PUBLIC LEDGER.

By Whitmore & Co. LARGEST CITY CIRCULATION. Fifteen Cents Per Week.

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PUBLIC LEDGER.

PUBLISHED

EVERY AFTERNOON, EXCEPT SUNDAY,

—BY—

E. WHITMORE AND F. A. TYLER.

Under the firm name of

WHITMORE & CO.,

—AT—

No. 13 Madison Street.

The PUBLIC LEDGER is served to City subscribers by faithful carriers at FIFTEEN CENTS per week, payable weekly to the carriers.

By mail (in advance): One year, $8; six months, $4; three months, $2; one month, 75 cents.

Newsdealers supplied at 2½ cents per copy.

Communications upon subjects of general interest to the public are at all times acceptable.

Rejected manuscripts WILL NOT be returned.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

First Insertion	$1 00	per square
Subsequent Insertions	50	" "
For One Week	3 00	" "
For Two Weeks	4 50	" "
For Three Weeks	6 00	" "
For One Month	7 50	" "

Displayed advertisements will be charged according to the SPACE occupied, at above rates—there being twelve lines of solid type to the inch.

Notices in local column inserted for twenty cents per line for each insertion.

Special Notices inserted for ten cents per line for each insertion.

To regular advertisers we offer superior inducements, both as to rate of charges and manner of displaying their favors.

All advertisements should be marked the specific length of time they are to be published. If not so marked, they will be inserted for one month and charged accordingly.

Advertisements published at intervals will be charged One Dollar per square for each insertion.

All bills for advertising are due when contracted and payable on demand.

All letters, whether upon business or otherwise, must be addressed to

WHITMORE & CO.,
Publishers and Proprietors.

The residence of Mr. M. R. Parrish was destroyed by fire the other day.

Mr. W. C. Mashburn was killed in an affray by Mr. James Mitchell, in Bolivar, Tennessee, the other day.

Mr. H. E. Harper, of the Stacey House, Nashville, has failed, his liabilities exceeding $750,000.

Lord Hill wants to introduce antelope meat into the English market. The animals are only $750 a pair.

M'lle Alice, of John Robinson's circus, was drowned between Mobile and New Orleans, the other day.

The Montana Legislature has exempted lawyers, editors and idiots from serving on juries.

Tom Thumb was on a train which ran off the track at Lehigh the other day, but escaped unhurt in the pocket of a passenger.

Cars with family compartments, fitted up in hotel style, with attendants, are to be run between New York and Chicago.

The well known dry goods house of L. C. Hopkins, Cincinnati, has failed, with liabilities amounting to $1,000,000, mostly due to New York houses.

"Weak as water," is really a pretty strong expression. The water power at Moline, Ill., is capable of doing the work of more than 100,000 men.

A Nashville policeman knocked the Mayor of that city down the other day. There had been a conflict of authority before that final conflict of authorities.

William Cullen Bryant is writing three poems for the New York *Ledger*, for which Mr. Bonner pays him three thousand dollars. This is the largest amount ever paid to a poet.

Some splendid oranges and lemons have recently been sent from Jacksonville to New York as samples of Florida production. Six of the lemons averaged thirteen inches in circumference, and the whole weighed seven pounds.

The Cleveland *Herald* intimates that Mr. Shellabarger may resign his seat in Congress, owing to continued ill health. Mr. S.'s district is composed of the counties of Clarke, Franklin, Greene and Madison, and gave him about 2150 majority.

It has transpired that the immediate cause of Pope's removal was for frauds perpetrated by him in registration under the reconstruction acts. At least twenty-five thousand names of negroes, thus fraudulently registered under his administration, will be stricken off by Meade.

On New Year's day, in Washington, Mr. Noble Hurdle, a very old gentleman, residing in Georgetown, took the President by the hand and said: "God bless you, Mr. President; I have shaken the hand of every President from Washington's time, and now, sir, I am happy to shake yours, the last President, but by no means the least."

