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The New Orleans Bee.

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THE DAILY BEE.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 8.

A BAD BEGINNING.

In announcing on Monday last the annual convocation of Congress, we expressed the hope that the Southern members would adhere to the wise policy of eschewing the slavery discussion, and would leave to the Abolitionists the endless and fruitless mockery of that exciting topic. The counsel was believed to be discreet and timely. Discussions on slavery in the halls of Congress effect nothing of a single member. They rarely the opinion of a single member. They unsettle no convictions; they disturb no consciences; they alter no intentions. All they accomplish is to stir up and foment sectional strife; to fan the smouldering embers of political animosity into renewed fierceness; to nurture and maintain ill-feeling; and to make North and South look upon one another with decided repugnance and disesteem. Unhappy as are these results they do not end here. The debate on this subject, when once commenced, becomes literally interminable. Whole days are wasted in vain and bootless rhetorical efforts. Every representative conceives it a part of his solemn duty to add something to the huge conglomeration of windy and wordy rubbish, and much the greater portion of the session is occupied with disquisitions which are absolutely aimless, which have no practical object, and which leave the question in precisely the same state in which it was at the beginning.

It grieves us to be compelled to acknowledge that in this respect the present Congress bids fair to rival its predecessors. Folly and vehemence; neglect of duty in the willful desire to indulge in frothy outpourings on this mischief-brooding theme; mutual menaces and recriminations; a licentiousness of language and flux of verbiage on both sides—such seem to be the prominent symptoms which have ushered in the first session of the Thirty-sixth Congress. After a single unsuccessful attempt to elect a speaker, the members appear to have surrendered themselves unreservedly to the delightful privilege of speech-making. The initiative was taken by Mr. CLARK, a Democrat from Missouri, who introduced a resolution which might have been proper at any other period, but was surely premature before the organization of the House. Moreover he knew, in common with every other representative, that its introduction would only excite protracted debate. Such was of course the consequence. Only too pleased at the opportunity of ventilating the strong sectional passions with which they were surcharged, the members were all clamorous to be heard. Instead, therefore, of persevering in the effort to organize the House, they abandoned it, as if the public business were altogether subordinate to the noisy and objectious disputes of faction. During most of Monday's sitting, and the whole of Tuesday's, the Speakership was no longer thought of.

This is a bad beginning. The first and most important duty of the House is to complete its organization. The Representatives assemble in Washington on the day appointed by law, for the dispatch of public business, prior to which it is of absolute necessity that they should select a presiding officer and clerk. As long as this duty is pretermitted so long will they be disabled from attending to their particular functions. They cannot receive the messages from the Executive, and the reports from the several departments. It follows, of course, that they cannot commence the work of legislation, or any manner whatever devote themselves to the transaction of public affairs. Hence it would appear to plain, sober minded people that the first manifest and indispensable act of the House would be to elect a Speaker. We entirely appreciate the difficulties attendant upon the accomplishment of this object. We know that amid the diversity of opinions constituting the discordant elements separately numbered in a majority—an election will be wholly impracticable unless certain combinations and coalitions are completed, and that prior to such arrangements there may be a prolonged and wearisome struggle. But these considerations cannot for one moment absolve the Representatives from the high and sacred duty before them. They should discontinuance all irrelevant and extraneous debate, and continue unremittingly to ballot until the House is organized. The ties they have not done, preferring to resume of a vehement and exciting discussion on slavery, to the fulfillment of the purpose for which they are convened.

It may be that before these reflections meet the eyes of our readers, the Representatives will have relinquished idle and frippant harangues, and applied themselves seriously to the preliminary task of organization. We entertain, however, exceeding lofty hopes of such a result. The dam which kept these disorders in check has been cast away, and we fear no influence will avail to suspend the torrent of sophomoric eloquence, until it ceases to flow from sheer exhaustion. If it prove otherwise, we shall confess ourselves agreeably disappointed.

NEW ORLEANS AND JACKSON RAILROAD.—We are indebted to John CALHOUN, President of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad Company, for a pamphlet embodying the memorial addressed to the Legislature of Mississippi, setting forth the reasons why a certain Act now before that body, which proposes to extend the time allowed the New Orleans and Jackson Railroad Company for completing the road through Mississippi, upon certain onerous and impracticable conditions, should not pass. We shall probably refer to the subject more particularly hereafter.

DR. BEAUBGARD.—Our readers will perceive by the card in our columns that this celebrated surgeon-dentist has returned to our city, and established his office at the corner of Royal and St. Peter streets. Consultations and operations from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Dr. BEAUBGARD refers to a large number of eminent practitioners in New Orleans.

WHEELER & WILSON'S SEWING MACHINES.—We invite attention to the card of Messrs. FRANCIS & WILLIAMS in our columns touching the award by the committee at the Mississippi State Fair of the first premium to the Wheeler & Wilson sewing machine.

