DAILY DEMOCRAT.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL STATE OF LOUISIANA.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Office No. 62 Camp Street.

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT NEW ORLEANS AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION:

The Daily Democrat.

One year	$12 00
Six Months	6 00
Three Months	2 00
One Month	1 00

Payable in Advance.

The Weekly Democrat.

The WEEKLY DEMOCRAT, a large eight-page paper, will be furnished to subscribers at the following rates:

One Year	$1 50
Six Months	75
Three Months	50

Payable in Advance.

E. A. BURKE, Managing Editor.

NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 4, 1880.

TRIPLE SHEET

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—*Barlow, Wilson, Primrose & West's Mammoth Minstrels.*

GRAND OPERA HOUSE—"THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE," *by D'Oyley Carte's Opera Company.*

ST. CHARLES THEATRE—THE WONDERFUL MIDGETS, *General Mite and Major Atom.*

WEATHER PROBABILITIES.

For the West Gulf States, clear or partly cloudy weather, southwest winds veering to northwest, stationary or lower temperature, and rising barometer.

Texas derives a revenue of $60,000 from the the tax on drummers. The total number licensed under the law is 1632.

Marriage—Of all the actions of a man's life, his marriage does least concern other people; yet of all actions of our life, 'tis most meedled with by other people.—[Selden.

Cuba is in a bad way agriculturally. The tobacco crop is a failure and the cane crop even worse. It is predicted that the sugar crop of Cuba this year will not exceed 400,000 tons, a deficit of 300,000 tons, or 43 per cent.

Dungaroon, in County Waterford, Ireland, is said to be the smallest borough represented in the British Parliament, its election rolls numbering only 317 electors. The Duke of Devonshire owns nearly the entire town, but does not interfere in politics, and the borough consequently returns a Parnellite to Parliament.

The total of projected and completed railroads in this country since September 1, 1879, is placed at 15,612. A more certain proof of prosperity, if any proof was now needed, could not be furnished. It is estimated that these railroads will absorb $273,000,000, the the cost per mile being placed at $17,500.

The Liberals continue to gain in the English elections and are now considerably ahead of their opponents, the Conservatives. The Home Rulers have also gained several seats in Ireland at the expense of the Conservatives. The result of the elections so far held is, Liberals 206, Conservatives 122, Home Rulers 12.

The recently published statistics of the Postoffice Department show that 5,000,000 letters are sent every year to the dead letter office, on account of bad directions, containing an average of $35,000 in cash and $1,500,000 on drafts. Besides these, some 50,000 packages of merchandise go astray every year. The Cincinnati *Commercial* is surprised to find that New England, which has a reputation for the most comprehensive system of public schools, furnishes the largest proportion of these misdirected letters.

A comparison of the debts of the various States in 1840 and to-day shows that there has been a much smaller increase than most people believe, the increase being only about 35 per cent, while the population of the country has increased during this period 180 per cent and the wealth of the country more than quintupled. The explanation of this lies in the fact that the period of 1835-1840 was one of inflation, ending in a crisis and panic, and that the States took advantage of the ease at which money could be obtained to borrow as much as possible. Pennsylvania led the list in 1840 in the matter of big debts and Louisiana stood second, with New York, Alabama, Illinois and Indiana following. All of these States have smaller debts to-day than they had forty years ago, but Illinois can boast of the best showing, having absolutely wiped out a heavy debt of twelve millions. The other States without debts or with scarcely appreciable debts to-day are Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, Oregon, Vermont and West Virginia. The amount of the State indebtedness of this country reached its highest point in 1870, when, so the census showed us, the States owed $352,866,698, which amount has been reduced to $266,638,000 to-day.

The people of Geneva, Switzerland, complain that their city is overrun with alien vagabonds. The nuisance appears to be really a serious one. The number of arrivals at Geneva each year exceed a million, and many of these visitors remain behind. The result is that Geneva is filled with aliens, not like our emigrants, people who have come to settle in the country, to make it their home and to become good citizens, but who are, for the most part, vagabonds that have been run out of France, Germany and Italy. The invasion into the canton from Germany is very large as people can enter Switzerland without any trouble, but when they attempt to go back again to Germany are refused permission to enter the country because they are without passports. The French citizens in Geneva also far exceed in number the natives, who are now in a hopeless minority. The criminal statistics of the canton show a heavy increase in crime, which can be traced, without difficulty, to this foreign invasion. Four-fifths of the murders are foreign; four-fifths of the inmates of the lunatic asylum, five-sixths of the persons arrested by the police, and so on. The result is the people of Geneva have organized a Know Nothing movement and will endeavor to so frame their laws that Geneva will not become the headquarters for all the Socialists, Communists, tramps and cut-throats of Europe.

