

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

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JULY, 1865.



AUGUST, 1865.



SEPTEMBER, 1865.



OCTOBER, 1865.



NOVEMBER, 1865.



DECEMBER, 1865.



## 1865 Illustrated Part II

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The article this week is a continuation of wood engravings illustrating the twelve months for 1865. The illustrations as you see them here are reproduced in their actual size. Note the great amount of detail each one exhibits.

Our scene for July suggests that school is out as we see several children rolling hoops with sticks. In the middle ground however, we note a wagon load of hay passing by which foretells the autumn harvest.

The picture for August includes three men with sickles cutting wheat. Indeed, this picture had to have been created before the reaper, the self-binder and the combine of today. To the left we see a couple of sheaves of wheat shocked up.

The picture for September is similar in nature, except I think the man is harvesting flax which would have been stored in the barn along with the wheat. Remember, the January and February illustrations show wheat and flax being processed.

The October picture is one of corn picking as we see two men harvesting the ears. In November the activity is one of pressing apples into that old time rural elixer known as hard cider as the barrel in the foreground would indicate.

The December illustration includes an interior scene, the only one in the series of twelve months. Here we see a family before an open hearth. In the lefthand corner is a young woman spinning that flax into thread. Near her is a boy reading a book, perhaps his homework. On the other side of the fireplace is a man smoking a clay pipe and next to him is the wife rocking a baby. The family's cat and dog recline on the floor by her feet.

Although these pictures are simplistic in their content, they remind us of a way of life much different from what we now know in the latter part of the 20th Century.