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NEW ORLEANS:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOV. 28, 1866.

The New Orleans Bee.

OFFICE 73 CHARTRES STREET. NEW ORLEANS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 28, 1866. Vol. XXVII—New Series. Vol. XVII—Whole—13,980.

THE CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION OF THE LADIES OF LOUISIANA.—Few of our people seem to be aware that the above association is now holding a Fair in the grand entrance and rotunda of the St. Louis Hotel. This society has been in existence for over thirty years and has raised money enough to found two charitable institutions—a home for aged widows and indigent females, and a home for old men. They are now engaged in founding a home for widows who lost their husbands by the war. In a cause so deserving we hope that our people will give them a liberal patronage. They will find there some excellent champagne punch, and everything nice in the way of eatables. The ladies will give every attention to their guests.

To Mrs. Peychaud and Mrs. Barrac we are indebted for one acceptable souvenir of this agreable affair, in the form of some delicious cake and other productions of the cuisinier's art, sent to our office with the fair ladies' compliments.

ARRIVAL FROM HAVANA.—We are indebted to Mr. Emory, the obliging Purser of the steamship Cuba, which arrived from Havana yesterday, for a file of Havana papers. The dates are to the 24th instant. The newspapers are discussing the Mexican question and the mission of General Sherman and M. Campbell to that country, and comment on the correspondence between General Sheridan and Senor Ortega.

General Sherman, says the *Siglo*, is visiting the finest sugar estates in the neighborhood. Sugar was quoted at 7 to 7½ reals, coffee at $16 for Havana, and $16½ for Porto Rico. Exchange on Spain at 3 to 3 per cent. for sixty days; on England at 20¾ to 21. New York nominal at 22 per cent. in currency for sixty days.

MUSICAL SOIREE.—We have received an invitation to attend a musical soiree to be given at the Mechanics' Institute, on the 28th instant, by the "St. Cecile Society." The selections indicated in the programme, and the character of the performers, promise an excellent musical entertainment.

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION.

It must be painfully apparent to every educated man who takes an interest in the cause of education, that the people of the South, at this time, are not giving that attention to the education of the rising generation which the importance of the subject demands. There was never a time in the history of Louisiana when it was so difficult to impress upon the adult population the fact, that the youth of our State have claims upon them which cannot be ignored, and which dare not be denied. And yet we find an apathy amounting almost to carelessness as to the future of the young minds now hastening on to maturity. Can excuse be found for this in a country like ours? If it be possible to find excuses for a disregard of our youth, and of their mental culture, we are disposed to seek them out, and to test their validity, rather than give those words of censure which the case would seem to merit. But assuming that our people are ready to acknowledge the great importance of public education we find two causes operating against the system of education proposed by our superintendent. We have first the generally, almost universally impoverished condition of our people, and, second, a somewhat extended opposition, based upon old prejudices, against the common school system, as adopted in other States and countries.

Against the first we find argument enough in the importance of the matter. Next to the real necessities of life, the education of the young has first claim upon us, and it should be classed also among the necessities, and next to food and clothing. In comparison to the cost of either of these excessary expenses the amount required for the support of public schools is trifling. Even in our most sparsely settled parishes the tax levied for this purpose is remarkably small, and there is scarcely a family in the State that could not save a sufficient amount from one month's waste. It seems supremely ridiculous to hear men objecting to the school system on the ground of expense, when, in matters of far less importance, so much is literally thrown away in so many different ways. The prejudice against common or public schools seems to us to be entirely without reason, and founded on false principles. The system has been too thoroughly tested in America, in England and in Germany to need demonstration as to its practicability or usefulness. It is true that in the rural districts, sparsely populated, there are more difficulties to encounter, but what difficulties should be permitted to stand in the way of founding public schools wherever there can be found children enough to support a teacher? The main opponents to the system in this State have been those men who live in districts where common schools are impracticable, but it should be remembered that every man is called upon to make some sacrifices for the benefit of the society in which he moves. Bachelors residing and holding property in cities, could object to pay their proportion of the school tax upon the same ground—that is to say, because they have no children of their own to receive the benefits of the schools which they help to sustain.

