THE BEE.

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PROPRIETOR OF THE BEE, AND FOR THE FIRST MUNICIPALITY.

NEW ORLEANS:
TUESDAY MORNING, SEPT. 11, 1838.

STEAM NAVIGATION.

One of the most unfortunate consequences of the embarrassment of the trading world, effected by the suspension of payments by the banks, was the interruption of the project of constructing a steam ship to ply between the port and Europe. We are certain that the word *interruption* is not our place as we have used it, for the project is so manifestly useful in itself, and in the course of improvements which steam navigation is undergoing, will become of such vast importance to every city that is approachable by water communication from the sea, that it must force itself into existence. Uncontrollable and inevitable circumstances will compel the capitalists of New Orleans sooner or later to adopt this mode of communicating with the rest of the world, in order that they may be enabled to retain all the advantages of their position, and to compete successfully with the exertions of their rivals in other places. It is mortifying, indeed, that the unwonted event to which we have alluded, should have disabled the intelligent and enterprising merchants of New Orleans from being the first to carry this great project into effect, as they were undoubtedly the first to undertake it. Let us hope, however, that the delay which has been interposed in its completion on their part will be transient, that it will be resumed under happier auspices, and that the zeal and efficiency of subsequent efforts will more than compensate the interruption which has occurred.

In the meantime we are gratified to learn that the proposals of the Great Western contemplate the construction of a steam vessel to ply between Bristol in England and New Orleans. A letter has been written by the agent in New York, at the request of the proprietors, to a commercial house in this place, inviting the transmission of information relative to certain points, among which are the facility of repairing the vessel and machinery while lying in this port, and the general practicability and utility of the scheme. With regard to the facility of repairing both the vessel and machinery, we are satisfied that the question will be promptly answered in the affirmative. In a port like this, where so many vessels of every size and description usually arrive, and which is frequented by a larger number of steam vessels than any other place in America or Europe, traversing some of them a distance of two thousand miles, it must necessarily be supposed that there are means in abundance of giving to vessels every kind of repair, and of mending and renewing, if necessary, every part of a steam machine; and in fact this is the case. We have skilful, intelligent and obliging mechanics for every thing relating to sails, rigging, hull and boats; and we have engineers and smiths who are capable of constructing or mending a steam engine as easy as in this country.

Respecting the profits to be derived by the proprietors from carrying the plan into execution, we are no so capable of forming a specific opinion as the members of the Chamber of Commerce, to which body, we learn, the letter will be submitted. At the first blush, we should be disposed to think that the project cannot fail to be profitable, and that its advantages will become more and more apparent and well augment from year to year as the commerce of this port increases. The best evidence of our views on this branch of the subject are well founded, in the fact which we mentioned at the commencement of this article, that a similar plan was projected and funds subscribed in this city two years ago, and that it was only prevented from being carried into effect by the deplorable embarrassments occasioned by the suspension of payments by the banks. This proves incontestably that the plan was deemed practicable and profitable by those who are best able to judge of it.

With these few observations, we take leave of the subject for the present, with the most fervent wishes for the speedy completion of this grand and noble scheme of improvement in the means of international communication and without the slightest misgiving of its perfect success.

CONDITION OF THE BANKS OF NEW ORLEANS.

Comparative statement from the month of August to the 3d September.

From the comparative statement of these institutions, published by Mr. CHARLES BENJAMIN, it appears that the respective circulation of each bank on the 3d September, was as follows.

	CIRCULATION. August 6th.	3d September.
Canal Bank,	$198,415	$178,998
Louisiana Bank,	660,565	665,225
Citizens' Bank,	139,150	77,360
City Bank,	703,160	574,515
Commercial Bank,	565,775	499,245
Consolidated Bank,	403,910	341,590
Exchange Bank,	466,935	465,355
Gas Bank,	710,815	665,700
Improvement do Bank,	779,615	727,690
Louisiana State Bank,	843,842	199,247
Louisiana State Bank,	143,965	136,725
Mechanics' Bank,	584,255	569,615
Merchants' Bank,	3,565	3,420
Orleans Bank,	459,981	435,476
Union Bank,	1,365,265	1,251,390
Atchafalaya Bank,	133,960	190,415
	$7,500,713	$7,011,148

From the preceding statement it will be perceived that within the space of *twenty-five days*, these institutions have *contracted* their circulation $490,565, or to speak more clearly, their debtors have paid up that amount. It now remains to be shown whether the system pursued by the banks is advantageous to the public.

Let us examine the comparative statement of the amount of specie held by them within the same period that is, from the 6th August to the 3d September.

Comparative Statement of the Specie in the Vaults, from 6th August to 3d September.

