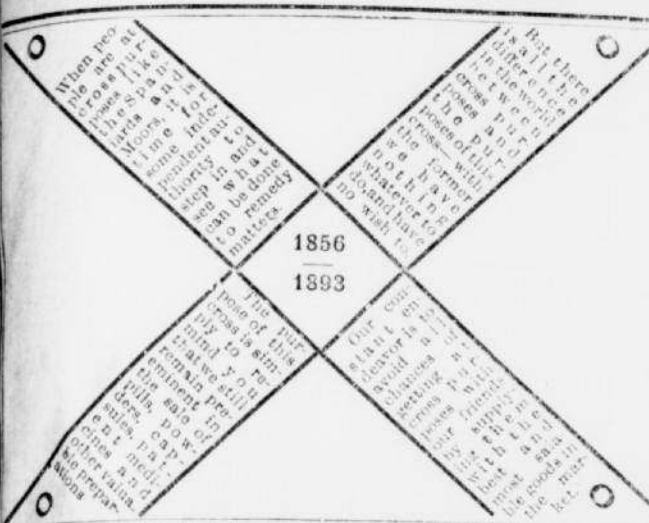


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LOUISIANA ITEMS.

Condensation From all Parts of the Pelican State.

An apparently crazy fellow named James Brown whipped out his pistol at the corner of Howard and Second streets in New Orleans recently, and, without provocation, began shooting promiscuously. Fortunately no one was hurt. He landed in jail.

Mingo Johnson, colored, accidentally shot himself while duck hunting on the lake at Shreveport recently. He received a full load of shot in the abdomen and died a few minutes after reaching the hospital.

Beginning February 1, the Illinois Central railroad will run a milk train from Roseland to New Orleans, in order to supply that city with fresh and pure milk. There are over 500 cows at Roseland dairy.

Tax collectors of Lafayette and St. Charles parishes have settled with the state for fourth quarter of 1892. The collectors of the Sixth and Seventh districts of New Orleans have settled for December last.

The arrangements for the Detroit base ball club's visit to New Orleans has been completed. Manager Glen-alvan has accepted March 25, 28, 29 and 30 and April 1 as the dates set for his team.

New Orleans fruit men are making an effort to have charges on vessels touching there laden with fruit, so modified as to place that port on an equal footing with competing ports.

Fifty-five employees in the sugar bounty bureau of the custom house at New Orleans were dropped from the pay roll in one day recently by the collector of internal revenue.

There was an anti-levee, anti-high taxation meeting at Cheneyville a few days ago, which was attended by people from Rapides, Avoyelles and St. Landry parishes.

Albert Weiser, colored, wanted in St. John the Baptist parish for theft of carpenter's tools has been arrested in New Orleans.

Sidney Thompson, colored, wanted at Natchez, Miss., for murder, was arrested recently at Boyce and jailed at Alexandria.

John Baptiste, colored, shot himself recently at New Orleans because his wife accused him of going with another woman.

Joachim Infante, a leading Italian cigar dealer of New Orleans, suicided recently by shooting himself through the head.

Morgan City folks complain that tin cans, dead dogs, cats and chickens are dumped in the streets and alleys.

The renowned New Orleans physician, Dr. John G. Hava, is dead. He was born in Guines, Cuba, July 12, 1833.

The state treasure announces that he is prepared to pay on presentation judicial expense warrants for June, 1891.

The chief of police in New Orleans has issued orders to arrest all tramps and vagrants found in the city limits.

The board of health of Shreveport is after the owners of certain buildings. They must put in fire escapes.

The Louisiana Sheriff's association has just held a largely attended and interesting meeting at New Orleans.

The sugar season is gradually closing. Many planters have finished with a perfectly satisfactory result.

Hog thieves chase the fatted swine in the vicinity of Shreveport, and then the sheriff chases them.

A Morgan City paper says that the spring flights are taking place in mid-winter and are numerous.

There is smallpox in New Orleans as also in Algiers. It is isolated and under control however.

Mrs. Mary B. Sinnott who was born in Ireland in 1790, died a few days since at New Orleans.

Several sugar planters of this state have gone to Washington to look after their interests.

The Lafourche levee board have just made an inspection through the whole of the district.

A child was crushed to death a few days ago by a street car on Magazine street, New Orleans.

Gov. Foster announces his determination to execute the law of the state against lotteries.

Recorder Whitaker of New Orleans has been acquitted of the charge of embezzlement.

Shreveporters are discussing the propriety of building more and better school houses.

