



PACKETS.

New Orleans, Fort Hudson and Waterloo Packet.

Lobdell's Store, Baton Rouge, Plaquemine, Donaldsonville, and all intermediate landings.

For freight or passage apply on board.

New Orleans and Fort Adams Regular Packet.

For Fort Adams, Pointe Coupée, Morganza, Bayou Sara, Waterloo, Hermitage, Port Hudson, Baton Rouge, Plaquemine, Donaldsonville, and the Coast.

Nouveau Paquetbot Entre la Nlle. Orleans et Waterloo

Port Waterloo P Hermitage Port Hudson, Springfield Landing Lobdell's Store, Wall's Landing Baton Rouge, Manchac, Plaquemine, Iberville, Bayou Goula, New River Landing, Ascension, Donaldsonville, &c. &c.

Le Bateau à vapeur usuel, fin marche CAPITOLO, en place du "Gipsy" commande par le Capitaine THOMAS M. URE, partira de la Nouvelle Orleans tous les Dimanches, à 9 heures A. M., et les Jendis, à 5 heures P. M.

THE CAPITOL. TWICE A WEEK.

FOR WATERLOO—Port Hudson, Lobdell's Store, Baton Rouge, Plaquemine, Donaldsonville, and all intermediate Landings.

E. S. Mail Packet Natches.

For Vicksburg, Warrenton, New Carthage, Ashwood, Grand Gulf, St. Joseph, Rodney, Waterproof, Natches, Fort Adams, Bayou Sara, Port Hudson, Baton Rouge, Plaquemine, Donaldsonville.

Checked Nainsook Muslins.

JUST received a second supply of those checked Nainsook Muslins.

Ladies' and Children's Shoes

Made in the neatest style and of the best material, and manufactured to order expressly for HART, AUSTIN & CO.

AT CITY PRICES.

NEW GROCERY AND FEED STORE.

AVET respectfully informs his friends and the public generally that he has opened a Grocery Store in which will be kept every description of Groceries required for Family and Plantation use.

GROCERY AND FEED STORE.

will, he trusts, supply a want that has long been felt in this community, and while he promises to his friends and the public that he will always keep on hand a good supply of

CORN, HAY, OATS, &c.

at prices as low as can be sold in the city, he hopes to receive a portion of their patronage.

3120 REWARD.

Left the plantation of the subscribers about the 10th of May last, the yellow woman HANNAH, she is 25 years of age, and is well known in Plaquemine.

19 do extra horse and mule Collars;

19 do extra Buggy Harness;

19 do extra Bridles, comprising a great variety of English, American and Creole patterns;

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

Table with columns for days of the week (Su, M, Tu, W, T, F, Sa) and dates for the month of February.

JOB PRINTING.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THE SOUTHERN SENTINEL

GRATEFUL for the patronage that has heretofore been extended him, would respectfully inform his patrons and the public generally, that having lately made considerable additions to his office, (and contemplating making considerable more in a short time) he is prepared to execute with neatness and dispatch, and in a style equal to any other office, every variety of

Job Printing

Consisting of—Handbills of all descriptions; Pamphlets; Lawyers' Briefs; Ball Tickets; Funeral Tickets; Circulars; Wedding Tickets and Cards; &c. &c. &c.

And in fact any description of Job Printing, in Black or Bronze.

And at prices as low as any other office in the interior of the State.

W. P. BRADBURN, Proprietor

J. E. DEGELOS, Commission Merchant, Plaquemine, La.

HAVING completed his large and commodious Warehouse opposite to the Steamboat Landing, will give his entire attention to the Receiving and Forwarding of all Freights passing through Plaquemine.

Barber, Cupping and Bleeding.

Nicolas Biebler

HAS opened his shop in Keller's new house, opposite Kahn's store, where he will be glad to see all who may require his services in either of the above branches.

"FOUR NATIONS" HOTEL, MARKET ST.

M. MARIE, grateful for the favors his hitherto bestowed upon him by a generous public, takes this occasion to return them his thanks, and to state to them that he has made considerable improvements; and feels that he can safely assert, that in reference to the substantial and luxuries of his table, and comfortable lodging, that his house is second to none in this community.

COAL—COAL.

THE planters of Iberville and adjoining parishes are respectfully informed that they can be supplied with the best Pittsburgh Coal, at their Coal Depot for Steamboats, in front of the Plantation of A. Sidney Robertson.

