to $1,641,379 52, making the total of $5,505,796 82, including $158,923 41 of real estate, as appears in the statement of the 1st. February 1851.

But now the question presents itself: had the Legislature, after the adoption of the New Constitution, the power to extend the banking business of that institution from $3,966,880 to which it was restricted by its charter to the amount of $5,505,796 82? Under the old constitution permitting banks, the Branches of the Louisiana State Bank worked on a capital drawn from the mother Bank, and these branches were discontinued as being fatal to the mother Bank. Can, under the new Constitution, prohibiting banks, these branches be re-established without drawing their capital from the mother Bank and therefore without diminishing it? If they do not diminish the capital of the mother Bank, then they work without capital; or if they have a capital of their own, whence do they derive it? It either does not exist, or if exists by virtue of some legislative enactment. If it does not exist, the paper currency of the State, so far as the Louisiana State Bank is concerned, becomes unsafe. But should that banking capital exists, it must have been created since the adoption of the new Constitution, and any law, thus creating directly or indirectly banking capital, is unconstitutional and consequently null and void.

Art. 122 of that Constitution says: "that no corporate body shall be hereafter created, renewed or extended with banking or discounting privileges."

If the act of 1850 does not extend the Louisiana State Bank as to its duration, it certainly extends it as to the amount of its banking privileges, and is therefore contrary to the letter and particularly to the spirit of the Constitution.

But is this view of the unconstitutionality of the act of 1850 be not correct, there is another ground on which I believe that its constitutionality may be attacked.

Art. 118 of the Constitution says: "every law enacted by the Legislature shall embrace but one object, and that shall be expressed in the title."

Art. 119 says: no law shall be revised or amended by reference to its title. But in such case, the act revised or section amended, shall be re-enacted and published at length."

Considering that the act of 1850 embraces but one object in its title, but legislates for two in its body, to wit: the establishment of a branch Bank at Baton Rouge, and a modification or amendment of one of the most important sections of the original charter of the Bank, granted in 1818, it remains to be decided whether the act of 1850 is not a violation of the art. 118 of the Constitution.

Considering that the section 2 of the act of 1818 and the 1st. section of the act of 1834, have been amended without being re-enacted and published at length, I believe that the act of 1850 is unconstitutional, so far as regards said amendment, in virtue of the 119 section.

The wisdom of the above provisions is made apparent by the manner in which this important act of 1850 passed through both houses of the General Assembly. Let it be recollected that this law, as interpreted, extends indefinitely the banking operations of the Louisiana State Bank, which, before, were limited to double the amount of its subscribed capital of two millions. If at the time of its passing through both houses, it had been understood to confer such powers and to go beyond the mere establishment of a Branch at Baton Rouge, as indicated by the title, can it be supposed that a bill of such importance would have encountered no opposition. Let us examine the history of the bill in the journals of the Legislature.

On the 11th of March 1850, Mr. Hereford introduced in the Senate a bill, the object of which was, to have, at Baton Rouge, a Branch Bank in which the moneys of the State would be kept, and of which the modest title was: "an act relative to the establishment of a branch of the Louisiana State Bank at Baton Rouge."

On the very same day, the rules were dispensed with, the bill went through its three readings in a few minutes, was adopted unanimously and was sent to the house on the next day. There, the same process took place, the rules were also dispensed with: the bill ran through its three readings with lightning rapidity, and was adopted without opposition. Two days after, on the 14th, it had reached the Governor and been approved by him.

Is it not evident that both Houses of the Legislature and the Governor were deceived by the title, and thought that they were legislating merely for the establishment of a Branch at Baton Rouge, without entertaining the most remote idea that they were amending, modifying, or revising a vital section of the charter of the Louisiana State Bank, and authorizing that institution to increase its banking operations from four millions to which it was restricted, to five millions and a half—nay, to an indefinite amount? Hence the constitutional necessity of re-enacting any act revised or any section amended, and so to express it in the title. Where was it done, in regard to that part of the charter of the Bank which is said to be *modified, revised, or amended?*

What is still more curious is what follows: The English text of the act of 1850, says: "and the amount which said bank (*the mother Bank*) may hereafter loan through its branches shall not be deemed to diminish the amount of loans to which it is limited by its charter." But the French text says: and the amount which said *Branch, (the Baton Rouge Bank)* may loan, shall not authorize the Bank, (the Louisiana State Bank) to diminish the amount of loans which it is bound to make by its charter." I carefully abstain, sir, from comments which would weaken the eloquence of facts.

