

CITY AFFAIRS.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

Promotions and Appointments—An Ordinance Signed.

Col. Denis, acting Mayor, has made the following promotions of superintendents of the police to become members of the regular force:

O. E. Forshey, clerk and operator; E. R. Chavallier and George Henry, patrolmen, Seventh Precinct; J. D. Lewis, Eighth Precinct.

The following superintendents have also been appointed:

Third Precinct—James Dunn, Wm. L. Morgan, August Bunch, G. T. Gallagher, Peter Radovich, Sixth Precinct—Robert McKenney, Seventh Precinct—Simon Hagg, Jas. P. Bourdette, Harbor Precinct—Jas. McMoon.

The acting Mayor having visited the spot on the river front allotted to Messrs. Brown & Jones as a boat landing, has come to the conclusion that the request is a fair one and should be granted. He has therefore signed the ordinance relative thereto passed at the last Council meeting. The spot is at present unfit for use, requiring much filling in, which the petitioners have agreed to do at their own expense.

A WELCOME.

Pieces of information for the discharged employees of the Improvement Department. On Monday evening, at 5 o'clock, they are requested to call at the City Hall and receive their pay for June.

In the Department of Assessments the assessors and their employees are doing well under a temperature of from 94 to 97 in the shade, and Administrator Bangsford is now satisfied that the rolls will be completed for examination by taxpayers on the 15th inst. Meanwhile it is useless for taxpayers to apply for corrections or reductions at his office on the rolls of this year. It only delays the operations of the department without in the least benefiting the applicants.

A poor woman who prides herself on the streets on a "free permit" called on the acting Administrator of Finance on Friday morning to say that she had been

INTERVIEWED WITH.

by a policeman in her avocation. With the permission of a storekeeper on Dryades street, near Thalia, she sells her own wares in a basket near the curb of the sidewalk, but although one block away from the market, the policeman constrains that she is violating the city ordinances, and wants her to rent a stall in the market if she insists upon selling goods in that neighborhood, and he thinks that her permit is worthless.

Mr. Cavanaugh has informed the good woman that, on the contrary, the permit is in regular form, and that the market ordinances do not apply to peddling at such a distance from the market.

THE QUESTION OF PERMITTING.

Messrs. Bault & Henry to try the experiment of laying an asphalt pavement

on Wells street, between Canal and Outenouche, is not yet settled. Col. Denis says it is all very well that the petitioners should be allowed to try the effectiveness of their pavement, but as the work will entail an expense to the city for bridging and curbing, he thinks that the city council should be consulted on the subject.

Col. Denis likes the proposition to an invitation to the city to take a day off, she to pay for the wine.

POLICE UNIFORMS.

Mr. Leon Godchaux, the clothier on Canal street, has all but completed the new police uniforms, and although he has had to make one hundred more than he expected, they will all be delivered by Monday or Tuesday next, several days before the time specified.

The one hundred extra uniforms are for the superintendents, who are required to be uniformed like the regular men. The work has been handsomely done under the personal supervision of our young and energetic friend, Emilio Levy, who compliments the Chief of Police for the regularity with which he has sent his men to be fitted, thereby facilitating the work greatly in the execution of their contract.

By the way, it may be said that the men of the First Precinct have all ordered white vests from Mr. Godchaux, as a complement to their uniforms, and it is probable the other precincts will follow suit—no pun intended. The vest coats of the police will be of the frock pattern, double-breasted.

The Louisiana Grays, one of our finest military organizations, have also ordered handsome gray uniforms of this house.

BOARD OF CANVASERS.

The Vote for Coroner Canvassed—Roche Has Over 1100 Majority.

The State Board of Canvassers met yesterday at the State House. Present: Speaker Bush and Senators Zachary and Allain.

On motion the board proceeded to canvass the vote for Coroners cast at the last election.

IN THIS PARISH, and found that in the lower district Roche, with no contestant, had 3300 majority.