SPECIE	August 6th.	September 3
Canal Bank,	$66,133	$60,412
Louisiana Bank,	175,254	173,823
Citizens' Bank,	330,421	335,461
City Bank,	209,648	204,134
Commercial Bank,	419,709	451,993
Consolidated Bank,	79,363	78,245
Exchange Bank,	36,710	37,460
Gas Bank,	200,501	199,238
Improvement do Bank,	199,892	199,730
Bank of Louisiana,	308,109	308,015
Louisiana State Bank,	145,337	146,034
Mechanics' Bank,	195,722	195,772
Merchants' Bank,	342,846	346,334
Orleans Bank,	190,663	192,453
Union Bank,	549,605	566,979
Atchafalaya Bank,	26,702	26,178
	$3,418,337	$3,653,631

It will therefore be perceived that, according to the above statements, the banks have increased their specie by $235,294. It is hence evident ascertained fact, that within twenty-five days, the banks have been enabled to diminish their circulation by $490,565, and to augment their specie by $235,294. Their present circulation is $7,011,148, and the amount of their specie $3,653,631, which would place them in a condition to pay about thirty three percent on their actual circulation.

The conduct of our banks has never been more advantageous than at present. To admit that they are unable to resume would be, as we have stated in a former article, to question the accuracy of the monthly statements of the secretary. When we contrast their situation with that almost acknowledged state of insolvency, at the period when they suspended specie payments, we will have reason to allow that prudence and skill have presided in most of their operations, that it is to the exertion of these qualities that they owe the capacity for immediate resumption.

It seems, however, that the only circumstance that constitutes the banks to hesitate in the return to specie payments is their position with regard to the west. It is forgot that payment in specie may be demanded for the large amount of western produce at which our city is the depot. But the banks of the western states have nearly all resumed specie payments, and nothing would be easier than to establish a system of exchanges between these monetary institutions and our own. And whatever force this objection may present, we shall assuredly continue in precisely the same position, for if now, that western commerce with our market, is reduced to its minimum, we dread the exportation of our specie, how much will that fear be augmented, when our mercantile intercourse with them resumes all its activity. After all, however, this objection is of little real value, and giving it all reasonable power, when it is known that the CITIZENS' BANK possesses an enormous amount of a coin bank notes, sufficient to protect the banks from all danger of parting with their specie, this apology of the suspension party will be robbed of nearly all its force.

Two facts at least are unquestionable—that the condition of the New Orleans banks has greatly improved, and that their ultimate solvency is unquestionable.—If we are in favor of early resumption, it is because we can see no valid objection to it, and because we are anxious that Louisiana, now discredited not only in Europe, but in every city in America, should resume that position in the commercial world to which her resources entitle her.

Two individuals were returning on Sunday evening at about 9 o'clock. One of them being somewhat under the influence of the jolly god, stumbled and fell at the corner of Levee and Canal streets. His friend attempted to make him rise, and while engaged in the effort, two other individuals came up under pretext of assisting him. One of the new comers, thinking that the weight of specie kept the other down, thought proper to attempt to lighten him, but just as he was threatening his hand into the pocket of the stumbled victim, the friend of the prostrate man seized the money and made off, while the would be thief drew his pocket and disembarked it furiously. The one who had obtained the money, ran to procure aid, but upon arriving with some of the guard at the spot, all had disappeared save the drunken man who remained stretched upon the ground.

FIRES.—Two fires occurred in Baltimore on the night of the 3d inst. which destroyed several dwelling houses.

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

It is singular how small a quantity of the lands belonging to the United States have been surveyed in this state and offered for sale, compared with the quantity which has been sold but to purchasers in other states. It appears that the number of acres in this state, belonging to the general government, which the Indian tide has been extinguished, is about ninety millions and a half: about half of this has been surveyed, of which about six millions and a half have been offered for sale, and only two millions actually sold. This proves, we think, beyond question, that the poorest quality of land, generally speaking, has heretofore been offered for sale. It appears also that of the six millions and a half of acres offered for sale, only two millions should have been offered, if the rest had been fit for cultivation. The great question then arises, what becomes of the two millions of acres which have been accessionally paid for public lands, while in Louisiana four millions of acres have remained without a purchaser for years at one dollar and a quarter per acre! This fact is conclusive. The lands still remaining unsold, of the six millions and a half which have been offered for sale, are unfillable, and they will continue a part of the public domain for a century to come.

We cannot conceive the policy which prevented or at least postponed the sale of the public lands, unless it were to throw obstructions in the way of emigration into Louisiana and keep down the growth of her population. If such were the object in view, it has undoubtedly been successful. Containing a vast quantity of the best land in the world in a wild and uncultivated condition, generally accessible by navigable streams, her population has not increased in the same ratio with any other of the new states, because the public lands in these states have been offered for sale, at short intervals of time, or at least whenever the measure was urged upon the executive by the representatives of these states in congress. Whether our own representatives have been backward in this respect, we are not prepared positively to say decline, but we have never heard them complain that the president of the United States or the general land commissioner at Wash ington had declined to listen to their importunities in this respect.

