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T. B. R. HATCH, Editor.

BATON ROUGE,
SATURDAY, DEC. 23, 1865.

Our Agents in New Orleans.

MISSISSIPPI GARDEN & CO., Newspaper Advertising Agents, No. 5, Commercial Place, New Orleans, are the duly authorized Agents in that city for the Gazette and Comet.

CHRISTMAS.—We take it for granted everybody knows that "Christmas comes but once a year," and that on Monday next is the appointed time for that "once" to make its appearance, for the present year now waning to its close.

Our office hands are all anticipating their usual pleasures on the occasion, and to enable them to "get ahead" of their work in order that they may indulge in those pleasures, we have had to "hurry up the cakes" in the way of preparing copy for them.

We trust that our friends, readers, the public generally, may realize every joyous blessing attendant on a "merry Christmas," and that peace, good will, quiet and good order may be studiously observed by all, as well as strictly enjoyed by the co-operative military and civil authorities both here and elsewhere in every instance, where a deviation from the correct line of duty in these particulars may appear.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

SENATE—Tuesday, Dec. 19th—31 Senators present.

Messages from the House reporting concurrence in Senate bills, and others asking for concurrence in House bills.

The bill authorizing the Governor to issue bonds for the amount of one million dollars to defray the expenses of building the levees in accordance with the contracts made by him and the Levee Commissioners, was taken up and finally adopted.

The Committee on Public Education reported against the advisability of reporting a plan of organization of the public schools, during the present session of the Legislature. Report adopted.

The bill providing for the compensation of the clerical business of the General Assembly, was read section by section, and, after certain amendments were adopted, the bill relative to granting respite to debtors, under certain provisions, passed its second reading, and was ordered to a third reading on the day following.

Wednesday, Dec. 20th.—Mr. Brusie, the newly elected Senator from Iberville appeared and was sworn in.

A resolution was adopted to refer the bill for the relief of the Baton Rouge, Grosjean and Opelousas Railroad to the Railroad Committee.

The Homestead Bill from the House was adopted after undergoing an amendment inserting \$2,000 instead of \$1,000; and was returned for the concurrence of the House.

The House bill fixing the adjournment of the Legislature for Friday, the 22nd inst., was adopted.

Mr. Kenner, from the committee appointed to select from the calendar bills of general interest for the consideration of the General Assembly, reported the following Senate bills:

Mr. Palfrey's act suspending the sale of overland lands.

Mr. Palfrey's act authorizing the Governor to issue \$1,000,000 of State bonds to defray the expense of building levees.

Mr. Barrow's militia bill.

Mr. Taylor's act relative to the penitentiary.

Mr. Taylor's bill for the relief of E. L. Jewell.

Mr. Monday's bill punishing revolt and insurrection.

Mr. Taylor's bill for the relief of the Baton Rouge and Opelousas Railroad.

Mr. Gordon presented a report from the special committee appointed to select a site for the State House, requesting authority to sit during the interim of adjournment without per diem. Adopted.

The bill making appropriations to certain charitable associations was adopted.

The bill relative to respite was taken up for its third reading, but a motion to adjourn prevented any definite action upon it.

House—Wednesday, Dec. 20th.—A resolution to lease Mechanic's Institute for the use of the Legislature, was adopted.

The bill to pay Mr. E. L. Jewell, of the Star for printing for the Assembly was passed.

A bill to facilitate the recovery of horses, mules, etc., strayed or stolen within the past two years, was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The House in Committee of the bill to establish an Internal Improvement District, to provide for the election of Commissioners and other officers therefor, and to authorize the levying and collection of taxes for internal improvements.

Very lengthy debates ensued on the various sections and features of the bill, when an adjournment was moved to half-past six o'clock in the evening, which motion prevailed. At the evening session the bill was again taken up and lengthily discussed, after which it was found that there was not a quorum of the members present, and the House adjourned till 11 o'clock, the next day.