There is a movement on foot in New Orleans to organize a Southern Wheelmen's League.

The people of New Orleans are already talking of and planning for Mardi Gras.

New work on the levee in the Atchafalaya district is progressing.

West Alexandria has just elected the first mayor and city council.

Eleven couples were recently licensed to marry at Alexandria.

EXCHANGED BERTHS.

A New Form of Banks' Steering Practiced in a Sleeper.

A short time ago while on my way to Chicago I saw what might be termed the essence of bunking, the classic contributor to the Pittsburg Dispatch. The sleeper on which we rode was nearly filled. In fact there were but two upper berths that were not occupied, and it looked very much as though they wouldn't be, for "All aboard!" was called and the engine replied with its "Puff, puff, puff." It had gone but a short distance, when a rather diminutive, individual with well-cut whiskers came rushing through the gate at a Nancy Hanks trot and succeeded in jumping on the platform of the last car just as it neared the end of the shed. Embarking breathlessly through the back door he accosted the conductor and in a broken voice said:

"Can you give me a berth? I was too late to stop at the office."

"I should think you were, judging from your winded condition," replied the conductor, as he glanced at his diagram, and after a minute informed him that he could have upper twelve.

"Is that the best you can do?" "Yes."

"Well, I suppose I'll have to take it, but I won't sleep a wink."

"Can't help it," replied the conductor, as he took the proffered money and gave a punched form in return.

When he had moved on to the next passenger the diminutive individual wandered to No. 12, and with his satchel sank in the seat, his expression showing plainly the time he expected to put in. He had been seated about ten minutes when all of a sudden he made a rush toward the porter, who was making up a berth at the far end of the car. Handing him what appeared to be \$1, he talked with him for several minutes and then, returned to No. 12 apparently very happy.

The porter continued at his work. When he finished he came to the section directly opposite to me, which was occupied by a German who was every inch six feet four. Addressing him, the porter found he could speak a few words of English. After which he proceeded to inform him as best he could that he (the porter) knew that he was in this country for pleasure, and that he was making it his duty to look after all foreigners in the best possible manner. The German smiled, and the porter continued:

"For some reason or other, I suppose because they think you're easy, our ticket agents always give you fellows from across the ocean lower berths, and as upper ones are much better I have induced a friend of mine, who has an upper, to give it in exchange for your lower."

The German did not understand immediately, but finally tumbled to the racket, and with many thanks exchanged berths with the diminutive individual, and everybody, including the porter, seemed happy.

Calling a Pawnbroker "Uncle."

"Uncle," as applied to a pawnbroker, is a wretched pun on the Latin word uncus, a hook. Pawnbrokers employed a hook to lift articles pawned to upper shelves before spoils were adopted. "Gone to the uncus" is exactly tantamount to the modern phrase, "Up the spout." The pronoun was inserted to carry out the pun. The phrase, "a ma tante," does not mean "to my aunt's," but "to the scoundrel's," the word tante, in French argot, being the most reproachful word they can use speaking of a man. "Gone to my uncle's," in French, "C'est chez ma tante," at the pawnbroker's. In French the concierge of prison is called "uncle" because the prisoners are "kept there in pawn" by the government. In the seventh century a usurer was called "my uncle" in the Walloon provinces because of his near connection with spendthrifts, called in Latin "Nepotes," nephews. — Brooklyn Eagle.

The Marriage Line.

An interesting discussion has sprung up among the palmists in regard to the line of the hand known as the marriage line. One recognized authority says that when this line curves upward the possessor is not likely to marry at all. Other experts reply that they know many married and happy people with such a line. It is also alleged that the transverse line on the "hill of Mercury," which one party says is the marriage line, is not so considered by the Chirological society. "Our opinion," says the editor of the party organ, "is that these lines are signs of attachment, and there is scarcely a hand ever seen without at least one in the hand of either married or unmarried people."

Pennsylvania Is Well Healed.

Pennsylvania has 200,000 farms, which produce over \$200,000,000 in crops. There are 5,000,000 live stock. The state produces nearly 2,000,000 tons of iron in the anthracite furnaces, nearly 3,000,000 in bituminous furnaces and 17,000 tons of charcoal iron. Over 628,000,000 tons of anthracite coal have been mined in the state, and one oil field has yielded 150,000,000 barrels.

The Black Hole of Calcutta.

