The New Orleans Bee.

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THE NEW ORLEANS DAILY BEE.
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NEW ORLEANS:
SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 15, 1868.

The Sheriff will sell at auction to-morrow at 4 o'clock, P. M., on the premises, all the furniture and movable effects contained in the house No 128 Rampart street, near the corner of Toulouse street, Second District.

The attention of Merchants and Planters is directed to advertisement of that old and reliable hardware house of Slocomb, Baldwin & Co.

Their stock is as large as any similar one in the South, and as they are direct importers and sell for cash only, they can sell at prices to compare with the times.

J. C. Murphy & Co. have just received, direct from Columbus, South Carolina, by the Jackson Railroad, a large quantity of Cow Peas, which they offer for sale, at their store, 31 Poydras street.

THE UNITED STATES RESTAURANT.—This establishment, owned by Mr. Fritz Huppenbauer, has been reopened under the auspices of the proprietor so long and favorably known as one of the best caterers to the public taste in New Orleans. Quite a party of gentlemen, including a number of representatives of the press, were present last night, and partook of a sumptuous repast which served to show that the genial host, as in his custom, is determined to make his restaurant one of the finest class. One need not pass 128 Common street, we are assured, to get the best of everything the market affords.

OPERA HOUSE—*Mr. Carine Must Ball.*—The Directors of the Opera House will give a grand mask ball on the occasion of the feast of St. Joseph, which occurs on March 19.

Thanks to Purser Caro, of steamship Harlan, from Indianola and Galveston, for valued favors.

We have received from Mr. William Vigers, Secretary of the late Convention sitting in Dryades street, a copy of the so-called Constitution of Louisiana, framed by that body, for which we thank him.

Mr. P. F. Gogarty, Catholic bookseller, 151 Camp street, has for sale *The Book of Oratory* compiled by a member of the Order of the Holy Cross, for the use of colleges, academies and the higher classes of select and parish schools, and published by D. and J. Sadlier & Co., 31 Barclay street, New York. This work is made up of selections of the finest pieces of ancient and modern eloquence, rhetorical, oratorical, forensic and judicial, evincing the taste and capacity of the compiler. It will doubtless prove an excellent manual for purposes of recitation.

THE FRENCH OPERA.—To-night will be performed "The Grand Duchesse," and the vaudeville in three acts of "La Marie du Mardi Gras," for the benefit of Mr. Gonjon.

On Monday will be performed "La Muette de Portici," Grand Opera by Auber, in which Messrs. Picot, Lecharlier, Decré, Madame Seguin and Madame Acosta will appear. After which the vaudeville "La Mariee du Mardi Gras."

On Tuesday "La Dame Blanche," and on Wednesday the Grand Opera of Rossini, "William Tell," for the benefit of Mr. Picot.

A NEW OPERA.—Auber, altho' he has passed his three score years and ten, has still possession of all his mental faculties unimpaired, and has lately had the satisfaction of obtaining the imprimatur of the musical profession in Paris for his last work—the comic opera of "Le Premier jour de Bonheur," which has been performed at the Theatre Lyrique. The Emperor was present at the performance and complimented the eminent composer on his success.

THE CITY HOTEL.—This establishment has become highly popular under the management of the present proprietor, Colonel Morse, who has had control of it for the last fifteen or twenty years. From practical tests we can safely say that the Colonel's table is not surpassed by that of any hotel in New Orleans. The general accommodations, too, are very complete, and the Colonel and his efficient assistants in the clerk's office, and the employés in every department are unremitting in those great essentials to the comfort of the guests of a public house, uniform courtesy and attention to the wants of transient and permanent customers. With ladies from the country, as well as of the city, the establishment has long been a great favorite, and its continued success for so many years, even through the most depressing times, argues that it is conducted on such principles as to make it a peculiar desideratum in supplying a great want in a popular and genial hotel. As such we can very safely endorse its present management without being accused of extravagant laudation.

The steamship Harlan, Capt Lewis, from Indianola, via Galveston, brings the following passengers:

L. E. Baker, Messrs Beverly, Kershaw, Burns, Hunnicutt, Parker, Moore, Campbell, Wilcox, Rives, Lang and Mrs. T. and 2 in deck.

Changes in Board of Aldermen—New Appointments by General Hancock.