But how have other states been treated in this matter of the public lands? First, then, Ohio. The quantity of land in the state, to which the Indian title is extinguished, is sixteen millions, four hundred and fifty six thousand, or about five millions less than in Louisiana. But the whole of this land in Ohio has been surveyed, the whole of it has been offered for sale, and the whole of it, except about four millions, has been actually sold.

Indiana, which was received into the union as a state, long after Louisiana, contains about the same quantity of public lands as our own state, nearly the whole of which has been surveyed, eighteen and a half millions have been offered for sale, and nearly fourteen millions have actually been sold.

The other new states, Illinois, Missouri, Alabama, Mississippi, Michigan and Arkansas, all of which have been admitted into the union since Louisiana, have enjoyed their full and just proportion of the benefits of a speedy survey and sale of the public lands within their borders—while Louisiana seems to have been treated with uniform and systematic neglect, although she is on the frontier of the union, and from her peculiar position is perhaps more exposed to external attack than any other. The circumstance itself indicates the expediency of promoting the settlement of her fertile prairies with a numerous white population. But heretofore a different policy has prevailed. It appears to have been the purpose of the government to fill up the vacant lands in the adjacent states with population, and to leave the wealthier and most exposed frontier without resource. Thus Indiana, Illinois, Mississippi, are hemmed in between other states without a mile of foreign frontier and in these states the public lands have been disposed of with all practicable rapidity and their fields have been filled with a hardy, intelligent and patriotic population. The policy which has prevailed similar blessings from being conferred upon Louisiana is utterly inapplicable to our uninitiated minds.

The proclamation of the president of the United States, ordering sales to be held in this state in October and December next, we regard as the harbinger of better times and of a new era. If similar steps had been taken twenty years ago, the population of Louisiana would at this time equal that of any of the western states—she would have a corresponding weight in the national councils, the real, solid resources of this capital would be infinitely greater than they are and though our system of legislation might have been modified, yet it would have been homogeneous and consistent, and whatever changes in this respect might have been made, would have been imperatively required by the public wants and the sentiments of a majority.

The effects of the sale of the public lands are susceptible of being regarded in many points of view, and every one of them is auspicious to the prosperity and strength of our state. Rich and poor are equally interested. A numerous body of industrious and thriving cultivators will open new sources for the advantageous employment of trade and industry, and consequently cannot but be beneficial to the class of men who depend upon manual labour for support, while they will afford to the capitalists extended opportunities of exercising their enterprise and ingenuity for their own benefit and the public advantage.

We trust the police, now confidenced of bringing the uncultivated lands into market, will never be permitted to relax, till the whole of them that are tillable, shall be disposed of. There is no subject which is or worthy the attention of the governor and the members of the general assembly as this—we are convinced they will not lose sight of it. Some of the most wealthy and intelligent of the present inhabitants of Texas have been heard to lament, in their journey through Louisiana, that they were prevented by uncontrollable necessity from fixing their abode in this state, under institutions which are dear to them, and on a soil in all respects equal to that whither they were compelled to go. This fact exhibits the miserable, short sighted policy, which has heretofore been acted upon, in relation to the settlement of the public lands in this state more clearly that it could be done by volumes of commentary.

PEACE SOCIETY.

The New York *Peace Society* transmitted a memorial to congress at the last session, praying that a proposal be sent forth by our government to those of other nations of Europe that they would unite with it in a great international *board of arbitration*, or a *congress of nations*, to which international disputes might be referred, and also for the purpose of digesting and preparing a regular code of international law, obligatory upon such nations as may afterwards adopt it. The memorial was referred to the committee of foreign affairs, of which Mr. Legare of South Carolina is chairman, and towards the close of the session, he offered a very sensible report of the house of representatives. We should have printed it at the time, but we thought that our dispute with Mexico should be referred to the arbitration of a third power, and that congress should adopt the principle of reference of such international disputes as cannot be amicably adjusted by the parties themselves, as an invariable rule of action, instead of an occasional one.

The government had acted in accordance with the request of the memorial, in relation to the disputes with Mexico, before it was received in congress. The report of the committee approves the project of submitting international disputes to the arbitration of a third power, whenever such arbitration can be safely confided to a tribunal unknown to the constitution of our country. "Such a practice," it says, "will be followed by other powers, and will soon grow up into the customary law of civilized nations. But on the subject of a tribunal for the settlement of all international disputes, the committee entirely depart from the views set forth in the memorial. The union of all nations in a state of perpetual peace, would certainly be the "ideal perfection of civil society." But such a state of things in the present condition of man is utterly impracticable and unattainable, and consequently the means of producing it, indicated by the memorial are chimerical. The creation of such a tribunal as that contemplated, so far from being favorable to the best interests and peace of mankind, would, on the contrary, present the most effectual means to despotic government, of arresting the march of civilization, intelligence and free principles, because as the nations of the south are situated relatively to each other, the arbitrary governments are more powerful than those of an opposite character. In a tribunal so that suggested in the memorial, the arbitrary governments, for the present at least, would undoubtedly bear the sway; and it is not in the nature of governments to refrain from inclining to that side which is most nearly connected with their own prejudices and interests. Hence is apparent the danger of submitting a dispute between this country and Russia, for example, to the judgment of a tribunal, in which our adversary would have a preponderating influence.