The massacre of the Black Hole of Calcutta was perpetrated in 1756, after the taking of that city by the Janissaries of Surajah Dowlah, suhaddar of Bengal. Nearly one hundred and fifty English prisoners were driven into a dungeon so small and stifling as to be totally unfit to receive one occupant in such a climate, as that of India. All but twenty-three perished before morning.

HE FED AN ELEPHANT.

Experience Was too Exciting to Make Him Desire Any More of It.

"No I wasn't born this way," replied the man, as he backed up to a chair, got his crutches from under his arms and fell into the seat. "This came on me very suddenly one day, about fifteen years ago."

"What do the doctors call it?" asked the Detroit Free Press man.

"Dumphyism, I believe. That's what it is, anyway."

"Get a tall from a balloon?" "Rather worse. I don't mind saying that about fifteen years ago I used to think I knew it all. You've heard of the town of Chillicothe, Ohio, maybe?"

"Yes."

"Well, I ornamented that town with my presence and I flattered myself the people couldn't possibly spare me over a day at a time. I was at the apex of my conceit when a circus came along. There was a drove of eight elephants in the menagerie and as I stood before them I wanted to do something awfully smart. One of the beasts was reaching out with his trunk for cakes, and I determined to give him a lighted cigar. An old gray-haired farmer who stood by and twiggled my game uttered a word of caution, but I wasn't taking advice from hayseeds at that epoch."

"And you carried out your plans, eh?"

"I did. I puffed on the weed until it had bits of fire, hid it behind me for a minute and when the elephant reached again I let him have it, fire end first. Something happened of course. I had just commenced to grin and look around for applause when that process suddenly picked me up, whirled me high in the air, and then I was flung clean across the tent and landed under a cage of serpents. I knew when the fun began, but I didn't see the end of it. I was unconscious for two days and when I came to I was so knocked out of my plumb that the doctors couldn't do any better than this for me. I shall be a cripple to the end of my days."

"But—"

"Oh, certainly! I know more than I did and I shall never have the swell head again. It seems that the elephant's trainer had his eye on me all the time and I've often felt that it was too bad he didn't feel inclined to kick me all over town and back and thus enable me to learn wisdom and keep in shape at the same time."

NOT ABOVE CRITICISM.

Mr. and Mrs. Peasley's Observations of Old and New Proverbs.

"I don't take any great account of the proverbs an' axioms an' so on that's printed in the magazines now-a-days," remarked Mrs. Philander Peasley to her husband, as she laid down the last number of a monthly publication. "I've been a studyin' over a volume of 'em that some man has writ here an' I wonder that folks publish such stuff! You can make 'em mean one thing or nothin', jest accordin' as you see fit. Now here's one on 'em: 'It is as unfort'nit to seize the wrong chance to do or say a thing as 'tis to let the right one pass by.'"

"Now, I'd like to be told how folks would come out of they was to be sc't at both sides like that? What I like is the old-fashioned proverbs; there ain't any two ways o' takin' them an' gettin' misled."

"Make hay while the sun shines. Now, ain't that clear? 'Haste makes waste.' What's truer'n that, I'd like to know? There ain't one of them old sayin's but what's true as preachin', howsoever you take 'em. They can't be turned an' twisted round to mean anythin' a body pleases."

"Do you recall one about 'A thing ain't lost when you know where 'tis'?" inquired Captain Peasley, in his usual shrill quaver.

"I should say I did," replied his wife, promptly, "an' many's the time I've heard it."

"Well," said the captain with a suggestion of a laugh in his trembling old voice, "I had a cook once that quoted that to me when the teakettle was washed overboard an' all the cups an' saucers, but we didn't seem to be able to find 'em Sary."

"I reckon you've set up about long enough this evenin'," said Mrs. Peasley, dryly, and she bundled the captain off to bed with considerable haste.

Tears and Nerves.

As the muscular power that extends or flexes a finger is at a distance from the part moved, so the excitement of tears is from an irritation from a distant nervous center, and is removed when the nervous center is either soothed or exhausted. The relief comes not from the escape of tears, which is only a symptom, but from the cessation of the storm in the nervous chain. If the storm be calmed by soothing measures—as when we sooth a child that is weeping from fear, annoyance or injury—we quiet the nervous centers, upon which the effect ceases. In children the soothing method succeeds, and sometimes it succeeds in adults, although in adults the cessation of tears is more commonly due to actual exhaustion following a period of nervous activity. — Boston Globe.

Currency in Africa.