The following order was issued by General Hancock

HEADQUARTERS, FIFTH MILITARY DISTRICT, } *New Orleans, La.*, March 13, 1868. }
Special Orders No. 57.}

[Extract]

* * * * * * *

II. George Kellogg is hereby appointed a member of the Board of Aldermen of the city of New Orleans, vice J. W. Schneider, resigned.

J. E. Scott is hereby appointed a member of the Board of Assistant Aldermen of the city of New Orleans, vice J. H. Oglesby, resigned.

IV. The following named persons are here by appointed as members of the Boards of Registration, for the parishes respectively designated:

Catahoula—Cooper Fugalier; Claiborne—I. B. St. Ange, Calcasieu—James P. Hare, Concordia—Frank Brizzle, De Soto—Charles McNab, Livingston—C. W. West, Morehouse—James L. Wright; Tensas—John H. Mauuel Lime L. Thos S. Johnson.

Upon accepting these appointments, the above named persons will forward to these headquarters a copy of the oath prescribed by law.

By command of Major General Hancock:
GEO. L. HARTSUFF,
Assistant Adjutant General.

IMPEACHMENT AND THE CHIEF JUSTICE.—*Washington*, March 5, 1868.—The protest of Chief Justice Chase, which was read in the Senate yesterday, has caused more talk here than anything that has occurred during the busy days that have intervened since the attempted removal of Secretary Stanton.

Those Republicans who do not condemn the act, regret it, not so much because it may retard impeachment or *vice versa* as because of the principle. Senators who have been friendly to the Chief Justice assert that it was unwarranted on his part, and that it was meddling with a matter in which he had no concern.

All sorts of rumors are current as to what he has said and done within a few days, but Washington is the city of rumors, and many of the rumors are over so strong as its actual occurrences.

Among other things Judge Chase is credited with saying that it would be a strange thing to impeach a man for a difference of political opinion.

That there is a want of harmony in the Senate is more apparent, and a few members of that body are named as so hostile to Mr. Wade that they will oppose impeachment on that account. But the most of the talk about the enlargement of Mr. Wade by the Ohio Republican is not likely to increase the regard of Chase for impeachment.—*Boston Traveller.*

THE WRIT OF QUO WARRANTO.—This process is under which it is proposed to oust Mr Sumner, and England's right to the throne of Edward I. the King of England was in the habit of calling upon persons holding franchises to produce the charter by which they held them. If they could not show by the usual way, moreover their franchises were taken from them without more ado. The action of *quo warranto* was instituted to check abuses of royal prerogative. It issued out of Chancery "to person against whom it was directed was commanded to appear before the King's Bench, or his justices in eyre to answer, by what warrant he held his franchise or office."

The original action has given place to what is called an information in the nature of a *quo warranto*. This although in its form a criminal, is really a civil proceeding. Originally, if it did not fail it could not be tried until the party was found for usurpation. At present no fine is inflicted. If the writ issues against an officer, he only punishment which can be inflicted upon him is deprivation of his office. When it issues against a corporation, the corporation may be destroyed, in which case its franchises revert, as in this country, to the State which granted them in the first instance.

This proceeding is also used to test the right of two persons to hold the same office. In this case, the person who takes the initiative is called the relator. The information is filed in the name of the government, the consent of the rival claimants is not being sufficient to give jurisdiction. The most noticeable feature of this proceeding is the obligation resting upon the defendant to prove his case. In other proceedings the burden of proofs rests upon the plaintiff.—*New York Post.*

Two hundred and twenty five buildings were erected in Utica, N. Y., last year. The total cost of buildings and improvements in that city was $1,956,050.

The Missouri *Republican* of Tuesday publishes the names of some eight hundred persons, mostly women, who have signed a petition in St Louis for female suffrage.

THE NEGRO CONSTITUTION OF LOUISIANA.

Our issue of yesterday contained some quotations from this instrument, accompanied by such comments on those remarkable provisions to which we called the attention of our readers, as seemed to be appropriate thereto. It is a small objection to the document that it is full of errors of grammar, and leaves many a loophole open for latitudinous construction. The committee of the Convention on "style" do not seem to have performed their duties with any very great accuracy, but, of course, that is a trifling fault in the estimation of the ignoramuses who undertook to frame this fundamental law.