As to the proposed code of international legislation, the committee justly regard it as still more chimerical than the creation of a tribunal to be governed by it. "Nothing (says the Report) is more fallacious than the idea that mere positive legislation, when not preceded or accompanied by conquest or revolution, has ever had a very important agency in human affairs. The most renowned systems of legislation have been the work of time, modified in some degree and improved by an enlightened experimental wisdom, taking advantage of circumstances, rather than aspiring to control them."

In the proposed system there would be no common arbiter, and in all litigants, there would be an insubordination to the views and interpretations of those powers who should have a majority of influence and independently that predominating influence would be of long time to come be that of despotism. What private code would remain Russia and Austria from pursuing the path of ambition and self aggrandisement? or from trampling all justice and right, if thereby they could obtain freedom in the east? The enlightenment of such despotic world would not stop with all the dominions and empires of them into subjection, but would, in a very short time, be found in the exchange half republics of half contending parties.

LITERARY PROSCRIPTION

It is an unfortunate attribute of party spirit, that it prepares to succeed at which reason revolts and justice murmurs. The blind, misguided bigotry of political zealots leads them to overleap the barriers which respect and decency should impose, and induces them, in the prosecution of their purposes to exhibit a fierce, social and unclassifiable spirit, utterly inconsistent with that liberality of principle they profess. Perhaps the opinial display of such qualities is in some measure inseparable from violent political controversies—it may be, that the fallibility of human judgment in opposition it from that rigid discrimination which, while it condemns particular opinions, does justice to individual and general merit. However this may be, it is unquestionable that one of the most deplorable and condemnatory features of the present political contest, is the proscription that appears to hang over literary characters from the moment they embark in the agitated sea of political strife. It must be confessed too, that the federalists have been the prominent actors in this ungenerous warfare. They have meretlessly applied an unsparing lash to the pretensions of every American engaged in literary pursuits whose inclinations and investigations induced them to become the advocates of democratic doctrines. To mingle political enquiry with literary labor constitutes an unpardonable heresy in the eyes of the federal party.—No sooner is it known that an American scholar, poet, historian or novelist has assumed the freeman's right of engaging in the turmoil of a political contest that effects him in common with every citizen of our country, than the ban of proscription goes forth, the literal bull is fulminated, the anathema is pronounced, and malignant detraction is busily employed in undeviating and impeaching his intellectual resources. He is regarded as an interloper and an innovator, because he will not surrender the freeman's prerogative—independence of opinion: he is loaded with contempt, and every effort is made to drag him down from that literary eminence on which the unanimous verdict of his countrymen had placed him.

Nothing can more strongly illustrate this crusade upon literary merit, than the course latterly pursued by the opposition journals of the north and east in relation to individuals whose mental superiority has been long and proudly admitted—who have accomplished wonders for the elevation of the American literary character, and who have been frequently and highly lauded by the very presses that now seek to depreciate or destroy their well-earned reputations.—The anti-liberal, anti-American, anti-republican hostility is one of the worst and most odious characteristics of the federalists. It would seem that all considerations of generosity and justice must be merged in their indiscriminate assaults upon those who are opposed to their tenets. This unrelenting malignity blends the author with the politician, and assails the claims of intellect because they are preferred by men who have embraced the creed of democracy. Examples of this assertion are unfortunately but too rife and we need only refer to the articles of the federal presses in the north in respect to the most eminent, literary characters of which our country can boast, to obtain abundant exemplification.

The productions of Cooper were once extolled from one extremity of the Union to the other. His unrivalled fictions had earned for him the title of the American Scott. But this does not avail him now. He is denounced to be too deeply tinged with democratic sentiments, and the venal and one-sided journals of the north are unceasingly engaged in disparaging reflections upon his private conduct and literary pretensions. The stale slanders hurled at his reputation through the poisoned channels of the British aristocracy reviews, have been republished and retailed with invidious comment, and the dignity and justice of the press have been sacrificed to the insatiable spirit of federal persecution. That the columns of American journals should be swollen with the rank garbage of British detraction, affords melancholy evidence of this fact. The more recent productions of Mr. Cooper have been reviewed in the whig present in a style altogether in unison with this contemptible littleness of mind, and even where his political opponents have been rendered incapable, by the flat of an impartial public, of venting their spleen upon his works, they have employed personal detraction as a fitting weapon of attack.

