

A. Niemering & Co., Publishers.

Official Journal of the United States Official Journal of Bexar County and City of San Antonio.

THURSDAY, JAN. 6, 1870.

The Students of Bexar County.

The result of the last election in this County has proven two things—that the Radical party in this county and city is as strong as ever even though some of its members bolted; that it is united, full of vigor and able to sweep the city at any time on short notice.

There is the pith of the business. The radical party has won the confidence of the sober business men of San Antonio by pursuing a policy that has made life and property secure and developed the resources of the County as much as the present circumstances allowed.

The Radical party has shown a determination to purge itself of incompetent and unworthy men, of unworthy and unwise ideas; to nominate capable and honest candidates; to pursue a broad and liberal policy; to look out for the true welfare of the State and city.

Our next city election will develop the full strength of our party.

A Federal.

Pease, Hamilton, Paschal, Bell, Caldwell and Turner have sent a protest to the Senate of the United States, against the ratification of the newly appointed officers, of which the following is a sample:

But, above an argument, we state the fact that we are on the eve of the election; that full discussion has been had; that the enemies of the constitution have had the full benefit of claiming that we are in disgrace with the Administration; that the Commanding General (and we deplore his mistake) has favored them in the registration and election boards; and now we assert without any fear of mistake, that Hamilton will be elected by a majority of thirty thousand; and we are equally certain that his voters will include every well-informed friend of restoring Texas to the Union under the reconstruction laws, and the great body of the friends of law and order.

It appears from the above that the mercenary gentlemen made a miscalculation of the nice little sum of 31,000 votes; Congress acted promptly in confirming the new appointments, taking the protest of the beaten demagogues as a recommendation.

We hope this will be the last of the Hamiltonians. The blow-given has exploded.

Republicanism is creeping into the rank and file of the French army. A Paris telegram states that seven-

ty-four non-commissioned officers and soldiers have just been arrested for joining a republican socialist society.

General Ames has issued an order convening the Legislature of Mississippi on the 11th proximo. He has also appointed provisionally to the offices to which they were recently elected, Governor Alcorn and all the other successful candidates.

The Execution by Hara-Kiri.—A Remarkable Scene in Japan.

Algernon Bertram Mitford, secretary to the British Legation in Japan, contributes to the Cornhill, the following account of an execution by hara-kiri:

"I was sent officially to witness the execution by hara-kiri (self-mutilation by disemboweling) of Taki Zenzaburo, the officer of the Prince of Bizen. He it was who gave the order to fire on the foreign settlement at Hiogo. As the hara-kiri is one of the Japanese customs which has excited the greatest curiosity in Europe, although, owing to the fact that it had never been hitherto witnessed by foreigners, it has seemed little better than a fable. I will relate what occurred.

"The ceremony, which was ordered by the Mikado himself, took place at 10:30 at night in the temple of Seigokuji, the headquarters of the Satsuma troops at Hiogo. A witness was sent from each of the foreign legations. We were seven foreigners in all.

"We were conducted to the temple by officers of the Princess of Satsuma and Choshu. Although the ceremony was to be conducted in the most private manner, the casual remarks which we overheard in the streets, and a crowd lining the principal entrance to the temple, showed that it was a matter of no little interest to the public. The courtyard of the temple presented a most picturesque sight; it was crowded with soldiers standing about in knots around large fires, which threw a dim, flickering light over the heavy eaves and quaint gable ends of the sacred buildings. We were shown into an inner room, where we were to wait until the preparation for the ceremony was completed; in the next room to us were the high Japanese officers. After a long interval, which seemed doubly long from the silence which prevailed, Ito Shunski, the provisional governor of Hiogo, came and took down our names, and informed us that seven kenshi, sheiffs or witnesses would attend on the part of the Japanese. He and another officer represented the Mikado; two captains of Satsuma's infantry, and of Choshu's with a representative of the Prince of Bizen, the clan of the condemned man, completed the number, which was probably arranged in order to tally with that of the foreigners. Ito Shunski further inquired whether we wished to put any questions to the prisoners. We replied in the negative.

"A further delay then ensued, after which we were invited to follow the Japanese witnesses into kondo or main hall of the temple, where the ceremony was to be performed. It was an imposing scene—a large hall, with a high roof, supported by dark pillars of wood. From the ceiling hung a profusion of those huge gilt lamps and ornaments peculiar to Buddhist temples. In front of the high altar, where the floor, covered with beautiful white mats, is raised some three or four inches from the ground, was laid a rug of scarlet felt. Tall candles, placed at regular intervals, gave out a dim, mysterious light, just sufficient to reveal the proceedings as seen. The seven Japanese took their places on left of the raised floor, the seven foreigners on the right. No other person was present.