"LE BON TON."—We are indebted to the publisher, S. T. TAYLOR, No. 407 Broadway, through SEGAL & BLOOMFIELD, No. 60 Camp street, for the December number of this useful and interesting publication. It contains several superb plates of the fashions, and two complete patterns cut from tissue paper. Le Bon Ton is indispensable to dressmakers and milliners.

The funeral of WASHINGTON IRVING, says the New York *Times* of the 24, took place yesterday, at Tarrytown. It was an occasion long to be remembered. Business was suspended. Stores were closed. From almost every house mourning drapery was hung. The bells of the churches tolled for some hours. From the surrounding country, and from this and other cities thousands of people assembled in and about the church where the funeral services took place. A procession, more than a mile in length, followed the remains of the deceased to the grave, where, besides many of the most distinguished men of this city, were nearly all the Episcopal clergy, including the Provisional Bishop of the Diocese. The York Common Council and the Trustees of the Astor Library were present; and the Historical Society was well represented. The services in the church and at the grave were conducted by the Rev. Dr. CHEEVER, Pastor of the church at Tarrytown, of which Mr. Irving was a member.

The agents of Northern mercantile houses are finding a cool reception and poor success in their "drumming" expeditions. "A young swell," as a Richmond paper calls him, from "down East," showed his card the other day to a Richmond merchant, who thereupon politely showed him the door. The (Charlotte (N. C.) *Bulletin* says a merchant there told a New York "drummer" that his last bill was made there. The drummer remarked that many others had told him the same.

DRY GOODS AND SILKS.—The particular attention of buyers is called to the large sale of Dry Goods and Silks to take place THIS DAY, at 10 o'clock, at the auction room of E. Sagar & Co., No. 20 Old Levee street. Terms at sale.

CLOTHING, HATS AND SHIRTS.—The particular attention of buyers is called to the large sale of Clothing, Hats and Shirts to take place THIS DAY, at 10 o'clock, at the auction room of E. Sagar & Co., No. 20 Old Levee street. Terms at sale.

The particular attention of buyers is called to the large sale of boots, shoes and brogans to take place THIS DAY, at 10 o'clock, at the auction room of E. Sagar & Co., No. 20 Old Levee street. Terms at sale.

By Telegraph.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

NEW YORK CITY ELECTION.

NEW YORK, December 7.—At the election for municipal officers in this city yesterday, Fernando Wood, the Mozart Hall candidate for Mayor, received 36,996 votes; Havemeyer, the Tammany Hall candidate, 24,078; Opdyke, the Republican candidate, 15,837.

The returns, however, are not yet complete, although it is believed the official returns will not materially vary the result.

Wood's plurality will probably be about 2000.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, December 7.—In the debate which arose yesterday in the Senate upon Mr. Mason's resolution, Mr. Trumbull urged his amendment of inquiry into the seizure of the United States arsenal at Liberty, Missouri, and said that it would have been better for the country if that affair had been fully investigated at the time.

Mr. Mason objected to the amendment, intimating that its only object was to embarrass the investigation into the Harper's Ferry affair, and that any proposition tending to the people of Virginia would be met, as they deserved, with contempt.

Mr. Trumbull disclaimed any intention of speaking disrespectfully of the people of Virginia or of any other State.

Mr. Hale, of N. H., denounced the Supreme Court of the United States, and defended his position on the slavery question.

Mr. Hunter, of Virginia, deprecated the introduction of party issue into the discussion of such a matter, and characterized Mr. Hale's levity as the laugh of an inebriate over the bed of death.

Mr. Hunter said that the South wished to know whether the General Government could furnish the remedy for such invasion, as, if not, the South would make preparations for taking care of themselves.

Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, congratulated the Senate that Senators were ready so distinctly to disavow all connection with and sympathy for old Brown.

Mr. Green, of Mississippi, explained that the arms taken from the United States arsenal at Liberty, Missouri, were simply taken for the purpose of resisting the unlawful acts of the Emigrant Aid Society.

Mr. Crittenden, of Kentucky, thought that Mr. Trumbull's amendment would do no harm, except to occupy the committee a few days longer.

Mr. Wilson, of Massachusetts, attributed the Northern sympathy for Brown more to Governor Wise's attempt to implicate Northern public men as accomplices in the Harper's Ferry affair than to any other cause. He hoped the investigation would be thorough, whoever was implicated.

ARRIVAL OF THE OVERLAND MAIL.

ST. LOUIS, December 7.—The California overland mail arrived here yesterday, bringing San Francisco dates to the 14th ult.

The news has been anticipated by the arrival of the Southern overland mail, via El Paso and San Antonio, with same dates.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER EDINBURGH.

Death of Nana Sahib—The Cotton Market Depressed—Commercial Intelligence.