In Paris, on the 1st, a new telegraphic system was put in operation for persons who frequently send telegraphic messages. Adhesive telegraphic stamps are issued, to be put on the original dispatches by the senders themselves. Special boxes for the receipt of these dispatches are placed in the different quarters of the city. These boxes will be cleared every ten minutes. As the dispatches will be sent to the different offices by the atmospheric tubes, they must be inclosed in envelopes of given dimensions in order to insure their immediate transportation.

RECONSTRUCTION.

Letter from Ex-U. S. Senator Fitzpatrick, of Alabama, in Opposition.

OAK GROVE, ELMORE CO., Dec. 24, 1867.

Major H. C. Semple, Montgomery, Ala:

DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 23d instant has just been received.

It is a matter of surprise to me to hear that I am represented as favoring the adoption of the constitution framed by the recent Convention at Montgomery. I have at no time said or done anything that could be so construed, and you do me injustice in supposing that such a report of my opinions is a misrepresentation. No man can be more decided in his opposition to the ratification of that instrument than I have been and am now.

I can scarcely conceive a greater calamity to our people than the adoption of this constitution. It gives all the former slaves over the age of twenty-one years in the State the right to vote and takes that right away from the thousands of white men.

Every white man who has held office and taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States, and in any way aided the South in the unfortunate conflict between the two setions, is put under the ban and deprived of the elective franchise. I was opposed to secession as you know. I was in the United States Senate, and believing I had no right to remain there after the State did secede, I left that body and returned home. I am disfranchised by this Constitution now submitted for the approval of the people. I have remained at home a quiet, peaceable citizen ever since I left the Senate, but I can vote neither for nor against the Constitution, though all the slaves I formerly owned, who are twenty-one years old, are allowed to vote.

I mention my own case simply to illustrate a similar condition of thousands of others in the State who can have no voice in making a constitution or laws under which we are to live. The test oath as it is generally called, is odious. All persons, before they can vote, must take an oath to support the constitution and laws of the United States and the constitution and laws of the State of Alabama. Who is so wise as to know all the laws of the United States and this State so as to observe his oath? When and where in this country was it ever required for men to incur such odious obligations to enable them to exercise the right heretofore of an American citizen? After the close of our revolutionary struggle the victorious Whigs of that day gave us the Constitution of the United States under which the country flourished so long and the people lived so happily. Do you find in that Constitution any oath required like the one now necessary to enable a man to vote? The Whigs, if we are to believe history, entertained a most deadly hostility to what was then called the Tory party. Did these Whigs, in making the Constitution of the United States, or any of the State Constitutions, require such an oath from either Whig or Tory? Not at all. Are we growing better or wiser than the powerful intellects that brought this Government into existence? I fear not.

This test oath further provides that before any one can vote he must also swear that he accepts the civil and political equality of all men, and agrees not to attempt to deprive any person or persons on account of race, color, or previous condition, of any political or civil right, privilege or immunity, enjoyed by any other class of men. The Constitution or General Assembly might declare the civil or political equality of all, but to require a voter to swear that he accepts it, and virtually that he will never attempt to alter it, before he can vote, is a species of legislation unknown to this country. It is true that it is further provided in the Constitution "that the General Assembly shall have power to remove the disability of certain classes now disqualified from voting," but where will you find a power to relieve any one who takes this oath? Once taken the obligation remains fixed during his lifetime on the man who incurs it. Such legislation I regard as at war with the civilization of the age in which we live.

I am as willing as any are to see the colored population educated, and this, I believe, is the common sentiment of our people; but how will the system proposed work in practice? Do you believe, if the parents and guardians of the children of the two races were willing they should be sent to the same school, that they could be kept and taught together in harmony? I do not. In the Constitution no provision is made for separate schools. Why did not the Convention provide separate schools and let each be taught separately? I have lived all my life with a mixed population, the slaves and whites of the South, and my deliberate conviction is, you might as well try to mix oil and water without chemical agents, as to attempt to teach the children of the two races together. In the portions of the State where the colored population greatly predominates, the whites will virtually be excluded, and in other sections, where the whites are in the majority, the same result will befall the blacks, producing disorder and deadly feuds between the two races.

Without giving in detail my objections to the ratification of the Constitution—for they are too numerous to mention in this letter—I will say that the effect of many of its provisions is to elevate the black by degrading the white race.

