The Daily Picayune.

Office, 71 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 28, 1862. Vol. XVIII, New Series. Vol. XXXV.—Whole No. 12,415

NEW ORLEANS
SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 28, 1862.

American Sales This Day.

By M. Barnett, Jr., at 10 o'clock, at No. 88 Royal street, household furniture.

By Wolfe Jacobs, at 3 o'clock, P. M., at No. 180 Dauphin street, the contents of five furnished rooms.

By B. B. Sykes, at 10 o'clock, at No. 59 Magazine street, harness leather.

Population and Prosperity.

"In the multitude of people," says Solomon, "is the king's honor; but the want of people is the destruction of the prince." And the teachings of the wise of all ages, of experience, and of calm reflection, illustrate the force of the inspired declaration. Where has the highest prosperity existed, where has civilization attained its loftiest standard, where his superiority of race given its brightest manifestations, but where density of population was greatest? Let race do what it may, let civilization be what it may, is it not a truism to say that the nearer a man is to solitariness, the farther he is from being able to procure necessaries, and further still from being able to command comforts, while he is absolutely incapable of obtaining luxuries? Who requires to be assured that a mechanic employed in a civilized city has advantages which, of himself, no possible combination of race, knowledge, skill, industry, soil and climate could enable him to procure? Consider him setting about building, mining, cultivating, manufacturing, making up, studying, for his lodgment, his safety, his tools, his weapons, his food, his raiment, his instruction, his enjoyment, his amusement, as he has them now, and say what must be his fate. He must sink below the condition of the untutored savage, because he would be actually in that condition would perceive the utter impossibility of attaining his desires and requirements, and would feel his hard fate with all the keener poignancy. A man may, indeed, be content with but few, or even with none, of the advantages of civilized life, but that will not affect our proposition, for this involves the hypothesis that he desires them, and regards them as a positive good.

With a certain class of political economists it is a constant assertion that density of population, especially in cities, is attended with greatly increased misery and crime. The correctness of these views we believe it impossible to establish. It is generally urged, for instance, that one immediate effect is to reduce the price of labor, in consequence of the necessarily great competition for employment; but we must not ignore the fact that this competition is counterbalanced by that of capital for employment. This prevents monopolies and their oppressions; that, strikes and their evils. And it would seem certain that, thus, the very condition deplored by many—competition—is an element of vast and general benefit. If, in addition to these considerations, we recur to the advantages enjoyed by a mechanic in a city, as above urged, over the uncontrolled and uncompeting solitary, the conclusion would seem to be established beyond contradiction.

As to the alleged tendency of density of population to increase the extent or the atrocity of crime, all history shows the direct contrary, from the day when Cain slew his own and younger brother Abel, to our own day, when statistics, wherever kept, assure us of the gradual decrease of crime in all respects, just in proportion to the density of population as they assure us of the general advance in civilization in the same ratio.

Mere density of population, however, is certainly not sufficient to ensure prosperity or advancement in civilization. It must be combined with a desire in the people to improve their condition and an aptitude for improvement in their character. No one can imagine for a moment that any density of the New Zealand aborigines, the Red Men of this continent, or the Negro hordes of Africa, would lead them to such a prosperity or such a civilization as we contemplate. Before this is possible, there must be combined with it the conditions we have just named, and which are to be found only in race. Without these, no density of population could make men appreciate the nature and advantages of good government, of favorable conditions for cultivation, manufactures and commerce, and of the other indispensable elements and accompaniments of civilization.

Neither again will mere sparseness of population necessarily be a stay of the prosperity of a community. If the advantage of race alone be had, their progress will be increased in corresponding ratio; and if to this advantage be added that of previous advancement in civilization, still more emphatic, and consequently still more successful, will be the efforts made for improvement in the general condition.

And the greater the degree of civilization attained, whether in dense or sparse populations, the greater will be the benefits derived. In the one case, with its teachings of enterprise, energy, and adaptability, it will enable men the more readily to change their crafts or occupations, where necessary, to apply steadily to them where advisable, to take advantage of the facilities which cannot but exist, of removing from place to place in search of other and more promising fields for the employment of their talents; and to make the best of these wherever they may be thrown. It will divest them of prejudices, caprice, and dependence, those sad and inevitable companions of ignorance. And on the other hand, it will inspire men with aims, desires, and hopes, unknown to man, just as he descends towards the indifference of savagism, and so will spur and quicken their efforts.