NEW YORK, December 7.—The steamship Edinburgh, Captain Jeffries, formerly of the Glasgow line, but now of the Liverpool, New York and Philadelphia line, arrived at this port this evening.

She left Liverpool on Wednesday, the 23d, and touched at Queenstown on Thursday, 24th ult., bringing four days later advices than were received by the Europa at Boston.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

LIVERPOOL, November 23.—The sales of Cotton for the three business days ending on Wednesday evening amount to 15,000 bales, of which speculators and exporters took 2000 bales.

The market closed with little inquiry and weak prices.

A partial decline of ⅛ has taken place since the sailing of the Europa.

The market generally closed dull.

THE LATEST.

LIVERPOOL, November 24, via Queenstown. The sales of Cotton to-day are estimated at 6000 bales.

The market continued dull, and closed with a declining tendency.

CONSOLS.

LONDON, November 23.—The funds show more steadiness, and have advanced ¼ on the sailing of the Europa.

Consols for money closed at 96¼ to 96⅞.

LONDON, Thursday, noon, November 24.—Consols closed steady, at unchanged rates.

MANCHESTER TRADE.

LIVERPOOL, November 24.—The advices from Manchester continue very favorable.

There was a good demand for goods and yarns, and prices show an advancing tendency, although the market generally closed quiet.

BREADSTUFFS AND PROVISIONS.

The Liverpool Breadstuffs market closed dull, and prices generally have a declining tendency, while a slight decline has already taken place in nearly all descriptions.

The Provision market generally continued dull, with little variation in prices.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

The general news by the Edinburgh is not of special importance.

The ratifications of the treaty of peace were exchanged, according to previous announcement, at Zurich on the 21st ultimo.

The 15th of December is spoken of as the day for the meeting of the European Congress, but nothing formal or official respecting it has yet transpired.

Later advices from India state that Nana Sahib, the Sepoy leader, is dead.

The Spanish Government is chartering English steamers for the Moroccan war, and other preparations for the campaign are progressing rapidly.

A dispatch from Paris announces the death of Dr. Barry, the Catholic Bishop of Savannah. He died at Paris on the 22d.

Advices from Turin confirm the reported resignation of Garibaldi, and his withdrawal from the army of Central Italy.

Garibaldi says, however, that he will resume his command, or offer his services whenever King Victor Emanuel calls to arms.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, December 7.—Both Houses of Congress were chiefly occupied in the discussion of the slavery question, personal explanations, &c.

In the House, nothing was done towards the election of Speaker, and no effort made to proceed to another ballot.

ELECTION OF FERNANDO WOOD.

NEW YORK, December 7.—Fernando Wood is elected Mayor of the city of New York by a plurality of 3773 votes.

NEW YORK MARKETS.

NEW YORK, December 7.—The Flour market closed quiet; sales to-day amount to 10,000 barrels, at $5 10 to $5 15 per barrel for superfine.

Corn closed very quiet, at 86 to 88c. for old. New is quoted at 94 to 95c.

Pork closed buoyant; Canadian is quoted at $16 50.

Lard in barrels (new) is quoted at 10½ to 10½c. per lb.

Whisky closed at 27 to 27½c.

CINCINNATI MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, December 7.—The Flour market closed buoyant at $5 to $5 15 for Superfine. Whisky is quoted at 21c.

Sugar closed steady. Sales to-day amount to 200 hhds., at 7½ to 8½c. per lb.

Molasses is quoted at 45 to 46c.

Corn closed firm at 46c. Oats is quoted at 46c.

STEAMBOATS PASSED.

VICKSBURG, December 7.—The steamer South America passed down at 3 and the Diana at 11 o'clock this morning. The Ben Franklin passed down at 2, the Runyan at 5, and the B. L. Hodge at 6 o'clock this evening.

SEAMEN LOST.—Captain Smith, of the schooner Suffolk, from Matanzas, reports that on his passage home on the 13th December, during a heavy gale off Portugas, John Supre, of New York, and Charles McLaine, of Stockholm, (Sweden) seamen, were washed overboard from the jib-boom and lost.

SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.—On the 30th ultimo the following resolution was offered in the lower House:

Resolved, That the State of South Carolina is ready, together with other slaveholding States, or such as may desire present action, to enter into the formation of a Southern Confederacy.

Resolved, That the Governor forward this resolution to the Executives of the Southern States.

Another resolution was offered asking official information of the condition of the State arsenals, arms, ammunition, the number of men enrolled, style of arms, &c.

TEXAS.—We have Texas papers to the 26 instant. They contain little of interest. We take the following from the Galveston *News*:

We learn that Mr. J. B. Borden has erected at Texana an establishment for pickling beef. During the last severe northern blast pickled some eighty barrels. This, we learn, is the first attempt of the kind made in this State, and it is to be earnestly hoped that the adventure may prove a perfect success.

