THE DAILY BEE.
A. H. WHITMORE & CO.
G. F. WHITE, E. HARDY.
H. DUVERGE, H. DUPUIS.
Daily paper, one year in advance $10
Country weekly, semi-weekly, etc., etc., etc.
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The New Orleans Bee.

OFFICE, 53 CHARTRES ST. NEW ORLEANS, SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 15, 1859. VOL. XVII—NEW SERIES. VOL. XXXII—WHOLE NO. 11493.

THE DAILY BEE.

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 15

THE WHIG PARTY.

Noticing the numerous and fervent appeals made by the Democrats to the Old Line Whigs, the *National Intelligencer* considers them inopportune, if not impertinent, and declares that the Old Line Whigs at the proper time will be able to interpret for themselves the indications which shall mark out the path of duty in the civil conjuncture brought about by the disturbing elements of Democratic misrule. We are afraid that our straight-forward and honest cotemporary has judged the mass of the Old Line Whigs by the standard of its own invincible integrity. The *National Intelligencer*, amidst the shifting scenes of inconsistency which have marked the political events of the last few years, has never swerved from its duty, violated its vows of allegiance to the party of CLAY and WEBSTER, or betrayed its trust as the leading organ and exponent of Whig principles.

"Like to the Pontic sea,
Whose icy current and compulsive course
Ne'er knows retrograde, but keeps due on
To the Propontic and the Hellespont."

Even thus has the *Intelligencer*, calm, dignified and powerful, maintained the even tenor of its way, repelling all adventitious influences, and avoiding all tortuous channels. But not thus have a large majority of Old Line Whigs acted. Unwilling to remain in a minority, impatient of inaction, and many of them hoping under other names and auspices to attain that power which under their own gallant standard they had failed to reach, a considerable portion of the Whigs have merged their individuality in factions of either a sectional or a necessarily transient character. The Black Republicans of the North and the Americans of both the North and South have probably absorbed fully two-thirds of that noble conservative element which was wont, even in defeat, to extort the respect of opponents, and not unfrequently to exert a wholesome moral restraint on the excesses of the conquerors. This serious defection is deplorable enough, but what hope has the *Intelligencer* of retaining that host of renegades, once styling themselves Whigs, who, lusting for the spoils, and despairing of their enjoyment by legitimate means, have gone over to Democracy, and are now the prominent leaders of a party which ere while they detested and combatted, ridiculing and indeed outvieing the zeal and enthusiasm of its oldest champions.

The Whig party is now little more than the shadow of a name. A few gallant spirits unseduced by other organizations, and indeed incapable of sacrificing their identity, still remain as the lingering relics of that glorious party. We recognize the HUNTS, the WILLIAMSONS, the BATES, and a few others as the representatives of this sonnty and almost powerless band; but as a party the Whigs throughout the nation have ceased to exist. We do not say that the country will ever be without a conservative body of men, anxious for good government and sound measures, and endeavoring to act as a breastwork against the surging tide of a reckless radicalism; nor do we doubt that when a more propitious period shall arrive, the efforts of conservatism to destroy sectionalism, and restore the Republic to more healthful political issues, will prove eminently successful. Till then we must possess our souls in patience. We can see no reasonable hope of reviving the Whig organization, in any other form than a truncated and ineffective manner. We are not unaware of the attempts made and now making by patriotic men to accomplish this feat of political resuscitation, but the experiment seems to us vain and futile. Of the Whig party proper it may be truly said—*Hium fuit.*

The telegraph, as is usually the case whenever a controversy exists between the United States and Great Britain, transmits all sorts of sinister rumors calculated to frighten old ladies and little children. We attach not the slightest credit to this bald-dash. We have been, telegraphically, half a dozen times on the brink of a war with England since the last four or five years. The Northern Boundary, the Northwestern Boundary, the African Slave Trade, the Canadian Rebellion, the Right of Search, were all to precipitate us into a war, yet somehow or other, all settled without the necessity of resort to that dread arbitrament. Now it is the occupation of San Juan by Gen. HARNEY which is to produce so terrific a result. The country is to be dread ully alarmed because forsooth the London *Times* has a fit of ill-humor, and thinks proper to indulge in bluster and bravado. We assure our readers that if any of them feel timorous on the occasion, they may banish their fears, pull their night caps over their ears, and sleep soundly without the slightest apprehension of being awakened by the thunder of British ordnance. The San Juan question will lead to nothing more bellicose than, peradventure, some strong language.

