

THE CONGRESS, THE LOTTERIES AND THE PRESS.

The House Committee on Post-offices and Post Roads has instructed Chairman Blount to report favorably a bill to prohibit the mailing of any letter, circular or writing concerning a lottery or gift enterprise or any paper containing an advertisement of any lottery or information regarding its drawings. Violations of these provisions are made misdemeanors, punishable by fine and imprisonment.

The enactment of such a law will materially affect the income of many of our esteemed contemporaries, especially in New Orleans, besides restricting the Louisiana Lottery to a very narrow channel of communication with its patrons outside of that city.

Such a law might not be any restriction on the freedom of the press, as constitutionally guaranteed, but it is very nearly equivalent to saying, with the force of law, what shall, or what shall not be inserted as an advertisement in a newspaper. In any view, it is quite clear that to the extent of the use of its postal facilities, this proposition carrying, the General Government claims the right of censorship over even the business columns of the newspapers of the country, and may as logically extend this espionage beyond lottery advertisements to any other class of advertisements, and without limitation, for where is the line to be drawn?

If either fraud, or immorality, or both be given as the groundwork of this claim, its enforcement for these causes will amount simply to a famine among newspapers, since there is hardly an advertisement published now-a-days which is not pregnant with one or the other, or of both, of these pestilent germs.

In the moral or social point of view, there are tons of circulars, letters and advertisements that run along the swift current of the mails, of infinitely greater baseness and far more debauching than the advertisements of lotteries. Thus, why not retire the "Retired Clergyman," the "Civiale Agency," the vendors of poisonous patent medicines—advertisers here mentioned simply as three illustrations of three hundred thousand no better—by enacting that any newspaper inserting their "favors" shall be tabooed and knocked out of any post-office in which it seeks to be mailed? Where is the Police Gazette and Life in Chicago, and what are they doing to help morals, or good government along?

If Congress is to act in this matter—and it cannot hurt the TELEGRAPH in the line it is advancing on—let the bloody work be thorough, effectual and impartial, and not call a halt at lotteries.

RIVER IMPROVEMENTS.

In 1871 the improvements, so called, on the Ouachita river were begun, since which time they have been kept up, more or less, at a total cost to the United States of \$263,000. Now, we ask, what benefit has this river received from this large sum, and what kind of work has been done?

Since 1828, nearly a million and a-half of dollars have been appropriated for Red river, \$661,000 of this sum having been expended in the removal of the "Great Raft."

Since 1881, the sum of \$18,000 has been appropriated for improving Bayou Bartholemew. We ask again, what improvements have been made in that stream?

If Congress in making appropriations for improving the rivers would place the appropriations in the hands of honest, conscientious steamboatmen to disburse, the beneficial results would soon be apparent, as it is to the interest of these men to make the appropriations go as far as possible, and they would use the money only where they saw that the greatest amount of good to the greatest number of people could be accomplished. As we have heretofore said, these steamboatmen are directly interested, and hence would give the matter the very closest attention.

The Camden (Ark.) Beacon, in its account of the proceedings had at the unveiling of the Confederate monument just erected in that city, has the following double entendre evolved out of a typographical error: "At about 10 o'clock the lines were formed, and the long column variously estimated at from 2500 to 3000 soles, moved off towards the cemetery."

The United States Senators are jointly worth, in round numbers, \$162,000,000.

Our esteemed contemporary, the newy Herald of Trinity, La., in the course of an editorial regarding our publication last week of a comparison in freight rates between the New Orleans boats and the St. Louis' boat, David R. Powell, propounds to us this questions, which we will attempt to answer and then drop the subject: "Why is it that the steamer D. H. Powell could load at St. Louis for Ouachita river? What is the cause of it?"

We answer: Because a St. Louis house has an agent who works like a beaver, and when he has from 500 to 800 tons of freight ordered, his house finds it cheaper and more convenient to charter a boat than to send the freight via New Orleans to be re-shipped there.

The other query, "Whether, by high rates in New Orleans, or both?" must be answered by some one else. The Hanna, we believe, has a carrying capacity of 400 tons. Hence, if she could get a full load each trip, it would pay very well. That's the difference, and, with this explanation, we drop the subject.