On Thursday last, after a week of oppressively warm weather, a powerful norther came upon us, and since then we have all been shaking and shivering, and hugging the stoves. A despondent and sanguinary man would have delighted the most extravagant Britisher, culminated this morning in a fall of snow, such as we, in this latitude, have not seen since the memorable storm of '53. The winter has regularly set in.

Yellow Jack, for the season, is a deceased individual, and we may now look forward, for several months to come, for nothing but cold, cold, cold. Mr. Nicholas S. Hill tells a story of a gentleman from the Emerald isle informing him of his sojourn being on fire this morning. Mr. H. suggested that the temperature of the water being higher than that of the atmosphere, was the cause of the vapor, which bore the semblance to smoke. The fact was in due time duly acknowledged, and Mr. H. departed on his way rejoicing, and is supposed to have afterwards enjoyed a good breakfast.

BOTH DAWN.—Mr. Rufus Dawes, whose accounts in connection with the city papers, was a contributor of fine ability and high literary attainments. A volume of his poems, published some years since, possess unusual merit, and bear the stamp of true genius. Mr. D. was a co-partner of Judge Peck. He died on the 30th ult., in the 37th year of his age.—*Washington Constitution.*

TELEGRAPHED.

BALTIMORE, December 2.—The following letter was furnished by some Ohio merchants who were arrested at Harper's Ferry:

BALTIMORE, December 2.

To the Public.—We, the undersigned, having been arrested by the military authorities of Virginia on the morning of Wednesday last, while proceeding over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad as passengers for the East, were disposed to overlook the detention and annoyance we were subjected to, in the belief that the officers were imposed upon and acted entirely from some erroneous information. Observing, however, that we are accused of having expressed ourselves unconstitutionally to the State as regarding the prisoners at Charlestown, and that this is offered as the reason for our arrest, we therefore deem it due to ourselves that publicly we declare the statement to be entirely without foundation; that we are not public agitators of any sort, but order-loving business men, quietly pursuing our own affairs. We would at the same time, in view of numerous exciting reports that are being published, take occasion to declare that we were treated with every proper consideration by the military and the citizens of Martinsburg, where we were arrested, and as soon as our case was made known to the proper authority, their President and other officers promptly telegraphed the commanding General and procured our release; and moreover, as further evidence of our exoneration of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company from all blame for this unusual proceeding, and our entire confidence that no further annoyance to passengers will occur, we propose to return to our homes in the West by that route.

Signed, J. W. VANZANT, Fairfield co., O.
J. R. GLEDSTONE, Morgan co., O.
J. L. COMBS, Logan, Hocking co., O.

MANCHESTER, N. H., December 2.—An attempt was made to toll the City Hall bell to-day in commemoration of the execution of John Brown. The bell was only struck a few times when Mayor Harrington appeared in the belfry and ordered him to desist; one of them refused, when the Mayor dropped him down through the scuttle, as being the most convenient mode of enforcing his will.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, December 2.—A meeting was held here to-night in commemoration of the execution of John Brown. Over 1500 people were present. Able addresses were made by D. R. Tilden, R. P. Spaulding, C. H. Langstone, A. G. Riddle, and Ex-Messrs. J. G. White, W. H. Brewster and J. W. Tobey. Resolutions were adopted, and the hall was draped in mourning.

BOSTON, December 2.—In the State Legislature to-day both Houses refused to adjourn in consequence of the execution of Brown. The resolutions offered were voted down with much unanimity.

WASHINGTON, December 2.—The State Department has been officially advised that war has been declared by Spain against Morocco, and a blockade of the ports of the latter country is announced.

A man answering Cook's description of Richard Realfe was recently arrested at Poolsville, Md., but while a commitment was writing out he managed to escape. He was yesterday rearrested at Alexandria and held for further examination. He had previously visited Washington, and, from his actions, excited the belief that he was a swindler.

PHILADELPHIA, December 2.—An overflowing meeting was held at National Hall this morning to pray for Brown. Numerous letters were read by Rev. Mr. Furness. An address was also delivered by Lucretia Mott, Mary Grew and others.

Hanging of Brown.

HARPER'S FERRY, Dec. 2.—John Brown was hung to-day at half-past 11 o'clock.

The military assembled at 9 o'clock and were posted in the field leading to the place of execution, and also at various points as laid down in the general orders. Every thing was conducted with the strictest military discipline, and the town was in a state of siege. Mounted scouts were stationed in the woods to the left of the scaffold, and a picket of guards were stationed out towards the Shenandoah mountains. In the rear the military on the field were formed in two hollow square; within the square, and in the scaffold, and between the inner and outer lines the citizens were admitted, no one being allowed outside the lines except the mountain guards.