STATE ASSESSMENT.—We are indebted to the State Assessor, Mr. Louis Power, for the State assessment of the Third District of the City of New Orleans for the year 1859, as follows:

SEVENTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.

Value of real estate	$3,840,900
Value of slaves	341,250
Value of horses, mules, &c.	76,900
Value of carriages, carts, &c.	29,200
Value of capital	167,900
Total assessment	$4,246,750
Amount of revenue	$10,618
Amount of poll tax	485

EIGHTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.

Value of real estate	$2,185,350
Value of slaves	341,200
Value of horses, mules, &c.	119,000
Value of boats, mules, &c.	35,150
Value of carriages, carts, &c.	27,150
Value of capital	167,000
Total assessment	$2,873,850
Amount of revenue	$9,394
Amount of poll tax	523

NINTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.

Value of real estate	$2,608,195
Value of slaves	281,350
Value of horses, mules, &c.	76,050
Value of carriages, carts, &c.	33,150
Value of capital	85,900
Total assessment	$4,896,645
Amount of revenue	$7,730
Amount of poll tax	620

RECAPITULATION.

Seventh Representative District—Total	$4,246,750	
Eighth do do do	2,873,850	
Ninth do do do	3,196,645	
Grand total	$10,316,295	
	Poll tax.	Licenses.
Revenue Rep. Dist.	$485	$10,133
Eighth do	523	9,046
Ninth do	620	7,110
Grand total	$1,628	$26,289
		$27,946

A MUSICAL FRIEND.—No. 45 of this cheap and useful publication has been received by BAKKIEL, No. 7 Exchange Place.

GRAND FESTIVAL MASS.—We are indebted to Mr. P. WERLEIN, publisher, for a copy of Mr. Tomas Vocsta HAGEN's last composition, known as the Grand Festival Mass in E flat. Those who have never listened to this fine and effective morceau, which is written for mezzo soprano, tenor and base solos, and full rule, will have an opportunity of hearing it performed to morrow, Sunday, at the Church of St. Theresa. The service begins at 10 o'clock, and a collection will be taken up for the benefit of the Camp Street Female Orphan Asylum.

TIMON.—The *Universal Review*, (British) in a notice of the works of Dr. Mackay and Colter Grattan on America, says: "Most voyagers in America repeat the same thing over and over again. We are rather tired of hearing that the hotels are of enormous size; that you can have your clothes washed for sixpence; that the steamboats are the most luxurious in the world; that the ladies dress in an exaggerated style of fashion, and that most persons eat in a tremendous hurry."

A CURIOUS SIGN.—The only county in this State, so far as we are advised, says the Vicksburg *Whig*, in which an issue was made against Col. Pettus's secession doctrines was the county of Tishomingo. There the issue was made direct, whether or not the South should resist the inauguration of a constitutionally elected President. The result is precisely what every body would naturally expect from that strong Union county. Although probably giving the largest Democratic majority of any county in the State, Tishomingo has never tolerated secession. The election on the 5th gave Mr. Walter 213 majority over Col. Pettus. Two years ago the Democratic majority was 736. The vote of this year is very largely increased.

A REMINISCENCE.—Admiral Hope, who was reputed at the Pelho, was the New York *Tribune* says, Captain of the British frigate Endymion, which had the engagement with the President, commanded by Decatur, at the opening of the last war with England.—After a long and sharp engagement, it will be remembered, the American vessel surrendered to the British squadron.

Leave out for instalments of Lon & Porter Worcestershire Sauce. See advertisement of John Duncan & Sons.

By Telegraph.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

TWO DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER AFRICA.

Partial Decline in Cotton—Italian Affairs Threatening—Minister Ward a Prisoner—Commercial Intelligence.

NEW YORK, October 14.—The Cunard steamship Africa, Captain Shannon, has arrived at this port, bringing two days later advices than were received by the City of Manchester last night.

The Africa left Liverpool on Saturday, the 1st instant, and experienced heavy weather during a part of the voyage.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

LIVERPOOL, October 1.—The sales of Cotton during the week ending yesterday amount to 50,000 bales, of which 3500 were taken by speculators, and 11,000 by exporters.