"After an interval of a few minutes of anxious suspense, Taki Zenzaburo, a stalwart man thirty-two years of age, with a noble air, walked into the hall attired in his dress of ceremony, with the peculiar hempen cloth wigs which are worn on great occasions. He was accompanied by a kishaku and three officers, who wore the zombori or war surcoat, with gold-tissue facings. The word kishaku, it should be observed, is one to which our word executioner is no equivalent term. The office is that of a gentleman; in many cases it is performed by a kinsman or a friend of the condemned, and the relation between them is rather that of principal and second than that of victim, and executioner. In this instance the kishaku was a pupil of Taki Zenzaburo, and was selected by the friends of the latter from among their own number for his skill in swordsmanship.

"With the kishaku on his left hand, Taki Zenzaburo advanced slowly towards the Japanese witnesses, and the two bowed before them, then drawing near the foreigners they saluted us in the same way perhaps even with more deference; in each case the salutation was ceremoniously returned. Slowly and with great dignity, the condemned man mounted on to the raised floor, prostrated himself before the high altar twice, and seated himself on the left carpet with his back to the high altar, the kishaku crouching on his left side. One of the three attendant officers then came forward bearing a strand of the kind used in temples for offerings, on which, wrapped in paper, lay the wakizashi, the short sword or dirk of the Japanese, nine inches and a half in length, with a point and an edge as sharp as a razor's. This he handed, prostrating himself, to the condemned man, who received it reverently, raising it to his head with both hands, and placed it in front of himself.

"After another profound obeisance, Taki Zenzaburo, in a voice which betrayed just so much emotion and hesitation as might be expected from a man who is making a painful confession, but with no sign of fear either in his face or manner, spoke as follows: "I, and I alone, am arrantly guilty of the order to fire on the foreigners at Kobe, and again as they tried to escape. For this crime I disembowel myself, and I beg you who are here present, to do me the honor of witnessing the act.

"Bowing once more, the speaker allowed his upper garments to slip down to his girdle, and remained naked to the waist. Carefully, according to custom, he tucked his sleeves under his knees to prevent himself from falling backwards, for a noble Japanese gentleman should die falling forwards. Deliberately with a steady hand, he took the dirk that lay before him; he looked at it wistfully, almost affectionately; for a moment he seemed to collect his thoughts for the last time, and then, stabbing himself deeply below the waist on the left-hand side, he drew it slowly across to the right side, and turning the dirk in the wound, gave a slight cut upwards. During this sickeningly painful operation he never moved a muscle of his face. When he drew out the dirk he leaned forward and stretched out his neck; an expression of pain for the first time crossed his face, but he uttered no sound. At that moment the kishaku, who, still crouching by his side, had been keenly watching his every movement, sprang to his feet, poised his sword for a second in the air; there was a flash, a heavy, ugly thud, a crashing fall; with one blow the head had been severed from the body.

"A dead silence followed, broken only by the hideous noise of blood gushing out from the inert heap before us, which but a moment before had been a brave man. It was horrible.

"The kishaku made a low bow, wiped the sword, and retired from the raised floor; and the stained dirk was solemnly borne away, a bloody proof of the execution.

"The two representatives of the Mikado then left their places, and crossing over to where the witnesses sat, called us to witness that the sentence of death upon Taki Zenzaburo had been faithfully carried out. The ceremony being at an end we left the temple.

The Jefferson Times and Republican, 16th inst., says: Captain Jacob Wagner, Post Adjutant, informs us that citizen William Murphy, who was recently tried by a Military Commission at this place, was sentenced to confinement in the penitentiary at Huntsville for a period of six months. Mr. Murphy was charged with having purchased Government clothing from a soldier.

New Advertisements. At the Masonic Building. LARGE AND PEREMPTORY TRADE SALE, BY FISH & HAMMERSTEIN. Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 9:30 a. m.

We will sell in lots to suit the Wholesale and Retail Trade, A large and attractive consignment of BOOTS AND SHOES, DRY-GOODS, CLOTHING, HARDWARE, GROCERIES.

ALSO A large consignment of DAMAGED GOODS, just received. The aggregate original cost of these invoices amounts to nearly \$9,500, and the goods will be closed out in the manner of our previous sales, positively and without reserve. TERMS—Cash. FISH & HAMMERSTEIN. 54-70 55.