To Paulding and Bancroft are similar observations applicable. Whoever heard a syllable save in commendation of the first, until by his acceptance of an office tendered him by the administration, he stood forth as the fearless partizan of republican principles. Until then, he had been recognized as an admirable satirist, a lively delineator of primeval American manners, a clever and amusing novelist, but in avowing himself a democrat, he has been subjected to the ruthless severity of an *ex post facto* judicial decree, and his productions must be measured, not by the standard of their intrinsic worth, not by the previously pronounced opinion of his countrymen, but by the rancorous criticism of a political press. His character is not spared, and he has been openly charged with the authorship of an article in the Globe on the abuses in the navy, without any other ground of testimony than the fact of holding the office of secretary of that department. Happily, however, this gross and insolent slander has been put to rest by the authority both of the Globe and Richmond Enquirer, and his political foes remain satisfied for the present with vague insinuations and mere unmeaning generalities.

Bancroft the historian, the purity of whose life is only equalled by that of his style, has likewise suffered. The man and his works have been alike unspared.

With regard to Washington Irving, the sword of Damocles hangs suspended over his head. He is suspected of taint. Though hitherto avoiding direct interposition in the political questions of the day, he is thought "to be infected by the democratic heresy." Let him beware. Should he have the moral hardihood to sustain the character of our republican institutions, and lend his great name to the support of the whig party, he will be immediately will be emptied upon his head, and even the excellence of his private character, his virtues and his talents which have won him so many golden opinions, the faultless emanations of his bright and fascinating genius will be as dust within the balance when compared with the deadly sin of democracy.

Of Forrest we need scarcely speak—he is but a faint and minor star in the hemisphere of literary constellation. But even these federalists have assailed with a bitterness and perseverance we have rarely seen surpassed. As long as Leggett was supposed to have written his admirable orations, it was applauded "to the very echo that shall applaud again," but when the former disclaimed its authorship, it was found to be a very pitiful affair. But we scarcely of the task of illustrating the fell spirit of federal persecution. Its details are repugnant to every liberal and honest sentiment. Happily its ferocity has not yet extended so far north as Louisiana, and we do not know of this latitude, whether whigs or democrats, are equally ready to do homage to intellect, whether its manifestations are made known through the person of the God-like Daniel himself or of the veriest loco-foco in the land.

GIRAUD STREET MURDER.

In our last, we gave the details of this horrible tragedy so far as they had come to our knowledge. On Saturday, a further examination into the affair was had before the recorder of the second municipality, from which the following particulars are gathered.

Smith, the barkeeper of Mrs. Doyle's tavern, surrendered himself on Saturday morning, after wandering over the neighboring country, hotly pursued by the police. When he gave himself up, he observed that he was aware that he was going to be hanged, and was determined to make a full and true confession of all the facts within his knowledge, relating to the murder in question. He stated before the recorder that the woman of the house, Mrs. Doyle, was the first to propose the murder of Godfiep to her accomplices, assuring them that he had a considerable sum of money in his possession, besides a watch and other valuables, and she suggested as the safest method of putting him out of the way to gorge him with laudanum. Accordingly, Smith was despatched to purchase a quantity of tea in which to pour the fatal dose. Godfiep however declined drinking the tea, but afterwards swallowed a glass of beer, mixed with a quantity of laudanum. A supper was then served up, of which the victim was invited to partake, shortly after which, while talking to Mrs. Doyle, he exhibited such signs of faintness that they put him to bed; a little time elapsed when he began to vomit and rolled from the bed to the floor, and according to Smith, when they left his hand, he was dead.

When it was ascertained that life was extinct, Mrs. Doyle proposed that the corpse should be carried to the door of Mr. Berg, a police commissary, who lived in the neighborhood. Smith suggested that it would be better to lay the matter before the police and try to make them believe that the man had died a natural death! this plan was warmly opposed, particularly by the women, and while the debate was going on Smith left the house, and of course saw nothing of the cutting up and burying under the floor. Smith's evidence brings the affair down to the arrest of the three men and Mrs. Doyle, which was related in our paper of Saturday.

The prompt discovery of this most atrocious, cold blooded and cruel murder, with the subsequent apprehension of those concerned in it, is mainly owing to the vigilance and activity of Messrs. Fallon, Crane, Beary, Norton, as well as some other officers of the second municipality.

In our last, we stated that the post mortem examination was made by Doctor Landreau—two since learn that he was assisted by Doctor Cook and Mr. Drouillard, druggist.

DEATH OF CHARLESTON.—The mortality in this city in Charleston during the week ending on the 1st inst. was 54—43 of which were occasioned by the prevailing fever.

The Hon. Henry L. Pinckney has been re-elected Mayor of Charleston.

BANKS OF CHARLESTON.—These banks have resumed both payments on the 1st inst. As usual, no run was experienced. At some of the banks there was no demand for specie whatever.

JEFFERSON ACADEMY.

Though our public schools yield to none in the variety and efficiency of instruction which they confer, yet as they are established principally with a view of affording the benefits of education to the poorer classes, it is natural to suppose, when we see them unable to compete with the richer, for the future, we feel indisposed to do them every attention. We know very well that by the provisions of our primary and central institutions which can pay pay, if he pleases, for the education of his children, it requires no very profound knight into human nature to discover that we know will not appreciate so properly, that the man of substance will keep his daughter aloof from contact with those whose destitute condition throws them upon the benevolent exertions of the state for the cultivation of their minds. Some preparatory school, where boys may be instructed in the higher branches of learning prior to entering the college has therefore long been a desideration. This, the recent establishment of the JEFFERSON ACADEMY is intended to supply.