OYSTERS, AND OTHER DELICACIES!

A. PERRON, Jr.,

Would remind his old friends and the public generally, that his Oyster Saloon has been fitted up anew during the summer with many improvements, and is now opened again for the winter campaign, with FRESH OYSTERS and all other delicacies always on hand.

Ladies' and Children's Shoes

Made in the neatest style and of the best material, and manufactured to order expressly for HART, AUSTIN & CO.

INVOICE just received embrace the following

LADIES' kid well Lace Boots; do Morocco do do; do calf do do; do kid buckskin or Walking Shoes;

do Gaiter Boots, a beautiful assortment; do Black Kid Slippers, with and without rosettes;

do Satin do—decidedly neat; do white kid do, English and French; do do satin do, extra quality;

do Velvet Slippers, black and assorted colours; MISSES' Lace Boots and Bunkins;

do Gaiter Boots; do Kid Slippers; CHILDREN'S kid and calf walking shoes;

do Morocco ancle ties, blue, red and bronze; do do Bunkins, do do do. d22

Saddlery.—Saddlery!

Just received direct from New York, a large and well assorted stock of

Saddlery, Harness, &c

which we are offering to purchasers at low prices. Our assortment embraces the unexcelled list of articles—

19 do extra horse and mule Collars;

19 do extra Buggy Harness;

SOUTHERN SENTINEL.

PLAQUEMINE: Saturday, February 23, 1856.

The Poor of London.—The correspondent of a Boston paper states that from an intimate acquaintance with the state of the poor in London for twelve years past, he has never known their destitution to be so wide-spread, so sickening and so heart-rending, as during the present winter.

Old Babylon.—Dr. Oppert, of France, has spent two years on the site of old Babylon, examining the cuneiform inscriptions on the bricks and slates. He states that the famous old city, in the days of its grandeur and power covered rather more than an area of two hundred square miles, being about two and a half more than the site of London.

The Great Poisoning Case in England.—The case of Palmer, the English poisoner, occupies columns in several of the leading London journals. The inquiry into the death of Mrs. Ann Palmer, the wife of the accused, resulted in a verdict of wilful murder.

Medical Education of Females.—The sixth annual report of the Female Medical Education Society, Boston, informs the reader that the New England Female Medical College was opened in that city in 1818.

A Powerful Dog.—The Chicago (Ill.) Journal of the 28th ult. says: "Mr. Price, of the firm of Price & Fisher of this city, arrived to-day from Green Bay in a novel turn out. He drove the entire distance in a light sleigh drawn by a single dog, averaging 30 miles a day."

The New Yorkers have at last made sure of their great Central Park, embracing an area of several hundred acres of ground.

Pay of Jurors and Witnesses.—A bill has been introduced into the Pennsylvania Legislature to increase the pay of jurors, summoned to court, to one dollar and fifty cents per diem and of witnesses to one dollar.

The Vices Gazette notes the arrival at that place of 2,400 rabbits, barrels of quails, 14 whole deer, 25 saddles venison, 144 prairie chickens, and wild geese, ducks, turkey, squirrels, &c., to almost any extent; in all five waggon loads.

A judge's duty is to snub the counsel on both sides, and bother the jury by furnishing them with a third method of looking at the case. We got this from a wag who once went to law to get damages, and he got what he went for, enough to last him a lifetime.

The city council of Lexington, Ky., have fixed \$250 as the price for coffehouse and tavern license in the city for the year 1856.

The city council of Maysville, Ky., charge \$100 for a yearly license for the same purpose.

Cold January.—It is said the average of cold for the month of January, 1856, in New York, was greater than any that has occurred for 70 years.

Seven hundred Polish emigrants are on their way to Galveston, Texas.

A bill has passed the House, in the Tennessee Legislature, authorizing that State to purchase five hundred acres of the ground—including the tomb of Jackson and the buildings—of the Hermitage, for \$50,000.

Fifteen thousand Germans have recently left Hamburg for Texas. They are expected in Texas next month. It is said some 25,000 more are expected to follow the ensuing winter.

Whar no Wood is, there the Fire Goeth out—And they Played on Simbols, Dulcimers, Jewsharps and Dimmijohns.