SILENCE FOSTERS ENERGY.—He knows not how to speak who cannot be silent; still less how to act with vigor and decision. Who hastens to the end is silent; loudness is impotence.—Lacater.

A word to the girls.—marriage is like money—seem to want it and you never get it.

Insanity in the Abstract and in the Concrete.

History abounds in many pointed illustrations and examples which might go to show that nations as well as individuals have their periods of madness and derangement, followed by lucid interregnums of the "sober second thought," when reason reassumes its sway, and turns with horror and disgust from its consciousness of weakness and self-abasement, and from the common wreck of ruin which in an evil hour it was the means of involving all within its reach. "From Macedonia's madman to the Swede," and down to the present day, the calendar of individual and national aberrations is replete to overflowing with instances which mark the vacillating and alternating phases of human reason and passion, unfitting men at times for self-control or for the ordinary business and domestic avocations of life, metamorphosing the statesman into the dawdling politician, impotent for good yet powerful for evil, and transforming the soldier into the fiend or petty tyrant.

By these fitful gusts which assail the throne of reason and the abodes of intellect and the soul, the social and moral fabric is overturned, and nations, like individuals and communities, are swept sooner or later into a vortex of ruin, from which to be extricated, if extricated at all, only with shattered powers, and natures steeped in demoralization, degradation and crime. Happy the individual or people, who can cope successfully with the wild tempests of passion, bigotry and prejudice, or who having suffered from their shocks, can by moral force rise superior to their evil effects.

A case in point, by way of illustrating some of the positions assumed in the above remarks, occurs to us here. It is related by the New York Express, that during the debates in the present General Convention of the Episcopal Church, lately held in Philadelphia, one of the delegates, Mr. Wm. Welsh, very ably and earnestly advocated a conciliatory course of action towards Churchmen in the Southern States, and took occasion several times to say "we have all been crazy for the last three or four years, and I have been as crazy as any one else."

Mr. Welsh is one of the most eminent merchants in this country, distinguished for his intelligence and for the good he does with his great wealth, and has been very loyal in support of the Government—but he he now evidently sees that a majority of the people of this country have been laboring under monomania for some years past, and, like a truly good man, as he is, has the courage and frankness fairly to own it. It has been the opinion of many reflecting men, that most of the original Abolitionists were insane; that some of them were so, can hardly be doubted. Many considered the conduct of the majority of the nation as proof of insanity, and yet were staggered at admitting the belief of a nation being insane it is a remarkable fact that so great a man as Joseph Butler, Bishop of Durham, and author of the Analogy, entertained the expressed opinion that whole communities might be seized with fits of insanity, as well as individuals, and added that on no other principle could certain transactions, recorded in history, be accounted for.

AN ANCIENT RELIC.—There is in the Patent office at Washington a slab of marble, said to be part of the monument erected by Miltiad's in memory of the battle of Marathon.

TABLE DISHES.—What dish may you conclude to have been stolen, no matter on whose table you meet it? Poached eggs.

Which is the silliest you can put on a table? Gooseberry fool.

Which is the merriest? Caper sauce.

Which is the quickest? Hasty pudding.

Which is the coolest? Ice cream.

NEW ORLEANS MARKETS.

FINANCIAL.