Interior qualities of Cotton have experienced a partial decline of ½, and in some instances ¼ during the week.

The prices of Middling qualities are easier, but quotations are generally unchanged. Holders are offering their stocks freely, but do not seem disposed to press sales.

The sales of Cotton on Friday were 10,000 bales. The market closed firm at the following authorized quotations of the brokers' circular: Fair Orleans 7⅞; Middling Orleans 6⅞; Fair Mobile 7⅞; Middling Mobile 6⅞; Fair Uplands 7⅞; Middling Uplands 6⅞.

The market closed with an improved tone. The stock of Cotton at Liverpool amounts to 600,000 bales, of which 475,000 are of American production.

CONSOLS.

LONDON, October 1.—The funds were some what depressed during the early part of the week from the effect of the unfavorable news from China, but closes steady at the quotations of Thursday.

Consols for money closed at 96¾.

MANCHESTER TRADE.

LIVERPOOL, October 1.—The latest advices from Manchester are of a less favorable character.

The demand for goods had been somewhat reduced, and the market closed dull.

HAVRE COTTON MARKET.

HAVRE, September 30.—The Havre Cotton market has been considerably depressed, and prices have declined from 2 to 3 francs during the week.

Orleans Fres Ordinaire closed at 109 frcs.; Orleans Bas 110 frcs.

BREADSTUFFS AND PROVISIONS.

LIVERPOOL, October 1.—The Liverpool Breadstuffs market generally closed with an advancing tendency, with the exception of Corn, which closed steady at previous quotations.

The Provision market generally closed steady at previous quotations.

INCREASE OF BULLION.

LONDON, October 1.—The amount of bullion in the Bank of England has increased during the week £349,000.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.

The tone of the London Money market has somewhat improved. There was an increased demand for money at good rates.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

The general and political news by the Africa possesses no features of considerable importance and interest.

The various reports from Italy in relation to the unsettled state of affairs in that country are considered as rather threatening to the peaceable settlement of the increasingly complicated questions involved.

The Empire's Navigation reproduces the oft repeated intimation that he desires to place the Prince Napoleon upon an Italian throne.

Later accounts from China confirm the rumor of the virtual imprisonment of the American Minister at Pekin.

LATEST.

LIVERPOOL, SATURDAY NOON, October 1.—The estimated sales of Cotton to day are set down at 5000 bales. The market closed steady at yesterday's quotations.

The Breadstuffs market closed quiet and firm generally at yesterday's prices.

LONDON, SATURDAY NOON, October 1.—The funds maintain a steady tone, and quotations are unchanged.

Console for Money closed at 96¾.

STEAMSHIPS ARRIVED OUT.

The steamships Bavaria and the Arago, from New York, had arrived at their respective destination.

THE ZURICH CONFERENCE.

Dispatches from Zurich state that Prince Napoleon with the Sardinian ministers with the Plenipotentiaries of Austria and Sardinia. The Conference continued its sessions regularly, but its proceedings are still kept a profound secret.

THE KING OF BELGIUM.

It is asserted that the recent visit of the King of Belgium to the Emperor Napoleon at Biarritz had reference solely to the Belgium debt to France.

FRENCH ARMAMENTS.

The fortification of the French coast, naval armaments and military preparations, have warlike nature are actively progressing in various parts of France.

THE PARIS BOURSE.

The Paris Bourse closed quiet. The Three Per Cent. Rentes closed at 69f. 25c.

AUSTRIA TRYING TO BORROW.

It is vaguely reported that the Austrian Government is about making an effort to negotiate a loan in London.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS IN ITALY.

The advices from Italy are somewhat conflicting. It is reported that Austria and Sardinia are making warlike preparations, and that the French army of occupation is to be reinforced.

Another report states that the Dukes of Modena and Tuscany have organized a large force for the purpose of attacking the army of Central Italy, under Garibaldi.

Another authority states that the Duke of Tuscany expects to regain his throne by an appeal to universal suffrage.

Various rumors are current in relation to serious disturbances in Naples, but they are contradicted by the official journals.

SPAIN DECLINES MEDIATION.