One of the bugbears of the density of population—the fear of such a density of population as may render it impossible to produce sufficient food for it—may be safely relegated to the regions of Dreamland. If we have pestilences, and wars, and famines, in our own day, to interfere with the probability of any such result, we may rest assured that they would not be wanting in those "latter days" and if they should be, it is nothing but vanity now to calculate on such remote if not impossible contingencies. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

Where a people has not attained a degree of civilization, nor has the advantage of race, to which we have referred, there must be some compulsion, then, to secure its improvement. That of density of population, alone, would not produce that effect; and the question arises, what will? We reply that nothing can do it but the compulsion of a ruling power—such a power as knows how, and has the will and authority to force common exertion for the common good. Take that power away, and improvement in the case supposed is an impossibility, besides which, the ruling power is deprived of the advantages it would derive while securing the desired improvement. Instances in illustration of these arguments are abundant, now, the world over, however little some may be inclined to recognize them.

It is true that many other conditions affect in a very material degree the bearing of the question; and not the least are those of climate, soil, and other natural advantages. Another important one is that of the extent to which the natural and acquired advantages of the ruling race are transmitted in their political and social relations with the other. In a country sparsely populated by two such races, where nature supplies almost spontaneously enough to supply the merely animal wants of the lower one, nothing but the possession of untrammeled power in the other can ever secure "the greatest happiness of the greatest number," which Priestley proposed, Bentham urged, and the common sense of mankind declares, the "true standard for whatever is right or wrong, useful, useless, or mischievous in human conduct, whether in the field of morals or of politics." Should such a country be very densely populated, this result might be attained notwithstanding all other probable unfavorable conditions, for then must arise those competitions for labor and for the wages paid by capitalists, which we have urged to be so advantageous.

If we refer to the present condition of two of the British West India Islands, we shall find a striking exemplification of our arguments. They have precisely the same two races in them: in respect to emancipation and the control of the mother country over colonial affairs, they have passed through as nearly as possible the same conditions; and with regard to natural advantages there is no essential difference between them. But Barbadoes has a density of population not surpassed, we believe, by that of any country in the world—818 to the square mile; not an inch of the land is uncultivated or unoccupied; not a fruit can be preserved without payment for it; not a hut or garden can be held without rental or ownership; not a wild animal or river fish can be taken without an equivalent; no food can be procured without paying for it. Hence labor is compulsory and employment secured for the planters thereby, and the necessaries of life at the same time benefited and rendered cheap by the advantages and enjoyments which it likewise produces for all, to each by more or less efforts to attain a larger share of them. The British they would never have dreamed under opposite circumstances. Besides this, there were in the days of slavery a class of whites, in the island who, having no status as whites, no employment, consequently fell below the negro in position; and, being now left as free competition with the latter in mechanics, entirely supplant them in nearly all cases, through their superiority of race, skill and intelligence, all of which were not sufficient formerly to assure them employment to do that which the planters had always to do. In short, Barbadoes has, since emancipation, greatly advanced in prosperity. On the other hand, the condition of Jamaica in respect to population, climate and soil, is exactly the reverse of that of Barbadoes—the density of the first being about one-fifth that of this island—the negroes have, therefore, no compulsion urging them to work; and while the latter island has been advancing the other has been regularly declining.

The application of these facts and arguments we leave to the reader. They are not newly advanced, but they are pertinent.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Provost Court—Judge Bell.—The case of the Union Bank of Louisiana vs. the Mechanics & Traders' Bank, was brought up, Jacob Barker, Esq., for the plaintiffs, and Col. Field for the defendants. The petition set forth that the plaintiffs had a claim against the defendants for $130,000, and that the latter had offered to pay the same in Confederate Treasury notes, after they had ceased to be current, and the plaintiffs refused to accept that. Col. Field took exception to the jurisdiction of the Court, on the ground that the case was one of a civil character. Mr. Barker filed a supplemental petition, in reply, urging that the Court had jurisdiction. The Judge decided that the Court had not jurisdiction; although, if the payment had actually been made in violation of the proclamation of the Commanding-General, it would have had. The case was, therefore, dismissed.

