

National Savings Bank.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS.

The first number of our Paper will reach many of our patrons about the holidays. Those of our readers who have been careful and saving since last Christmas will be in a happy frame of mind for they will have a sum of money in the Bank, paying them good interest. If sickness should come in at your door, if labor should fail, then you have a little sum to fall back upon. There is nothing in the world like a little purse put aside for a dark day. To all who have been careful, prudent, temperate, and industrious during the year, this will be a Merry Christmas.

THE NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK.

We this day, for the first time, issue this newspaper. It is to be devoted to the interests of the Freedmen's Savings Bank. We design to plead in its columns each month the cause of economy, of careful industry, and saving of money, and to advise the laboring people who shall see this to save their little earnings and put them in this Bank, where interest will be paid for them.

We wish every one to understand that this is a mutual Savings Bank. That is, all that we can make out of the money deposited over and above what we need to pay our expenses, is returned to the depositor in the shape of interest.—Suppose the income of the Bank to be thirty thousand dollars and the expense of running the various branches twenty thousand. The remaining three thousand is divided among the Depositors. Now they should know that the more money we have the larger will be the amount returned to them. Thus: the Bank is now thoroughly organized, with a branch in each of the following places: Augusta and Savannah, Georgia, Baltimore, Beaufort, and Charleston, S. C., Jacksonville and Tallahassee, Florida, Louisville, Kentucky, Memphis and Nashville, Tennessee, Mobile and Huntsville, Alabama, New Berne and Wilmington, N. C., New Orleans, New York, Norfolk and Richmond, Va., Vicksburg, Mississippi, and Washington, D. C. The amount of cash now on deposit is \$556,673.31. Now, if the amount was three times as much, it would cost no more to manage and invest it than it does to look after what we now have. The surplus income would be much larger however than now, and the interest we should pay consequently greater.

Our readers will all ask where do you put the money you receive on deposit? I answer it is all loaned to the United States. How so? Let us explain.

When the great and good President, Abraham Lincoln, signed the bill which gave this Bank a charter, he saw this in it: "And the money thus received (i. e. on deposit) shall be invested in the stocks, bonds, Treasury notes, or other securities of the United States."

As fast as the Bank gets five or three

thousand dollars they are spent in buying such stocks and bonds, and so the money is loaned to the United States, and we get back the interest every six months. There is thus no chance of losing the money in useless or failing speculations. The cash can always be made out of the bonds owned by the company by putting them on the market. If United States bonds are not good, nothing is good. A bank may make more interest out of its money by taking the risk of losing the whole of it, that is by putting it into some speculation which may or may not prove a success. But if it owns United States bonds it can always sell them if its depositors need the money, and if they do not need it, then it brings them interest.

But it may be asked why may not each man buy his own bonds, and thus enjoy the whole interest without using the Bank? Because there are thousands upon thousands of poor men who haven't money enough to buy a bond even of the smallest denomination, fifty dollars. But a half dozen men may put their little sums together, put it in the Bank, and we buy the bond, and thus each will get his interest on his small sum.

This paper represents and speaks for the only National Savings Bank in the country. By means of its branches a man having a sum of money in New Orleans or New York can transfer it to Washington or Charleston, or other points, without either risk or expense. Its drafts are good anywhere in the United States, as they are cashed in New York.

TO MINISTERS.

The colored ministers of the country should not regard this Savings Bank, as merely a secular institution. In their pulpits it may always be spoken of as in connection with the church, the sabbath school, the help of the poor, and every charitable and christian work.

If a house of worship is to be built, how can it be done, only as the people have saved their money?

If the salary of the minister is to be paid, the congregation must have money.

If a sabbath school library is to be bought it takes the cash. Missions can only be carried on with money. The people should be taught that these Banks are the places to save it for these uses.

Whenever a collection, in the church is taken, the minister should say, "now we thank you for your liberality;" but for so large a congregation, this collection is smaller than it ought to be. Let us from this time save our money, that the next collection may be larger. He should advise that all the funds of the church and of charitable societies be put in the Bank for safe keeping, and to draw interest, as the Scripture saith: "That nothing be lost." Will ministers preach from this text? And also from that other text. 1st, Timothy, 5, 8?

J. W. A.

THE MOBILE BRANCH OF THE FREEDMEN'S SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY.

The number of depositors at this branch (the office is at No. 41 St. Michael street) is 1,343, and the amount of deposits \$127,238.41. More than three quarters of the deposits made have been returned to the owners, with interest on most of them at five per cent. About seven hundred de-

positors in specie have been made, amounting to about \$10,000, one-fifth of which has been repaid. This specie, i. e. gold and silver money, had been put away in old stockings or in the ground, some of it for ten or fifteen years. There it lay giving back the owner nothing for its use. Now it will yield to such as let it remain with the Bank, 5 per cent. interest.