But despite the seeming simplicity of this whole system of popular education, there is not wanting men who endeavor to make it a complex affair, and who discourage every attempt made by those who see and feel the almost vital importance of a good general system of education. It cannot be forgotten that the Governor, himself, in his message to the Legislature, a year ago, took occasion to denounce "our Public School system outside of the Parish of Orleans" as a miserable failure, and stating that it had been found impracticable in forty-seven parishes. Without giving the reasons for the failure of the system hitherto, without taking into consideration the many obstacles to be encountered so soon after the close of the war, and the pecuniary suffering of our people, he denounces the efforts made thus far, and recommends the entire abolition of public schools. But we need not go beyond this same message to find words to show that these assertions are too sweeping and not founded upon the real ideas which the Governor entertains upon the subject. In a subsequent clause he recommends that all taxes for educational purposes levied upon colored persons, be applied to the education of colored persons exclusively. The inference is clear. The Governor entertains the prejudices against common schools for white children which we have already mentioned, and upon these prejudices, and not upon a belief in its impracticability, he bases his opposition. Setting aside all prejudices against sending white children to the public schools, no one will deny that if it is possible to found a system of colored public schools, it is also possible to found one for the whites. The Governor, therefore, as the able Superintendent of Public Education says in his last report, is thus counselling an absolute neglect of all indigent white children throughout the State, while suggesting that provision should be made for the mental training of an inferior race. The Senate, also, at its last session, resolved that the system of public education is too expensive and unequal in its operation to be longer maintained under State authority, and that, therefore, each Police Jury should determine the whole system of education according to its own discretion. This resolution was undoubtedly adopted by the Senate from an indisposition to impose further taxes upon the people. The representatives of the people did not wish to impose any further burdens upon an impoverished country, and, therefore, would not take the responsibility of imposing a direct tax for the support of the public school system. But in one thing they committed an error. Instead of leaving the inference that they were opposed to the system, they should have left it entirely with the Police Juries or the Parishes, if no general action was considered politic. In that case they would have given nourishment to the men who are really laboring in the cause of education, and could have stimulated the Police Juries of those parishes where schools are practicable to renewed exertion. Instead of doing this our legislators have cast a shadow upon the work; and the Superintendent now relies upon the press to assist him in removing it, so that the question may be seen in its proper light.

We must here say that our remarks are founded upon a circular sent to us by Mr. Lusher, the State Superintendent. He is an earnest advocate of the system of Public Education, and believes it to be indispensable to the dignity of our race, and to the honor of our State, that all white children should be properly educated, morally and mentally, for the exercise of the rights and privileges of citizenship, and this with the least practicable delay. We truly remarks: Distinguished as our munificent planters have always been for promoting Southern education and literature, and interested as they and our merchants, mechanics, and all industrial classes, must be in the improvement of Southern society, it is trusted that there among them who have survived the shock of a revolution which has left squalid ignorance, as well as honorable poverty, in its train, will not hesitate, at this eventful crisis, to aid in the patriarchal mission of training, refining and utilizing the poor children of our race.

Here we find work for our people to do. For many years the State may not be able to make appropriations or to give material aid; but there should be some earnest men in every Parish who will now speak in behalf, and make the first move in the cause of education. In his advice to the Police Juries, upon this point, Mr. Lusher says:

Allow me, then, to urge you, gentlemen, to call your people to the rescue of a long-neglected cause; to raise, by your personal efforts, sufficient means to open a well provided school in every ward, or school-district; to secure the services of competent, zealous, and conscientious teachers, whose example will be a living monitor of integrity and purity; to keep the school in actual operation, during five days of every week, for at least eight months in the year, and to assemble at least thirty scholars, daily, in each school-room.

To redeem the system from the obloquy cast upon it in most of the Treasurers' published reports, as to its condition in past years—a condition which has caused it to forfeit the respect of the Legislature, as well as of the Executive—I must also suggest a vigilant protection of the school-rooms from intrusion; a careful inspection and examination of the classes by each director, alternately, at least once a month; a quarterly abstract of the attendance, classification, studies and advancement of the pupils, and a full annual report to the Parish Treasurer, in August or September, as required by Sec. 23d of the School Act. Without such a report, the Treasurer cannot do justice to your schools, nor this office report their condition to the General Assembly.

Believing that there are few questions of mere vital importance to the South, than this of education, we have given considerable space to it. And every day it grows more and more important. A political question is intimately associated with it. The time may come when our State shall adopt a rule of suffrage based upon education, and in that event ignorance would be a positive injury to the State. Looking at the question in its social aspect, and ignoring its political, it seems to us that it is the duty of every man to do all in his power to further the educational interests of the State. Our Superintendent, elected by a vote that ran far ahead of his party, has decided upon a policy to preserve what remains to public education, and we may rest assured that, having given the question a thorough examination, he will recommend a course calculated to promote the best interests of Louisiana, and of the rising generation.

At this time all of our parishes are blessed with intelligent police jurors, who have gone bravely to work in support of the Superintendent; but among the people there is an evident disposition to trust to Providence for the education of their children. When a feeling of this kind exists among our citizens how can a legislature feel any interest in a subject which their constituents wholly ignore? An efficient and vigorous system of free schools can alone command respect, and we hope that there may be found a few men in every parish who will enter upon this work as zealously as our Superintendent has done. The solution of the question now rests with the parishes: let their load ug men distinguish themselves in the cause of education.

News From the Rio Grande.