In the votes cast in the upper district it was found that Roche had a majority of over 1100 over Chastant, and this fact will probably be made known by official promulgation to-day.

After canvassing the vote, as stated, the board adjourned until to-day at 12 m.

TILLINGHAM'S LITTLE GAME.

Attempt to Blackmail the Insurance Companies of New Orleans.

Human ingenuity never seems at a loss to invent new means to secure the filthy lucre without the pain of laboring for it. The hundreds of schemes employed by confidence men, the many artful dodges of the professional forger to get rid of his work, and the thousand business tricks testify that the discovery of one and its exposure only excites the rogue to invent another plan whereby he can fleece even the most unsuspecting. Of all the plans of getting money dishonestly none are more contemptible and purely vile than blackmailing. It lacks even the dignity of picking pockets, and it is several degrees below sneak-thieving. Still it seems to be resorted to quite often, as a case now and then in the courts shows.

There is one individual in the Athenian city of Boston who has risen above his fellows in the blackmailing business just now, and who is seeking to make himself a sort of aristocratic Jeremy Biddler, and his name is Tillingham.

Tillingham, depicting all the old and worn out schemes for blackmailing,

FITTED UPON A PLAN.

he thought would not only be a safe one, but also exceedingly remunerative, and it was this:

He started in Boston a pamphlet which he styled the Insurance Index, wherein he proposed to publish for a small compensation the statements of the different companies, and also the financial status of every company, whether they advertised with him or not. This circular or prospectus was widely circulated, and shortly afterwards the work itself came out. Some Northern companies, believing the Index legitimate, inserted their statements in its columns, whilst others, fearing that they would not publish therein the book they would be rated low, did so and paid down their blackmail and received a consideration by seeing them placed as "bold, staunch," in the reference table in the back part of the book.

TO ENLARGE HIS FIELD.

of operations and accordingly mailed to the different insurance companies this city his proposition. As it well known, our established companies do not need the endorsement of a concern like Tillingham's, and so his proposition met with a flat refusal to "come down." The consequences were exactly as was supposed. Tillingham wasn't to be put down in the New Orleans insurance companies. If the companies wouldn't go to Tillingham, why Tillingham would go to the companies and so he did.

In a neatly printed number of the Insurance

Index the following is found: "People's Insurance Company of New Orleans—L." "L." refers the reader to a key in the book, where opposite this letter is found, "This company refused to publish its statements. The reader can judge of its solvency for himself."

"Hope Mutual Insurance Company of New Orleans—L." When "L" is looked for and found, that the Hope Insurance Company is "bankrupt" is discovered. As the writer passed his office yesterday it occurred to him that a bankrupt company need not be anxious to be listed in the Index. A few worthless corporations like the "Hibernia" in New York and Boston would tend very materially to

ALLAY THE FEVERISH FEELING.

there regarding the insurance interests. It is not improbable that Tillingham has resorted to a rich harvest with the believing companies at the North that have endeavored by false statements to keep up a precarious existence. In his circular he says he will publish these statements just as they are sent to him, insinuating that the companies need not be anxious to be listed in the Index. It is the bait to lure his game. It is a little uncertain how long Tillingham will continue his brilliant career, but if justice is done he will find himself "indexed" on some penitentiary record soon.

THE CUSTOM-HOUSE COMMISSION.

An Interview with Gen. Barney on Their Report.

It appears now that the Custom-House Investigating Commission have not closed their labors; at least, they have not completed their report, and will not have done so until the 15th inst. Gen. Sheldon, who is now in Washington, went there to present the preliminary report of the commission, which treats only of the clerical force of the customs department at this port, together with the recommendation that their number be reduced, as well as other expenses in the department.

Before proceeding further, it should be said that with reference to the appeal of Mr. H. Bonzano, urging the commission to put the importers for the Cobdenites de Rankin Society, Miss Krewe of Comus, etc., on the "free list" as "importations for societies or institutions established for philosophical, educational and literary purposes, or the encouragement of the fine arts, and not intended for sale," Gen. Sheldon has taken the matter specially in hand.