Article 49 declares what shall be the qualifications of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor. There are but two. They must be citizens of the United States and have been residents of the State two years next preceding their election. A youth then, of twenty-one years of age, whether born in the United States or not, provided he be a citizen of the United States, is under this provision eligible for the office of Governor or Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana. The Constitution of 1864 required these officers to have attained the age of thirty-five years, and to have been a resident of the State five years. It is understood the change was made to permit the election of the individual who has been nominated by the Radical party as its candidate for that office.

Article 57 provides a salary for the Lieutenant Governor of three thousand dollars, while this officer has no other duties to perform than presiding over the Senate when it is in session. The salary of the Governor is likewise too high being eight thousand dollars. The office of Lieutenant Governor is little more than a sinecure.

A radical change is made in declaring the qualifications of Judges of the Supreme Court, so as to favor lately arrived residents of the State. They are declared to be eligible for this very important office—the most important in the State—who are citizens of the United States and who have practiced law for five years, the last three thereof next preceding their appointment in the State. Three years practice of the civil law, then, qualifies for a Judgeship of the Supreme Court. This is the first step towards abolishing the civil law, a science, the knowledge of which, even in a moderate degree, requires a much greater period than three years. These Judges are appointive by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The qualifications of the Judges of the District Courts are of even a less exacting nature. A practice of two years in the State is sufficient with residence for the same time and citizenship of the United States, and they are to be elected by the people. What sort of judges are we likely to have under such a lax system as this?

The qualifications of the new class of judges, viz: those of the Parish Courts, are less rigid than those of the District Courts, and they are to superintend that very complicated department of law—the opening and settlement of successions, a branch in which but few members of the legal profession are at all proficient. These judges, (the Parish Judges,) are made elective by the people, and they are required to possess no qualification except that of being a citizen of the United States. Any negro then or illiterate white man is eligible for an office which requires professional learning, experience, judgment and delicacy.

The next objection is found in the following articles which regulate the elective franchise and the right of holding office:

ART. 98. Every male person of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, and a resident of this State one year next preceding any election, and the last ten days within the parish in which he offers to vote, shall be deemed an elector, except those disfranchised by this Constitution, and persons engaged in insurrection.

ART. 99. The following persons shall be prohibited from voting and holding any office. All persons who shall have been convicted of treason, forgery, bribery, or other crime punishable in the penitentiary, and persons under interdiction.

All persons who are estopped from claiming the right of suffrage by abjuring their allegiance to the United States Government, or by notoriously levying war against the United States, or who have given aid and comfort to the enemies thereof, or who have been convicted of any of the crimes mentioned in the first paragraph of this article, are here by restored to the same right, except the following persons, viz: those who held office, civil or military, for one year or more under the organization styled "The Confederate States of America;" those who registered themselves as enemies of the United States; those who were the leader of guerrilla bands during the late rebellion; those who in the advocacy of treason wrote or published newspapers during the progress of the late rebellion, and those who voted for and signed an ordinance of secession in any State. No person included in these exceptions shall either vote or hold office until he shall have relieved himself by voluntarily writing and signing a certificate setting forth that he acknowledges the late rebellion to have been morally and politically wrong, and that he regrets any and all conduct which may have given it, and he shall file the certificate in the office of the Secretary of State, and it shall be published in the official journal;

Provided, That no person who prior to the first of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, favored the execution of the laws of the United States popularly known as the Reconstruction Acts of Congress, and really and actively aided the loyal men of the State in their efforts to restore Louisiana to her position in the Union, shall be held to be included among those from whom exercise of the right of suffrage shall take the oath of any such person as *primâ facie* evidence of the fact that he is entitled to the benefit of this proviso.

If there be here no other provision of this Constitution sufficient to damn it in the estimation of every man possessed of the smallest modicum of sense, that found in the following article would effect its condemnation. The idea of requiring a man to promise on oath to accept his own degradation, and not to change his opinion or vary his action with respect to the privileges and rights extended to the black race under this constitution is too absurd. And yet, this is an instrument which has been signed by a person holding the office of Judge of the Supreme Court of the State, who is ready to swear allegiance to such a Constitution:

ART. 100. Members of the general assembly and all other officers, before entering upon the duties of their offices, shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I, A B, do solemnly swear (or affirm, that I accept the civil and political rights conferred on me, and agree not to attempt to deprive any person or persons on account of race, color, or previous condition, of any political or civil right, privilege, or immunity enjoyed by any other class of men. That I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and laws of this State, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as — according to the best of my ability and understanding. So help me God.