In conclusion, I think that the Bank, having so far exceeded its capital, is working on an unsafe principle, and that its paper is liable to be depreciated by any unforeseen commercial crisis. Wherefore, considering that, by the law of 1842, approved February 5, it being the duty of the Board of Currency to take care that the paper money issued under the authority of the State be not depreciated, and to supervise the faithful execution of said act 1842, and of the charters and by laws of all banks working under it, I have deemed it my duty, as member of the Board, to denounce to you what I think to be infractions of the laws and of the Constitution of the State, and respectfully to submit to my colleague this letter, which, if approved by him, shall be the joint action of the Board, and if not, shall remain the individed act of one of the members of the Board of Currency.,

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obt. Serv't.

[Signed] CHARLES GAYARRE,
Secretary of State.

To Isaac Johnson, Esqr.,
Attorney General.

February 17th.—The following communication was received from Geo. C. McWhorter, State Treasurer, desiring it to be spread upon the minutes of the Board of Currency.

Reply of Geo. C. McWhorter, State Treasurer, to the Hon. Charles Gayarré, Secretary of State.

My colleague, the Honorable Charles Gayarre, Secretary of State, without any knowledge or action of the Board of Currency without any consultation with the undersigned, who, together with him, constitute the Board; without asking my concurrence, or approval; without even having the same spread on the minutes of said Board, has deemed it his duty to throw before the public, through the press, a document signed by him officially and addressed to Isaac Johnson, Esqr. Attorney General, wherein he denounces what he thinks an "infraction of the law and of the Constitution of the State.

Passing over the intermediate matter, which I will subsequently consider, I will at once approach the Constitutional question. But in this connexion, I will remark, that with the expediency of a law, the Board of Currency has nothing to do. It is not created as a censor of the General Assembly, nor has it any authority to supervise the action of that body, much less to control and annul. Whether the law of 1850 is expedient or inexpedient, it is nevertheless of binding force and efficacy, and every citizens is bound to its observance. If the Legislature has been guilty, as has been charged, of indecent haste in the passage of this law, the Board of Currency is without authority to disregard it.

The law of 1850 has been pronounced by my colleague unconstitutional. From his opinion I must beg leave to dissent. The law of the General Assembly of the 14th March, 1850, is in the following words: "In case the Louisiana State Bank shall establish a Branch of said institution in the City of Baton Rouge, conformably with authority vested in said Bank by the sixteenth section of its charter, the Treasurer of the State is hereby authorized and directed to keep his deposits in said Branch, and the amount which said Bank may hereafter loan through its branches, shall not be deemed to diminish the amount of loans to which it is limited by its charter; provided, that the condition of said Bank shall, at all times, be with respect to its liabilities, such as is required by the 1st and 2d sections of an act to revive the several charters of the several banks located in the city of New Orleans, and for other purposes, approved February 5th, 1842.

The article of the Constitution of 1845, quoted and relied on by my colleague is the 122d article, and is in the following words: "*no corporation shall be hereafter* created, renewed or extended, with banking or discounting privileges."

By this article of the Constitution, the convention intended to put and end to the power of the Legislature to create corporate bodies with banking or discounting privileges. It was not intended to affect in any way the then existing privileges of the subsisting institutions. All their responsibilities and privileges remained to their entire extent. It was to put an end for ever to all such institutions in future. It was to prevent the creation of new and the renewal of the old. It was not intended to affect the power of the Legislature to increase the capital of the subsisting institutions, or to widen and extend their operations. All the privileges of these institutions subsist with the same vigor as they did prior to the adoption of the new Constitution. This article in no way alludes or refers to the operations of these corporations. It was not their existence that was intended to be destroyed and prevented. The history of the country attests this: the debates in the Convention attest it. Such an interpretation would imply a departure, on the part of the convention, from invariable usage in the formation of the organic law of the country.

The act, then, of the General Assembly of the 14th of March 1850, is not in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution. This attempted alarm is totally unfounded. The safety of the community is to be found in the weekly statements made to the Board of Currency, and by them published once a month. It is kept constantly and accurately informed as to the extent of the operations of the several banks of the State, and can judge for itself with regard to the solvency or in-olvency of these institutions.

I will now advance to another branch of this constitutional question, involving the interpretation of the articles of the Constitution, 118 and 119.

Even allowing that the limitations imposed by the laws of 1818 and 1834, have been repealed by the act of 1850, which is not the case, the act of the General Assembly would not be unconstitutional. The Supreme Court in a case of recent date, The Commercial Bank of Natchez vs. Markham, 3d. annual, p 693, says "that article 129 provides that no law shall be revised or amended by reference to its title; but in such case the act revised or section amended, shall be re-enacted and published at length. We cannot declare that an act repealing certain defined portions of an article of one of our codes, is in conflict with this article. By its terms it does not include the repeal of laws or portions of them, and can only be thus extended by an implication of doubtful propriety."