At 11 o'clock the prisoner was brought out of the jail, accompanied by Sheriff Campbell and his assistants, and Captain Avis, the jailor. A small wagon containing a white pine coffin was driven up, on which Brown took his seat. Six companies of infantry and rifles, one company of horse, and the General and his staff, numbering twenty five officers, headed the procession, and moved toward the place of execution. Brown was not accompanied by any minister, as he declared no religious ceremonies should be in jail or on the scaffold. He looked calmly around on the people and appeared fully self possessed. He mount ed the scaffold with a firm step; his arms were then pinioned by the Sheriff. He then bid farewell to Captain Avis and Sheriff Campbell, and at half-past 11 o'clock the scaffold was sprung, and with a few slight struggles John Brown yielded up his spirit. His body was placed in the coffin, and is now on the way to Harper's Ferry to be delivered to his wife, under a strong military escort.

The Last Moments of Washington Irving.

During Monday Mr. Irving walked out to his garden, a short distance from the house, and gave some instructions to the gardener. He also gave instructions to the carpenters who were employed in making some alterations in his library. He did not ride out during the day, as was his custom, but as he made no complaint of feeling more indisposed than usual, the omission was not thought by his family to arise from any alarming conditions. He dined with the family about 4 o'clock, and after dinner proposed that they should spend the evening in amusement, conversation and reading. In addition to the regular members of the family, consisting of Sheodore Irving, the brother of the deceased, with his three daughters, and Pierre M. Irving, a nephew, with his wife, another nephew, Rev. Pierre M. Irving, of New Brighton, Staten Island, the literary executor of the deceased, was also present, having accidentally come up from Staten Island that day. The evening was spent according to the proposal of Mr. Irving, and excepting an occasional reference to his difficulty of breathing, none of the party appeared more cheerful, or a more gratified sharer of the enjoyment than he.

In the intervals of conversation he glanced over the pages of several books that lay on the centre-table, and the last book he is believed to have opened, was Lieut. Page's *History of the Paraguay Expedition*. About 10½ o'clock he arose to retire, and taking his leave of the company, he ascended the stairs alone to his bedroom. While upon the steps he met his nephew, Rev. Mr. Irving, coming down, holding in his hand a needle for sewing manuscripts. Mr. Irving accosted him in a playful manner, saying, "Why Pierre, what are you doing with a needle?" and he passed on to his room. These were the last words he ever uttered. One of his nieces, Miss Sarah Irving, had preceded him to his room, and when he entered, she was engaged in arranging his books so that they would be easy of access in his hours of wakefulness during the night. While engaged in this duty, she was startled by a noise as of some one choking, and turning round saw Mr. Irving press his left hand to his side and fall forward. He caught hold of a table, in falling, and gradually sank down on the floor. The noise was heard in the parlor below, and in a moment every member of the household was around him; but before any of them had reached him, he had ceased to breathe. Supposing that he had fainted, efforts were made by the family to revive him, and, meanwhile, Dr. Cornelius and Mr. George D. Morgan, a near neighbor and intimate friend of Mr. Irving, were sent for. On the arrival of the Doctor, he made an examination of the body, and announced that life was extinct.

We take the subjoined cheering passage from a letter of the Hon. Jere. Clemens to his paper, the Memphis *Enquirer*:

PHILADELPHIA, November 24, 1859.

In traveling through the Northwest I made it my business to learn as much as I could of the sentiments of the people upon the slavery question. In Illinois I was gratified to find the impression very generally prevailing that the Republican party were losing ground daily. I repeatedly heard the opinion expressed that it was a party of one idea, and that idea an obsolete one—that the question of slavery in the Territories had been settled, and that its further agitation was insisted upon by the leaders of the Republican party for no other object than their own prospects. I heard men who avowed that they had heretofore supported the Republican ticket declare that the time had come when it was the duty of good citizens to cast loose from the extremists, and for moderate men, at the North and at the South, who entertained the same political opinions, to unite on a common platform upon which all allusion to slavery should be omitted. In Illinois this sentiment seemed to prevail, and even in Ohio I heard as sound national sentiments as could be desired by our fiery neighbors of Mississippi.

I have observed in the Southern democratic letter writers from the North, while they sometimes note the same feeling to which I have alluded, invariably give the credit to their own party friends. I had no party purpose to subserve, and made no inquiries as to the past political affinities of those with whom I conversed. In every instance where I did learn the fact of affiliation, it was through their own voluntary avowals, and, so far as I observed, a disposition to get rid of the slavery question, as connected with national politics, was confined to no party, and the expression of repugnance at its continued agitation were quite as strong from Republicans sources as from any other. Of course I neither made nor invited political discussion, nor politicians by trade. From both of these classes I expected sitra opinions, and I was not disappointed; but the great mass, who were employed in the pursuit of wealth, for the Territories, are satisfied that these Territories, from the natural effects of soil and climate, must be free States, and are beginning to think that government was instituted for some other purpose than to legislate for the future freedom of the negro in regions to which no one proposes to carry the negro and where none but a fool would consent to own him. I am fully satisfied that the election of a Black Republican of the Seward stripe to the Presidency is in absolute impossibility, and the Southern Democracy may dismiss their fears of such a result, and cease their preparations for disunion on that account. There never was a time so favorable for the formation of a great national party, and I trust the people will take the matter in their own hands, and not suffer the action of the politicians at Washington, almost all of whom have been completely overrated by the panacoism of either, or are too much frightened at the possibility of losing place, to be left out of the pale of the party.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.—At the Opera, La Traviata.