Then the system of public education laid down in this Constitution can never be tolerated by the white population of the State, because it is an attempt to enforce a social equality, which is inadmissible. The provisions adopted on this subject are as follows:

ART 137. The general assembly shall establish at least one free public school in every parish throughout the State, and shall provide for its support by taxation or otherwise. All children of the State between the ages of six (6) and twenty-one (21) shall be admitted to the public schools or other institutions of learning sustained or established by the State, irrespective, without distinction of race, color, or previous condition. There shall be no separate schools or institutions of learning established exclusively for any race by the State of Louisiana.

ART. 140. No appropriation shall be made by the General Assembly for the support of any private school, or any private institution of learning whatever.

ART. 142. A university shall be established and maintained in the city of New Orleans. It shall be composed of a law, a medical, and a collegiate department, each with appropriate faculties. The general Assembly shall provide by law for its organization and government: Provided, That all departments of this institution of learning shall be opened in common to all students of the State, without the imposition or regulations shall be made by the trustees, faculties, or other officers of said institution of learning, nor shall any laws be made by the general assembly violating the letter or spirit of the articles under this title.

The abolition of tacit mortgages and other interferences with vested rights likewise furnish sufficient reason why the monstrous attempt to enforce an abominable Constitution upon a people who had no hand in framing it, should be resisted by every possible means by which the white people of the State can lawfully resort.

It is hardly necessary to urge our readers to use their utmost exertions to defeat the adoption of this hideous instrument.

The Philadelphia *Age* puts the following "General Lorenzo Thomas was charged, on oath of E. M. Stanton with violations and evasions of the Tenure of office act. For this offence he was brought before Judge Carter, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. The act was confessed by the accused, and yet the Judge discharged him without even the fine of a cent. Yet Andrew Johnson is not impeached! Surely, if Andrew Johnson is liable to impeachment for acting in opposition to the provisions of an act, Judge Carter is equally guilty of neglecting to hold for trial a man who confessed to have committed the crime of which the President is charged."

A HAPPY COUNTRY.—The impeachment proceedings in this State create far less excitement in the public mind than might naturally be expected under the circumstances. In Wall street, the fate of the President occasions, in fact, much less remark than the fate of Daniel Drew or Commodore Vanderbilt in the great railroad fight now in progress there. The effect on general business away from the gold room and the Stock Exchange, however, is positively bad.—*New York Letter.*

Act of Justice to General Hancock.

The following letter has been addressed to Gen. Hancock by a number of citizens of New Orleans, of Northern and Western birth, as an expression of their approval of his impartial and conservative administration of the Fifth Military District. The communication explains itself. We recognize the names appended to it, as those of our leading business men, whose endorsement furnishes a complete answer to the groundless accusations made against General Hancock. The signers have no connection with politics, and the letter ought to have no political significance what ever, being intended entirely as a tribute of respect to the man, and a testimony to his fidelity as an officer of the Government. Many of the signers have resided in New Orleans only since the war, some of them being ex-officers of the volunteer service of the United States Army during the war.

We regard this expression of sentiment as a mere act of justice to an officer whose conduct in the administration of this District has been above reproach, but who has incurred the abuse of a pack of vile adventurers and office-seekers, because he would not exercise his power to persecute a people struggling with unparalleled difficulties, nor stretch his authority and construe the laws he was required to execute, beyond the naked letter of their language, to suit the political purposes of an unprincipled faction:

NEW ORLEANS, March 14, 1868.

