NEW ORLEANS DAILY BEE.
DUFOUR & HIMET, PUBLISHERS.
No. 73 Chartres street.
TERMS OF THE BEE.
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All advertisements not marked for any number of insertions will be published six times.
All bills with regular advertisers shall be rendered monthly.
Weekly Edition.
TERMS—PER YEAR.....$5.
NEW ORLEANS:
THURSDAY MORNING, OCT. 26, 1871.

Amusements This Evening.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Rankin Comedy Troupe—"Chaste and Flinches and Prudence."

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—The Lingard Troupe—"A Day After the Wedding."

WAS IT ACCIDENTAL?

One of our cotemporaries, commenting upon and praising the system of trial by jury in criminal prosecutions, alludes to the "disgraceful spectacle" which this community were lately compelled to witness, of two men who had been summoned and drawn as jurymen, but who had to be discharged as incapacitated for the service by reason of crimes against the State, which they themselves had been accused of without having been acquitted of the accusation. It is generously assumed by the writer of the article referred to that the placing upon the jury of those two men was "one of those accidental defects" to which this excellent system of trial is subject and which "impairs its usefulness." Our confrère is perhaps not familiar with the proceedings of our courts nor the routine thereof, for if he were, he could hardly term the drawing upon a jury of two men who are themselves already under the ban of the law, as an "accidental circumstance." It is, he will admit, not the way to bring about an improvement in any direction, whether the matter be private or public, to regard a defect as "accidental," when the fact is that it is due to a laxity of rule and to an abuse of system. We do not care to inquire into the facts of the particular case alluded to by the *Price Current*. It is possible that the two men drawn on the Byrd jury who were discharged on account of disability by reason of their attitude as criminals before the courts, were placed on the jury list without this fact being known to the officers of the court which summoned them. But every person who has a knowledge of the usual order and course of business in and about these establishments, cannot but be aware that there have been wide departures from strict law, and much carelessness of a willful character practised, especially in drawing up the lists of citizens to serve as jurymen. We do not blame this altogether upon the officers connected with the administration of criminal justice. The community themselves are largely responsible for the abuses which have grown up in and around this system of trial, and there can be little improvement until each citizen, liable to serve shall, instead of evading the service, place himself voluntarily within the reach of the judiciary of the country and their executive officers.

The present seems to be an appropriate time to call the attention of our law makers to this subject and to impress upon them the necessity of carefully considering, with the aid of experienced persons, what are the amendments in the jury laws which are now called for. We suppose among the first is one which would have the effect of greatly enlarging the jury list. It is capable of enlargement, and it should be done without regard to the mere inconvenience of those who shirk jury duty or their disinclination to render service. Perhaps it may be necessary and not unlawful to compel every inhabitant of the State to serve whether he be a citizen of not. Those not citizens are supposed to benefit and do benefit by the punitive laws of the State, to as great an extent as citizens. If so why should they not assist in administering justice? We think they would willingly do so if required by law. But a measure of this sort might be dispensed with, were all citizens disposed to serve on the jury. It is the numerous exemptions granted from such service which narrow the list to such a small compass as to compel the officers to summon persons who are for some reason objectionable. How seldom is it we see on a petty jury prominent citizens, men competent to receive the instructions of the court on points of law and to pass judgment upon the facts presented to them? In other parts of the country where the solid citizens habitually sit upon juries we do not hear of any complaint of the system. It is plain therefore that it is not the system which is at fault so much as it is the duty of those whose duty it is to administer that system and every citizen should take part in such administration. We have sometimes been tempted to call for the abolition of jury-trial, seeing the indisposition of the community to maintain it in accordance with the ancient practice, but if the people can be roused to the importance of the system and will come forward to take part in such reforms and modifications as are demanded, the time to abolish it may be long deferred. It is in their hands. One thing they must remember. The present course of administering criminal justice cannot longer be tolerated with safety to the people.

A circular letter from the commercial firm of Cobb, Dolhonde & Co., Western produce merchants of this city, which has just been placed in our hands, conveys the information that those gentlemen have opened a branch of their house in the city of St. Louis, under the same name and style as in New Orleans. Our esteemed friend Mr. Dolhonde, hitherto the managing partner here, takes charge of the St. Louis branch, which, of course, necessitates his residence there. New Orleans at this time can ill afford to lose a merchant and citizen of so much enterprise and public spirit, but we are sure that Mr. Dolhonde will, during his absence from us, draw closer the ties which have long existed between the two cities. He will be in the great Western metropolis a worthy representative of the City with which he has been so long identified, and we wish that the change may result in the realization of his most sanguine hopes.

OPENING OF MORGAN STREET.—Our readers have already been apprised that Morgan street now Chartres has been opened through the cotton presses and the City Railroad Company are continuing their track through the opening, which when finished, will be a very appreciable improvement to people in that part of the Third District. We observe, by the way, that Colonel Jules C. Denis, President of the Cotton Press Association, of which our friend has been very energetic in putting the street in a sightly condition. The debris of the presses, though which breaches were made, has all been removed; a substantial fence has been erected and the two entrances thereto are not. With its pretensions to architectural taste, Colonel Denis has afforded every facility in his power for the completion of the road, which is laid as far as the Lawrence property.