By the steamship St. Mary we are in receipt of Brownsville papers up to the 23d inst.

Matamoros continues the scene of the usual coquetting between the besieged and besiegers without any effectual results. Canales proposed a surrender to Escobedo on terms which the latter deemed too extravant to accept. Gen. Sedgwick and other American officers had attended a grand review of Escobedo's troops, and were surprised at their drill discipline and other evidences of effectiveness.

Cortina had issued an order for the levying of a forced loan of $4000 from the citizens of Bagdad. The Americans and other foreigners refused to pay anything.

Ortega was still at Brazos, and Cavajal had denied giving him support. Some Liberal troops had been worsted in a skirmish.

In reference to the mission of Mr. Campbell and Gen. Sherman, the *Courier* of the 21st says:

It was intended that Col. Campbell should proceed to Chihuahua, in September last, to Brownsville and Monterey, and, on the occasion of Gen. Sheridan's visit here in July, partial arrangements were made in anticipation thereof. Gen. Getty received orders to hold himself in readiness to accompany Col. Campbell as far as Monterey with a sufficient escort, and other measures adjusted with the care as the were commented upon and arrangements. Circumstances, however, changed the programme, and, while it is certain that Col. Campbell is about to join the American Government at some point, it is equally certain that he is not coming this way. As a natural consequence, he must go to Vera Cruz, the only remaining practicable way for him to enter the country in pursuance of his high mission.

THE FAIR CLOSED.—The Great State Fair of the Mechanics and Agricultural Fair Association of Louisiana, closed yesterday. The enterprise has been a most magnificent success, and we are gratified to learn that the energetic managers have already concluded to hold another next November, and call upon the people to bear the fact in mind and prepare for the occasion. We give a report of the proceedings yesterday, showing the principal awards as far as announced; the rest will be published in our paper in the morning.

We are informed that, to state that in order to prevent confusion or delay in delivering the goods on exhibition, the gates will be closed, and no person admitted except stockholders or persons with exhibition tickets. The superintendents of the respective departments will deliver goods only upon presentation of the duplicate card, and we caution our friends not to call for their goods without them, as the delivery to parties will be refused without them by the managers.

PETROLIUM IN LOUISIANA.—Among the articles on exhibition during the Fair just closed, nothing has afforded us more gratification than the exposition of specimens of the crude petroleum found in Calcasian parish, in this state, and the coal oil manufactured out of the native article, under the auspices of the Louisiana Petroleum and Coal Oil Company, of which Judge Swan—whose acquaintance we had the pleasure of making, on a convivial occasion, yesterday—is the energetic President. These specimens certainly augur well for the success of the Company in supplying a great desideratum for home manufacturing purposes, and supplying our wants from our own resources.

USEFUL MECHANICAL CONTRIVANCE.—One of the most ingenious and at the same time useful articles of mechanism on exhibition during the Fair was a Gas Meter, exhibited by Mr. McCulloch, President of the New Orleans Gas Light Company, and Chairman of the Board of Assistant Aldermen, to whom it was presented by the American Metre Company of New York. The gas is received through an air tight compartment and distributed through various channels as needed, every movement of the gas causing the indicator to mark the amount of gas used. Best of all it does away entirely with the use of water in the meter.

THE COUNCIL.—There was no meeting of the City Council last evening, on account of the want of a quorum. They will meet Friday.

By the steamer Rapidan, from Galveston Nov. 25th, we are in receipt of Texas papers for which parser Gunter has our thanks.

PICTURES OF THE FAIR.—Beautiful pictures of the Grand Fair of the Mechanics' and Agricultural Fair Association, just closed, can be had at Messrs. Leighton & Hayman's, corner of Canal and St. Charles streets. The picture is drawn by our fellow citizen, Mr. A. Peraco. Messrs. Leighton & Hayman, we may add, are dealers in all kinds of gentlemen's furnishing goods, which they sell at fair prices. They were accorded a diploma and silver medal, the first premium for the best hand made shirt; the first premium for the best specimen of plain needle work, and were otherwise complimented for the articles they had on exhibition.

Passengers per steamship Cuba, from Baltimore and Havana:

Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Bass, Miss Pearce, Mr Mrs P M Stanley, Master Geo Stanley, J G Eppler, Mr Mrs Moser, Miss Annie Kelly, Miss Blackwood, Andres Fernandez, A Gonzalez Perez, Vincente Dancey, Jose de la Reyes, S Patrick, F de la Hoyo, L E Mather, Jose Sobrido, Jose Gomez, Mr Kimberly and wife, E K Fearson and wife, A Sparkes, F Forrest and wife, Mr Moran, Joe Edwards, Jesse Williams, Mr J B Dancy and two servants, J S Lapryne, Jas J Warren, F P Linnes, Miss Mary Boyce, S Amos Beede, F Murphy, S Amos, A G Dodge, T G Rogers, Mrs Rogers and child and servant, Mr Kimbell, J U Gouti, B Brown, L Sobrido, Jose Sobrido, Jean Myrat, Mr and Mrs W J Beaun, G Garcia, M Cassavoy, W N Osborn, Mr Wakes, Dr Dellart and 3 boys, Thos Leach, Ch Welch.