THE NEW SUPREME COURT.

Gov. Wiltz has justified the public confidence by his organization and appointment of the new Supreme Court.

It is no derogation from the well earned reputation of their predecessors to affirm the equal merits of the new appointees. They are all gentlemen who have always enjoyed to a large degree the confidence and esteem of their fellow-citizens of the bar, of which they have been distinguished representatives. They have proved worthy and capable in positions of public trust, and in all their social, professional and business relations have always been regarded as good and patriotic citizens, devoted to the maintenance of the honor of the State, and to the faithful administration of her laws.

Edward Bermudez is a native and Creole of distinguished ancestry. His father was a judge for many years in this city, and displayed throughout his career the highest qualities of the judicial character. He was noted for his strong will and decision of character, as well as for his purity and impartiality.

The son, added to these high qualities larger educational attainments and an urbanity and grace of manner, a thoroughness of learning and an ardor in investigation and study, which, in a very few years, have elevated him to the foremost ranks of our very able bar, with a good college education Bearing off the highest honors of his alma mater, Judge Bermudez entered the bar shortly before our civil war. He was not long in attracting the favorable notice of the bar and bench by his fine gifts of rhetoric and logic, his readiness and fertility of resources and large store of learning. Though of an ardent and earnest nature, he was always studious, painstaking and exhaustive in investigating and mastering the science and practice of his profession. He has been for several years the acknowledged ablest civilian at our bar.

Mr. F. P. Poche is the able representative of the St. James district in the late Constitutional convention. On account of his familiarity with parliamentary and constitutional law he was more frequently than any other member called to the chair when vacated by its regular president. He is a Creole by birth; was educated at St. Joseph College, Kentucky, after a thorough course of law study embarked in the practice of the profession in the coast parishes, and rose rapidly to a large practice and became a leading advocate before our Supreme Court, where his oral arguments and briefs have been regarded as marked by great ability and an admirable style of argumentation.

He is a hard student and to a bright intellect adds the advantages of indomitable energy.

His thorough familiarity with all the proceedings attending the framing of the new constitution will prove invaluable to the new bench in the construction of our organic law.

Mr. R. B. Todd, of Morehouse, was a distinguished member of our constitutional conventions of 1852 and 1879. In North Louisiana and before our Supreme Court Mr. Todd is considered a jurist of a very high order, a profound scholar and linguist, and of large experience in the practice and science of law. He is a native of Missouri, a graduate of the University of that State, admitted to the bar in 1845, a resident of Morehouse parish since 1847, and has enjoyed for many years an extensive practice in the parishes of Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Union and Carroll.

He is a polished, dignified gentleman, and enjoys the confidence and respect of a large section of the State.

Like Mr. Poche, his acquaintance with every detail connected with the framing of the constitution will be of great service to his associates.

William M. Levy is the well known recent Congressional Representative from the Fourth District, who managed during his term of service to acquire a high reputation in the national House of Representatives for his excellent sense, fidelity to duty and principle, and his elegant and captivating manners. He is a native of Portsmouth, Virginia, a graduate of the University of Virginia, has served the State in many capacities as member of the Legislature, of the State convention, district attorney and in other capacities. During his thirty years residence in the Red river region, Mr. Levy has enjoyed a large practice and a high reputation for ability as a lawyer.

Charles E. Fenner, as associate justice, enjoys a like degree of popular confidence. A native of Jackson, Tenn., his boyhood and manhood have been passed in this city. Col. Fenner is the son of the well-remembered and highly-esteemed Dr. Ed. Fenner, was was an eminent member of our medical faculty, a professor in our Medical College, and a distinguished scientist and writer on medical questions. The son received a thorough education at the Kentucky Military Institute and at the University of Virginia. The eminent Prof. Holcerulee, of the latter institution, pronounced him one of the ablest of the many distinguished graduates of the law class of the University, so famous for the thoroughness and completeness of its alumni.