Mat Horn was brought up on a charge of having wounded officer Moore on the 16th inst., while the latter was attempting to arrest Horn. It was again postponed, however. Col. Field, for the accused, contended that the officer ought to have satisfied the accused that he was so before taking him in his own house; and so the Court held. A witness who was very anxious to testify against the accused was not regarded as very reliable, and Col. Field made some caustic remarks in reference to them.

A warrant applied for against a man who had looked "sarcastic" at a policeman, was, as ought to have been expected, refused.

Mr. Andrews, ordered to redeem his shin plasters, as reported yesterday, applied for a delay of thirty days to enable him to raise the necessary funds. He was referred to the Provost Marshal.

Charles Beckwell and Pierre Dupreau, f m c., and Alfred and Marie, slaves of Mr Durell, were sent to the Parish Prison for six months, for having stolen property in their possession.

C Shaw, for getting drunk and disturbing the peace, was sent to the Parish Prison for one month.

P. Larshe and N. Abrams were fined $5 for pugilistic indulgences in the public streets.

The Commissary of the Poydras Market appeared to answer the complaint of one woman who charged him with having deprived her of a stall which she occupied there. From the evidence, it was gathered that the accused had, as a matter of charity, allowed the complainant to have possession of the stall during hours when it was not otherwise engaged, that she found this profitable, but he not, and therefore found it advisable to rent it, as he had an opportunity, when he went to her and required her to vacate. She refused this, but offered to pay for it. As he had already rented it to another, he could not accept her offer. *Hinc illæ lachrymæ!* The Court ordered the Commissary to give her another stand.

Joaquim Pitrail was brought up on a charge of arson. His accuser certainly had had his house burnt down, and, as he alleged, without any insurance on it. The accused had been in his employ as gardener; they had had some wordy diffiering in consequence of payment for services being made to the accounts of shopkeepers. A man in the employ of complainant had heard accused use vague threats against their employer. On the night of the fire, accused was seen on the fence in front of the house, and was seized. Complainant had been watching in consequence of the threats of accused, but did not see accused until some time after the fire had broken out. The wife of the accused came forth with marked willingness to testify against her husband; but on the objection of the counsel of accused she was not heard. An elderly woman appeared on behalf of the prosecution, but her testimony seemed altogether in his favor. She deposed that she lived in the same house as accused; that on the night of the fire she was sitting on her bed watching, in consequence of the threats of which she had been informed, when she saw it break out, called accused, and went with him to the fire. She did not particularly hear a slight noise, but, notwithstanding the suggestion was made, she could not liken it to that of any one's getting into accused's room through the window nor did she hear anything like a person's walking in the room. The Court took the case under advisement.

The attention of the Court was occupied a wearisome time with a case which, as far as we could understand, is involved the simple question of the right and title of Joseph Seiden stricker and B H Weillmayer to demand payment from a number of persons for the privilege of cutting wood in certain swamps at the rear of the city. Their counsel put in evidence a document purporting to show that they derived this right from Mr. P S. Wiltz. Mr. Seiler for the complainants, however, urged that Mr. Wiltz had no such right himself to delegate to others; and he applied for a postponement of the decision on the case. The counsel for the plaintiffs agreed to this, whereupon the Court remarked that had the case been left to rely on the evidence before him, he should have decided that the accused had a *prima facie* right to the claims they had made. Their counsel then intimated his willingness to take the decision at once; but the Judge decided it was too late for him to do that now, and postponed the further hearing of the case to next Wednesday noon.

D Murphy, the watchman, whose case was reported some days since, was sent to the Parish Prison for one month, for being drunk on duty and ill-treating citizens.

Recaptured.—Tom Connors and Jim Brown, two more of the sleepy fugitives from the Parish Prison, have been recaptured, and sent back to their quarters on Orleans street. We heard it reported that they were engaged in an attempt at robbery and murder, when they were captured by citizens and passed over to a cavalry company who happened to be passing, but we could not verify the rumors.

Arrests Yesterday.—John Rhine, in the First District, was arrested on the charge of stealing $150 from Jacob Waikman.