TUESDAY EVENING, December 21.
Market dull. Dealers pay from 140@145 for small amounts, and hold round lots at 144@145 and 146.
Sterling.—No improvement in Foreign Exchange. Sterling is quoted at 167@167½ for bills of lading bill, and 167½@168½ for A 1st class clear; bank rates are 169½@170. Domestic Exchange is unsettled and lower, and no uniformity in the bank rates. Checks on New York are selling at ½ premium down to par, in some instances, and in others, as low as ¼ discount.
BANKS.—Banks stock share sold yesterday as follows: 25 shares Canal Bank, at \$57.50; 16 shares Bank of America, at \$125; 45 shares Citizen's Bank, at \$127.50; 25 shares Gas Light, at \$175. City Railroad shares were offered at 199.
The following are the quotations for uncurrent bank notes: Bank of Louisiana at 47@48c; and 50@50½c per dollar; Merchants' Banks at 63@65c, and 70@71½c; Louisiana State Bank at 65@70c, and 72@73c; Bank of New Orleans at 78@80c, and 82@85c; Crescent City Bank at 87@90c, and 82@84c; and Union Bank at 78@80c, and 84@86c. The inside range of the above figures represents the rates paid by dealers for the small sums offered at their counters, and the outside figures the market for round amounts.

COMMERCIAL.

THURSDAY MORNING, December 21.
COTTON.—The movements in Cotton yesterday were very limited, the sales being confined to 1000 bales to a few brokers, and at irregular, and in most cases, easier prices. Low middling sold at 45c, and strict low middling, good staple, at 45c, indicating in both cases a reduction in the prices paid on the day previous, of about 1c. The market is too unsettled for regular quotations.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—Sugar is dull. There is more movement in Molasses though at still easier prices. Good common sugar is selling at 13½c; good common to fair, 13½c; good fair, 14½c; and prime, 16@16½c. Molasses, inferior, 6@7c; good, 7@8c; prime, 8@8½c; choice, 9@9½c; very choice, \$1 per gallon.
WESTERN PRODUCTS.—The general market is dull, partly from inclement weather, and partly from the disposition shown by buyers to hold aloof for further developments. Flour continues dull and drooping, with a liberal stock in the market and only a limited local demand. The sales were confined yesterday to about 2000 barrels, of which 155 fine at \$7.25; 50c at \$3; 100 do. at \$3.30; 200 good superfine at \$3.25; 200 choice do. at \$3.37½; 50 and 200 good extra at \$10; 100 do. at \$10.50; 200 choice extra at \$12 and 85 very choice family extra at \$13 12½ c bbl.

POKE.—The demand is very limited, so much so, that although the stock is small, holders have had to reduce prices in order to realize. There were sales to day of 100 barrels full weight mesh at \$31; 40 do. at \$32, and smaller lots at the same price. Dealers are retailing it at \$32@33 50 c bbl.

BACON.—A lot of 15 tiers of shoulders sold at 15½c. Extreme dullness continues to prevail and only a limited retail business is doing at 15@16c. Shoulders, 19@19½c. For ribbed sides, 19@19½c. For plain hams and 25@30c. Shoulders and sides are in good supply but hams are scarce.

GREEN MEAT.—A lot of 10 casks shoulders sold at 14c. They are retailing at 4½c. Lard—Prime, in tiers and in kegs, is retailing at 23 c. The market is nearly bare.

BRAN.—The stock is fair, and firmly held at full prices. There were sales of several hundred sacks in lots at \$1.60 @ 100 lbs.

OATS.—The market is in fair supply, and several hundred sacks were sold at 60c. bushel.

CORN.—Is in fair demand at full prices about 1000 sacks were sold, of which 926 sacks follow on private terms, understood to be a full price; 500 sacks mixed at \$1.05, and 125 do. at \$1.15 c bushel.

HAY.—The stock is not large. Small sales are being made at \$29@30 per ton prime and choice Western.

INDIA BAGGING.—The stock is small. There is not much demand, however, and prices are easier. Dealers are supplying the demand at \$30@31c. per yard in rolls and 32@32½ c in bales.

BALE ROPE.—The supply is ample. The demand has fallen off, and is being supplied by dealers at 15½@15¾c. B. B.

BALTIMORE TWINE.—Is scarce, and commands 25c. per bbl. readily.

BERMUDA.—There have been considerable sales at 30@32c. each.

GUNNY BAGS.—Are selling at 30c. a piece for second hand, and 35c. for new.