This decision was pronounced by the enlightened Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and with a citation of his opinion, I might rest the question. It is the adjudication of the highest and most dignified tribunal of the country, instituted in order to apply and expound the laws and Constitution. These are its proper and legitimate functions. An act establishing a branch of any of the banking corporations, pertains to the mother institution. It deeply concerns its interest, is under its control and management, and is nothing more nor less than an agency. A repeal therefore or a clause of the original charter, by an act establishing such branch, is no infraction of the Constitution either in its letter or spirit. It pertains to one object, the establishment of a branch with a limitation or expansion of privileges.

Anterior to the adoption of the new Constitution, the Bank had the privilege of establishing branches. That privilege has not been destroyed by the Constitution, such an interpretation would as well destroy any other privilege.

But what if the law of 1850 is unconstitutional? Whence does the Board of Currency derive its authority to denounce a law of the General Assembly, and to declare the same unconstitutional or inexpedient? For, it cannot be pretended that Mr Gayarre denounces the Bank for a non observance of the law, but he denounces the law itself. He attempts to show that it was passed hastily, through the forms of legislation, and so hastily approved by the Governor. He says that, "I have deemed it my duty, as a member of the Board, to denounce to you what I think to be infractions of the laws, and of the Constitution of the State."

Infractions of what "laws, and by whom? Not by the Board, because it is operating, as Mr. Gayarre will admit, under the law of 1850. It is clear that Mr. Gayarre is denouncing the law itself, and the General Assembly for enacting the law, and the chief magistrate for approving of it. He enters into a long detail with respect to the manner in which it passed the Assembly.

This is an assumption of most extraordinary powers. It is an assumption of supremacy over the legislative department of the government—the creature over the creator—all laws, whether they are constitutional or inconstitutional, are to all intents and purposes, binding and of force, until they are declared unconstitutional by the tribunals erected by sovereign authority for that defined and special purpose. Can any body corporate—can any department of the Government disregard a law upon any ground, until those constitutional forms are observed? Even the highest tribunal of the country although invested with power to pronounce a law unconstitutional, has no power to disregard it law for the reason that it is inexpedient, much less can a mere citizen disregard it. This is the very spirit of disorganization—it would be the erection of individual will and judgment, over the laws and Constitution—it would be a total subversion of all Government.

But has Mr. Gayarre reflected how the Attorney General is to proceed? Representing the State in all matters pertaining to his public duties, would it be either proper or decent for him to attack one of the laws as unconstitutional? He acts "in the name of the State." It is his duty to maintain the laws, and not to act in opposition to them. "The authority of the Attorney General to prosecute or defend any suit in which the State is concerned, does not, however, result from one presumption. It is necessarily implied from the nature of his office, and is expressly given by the act of Assembly defining his duties." X. Martin's digest, 535. Now, what are his duties, as defined by the act referred to? A simple expression covers the whole ground. He acts "in the name of the State."

Can he, in the name of the State, institute proceedings declaring a law, made under its authority, unconstitutional? Will this not be, rather, acting in opposition to the State, thus representing it? Does the commission authorize him in any particular, to act in opposition to the Government from which he derives all the power he possesses? This would, indeed, be the creation of an office to denounce the laws, rather than to defend and maintain them.

Although Mr. Gayarre, in a semi-official way, has authorized the statement that he did not, in his publication, intend to attack the standing and credit of the Louisiana State Bank, it is quite evident that his letter did both, and it did more—it conveyed an implied censure on his colleague, for being less vigilant and less conscientious than himself in the performance of the duties that devolve on the Board of Currency, "to take care that the paper money issued under the authority of the State, be not depreciated, and to supervise the faithful execution of said act of 1842, and of the charter and by laws of all Banks working under it."

The obvious meaning of Mr. Gayarre's letter makes it my duty to refute the unfounded imputations referred to.

So far from the position of the Louisiana State Bank having been weakened by its action, with respect to its Branches, since the passage of the law of 14th March, 1850, its last statement published by the Board of Currency, and dated 25th January, 1851, shows that on that day its circulation was $338,700, less than it was in March, 1850. That whilst in March, 1850, its circulation exceeded its specie $500,000, at the end of last month it exceeded it only $250,000. The cash assets of the Bank at the last date, exceeded the cash liabilities $380,000, and the total assets of the Bank exceed the total liabilities $107,550, more than the excess in March, 1850.

Mr. Gayarre states that the assets of the Bank, under the operation of the law of the 14th of March, 1850, have been increased above the amount to which the Bank was restricted before the passage of said act, $1,536,916 82, being the amount loaned through the branches under the authority of said law. This, then, shows an increase of the means of the Bank to pay its liabilities which have been increased since March 1850, only $500,000. It is evident from these facts, that the Louisiana State Bank is not only not in a condition to excite the alarm of the Board of Currency, but that on the contrary, the Bank has been conducted with prudence, and in a manner highly creditable to those charged with the administration of its affairs.