The Constitution is not only proscriptive in many of its provisions, but it places to a great extent the property of the country at the mercy of the non-property holders—a lamentable condition for any people.

It is said by some that it was made to keep down rebellion. What have the people of the South to commence or carry on rebellion with? Our slaves are all set free; our fields barely cultivated under the new system of labor, and many of them grown up in briars and weeds since emancipation, and almost everything in a state of dilapidation and decay. The cry for bread which comes up from almost every hill and valley in the State has scarcely ceased ringing in our ears, and it was only hushed by the liberal donations from the benevolent of the North and West. No people of the Old World, in any of their long and desolating wars, ever longed for peace more than we do. We want peace, but not degradation; we wish to be left free to act for ourselves, and free from the intermeddling of those who do not live among us, but come here to foment discord and speculate upon our troubles.

Let the people vote down this constitution and adopt another, more in accordance with the genius of our institutions, and all will be well.

Having gone into the retirement of private life, and feeling no desire for public position or notoriety, it is far from agreeable to me to appear in a newspaper, but if you think this expression of my opinions can avail anything toward preventing the adoption of this constitution, a sense of duty constrains me to assent to its publication.

Very respectfully, your friend and obedient servant,

BEN. FITZPATRICK.

Nice Young Man.

Everybody knows the nice young man; everybody has seen him. He is that mild and pleasing person who says, "Oh, yes!" and "Ah, indeed!" with so much vivacity; who is always the first to hand around the ices at the party; who knows all about all the weddings and engagements and balls; who escorts mamma to her carriage, and suffers her to converse at him so amiably. He seldom talks much, but he is so nice. Generally he is in the dry goods line, and frequently a member of the Young Men's Christian Association. He has been known to attempt to teach in Sunday school, but the mental exertion is commonly too severe. His personal appearance is not remarkable. He is usually fair, with light hair and gentle blue eyes. It is desirable that he should have a moustache, straw-colored if possible, and in size like an exaggerated eyebrow. His dress must be so perfect as to leave, like himself, no definite impression on the mind except one of extreme niceness, and his back hair should always be parted in an exact line with the seam of his collar. Brains in moderation are not, as we have already intimated, an absolute objection, but their possession should be carefully hidden. Ideas are fatal to his supremacy. One of the nicest young men we ever knew lost forever his proud pre-eminence from the fatal accidental commission of a thought. But feeling he may, indeed must, constantly exhibit; it is indispensable that the real nice young man should be as sensitive as a new author or a public functionary accused of peculation. He may play a little on the piano, or, better still, on the guitar, and occasionally sing to his own accompaniment in an unobtrusive tenor. Sometimes he paints nicely, and often writes poetry of a sentimental nature, not fatiguingly intellectual; and he dances—oh! he dances divinely.

The nice young man of Boston is a very different creature from the nice young men of New York, and the nice young man of Philadelphia bears not the remotest likeness to either, or indeed to anything else in human semblance. The nice young man of Boston, for example, is sometimes a prig; the nice young man of New York is often a snob; the nice young man of Philadelphia is usually *totus teres atque rotundus*, a cipher, the *curiosa felicitas* of nullity. Again, the nice young man of Boston who has no brains is permitted to fill the cavity which should hold them with a weak solution of equal parts of Emerson and Cant; the nice young man of New York who has brains is required to shroud their existence in the profoundest mystery; the nice young man of Philadelphia never has brains. The first admires nothing that he understands, the second understands nothing that he admires, the third understands nothing, and admires only himself and Philadelphia. And so on. Besides, there are numberless varieties produced again by mere fluctuations in feminine taste and the fashion of niceness. The nice young man of a year ago may be as different from his representative of to-day as last season's beaver from the prevailing title. Miss Giggleby's nice young man in no respect resembles Miss Sniggersby's; mamma's is not the one with whom Arabella exchanges hearts, and hair and photographs; the nice young man of Betty, the housemaid, is not the object of her mistress' devotion. The niceness in all these cases is relative; an arbitrary quality reflected rather than actual, and subject to optical delusion. But each is in his own circle, to all intents and purposes, a nice young man.