Col. Fenner justified the promise of his college training by quickly achieving a high position at the bar after his admission thereto. He soon secured a large clientelle, especially in the department of mercantile law, with the rules and precedents of which he acquired a familiarity equal to that of the oldest practitioners. Col. Fenner is a gentleman of the most impressive demeanor and a winning urbanity, which have made him very popular as a gentleman, and highly esteemed for his integrity and social virtues.

We need hardly add that all these gentlemen are of the highest repute for integrity, patriotism and sound Democracy. Though not active political partisans, they have been thoroughly imbued with the principles of constitutional construction and the spirit of State sovereignty, the preservation of which in our highest judicial tribunals is the surest guarantee for the continuance and maintenance of our republican system of government.

Gov. Wiltz has commended himself to the gratitude and increased regard and confidence of the people and the Democracy of Louisiana by his appointments to the august tribunal, upon whose integrity, firmness and ability so much of the happiness and welfare of our people and of the honor and fair fame our State must depend.

A QUESTION OF INFORMATION.

We rise to a question of information! What has become of the New Basin, Canal and Shell Road bill in the House? The committee report on the subject revealed a condition of affairs which is not only deplorable but disgraceful, and which calls for prompt and decided action on the part of the Legislature. Would it not be well to devote some portion of the valuable time of the House, now given to an attempt to foist upon the city and State and country at large a monstrous scheme of unlimited gambling, to the correction of this glaring and crying evil? Unless the bill in regard to this matter, which is now before the House on its second reading, be called up and acted upon at once, the control of this important waterway will remain where it has been so long and with such disastrous results to the commerce of this city. Is it possible that the members of the House do not realize the importance of this measure and the urgent necessity that exists for placing the control of the canal in charge of the State? This would seem scarcely possible after all that has been said upon the subject by the parties most nearly interested, by legislative committees and by the press, and yet the fact remains that this bill has been permitted to slumber, and, even at this late day in the session, there seems to be no attempt made to pass it.

This is somewhat remarkable, in view of the fact that every newspaper in the city, without a single exception, has inveighed against the longer continuance of this nuisance and called for prompt action by the Legislature to abate it in the interest of the public at large, and especially in the interest of the people of the Florida parishes, who suffer incalculable injury from the exorbitant tariff of charges, from the dangerous condition of the navigation of the canal and from the insufficient wharf and landing facilities.

Not alone is legislative action requisite to correct the serious evils complained of, but without it the State will not be able to recover the $400,000 due by the lessee to the State for back rents and for failure to comply with solemn contracts. Is the State Treasury so plethoric with money that we can afford to fling away nearly a half a million of dollars? Why not proceed and get this money, for which there is such need, and some of which might very readily be applied to paying the back salaries of our school teachers, who, so far, have not been provided for, and who are met everywhere the declaration that the State has no money and that the Constitutional Convention failed to provide for their claims. If this be true, which we do not believe, then why not wring from the manager of the canal, by legal process, the moneys which are justly due the State, and which would be of such vast benefit to the school teachers. The gentlemen of the Legislature must, in the press of other business, have forgotten all about this canal bill, and we make no apology for calling it to their minds again, because there are not many measures now before the General Assembly of greater moment.

Shall the disgraceful spectacle of crumbling levees, decayed and decaying wharves and landings, tumble-down bridges, booms used for log pens, etc., be left for two years longer to shock the people of this city and speak eloquently of our carelessness as to the commerce of New Orleans? Shall the most important waterway in the city be left under the same baleful control which has so long paralyzed the lake trade of New Orleans and so remorselessly preyed upon the unfortunate owners of small watercraft? Really it would appear that the commercial interests of this great city are entitled to some consideration, even from the men who compose the General Assembly of the State.

EXTRA SESSION.

There can be little doubt in the minds of members of the General Assembly as to how the news of an extra session will be received by the people of every section of the State. Unless we are sadly in error, not only general disappointment will be manifested, but a stronger sentiment will prevail.

We are receiving telegrams from different parishes making anxious inquiries concerning the passage of the license bill, and we regret to say that our replies to these inquiries cannot be of an assuring nature.

A license law became necessary by reason of a change in the constitutional provisions requiring a graduation of licenses; but six more working days remain, and yet this important measure has not been considered by the House, where it must originate. It is true that a bill was presented, several sections adopted, and then a substitute was offered for the whole subject matter, requiring fresh consideration.