Mr. Gayarre states that the law as interpreted by the Bank, extends its operations indefinitely—and yet he quotes the restriction contained in the law of March 14th, 1850, viz: That the condition of the Bank, with respect to its liabilities, shall at all times be such as is required by the Bank law of 1842.

Now this restriction is that the Bank is to have the whole amount of its liabilities in specie and short paper, not having over ninety days to run, in the proportion of one third specie and two thirds paper; and, when it has not that proportion of specie, it must cease adding to its dead weight. That is, it is restricted to short paper, payable in full until the proportion of specie be one third of its liabilities.

It is obvious, then, that the Bank cannot extend its business more than two thirds of the amount of its cash liabilities, and that liability must chiefly be in deposits.

This was deemed by the Legislature, in 1842, a good and safe value; and experience has thus far proved the wisdom of its adoption; Mr. Gayarre's opinion to the contrary notwithstanding, who declares it an unsafe principle. The Louisiana State Bank and its branches have strictly conformed to this rule. Its short business paper and exchange averaging duly forty days, amount to $3,384,000; its specie $1,777,000; its other assets to $1,685,000; showing an excess of cash assets over cash liabilities of $360,000, and of all assets over all liabilities of $2,345,000.

The imputation my colleague seeks to cast upon me, in his letter, justifies me in stating that the gentleman's unremitted efforts, since February 1849, when a change took place in the direction of the Louisiana State Bank, to assail every act of that Bank, have long since convinced me that considerations other than his sense of public duty impel his action.

Whatever may be his motives in making and publishing *ex parte* statements calculated to alarm the community, and thereby injure the agricultural and commercial interests of the State, at a time, too, when a deficiency of banking capital is so severely felt, he cannot expect my cooperation, so long as the object of his apparent animosity conforms to the laws of State enacted for its government.

(Signed) GEO. C. McWHORTER,
State Treasurer.

FEBRUARY 25, 1851.—Charles Gayarré, Secretary of State, ordered the following document to be spread on the minutes, as an answer to what is personal in a certain preceding document recorded in the Board by his colleague, Geo. C. McWhorter, on the 17th February, 1851.

(Signed) CHARLES GAYARRE.

[To be Continued]

REPORT
FROM THE
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE, 3d March, 1852.

HON. J. B. PLAUCHE, President of the Senate.

SIR:—In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, requesting the Auditor to report the amount of liabilities of the State, in the years 1830, 1835, 1840, 1845 and 1850, I transmit the accompanying statement.

Most respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed] LOUIS BORDELON,
Auditor.

Statement shewing the amount of the liabilities of the State of every description at the several periods named, say from 1830 to 1850.

Debts proper of the State, in 1830,			$153,200 88
Liability on bonds issued as follows:			
To bank of Louisiana	$2,400,000		
To Heirs of Thomas Jefferson,	10,000		
Consolidated Bank,	2,600,000		
Debts proper of the State in 1835,			583,138 99
Liability on bonds, as follows:			
To Charity Hospital,	125,000		
To Union Bank,	7,000,000		
To Mechanics' and Traders Bank,	150,000		
	$7,275,000		
			$1,164,886 43
Debts proper of the State in 1840:			
Liability on bonds as follows:			
To Citizens' Bank,	$10,000,000		
To New Orleans Draining Company,	50,000		
N. O. and Nashville R. R. Company,	500,000		
To Charity Hospital,	100,000		
Clinton and Port Hudson R. R. Company,	498,000		
Mexican Gulf R. Road Company,	100,000		
Municipality. No. 2,	499,680		
	$11,747,620		
Debts proper of the State in 1845,			$4,664,715 06
Liability on bonds as follows:			
To Municipality, No. 1,	600,000		
To Municipality, No. 3,	30,240		
	630,240		
Debts proper of the State in 1850,			$1,918,297 57

The liability of the State of every description on the first of January 1850, were as follows:

Bonds to Union Bank,	2,600,000	
Bonds to Consolidated Bank,	1,370,000	
Bond to Citizens' Bank,	6,400,000	
For interest,	475,887	7,045,887
Second Municipality,		399,364
Third Municipality,		30,240
		11,879,492

(Signed) LOUIS BORDELON,
Auditor.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE, 24 March, 1852.

HON. J. B. PLAUCHE, President of the Senate.

SIR:—In answer to a resolution of the Senate requesting the Auditor of Public Accounts to report to the Senate, as soon as practicable, the amount of the annual receipts and expenditures from 1830 to 1852 I have the honor to transmit the accompanying statement.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed] LOUIS BORDELON,
Auditor.

STATEMENTS showing the Amount of the Annual Receipts and Expenditures, for the years, 1830 to 1852.