The Spanish Government has declined the friendly mediation of England for the settlement of the difficulty between Spain and Morocco.

MINISTER WARD'S RECEPTION AT PEKIN

The Paris *Pays* says that the American Minister to China, Mr. Ward, and the United States Legation, had been conveyed by Chinese from the mouth of the Peiho in a huge travelling box, from which only the sky was visible, the sides being tightly closed to prevent the possibility of exchanging observations respecting the country through which they were to pass.

The *Pays* states upon reliable information that Mr. Ward and suite had arrived at Pekin and was well treated, except that he was confined to the house which had been assigned him, and was not allowed to see anything of the city.

He was awaiting an interview with the Emperor of China, which had been arranged, after which he would be conveyed, on his return to the coast, in the same manner in which he came, being virtually a prisoner, although treated with the greatest respect by the Chinese authorities and military escort.

THE TROOPS ON THE TEXAS FRONTIER.

WASHINGTON, October 13.—It is reported here that the United States troops in Texas, which are now about to be sent again to Brownsville, had been withdrawn on account of the unhealthiness of the place and because it was supposed their services were not needed there.

RECIPROCITY WITH SPAIN.

WASHINGTON, October 13.—The Secretary of State has notified the Treasury Department that Spain, having admitted merchant vessels of the United States to Spanish ports upon the same footing with national vessels, as regards tonnage duties, light money and other charges, corresponding privileges will be extended to Spanish vessels in American ports, with the exception of vessels from ports in Cuba and Porto Rico, which are provided for by the acts of July, 1832, and June, 1834.

DEATH OF A VENERABLE EDITOR.

COLUMBUS, Miss., October 14.—H. H. Worthington, Esq., editor of the *Mississippi Democrat*, and one of the oldest editors in this State, died last night.

ELECTION IN IOWA.

ST. LOUIS, October 14.—A dispatch from St. Paul states that the St. Paul *Times* has partial returns of the election in Iowa from which it expresses the opinion that the Republicans have doubtless elected their candidates for Congress together with their entire State ticket and a majority of both branches of the Legislature.

PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION.

PENNSYLVANIA, October 14.—From the official returns of the election in this city it appears that twelve Opposition and five Democratic representatives have been elected to the Assembly.

FIRE AT VERNON, INDIANA.

VERNON, IND., October 14.—An extensive fire occurred at this place last night, which destroyed the Adams Express office, the Postoffice, Masonic Hall, and eleven other buildings.

The fire originated in a stable, and is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

The loss is estimated at $40,000.

FAILURS IN CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, October 14.—Henry Falls, an extensive carpet dealer, suspended payment to-day. His liabilities are estimated at from $50,000 to $100,000.

NEW YORK MARKETS.

NEW YORK, October 14.—The Cotton market is unsettled, and quotations are almost nominal. The sales to day were unimportant.

Sugar closed firm at 6½c. for New Orleans, and 6¼ to 6½c. for Muscovado. Coffee firm and quiet at 10¼ to 11½c. Molasses unsettled; ranging from 30 to 45c.

The Flour market is depressed, and a further decline of 10c. has been obtained. Superfine is $4 55 to $4 60.

Corn closed dull. Oats are dull at 35 to 40c.

Pork closed dull at $14 for Eastern Mess.

Whisky has an advancing tendency. Holders ask 22c.

CINCINNATI MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, October 14.—The Flour market closed steady. Sales to-day 1300 bbls., at $4 60 to $4 75.

Corn closed dull. New Corn is selling at 45 to 50c., old at 60c.

Coffee closed at 11 to 12½c.

Molasses closed at 41 to 42c.

FURTHER FROM HAVANA.

SAVANNAH, October 14.—Advices by the steamship Cahawba, from Havana, of the 10th instant state that Marotzek and his brother had leased the Tacon Theatre in that city at 12,000 per month.

Captain-General Concha was preparing to leave for Spain.

The Havana Money market was easier.

The weather was unsettled. There was very little fever in the city.

The Sugar market opened heavily, but improved towards the close, with a more active demand.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE "PRESS."

WASHINGTON, October 14.—The President authorizes an emphatic denial of the report that he intended to prosecute the editor of the Philadelphia *Press* for libel.

STEAMBOATS PASSING.