If the House should take up the license bill on Monday morning and give it precedence over all other bills, it would probably require two days' discussion to perfect it there. If promptly engrossed and sent to the Senate, and there taken up at once, it will require three several readings on separate days, necessarily delaying passage until Friday. Should the Senate amend, as it probably will, it will readily be seen upon what a slender thread the probability of an extra session hangs.

We do not propose to discuss herein the merits of the substitute now before the House, but we do call the attention of the members of the General Assembly to the absolute necessity of passing a license law, and to the propriety of avoiding an extra session. For the latter, we do not hesitate to say that there is not the slightest justification. Time enough remains, if it is properly applied, and there should be no difference of opinion as to this measure being the most important—in fact essential—to the maintenance of the State government.

We have not before us the estimates of the Appropriation Committee, but we presume that the cost of the legislative, executive, judicial and miscellaneous departments of the State government will exceed the sum of $600,000 per year, all of which must be paid from the general fund.

One mill tax upon the highest assessment estimated by the Ways and Means Committee will not yield $200,000 to the general fund. The balance must be raised by the collection of licenses. A failure, therefore, to pass a license bill would be equivalent to an attempt to carry on the State government on a credit, unless an extra session should be called, as no licenses whatever can be collected under former laws, which are voided by the constitution.

Two much time has already been lost over this subject, and too much revenue has escaped the State by the delay in passing a bill which would have enabled tax collectors to have collected from license payers during the business season, when money is plentiful, and from the migratory class, many of whom have already carried on a profitable season's business without paying a cent of revenue to the State. We trust that the license bill will be taken up Monday and be disposed of, and that members of the General Assembly will lay aside their personal ascerbities and pet schemes long enough to act upon this essentially important legislation.

MAJOR S. E. CAREY.

The many warm friends of Major S. E. Carey, general passenger agent of the New Orleans & Mobile Railroad, will be glad to know that he has accepted the position of general passenger agent of the Chicago, St. Louis & New Orleans Railroad, vice F. Chandler, resigned. Major Carey enters upon the discharge of his new duties May 1, and will, we are sure, be a very valuable acquisition to the road which has had the good fortune to secure his services. We take this occasion to congratulate the management of the road upon the sound business sense displayed in the tender of this important position to a gentleman so eminently fitted for the discharge of the onerous duties attached to it. There are railroad agents and railroad agents, but there are not many gentlemen in the business who adds, as Major Carey does, to a thorough knowledge of its every detail and to a large commercial and social acquaintance, all the high qualities and genial attributes of an educated and cultivated gentleman. It is a sincere pleasure to say this of one who, during a long residence in this city, has become thoroughly identified with our people, all of whom will be delighted to know that the recent change in the ownership and control of the New Orleans and Mobile Road will not necessitate his departure for other fields of usefulness. Having made his home among us, and forming, as his charming household does, an imdortant part in the social circles of New Orleans, his remaining here is cause for sincere congratulation. The DEMOCRAT predicts for the road to which Major Carey has allied his fortunes the happiest results.

THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT.

The comparative failure of the efforts recently made in New York to organize co-operative stores on the English plan may be owing to a lack of comprehension of the full scope of that plan, which is not based upon the narrow idea of pecuniary gain to the members of the store associations. The division of the profits of retail trade among the consumers is only a secondary consideration. The main object of the system is mental and moral culture. It encourages working people to be thrifty and forehanded, develops in them a love of fair dealing and a spirit of fraternity and independence, and provides in its reading and assembly rooms opportunities for study and wholesome recreation. If nothing had been sought but to lessen the price of commodities, the flourishing societies of Rochdale, England, would have ceased to exist long ago. It is the constant effort of Mr. Holyoake and other philanthropic men to whom these societies owe their success, to inculcate in the minds of the members the idea that the progress and general well-being of the working classes is the goal to be kept in view, and not merely the accumulation of profits. There is no reason why such societies might not be successfully inaugurated here in the South among the labor ing classes if the proper persons were to take t he lead. It is noticeable that among the colored people beneficiary societies are quite popular, and we are told that they frequently accumulate handsome sums in their treasury that for want of some better disposition are expended in frivolous amusements, such as parades, excursions, picnics, etc. Suitably invested, this money would go far toward improving the condition of their race.

CURRENT TOPICS.

CHEAP PAPER IN CANADA.