In this connection, it is proper to urge upon the authorities the necessity of extending the wharves in front of the presses, to secure additional accommodations for shipping, and of paving the newly opened street with square blocks. If the people of the Third District would come to the aid of those who are endeavoring to improve their part of the city, and address themselves, with the earnestness and perseverance the matter merits, to the City Council, they might secure to themselves the benefits indicated. That those who help themselves are most apt to get help from others, is an old and true saying.

AVERT THE EVIL.—If mothers would give Mrs. Whitcomb's Syrup to their children when sick, mortality would be less among them. It costs only twenty-five cents.

It is now estimated that the city of Chicago has suffered a loss of not less than twenty six more than twenty-five per cent, on her total assessed, real and personal. Her most shrewd business men express it as their conviction that five years hence, if at most, the exhibit of population, wealth, commerce, and manufactures will be even greater than a month ago; an opinion in which we fully concur.

The New Orleans Bee.

OFFICE 73 CHARTRES STREET. NEW ORLEANS, THURSDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 26, 1871. 35th YEAR—Vol. XLV.—Whole—15,499

BY TELEGRAPH.
[To the New Orleans Bee.]
FOREIGN NEWS.
Stormy Session in the Corsican Council.
A New English Journal in Lima.
Emancipation of Slaves in Brazil.
Inauguration of the President and Ministers in Chili.
HOME NEWS.
New Mail Arrangement Between New Orleans and Spain.
Large Fires on the Coast of California.
Disturbances in South Carolina.
Great Yacht Race in New York.
The Baltimore Election.
Miscellaneous Matters.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[To the New Orleans Bee.]

FOREIGN NEWS.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Paris, Oct. 25.—A dispatch from Ajaccio reports a stormy session today of the General Council of Corsica. Prince Napoleon was not present, but his partisans, who proved to be in the minority, joined in the protest against the elections which they claim was not conducted in a manner to allow a free expression of the wishes of the people.

The *Courier Diplomatique* has the following communication, which, it says comes from a diplomatic personage of high rank:

In 1864, Earl Russell, then British Minister of Foreign Affairs, made overtures through Lord Cowley, British Ambassador at Paris, to M. Rouher, proposing an alliance, offensive and defensive, with France, to help Denmark in case Prussia and Austria should declare war against her. England was to co-operate with France by sea and land, and was willing to promise France, in return for her assistance, the rectification of her frontiers on the Rhine by the annexation of a portion of the Rhenish provinces.

M. Rouher asked time for consideration, but three days from the time they were laid before M. Rouher the Emperor Napoleon accepted them. Lord Cowley immediately communicated the fact of the Emperor's acceptance to his Government. Whereupon Earl Russell replied that it was too late, as her Majesty's Government had decided not to interfere in the case of Denmark. The close of the negotiations, and no attempt was made to reopen the subject.

Contributions for the relief of Chicago amount to 178,430 francs.

London, Oct. 25.—Miss Rye takes out 145 children for homes in America, on the Nestorian.

Late Rio de Janeiro advices confirm the report of the final adoption by the Brazilian Parliament of the bill providing for the emancipation of slaves. A circular has been issued by the Government to the authorities of the Departments, recommending the law to be put into immediate execution.

Vienna, Oct. 25.—The Emperor Francis Joseph is still undecided as to the course to be pursued in relation to the demands of the Bohemian diet.

All idea of accepting the conference proposed by Count Andrassy has been abandoned, as both the Hohenwarth Ministry and Czech leaders object to such a small compass as to compel the officers to summon persons who are for some reason objectionable. How seldom is it we see on a petty jury prominent citizens, men competent to receive the instructions of the court on points of law and to pass judgment upon the facts presented to them? In other parts of the country where the solid citizens habitually sit upon juries we do not hear of any complaint of the system. It is plain therefore that it is not the system which is at fault so much as it is the duty of those whose duty it is to administer that system and every citizen should take part in such administration. We have sometimes been tempted to call for the abolition of jury-trial, seeing the indisposition of the community to maintain it in accordance with the ancient practice, but if the people can be roused to the importance of the system and will come forward to take part in such reforms and modifications as are demanded, the time to abolish it may be long deferred. It is in their hands. One thing they must remember. The present course of administering criminal justice cannot longer be tolerated with safety to the people.

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HOME NEWS.

FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Senate not in session.

HOUSE.—Mr. Hoar, from the Committee on Rules, reported back the resolution of Mr. Cox, for a committee of five to inquire into the expenditures in the Department of Justice, and the Attorneys and Marshals, with instructions to report a bill for the abolishment of the office of Attorney and Marshal of the United States for the District of Columbia, and the Territories, and for the transfer of the duties of said officers to the Department of Justice, and the Attorney and Marshal of the United States for the Southern District of New York, and the Attorney and Marshal of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and for other purposes, and the bill was recommitted to the Committee on Rules.