VICKSBURG, October 14.—The steamer R. M. Bicknell passed down at 3, and the Lizzie Simmonds at midnight last night.

The Fort Wayne and the Lucy Holcombe passed down at 8 this morning.

VICKSBURG, October 14.—The steamer Peerless, the Belvidere and the Charmer passed down about noon to-day, and the Magnolia passed down at 9 o'clock to-night.

FURTHER BY THE CANADA.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The American occupation of the island of San Juan attracts considerable attention in the journals.

The *Times* editorially states the facts of the case, and says, "fortunately the affair is in good hands, and we trust there can be no reason to doubt that the Governments of the two countries will proceed to a decision in the same spirit of moderation and equity by which their views of the question have hitherto been characterized." The article concludes as follows: "It is not a question of convenience but of justice. The decision should depend upon the terms of the treaty fairly interpreted, and it was evidently not doubted by either Government a short time ago that this interpretation could be discovered. If, however, it should prove that the existing convention cannot be so applied as to satisfy the contracting parties, there can surely be no reason why two States which have now adjusted their respective limits across an entire continent, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, should not complete the work in the narrow waters of Vancouver's Island. The Americans may assure themselves that in such negotiations they will meet with no feeling but those of fairness and amity on the part of this country. It would be hard indeed if children of the same stock, who can feel the sympathies of blood and lineage, as they were felt and expressed in the states of the Peiho, should find much difficulty in adjusting a petty boundary question on the coast of the Pacific."

The London *Post*, also, again refers to the subject, and says, "If the importance of San Juan to the two countries be considered, it is an important deliberation, and indeed there can be no doubt that its possession by England may be said to be absolutely necessary to the security of British Columbia." It thinks the Government of Washington can have nothing to gain by the adoption of the violent and unjustifiable proceedings of Harney.

Thirty of the crew of the Great Eastern had been arrested and tried at Weymouth for mutinous conduct in refusing to wash the decks as ordered. The two ringleaders were sentenced to three months' imprisonment, respectively, at hard labor, and the remainder for a fortnight each. The evidence showed that the ship's crew was far from complete.

The English journals strongly denounce the incomplete and hurried manner in which the ship was sent to sea. A vague rumor has been current that her first voyage would be postponed until next year, and that in the interim she would be exhibited at the principal ports in the kingdom. This information is authoritatively contradicted, and she is still advertised to leave Holyhead for Portland on the 20th of October.

It is stated that the Queen, on her way back from Scotland, will visit the Great Eastern at Holyhead on the 17th, and stay at Penbryn Castle as the guest of Colonel Pennant.

At the agricultural show at Serves a steam chaff cutter exploded, killing four persons.

Upwards of a thousand marines, strong detachments of the rifle brigade, two light infantry regiments, etc., were to leave England for Malta by the overland route.

The first of the squadron for service against China had already sailed. The Government intended dispatching fifty gunboats, besides Pigeates and other vessels.

Sir Cusack Roney writes to the Dublin journals positively asserting that the Government intends setting aside the Galway mail contract at the next session of Parliament. Some of the Irish papers ridicule the idea.

Opera-Singers.

The country is swarming with opera singers, foreign and native, employed and unemployed. So great is the number that it is natural to expect, on the ordinary political-economical principle of supply and demand, that the persons who have recently left, that is, the foreigners, who have been getting two thousand dollars a month, will have to reduce their rates from twenty to fifty per cent. Here we have a list of some of important artists, who belong to the Ullmann Strakosch Maretzek troupe, that is to appear during the coming winter in this city, as well as in New York and Boston:

Mlle. Speranza, a prima donna soprano, described as "young and beautiful."

Mlle. Crescimano, another prima donna soprano, whose youth and beauty our re port speaketh not.

Mlle. Cruvelli, a contralto, sister of the great Cruvelli, now *la Baronne Vigier*.

Signor Gaetano Fabbri, a new and superior barytone.

Signor Susini, who sang here with Grisi and Mario some years ago, and who has lately been fighting for Italy.

Signor Beaucardé, a tenor of high reputation, who has sung successfully in Paris and London, as well as in Italy.

Signor Testi, another tenor, of whom we hear only that he is good.