ARRIVAL OF THE ST. MARY.—The U. S. mail steamship St. Mary, Capt. Geo. E. Tripp, from Brazos Santiago, 24th, via Indianola, 25th, to I. C. Harris, arrived yesterday morning. The St. Mary brings $16,382 in specie, 174 head of stock, sundry merchandise, and the following passengers:

Mrs Fuller and child, Capt Seidtsiller lady and son Mrs Stone and servant, Mrs Hanson, Mrs Orlyne, Mr T B Robbins and lady, Col Moore, Bernard Ball, Col Lougmont, Maxime Roussel, M Bell, Sebastian Wm Lyons, J C Palmer, Mr Rosenberg, M J Baker, M Moncrief, Mr Cox, Mr Hatch, Mr St Pierre, A Bagbeen, M Woody, and eight on deck.

ARRIVAL OF THE RAPIDAN.—The steamship Rapidan, from Texas, arrived in our port yesday with a full cargo and the following passengers:

Frank Sellon, lady and two children, H D Patterson and lady, Mrs Gouldsby and child, L Dodds, F Pettus, Perry, Dunstan, Stanton, Dr. McKey, Morrison, W Carey, Wm Howell, Thos Carey, C Chaver, G Minor, Coles, T Avery, C M Murphy, Fields, Wm Repass, F White, Langley, A Cross, Fail, J Berkley, Manuel, Fernandez, J Ellings, J Italia, F Place, John Lanes, B Harvey, John Radley, George Gomez, J Erwin, T Little, Franklin, G W Berry, Hohenstrohm, Lachenbach, Bernsage, H Dominguez and 37 on deck.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[To the New Orleans Bee.]

FROM WASHINGTON.

Parole of Davis Rumored.

President's Message Ready for the Mail.

Cotton Firm—Gold 143 1-8 in New York.

NEWS BY THE CABLE.

Fenian Alarm in England Increasing.

Our Claims Upon England for Damages by Privateers Renewed.

French Proclamation for Mexico.

Preparations for the Executions in Canada.

Stevens' Movements for Impeaching the President.

Maximilian Expected in Paris.

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The domestic exports for the past fiscal year reached $500,000,000 mostly in foreign bottoms.

E. D. Perrin, late of Memphis, has been appointed Assessor of the Internal Revenue for the first District of New York.

A rumor this morning says Jefferson Davis will be paroled. The President has taken no official action in the premises.

There is no doubt of Secretary McCulloch's determination to contract the currency as rapidly as possible.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Judge Whitaker, of New Orleans, has been in this city some days on an important Southern mission. He leaves for home to-morrow and will urge the South to agitate industrial interests rather than politics.

Washington, Nov. 27.—General U. S. Grant is a member of the new company that lately obtained the Tehuantepec Ship Canal grant.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The President's message had a final reading in the Cabinet to-day, and will be ready to mail South to-morrow.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The following are the Postoffice changes in the South: Virginia—Gravis Mills, Madison county, T. D. C. Gravis; Southampton, Mrs. E. Ezzes. Georgia—At Rocky Mount, C. Brindley; Alabama—Barton, Saunders county, Mrs. C. M. Prentt. Texas—At Henddlesgibh, G. Conrad.

New York, Nov. 27—1 P. M.—Coupons of 5-20's of '62, 107½; ditto of '64, 106½; ditto of '65, 107; new issue 108¾; 10-40's, 100; treasurities, second series, 105¾; North Carolina 6's, 73.

New York, Nov. 27.—Private dispatches from London quote 5-20's at 70¾.

New York, Nov. 27—1 P. M.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat ditto. Corn 1c to 2c better; sales 26,000 bushels mixed western at $1 25 to $1 26½ in store. Pork in bulk lower; sales 600 bbls mess at $21 50 to $21 62. Lard dull; sales 200 tierces at unchanged prices.

New York, Nov. 27.—Arrived steamer San Jacinto from Savannah.

New York, Nov. 27.—Evening—Gold closed at 143¾; coupons of '64, 107; new issue of '65, 108¼; treasuries third series, 105¾.

The cotton market closed firm, but inactive, with sales of 1800 bales; Middling Uplands at 31½ to 32c, and Middling Orleans at 36½ to 37.