Major Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock, commanding Fifth Military District:

General—We, the undersigned, being Northern and Western men by birth, now residing and doing business in New Orleans, without regard to party or political questions of any kind, but feeling the deepest interest in the welfare of our common country, have perceived with deep regret the necessary countermanding of your previous orders, as expressed in your special order No. 41, consequent upon the demand of a superior officer at Washington. We desire to assure you that we have regarded your course here while in command of the Fifth Military District, as actuated by the sole desire to perform your duty to your country in strict conformity with its constitution and its laws, in a truly conservative manner. Firmness and moderation have ever characterized your course, and while maintaining strict obedience and order, you have protected and fostered the judiciary in the performance of its duties. Our object in now addressing you, is to make manifest the approval of the Northern and Western born citizens of this place, of the course pursued by you officially while here, and that this communication may assure the people in the North and West that your official course has been guided by principles and acts of the country by a few partisans of extreme views, or office seekers for self-interest. As citizens, originally from different sections of the country, we feel that these expressions will be received by our countrymen as being uninfluenced by any sectional prejudices.

With great respect, and our most heartfelt wishes for your success in the truly honorable and patriotic course you have pursued.

We remain your sincere well wishers,

Chas Morgan, N	John B Bowen, R I
Jno Kerr, N	Miles Taylor, Mass
Thos Shoo, Ky	John Phelps, Mass
Thos A Adams, Mass	H F Glover, C
Henry Updike, N Y	Henry Lane, Mass
H M Spofford, N H	Albert Baldwin, Mass
A A Bradford, C	J W Antrim, N Y
Wm Hyde & Co, Me and Mo	G W Griffin, Mass
	S H Keep, Mass
N H Dudley, Ct	E S Converse, N H
John Finn, N Y	Smith & McKenna, Pa
J D Odendahl, Ind	Saml Smith, Pa
Chas F Spencer, N Y	A W Smith, N Y
T J Duckworth, Ky	C Chinch, Md
W H H Withersll, Vt	Jos F Lesell, Mass
F A Yorke Pa	W S Bishop, Ct
A G Ober, Mo	W D Lewis, O
Cobern Bros, N Y	Jno Hall, Pa
J Moore, Mass	F S Southmayd, N Y
L Folger, N J	A Hitchcock & Co, N Y
Hibbert, Peterson & Fenner, N Y and Pa	J Hibbert, Pa
	H E Lonsdale, N Y
	Wm Orr, Penn, Mo
	G W Bayne, N Y
	Wm Hamilton, Md
	R M Decrow, Mass
	H G Greer, C
	J M Seddon, O
	A J Hill, Me
	H H Hitchcock, Md
	R F Hixson, Md
	Jno F Bowles, Pa
	H B Loring, N Y
	L Spangenberg, N Y
	T C Amory, Mass
	Bond
	Marsh Denham, MJ
	Anderson D Dieter, Md
	J T Thomas, Mass
	J Foley, N Y
	Wm E Seymour, Ct
	Wm Hall, Mass
	Wm H Stevens, N Y
	J Armstrong, Ky
	G Burke, Md
	Henry Dean, Md
	John W Saunders, Pa
	J M Elroy, N Y
	A Tucker, Mass
	Jno F Severin, N Y
	Chas Jones & Nill
	H W Lemon, O
	Wm H Bulkley, Ohio
	L F Peacock, N Y
	Rich R Dean, Pa
	E F Stevens, Me
	Jas R Woods, Ohio
	Wm Ingo, N Y
	E B Hunt, Mass
	J W Hartshorn, N Y
	Wm C Tompkins, Mass
	Edw Page, Mass
	Jno Hancock, N Y
	Harmon Deane, Vt
	Jno F Bartlett, Ct
	L P Murdock, Ind
	Jno Hall, Mass
	H M Hanley, Va
	J W Norris & Co III,
	Jno Hall, Mass
	G R H Paine, N Y
	W Smith, Ct
	Kdgar Sherman, Ct
	Wm Hall, Mass
	E W Phelps Ct
	A G Woods, Mo
	M Tyler, Ct
	Chas Campbell, Pa
	John R Hilliard, N Y
	Vinal A Herrick, N Y
	Jno Tracy
	Wm P Healey, NH
	Jno Hall, Mass
	Saml J Swanson, N Y
	J W Shaver & Co
	Jno Hall, Mass
	Jno H Keep, Mass
	Augustus Rice, Ohio
	R G Hartley, N Y
	B Farin, Ky
	W Bacon, N Y

The President's Line of Defence.