The following discourse, delivered by that "same old eoon," the captain of a Mississippi flat-boat, at a Hard Shell Baptist protracted meeting at Tinicum, on Thursday evening last, was phonographically reported expressly for The Mercury by "Sammuel the Scribe," who was one of the anxious inquirers on that solemn and interesting occasion:

My FRIENDS: Since I had the pleasure uv holdin' forth to the benighted an' heathenish rapscallions uv Brandon, Mississippi, on the subjeck—"An' he played on a harp uv a thousand strings, sperrets of just men made perfeck"—the sperrit bath moved me to take up my bed and travel; and after visiting divus places, an' propagatin' the Gospiel! uv Jesus nominations, I have at last fetched up, bless the Lord, 'mong the Hard Shells of Tinicum.

Now, my brethering, I'm gwine to say to you as I said to the Brandonians on a former 'casion I'm not an educated man, but, bless the Lord, I'm a mighty religius man, a man what's born agin—one what sperrieth the holy ghost, and tuck religin in the natral way—for "whar no wood is, thar the fire goeth out"—and they played on simbols, dulcimers, jewsharps and dimmijohns."

Somehow, I ollers tuck amazin' likin to the Baptists, specially to the hard shells—not because I'm particularly fond of cold water; for my brethering, I'm not one of them ar sort of Christians that repudiates good whiskey, or looks a gift horse in the mouth. Thar's the Raach-shells, the soft shells, the clam shells, an' a great many other kind uv shells, but, my brethering, next to the hard shells, give me the man that shells out liberally when the contribushun box goes round—for, "Whar no wood is, thar the fire goeth out"—and they played on simbols, dulcimers, jewsharps and dimmijohns."

Now, my brethering, having told you what swaysun I lings to, I'm gwine to exominate and lucidate on my tex, which sez—"whar no wood is, thar the fire goeth out," etc. My brethering, dont spose for the sixteenth part uv a minute that the fire we read uv in the scrip-tures will go out becase thar's no wood? No my Christian friends, so long as the supply of antherite and brimstone holds out, it won't make a dif uv bitterness whether thar's any wood or not—the fire will be kept burnin'—for, they played on simbols, dulcimers, jewsharps and dimmijohns.

My brethering, when, accordin' to the tex, I sez, "they played on simbols, dulcimers, jewsharps and dimmijohns," I mean that the good and perfeck sperrets—them of the sixth spear—plays on the simbols and dulcimers; and the bad sperrets, what lives in the lower speers, plays on the dimmijohns and dimmijohns, specially the dimmijohns—for, "Whar no wood is, thar the fire goeth out"—and they played—brethering, I smell a mice! Thar's a Judas in this congregashun, sure as you are living sinners, and he sure be dispelled! Ah, I told you so. Thar he is, yonder, on that high seat near the stove. That weazen-faced sinner in the breskin bang up—a wolf in a bar's clothing—settling thar as innocet as a possum up a 'simmon tree, reporting my lectur phrenologically!"

At this juncture all eyes were fixed upon our reporter, who also began to "smell a mice," and hastily thrusting his notes in the pocket of his "breskin bangup," vanished through a side window, surrounded by a blaze of glory and at least a hundred hard shells.

A Good One.

We like a good joke, even if it hits us or our party, and therefore give place to the following yarn gotten up by the Columbus (O.) Fact, fanciful though it may appear:

A political story was told in our hearing the other evening, by an old Whig, which we do not remember ever having seen in print. On course we do not vouch for its truth in every particular:

A few years since a party of very distingue Southern planters, two of whom were Democrats and one a Whig, being on a visit to the North, were invited about election time to dine at the house of a wealthy, aristocratic, and withal very beautiful lady in southern Ohio.

After being seated at the table, which was luxuriantly spread with all the delicacies which wealth could command, a large, burly negro came in and seated himself directly opposite the gentlemen at table.

The gentlemen were too well bred to notice the intruder at the time, but immediately upon his retirement from the room, one of them remarked to the lady:

What could have induced you to insult us by the presence of a negro at your table?"

"Why, gentlemen, he is my husband!" replied the lady.

"Your husband!" exclaimed the three simultaneously, with unfeigned astonishment.

"Yes; my sister first ruined our family pride in marrying, and I resolved to equal her. This colored man was wealthy, and so I married him."

"Pray who did your sister marry?" asked one of the party.

"Why, she married a Locooco, and I have never been able to hold my head up since!"

The two Locoocos made an excuse for cutting their visit short. They endeavored to keep the joke a secret, but the Whig would tel, and so the "story got out."

THE MAN THAT SAT IN THE AIR.