A telegram from Pearlinton to the Times-Democrat, states that Mr. Wiley M. Toomer, of that place, was struck by lightning and instantly killed last Sunday evening while out on Poltevant & Faver's log railroad, in St. Tamany parish, La. The deceased was an old and highly respected citizen, and belonged to one of the pioneer families of that section. He was widely known, having been connected in different capacities with the mill and lumber business for many years past.—*Capitolian Advocate.*

Mr. Toomer was the only surviving brother of Mrs. Lincoln, mother of Sheriff McGuire of this city.

As a forecast of what might be expected, it having rained here yesterday the 5th, we clip the following from the Capitolian-Advocate:

Look out for the 8th of June—that is said to be the anniversary of the umbrella patron saint, and if rain falls on that day, forty days rain will follow.

A special dispatch from Shreveport to the Times-Democrat of Sunday says, that Mr. M. Roos and Mr. John Morris of that city had secured a patent for a self acting car coupler, which is pronounced by experts to be one of the best yet patented. It is simple and strong and works without springs of any kind.

GEM SALOON,

W. S. LEYENS, Proprietor.

No. 22 DeSIARD STREET,

(Next floor to Sholaps' Drug Store.)

MONROE, LA.

THE GEM IS CONSTANTLY

supplied with Imported and Domestic Wines and Liquors, and Imported and Domestic Cigars, all new and fresh. Mixed Drinks prepared with care, and polite attention will be received by all.

J. G. HEBELER,

—PROPRIETOR OF—

Ouachita Bakery,

And Manufacturer of

Cakes, Candies,

SODA AND MINERAL WATERS,

32 DeSIard Street, Monroe, La.

PURE STICK CANDY A SPECIALTY.

The attention of the public is called to fact that this candy is made in my own establishment, and is superior in quality to that generally offered to the public.

Special orders for anything in my line will receive prompt attention.
J. G. HEBELER.

WM. T. CANNON, Butcher,

—Dealer in—

FRESH MEATS,

GAME, VEGETABLES, ETC,

Next door to R. J. Nelson's, Grocery,

My shop is conducted with a view of affording the public the greatest convenience, and I endeavor to keep all that can be had in the general market.

Ladies can do their marketing at my shop without the least fear of insult.

All those who have game, vegetables by other market truck for sale will do well calling on me.

WM. T. CANNON.

A. BENOIT,

Carpenter and Builder



CLOTHING HOUSE.

—CHEAP GOODS—

— MAKE —

Cheerful Buyers!

And an elegant stock to select from, is an advantage that every one appreciates. Therefore, if you anticipate buying anything in the CLOTHING LINE, call at the

STAR CLOTHING HOUSE,

and you will find the Largest and Best selected stock of

CLOTHING, GENTS FURNIHING GOODS, BOOTS, SHOES, HATS, CAPS & ETC;

that is kept outside of New Orleans.

It is not necessary to quote prices, here, nor do we say that we are selling at, or below cost, but, if you want anything in our line call on us and we will sell you at a legitimate profit.

Respectfully,

I. BAER & BRO.,
MONROE, LA.

MONROE RESTAURANT.

No. 26 DeSIard Street, Monroe, La.

This new Restaurant has just been opened. Everything new and Fresh. The table will be supplied with the best that the market affords. A well appointed Bar, is one of the conveniences attached, at which the best of Liquors may be had. Meals at all hours, at the following prices:

Single meals..... 50c.
Board per week..... \$5.00.

J. S. HAUGH, Proprietor.

F. WM. BLEES,

Teacher of the PIANO, ORGAN, VIOLIN, SINGING, THEORY OF MUSIC, HARMONY, ETC.

—SCORES REVISED AND MUSIC ARRANGED.—

Terms: Instrumental or Theoretical Lessons (per month)..... \$3.00
Vocal Lessons (per month)..... \$6.00
For further particulars, address

F. Wm. BLEES,
"Ouachita House," Monroe, La.

ERNEST FUDICKAR,

SOUTH GRAND STREET MONROE.

— DEALER IN —

Choice Family Groceries, Wines, Liquors, Cigars, Tobacco Genera Assorted Merchandise.

SUBLETT BROS.

DEALER IN

HARDWARE, BLACK SMITH' & MACHINIST S

Tools, Cooking and Heating toves, Iron, Steel, Wagon Timbers, Belting, Guns, Pistols Sporting Goods and House furnishing Hardware.

MONROE, LA.

Advertise In The Telegraph.