George B. Torrey, AUCTION AND Commission Merchant, COMMISSION BROKER, AND GENERAL AGENT. North side Main Plaza. Consignments and Agencies solicited. San Antonio, Jan. 3rd, 70. (3-1-70) & w

CUTLERY, Rodger's, Wostenholm's and American Table and Pocket Knives, Razors and Scissors, just received by BELL & BRO'S. ANNUAL MEETING OF Agricultural, Stock Raising and Industrial Association of Western Texas. Will be held at the Commercial Club Room, Wednesday evening, January 12th, 1870, at 7 o'clock. An election of officers will take place for the ensuing year. THOS. H. STRIBLING, Pres. S. SAMPSON, Sec'y. (25-12-69) & w

REMOVAL OF Messrs. Fish & Hammerstein! WE HAVE OCCUPIED THE LOWER STORY OF THE Masonic Building. With many thanks to our customers, who have so kindly extended their patronage in the past, we respectfully solicit their attendance at the large and attractive TRADE SALES that will be held during the coming year. 1-1-70 & w.

H. GRENET, LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. TOYS, AND FANCY ARTICLES. FIRE-WORKS! In great variety. Finest Stock of GROCERIES ever imported to this market. All kinds of NEW FRUITS. A Large Assortment of choice WINES AND LIQUORS, of his own selection.

Is opening to-day a new stock of VELOCIPEDES AND PERAMBULATORS, of all sizes. Rocking Horses, FANCY CARRIAGES for Children, &c., &c. AT HIS OLD STAND, NEAR THE ALAMO. 22-12-69-1154. TO TEACHERS. THE NATIONAL SERIES OF SCHOOL BOOKS, COMPRISING PARKER & WATSON'S Readers and Spellers, Montiel & McVally's Geographies, Davies' Arithmetics, &c., &c., are the adopted Standard for State Uniformity in all the Public Schools of ALABAMA, LOUISIANA AND NORTH CAROLINA. Publishers' Descriptive Catalogue, containing 300 DIFFERENT WORKS, and specimen copy of "Educational Bulletin," sent free.

Special Prices for first introduction or examination. A. S. BARNES & CO., Publishers, 111 & 113 William St., New York. 71-12-69 & w

MARKET MANIFEST, GARDEN SEEDS. 28-10-69.) WAGNER & RUMMEL. LANDETH'S warranted GARDEN SEEDS, just received and for sale by JULIUS PIPER. BUTTER, CHEESE, MACKEREL, Herrings, Coddish, Figs feet, Sardelles and Anchovies, for sale by JULIUS PIPER. POTATOES, ONIONS, Sour Kout, Pickles in Vinegar, CRANBERRIES, just received by JULIUS PIPER. 28-10-69) JULIUS PIPER. California Clover Seed, 50 Sacks, for sale by SAMPSON, SAWYER & TORREY. march 20th/70

Eliebig's Beef Extract. SOLD BY RHODIUS & CO., San Antonio. WAGONS! WAGONS! The undersigned, Agent for the Factory of WILSON, CHILDS & CO., Philadelphia, keeps constantly on hand a full supply of WAGONS, made of the best material, which defies comparison. A. STAACKE Agent. feb 19 1870.

A. MORRIS, DEALER IN Staple and Fancy Dry-Goods, GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS, HATS, SHOES AND BOOTS. NO. 24 COMMERCE STREET, SAN ANTONIO. march 7th

KOENIGHEIM & Co., MAIN PLAZA, OPPOSITE CATHEDRAL, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS. JUST RECEIVED, a splendid FALL AND WINTER STOCK of Fancy and Staple DRY-GOODS, CLOTHING, ROOTS AND SHOES, HATS, GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS, CLOTHS, CASIMERES, &c., &c.