In addition to all these we have in the country, in New York, Philadelphia, Boston and elsewhere, a swarm of artists, some engaged and others without engagements, some of whom we name below:

Madame Gazzaniga,	Madame Anna Bishop,
Madame Gassner,	Signor Brignoli,
Madame Ostera,	Signor Bettini,
Madame Colson,	Signor Macafferri,
Mlle. Frezzolini	Signor Sbriglia,
Mlle. Parodi,	Signor Bigbelli,
Mlle. Alaimo,	Signor Gassner,
Madame Strakosch,	Signor Amodio,
Miss Phillips,	Signor Junca,
Miss Kate Hayes,	Signor Rocco Vocal,
Miss Agnese Natali,	Signor Coletti,
Miss Anna Wizler,	Signor Gasparoni.

In addition to all these, we hear of a company that has been in Brazil, now in this country, but unemployed; and there are, of course, the usual companies of Bohemian artists, for the new Opera House and the old one in New Orleans. If the inferior artists, the supernumeraries, chorus singers, instrumental performers, and business men of all the opera companies could be enumerated, doubtless there would be a full regiment of opera people, chiefly composed of Italians and Germans—a foreign legion, devoted to the service of the almighty Amenti. Evidently the foreign people, must consider the United States as the best market for their musical wares. But is not the market now slightly overstocked?

Somnambulism.

An incident of thrilling and almost terrible interest is thus related by the *Free Press* as having occurred in Detroit a fortnight ago:

The scene was on Catherine street, at the residence of Mr. Israel Moreston. At about half-past 2 A. M. he was awakened by a knocking at the front door, and found a man on the steps, who, in a very incoherent and excited manner, requested him to walk across the street and look at the top of his house. He declined, and was about retiring, suspicious of foul play, when his eye caught sight of a shadow on the roof of the opposite house. It indicated that some human being was walking noiselessly along the ridge of his roof. An indescribable chill crept over him. The shadow stole across the front of the opposite building, and was lost for a moment in the darkness, and then crept into view again, returning in an opposite direction, with the same slow, stealthy motion. His companion had regained the opposite sidewalk, and stood gazing up in silence, seemingly struck speechless with horror, and with trembling voice Mr. Moreston gained his side, when his gaze fell upon a form, shrouded from head to foot in a long white night dress, the sheet which a mass of long hair fell in wild confusion.

The spectral form paced slowly to and fro on the narrow ridge-board which covered the apex of the house, manifesting no trifling proximity of the abrupt terminations at the ends, and calmly turning about to retrace the distance. The house was a high one, and a fall from any point too far would have plunged the night-walker down to certain destruction. The walker occasionally raised her hand to her head, as though engaged in thought or troubled with pain. The head always maintained the same position. A chimney stood directly in the middle of the roof, around which she passed with ease, rising and sinking upon its top, and walking down the sloping roof to get around. Once, in this spectral walk, she paused at the edge of the roof and looked straight ahead.

A waving movement of the right hand accompanied the act, when the walk was again renewed. The same spot was reached again a few moments after, when the figure again paused, and again gazed out into the darkness, and then, with a slow motion, stretched out a hand, and with outstretched fingers clutched at something which had of sudden once caught in the favored mind of the sleeper. The other hand was then extended in like manner, and the body went forward in such a way that the upper portion hung over the abyss, while the lower remained out, until there was no further reaching, and then clutched again with a quick, convulsive snatch, and were withdrawn. The form was motionless a moment; and then commenced its walk again, continuing as far as the middle of the roof, when it turned toward the rear of the house, and moving down the sloping side of the roof, was lost to sight.

Mr. Moreston recognized the features and form of his servant girl, about eighteen, named Jane Mooney. She descended through a skylight to her own room. Awakening her he roused his wife, and then, with her to the girls room, and found her sitting on the side of her bed, wide awake, and in a state of mind bordering on distraction. She had no knowledge of the occurrence, but had been awakened by the noise of her employer entering the house, and found herself standing in the middle of her own room in the condition described. The girl had been suffering from a brain fever, from which she was gradually recovering.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND.