Flour firm; Wheat 1c to 2c better. Corn dull and declining. Pork firmer at 12 to 12c lower. Gen. Getty received orders to hold himself in readiness to accompany Col. Campbell as far as Monterey with a sufficient escort, and other measures adjusted with the care as the were commented upon and arrangements made. Circumstances, however, changed the programme, and, while it is certain that Col. Campbell is about to join the American Government at some point, it is equally certain that he is not coming this way. As a natural consequence, he must go to Vera Cruz, the only remaining practicable way for him to enter the country in pursuance of his high mission.

Buffalo, Nov. 27.—The Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser* says we have private intelligence from Washington that Thad. Stevens has called a caucus of Republicans members to meet on Thursday, to bring about a concert of action for impeaching the President.

St. Louis, Nov. 27.—Flour is a little firmer but the prices reported last evening remain the same. Wheat rules dull at $2 10 to $2 60 per bushel. Corn is dull at 95c to $1 per bushel for old and 85 to 95c for new. New Oats active and higher at 50 to 55c for new. Pork $22. Clear sides 15c. Hog $6 heavy gross.

Nashville, Nov. 27.—H. C. Bell, alias Major Hines, of Franklin, Ky., has been arrested here, charged with being one of the robbers of the pay train recently. He was formerly of Gen. Morgan's staff.

Flour dull—Superfine $9 50 to $10 50. Wheat dull and unchanged; No. 1 red $2 75 to $2 80. Corn firmer at 48 to 50c for new, and 80 to 90c for old. Oats steady at 46c for No. 1. Whisky steady at $2 34. Hogs dull and lower at $5 70 to $6 gross, and $7 net; the receipts were 11,000. Pork dull and nominal at $20, dull—nothing doing. Groceries unchanged. Gold 142½.

Ottawa, Nov. 27.—It is stated the 100th and a portion of the other regiments of the British regular troops stationed here are to be shortly removed westward, where, for some reason not yet developed, there is to be a strong concentration of forces.

Toronto, Nov. 27.—No decision has been given in the Court of the Queen's Bench or Common Pleas as to granting the rule for new trials, as applied for by the counsel for the Fenians under sentence of death.

It is rumored that a heavy concentration of troops in this city is about to commence, in view of the near approach of the 13th of December, the day fixed for the execution of the Fenians.

Montreal, Nov. 27.—A school of gunnery is to be established in this city under charge of officers of the Royal army.

Our wharves begin to assume a very bare appearance, very few vessels being in port.

The *Daily Telegraph* says that the report recently telegraphed to New York stating that eight inches of iron, backed by eighteen inches of teak wood, was pierced and destroyed by Pallouser shells, is untrue. No such trial has taken place.

BY THE CABLE.

London, Nov. 27.—The Fenian alarm is on the increase. Two regiments of regulars and several war ships are ordered to Ireland with all speed, and the *Times* says it is possible Stephens may already be in Ireland.

The morning *Herald* says the United States Government has lately revived the claims formally upon England for the damages to American commerce by the Alabama, Shenandoah and other Confederate privateers. The demands are made in a friendly tone.

London, Nov. 27, P. M.—Consols closed at 87¾ for money. U. S. 5-20's, 70¾; Illinois Central Railroad shares 78; Erie Railroad shares 48¾.

London, Nov. 27.—The American Minister received yesterday a dispatch from Secretary Seward of 5000 words in length. It was translated over the Atlantic cable in ten hours.

Liverpool, Nov. 27.—The bark Annie Kimball, 5000 miles out, 25 days to Shanghae, has been spoken at sea in a lonely condition.

The ship Forfuda, from Glasgow for New York, has been abandoned at sea in a sinking condition.

Liverpool, Nov. 27, P. M.—Cotton closes at 14⅛ for Middling Uplands, with sales of 8000 bales. The market remained quiet and steady throughout the day.

Wheat is easier. The pork market rules dull and prices are declining.

Paris, Nov. 27.—The new Minister to Washington is Count Berthemy. He will leave Paris for America on the 8th of December.

The French Government has sent a proclamation to Marshal Bazaine for publication in Mexico when the Emperor Maximilian leaves the country.

Paris, Nov. 27, P. M.—It is the settled conviction in Government circles in this city that the Empire of Mexico is ended and that Maximilian will soon arrive here.

Rome, Italy, Nov. 27.—Mr. Gladstone and Lord Clarendon have had a long interview with the Pope—supposed touching his future residence.

ARRIVAL OF THE MARMION.—The steamship Marmion, Capt. Hazard, from New York 17th instant, arrived in our port with merchandise and passengers to D. McCord. Experienced a heavy gale from southward and westward, lasting forty-eight hours. On the 26th, at 9 A. M., 130 miles S. E. of Passes, passed steamship Mississippi, for New York.