Koenigheim & Co., Retail Emporium, COMMERCE STREET, NEXT TO BELL & BRO'S. Having just received a stock of Fall and Winter Goods, suitable for the Retail Market of this city, and the adjoining country, we would respectfully inform our friends and the public, that we have opened a STRICTLY RETAIL

Establishment on Commerce street, next door to Bell & Bro's, and also that we will always have on hand a complete stock of Dress Goods, Fancy Goods, Clothing, Casimeres, Hats, Caps, BOOTS, SHOES, &c. Constantly on hand, a large assortment of Philadelphia made Shoes. KOENIGHEIM & CO., Commerce street. EDWARD MILLS, GROCERY AND PROVISION STORE, Corner of Commerce and Palo Streets, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS. The undersigned has just opened a FAMILY GROCERY AND PROVISION STORE, where he intends keeping on hand a supply of the best in the market at the lowest cash prices. A good supply of Corn and Fresh Corn Meal will be kept on hand, which will be supplied in any desired quantities, at short notice. SMOKING AND CHEWING TOBACCO, SEGARS. A share of the public patronage is respectfully solicited. San Antonio, Nov. 12, 1869. (11 6384) JOHN E. SCHRECK, COMMISSION MERCHANT, No. 65 William Corner Cedar Street, New York. For Gardeners, Northern Peach Trees, of the earliest and the latest kinds, at \$3.00 apiece, 3rd class; Strawberry plants, at \$1.00 per 50; Blackberries at \$1.25 and \$2.50 per dozen. Ornamental Shrubbery at 50¢ each a piece, to be had at CHAS. W. GRIFFITH, 715 New Braunfels, Texas. 2-2-70 & w

Local Intelligence.

CRIMINAL COURT.—This Court adjourned to Saturday next, after the Grand Jury was empaneled.

COUNTY COURT.—This Court is now in session, and is quickly disposing of all pending business.

NEW APPOINTMENTS.—We have it from a source which we consider reliable, that Peyton Smyth is removed from the office of County Clerk, and that this office is entrusted into the hands of the present District Clerk; we also learn that Dan. Bonnet is appointed Sheriff, vice James N. Fisk removed.

THE ELOPEMENT.—A hearing on Habous Cosgas was had in this case yesterday morning, when all the particulars of the same were made public. We would ask whether it is in the power of the Judge to have the Court-room cleared, when matters are discussed touching the chastity of a young woman person; if such is the case, here was an opportunity to do so. The evidence went far enough to show that a marriage had taken place to all intents and purposes. The Court adjourned till to-day, when final judgment will be rendered.

NO DISPATCHES.—We are sorry to be compelled to inform our readers that the Operators of the Telegraph are on a strike and that the Operator in San Antonio joined the strikers. So we shall be without telegrams for some time, in the meanwhile we hope that matters will be amicably settled, for this strike strikes the public generally, and ought to be stricken from the roll of strikes as soon as possible.

JUDGE PASCHAL.—The Express grows at the appointment of Mr. Paschal as Judge of the Criminal Court, and calls him "a young man." The cause of the dissatisfaction felt by the Express man is attributable to the fact that Lieut. Siemering was a prominent applicant for the position.

Mr. Siemering never applied for the position. It is true the position was offered to him, but it is equally true that his conclusion was not conservative enough to swallow the iron clad and so he declined. Before Mr. Siemering's name was mentioned in connection with this office, the Express advised in forcible language the doing away with the Criminal Judgeship and the transfer of the Criminal docket to the District Court.

OUR HOSPITAL.—By special invitation, we paid a visit to the new Hospital of San Antonio. It is situated in the eastern end of the city, opposite the Courthouse, on the ground formerly occupied by the Priests' house, not far from the San Pedro. The stately building at once attracts the attention of the passer-by. It is two stories high, with three large doors, built of stone and covered with slate. We met Father Ansdorf, who was kind enough to become our cicerone and explain to us whatever there was of interest.

It is known that this Hospital is a Catholic institution; but at the same time it is open to patients, without regard to religion. No religious services are required, although Catholics and a little Chapel to do their praying in. It is understood by those who contributed to the building of the Hospital, as well as by the managers of the same, that it will always be a refuge of the sick of all confessions and religions, as far as its room and means will allow.

The main division of the Hospital building is in four large halls, which run from south to north, and are cut off in smaller rooms by frames, that can be set up or removed, as the exigency requires. The rooms are high, neatly white-washed, well lighted and ventilated, and in every respect recommendable.

There are about 50 rooms, each of which will accommodate two patients, so that one hundred can be nursed and treated at the same time. Besides these rooms there is a parlor, a dwelling room for the nurse, a sleeping room and a kitchen, a little Chapel and a medicine room.

The ventilation is excellent. From the main entrance an alley runs through the whole building, allowing the air to pass freely; all doors open for air to the alley, and an air hole above each door gives additional ingress of the air to the sick rooms; besides, each room receives fresh air direct from two openings in the wall, one just below the ceiling, and the other below each bed. The air passage can of course be opened and closed at pleasure.