Material prosperity to many seems the sole proof, or highest result of a people's civilization; and indeed such prosperity does argue large advance and much of progress, for its elements are multifarious. Products; wise laws judiciously administered, which give security to person and property, easy and rapid intercommunication, extended commercial intercourse, and nearly defined political relationship with other nations, division of labor, diffusion of knowledge, and its application to the facts and phenomena of the physical world, and to the ever-recurring vicissitudes of social condition. Doubtless there was much improvement in the business of destruction when the sword was substituted for the war-club, and fire-arms for the bow and arrow, with its stone or bone head; and great was the progress when steam, instead of the oar or the settlepole, became the propelling force of vessels; and widely distant were those nomad states which produced respectively the system of hieroglyphics and the art of printing. As each improvement in the moral and intellectual, or physical world sprang into being, it assumed its place in the mighty procession of events, and wrought out the necessary and legitimate consequences; and the sum of all these consequences is the present civilization. One of the most ennobling and distinguishing characteristics of modern civilization is the practical application of the great idea of the worth and dignity of man; an idea whose origin is mainly due to the religious element that has all along acted as a resistless force in urging forward human progress. So powerfully operative has been this idea of man's dignity and worth, that it has begun to be believed that physical infirmity does not deprive the sufferer of all rights and fit him only for being an object of scorn and contempt.

So potent has been its influence, that it is now believed that even blindness does not exclude its victims from all rights and privileges except the debasing immunity from all mental labor, and the degrading privilege of being the recipient of a stupid pity or a beggar's fee; but on the contrary, it is thought by many that they have strong claims to unbiased sympathy and substantial and elevating aid. Within the last quarter of a century there have been established in the United States several institutions for the education of the blind; and although these institutions have accomplished much good, yet they have fallen far short of doing all that the blind need and the benevolent desire. A few of these institutions have been liberally endowed by the States in which they are located; but in no instance has there been made by legislative enactment any provision specifically for printing books; and all that has been done in that way has been accomplished through the agency of individual liberality. The number of books is, therefore, small, and what is worse, (excepting two or three) they are extremely poor in matter. There can be no difficulty in understanding that to the blind it is an important deliderat um, and indeed essential to their complete education, that they should be for their other and better books, and recently some effort has been made to minister to their necessities in this particular.

Not long since a blind young man in the State of Kentucky succeeded in obtaining by private donations funds sufficient to print Milton's Poetical Works; and now these splendid monuments of genius and genius are placed at the fingers' ends of the blind; and surely it is most fitting that the instructor of a people predecessor of the human sightless bard should be enjoyed by his successors in misfortune.

For some time past Mr. D. Sherrod, formerly a pupil of the Mississippi Institution for the Blind, has been and is still engaged in the endeavor to establish a publishing-house, through the instrumentality of which it is proposed permanently and adequately to supply the blind with books. The enterprise is solely of his own conception and execution, and it is gratifying to state that he has met with encouraging success. His plan, as set forth in published circulars, has been fully endorsed by many respectable citizens of Mississippi and other States, and in Legislature of Mississippi has made a conditional appropriation to aid in carrying forward his design. His plan to me seems entirely feasible, and the only one hitherto proposed that fairly and satisfactorily promises relief to the necessities of the blind. God speed the undertaking, and it is earnestly to be hoped that there will be found wisdom and benevolence enough in the people and their representatives in legislative bodies in the different States to, aid Mr. Sherrod to develop the proposed scheme into practical reality, that shall be at once a monument of enlightened liberality and a munificent charity. Many of good fame who are from the cheerful ways of men cut off and in whose path the darkness is set. If the measure of good be the degree of happy tones and sounds of hearts rejoicing in the recipient, then there is no way of accomplishing so much, with so small an expenditure, as by aiding the enterprise Mr. Sherrod is now engaged in prosecuting.

Wherever reclaims a wilderness, constructs a road, or erects a light-house, is justly accounted a benefactor to mankind; and not the less is he entitled to be regarded as a benefactor, that he contributes to give means of learning to the blind; for he who thus does, reclaims the mind from the wilderness of ignorance, constructs a road by which the blind may travel from the region of ignorance to the realm of knowledge, or erects a beacon whose light is perceptible to the mental vision of the sightless, and by which he may be guided to the port of intellectual enjoyment and moral elevation.