The following is the list of her passengers:

Mrs Stahl and servant, Miss Stahl, Messrs. Charles Avmar, W Ostrelle, George Magee, Anton Gehing, W Wadsworth, Charles T Wilson, A G Williams, Pierre Henry, Peter McDonald, D Dobson, H Kepler, M Reilly, M T Lobey, Charles A Anderson, John McCarthy, Simon Anne Hines, Eaton Kenner, Elias Curry, Eli Curry.

Louisiana Intelligence.

The Thibodaux *Sentinel* of the 24th says:

Efforts are now being made by some of the energetic ladies of Thibodaux, assisted by a number of merchants, to have all places of business closed on the Sabbath.

On Sunday morning, our enterprising citizen, Louis Boudreaux, had his arm caught in the bands of his cotton gin, and broken in two places.

On Wednesday evening, the 21st inst., Mr. Murray, a young man; who lived on his mother's plantation, eight miles below Shreveport, in Bossier Parish, was killed by a negro man with a pistol, the ball entering the head. The negro was killed by a brother of Mr. Murray, who used a double barreled gun. The negro was charged with stealing chickens. We do not know if the act was proved. We cannot give any particulars of this horrible tragedy, the facts being yet elicited by an examination. —*Caddo Gazette.*

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Correction.—The banner which was lately consecrated by our friends of the Ebera Benevolent Association was not presented by a lady, we are informed, but was made for the Society in Spain.

THE GREAT STATE FAIR.—*Eighth Day.*—The weather restrained itself so far yesterday as to admit of the Fair being brought to a close without any very serious interruption by rain. The attendance was very large, almost as great as on the opening day. We should estimate that there were 30,000 or 40,000 upon the grounds during the course of the day, and as many as 10,000 or 12,000 at a time. The contest between the Fire Companies, to test the speed of their horses attached to engines, was, for want of time, after the other exhibitions by the firemen' postponed till next Sunday. And the barbecue and bran dance, proposed for to-day by Gen. Steedes, was also postponed till further notice on account of the unpromising state of the weather yesterday. The exercises of to-day closed very satisfactorily with the firemen's contest, exhibitions of various kinds in the arena, accompanied with music and a grand triumphal procession around the vast circuit of enclosure, in which those mainly, who had borne off prizes, participated. So closed the first great State Fair of the Mechanics' and Agricultural Fair Association of Louisiana—a grand success.

Premiums, Medals, &c., Awarded.

Best saw cotton gin—Exhibited by Charles E Wynne & Co., New Orleans, made by the Albany Cotton Gin Manufacturing Company, New York, diploma and medal.

Saw cotton gin—Exhibited by W. Foster Pratt and John E. Noble, of New Orleans, and made by E. Carver & Co.—Honorable mention.

Best cotton sander and duster—Exhibited and made by John Gilmore, New Orleans—Diploma and silver medal.

Best cotton gin and condenser—Exhibited by C. E. Wynne & Co., made by Albany Cotton Gin Manufacturing Company, New York—Diploma and silver medal.

The cotton gin and condenser—Exhibited and made by H. L. Emery & Son, Albany, New York—Honorable mention.

Worsted tapestry work by Mrs. Armand, New Orleans—Diploma.

Guipore—Miss C. Henderson—Diploma.

Best ladies cloak—F. Adams, of New Orleans—Silver medal.

Woodwork of art—Peter Johnson, of New Orleans—Diploma.

Worsted embroidered picture—Entered by Mrs. Virginia C. Burke. Miss A. Parle, and Jacobs and Lazarus—Diploma.

Silk corset—Made by hand and machine by Mrs. Julia Boumard—Silver medal.

Best ladies shirt—Made by hand, Leighton & Hayman, of New Orleans—Diploma and silver medal. Second premium, S. N. Moody, of New Orleans.

Best embroidered shirt—Premium $20, S. N. Moody. Three made by Mrs. Estes and Leighton & Hayman—Honorable mention.

Best display of gentlemen's furnishing goods—S. N. Moody, New Orleans, diploma and silver medal.

Wreath of hair flowers—Mrs. Dr. J. J. Lyons, diploma.

Chemise embroidered with floss—Miss L. Adams, New Orleans, diploma.

Embroidered pillow cover—Miss E. B. Whitney, New Orleans, diploma.

Raised worsted embroidery—Miss Emma Curtain, New Orleans, diploma.

Oriental leather work—Mrs. A. P. B. Zoellers, New Orleans, diploma.

Farmer's wreath—Miss Maria Bear, St. Joseph county, Michigan, diploma.

Wall mat and fly—Henry Cassidy, sail maker, New Orleans, diploma.

Embroidery by girl under 11 years—Premium $5, to Miss Ella Roper, New Orleans, and Miss Nora Howard, diploma.

Ottoman cover—Miss N. A. Baumgartner, New Orleans, premium $10.

Crochet work $10, Miss Annie F. Pugh, and to Miss Laura T. Weiden, New Orleans, premium.