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditures.	Balance in favor of Receipts.
1830	503,291 71	340,056 36	167,235 33
1831	503,168 67	364,848 10	138,320 57
1832	467,354 64	372,443 36	95,010 28
1833	476,377 99	394,659 30	87,718 69
1834	592,254 27	500,867 15	91,387 67
1835	456,009 31	396,294 16	59,714 64
1836	564,925 30	501,326 21	63,599 09
1837	852,316 73	556,944 91	295,371 81
1838	1,017,802 48	955,932 32	61,770 12
1839	899,604 26	814,421 63	85,182 57
1840	779,224 24	642,000 00	136,224 22
1841	756,599 83	700,922 78	55,777 05
1842	568,716 65	501,291 23	67,425 42
1843	454,599 63	560,961 54	91,637 91
1844	979,177 61	616,694 94	355,482 63
1845	3,662,989 79	3,310,918 29	352,071 33
1846	1,245,715 91	995,813 28	301,785 61
1847	1,119,856 63	675,982 96	293,115 69
1848	1,351,265 17	872,702 50	478,562 67
1849	628,965 91	329,756 99	299,209 92
1850	1,016,040 56	990,859 29	325,496 47
1851	1,191,673 91	859,787 54	396,886 37

(Signed) LOUIS BORDELON,
Auditor.

REPORT
OF THE
ASSISTANT STATE ENGINEER.

Resolved by the Senate, That the State Engineer be requested to report to the Senate, what particular works the State force have been employed at in the third Internal Improvement District, during the last two years, what time was occupied in each work, under what authority such works were done, what time the State force has been in the hire or employment of private individuals with the reasons for being thus employed, etc. etc.

To the Senate of Louisiana:

In obedience to a resolution of your honorable body requiring of the State Engineer a statement of the work done in the Red River District, for the last two years, etc., the undersigned begs leave to submit the following report:

The division of hands, 17 in number, worked on Sandbeach Bayou three months. Cleaning the banks of the Bayou Pierre, one month. Deadening the timber on Red River from Shreveport to Cashatta Chute, four months. In attempts to raise the steamboat Sterling and removing her machinery, after the attempts to raise her had failed, two months.

Work performed on Red River from Shreveport to Cashatta Chute, removing logs, snags, etc., about two months. Work on Bayou Winsey, about only month. Work on Lorgy Bayou, two weeks. Work on Grand Bayou, three weeks. Work done on Red River from Jones' Bayou to Campte, about three months. Work on Jones' Bayou, fifteen days. On that portion of Bayou Pierre below Jones' Bayou and on a Bayou connecting the Bayou Pierre with the highlands in De Soto Parish, about two months. During the early portion of the year 1851 the water was so high in Red River and all its tributaries, that no profitable work could be done. The State force was consequently during this period removed from the third to the fourth Internal Improvement District, where it could be profitably employed. This necessity was so obvious, that I never heard that any objection was made by the citizens of the third District to this proceeding.

The State Engineer is also required to report under what laws the above works were performed. It is presumed it is not necessary to recite all the laws on the subject, but to afford an explanation of the reasons for some work which does not seem to be required by any law. There is a general law requiring the improvement of Bayou Winsey and Bayou Pierre, the object of which law is evidently to afford a route leaving Red River below and returning to it above, for the convenience of the inhabitants of the Parishes of De Soto, Sabine and some parts of Caddo, and also to facilitate the discharge of the waters of Upper Red River, so as to prevent inundation.

Taking this general view of the subject, it will be seen from the following remarks:

That any one having charge of the work would find himself almost of necessity bound to use some latitude in construing the laws and using his discretion as to what is best to be done.

Red River and a sheet of water composed of lakes, bayous and rivers designated by the general name of Bayou Pierre, lie nearly parallel with each other for a distance of about one hundred miles. Beginning above we find various outlets leaving Red River and flowing into Bayou Pierre, and then below leaving Bayou Pierre, and running into Red River. Those above are Anderson's Bayou, Sandbeach Bayou, Jones' Bayou, etc. Now the object being to afford an ingress to Bayou Pierre above, and egress below, I felt it to be my duty to select the outlet that could be improved with least expense.

During 1850, I was much employed in the lower part of the State with the general Superintendent of the Internal Improvement service and especially with that on the Barataria Canal, and I placed the Red River district more especially under the control of the Assistant Engineer. He was directed to use his best discretion after examining all the connections between the Bayou Pierre and Red River, to open that which he thought would be best and least expensive.

He selected Jones' Bayou as the connexion above and improved it. He herewith submits a report of the reasons which influenced him in this selection. Believing from his report that it was best, and that there was no special law for improving Jones' Bayou, that it was naturally enough embraced under the general laws requiring the improvement of Bayou Pierre and Red River, I did not interfere with his plan. I think few will doubt the propriety of this general sanction on my part, who are well acquainted with the topography of this region.