This seminary will constitute, so to speak, a branch of the college of the same name. The object of its formation is to prepare the youth of Louisiana by adequate instruction for entrance either into the colleges of our own or any other state. In point of order, discipline, regularity of studies, &c. it will not be surpassed by any academy in our state. It will be divided into two departments, jun or and senior. In the first, all the usual branches of an elementary education will be taught—in the second, the classics, the mathematics, modern languages, and the elements of the different sciences will be carefully inculcated. The two languages of Louisiana will be taught exceptionally. The whole will be under the superintendance of the principal, Mr H GRANT, a gentleman well known for his abilities and erudition, and who was the first president of Jefferson College We can cheerfully bear testimony to the high talents and attainments of Mr Grant. We have known him for several months as one of our fellaborators, and we believe the public cannot fail to appreciate the zeal and ability he has exhibited in that capacity.

The academy will open on the 1st October, and will be located in Exchange Alley between Custombouse and Bantrille sts. The situation is pleasant, in a passage removed from the noise of the streets, and selected in a great measure from every source of interruption. This seminary offers manifold advantages not to be encountered in other schools. The course of study is more elaborate and complete—the principal and assistants are gentlemen of acknowledged ability, and it has already received the warm recommendation and patronage of numerous respectable citizens. We wish Mr Grant every success in his excellent and philanthropic enterprise.

PENNSYLVANIA. The gubernatorial election in this state takes place in October next. The democratic candidate is DAVID R. PORTER. The prospect of his success is very flattering, and the hopes of his party present to be well founded from the present indications of popular feeling.

ILLINOIS.—At last we know something positive of the elections in this state. The Democratic Governor and Lieut Governor are elected beyond a doubt. So is Mr. Reynolds, from one Congressional District, and Mr May a Conservative (Democrat from about). The twice being chosen without opposition. The contest between Douglas and Stewart was exceedingly close. It is certain that the former received a majority of the votes polled, but from mistakes or fraud which occurred in writing his name, he may not receive the certificate of election. The correction of these errors would secure the election of the Democratic candidate by nearly 100 majority whether it will be made or not is doubtful. If not, Mr. Douglas will necessarily contest the election successfully. The Illinois Advertiser thinks, however, that the mistake referred to will be reasonably corrected. It is proper to state that the Chicago Democrat of the 25th Aug asserts positively that Douglas is elected by a majority of 126

Be this as it may, it is certain that in the Legislature the Democrats have a majority on the on the joint ballot. In the Senate parties stand 10 to 10. In the House there is a democratic majority of 8. Warm times hereabouts.

DAYTON'S FERRY OF FAIRMOUNT BRIDGE.—This beautiful bridge across the Schuylkill was destroyed by fire on the night of the 2d instant. A Philadelphia paper of the morning of the 3d gives the following account of the fire as it spread and which the wood was a wonderfully dry, and burnt with almost unconvertable rapidity. It is stated to have been the work of incendiaries. The Fairmount Bridge was erected twenty-five years ago, at a cost of $12,000.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR.—In my last to the Bee, I mentioned the probability of my again intruding my poetic effusions with some remarks as to what I conceive to be the beneficial working of the Copyright law, introduced into this country, but as other occasions offer the subject is intended with no small difficulty, for attention of our commercial system when looked at in a conjunct view, presents at once to the mind the several points which are objectionable and should be remedied, yet our commercial system, our monetary affairs, mercantile movements and all the relative matters most necessarily occurring in a trading community are so blended together and dependent one upon the other, that it is no easy matter to treat the subject as to place on paper in bold most the several pervading evils, the causes of these among and the mode of remedying those causes. A patient may be affected with a complication of diseases and this general combined effect perhaps is apparent to ignorant eyes, yet at the same time the most able physician may be unable to explain explicitly the nature of which one complaint originated another—that they exist and force when coupled with each other.

This simile is illustrative of the difficulties encircling my present attempt, and I must therefore beg the indulgence of my friend and readers.

In treating of the subject I shall offer my remarks as follows, namely, as a short consideration of

1st. Our commercial system.

2d. The commercial system of England, pointing out the most prominent points in which any difference exists.

3d. The laws regarding creditors and insolvent debtors in this country whether individuals or corporate bodies.

4th. What would be the effect of and our consequent position under the Bankrupt system.

And now with regard to the first point under consideration, our commercial system.

In this we must first look to principles or causes, for the great channels of wealth in the mercantile, are unlike those in the real world, receiving tributary streams and therefore the not "*a separate existence*" but are like a great "*jet d'eau*" gushing in one solid body from some powerful source and as they spread abroad, diffusing their influence over all transactions with which they come in contact.