At the Varieties Theatre, La Favorita.

At the Varieties, the Rivals; the Viola Pelta, and a laughable farce.

At the St. Charles, the Gamester, and a popular farce.

At Spalding & Rogers's Amphitheatre, the great European Circus.

ATTRACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT.—One of the most attractive and interesting entertainments we know of to amuse a person for an hour or two, is the wonderful Italian Comic Automatic Company at Vanneuchi's Museum, 127 St. Charles street. This, in addition to the other attractions there, is sufficient to draw large crowds.

SUPREME TRIBUNALS OF COLD WEATHER.—On Tuesday afternoon the weather was extremely warm, the thermometer reaching almost to the high figure of 80. About seven o'clock a gale sprung up from the north, which soon blew with great force, and in a short while was followed by rain, which continued slightly. In less than an hour the thermometer fell over fifty degrees, and from the bosom of Summer we were thrown into the icy embrace of Winter. During the night the mercury in the thermometer at Little's chronometer depot, on Customhouse street, marked as low as 26, which is within nine degrees of the coldest weather ever recorded in New Orleans—the memorable night of January 19, 1853, when the thermometer stood at 18.

On Tuesday night ice formed in the street gutters, in cisterns, and even in the pitchers of some persons' bed-chambers. Those people who had to traverse the streets through rain, sleet and chilling wind could well appreciate the sufferings of arctic voyagers. At no time yesterday, although the sun shone brightly, did the thermometer mark higher than thirty and one-half degrees, which is below freezing point. This spell of cold weather is no less sudden than severe, and is quite unusual for this latitude before Christmas.

THE WASHINGTON ARTILLERY PLATE.—As a great number of persons are anxious to obtain a view of the magnificent service of plate presented by the Washington Artillery to Captain Walton, the testimonial committee have obtained his permission to place it for a few days in the window of George W. Gruger & Co., which will give every one an opportunity to satisfy their curiosity and to examine an exquisite piece of home workmanship.

REMARKABLE WORK OF ART.—One of the most serious and wonderful achievements of skill and perseverance that we have ever seen is now on exhibition, executed by an English artist with a common steel pen, and which took him to complete two years and eight months of constant labor. The original is in the British Museum, but a lithograph fac simile, which we examined, is at Haskiel's periodical agency, on Exchange Alley, between Gravier and Old Carondelet streets. The picture embraces ninety-five illustrations from the Bible, with explanatory passages to each, the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer, hymns and songs, with illustrations of Free Masonry in its ancient language.

THE BARRAGES STREET STABBING AFFAIR.—Ellen McNabe, charged with stabbing Mrs. Jane Sullivan, together with William Walker, Julius Miller and five women, who have been in jail since the 29th ultimo, the others held as witnesses, were up before Recorder Witz yesterday. Jane Sullivan testified that on the 29th day of November Ellen McNabe came into her kitchen and broke some of her crockery; that she ordered her out, and Ellen answered impertinently, asserting she could whip her, anywhere and at any time, and bantering her to go over to Bagley's on that Sunday and "have it out in a fair standup fight." After some words had passed she eluded to go into the Stockholm House next door and take a drink. While in there drinking with other women they continued to talk about the value of the crockery and the preliminaries of the fight. When witness was going out Ellen rushed upon her with an uplifted knife and stabbed her in the left eye, temple, and left wrist. Witness was conveyed to the Charity Hospital, where she has been since, she has lost the use of her left eye.

William Walker testified that Jane Sullivan and Ellen McNabe, with five other women, came to the bar of the Stockholm House and took a drink. The two women were talking about the broken crockery and the projected fight. Ellen drew a knife and stabbed Jane three times. Witness took the knife from her and gave it to an officer.

The Recorder sent Ellen to jail to answer the charge of stabbing with intent to murder before the Criminal Court. Walker was allowed to go on his own bond in the sum of $500. The other prisoners were all discharged.

