the black snake. The latter, after twisting and wriggling around for some time, at last succeeded in getting him completely clasped in his folds, and slowly crushed him to death. Then he began to whirl around convulsively, and in a few minutes was stretched out dead beside his dead antagonist.

During the entire fight the snakes on both sides kept up a continual hissing, one party to which added their diabolical rattling. The death of the black snake was the signal for a general engagement, which lasted an hour. At the end of that time not a black snake was left to tell the story. About a dozen rattlesnakes remained alive. They glided to the body of their late leader, and, after giving a few feeble rattles of triumph, they dragged it with them into their cave, and disappeared.

"It's a blamed good way of exterminating snakes, anyhow," said Jim, "but I'm sorry that my musical chaps are gone. I was going to see Barnum about 'em and make my fortune."

Why is a greenhorn who has been cheated in a bargain like the desert of Sahara?—Because he's a great fat.

Dr. S. Y. WEBB,

DEALER IN Drugs, Medicines and Chemicals,

Fine Toilet Soaps,

Fancy Hair and Tooth Brushes,

Perfumery and Fancy Articles,

Teas and Beans,

Grass and Garden Seeds, Stationery, Glass, Putty, Tobacco and Cigars,

PAINTS and OILS, VARNISHES and DYE-STUFFS.

The Purest and Best WINES, BRANDY, WHISKY, &c., for Medical purposes.

Physicians' prescriptions accurately compounded, day or night.

Homer, La., February 13, 1878.

Consult Your Interest

Before purchasing elsewhere, by examining

E. L. JOHNSON'S

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS and CONFECTIONERIES.

THE BEST and CHOICEST of Everything in my line at the LOWEST PRICES for THE CASH.

A Full Line of TIN-WARE always in stock. A first-class TINNER kept regularly at work. STOVE and OTHER REPAIRING DONE TO ORDER. Good Work and Moderate Prices.

The best CHURN in the World for Sale. Certificates can be procured from a large number of the best families in North-west Louisiana.

E. L. JOHNSON, North side of Public Square, Homer, La. 24th Jan. 30, 1878.

J. A. WITTER, Cabinet Maker and Undertaker.

From the Cradle to the Coffin.

THREE SCORE AND TEN.

FURNITURE MADE, REPAIRED AND VARNISHED. I make a specialty of Coffins, from the plainest to the finest, and guarantee better work for less money than any establishment in North Louisiana. A lot of all sizes kept constantly on hand. References—All who know good work when they see it. Feb. 27, 1878.—26th

GREAT OPENING

SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS.

AT THE HOUSE OF D. STEIN & CO., which they are daily receiving from the eastern cities—all purchased at low prices and sold for the same, only for cash. The Ladies are especially invited to examine the fine and well selected stock of Ladies' Hats—the latest styles; also, Fashionable Dress Goods—Prices to suit the times. All come and see for yourselves, and you will be pleased. Respectfully, D. STEIN & CO. Farmerville, Feb. 25, 1878. 25-51

JOSEPH SHELTON, DRUGGIST, HOMER, LA.

JUST RECEIVED A LARGE and CAREFULLY selected stock of pure and fresh DRUGS, CHEMICALS and MEDICINES, A choice and elegant selection of TOILET ARTICLES, PERFUMERY, STATIONERY, &c.

TOBACCO and CIGARS of best quality. Pure Liquors for Medical purposes. The most approved Patent Medicines of the day. Prescriptions carefully compounded day and night. New and sound Garden Seed. Special inducements and reasonable discount to Physicians. Feb. 6, 1878. 25-

McCranie's Notice.

ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO ME are hereby notified, that I have sold my entire stock of goods, and leased my storehouse, to S. Y. Gladney. I have retained my vault and safe, and will continue my office with S. Y. Gladney. All persons indebted to me will find me at all times prepared to make settlements—to receive Cotton for debts, and to purchase Cotton for cash. Jan. 9, 1878. A. McCranie. 21-17

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McCranie's Notice.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned take occasion to return thanks to their friends and customers for their liberal patronage in the past, and solicit a continuance of the same for their successor. CRICHTON & CEREN.

I WILL CONTINUE THE Receiving and Forwarding Business at the MINDEN LOWER LANDING. We give my personal and undivided attention to the same; will study the interest and endeavor to please all who patronize me. I will do business for my customers as low as any one else, no matter how low that may be, and claim as an advantage in giving me their patronage that I can deliver freight from six to twenty-four hours earlier than others, thus avoiding delay of wagons. THOS. CRICHTON. Minden, La., Oct. 15, 1877. 9-24

Minden Upper Landing.

HAVING LEASED THE MINDEN UPPER Landing, I invite the attention of Shippers and Consignees to my commodious WAREHOUSES and the thorough repair of the road leading thereto; and returning thanks for past favors, respectfully solicit further consignments of cotton and freight. As my personal care will be given to the business, my patrons may rest assured that it will receive prompt attention. H. A. BARNES. Oct. 3, 1877. 7-24

BEEF AND PORK.

FROM this date until the close of the Winter I will only bring Beef and Pork to the Homer Market ONCE A WEEK. My meat will be of the best quality, nicely dressed and as cheap as can be sold in the market. Will open regularly three times a week with the beginning of the season. THOMAS D. KINDER. Jan. 9, 1878. 21-

Notice To My Customers.

I HAVE YOUR NOTES and OPEN ACCOUNTS. Notes are all due, and those that don't pay may look out, for I mean MONEY—I must have it. I give you full warning. If the money is not paid by Jan. 9, I shall proceed to collect by law, and I mean what I say. I will give good prices for cotton in settlement. A. McCranie. Sept. 19, 1877. 5-17

Lock and Gun-Smithing.

BY JOSEPH MULLER, In front of Witter's Cabinet Shop, next door to S. Y. Gladney's. All work executed in the best style with neatness and dispatch. Sewing Machines a specialty. All work warranted. Work not taken out in 30 days will be sold to pay charges. Oct. 24, 1877. 10-17

Haynesville Institute.

THE Exercises of this Institution will commence on MONDAY, the 4th of February, 1878.

RATES OF TUITION—\$2. 00 and \$4. 00 per month from day of admission.

Board can be obtained in the town and vicinity at reasonable rates.

J. E. MOORE, Principal, Miss JENNIE HEARNE, Assistant. Jan. 30, 1878. 24-24

WEEKLY TRIPS TO SHREVEPORT.

I WILL make weekly trips to Shreveport—leaving Homer on Monday morning. The best attention will be given to all orders. Prices low for hauling and commissions charged for small packages. E. G. THOMAS. Jan. 30, 1878. 24-24

NOTICE.

I WILL be absent from Homer some 10 or 12 months, and leave E. A. BARNES in charge of my business during my absence. He is authorized to sign my name in closing up any of my outstanding debts. He will act on hand at all times, in the office of my new store, to receive cotton or money on accounts and notes. A. McCranie. Feb. 20, 1878. 27-17

BOARDING HOUSE.

THE BEST OF EVERYTHING IN THE Market, at the most reasonable prices. Board and Lodging, per day, \$1.00. Single Meals, 40c. At my old stand, near Tankersley's Stable. WILLIAM SMITH. Feb. 6, 1878. 25-6m