A number of other arrests were made in the First District, but none of them worth noticing, unless it be to say that among them were some on the charge of being deserters from the U. S. Navy.

Presentation to Judge Bell.—The officers of the Provost Court yesterday presented Judge Bell with an elegant gold pen and pencil case, in testimony of their appreciation of the manner in which he has administered the duties imposed upon him.

Contraband Liquor.—Daniel, slave of J Moore, was arrested at Annunciation Square yesterday, by order of Capt. Lee, for passing liquor to soldiers through the lines of the encampment of the Twenty-first Massachusetts Regiment.

Correction.—Judge Bell stated yesterday that the decision he had given in the case of Ramsdana, on Thursday, had been misstated. He had been reported as deciding that accused was liable for arrears of staff rent; while in fact the decision was, that he was not so liable.

Free Market.—The following distribution was made yesterday, 1718 families having been supplied: 248 bushels corn meal, 26 barrels rice, 11 barrels molasses, 1050 cabbages, 47 bushels peas.

Captured.—Robert Morris, who killed Johnson, as reported yesterday, was arrested in the Third District on Thursday night, and is now in the safe keeping of Capt. Gros.

Sequestration.—An order of General Butler has been issued sequestrating all the property of General Twiggs and his minor son, in this city.

Died of his Wounds.—Lieutenant De Kay, U. S. A., wounded at Grand Gulf on the 26th ult., died at 3½ A. M., yesterday.

Money Claimed.—The $230 found in the possession of the slave Alamar, belonging to Mrs Durell, as already noticed.

ST. PAUL'S BATTALION.—The *Picayune* publishes the following list of the killed and wounded in this battalion, at the battle of Chickahominy:

Lieut.-Col. Coppen and Capt. Coppen, severely wounded.

Company A, Chasseurs à Pied—Killed—Capt. E. Mascris, Lieut. Bourgeat. Wounded—Lieut. Renz, Sergt. Pestigny; Privates Aug. Bush, F. Bourgeois, E Dalmayrac, P. Garsal, J. McReady, E. Bagnaris, W. Smyles, P. E. Wilkz and G. Boulet.

Company B, Catalonia Guerrillas—Killed—T. Shultz, U. Smith, W. H. Barnes, A Harvey, A. M. Stone. Wounded—Capt. S. W. Spencer; Sergts. W. H. Gillespie and J. F. Napier, Corpl. Barlow; Privates S. Block, J. N. Brown, R. L. Brooks, M. Calhoun, M. Coleman, J. Donley, J. Gibbs, D. Hogan, E. B. Hardesty, F. Keyler, W. Lucas, E. S. McCoy, W. F. McCoy, P. Mulvaihill, F. Mirie, C. Nimke, J. O'Hare, J. G. Pendicost, F. M. Rollins, S. E. Roberts, J. Shuman, T. Rawlings, killed in the battle of Williamsburg.

Company C, Creassal Blues—Killed—Privates J. Baker and H. Eager. Wounded—Capt. McG. Goodwyn, Lieut. de Lisle; Privates G. R. Cushing, T. Dundee, P. E. Gardner, C. Henry, C. Mangis, R. Mellhany, D. McCarthy, J. Norris, J. H. Robertson, M. D. Wade and H. Zorn. D. P. GIBSON, Asst. Surg.

Another report says that out of the 200 of this battalion who went into the fight, all were killed and wounded but 76.

THE SEIZURE OF THE BERMUDAS.—In the House of Commons, on the 20th, Mr. Miltoway asked what steps the Government intended to take in the case of the steamer Bermuda, which had been seized by a federal ship-of-war on her passage from one British colony to another.

Mr. Layard said Gobernment had received information of the seizure, and the case had been referred to the law officers of the crown.

Gen. Toombs' Letter to Gen. Quitman.

The Charleston Mercury of Saturday, the 22d inst., says: "Gen. Toombs, Gen. Bartow, Col. Bill, and Col. Wm. Schley, of Savannah, Col. Ramsay, of Augusta, Col. Lamar, of Macon, Col. Hansell, of Eatonton, Col. Hutchins, of Athens, Col. Hillyer, of Gainesville, Col. Hall, of Rome, Col. Hardeman, of Cassville, Col. Wellborn, of Columbus