Just as ingenious is the distribution of fresh water over the building. The water of the ditch is led through pipes into a large tank, from which it is elevated by a force pump and driven into the bathing house, the washing house, and into several other departments. Close by the tank is a Cistern for the collection of rain water, which is used for drinking and cooking.

As the means for the building of the Hospital were limited, many things had to be omitted, which might have given additional accommodations and comfort to the inmates, and it is therefore hoped our citizens will occasionally remember the Hospital and the needs of the same. So it would be a great improvement to have the large yard worked into a fine garden, with shade trees and blossoming flowers. At present it looks desolate. Two little buildings are put up at the lower end of the same, one for washing purposes, and one for keeping the dead according to the orders of the physician.

There are now only three nurses in the Hospital, all French women; they are

work, which is the mere astonishing when their youth is taken in consideration. They have received their education as nurses in the Hospitals of Lyons, France, and rendered excellent services during the dark days of yellow fever in Galveston. At present it harbors seven or eight patients, three of whom are females and one is a colored man.

We met Dr. Herff in the Hospital, and he complained much of the insufficient provisions which have been made by the city and county authorities to take care of the poor. We hope this matter will have the early attention of the authorities. The Hospital has ample room for all, and its terms are liberal enough. It will become a great blessing for the future, and therefore deserves the support of all good citizens. Finally we give our thanks to Father Ansdorf for his courtesy and attention to the reporter.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.—We have just received from Messrs. Cox, Wetherill & Co., Philadelphia, who have, during the past two years obtained the head rank amongst our advertising houses, a new publication entitled "The Advertiser's Index." It is neatly gotten up in a complete record of the Newspaper Press of the Southern States, but information interesting and important to all advertisers and business men. This house, on account of their large contracts, are prepared to offer the greatest inducements to business men to advertise, especially in the best journals of the South. Messrs. Cox, Wetherill & Co., furnish the "Index" on application, gratuitously, and we advise the business public to embrace the opportunity.

HERE THEY ARE.—When we stated in yesterday's issue that the bar of the city was astonished as much as we were at Thos. Paschal's appointment, we did so with a faint hope to catch a fool who would betray the members of the bar who recommended Thos. Paschal. The first who bit is the dignified gentleman of the Star. Here are the names that signed the recommendation:—Anderson, Upson, Young, Teel, Leigh, Dittmar, Newton, Shipok, Partis, Green, Brewster, Harrison, Spurgeon. That's all we wanted. Thank you, sir.

Notice.

The firm of Sampson, Sawyer & Torrey is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. Torrey will settle the unfinished business of the firm.

The undersigned having purchased all the right title and interest in the firm of Sampson & Torrey and Sampson, Sawyer & Torrey, will continue the business on his own account and request all persons having claims against either of said firms, to present them for liquidation, and all persons indebted are expected to settle promptly. I further would respectfully solicit a share of public patronage.

We take the pleasure in recommending Mr. Torrey to the patronage of the public, and solicit for him the same generous support as heretofore extended to the late firm.

G. B. TORREY.

San Antonio, Jan. 1st, 1870.

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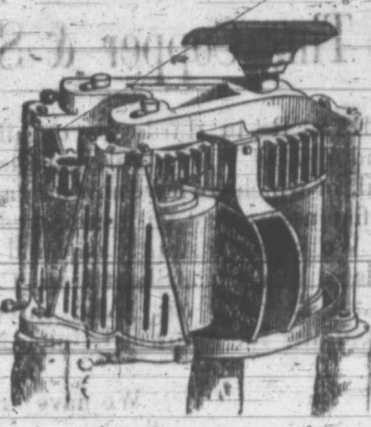
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We prosecute cases in the Court of Claims
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For Cotton, Turpentine, Tobacco, & C.,
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For supplies taken or purchased by officers of
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For rent or use of property, or property
destroyed.
For money lost killed, or which died in the
Military Service.
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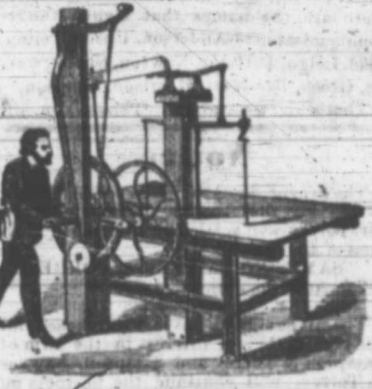
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