COFFEE.—There is an active retail demand for the country and about 300 sacks have been sold to-day at 23½c. per lb for ordinary Rio, 29@31c. for fair to good fair, and 31½@32c. per lb for choice.

SALT.—Dealers are supplying the demand at \$2.10@2.25 per sack for Liverpool coarse, and \$2.25@2.35 for fine.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.—Choice butter is very scarce and in request, while common is plenty and dull. Choice commands 45@50c. common 25@35c. Cheese is in good supply and fair demand at 31@32c. per lb. English dairy commands 25c. per lb.

WHISKEY.—There is no demand for round lots, but a good retail business is doing at \$2.35@2.40 gallon. Very choice brands command a little more.

WALNUTS.—Are selling readily in small lots at \$1.15 per gallon in cans, and 90c. in barrels.

POTATOES.—Potatoes are dull, and are selling at \$2.25@2.35; Onions at \$2.25@2.35; Apples at \$2@2.25 per barrel, and eggs at \$4@4.50 per barrel.

FREIGHTS.—Coastwise freights are dull, foreign are quiet but firm. The rates are ¼c. per lb for cotton by steamships and sailing vessels for New York and Boston; 85c. per bbl for flour for New York, 65c. per bbl for Boston and 80c. by steam. ½c. @ 1-16c. per lb for cotton for Liverpool by sailing vessels, and 1½c. for Havre.

TO PREVENT GUNS RUSTING.—For the benefit of such of your readers as pride themselves on the condition in which they bring their guns into the field, I offer the following recipe, given me by a sportsman of no little experience, and which I tried on his recommendation and found to be perfectly satisfactory. It is as follows: 20 oz. finest olive oil, 1½ oz. spirits of turpentine. This is to be rubbed on the gun barrels with a rag, and also inside, leaving them with the oil on, and not rubbed off until wanted to be used. This, during any damp weather, I am sure will keep guns in first rate condition.

A. W. B. in London Field.

GRAND BALL

FOR THE BENEFIT OF

The Baton Rouge Brass Band.

SATURDAY NIGHT, DEC. 30TH, 1865.

PIKE'S HALL.

The Members of the Band, beg leave to announce that their FIRST GRAND BALL, will take place as above.

The proceeds of the Ball are partly to be appropriated to the purchase of instruments and to defray other expenses.

The Band is composed of amateurs, who intend to keep up the same, principally for local amusement and pleasure.

GREAT EXCITEMENT

ON—

LAUREL STREET!

A. KOWALSKI, Agent,

SELLING OFF BELOW COST!

Now is your last opportunity!

In order to make room for a large invoice from New York, I am compelled to reduce my selected stock of

DRY GOODS,

CLOTHING,

BOOTS, SHOES AND HATS,

TO A PRICE

BELOW THEIR ACTUAL COST VALUE.

Christmas Presents for the Old and Young, of both Sexes:

BLACK SILKS,

SHAWLS,

FRENCH CALICOES,

FRENCH MERINOS,

ENGLISH PRINTS,

SOLID COLD DELAINES,

FIG'D DELAINES, all wool.

CLOAKS, Black and Gray.

POPLINS,

SCOTCH PLAIDS,

OPERA FLANNELS, all colors.

KENTUCKY JEANS,

BLANKETS,

SONTAGS,

NUBIAS,

LINEN AND COTTON SHEETINGS,

—AND—

HUNDREDS OF ARTICLES

Too numerous to mention,

TOGETHER WITH

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.

ONLY CALL AND LOOK AT THE STOCK and satisfy yourselves.

In order to accommodate the people of Baton Rouge and vicinity, and give everybody a chance, I will expose the whole stock for sale at

ASTONISHINGLY LOW PRICES!

FOR TEN DAYS.

Come one, come all,

And give me an early call!

My Necessity—Your Opportunity!

A. KOWALSKI, AGENT,

Laurel Street.