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS.—The following are the decisions for this week:

The State of Louisiana—in the matter of J. B. Hamer, praying for a writ of mandamus—appellee, vs. the Crescent Mutual Insurance Company of New Orleans, appellant. No. 6300. Appeal from the Third District Court of New Orleans. Hamer requested a mandamus upon the insurance company to permit him at seasonable hours to inspect the book of the company containing a list of holders of stock. The company filed an exception, and in case of its being overruled, an answer to the petition making up an issue on the merits. The exception was argued and taken under advisement for five days, when the Court, instead of overruling the exception, rendered a judgment on the merits. An appeal was taken to test the propriety of this practice. After arguing the question of citing authorities, the Court overruled the decision of the lower Court and remanded the case for further proceedings according to law, relator paying costs of the appeal.

Ann Joyce, wife of Alexander Rogerson, duly authorized, appellant, vs. James W. Duplessis, Zacharie, and Harriet A. Zacharie, appellees. No. 6675. Appeal from the First District Court of New Orleans. The Court reversed the judgment in regard to Zacharie, and gave judgment in favor of the plaintiff, Ann Joyce, and against Zacharie for $300 and costs of suit. Merrick, C. J.

Harriet Phelps, wife of Aug. S. Phelps, applicant, vs. Eliza Ann Zacharie, and Ann Joyce, wife of Alexander Rogerson, duly authorized, appellees. No. 6444. Appeal from the Fourth District Court of New Orleans. Judgment reversed, and the injunction issued ordered to be dissolved, and the defendants and appellants recover of Harriet Phelps and W. P. Sunderland, the principal and surety on the injunction bond, in solido, $600 damages, with costs in both Courts. Buchanan, J.

Charles S. Knabe et als., appellants, vs. J. Terrell et als., appellees. No. 6267. Appeal from the Third District Court of New Orleans. Decreed that the *ex parte* order dissolving the injunction be set aside, and the injunction perpetuated; and it is further ordered that the case be remanded to the lower proceedings according to law, the defendant and appellee paying costs. Merrick, C. J.

R. Murphy & Co., appellants, vs. Steamer Belle Sulphur, captain and owners, appellees. No. 6626. Appeal from the Sixth District Court of New Orleans. Judgment of the Court affirmed. Decreed that the plaintiff, R. Murphy, recover of the captain and owners, in solido, $364 53, with legal interest from the 1st December, 1857, until paid, with privilege on the boat to secure the payment. Defendants to pay costs in both suits. Merrick, C. J.

St. Paul P. S. Church, appellants, vs. Grund & Lewis et als., appellees. No. 6781. Appeal from the Second District Court of New Orleans. Grund & Lewis contracted to build the St. Paul P. S. Church, corner of Camp and Berbidoux streets. They began and were put in default, and $2600 retained to pay for materials and labor that were put into the work. The present suit was then instituted by the plaintiffs, who were proceeding to have the building completed by other persons, and they made parties to the proceedings, the contractors, Grund & Lewis, against whom a claim for damages is preferred. The plaintiffs set up in a supervening petition an unconstrainable event—viz: the epidemic of 1853; and the refusal of the plaintiffs to extend the time, and to make payments, forced them to abandon the contract. The other defendants join in the answer, and claim to be paid out of the funds in plaintiffs' hands. The Court held the plaintiffs have not proved damages; that the time under the contract when it was abandoned, and the sub-contractors are entitled to pro rata payment out of the funds. The judgment of the lower Court affirmed.

John H. Hanna, appellee, vs. Wm. B. Harman, Miles Harman, E. Glass, intervener and third opponent, appellants. No. 6375. Appeal from Fifth District Court of New Orleans. Judgment affirmed. Appellant Glass to pay costs of appeal. Cole, J.

John Arrowsmith, appellant, vs. R. R. Purell and the New Orleans Canal and Navigation Company, appellees. No. 6461. Appeal from the Fourth District Court of New Orleans. Judgment affirmed, with costs. Buchanan, J.

William Fish, appellee, vs. Johnson, Levine and others, appellants. No. 6484. Appeal from the Fourth District Court of New Orleans. It is ordered that the appellee take the judgment by default in his favor, for the sum of $500, with costs in the lower Court, and the costs of the appeal. Merrick, C. J.

Victor Barthe, appellant, vs. Polycarpe Fortier, appellee. No. 6647. Appeal from the Fifth District Court of New Orleans. Two trials have ensued.

In suit No. 12,147 of the docket of the Fifth District Court, judgment affirmed. Costs divided. Buchanan, J.

W. Cochran, appellee, vs. P. Coffey, appellant. No. 6712. Appeal from the Fourth District Court of New Orleans. Judgment affirmed. Merrick, C. J.

A. L. Gaines, appellee, vs. Page, Bacon & Co. et als., appellees—G. L. H. Barlow, intervener, appellant. No. 6573. Appeal from the Third District Court of New Orleans. The judgment upon the rule taken the 14th January, 1859, avoided and reversed, and cause remanded to the lower Court to be proceeded with according to law. Cole, J.