The end and scope of the nice young man's existence is not so easy to define. The poet tells us that "a thing of beauty is a joy forever," and a nice young man is always a thing of beauty; then, too, his fair worshipers probably find him useful. He is always so obliging, so willing to carry parcels, so ready to escort one to the opera or ball, to make up a set or hold worsted, or take dear aunt Jane down to supper; so eager, to do him justice, for any service where eagerness does not need to be supplemented by intellect. And as these are things which somebody must do, the nice young man has his place in the economy of creation. Perhaps he is intended to show how small a quantity of brains is necessary for human existence. We have sometimes thought that his mission was to preserve one from marrying that nice girl, who is his counterpart, whom every body falls in love with, and, being sooner or later cut out by the nice young man, blesses his star forever after. On the whole, we think it most probable that the latter is the design of heaven in his creation.—*Round Table.*

THE Doctors (of Divinity) who disagreed lately in the *Times*, relative to the amount of drunkenness to be seen in Europe, have been reconciled in their statements by the London papers, which consider that the one who saw little or no drunkenness must have alluded to the Continent, and the one who was shocked at its universality must have been speaking of the British Isles. The simple fact is that wherever light beers and wines are commonly used, drunkenness is a thing of exceeding rarity—as throughout the Continent; and wherever strong drink, liquors and fiery spirit is resorted to for that stimulant, which all the world seems to crave in some shape, drunkenness is disgustingly common—as throughout Britain. In America, the taste for spirits has been mollified by the large introduction of beers and wines from Germany and France; and America is by just so much better than England in the degrading vice of drunkenness. As long as people *will* drink, light potations and stringent excise will be the best promoters of temperance.—*New York Times.*

PUBLIC DIRECTORY.

ADVERTISEMENTS ARE INSERTED IN this Column at 75 cents a line per month.

AMES, BEATTIE & JONES, DEALERS in Carpets, Furniture, etc., 336 Main st.

ASBURY CHAPEL (METHODIST), COR. Hernando and Linden streets.

ALL ORDERS FOR BRICK LEFT WITH J. C. Neely & Co., 250 Front street, will be promptly attended to. 100-125*

BRIGGS & PETERSON, COAL DEALERS, office 11 Madison street.

CAROLINA INSURANCE COMPANY, 291 Main street, J. H. Edmondson, agent.

CAYCE, M. C. & CO., AUCTIONEERS, 300 Second street.

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CALVARY CHURCH (EPISCOPAL), COR. Second and Adams sts., Rev. Dr. White.

CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH, 179 Union street, Rev. J. T. C. Collins, pastor.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH, COR. LINDEN and Mulberry streets, Rev. Dr. Caskey.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION CHURCH, Union street, bet. Third and Desoto.

COWPERHTWAIT, CHAPMAN & CO., Booksellers and Stationers, 279½ Main st.

CRAIG, R. G. & CO., DEALERS IN GARden Seeds, etc., 379 Main street.

CONGREGATION BEN EMETH (ISRAELITE), cor. Second and Monroe sts

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN Church, Court st., bet. Second and Third.

DEAN & CO, WM., 193 AND 193½ POPLAR street, dealers in Groceries, Teas, etc.

DICKINSON, J. W. & BRO. COTTON Factors, 216 Front street.

DROMGOOLE & CO., DRUGGISTS, ETC., 391 Main street bet. Gayoso and McCall.

DUNCAN, ROBERT P., ATTORNEY AT Law, No. 15 West Court street.

FOSTER, KEALHOFER & CO., GROCERS and Commission Merchants, 209 Main st.

FLAHERTY & WESCHE, UNDER AKERS, 37 Union street.

FISHER, AMIS & CO., MARBLE AND Stone Works, cor. 2d and Adams sts.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, SECOND street, near Poplar.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SECOND st., near Adams, Rev. A. B. Miller.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, COR. of Poplar and Third streets.

FLANNERY JOSEPH, PRACTICAL Plumber, Gas and Steam Pipe Fitter, 53 Jefferson street.

GAYOSO SAVINGS INSTITUTION, Banking House, 19 Madison street, E. M. Avery, Cashier. John C. Lanier, Pres't.

