MARDI-GRAS IN PARIS

HOW SHROVE TUESDAY WAS CELEBRATED BY THE FRENCH PEOPLE.

ART STUDENT IN THE GAY CITY.

Colored Ribbons and Streamers Adorn the Buildings and Streets and Confetti Covers the Ground--Prince and Pauper Become Equals and Pelt Each Other Without Fear of Offense--Pretty Girls and Stolen Kisses --Meaning of the Word Mardi-Gras.

Mardi Gras has come and gone: One can only regret that it comes but once a year and to many of us Americans, never again in this gay city. The name means fat Tuesday, and Carnival is literally Carni vale, farewell to meat. As good Roman Catholics are supposed to abstain from meat and from all worldly pleasures during Lent, this is their last opportunity for forty days to indulge.

For three days there have been signs of the coming storm of pleasure in the occasional throwing of handfulls of *confetti* by the frequenters of the boulevards.

Confetti is now made of paper cut by machines into disks about the third of an inch in diameter. They are in every color mixed with white.

The crowd became more dense as we approached the grand boulevards. Venders were everywhere crying "*Co fetti, confetti, un sou le verre*" one cent a glass. This is at the rate of one cent a pint. Filling our overcoat pockets, and each buying a paper duster or *balais*, the fun began. The crowd had much the appearance of playing at snow-ball. The range is closer and each disk separates when thrown, covering the victim with a many-colored shower. The best throws are those which fill our opponent's mouth.

Young and old, rich and poor, high and low, are all on a perfect equality. The beggar may pelt the princess without fear of offence. Each one has become a child. Big grey headed children some of them are. Good-natured children all are. During the whole celebration, I saw not one display of temper nor a single person intoxicated. The police have nothing to do but to smile and to take the confetti out of their eyes. They all seemed blind drunk with pure unalloyed pleasure.

The exercise is better than dancing because it is in the open air; it is better than foot ball because no bones are broken, and it is as good as boxing as a lesson in keeping one's temper. On the grand boulevards all traffic is stopped, and for several miles there is a sea of heads. The air is filled with confetti. It is thrown on the street and it rains from the windows. It covers the ground two or three inches deep and one feels as if treading on snow. Paper ribbons are thrown from the windows until the trees and the fronts of buildings are a mass of color. It looks like the snow in an immense kaleidoscope. And at last, as if to make it ten fold more beautiful the whole street is flooded with golden light from the setting sun. It all seems unreal. We are in an enchanted city. These are not people, they are fairies. "*Voila Monsieur!*" My mouth is filled with confetti and I come back to earth sputtering and clutching every feature in my face. Filled with a just desire for revenge, I fire back a volley of Confetti and bid pronunciation—"*Madam isel'le que vous etes charmante*"

At 8 p. m., more than a hundred American students march out four abreast to celebrate in a body. We sing patriotic songs and prove so entertaining that soon there are about five hundred Frenchmen tagging on. At times, the crowd is so great that we force our way through by forming a wedge. Woe to the pretty girl who approaches too near the line. She is caught, kissed, and quickly passed down the line. She is fortunate if she escape with less than a dozen kisses. On we go down St. Michel, across the Seine, up Boulevard Sebastopol into the great street called the Grand Boulevard. Every few blocks it changes its name—Boulevards St Martin, St. Dennis, Bonne Nouvelle, Poissonniere, Montmartre, Italiens, Capucins and the Madeleine. In the Place de l'Opera we form an immense ring. A beautiful American girl and her escort are caught inside. They try to escape, but the ring is whirling too rapidly. The champion dancer takes his place in the centre and the young lady is released with a kiss for America. Returning over the same route, we arrive at the Bullier, a celebrated dancing hall near Boulevard Mont Parnasse. It is midnight and the ball is just closing. We stand at the door and watch the masqueraders as they come out. The costumes are very pretty and interesting, specially to us as art students. There are but twenty veterans of our band left. The others have dropped off along the route. We disband to seek our lodgings, sorer, but wiser men.