He will interview the Secretary of the Treasury personally and explain to him

the high character of these societies and the service they render to the cause of education by their chaste and classic representations.

He will recommend them as being deservedly entitled to the benefit of the doubt, if any should exist about the propriety of placing their importations on the "free list."

With reference to the memorial, also of Mr. Bonzano, touching the four cent cotton tax, the committee returned a polite answer, stating that the subject did not come under the purview of the commission, and therefore could not be touched upon by them.

Gen. Sheldon, however, took pains to explain in a personal interview some of the difficulties attending the recovery of this tax.

He said that he was a member of Congress, a few years ago, he had the honor of being chairman of the committee to which it had been referred and he said that he soon

became tired of attending at these committee meetings, because there seemed no possibility of coming to an agreement.

The Northern members were opposed to the refund, because it involved too heavy an amount (sixty or eighty millions of dollars); the others, though friendly and anxious to serve the South, could never agree as to who should be entitled to the refund.

One wanted the producer to have it, another wanted the country purchaser or shipper to have it, a third one wanted the agent or consignee, who paid the tax into the treasury, to have it, and thus, while all agreed that the refund was a special tax of four cents a pound on cotton was clearly illegal and unconstitutional, it was impossible for them to agree as to who should have the right to make the refund; consequently no refund was made.

There have been any better understanding brought about since.

The other memorials of Mr. Bonzano, half a dozen or more in number, were of a character directly opposite to the investigation and the result of the long experience of their author as a Customs-House broker. They treated principally of transportation entries to Mexico, the tardiness of the Texas mails, and the delays occasioned thereby in the transmission of bonded goods.

EXCESSIVE BOND.

endeavored to secure the safe transit and exit of bonded goods to Mexico, and whether the commission would permit the bonded draymen of merchants to do their hauling; the prevention of smuggling; the propriety or expediency of giving importers twenty days to make their entries, changes in the general order system; and the removal of goods from ship to the warehouse designated by the importer, when such a designation is made; the unfair classification of sugars, recommending the low grading of the North compared with the high grading here should be investigated, and other matters, all subjects of the highest interest and importance to the merchants of our city and, indeed, to a great portion of the West and Northwest, and going to show that there be any.

VIRTUE IN THE COMMISSION.

which we have no reason to doubt, a great deal can be done by them to promote the business interests and to preserve and increase the foreign commerce of this port and the other sections of country referred to.

We have summarized the subjects and print them again simply for the sake of reference and to keep them in all their importance before the public, for a visit to Gen. Barney yesterday elicited very valuable information.

The General was in his new and comfortable office, at the head of that break-neck staircase where the commission used to meet. He was unable, however, to answer our questions, on the subject of the low grading of the North, as he had just concluded what recommendations.

THEY WOULD MAKE.

to the Department of the Treasury on the subjects laid before them by Mr. Bonzano.

During our conversation with the chairman of the commission we were told, however, that their full report would be completed by the 15th inst., or thereabouts. Having ventured the question whether we could then hope for some information, Gen. Barney invited us very courteously to call again that date, when he could better tell us how far he might be able to go.

There is one subject which the General will be able to consider with

MORE THAN ORDINARY.

ability. We refer to the "Transportation to Mexico" matter, with which he is practically acquainted, he having been for some time Collector of Customs at Brownsville.

We are still encouraged in the belief that when their full report will be completed by the 15th inst., our readers of its main points without awaiting the action of the Secretary of the Treasury or of Congress upon it.

EXTRAVAGANT FUNERALS.

What it Costs to be Decently Buried in New Orleans.

Yesterday afternoon the sight of a long string of carriages and cabs following a hearse out Canal street called to the reporter's mind a statement published some months since in a Paris journal, that "our funerals are too costly." Meeting an experienced undertaker before the cortege had passed, the reporter inquired, "What do you think, Mr.—, is the cost of a funeral like that?"