GRACE CHURCH (EPISCOPAL), HERnando street, bet. Pontotoc and Vance.

GUMBINGER, J., DEALER IN SPECTAcles, 217½ Main street.

GILBERT, DRS. S. & S. T., NO. 37 SOUTH Court Street.

HINSON, S., DENTIST, NO. 233 MAIN street, Clay Building.

HEATH, LEWIS & FRAZER, ATTORneys at Law, S. E. cor. Second and Union.

HERNANDO INSURANCE COMPANY 17 Madison st., S. B. Williamson, Pres't

IGLAUER & PRITZ, DEALERS IN DR Goods, 255 Main street.

INSURANCE.—LINDSEY & VREDENBURGH, Agents, 11 Madison Street. 189

JUST, A., DEALER IN CLOTHING, ETC., 245 Main street.

KRAUS & CO., DRY GOODS, NOTIONS, etc., 213 Main street, near cor. of Adams.

LINDAUER, ARNOLD & CO., DEALERS in Dry Goods, 311 Main street.

LITTLETON & CO., INSURANCE AG'TS, 22 Madison street.

McCAFFREY & CORNELIUS, UNDERtakers, 300 Second street.

MEMPHIS & OHIO RAILROAD DEPOT, head of Main street.

MICOU, T. B., ATTORNEY AT LAW, NO. 23 Jefferson street.

MONSARRAT & CO., AUCTIONEERS, Titus Block.

MUSIC, PIANOS, CABINET ORGANS, Musical Instruments and Musical Merchandise, St F. Katzenbach's, 317 Main st.

MOORE & WEST, INSURANCE AG'TS, N. W. cor. Main and Madison sts.

PICKET, ED. BURKE, ATTORNEY AT Law and Solicitor in Bankruptcy. Office, No. 5 Courthouse, cor. Union and Second sts.

PACKER, H. B., DEALER IN PITTSburg coal, No. 196½ Main st.

PAINT STORE, PAINTERS' MATERIals, McDonald & Cole, 44 Monroe st.

POOLEY, BARNUM & CO., DEALERS IN Watches and Jewelry, cor. Main and Court.

POLICE COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, No. 4½ Madison street.

POSTOFFICE, COR. JEFFERSON AND Third streets, R. C. Gist, Postmaster.

RANKIN, STURGIS & CO., FRUIT PREServing House, No. 400 Shelby st. 80-2

ROBESON, SNEED & CO., DEALERS IN Clothing, 305 Main street.

ROYSTER, TREZEVANT & CO., AUCtioneers, 276 Second street.

RUSSELL, GROVE & CO., GAYOSO PLAning Mill, 212 Adams street, east of the Bayou.

SCHUMM, JOHN, CABINET-MAKER, NO. 96 Union street. Show-cases always on hand and for sale cheap for cash. 90-†

SPECHT, JOS., CONFECTIONER, NO. 37 Madison street.

SMITH & LEECH, WHOLESALE DEALers in Liquors, 342 Second street.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, cor. Main and Beal streets.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH (CATHOLIC) corner Desoto and Linden streets.

ST. MARY'S GERMAN CHURCH (CATHOLIC), cor. Market and Third streets.

ST. LAZARUS CHURCH (EPISCOPAL), Madison street, east of Third.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH (EPISCOPAL), Poplar street, near Alabama.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH (CATHOLIC), COR. Adams and Third streets.

TRUDEAU & DUKE, CORNER MADISON and Second sts., deal in Jewelry, etc.

TOWNES & TORRANCE, COTTON FACtors, 206 Front street.

TOBACCO AND CIGARS—A LARGE AND superior stock at Thurmond, Foster & Co.'s Tobacco Works, 7 Monroe street.

VENABLE SAW MILL, ON WOLF RIVer, north of the Bayou.

WASSON, J. B. & WM., DENTISTS, NO. 318 Main street.

WHEELER, PICKENS & CO., DEALERS IN Wood and Willow Ware, etc., 300 Main st.

WHITMORE & CO., STEAM JOB PRINters, 13 Madison street.

YEOMANS, S. P., ATTORNEY, OFFICE, (with Wright & McKinnich), K. Williams Block. 9-†