Fair worked slippers—Diploma, and $10 to Mrs. M. E. Thompson, New Orleans.

Infant dress embroidered—Diploma, and $10 to Mrs. M. E. Kells, New Orleans.

Ornamental flesh work—Silver medal, Miss Julia Curtain, New Orleans.

Collection of artificial flowers—Mrs. Fourniler, New Orleans, honorable mention.

Collection of wax fruit—Mrs. M. Block, New Orleans, honorable mention.

Best display of hair work (jewelry)—Diploma and silver medal, George Heun, New Orleans.

Fine shirt made by machine—Diploma, and $20, S. N. Moody. Second premium, and $10, Leighton & Hayman.

Best specimen needle work—$10, Mrs. Leighton, New Orleans.

Domestic counterpane—$10, Mrs. L. M. McCormack, parish Jefferson. E. W. Oldchen, of New Orleans, a lady 74 years old, diploma recommended.

White quilt—$10, Mrs. E. Stockbridge, New Orleans.

Silk quilt—$20, Miss Annie C. Dicks, New Orleans. The silk quilts entered by Mrs L. M. McCormack, Mrs. Johnson Armstrong and Mrs. E. Lesse, honorable mention.

Patchwork quilt—Made by Mrs. McElvers, New Orleans, honorable mention.

Handkerchief worked by hand—$10, Mrs. M. J. M. Mills, New Orleans.

Infant dress worked by hand—Mrs. Jas. C. Pooley, New Orleans, premium $5.

Best Infant shirt—Mrs. Oldchen, New Orleans, diploma.

Worsted embroidery—Diploma and $20, Miss Elizabeth Rack, New Orleans. Committee recommended diploma for worsted embroidery to Misses Sophia Weber and J. A. Pulver.

For the Automatic Fire Alarm offered by Mr. J. K. Mingle, the Committee recommend a medal and diploma for the instrument in behalf of the inventor Mr. J. M. Gamewell, New York.

Best display brushes—Morris McGraw, New Orleans.

Best sugar hogshead—R. J. Beckery, New Orleans.

Best molasses barrel—R. J. Beckery, New Orleans.

Best barrel for sugar—J Christian, New Orleans.

Best barrel for meal—Wm. Brown, New Orleans.

Best display basket ware—M. McGraw, New Orleans.

Best meal bucket, James Feeney, New Orleans.

Best Cistern made in New Orleans—A. W. Bailey, New Orleans.

Best Bakers' pail—Dan'l Thorn, New Orleans.

In the matter of the Firemen's contest, the Committee report that they award to Hand Engine Company No. 5, the premium for fast time in going around the track by hand and going to work from suction—the distance of running being a mile, and the time 7 minutes and 40 seconds.

The Committee make honorable mention of the officers and men of Orleans No. 21, the competitor of No. 5, and honorable mention of the discipline and good conduct of the Company.

The Committee ask that a diploma be awarded to Fire Engine Company No. 13, and would compliment the excellent condition of their superior Hand Engine, which was in the most superior order, and went to work and threw the distance of 184 feet through a ¾ inch nozzle. Signed, John Youenans, A. Mitchell, E. M. Ivens, Wm. Golding, J. H. Wingfield. Mr. Wingfield was appointed in place of Capt. John Adams, absent on account of sickness.

The Committee further report on the subject of awards in the trial of Steam and Hand Fire Engines, making the following decision:

1. Volunteer Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1 went to work and filled a tank of 2443 gallons in 21 minutes and 24 seconds, from the lighting of the fire, through 100 feet of hose.

2. Firemen Fire Company No. 2—Went to work under same circumstances, and filled same tank in fifteen minutes ten seconds.

3. Crescent City Fire Company No. 9—Went to work and did the same thing in fourteen minutes eight seconds.

The Committee would state that the Fire Engine Company No. 9, was the smallest in all dimensions, and your Committee award the prize to Engine Company No. 9.

Distance thrown by Engine Company No. 1, through 1¼ inch nozzle, 218 feet; 1 inches; by No. 2, through 1¼ inch nozzle, 197 feet 2 inches;

Committee award to Engine No. 9, the prize for distance. They decline to decide upon the questions of economy, and distance for want of sufficient distance.

Triple game fowls $20 and medal, P. O. Peyroux, New Orleans. Beautiful large red fowls, raised in the city.

Best display of domestic poultry—Silver medal and premium to Adam Borri, of Kenerville.

Best triplet of large Eastern fowls—Premium to Adam Borri, of Kenerville.

Best triplets of barnyard fowls—Jno. G. Robinson, of New Orleans.

Best triplet of domestic turkeys—Adam Borri.

The fowls on exhibition were by O. E. Hall were highly complimented, and would have taken the premium had they been on competition.