W. G. RANDALL.

It May Do as Much for You.

Mr. Fred Miller, of Irving, Ill., writes that he had a severe kidney trouble for many years, with severe pains in his back and also that his bladder was affected. He tried many so called kidney cures but without any good result. About a year ago he began the use Electric Bitters and found relief at once. Electric Bitters is especially adapted to cure all kidney and liver troubles and often gives almost instant relief. One trial will prove our statement. Price only 50c for large bottles. At John Y. MacRae's drug store.

If the hair is falling out and turning gray, the glands of the skin need stimulating and color food, and the best remedy and stimulant is Hall's Hair Renewer.

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS.

A Digest of the Opinions Handed Down During the Past Week

Reported by Perrin Busbee, Esq., of the Raleigh Bar.

Bruce & Cook et al vs C. W. Crabtree (appeal by J. L. Hartsfield, assignee.) From Lenoir county. Opinion by Furches, J.

1 In an appeal from a proceeding supplemental to execution before the clerk of the court, it was not error in the judge below to hold that it was competent for the plaintiff to examine the assignee of the defendant and ascertain the facts concerning the administration of his trust, and what sum, if any, remained in his hands due and belonging to the defendant, after the discharge of the trust, and to remand the cause to the clerk to proceed with it in accordance with such opinion.

2. Such order was an interlocutory one from which no appeal lies to this court. Appeal dismissed.

G. W. Taylor, administrator, (appellant) vs. Addie O Smith, from Greene county. Opinion by Avery, J.

Where two sisters, the plaintiff's intestate, and the defendant, "agreed with each other that should either of them die before the other without a living heir, the survivor should have" the note in which both were payees, and each had undivided interest; Held,

1 The words 'living heir" here means "issue."

2 The equitable rights to such interests could be lawfully exchanged, the one in consideration of the other.

3. The Act of 1784 (Code, Section 1326) abolishing survivorship, when the joint tenancy would otherwise have been created by law, does not operate to prohibit persons from entering into written contracts as to land or verbal agreements as to personalty, such as to make the future rights of the parties depend upon the fact of survivorship.

4 The finding that one of the sisters afterwards gave her interest in the note to the other, is not inconsistent with the contract as to the right of each in case of survival. No error.

W W. Francks (appellant) vs T. C Whitaker et al, from Jones county. Opinion by Montgomery, J.

Where in a will the following words appeared: "I give and devise (real estate) to my beloved son E S Francks, during his natural life, and after his death to his lawful heir or heirs, should he having any surviving him, then I give and devise the same to the children of my beloved son W W Francks" and at the date of the will W. W Francks, the brother of E S Francks and the plaintiff in this action, and the children of W. W Francks were living; Held, that the construction to be given to such words is: "I give and devise to my beloved son E S Francks, during his natural life, and after his death to his issue, should he leave any surviving him, but should he not leave issue then I give and devise the same to the children of my beloved son W. W. Francks"

No error. Judgment affirmed.

State vs W. E Worth et al (appellants), from New Hanover county. Opinion by Avery, J.

1. The Constitution, Art. V section 3, authorizes the legislature to tax trades, professions, franchises and incomes, which power may be delegated by statute to counties and towns as governmental agencies.

2. The Code, section 3800, empowers cities and towns to levy taxes on all persons, property, privileges and subjects within the corporate limits, which are liable to taxation for State and county purposes.

3 The acts of 1876-'77, chapter 192, section 9, confers such authority upon the plaintiff corporation and an ordinance levying a tax "for storage, manufacture or sale of ice at wholesale, with privilege of retailing, $66 per annum" is not unconstitutional. No error.

Henry Thurber (appellant) vs. Eastern B & L Association, from Craven county. Opinion by Clark, J.