India has been the field of several great impositions, but amongst them none were ever productive of more startling effects than one which was called "The Man that sat in the Air," and the time of his appearance and sway was about the year 1833, or thereabouts—Madras was the theater of his performance.

There was a startling simile made use of by a fanatic, who once issued a fulminating pamphlet against some imaginary enemy, in which he said that if a "buffalo could stand in the air," then he, the fanatic was contented to acknowledge that he was wrong. Not one whit less startling, and much more to purpose, was the announcement made in the Madras "Male Asylum Herald," a paper now many years defunct, that Apooawmy Rgavah, or some such outlandish name, a Brahmin of high caste, had undertaken, for a stipulated consideration, to appear before the Governor and Council, and as many friends and spectators as chose to assemble, seated cross-legged and tailor fashion for the space of half an hour in the air!

At first people were inclined to think the whole matter was a hoax, and that the advertisement had been inserted by some thoughtless wag. That such was not the case, however, very shortly appeared—for in the official gazette a card was issued, inviting military and medical servants, and indeed, all English gentlemen at the presidency, to assemble at a given hour in the day to see a man sit in the air.—Now many an Englishman well remembered the hoax often played at home of advertising a horse with his head where his tail ought to be, and similar foolish take tns—but all such mysteries dwindled into insignificance in comparison with the man sitting in the air. Jones, the first Judge of the Sudder Dawnee Adawlett, wrote to Smith, the Collector of Chingleput and urged him to be present to witness the novel spectacle. All who could get away from stations within a hundred miles of the presidency, hastened to Madras to glut their curiosity; and amongst the whole mass I really believe that there was barely a single individual who would sooner have rather believed that the moon, to use a nursery simile, was made of green cheese, than credit for a moment the possibility of the Brahmin fulfilling his promise.

Expectation was on tiptoe; all Madras, from the Governor-General down to his meanest palkee-bearer, longed for the hour when this marvellous spectacle was to be revealed to them. When the day at length arrived, the entrance to the Governor's gardens was thronged with carriages and horsemen. A sumptuous breakfast commenced the entertainment, and whilst the Governor and his guests were inside, feasting upon the fat of the land, the Brahmin himself made a slight repast off a platter of rice smothered in ghee, winding up with a half dozen red plantains.

By and by, the band in front of the government house struck up the national anthem. His Excellency and staff, all in cocked hats and feathers, with a hundred other officers in the varied and beautiful uniforms of the East India Company, took up their position under an extensive awning, where a detachment of orderlies was perpetually on duty, fanning the guests with huge Indian fans.

With the utmost confidence the brahmin walked into the centre of a space kept open expressly for the purpose, and making a very low salaam to the spectators, he commenced operations. There were only two men in his retinue, but these were Pilewhans, men of herculean strength and nerve, trained from their infancy to feats of strength, whose sinews almost protruded from their flesh. These came forward and salaamed also, when, having obtained the Governor's permission, they planted a pole firmly in the ground, the top of which might be eight feet from the surface. Over this they threw a huge sheet, which constituted a species of tent, which tent helped entirely to exclude the operators from the anxious gaze of the spectators. A buzz of expectation passed from mouth to mouth of the multitudes that thronged and squeezed each other in their intense anxiety to witness the result, while two sturdy musicians, possessed of more wind and noise than gift of music raised hideous blasts upon a miserable horn and a badly turned cracked violinello. The preparations occupied nearly ten minutes, and people who were looking earnestly, could discover that the summit of this temporary tent enlarged, as though some bulky body had been introduced, and at the same time materially gained in height.

At length the Pilewhans crept out from under the folds of the cloth, and announced to the multitude that the propitious hour had arrived; whilst hauling gently at the covering, which was of cloth of fine and light texture, they suddenly gave a jerk that completely denuded the pole, revealing to the astonished multitudes the remarkable and extraordinary phenomenon of a man sitting cross-legged in the air. There was no mistake about it; and although old gentlemen took off their spectacles and wiped them again and again, it was only to see clearer this marvellous apparition.

Only the Brahmin's right hand rested upon the summit of the pole; all the rest of his body was separated from it at more than elbow length, and yet his position was apparently as though he were sitting upon the most substantial earth, in lieu of light and unresisting

air. There he sat cross legged, counting the beads of a rosary in his left hand, and staring unconcernedly with both eyes into his excellency's face.