Mr. James Stewart, editor of the Montreal *Herald*, who was recently in New York, states that since the advance in the price of American paper took place some of the Canadian companies had been charging from one-fourth to one half a cent more per pound than was previously demanded. The present rate for "news print" he says is as low as six cents, and for the past eighteen months the rates have been six and a half to seven cents. The cause of this slight rise is that there has been a marked advance in the price of chemicals entering into the making of paper. Since the chemicals have gone up in price rags and other paper stock are relatively much cheaper than twelve months ago. If the prices which ruled in Canada some years ago were to hold now, in view of the increased prices in other departments, it would, he thinks, be a serious matter to publishers. He says that if the United States tariff was not almost prohibitory the publishers of American newspapers could now get paper at seven and a half to eight cents a pound from Canada. At the present time large consumers of paper in the United States are buying in Canada at seven and a fourth to eight cents, and laying it down in New York after paying 35 per cent duty. At the present rate in the United States the Canadian makers are underselling, or almost doing so, the American mill men, even with the tariff against them. Since the rise the Canadian paper mills have had an enormous rush of business, and their producing capacity has for sometime back been taxed to the utmost. They are shipping paper to St. Louis, Chicago, New York and Boston. In fact the Canadian paper makers are having flush times just now.

ELECTRIC LIGHT ON VEGITATION.

Dr. Siemens, an eminent man of science and a well known electrician, has recently demonstrated that the electric light has a remarkable influence over the process of vegetation, which has heretofore been attributed quite as much to the heat rays as the light rays of the sun. He proves beyond question that plants exposed to the electric light not only grow rapidly, but preserve their natural color as effectively as when exposed to the sun light. In the presence of the Royal Society of London he placed a pot of budding tulips in the full brightness of an electric lamp and in forty minutes the buds had expanded into full bloom. It is stated that the doctor has been conducting experiments with plants under the electric light for two months, resulting in the discovery that vegetation kept in absolute darkness dies, while in cases where exposed to daylight or electric light it thrives equally well. The theory that plants, like animals, require a certain period of rest and inaction in order to recuperate their energies, is likely to be materially modified by this discovery. By this means florists and market gardeners interested in forcing plants and vegetables to rapid growth and maturity will be able to profit largely, especially where the mechanical energy needed to produce it can be derived from cheap and accessible water power. Dr. Siemens has already suggested that heat radiated from powerful electric arcs may be used in this way to counteract frost and promote the ripening of fruit in the open air.

DIED.

TELSON—On Saturday, third instant, Mrs. A. M. Telson, wife of C. Telson, Sr., a native of Copenhagen, Kingdom of Denmark, aged 72 years and 19 days.

Her funeral will take place This (Sunday) Evening, at 4:30 o'clock, from her late residence, No 7 Second street.

Evansville and New Albany (Ind.) papers please copy.

MONTEGUT—On Saturday, at 12:30 p. m., Joseph Edgard Montegut, aged 74 years.

The friends and acquaintances of the family, and those of the Montegut, Pitot and Grima families, are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, which will take place this (Sunday) evening at 4:30 o'clock, precisely, from his brother-in-law's residence, Armant Pitot's, No. 207 Rampart street, between Dumaine and St. Phillipe.

GUILLOTTE—At Cold Springs plantation, Claiborne county, Miss., on Saturday, March 27, 1880, at 1 o'clock p. m., Laura M. McCaleb, wife of Henry Guillotte, and only sister of E. Howard McCaleb, of this city, aged thirty-four years.

KOERNER—At 11 o'clock a. m., April 2, Mary Mathilda, aged three years and four months, daughter of F. J. Koerner and Augusta Barbara Reuer.

STATE OF LOUISIANA,
Adjutant General's Office,
New Orleans, April 3, 1880.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 16.

Official information having reached these headquarters of the zeal and soldierly bearing of the detachments from the Crescent City and Washington Artillery battalions, under Capt. FRANK McELROY, in the performance of duties imposed upon them by special orders No. 6, C. S., Adjutant General's office, State of Louisiana, the commander-in-chief takes this occasion, at the termination of the service assigned, to congratulate Capt. McELROY and the officers and men of the command for the promptness and alacrity displayed in obedience to all orders.

His Excellency is thankful to the inhabitants of St. John parish for the moral support given to and attention bestowed upon the troops while quartered among them.

Major Gen. W. J. BEHAN, commanding First Division Louisiana State National Guard, is charged with the promulgation of this order which will be read at first dress parade.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Adjutant General.

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