Forney gives the following as the line of defence received on this by the President's counsel:

First, no appearing by counsel on Friday next, motion is to be made to have the hearing postponed until the first Monday in May. Failing in this, they will—

Secondly, Make a motion to quash the articles of impeachment on the ground that, if true, they do not constitute a high crime or misdemeanor.

Thirdly, Exceptions will be taken to certain senators on the ground that they have prejudged the case, and that the Senate has already declared the President guilty of the main charge by the passage of the resolution condemning the removal of Secretary Stanton.

Fourthly, Exceptions will be taken to the jurisdiction of the court on the ground that it is not the Senate of the United States.

Fifthly, That the Tenure of Office bill cannot apply to the case of Mr. Stanton, not only on account of the proviso in the first section, but also on the ground that, having been passed after Mr. Stanton's appointment, it cannot be applied to his tenure of office without having a retrospective effect, and becoming thereby an *ex post facto* law.

Sixthly, That Mr Stanton was out of office after the 4th day of March, 1865, on resignation of Mr. Lincoln's first term, and that he has not since that date been Secretary of War *de jure*, although exercising the functions of that office.

Forney adds that the court will undoubtedly fail on his first point, and seems to desire that he should resign, and save the Radicals the trouble of deposing him. The fact that the Radicals are willing to let him resign is a favorable sign.

Questions for Casuists on Impeachment.

To the Editors of the Enquirer:

Hamilton, O., March 4.—The main basis of the impeachment proceedings against the President was that he violated which prompted them anew, after the abandonment of previous efforts, by members of the House—in his alleged resistance and violation of the Tenure-of-Office act. In reading the House debates, we observe that the active advocates of impeachment maintain, with spirit and emphasis, that she will none of the articles be sustained by the Senate; save this one, it alone will demand and secure his conviction and consequent deposition.

At this early stage of the proceedings, then, let it be understood that the House impeachers will fail and all the other several counts of their indictment, but that they will be sustained on the Tenure-of-Office act by the two-thirds vote of the Senate. Pending his trial before the Senate, proceedings are instituted in the highest court of the land—the United States Supreme Court—and the constitutionality of this very act, and pending this test before such court, the Senate is precipitated into a speedy disposition of the case against the President, and declares by this specific point, convicts the President of high crimes and misdemeanors, and deposes him from office. In succeeded by the President of the Senate, who, in the legitimate forms of the Constitution, becomes the incumbent, and proceeds in the discharge of his several functions as Executive of the nation.

These results being reached, and in advance of the final disposition of the issue, by the Court of last resort, that tribunal, after ordinary delay, makes announcement of its decision, and that is, that the act of Congress, of March 2, 1867, termed "An act regulating the tenure of certain civil offices," is unconstitutional, and the law of Congress, for the violation of which the President has been deposed from office, is *unconstitutional, null and void.*

Here, then, the questions which we propose to the casuist may legitimately arise. Who is the constitutional President? He who *was* the constitutional President, and who was ejected from his office by unconstitutional means. He is out of the office, how is he to be reinstated? His seat is filled, and his functions are discharged by another person, by virtue of a violated Constitution; how is he to be displaced? Whose is the power, and what the process to reinstate an unconstitutional usurper, and to displace and eject an aggressive incumbent? And if a lawful Executive, unlawfully driven from his office, seeks reinstatement, and is resisted by the unlawful incumbent, will he, should he, or may he be the shape, and nature, and probable results of such conflict?

We are always running into no speculations as to what may result from such a complication of affairs, after such a crisis as this shall have passed into history. The reader can do up his own philosophizing. We know that the loss of power is great—that there is a great deal of human nature in man. What say the editors of the *Enquirer*?

H. H. K.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.—A debate took place in the British House of Commons recently last which indicates that Great Britain will eventually pay them. We have been fained for two years that she would do so. The long winded, circumlocutory speeches of the members point to this result, and this only. And the Stock Exchange, however, is positively bad.—*New York Letter.*

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Fire Saturday Morning.—At precisely two o'clock, the delicate touch of the operator upon watch at the time, pealed forth the startling alarm of fire. The alarm proceeded from box No 4, District 3, said box being situated at the corner of Magazine and Girod streets. We immediately repaired to the spot. We reached the place at the same time that the engines did, and while hose, steam and so forth were being got in readiness, we eluded the line of police assembled and made our debut upon the immediate scene of the conflagration. The fire seemed to have originated in the second floor, or in the swinging floor below, of No. 65 Commerce street, used by Michael Lacey as a distillery. The fire spread rapidly to the adjoining houses, one of which was occupied by P. Gallagher.