For the first few seconds after the cloth had been removed, the whole mass of spectators were too much awe-stricken and astonished even to permit themselves to breathe. As, however, they became convinced that their eyes were looking upon a reality, and not a delusion, the air was rent with acclamations of wonderment and surprise, whilst every European present declared it to be the most complete and cleverest imposition that ever had been practised India; nor could the most scientific amongst them surmise for a moment any cause or means, save the most extraordinary nervous agency (and the Brahmin looked too feeble to admit of this) which could possibly account for the spectacle; for, as has already been said, only the palm of the right hand rested, and that very gently, on the head of the pole, whilst with every ease and comfort the figure sat cross-legged at more than elbow distance.

Thus this man remained suspended in the air for half an hour, and he offered to continue as long again provided the spectators would pay him for it. The English however, were too anxious to possess themselves of the pole used by him to admit of their brooking any further delay; besides which, from appearance, the man could sit there from morning to night without suffering the slightest inconvenience.—Accordingly, it was intimated to the Brahmin that he had earned the promised reward, having accomplished the feat he undertook to perform so that, making a low salaam with his disengaged hand, he summoned his assistants who with the precision of fishermen, hung the sheet over his head, and entering within the secrecy of its folds, took down, in an inconceivably short space, both pole and man.

The moment the party emerged from under the sheet, the government peons seized upon them, and dragged them very unwillingly into the audience hall. Here the pole was examined by several scientific men; was wounded and snatched for secret spangs; but all in vain it was evidently as solid and as hard as rock.

Neither the Brahmin nor his assistants carried with them boxes or bags where anything bulky could be concealed, and it was considered impossible that any man could carry about his person sufficient machinery to account for balancing. One civilian, however, suggested that the person of the Brahmin should be searched, but this was unanimously objected to, on the score of its being a breach of faith, as it had been promised him that, owing to his high caste he should be subjected to nothing that might be construed into an insult to his faith; and, as we all know, the very touch of other people is pollution to the brahmin. Accordingly, he received his promised premium, and withdrew only to travel into the interior, and reap an immense harvest from the curiosity, credulity and superstition of the people.

For a period there was nothing heard or talked of but this wonderful "man that sat in the air." Newspapers were full of him; private letters teemed about him; rajahs fed him; residents gave entertainments to witness his marvellous feat; in short, there was not such an indisputable lion to be found in India as this "man that sat in the air."

The star of his fame thus long continued in the ascendant, till one day a Mr. Conway, a young Madras civilian, intimated to the public that he could perform the same ceremony; and then the sage and wise of India were confirmed in their opinion that the feat must be attributable to some wonderful discovery in magnetism. It was, however, nothing of the kind, and Mr. Conway published an account which made people wonder how they could ever have been so simple as not to guess at the truth long before.

In the first place, Mr. Conway had a seat of brass constructed, made of thin, strong brazen rods, in the shape of a right-angled triangle. From the narrowest point a stout brass rod passed up as a support for the back, at the summit of which was a cross-bar made to measure the width of the back from shoulder to shoulder. From the right extremity of this cross-bar was extended a curved brass rod, fitted to the arm when in a bent position. This by means of a stout ring firmly riveted into the end, was fixed upon the top of the pole and constituted the whole machinery, every bit of which could be taken to pieces and put together.

In European costume it was impossible to perform the feat; in the loose folds of an oriental dress, however the thing was easy, especially as a false covering extended over the bottom of the seat, corresponding in every respect to the loose wide folds of the Indian trousers.

Hearing that his trick was detected, the Brahmin disappeared, leaving the field open for fresh tricksters; nor was it long vacant.

A WONDERFUL MIRROR.—The papers state that there was lately exhibited in Paris a huge concave mirror, an instrument of a startling species of optical magic. On standing close to it, it presents nothing but a monstrous dissection of your physiognomy. On retiring a couple of feet, it gives your own face and figure in true proportion, but reversed, the head downward. But rise still further, standing at the distance of five or six feet from the mirror, and behold, you see yourself not a reflection—it does not strike you as a reflection—but your veritable self, standing in the middle part between you and the mirror! The effect is almost appalling, from the fact it suggests of something supernatural—so startling, indeed, is the exhibition, that men possessed of the strongest nerve will shrink involuntarily at the first view.

Col. Benton, writing to Com. Stewart in relation to the law retiring naval officers, declares the act to be a bad act, passed in a bad way, and made worse in its execution.

Gov. Bigler of California, has acknowledged a copy of State

saga to the Legisla-