Charles H. Davis, appellant, vs. Henry G. Chandler, agent, &c., appellee. No. 6561. Appeal from the Second Judicial District Court, parish of St. Bernard. Judgment reversed and cause remanded. Lord, J.

Marie Lois, appellee, vs. Edward Pulsor; Thomas J. Pitsky, warrantee, appellant. No. 6667. Appeal from the Sixth District Court of New Orleans. Judgment of lower Court amended by striking out the warranty of eviction; in other respects affirmed. Voorhies, J.

The State of Louisiana, appellee, vs. Delia Smith, alias Bridget Parry, appellant. No. 6218. Appeal from the First District Court of New Orleans. Judgment of lower Court affirmed. Buchanan, J.

Fretlow, Stevenson & Co., appellees, vs. Wm. B. Stewart et. als., appellants. No. 6344. Appeal from Fourth District Court of New Orleans. Judgment affirmed, with costs. Buchanan, J.

Wm. A. Baker, appellee, vs. Hall, Barker & Co., appellants. George G. Baker, garnishee, vs. McAllister & Co., appellants. No. 6664. Appeal from the Third District Court of New Orleans. Judgment amended. Buchanan, J.

Fleur Dunbar Cocoa—Judge T. G. Shaw—John Moore, who struck William T. Wybb with a billet of wood and severely injured him, on the steamboat landing, was charged with an assault with intent to murder. He entered a plea of guilty to an assault with a dangerous weapon.

Charles Myers, alias Jas. Myers, who stole a watch from Leopold Nagle, pleaded guilty to larceny.

Charles Morris, Attorney, by consent of Court, entered a nol. pros. in the case of James Strong, alias Robert Madison, charged with committing a burglary in Stevenson's Alley, and attempting to rape Mrs. Ann Jane, in June last, and the authorities of Caddo parish have neglected to send for him.

John Gormley pleaded guilty to assault and battery. He had been charged with committing an outrageous assault and battery upon his wife when she was in a delicate condition, but felt confident she would not prosecute against him. The Judge, however, told him, however, he need expect no discharge on that ground, which caused him to enter the plea of guilty.

FIRST DISTRICT RECORDER'S COURT—Adolphe Fleitas, vs. Henry Westfield, proprietor of the Falcon Exchange, and Joe Cortez were required to give $1000 bail to answer on the 14th the charge of seizing James Gilbert, trying to have him sign a book, and taking all the money out of his pocket.

John Holloway was remanded to answer the charge of robbing a boarding house. Consul Stark too defaulter bill on John Tierney.

Napoleon Underwood and George Origon were remanded for appearance on the 12th, charged with attempting a highway robbery upon James T. Morton.

Wm. Francis was remanded to answer on the 19th the charge of stealing a clock from Mary Shepherd.

James Bates was remanded until to-day to answer the charge of stealing an overcoat.

Charles Vincent was sent to the Work-house for three months for stealing a pair of boots from the St. Charles Hotel.

George W. Hart gave $500 bail to appear on the 9th, charged with beating Charles Fairborn on the levee.

RUNAWAYS WHITE GOODS.—In the case of Barney Dougherty and Mary Doherty, charged with disturbing the peace of their neighborhood by Charles Leech, Barney was fined $4, and Mary was discharged.

Mr. Bagley was fined $1 for abusing and threatening Mary Baker, on Dauphin street.

Of four women charged by other Mary with being loud and abandoned characters and with committing scandal, Madelina Sherry was fined $10, and Catharine Yager, Sophie Harper and Augustine Lambert sent to the Workhouse for three months each.

DEAD OF INTEMPERANCE.—Mrs. Carroll, thirty-five years of age, a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., died of intemperance yesterday in a house on Girod, near Tchoupitoulas street. Deputy Coroner J. B. Rorapure held the inquest.

SMILLIE'S BUSINESS.—We regret to hear that Miss Lizzie Smillie, formerly of Charlottesville, Virginia, who is well known as a delightful reader, unanimously burst on Friday morning last, at one of the New York hotels. She was dressing in her chamber, when her dress took fire from the grate, and the flames enveloped her. Fortunately she was saved by persons in the drawing-room, where she rushed, who covered her up, and saved her, not without serious injury, however, to her person. Miss Smillie will be remembered by a large number of our citizens as the beautiful young lady who gave Shakspearean readings at the Mechanics' Hall, in Petersburg, some eighteen months or two years ago.—*Petersburg Express.*

DIED,

Last evening, at half-past eleven o'clock, aged 41 years, WILLIAM J. BENDER, Esq., Secretary. The friends and acquaintances of the family Walker and Bender are invited to assist at his funeral, this morning, at eleven o'clock, half-past four o'clock, from her late residence, No. 5-3 Morris street, between Port and St. Ferdinand.