The distillery of Lacey was entirely destroyed, and the roofs of the two adjoining buildings occupied by Mr. Dunham as a warehouse, by Patrick Herman, and the cigar store of Mr. Turbolte. The firemen brought to the spot by the regular call fought the advancing and gathering flames with the most zealous zeal which ever characterizes the firemen of New Orleans, but at half past three o'clock yesterday morning the Chief was constrained to call for the ringing of the "general alarm." The united efforts of the firemen kept the devouring element within bounds, and yesterday morning it had been brought within the compass of two steam engines, which continued to play their streams upon the smouldering elements.

The cause of the fire is unknown, but incendiarism being strongly suspected, one M. McLaughlin was arrested by officer Dunn, as being suspected of setting the premises on fire. An investigation before Recorder Neville will bring, in all probability, more facts to light.

Several persons were arrested for pilfering while the fire was in progress.

Fires.—About half past 1 o'clock, yesterday evening, a kitchen No 307 Baronne street, caught fire from the coals in the fire-place, but the fire was extinguished without damage.

About half past 8 o'clock, last night, the house No. 226 Baronne street, caught fire, from what cause, is not known, but the flames were extinguished without damage. The building is occupied by Mrs. Hale and owned by Mr. Green, and is uninsured.

About 9½ o'clock a fire originated in an old one and a half story frame building, owned by T. K. Price and occupied by him for storage purposes, on Poydras street, between Poucher and Roggiero street. It contained about 60 or 70 bales of hay and 200 or 300 bales of leaf tobacco, belonging to various parties, and stored there for compressing for the Mexican market. The building and contents, all insured and worth say about $12,000 dollars, were destroyed with the exception of 3 hogsheads of the weed.

An adjoining tenement house, owned by Messrs. John Davidson & Hill, and occupied by the families of Mrs. Fick, Mrs. Black, Mrs. Morris and Mr. Browley, was also nearly destroyed, the occupants losing about $500 or $600 worth of furniture, covered, we presume, by insurance. Building injured to the extent of $1,000 or $2,000 covered, we presume, by insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Duel—A duel was fought day before yester day, caused by some difficulty between the parties at the Opera House. One party was armed with a sword cane, the other with a thrust in the temple. They fought with French navy broad swords. Their injuries are not considered dangerous.

More Republican Nominations.—The Republicans last night nominated a Bureau Agent as Lake Pendance, Assumption Parish, against the choice of conferring $8000, proceeds of cotton, was arraigned yesterday before Recorder Neville, and held in $1000 to answer. The money with which the cotton was bought, was advanced we learn by a commission merchant of this city, the name of which, however, seems to be kept a profound secret from the reporters

Alleged Perjury.—Patrick Meeham, arrested on a charge of perjury preferred by W. H. McGarity, was examined before Recorder Neville, and committed in default of $500 bail.

The New York *Democratic Reporter*, the representative of the commercial interest, takes a despondent view of the influence the impeachment movement is likely to exert upon the business of the country. It attributes to the fact that, until the events of the last few days, there had seemed to be no reason why there should not be a steady, fair business during the spring months, that paper says:

"In this condition of affairs, however, there comes in a sensation of disturbance from the political quarter. The House of Representatives attempting an extraordinary Presidential election, in times of hazard, is found guilty, not to mention the course of Mr. Stanton, in the matter of the Secretaryship of War, of a most reckless and wanton violation of the Constitution. Such is the sensitive character of the financial community, that the tendency of a Congressional policy which wrongly it matters not to this purpose, manifestly leads to a revolution of our governmental system, with the gravest dangers to the peace of the country. It is a patent fact that all do not see through Congressional movements, and it is therefore to be expected that not a few should regard the action of Congress as tending to political disruption, and that the money market must inevitably have a certain effect in checking industrial operations.

Many capitalists will prefer short enquiries, and will withhold offers to commit themselves to enterprises or investments which will not admit of their realizing at will. It is to be infinitely regretted that the country is expected from the collision of our governmental forces