We have said that there are at Mobile 1,343 depositors now. Well suppose that each one of them lays by twenty-five cents a day for each working day, that will give the sum of \$35.75 per day, \$2,014.50 per week, and \$8,729.50 per month, or \$104,754 per year. Just think of it! More than one hundred thousand dollars of savings in Mobile alone in one year. That is more than \$80 per year for each. Now this, at 5 per cent., will yield four dollars per year. The Bank will take your \$80, and your four dollars with it, and give you five per cent. interest on both. Keep on laying up \$80 a year and putting it in the Bank, and the interest with it, and in ten years each of our depositors will be worth over \$1,000.

PREACHING.

Said a distinguished colored minister in a public meeting: "There are three things which our people want, viz: Money, Education, and Religion." In a telling speech he showed how these things were connected with the highest welfare of the colored race in this country. They were the foundation stones upon which to build; "and," he exclaimed, "I am not afraid of preaching to my church the GOSPEL OF MONEY!" Without money we shall not be respected, nor educated, nor can we uphold or spread abroad the institutions of Religion.

"Earn Money," said he, "and save your Money," not to be proud of, but to use for your children, for yourselves when in need, and to help carry forward every useful and christian enterprise.

J. W. A.

We take pleasure in calling the attention to the advertisement in another column of the young and enterprising firm of Wiedersheim & Co. We are personally acquainted with the partner residing here, Mr. Alexander A. C. Klaucke, and can recommend his firm as very reliable in their work, and reasonable in their charges.

ITEMS.

TEMPERANCE.—There are two great temperance associations for the Freedmen, viz.: The "Lincoln Temperance Association" for grown people, and the "Vanguard of Freedom" for children.

The former was started by Major General O. O. Howard, and the General is Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Vanguard. These societies are doing their work all through the South. Lead all to join. They have a brave leader.

WITHOUT HER DINNER.—"I was much touched by hearing the other day the story of a little girl who is discovered to have repeatedly gone without her dinner in order that she might pay her school tax. She is one of the motherless, and her grandmother, who cares for her, is very poor. She had no money for little Mary and a little brother; scarcely enough to buy their hominy. But they were so grieved at not being able to pay their tax that she at last told them they might choose between the money and the dinner; they chose the money. When the teacher asked if she was not hungry, and how she got along without her dinner, she said, 'O, we don't mind, for we go to bed soon, and then we forget all about it.' Little Mary Brown (for this is her name) is only ten years old.

Bureau Report on Schools.

THE AUGUSTA (GEORGIA) BRA.

This bank is in the midst of a broad and fertile region where every grows with but little care. The amount of deposits are \$12,208.02.

Mr. Prince, the Cashier, could manage times that amount as easy as the sum in question. There could as easily 000 as the amount now saved. The people need to take pride in being and careful. They should not spend carelessly. They do not need white tobacco or fine clothes. All the spent for such things is just thrown and worse. The saving man acquire good habits with his money. He send children to school; he clothes them well not richly. His wife will be careful saving because she sees her husband. The little savings put at interest, in astonishingly short time will count a large sum.

It is advisable for the colored about Augusta to buy a piece of land don't need a large piece. You can if you are careful and work steady acres. It is bad to have a great plot with the largest part of it running to Among the Yankees, men get rich acres of land. They plough, and cultivate every inch of it. Not a allowed to grow on it. Every penny yields something. If you do the same and put by all your surplus money will get rich and be happy.

THE LOYAL LEAGUE.

This great Political Society has session in Washington, this month were devising ways and means to the United States Government in the the men who have rallied round the U through the war.

The GREAT REPUBLIC newspaper itself to the interests of the Great League, and an excellent paper is. who can get it, ought to do so, and study its sound patriotic doctrine man who does so will be a good Good citizens make a happy country as good children in a house make a family.

TO ADVERTISERS.

We circulate of this paper, in the gate, at all the points named as branches of this Bank, no less than ten copies. This makes it a valuable advertising medium to patent agents and gentlemen who have extensive business connections. We shall increase our we find our efforts appreciated. We wish to make any money out of our tisers. We share the expense of tion with them. We give a column per quarter. We shall enlarge our we find it best and patrons ask it.

CAN'T SAVE ANY THING.

We hear this so often from men in at the Bank to draw their deposits it set us thinking over the ways of Many men who are heard complaining this way chew tobacco and drink. Look at this, all you who spend your for these hurtful articles.

It is stated in the last report Bureau Superintendent of Education J. W. Alvord:

"That the cost of intoxicating used by the colored people" would doubt "alone equal the whole expended by the North for their education and physical wants;" and that the tobacco, "in the form of chewing, snuff-taking," is "at the lowest estimate twenty millions of dollars per annum."

Yet men will say "I can't lay up thing," when at the moment of the ment they have their mouths full of tobacco. At the present price of tobacco, \$20 is the lowest figure a man can do with there are a million colored people range of the Bank using tobacco. million dollars!