The Undertaker—Let me see. There's about twelve carriages and four cabs, and the hearse. That'll make just about \$90 at least for that, if that is all you want to know.

What do you think the whole of that funeral cost to the relatives of the deceased? Can you approximate that?

Undertaker—I can come somewhat near to it.

That metallic case is sold for \$65, and that has to be added to the cost for the carriage, and then there are incidental expenses, such as crape and the like, that make up about \$10 more. You see \$150 to \$165 even, if not more.

Reporter—Is that as cheap as you can get up a respectable funeral for?

Undertaker—Oh, no. It all depends on the cost. You can get a cheap walnut box for \$8 or \$10 that looks very well, and a good-looking hearse (7) with three carriages for \$30, and ain't that decent? The expense of keeping horses is a little, and there's not much profit in the business.

Reporter—Don't you think, as a rule, most people for a love of display expend more than is necessary in the funerals of deceased friends or relatives?

Undertaker—Well, it wouldn't do for me to say anything about that, for it's against business, but as a rule people do like to spread some on a funeral.

The above is only a tithe of what the truth really is. Brass bands and doleful dirges are frequently played over deceased brothers, at a cost of fifty or sixty dollars, when the widow and the little children at home lack the necessities of life, and the next day the meal is a matter of uncertainty. If there is anything in which the middle classes ought to curtail their love for display, it is in the last sad services to their dead. The money unnecessarily spent in one year even the poorest of our people can ill afford to squander on the funeral extravagance devoted properly to the care and nursing of the invalid might save a life.

1776 AND 1877.

Address Delivered by the Orator of the Day at Donaldsonville.

As was promised our readers yesterday, we give below the principal portions of the address delivered by Col. James Lingan, an orator of the day to the Donaldsonville Cannoniers and their assembled guests on the occasion of the celebration of the Fourth of July.

We have met to-day to join in the celebration of two most important events, the Declaration of Independence by our forefathers and the reorganization of the survivors of that gallant band of patriots who fought forth from your midst sixteen years ago, and battled for the principles of liberty and justice for all men.

There is a connection between the past and the present, and the principles of liberty and justice for all men are the same. We are here to-day to celebrate the anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, and the anniversary of the battle of the Clouds, which was the last battle of the Revolution.

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and sectional bitterness and reach forward to wards that inspired dream of a political millennium.

When the war-drum throb no longer, and the battle-flags faded, the federation of the world.

There the common sense of most shall keep a fresh realm in awe, and the kindly earth shall slumber, lapt in universal law!

LOVE AND POISON.

Washington Goes for His Sweetheart with Peaches and Arsenic.

Wm. Washington is the name of a negro who wanted to marry. About twelve months ago he met a negress named Severens Gardner, who he thought would make him a loving partner for life.

For a whole year he was most assiduous in his attentions, and lavished every cent of his hard earnings upon her.

But during these many months Severens had been deceiving Washington, as she had given her heart to another.

A few days ago Washington came to the conclusion that it was time to pop the question. So he went to Severens and asked her to be his wife, for better or for worse. But Severens instantly astonished him by telling him that he must go away and try and forget her, as she had long since given her heart to another.

This was the most unkind cut of all, and the demon jealousy getting possession of Washington in its ire and most vindictive form, urged him to seek redress and revenge.

On Thursday Washington repaired to the house of his adored Wm. 205 Howard street, and there, meeting Severens, he told her that he had labored hard for the last twelve months to gain her love, and as he had failed, he now came to say farewell forever.

Severens was just bidding him farewell, when he asked her to eat a couple of peaches, which she did.

She had no sooner eaten the fruit than she was taken with spasms and paralysis of the face. Dr. Crow was called in, who declined to give an opinion.

Dr. Board was then summoned to the unfortunate woman's bed, and after examining her stated that she had been poisoned by arsenic and that her condition was very critical. The police are now hunting for the criminal, Wm. Washington.

Tale Care of the Court Records.