The blind have been altogether unexceptionable in their conduct; and what student of Greek does not believe that he is indebted to Homer for his clearest conceptions of the grandeur of that language? And what every one acquainted with history knows that to John Milton we are as much indebted as to any one man for the liberty of the press and all the analogous privileges of freedom follow in its train. If, then, the blind have aided in securing freedom of the press to the seeing, is it too much to ask that the seeing should assist in making the press useful to the blind?

P. LANE,
Superintendent of the Institution for the Blind at Jackson, Miss.

The Red River *American* says:

On Friday and Saturday we were favored by a copious rain, which was much needed. The cane crops have suffered from the long continued drouth, and would have been very seriously injured had it continued much longer; as it is, the cane has not its usual size.

The cane crop of the parish is excellent—better than that of any year since 1856. The picking season has been all that the planter could have desired; not more than three days have elapsed since the last frost, and now the 1st of August. Should the weather be as propitious for the remainder of the season as it has thus far been, the crop will be much above an average. But a single severe storm would very much shorten it, nearly all the cotton being open. We hear of some planters who are now on their second time picking over their crops, picking nearly or quite a bale to the acre.

A FAST MAN'S LUXURIES.—On Tuesday the horses and stable furniture of young Lane, the defaulter of the Fulton Bank, at New York, were sold at auction. Among the principal articles were the following: A carriage and harness sold for $60; another full spring for $113; a top wagon for $217; a caleche for $330; a one horse sleigh for $85; a two-horse sleigh for $183. Cobb, a roan, coaching horse, was sold for $387; Belmont, a dark bay, was bid off for $550; Selim, a sorrel, for which Lane paid $1100, was sold for $600; Beau, the chestnut mare, the best conditioned of the four, brought for $1000, sold for $554. The blankets, fly nets, sleigh bells, robes, harness, and fancy equipments, of which there were thirty five lots, all of superior manufacture and highly decorated, mostly sold at low rates. Three sets of single harness, $113; a saddle and bridle, $15 50; three fancy blankets, $45; two Arabs for wheels, $63; another, well attm, $36; one bay, African lynx, $37; a fur coat, $56. Lane's furniture was sold on Wednesday. His salary was $1000 a year!

A FRAUDFUL MISSILE.—A London paper says: The Coloseum, 99, screw steamship, lies free in Southampton Water for Portsmouth, on Thursday, for the purpose of testing the efficiency of her furnace in the filling of hollow shot with molten iron. The deepest target brig was selected as a mark on which to try the effect of these fearful missiles fired from a gun on board Her Majesty's ship Excellent. The furnace worked to the most satisfactory extent, supplying, without any difficulty, fully one ton of molt en iron per hour. The effect of these globes of liquid metal striking a ship was supposed to be that they would break, and scattering the leg of metal on the woodwork of the ship, at once set her on fire. The nature of the experiment on Thursday, however, precluded its being tried in the mode of the most approaching to right. Instead of its effects, as compared with red-hot shot, as hitherto prepared for such purposes. The hollow iron globes were filled with the molten iron, and the target brig was placed alongside the north wall of the steam basin, and were then conveyed in a boat to the side of the vessel opposite side of the quay, which pulled ahead of Excellent; the average time from the moment the first run of iron from the furnace until the missile left the mouth of the gun on its errand of destruction being six minutes. To ascertain the effects of the projectile it was, of course, necessary that the shot should effect a lodgment in the object fired at, but this was found, from the rotten state of the target and the short range—500 yards—to be a matter of too great difficulty. Two shots were fired altogether, two of which burst, but the metal inside of them had lost too much of its liquidity from the length of time it had been drawn from the furnace to produce the effects intended in its liquid state.

SEAT BETTING REVOLVERS.—The Post-Office Department has been informed by the contractors for furnishing the improved registering envelopes that they are now prepared to supply the service of the Post-Offices. The samples submitted to the Department have been approved, and it is believed that the Post Offices will have them for sale.

The principal Post Offices of the Union will be supplied during the week, and probably by the 20th of this month of October the experiment of introducing the patent envelopes will be in full tide.

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Elections and Appointments.

Notary Public—A. Bell, Jr., Jefferson.
Justices of the Peace—Thos. Ryan, Jefferson; Jas. Dunn, Jefferson; Jas. Dunn, Jr., Jefferson; Jas. Dunn, Jr., Jefferson; Jas. Dunn, Jr.,