

# WAVERLY HOTEL

On New Year's Eve, 1842, the Cowbellions performed their second tableau for the Mayor at the Mansion House on Royal and Conti. They then walked two blocks north where they entered their ball at the Waverly on Royal and St. Francis. Following the ball they returned for drinks at the Mansion House.

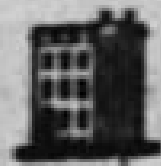
After visiting some of the most distinguished citizens, the Mayor entertained them at the **Mansion House**, where he alone was permitted to be present at this realization of Rubens' "Feast of the Gods." They finished their truly delightful revels in the ball-room of the **Waverly**, where celestials and mortals mingled in the graceful dance; for though the society is secret and no one really knows its members, all are convince, as we were that they are gentlemen and no lady declines to dance with them, from a conviction that though in mask they are still old friends with new faces. ... In procession they marched to the **Mansion House** and "took a drink all round, for gods and goddesses, be it known, have their likings for stimulants as well as common, lower world folks... their disappearance was as mysterious as was their coming. We shrewdly suspected, however, some hour after their departure, that we partook of a number of egg-nog with several of the heathen deities, and after they had assumed mortal guise – but of this we are by no means certain.

*Picayune, January 5, 1843*

*Early in the evening the procession, with a band of music and banners descriptive of the various eras represented, visited the theater, the Waverly and Mansion houses, where the members were handsomely entertained and also the beautiful Armory, where dancing, amid some of the most charming women in the world, was kept up for a couple of hours. This over, the Cowbellions partook of a banquet prepared for their reception by Mayor Hoppin, and at 12 o'clock they suddenly and mysteriously disappeared, every man to his home. The name of the society would indicate to those unacquainted with its proceedings, that noise and rowdyism were connected with its meetings; bus such is far from being the case. On the contrary, the actions and deportment of all, whenever we have witnesses one of their turnouts, showed that the members were of the first society, though who they were was so completely disguised, was a matter past our finding out.*

*Mobile Register January 1, 1845*

## Waverly House.... Mobile.



This establishment has been thoroughly repaired, painted and furnished throughout, and is now in complete order, and open for the reception of Boarders. The accommodations of this house are equal to any in the city, and the proprietor will spare no pains or expense to make his guests comfortable.

[d24]

JO. CLEMENT.

*Picayune*, January 2,

### On New Year's Eve, 1846

The Cowbellions went to the Waverly after their parade and then to the mayor's house. After a visit there, the group went to the Armory for their ball.

The Strikers, on the other hand, visited "several private residences" and the Mansion House. Then, they marched to the Alhambra for their ball.

The company marched to the Waverly House; thence to the residence of the Mayor of the city, where they were received with the characteristic hospitality of that gentleman, and thence to the Armory, where a regular cotillon was danced, and Cyrus, the Great, hob-

A junior club, called the *Strikers*, also held its anniversary on New Year's Eve. Its members represented the Kings of England, from Egbert, running down to James the second—omitting Elizabeth and Mary, who were not Kings, although sovereigns, and whose attire was not suited to the occasion. The column of this club was divided into eleven separate divisions—each representing the lines of Eng-

*Alabama Planter*, January 3, 1847, 37.

1849

*First Appearance of the "Rising Generation," which later became  
the "T.D.S"*

*New Year's Eve was greeted by the gallants of this city on Monday, with as much rejoicing as the New World's Eve was saluted in Paradis by dear old father Adam, the great ancestor of all the "Cowbellions," "Strikers," "Indescribables," and "Rising Generations," who made Mobile, on that occasion, the pleasant place of all festivity, the revel of the earth and mask of chivalry. At ten o'clock the Cowbellions took up the time of march on Dauphin Street, turned into Royal, and after saluting old Thespis, the counter marched, and exhibited their oriental array at the Mansion House and the Waverly Fair. The costume of this band was so completely Chinese, that it appeared as if the contemplated annexation of Asia had been consummated...*

*"New Year's Eve in Mobile," Daily Crescent, January 5, 1850, 1.*