Another Shipment of Courtesans for This City.—Another shipment of courtesans was made from New York to New Orleans Saturday, to make good the losses on board the Evening Star. These unhappy women, it is said, are some seventy or eighty in number, mostly between fifteen and twenty-five years of age, and chosen expressly with reference to their personal attractions. The person who has them in charge is a notorious procuress, and who figured extensively at Saratoga last summer.

The Late Homicide.—The Coroner held an inquest yesterday morning on the body of the wife of Patrick Brannon, who was killed by her husband, Monday evening, on Roman street. There were but two witnesses examined, the son of Brannon, about 9 years old, and Mrs. Cannon, who resides next door to the house where the deceased lived, and who was called in immediately after the fatal blow was given.

The accused, not denying the commission of the act, the jury deemed it unnecessary to enter into a lengthy investigation, and the following verdict was given:

"We find Catherine Brannon to her death by two wounds inflicted in the head by a dull cutting instrument; one of the wounds was in the left temporal region, and the other behind the ear on the same side, both producing fracture of the skull; and from the evidence, the jurors declare these wounds were inflicted by her husband, Patrick Brannon."

We learn that the accused had attempted to take the life of his wife on several occasions, and was sent to prison for one year for one of the attacks in question. No one familiar with this double bit family, nor believes his story that he killed her because she had "wounded" or bewitched him by means of African incantation.

A Colossal Champion.—It is lucky that Leviathan cannot be moved as easily as a feather or a lady's toy; or the novel apparatus, now in use to warm, cool, light and protect from fire, the "Academy of Music," might have overtopped every brazen or cast-iron competitor on the Fair Grounds. However, Manager Bidwell, not wishing to keep this wonder in machinery to himself, invites all strangers, and those interested in the great question of the safety of public buildings, to inspect its good point for themselves at any hour between 10 A. M. and 10 P. M. Leviathan may be a heavy monster, but it is a good-tempered one for all that, and goes through its many duties with the most commendable patience imaginable. If one wishes to see a marvel of rivets and joints sections and boilers, and what not, let him drop in on the great Academy Ventilation Machine. If we might make suggestion, we would recommend between 7½ and 10 P. M. as decidedly the best hours for this. The creature is there, in a splendid humor, and is doing his best to show what metal there is in him.

Donation of Cakes to the Orphan Asylum.—The splendid display of ornamented cakes from the confectionary of Mr. Kunis, successor to Sondres, corner of Canal and Carondelet streets, has been donated by the exhibitor, through the officers of the Association, to the Orphan Asylums of our city.

Railroad Contrivances.—The entries of Mr. Bailey, Superintendent of the Opelousas Railroad, have attracted great attention during the Fair.

The model of the bridge, which it is designed to construct across Berwick's Bay, to connect the road severed by the body of water, gives proof that this will be a substantial and lasting structure.

Mr Bailey also exhibits a reversible bar of railroad iron, the economy of which must strike every one. This entry is only on exhibition, otherwise it would certainly win a premium medal.

Duel.—A duel was fought at the Oaks day before yesterday, between two young gentlemen, Creoles of this city, on account of some affront about a lady. One of the parties was slightly wounded in the face.

Pocket Picking.—Che B. Buck, now stopping at St Charles Hotel had his pocket picked of $300 and a gold watch, on Monday last, while on his way from the steamer Frances, at the Lake end, to the Hotel.

A lady had her pockets picked one day during the Fair of the Mechanics' Institute, but recovered on account of the notice taken of the thief by a little child.

AMUSEMENTS.

VARIETIES THEATRE.—The bill announced for Mrs. Chanfrau's benefit this evening will embrace Dumas Jr.'s great society play of "Camille," together with the farce of My Neighbor's Wife.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—A great bill is offered this evening. It embraces the usual variety of Ethiopianisms, comic songs, sentimental ballads, pantomime, fairy groupings, artistic dances, etc. Besides this, we notice a startling and terrific feat by the wonderful young acrobat, Master George Seigriet. This has been dubbed the "Niagara Leap." The name is, in itself, suggestive of any amount of daring, and Master George's execution of it is something to be seen. Together with this, we see that the Nymph of the Laughing Waters bewitches the audience, as she is seen through the changing colors of her watery shrine. We had nearly forgotten that the "Sylphs" still speak eloquently at the "Academy." One thing noticeable, by the way, about this mystic wonder is that he is slightly gossipy, and is much given to satire remarks upon modern politics. Apparently, he has changed a trifle since he had that little intellectual tussle with old Theban Oedipus. He was dark, grim, forbidding, then anything but garrulous.

THE LEVEES:

The people should be vigilant and well posted up regarding the all important work, and the only reliable means of rebuilding the battering Levees of the State. The haphazard, and precarious scheme, seriously proposed to remove Rats the old Levee Cont