The Engineer is required to report what time the State force has been in the employ of private individuals, and the reasons for it. On this subject I have to say that the State force has not been at all employed in this way, so far as I have been able to ascertain. I have taken steps to ascertain the foundation of this report; but in consequence of the low state of the water in Red River and the consequent want of mail facilities, I have not as yet been able to satisfy myself on the subject. If any thing of the kind has been done, it has been without my knowledge or approbation, and if not satisfactorily explained, will meet with a severe correction.

I deem it advisable, however, to state as probably affording a proper solution of this report, a few facts. We are in the habit of allowing the hands a few hours on Saturday evening, when our work is not pressing, to wash their clothes, etc., and also on Sundays they are allowed to cease work on the boats. They very often occupy their Sundays and Saturday evenings in chopping wood, etc., for the planters of the vicinity. In addition to this, sometimes, when we are pressed with work on Sundays, on the public works, as well as on the usual holydays, and then when we urge more at leisure, give them a few days in recompense. This time is often employed as above.

In a few instances also, on Red River, at extreme low water, we have found it impossible to get supplies carried up, and the Superintendents have taken the responsibility to allow the hands to work a few days to get provisions from private individuals. I am confident the report about the hands working for private individuals, has its solution in some such way as above mentioned. If it has not it will not fail to be corrected. Your honorable body have too much knowledge of the world not to know how often mere reports are magnified to answer the purposes of discontent and self interest. If the above remarks fail to place this matter in a satisfactory light that justice may be done to all parties, I think it would be proper to appoint some reliable person to examine and report on the whole facts.

Respectfully,
(Signed) A. D. WOOLDRIDGE,
State Engineer.

Jones' Bayou was selected and improved, because it affords the best navigable connection between Red River and Bayou Pierre. It is but little more than half a mile in length and but a small amount of work was required to improve it. The object being as I conceived to give the people of De Soto a connection *as soon as possible* with Red River, at some point *above* as well as *below* their shipping points. Pascagoula Bayou is too long (9 miles), too tortuous and too narrow. The main Bayou Pierre from Jones' Bayou to its head just below Shreveport, is near twenty-five miles in length. The upper end of Bayou Pierre is divided into several channels, all very much obstructed by cypress stumps, rafts, etc., and very shallow. Much *time* would be required to improve any one of these channels, without any more benefit to the navigation of Bayou Pierre than is given by the improvement of Jones' Bayou. There are no shipping points on Bayou Pierre above Jones' Bayou; all that could be expected and all that was necessary was a navigable connection with Red River, as above stated. It is manifest that it was better to accomplish this in three weeks, rather than consume a year for the same object.

Considering the small force at the disposal of the Engineer Department, a saving of one year's time and labor is important. One year's labor and one year of time were saved by improving Jones' Bayou. As good navigation was given through Jones' Bayou, as would be given through the head of Pierre.

These were the reasons and the only ones that governed the decision of your obedient servant.

[Signed] G. W. R. BAYLEY,
Assistant State Engineer.

REPORT
ON THE
ACCOUNTS OF
THE
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The Select Committee, to whom was referred the business of examining the Accounts of the Commissioners of Public Buildings, have carefully performed that duty, and beg leave to submit the following

REPORT:

That after a full examination of the accounts of the acting commissioners, they are fully satisfied with the manner in which the interest of the State has been protected, in the application of the funds appropriated for the completion of the State Capitol, and here present a condensed statement of said accounts, the particulars of which and vouchers for the payments have been examined and certified to be correct, by your committee:

Balance in hands of Commissioners, 19th Feb., 1850,	$470 02
Balance on same date in Treasury to their credit subsequently received by them of	35,746 45
Amount received by them from appropriations made by the last Legislature,	30,000 00
Received by proceeds of sales of old materials,	1,087 18
Received net proceeds of loan from the Louisiana State Bank and that made by D. D. Avery, Esq.,	14,979 00
Making the sum total of	$82,282 65

They find the disbursements during the same time as follows:

Balance paid in brick contract to McHatton, Pratt, & Co.,	1,662 04
Paid Newton Richards, on marble contract,	10,000 00
Paid for sundry bills of hardware, painted grates,	4,398 01
Paints, oils, grates, &c.,	1,303 40
	$17,363 45
Amount paid for carved work,	7,146 90
do do lumber,	2,872 73
do do to architect,	5,010
do do moulding, doors, panels, &c.,	6,803 70
do do contingent expenses,	351 70
do do lime, cement, plaster, &c.,	2,162 75
do do freight,	1,083 70
do do drayage,	125
do do labor, to carpenters, journeymen plasterers, bricklayers and laborers, as per pay roll,	39,198 04
Making in the aggregate the sum of	$82,123 40
And leaving a cash balance in the hands of the Commissioners of	159 65
	$82,282 65

Equivalent to their receipts as before alluded to; over and above the disbursements above stated, there are outstanding liabilities which require to be promptly met by an appropriation from the present Legislature. Included among them is the sum of $15,000, which the Commissioners were obliged to borrow, or suspend the prosecution of the labor necessary for the completion of the State Capitol, so far as was deemed essential for the use of the present session of the Legislature, all of which will more fully appear by reference to the report of said Commissioners.