The wife of a missionary to Africa gives some amusing details of the mercantile value of certain articles among the natives, needles and cloth ranking highest. They are absolutely current coins. Three needles will purchase one chicken, one needle two eggs. Old tin and empty bottles are also much in request, old cans taking the place of drinking cups. A fowl can be had for two yards of cotton or a small piece of cloth.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON VI — FEB. 11 — GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM.

Golden Text: He Believed in the Lord, and He Continued It to Him for Righteousness.—Genesis XVII: 1-9.

Introductory. The section of history extends over chapters 12-17, the main incidents of which we should bring into the lesson. Abraham returned from Egypt and journeyed northward to his old altar between Bethel and Hai. Abraham and Lot had both been greatly prospered, and were very rich. A quarrel arose among their herdsmen, originating probably in the increasing scarcity of herbage for their flocks. The powerful tribes in the neighborhood are mentioned to show why the pasturage was restricted and the danger of their quarreling among themselves. The quarrel was averted by the generosity of the older and better man of the two. He gave Lot the free choice of all pastures and agreed to take whatever was left. It was a most unselfish act, renouncing his own rights in favor of a friend. Lot chose the most beautiful and fertile tract of land in the whole valley near the mouth of the Jordan, in spite of the fact that it was under the influence of the most wicked of the world's cities, Sodom. He did not go there all at once, but soon he found him living in the city. By his choice he left the company of God's people and went among sinners.

One of the results of Lot's folly was that by being in bad company he was captured by the Sodomites and carried away captive by a horde of soldiers from beyond the Euphrates. Abraham armed 318 of his retainers and with three friends went in pursuit. Near Damascus by a stratagem and night attack he rescued Lot, his family and possessions and also the Sodomites. Abraham showed his nobleness by refusing to take for himself the property so rescued.

The fact that the other vision from God followed this battle, leads us to think that Abraham may have fallen into a state of discouragement. "Lot, whose alienated heart he had probably hoped to win by so great a service, is as far from him as ever." — Kitto. The promise, three times given, was yet unfulfilled. He had no child. God tested the faith of his servant for the sake of all generations after him.

1. The Covenant and Its Signs.—vers. 1-9. About sixteen years after the expedition for the deliverance of Lot. "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine." Ishmael, his son by Hagar, Sarah's maid, was now thirteen years old, and Abram began to think that it was through him the promise was to be fulfilled. But God told him no. "I am the Almighty God." And my nature is unchanged. I take nothing back. "Walk before me." In the way I point out, as in my presence and with my approval. "And be thou perfect." Complete, sound, and healthy in soul; blameless. Just so far as Abraham's descendants "walked with God," just so far they realized the fulfillment of the covenant promises.

4. "Thou shalt be the father of many nations." The descendants of Abraham, including not only the Israelites, but the Arabians, Midianites, Ammonites, and Moabites, were a numerous people, and were for more than a thousand years one of the most important in Asia. And at least two branches yet remain—the Jews who are found in every part of the earth, and the Arabs who still roam unconquered over the desert. But the highest fulfillment was through Christ, all whose children by faith are children of Abraham.

6. "Kings shall come out of thee." Rulers of nations and Jesus, the king of kings.

8. "And I will give unto thee . . . the land wherein thou art a stranger." This was not to be for more than 400 years. But it was a necessary time of preparation and training. For an everlasting possession. During the exile the land was forsaken because of their sins, but it was kept for their return. Again for their rejection of the Messiah they were sent into longer exile, but the land is being kept for them.

5. "Thy name shall be Abraham." His name up to this time, Abram, means "exalted father." Abraham means "father of a multitude."

ODD SELECTIONS.

Nearly \$10,000 is paid for pensions to firemen in New York city every month.

The violet is conventionally the only flower that can be worn by a person in mourning.

The Chinese have an academy of manners that prescribes etiquette for the whole empire.

There were no italics used in the biblical translations until the time of the King James version, 1611.

The tronometer is a device of Dr. Quintard, a Frenchman, for gauging the trembling of nervous people.

Seventeen children in less than ten years is the record made by Mrs. Ellsworth Miller of Cold Springs, N. Y.

A young Italian scientist, Finzi, now in Boston, has invented a kind of spectacles by which he expects to make the wearers to see in the dark.

The pigeons of St. Mark's, Venice, can tell a foreigner from a native. If one of the tourists appears they flock about him to be fed, according to guide-book; if a Venetian, they keep away.

Rev. H. R. Rollins, pastor of the First Baptist church at Catskill, N. Y., married one couple in the afternoon and another in the evening, and had his own marriage sandwiched in between them.