Credit is the grand source which nurtures and control all commercial business are naturally the nursed institutions of the country, our Banking establishments are therefore the first objects to present themselves in consideration. Our Banks are chartered—made by the principally prominent object of commencing and carrying into completion some public work, but all with the view of paying of due to the community or benefiting at large by rendering them certain services which they then essentially required. To carry such into effect was authorized by solemn compact direct or implied. On one hand by the Banks accepting their charters. On the other by the people through their representatives granting the same. The Banks then became trustees for the public good and as such their duty naturally was merely to make respect to such an amount in the paper-issues of the public required and they themselves could do in safety consistent with a metallic basis—to foster, protect and encourage the man of industry—their calculation, guided by sound sagacity—to afford without favor or affection facilities for arrangements founded on real business transactions, to be neither stock jobbers or speculators of any kind, but be satisfied with such profits only as the legitimate business of the country would afford. But, sir, what has been their conduct. Instead of these laws been expanded to an extent totally regardless of the wants of the public wants or welfare and unsupported by a specie basis.

These facts are proved by past events, for had they been solicitous for the public welfare, they would not have contracted their circulation, and had they possessed a proper metallic base, suspension would not have been necessary. Have they fostered or encouraged men anxious to transact a safe and solidly founded business or those not? Some days ago, I stated that, on the contrary, as is evident by the commissioners' report, they allowed their entire resources to be monopolized by a few favorite houses, (with which the directors were either personally connected in business, or under obligations for mutual endorsements) and on account of these those a placed out their diagonals and credits, on the shoulders as a curse of "*bites and rackrents*," so that no matter what might be the occupant, or the standing of an individual for character, business attainments, industry, &c. he had not the slightest chance of bank facilities, unless in some way connected with these favored concerns.—The moral effect of this has been to encourage in one class of the community a heedless headlong spirit of speculation and overtrading, while the other class, the real bone and sinew of the country, the men of sound and solid pursuits, were kept paralyzed and powerless. As to their stock jobbing, any remarks are superfluous—the report alluded to, proves them speculators in the stock, not only of other, but their own institutions, which of course would render it their interest to either raise or depreciate the character and standing of the establishment whose stock they held.

The above are a few of the evils arising from the system and which have actually been incurred—what may yet take place cannot be even imagined. The power of the bankers is still unimpaired, besides it is impossible to surmise the terrible workings of Mr. Biddle's brain, should they be placed under his control, as some of the directors wish. (And *par parenthesis*, without limiting any disparagement to his successor, every man must regret the resignation of Mr. Forstall.) His, Mr. Biddle's behaviour in the Bangdon bank affair, can be seen on perusal of the commissioners' report, which states that contrary to law and all mercantile usage, he dishonored their drafts although drawn against funds actually in his hands. By this means he materially depreciated their standing and the current value of their notes—he their purchaser at a discount, and placed them against working exchange which he also actually held. While therefore might, he could and did pitch the proud banking establishment crashing thitherto which have contributed a positive loss deeply for any further coloring. They have not even the redeeming quality of the Bank of the United States which as appears by the papers referred to, in furnishing the public, loaned to the hundreds of thousands—but the Bank itself with our Legislature, the public stockholders, and all have been sacrificed for the advantage and monopoly of a few. What has been the result and question? Why, like the cask of Epimetheus, these low individuals being unable to force to the mountains to cap, the rock of their own grievances, it has rolled upon the heads themselves, and they, being unable to resist the shock, it rolled upon each redoubled force, bringing down all before it and the community, having, however, gained to ponder the bands themselves, the very condition which first set it in motion.

A FRIEND TO THE COMMONWEALTH.

New Orleans, 6th September, 1838.

THE DOG CLUB

NO. VIII.

"Gentle the Cross, the jovial are Punch,
Old Plato!"

The regular business of the Club went on as usual the literati of the city were members and good wine, beef steaks, and old cheese were as much valued as Wilson's wit, or old Francis' humour. Though gentlemen were the comedians of the Chestnut theatre, and like old Warner, they were valued guests.

The arrival of the celebrated Cook, the English tragedian, in this country, created quite a sensation in the Ugly Club, the members of which being composed of actors and critics, determined to do him all honour. Fennell, Cooper and Taylor, the three lions of the dramatic day, looked somewhat blank, as their starring was for awhile to be eclipsed by a brighter star.