Said loan from Louisiana State Bank amounted to	$12,000 00
Said loan from D. D. Avery, Esq.,	3,000 00
Outstanding bill for material furnished,	6,000 00
do do labor and materials required to complete buildings as per statement,	5,500 00
Amount required for final completion,	$26,500 00

In the discharge of their duties, your Committee feel themselves bound to urge upon your attention other matters in connexion with this subject. The present enclosure of the grounds having been intended as temporary, is now from decay, insufficient for the protection of the same; and we therefore beg leave to call your attention to the necessity which exists for providing a suitable and desirable enclosure for the valuable property our State has here acquired. And for this purpose we would recommend that some person be authorized to procure and place an iron railing around the ground belonging to the State Capitol, not less than six feet and a half in height at a cost of not more than $10,000, payable in March, 1853.

Your Committee would further suggest the propriety of appointing a Board of Commissioners to be composed of the Governor, Auditor and Treasurer of State, whose duty it shall be to receive from the present Commissioners the public buildings, to make a settlement with those officers and to appoint a suitable person at a salary of not more than dollars, to superintend the interest of the State here invested, to keep the Capitol in proper order and property belonging to the same.

In conclusion, your Committee feel themselves bound by a sense of justice to recommend a fair remuneration to the acting Commissioner, who has devoted a large share of his valuable time since 1847 to superintending and protecting the State interest here, to the unavoidable detriment of his interest elsewhere, the examination of his pay rolls and receipts, apart from other facts within the knowledge of your Committee, has been enough to show how constant and arduous must have been his labors for the time above mentioned, and we are unwilling to believe that this Legislature would refuse to appropriate, as a compensation for his services, a small portion of the money which has been saved to the State by his vigilance and economy. For these valuable services he has received but twenty five hundred dollars, we would therefore recommend a compensation of two per cent on the amount of his disbursements inclusive of the amount already received by him.

W. S. PARHAM,
Chairman.
G. W. WATTERSTON,
Ch. Senate Committee.

ADOLPHE BLACHE,
69 Royal-street, between Conti and Bienville streets,
OFFERS for sale at reduced prices, the following articles, which he keeps constantly on hand, comprising a large assortment:
LADIES' ARTICLES.
Silk and Scotch Linen Stockings; English embroidered Linen Cambric Handkerchiefs; Net Mitts, Tuns; Parasols; Hair dress; Net Purses and Bags; Silk and Lamvin Gloves; Shell Combs, new style; fancy Cravats; Chapiers and Bracelets, cornelian, ivory, etc.
GENTLEMEN'S ARTICLES.
Shirts, Drawers, Socks, Vests, Cravats, Gaiters, Suspenders, Canes, Umbrellas, etc.
ALSO—A large assortment of Boxes; China and Crystal Wash Basins; fine Paris Perfumery; Toys and Fancy Articles of all kinds. 41ly

To Country Merchants.
THE undersigned have just received by the last ships from Europe and the north a large and well selected spring stock of Hats, for men, youths, boys and children; which they offer for sale at reasonable prices, to wit:
50 tables of three sizes Campeachy Hats, from $1 and above;
500 do Panama Hats, from $18 and above;
500 do assorted Leghorn Hats, fine and common;
500 do assorted straw Hats, from $2 50 and above
280 do soft fur Hats, of all colors and qualities, Black and grey Beaver Hats, assorted do
do do beaver do white
Ladies straw and fur trimming Hats;
Silk Hats of all descriptions
ALBERT & TILTON, 37 Chartres st.

Gloves and Cravats.
F. FABRE & CO., 29 Magazine street, are just in receipt of a very fine supply of Jouvin's celebrated Kid Gloves, embracing all the different sizes and colors.
We have also received by late arrivals, a splendid assortment of Gentlemen's Cravats of every description, and would solicit our friends to call and examine them. 627-tf

Connel Coal ..... Cannel Coal.
Delivered at 75 cents per Barrel.
400 TUNS very large cannel coal, cargo of British bark Melissa, from Cheraw, now landing. This is of the same quality as the Evelyn coal which has just been delivered, and pronounced by those having used it, to be the best coal ever sold in this market, for sale by J. M. FIELD,
13 Tchoupitoulas st.