Court records have been handled here for the last twenty years as though they were mere waste papers that had served their time, notwithstanding the fact that they are most precious in settling titles and as evidence, it may be, forty years hence. In the third story of the court building at Jackson Square, strewn upon the floor, and promiscuously packed in flour barrels, can now be seen what was once the complete records of the old First District Court. As this tribunal had a very extended jurisdiction, and many cases involving the title to the most valuable properties have been before it, the records are invaluable.

The carelessness with which court records are regarded in other States seems not to exist here. Our clerks of court now do all in their power to keep those now in their charge in order, but with the present accommodations this is impossible. Almost every lawyer at the bar is familiar with a number of cases where records have been surreptitiously taken from the clerk's office for the purpose of defrauding a judgment.

The open boxes wherein the most of them are now kept is easily accessible to any person visiting the court, and an opportunity is not difficult to purloin what is wanted. Some provision ought to be made to have more security against loss of valuable papers, and the only way is to place them under lock and key.

In the United States Circuit Court and District Court clerk's offices large cabinets have been put up, with heavy doors, and kept always locked. This prevents any one having access to the records unless the clerk of court is present.

Now that the city is about to repair the court building, it would be well for those who have this matter in charge to consider the propriety of making some alterations to effect a better arrangement of the records.

This matter has been for a long time a source of much grievance to the members of the bar, as well as to those whose interests have been jeopardized by the loss of papers.

Down from Donaldsonville.

The reporter of the Democrat "who came down on the Duffee with the Washington Artillery," is obliged for many favors and a good bed to the officers of that corps. He does not know of other members of the press having been alighted, as a contemporary says, but his personal experiences are of good feed, pleasant company and a delicious rest, in a well appointed berth, as he was coming down from Donaldsonville.

Burglary.

At ten minutes to 4 o'clock Friday morning a burglar entered the house at the corner of Lafayette and Willow streets, and succeeded in stealing and carrying away a lot of wearing apparel valued at \$110.

The robbery is supposed to have been committed by a negro who, has, up to this time, evaded arrest.

Died Suddenly.

At about quarter-past 4 o'clock Friday evening, a man named Joseph Fench, aged 39 years, died suddenly at 143 Gravier street. The coroner and City Physician B. and viewed the body and returned a verdict of congestion of the brain.

Sunset Concerts.

Mr. Kittredge, the manager of the West End Pavilion, will entertain the visitors to the Lake End with music from 5 until 9 o'clock this evening. Wolfe's (late Jeger's) excellent band will be on hand to discourse a programme selected especially for the occasion.

We understand that owing to the success which has attended the opening of the pavilion to the public, the New Orleans City Railroad Company have concluded to canvas the upper story of the structure.

A Washwoman's Fight.

At 9:30 o'clock Thursday night, at No. 7 McPee-mo street, two washboard wrestlers, Mary Harris and Amanda Madison, became involved in a difficulty, which terminated in the former being severely and seriously wounded about the face, neck and wrist, by a knife in the hands of the latter.

The wounded woman was attended by a physician, who pronounced her wounds serious, though not necessarily fatal.

Amanda was arrested and locked up in the Second Precinct Station, charged with cutting and wounding with intent to murder.

It appears these two women were partners in the laundry business. The partnership was dissolved, business went to smash, and hence the fight.

Railroad Personalities.

Fred. Sales (of the Coast) left last night over the great Jackson route for Cincinnati and the East.

W. A. Lea and wife were among the departures last night for Allegheny Springs, taking the New Orleans, Jackson and Northern Railroad.

A. J. Simoncand and wife left by the old Jackson last night for a trip to the far West.

Wm. Wilson and daughter (for "Manitou Springs"), Colorado, took the Jackson road and left for their destination last night.

Wm. D. Duffee, Miss M. Duffee, Miss Sinclair, A. W. Crandell, J. G. Tate, J. A. Collins were among those booked via the popular Jackson route last night for New York.