The year 1811, was one of some importance not only in the dramatic world, but for many sundry and diverse other important events, which it would be useless for us to enumerate here. The Ugly Club, had now removed to Latta Court, in a house said to have been the residence of Wm. Penn, we have already made mention of the house. Latta Court runs from Market street, below Second, to Black Horse Alley. In this Alley, directly to the rear of the Ugly Club House, lived the parents of the justly celebrated, Benjamin West, Esq. now dead. Some few years since, a drawing of his was shown, quite a lad, was discovered on a door of the house, and was immediately seized upon by the curious, and is now treasured up as one of those relics, which are destined to live, when all other and brighter things shall have passed away. The president of the club, at the age when we are now speaking, was Alexander Wilson, the ornithologist. Wilson was a wever by trade, but like Burns he felt the inspiration of the working itself into his soul; to indulge in his new fancy, and see something of the world, he turned a peddler and visited various parts of the United States, retailing out his wares, and studying "human nature." He published a volume of his poems, which did not benefit himself or his printer. He also wrote for the "Literary Gazette," then edited by Charles Brockden Brown, the famous novelist, and a sterling author of the Ugly Club. But we are not weaving a history of Wilson, but are precedent to his introduction, summoning by the way that if any of our readers wish a short sketch of his life, the how and the wherefore he became a peddler, observer of the "work of heaven," and all that sort of thing, we shall be very happy to furnish them one, if not to be found among the books of the Commercial Library. The week of Wilson are extant, but we are not aware that a biography of his life are attached to them.

At a meeting of the Club, on the evening of September 1811, a goodly number were in attendance. The subject before them was the acting, and the rendering of Cooke, as was to be expected, a great diversity of opinion existed. One battle chief, a worst for the "Mirror of Taste," was dubbed (opposed to Cooke, and, as was to be expected, Fennel style took sides with him. On the other hand, several shakspeare stepped forth to defend him, and the subject became a general row.

"Mr President Will on, have I the floor?" this was uttered by a tall, gaunt figure, reminding one very strongly of Don Quixotte. He stretched out his right arm, in a direct line with the nose of Hylton, who long before abdicated the seat of honor, and with his accession he held or sustained with so much credit.

"Mr President, I am a gentleman" for up the critic claimed to be a man of feeling and of high character as require no display. Mr President, that gentleman has already written twenty-four pages on Mr Cooke's King Lear, "a learn he is no wonder words—words. Mr President, he like Steven's mistake, judges by a stop-watch, and has packed up in his trunks a heap of trash of nonsense, arrysis, spoon, fork, and the Sir, this would be all very well, but American Scott. But this does not avail him now. He is determined to be too deeply tinged with democratic sentiments, and the venal and one-sided journals of the north are unceasingly engaged in disparaging reflections upon his private conduct and literary pretensions. The stale slanders hurled at his reputation through the poisoned channels of the British aristocracy reviews, have been republished and retailed with invidious comment, and the dignity and justice of the press have been sacrificed to the insatiable spirit of federal persecution. That the columns of American journals should be swollen with the rank garbage of British detraction, affords melancholy evidence of this fact. The more recent productions of Mr Cooper have been reviewed in the whig present in a style altogether in unison with this contemptible littleness of mind, and even where his political opponents have been rendered incapable, by the flat of an impartial public, of venting their spleen upon his works, they have employed personal detraction as a fitting weapon of attack.

To Paulding and Bancroft are similar observations applicable. Whoever heard a syllable save in commendation of the first, until by his acceptance of an office tendered him by the administration, he stood forth as the fearless partizan of republican principles. Until then, he had been recognized as an admirable satirist, a lively delineator of primeval American manners, a clever and amusing novelist, but in avowing himself a democrat, he has been subjected to the ruthless severity of an *ex post facto* judicial decree, and his productions must be measured, not by the standard of their intrinsic worth, not by the previously pronounced opinion of his countrymen, but by the rancorous criticism of a political press. His character is not spared, and he has been openly charged with the authorship of an article in the Globe on the abuses in the navy, without any other ground of testimony than the fact of holding the office of secretary of that department. Happily, however, this gross and insolent slander has been put to rest by the authority both of the Globe and Richmond Enquirer, and his political foes remain satisfied for the present with vague insinuations and mere unmeaning generalities.

Bancroft the historian, the purity of whose life is only equalled by that of his style, has likewise suffered. The man and his works have been alike unspared.

With regard to Washington Irving, the sword of Damocles hangs suspended over his head. He is suspected of taint. Though hitherto avoiding direct interposition in the political questions of the day, he is thought "to be infected by the democratic heresy." Let him beware. Should he have the moral hardihood to sustain the character of our republican institutions, and lend his great name to the support of the whig party, he will be immediately will be emptied upon his head, and even the excellence of his private character, his virtues and his talents which have won him so many golden opinions, the faultless emanations of his bright and fascinating genius will be as dust within the balance when compared with the deadly sin of democracy.

Of Forrest we need scarcely speak—he is but a faint and minor star in the hemisphere of literary constellation. But even these federalists have assailed with a bitterness and perseverance we have rarely seen surpassed. As long as Leggett was supposed to have written his admirable orations, it was applauded "to the very echo that shall applaud again," but when the former disclaimed its authorship, it was found to be a very pitiful affair. But we scarcely of the task of illustrating the fell spirit of federal persecution. Its details are repugnant to every liberal and honest sentiment. Happily its