L. J. TANSEY, G. W. ROBERTS,

St. Louis, Mo. Baton Rouge, La.

TANSEY & ROBERTS,

WAREHOUSE AND

General Commission Merchants

AND DEALERS IN

PLANTATION SUPPLIES,

Moss and Cotton Seed,

BATON ROUGE, LA.

WE WOULD respectfully call the attention of the public to our card, as above, and solicit from them a share of patronage. We are prepared to store and sell Cotton and other Produce and Plantation and Family Supplies; also, Farming Implements and Machinery, likewise to fill orders for Live Stock, and to do a

General Commission Business.

Our desire is by strict attention to business to merit the confidence of those who may entrust us with their patronage.

dec 21 2w

TANSEY & ROBERTS.

FLORENCE HOUSE,

LAFAYETTE STREET, BATON ROUGE,

BETZ & WEBBER, Proprietors.

THIS old and well known establishment has undergone thorough repairs and refitted in such a style as to compare favorably with any other House in the State. No pains will be spared by the proprietors to please and give general satisfaction to their friends and the public.

Their patrons can rely that none but the very best brands of

WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS

will be kept by them.

COLD LUNCH AT ALL HOURS.

CHARLES BETZ,

FRED. WEBBER.

dec 21-3a

JUST RECEIVED.

—AT THE—

Sign of the Big Padlock, Third St.

DIAMAR BOOKS,

TRACK CHAINS,

MEAT CUTTERS,

BUTCHER KNIVES,

GUN TUBS,

HORN & HAKES,

HORN BRUSHES,

CURRY COMBS,

GUN WIPERS,

SAUSAGE STUFFERS,

HAND AXES,

HAT HITS and

HAMMERS.

JAMES McVAY,

dec 20

NOTICE TO BAKERS!

THE price of Flour being \$16 per barrel, Bakers will give 19 ounces for a dime, the ensuing week.

J. E. KLAM, Mayor.

\$50 REWARD.

A REWARD of Fifty Dollars will be given for the return of the Tax Roll of 1861 to this office. Said Roll was lost or mislaid when the town was occupied by the United States forces in 1862.

JAS. E. KLAM, Mayor.

Cloaks for Holiday Presents.

JUST RECEIVED per Adams Express, a splendid lot of

BLACK CLOTH CLOAKS,

Basques and Sack Patterns,

which will be cleared out at

NEW YORK PRICES,

Also, a splendid lot of WOOL SHAWLS, at

PARKEE'S

Main Street near Third.

dec 19

Peterson's Lady's Magazine

—FOR—

JANUARY, 1866.

—AT—

JOSHUA BEAL'S BOOK AND VARIETY STORE,

Corner of Third and Convention streets.

dec 19 10t

LOOK OUT FOR COLD WEATHER!

H. CZARLINSKY,

Main Street, bet. Third and Lafayette

(Predergast's old stand.)

AVAILS himself one more of the opportunity to inform the ladies and gentlemen of Baton Rouge and its vicinity, that he is still better prepared to furnish them in

LADIES' CLOAKS, of the latest styles.

HOODS, SHAWLS, CAPES, NUBIAS, POPLINS,

DELAINES, &c., &c.

He has also on hand one of the most complete assortments of

GENTS' SUITS,

DRESS COATS,

OVERCOATS,

And a variety of PANTS, which he proposes to sell at very reduced prices.

He is constantly receiving Fresh Goods from the manufacturers, which enables him to supply one and all, both in taste and price.

dec 12

New and Popular Music,

A T BEAL'S BOOK AND VARIETY STORE—

WHY DON'T YOU NAME THE DAY—

W. J. Landrum.

PINE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING—Claribel

I BRAM OF THE—B. E. S.

WHY NO ONE TO LOVE—Stephen C. Foster.

A FEW MORE DAYS AND WE SHALL PART—

Mrs. Nesbit.

THE TITTLING GALOP—