SEGARS.—Landing and in store, a fine and large assortment of Havana Segars, such as—Sevillana, Nuova Empresa, Conill, Tres Naciones, Guaglia Agua, Dorados, Rio Hondo, Monte Cristo, Orleans, Flor de la Habana, Astilla, &c. &c. Also—Genuine Principe segars and Vuelta de Abajo tobacco used, for sale by LABORDE & XIQUES,
624 37 Common street.

SCHREIDER CHAMPAGNE—50 baskets, quarts and pints, in store and for sale by
jel26 GILDEMEESTER & CO., 32 Gravier st.

NOTICE.
Boots, Shoes, Hats and Caps,
AT WHOLESALE.
The subscribers have now on hand and will be continually receiving a complete assortment of BOOTS, SHOES, HATS and CAPS, which they offer for sale at low prices and on favorable terms. Their assortment consists in part of the following enumerated articles:
BROGANS.
Men's, Boys' and Youths' Russets, single and double back and riveted, oak and hemlock tanned, regular and extra sizes.
Kip, Patent Leather, Calf, Seal and Bull pegged sewed and imitation sewed.
BOOTS.
Men's, Boys', Youths' and Child ren's Calf, Kip, Seal and Grained pegged, sewed and imitation sewed Planters', Fishermen's and Mail Boots.
GAITERS, BOOTS AND BROGANS.
For Ladies, Misses, Children and Servants, fine and ordinary qualities.
HATS AND CAPS.
For Men, Boys, Youths and Children, of all styles sizes and qualities.
N. B.—Having made arrangements for the manufacture of our goods by the best of workmen, we are enabled to offer the best and latest styles in the market, and respectfully invite buyers to examine the same previous to making purchases elsewhere.
JAMES E. NORTH & CO.,
jul5 11 Magazine street.

LANDING ex ship Adriatic from Bordeaux 40 cks of Bordeaux claret, 20 do St Julien do, 12 do Cotte rôtie do, 10 do white wine, 25 half do do, 9 half do do, 150 boxes claret, 10 bales cocks, 150 half bx Tonnins pipe, 200 quarter do do do, 100 half do Tonnins, for sale by FERRIS & BRO.
fe19-t3 217 and 219 Royal st cor Main.

EXPECTED by ship Middlesex from Havre, 50 half do Holland cheese, 3 do Gruyere do, 300 demi johns, 5 gals, 200 do 3 gals, 200 do 2 gals, 500 do 1 gal, for sale by LANATA, GONDOLFO & CO.
fe24 Quad 10 Jefferson st.

HAVANA SEGARS—80,000 Segars, imitas and regalias, landing ex brig P. Soule from Havana, for sale by R. CABUZAC,
fe24 30 Old Levee.

LANDING ex ship Madrid of Orleans, from Havre—1 Bbl demijohns of 5 gallons, 100 do 3 do, 300 do 2 do, 300 do 1 do, for sale by
fe21 PAUL JULIEN & CO. 97 St Louis st.

COGNAC—5 qr pipes Alex du Montecan, 1840, 10 half and 10 qr pipes Jean Louis, 1811, landing ex ship Adriatic, from Bordeaux, for sale by
fe18 J. & J. TARDIS 31 Old Levee.

CHRONOLET—40 cases Triplandet, first quality, for sale by
fe12 EUG ROCHEREAU & CO.
17 and 19 St Louis st.

STEWART'S SUGAR—50 bbls powdered, for sale by
fe26 SECCOMB, VOORHIES & CO,
15 Tchoupitoulas st

BUTTER—50 half bbls fine fresh roll, 500 kegs prime Western, for sale by
fe26 SECCOMB, VOORHIES & CO.,
15 Tchoupitoulas st.

NEW HAMS.—300 tierces Stagg & Shays, John Shays & Philips extra quality for sale by
SECCOMB, VOORHIES & CO,
fe18 15 Tchoupitoulas st.

OFFICIEL.

LEGISLATURE DE L'ETAT.

Première Session.—Quatrième Législature.

CHAMBRE DES REPRÉSENTANTS.

MERCREDI, 11 février 1852.

La Chambre s'est réunie conformément à l'ajournement.

L'appel nominal ayant été fait, 89 membres sont présents.

Un congé est accordé à MM. Rivers et Théard.

Les membres suivants ont présenté les pétitions suivantes:

M. Sever—Mémoire de Thos J. Spear, demandant du secours.

Référé au comité spécial de trois.

L'Orateur nomme MM. Waterman, Dewerghe et Peck.

M. Dewees—Pétition de J. R. Borgstede, demandant du secours.

Référé au comité des finances.

M. Lewis—Pétition de certains citoyens de Bienville.

Référé au comité des finances.

M. Lathrop—Pétition de certains citoyens de Lafayette et de Jefferson, sur la température.

Référé au comité spécial sur la température.

M. Thompson, de Jackson,—Pétition de différents citoyens de la dite paroisse, relative à la nomination