In an action to recover damages for malicious prosecution, it appeared that the only evidence on which the plaintiff was arrested for forgery was that plaintiff was assignee of a certain certificate of stock which one L testified he had assigned to one S on the false representations of said S, and that plaintiff's name was not mentioned and he did not know at the time that he was transferring the stock to plaintiff though it so appeared on the back of certificate; Held,

1. Such evidence did not justify a warrant for forgery being sued out against plaintiff.

2 That criminal proceeding was instituted on the advice of counsel was only evidence to rebut the presumption of malice.

3 The question as to whether the malice, which might be inferred from the want of probable cause, was rebutted by the other evidence should have been left to the jury. Error.

Armstrong, Cator & Co. (appellant) vs. O W. Carr, trustee from Guilford county. Opinion by Montgomery, J.

Wherein an assignment made by the partners of the partnership property, there was a clause which secured certain debts due to creditors of the individuals composing the partnership; Held, that the objection that such assignment deed was void as being fraudulent on its face, is entirely without merit. With the assent of the partners any one of them is free to dispose of the company's effects for his individual use and a creditor cannot intervene to prevent the application. Judgment affirmed.

E. F. Young (appellant) vs. Wilmington & Weldon Railroad Company, from Harnett county. Opinion by Faircloth, C. J.

Where in an action for damages for the destruction of certain goods and merchandise which were burned in the defendant's warehouse, the plaintiff introduced evidence that the goods had been in the warehouse over two months, which fact plaintiff knew; that the freight had been paid on the same and he had not been requested to remove them; that no charge was made for storage; that the night operator for the defendant company slept in a room in the warehouse but had nothing whatever to do with the freight; that said operator was a man of intemperate habits and that he was drunk and absent from the warehouse at the time of the fire. There was in addition conflicting evidence on the part of the plaintiff's witnesses as to whether the fire originated in the room where the operator slept or in the other end of the warehouse; also as to the sobriety and presence of the operator at the fire; Held.

1. At the time of the fire the defendant was not liable as a common carrier but only for the want of ordinary care as a warehouseman.

2. The plaintiff was required to prove the negligence as part of his case.

3 It was not error for the judge below to hold that the evidence was insufficient to justify the jury in rendering a verdict for the plaintiff.

4 It is no longer necessary to submit a case to the jury because some evidence has been introduced by the party having the burden of proof unless the evidence be of such a character that it would warrant the jury to proceed in finding a verdict for the party introducing it. Judgment affirmed.

W. S Forbes vs R H McGuire (appellant), from Granville county. Opinion by Faircloth, C J.

This was an action before a Justice of the Peace for $ 95 33 due by account, at which defendant was present and admitted the debt. Judgment was entered and defendant appealed. Afterwards, upon notice, defendant moved before the justice to set aside judgment which motion was refused upon the ground that the appeal was pending in the Superior Court. Defendant appealed. At the term of the Superior Court defendant moved to dismiss and quash, which motion was denied and a trial *de novo* upon the original appeal ordered. When the cause came on regularly to be heard upon defendant's appeal, defendant moved to dismiss for want of jurisdiction in the Justice of the Peace and for leave to plead to the jurisdiction, which motion was denied and judgment rendered for the plaintiff: Held,

1 Leave to plead at the trial term was discretionary with the Judge and his discretion is not reviewable by this Court.

2 The order of the Court below was simply a continuance of the whole matter and was no adjudication of the rights of either party.

3 While the action was pending in the Superior Court, it was not in the power of the Justice of the Peace to make any order in the matter.

4 As no plea was entered anywhere and there appears no want of jurisdiction from the record, judgment must be affirmed. No error.

Mary E. Cowan et al vs. John T. Layburn (appellant), from Pender county. Opinion by Faircloth, C. J.

Where the only exceptions were to the competency of the evidence of one T. C. who testified: "I carried food there to her," meaning the intestate; and C. C. testified that "I went to carry her supplies. She was sickly. I was there every day. She had no food except what we carried. She was bad off for clothes." Held, that in such evidence there is no "conversation" or "transaction" such as is inhibited by section 580 of the Code. Affirmed.

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