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The New Orleans Bee.

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NEW ORLEANS, SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 28, 1854.

No. 206 Vol. XI.—NEW SERIES.
Vol. XXVII.—Whole No. 7345.

THE DAILY BEE.

Saturday Morning, Jan. 28, 1854.

THE NORTHERN MAIL arrived yesterday with dates from Baltimore as late as due. The New York papers are still one day behind hand.

THE USURY LAWS.

Yesterday we had occasion to point out the improper and ultra radical course of Mr. ROBERTS in his Kansas and Cuba resolutions. To-day we are gratified at the opportunity of commending that gentleman for the introduction of a bill to abolish the Usury laws.

Legal enactments, if inoperative, are clearly useless. The law against the exaction of usurious interest, like the statute which brands the duellist who kills his antagonist, a murderer, has been a dead letter ever since its passage. But it is worse than simply inoperative—it is positively injurious. Let us illustrate: A. has no credit in bank, and wanting money, gets his note allowed. B., the capitalist discounts A.'s paper at a higher rate than that of conventional interest. He not only makes A. pay the full current value of money for the time being, according to A.'s reputed solvency and responsibility, but he mulcts the borrower in an additional per centage for the risk incurred. In other words, the lender knowing that A. might plead usury, and deprive him of his interest, takes care to secure himself against possible forfeiture by putting on one or two per cent more than the real rate at which the note would otherwise be discounted. This is a common practice, and is forcibly illustrative of the absurdity of an enactment, which though rarely, if ever enforced, is responsible in terrorem over the heads of the parties, and absolutely gives a pretext for victimizing one of them.

It is even if this did not occur, the usury laws should be rescinded, because they are manifestly founded in error. Money is merchandise, and the possessor ought to have an indefeasible right to employ it to the best advantage. When capital is abundant, it is cheap—when scarce, dear—the supply and demand regulate its value, and no legislation can overcome this great and permanent law of political economy. Consequently, we find that although, in most of the States, laws against usury have been adopted, they are as valueless as waste paper. The moment the money market becomes stringent, and business men require facilities, they seek the purse of the capitalist, and consent to pay higher rates of interest than those allowed by law. The experience of every merchant will amply confirm this declaration. Besides, if the statute against usury could be enforced, in any one year, and would we ask to insure that the capitalist would let his money at the conventional rate, when by investing it in other channels, in real estate, or stocks for instance, he could secure a larger profit than such rate would afford. The only result then that would flow from the rigid practical operation of the Usury law, would be to deprive business men of all chance of obtaining pecuniary facilities at the very time they stand most absolutely in need of them, viz: when the money market is tight, and interest high.

We could elaborate the subject at considerable length, did our limited space permit, but we really believe that the common sense of every intelligent man will furnish a host of incontrovertible objections to the continuance of the Usury laws. Within the last ten years, it has been abolished in Great Britain—a country where the influence of legal enactments on monetary transactions is thoroughly understood; where better protection is afforded to both creditor and debtor than in ours, and where the laws for the recovery of debts are peculiarly clear, precise and speedy in their operation. We trust the Legislature will abrogate this superfluous and mischievous enactment, which, at present, deters scrupulously honest capitalist from investing his money, while it offers a premium to others less reluctant to evade or violate the statute.

☞ CHARLES CONCERT.—It will be seen by reference to our advertising columns, that the celebrated Artist will give two Concerts at this place, prior to his departure for Havana. The Institute, on Wednesday next, and the second at Odd Fellows' Hall, on the succeeding Friday. GOTTSCHALK promises the gem of the first, if not both these entertainments, the Grand National Symphony for ten pianos entitled Bunker Hill.

MISS SONTAG.—It will be seen by the announcement under the proper head, that this charming songstress will give a series of concerts, during the early part of February at Odd Fellows Hall. The fame of this talented cantatrice surpasses anything more than the mere mention of the fact. Speakers as the Indian chief of the Indians, we apprehend it will be a little time contracted to accommodate all who will regular there to listen to the strains of Sontag.

MR. A. W. HYATT has become associated in the publication of the *Cuyahoga Free Press*. Mr. Hyatt is a gentleman of ability and a clever writer.

NEW BOOKS.—Our thanks are due J. B. SMITH, No. 60 Camp street, for the following new publications:

Gliddon's Monthly Miscellany for January—With the single exception of the absence of illustrations, the pieces having been destroyed by the great fire, this number is in all respects equal to its predecessors, and its publication is a striking evidence of the untiring energy of its Harpers.

Bates' Life of the Valley of the Amazon—by Lieut. Wm. Lewis Herndon, U. S. Navy—with maps and plates. Taylor & Maury, Washington, publishers. This is certainly one of the most interesting volumes we have ever seen. It abounds in information, hitherto not only unknown, but unattainable, and is profusely and beautifully illustrated.

AMUSEMENTS.

VAN AMBURGH'S Ark is open day and night. Those of our population whose avocations confine them through the day, can find no more agreeable place to spend the evening.

SANTA CLAUS MARKET.—Many days of this establishment also, that it is ever open—that is, at all reasonable hours, and the "Fast Woman" tools her *soiree* at night, while her saloons are open for the reception of company during the fashionable "calling hours."

ST. CHARLES.—The Ravels and French Ballet Troupe continue to draw crowds. Tonight the first subject will be the farce of "Cinderella Tortoise," after which will come "The Carnival of Venice." The whole will conclude with the fanciful comic pantomime the "Green Monster," in which Gabriel Ravel will appear as the "White Knight."

PLACIDE'S.—The performances commence with the comedy of the Serious Family, in which Messrs. Brown and Holland and Mrs. Stuart will appear. Dancing by Mlle Soto and Mr. Smith. To be followed by the fourth act of Shakspeare's second part of Henry IVth, comprising the death of Henry IVth; A grand pas de deux by Senorita Soto and Mr. Smith. The whole to conclude with the farce of Deaf as a Post.

DAN RICE'S AMPHITHEATRE.—It is unnecessary to do more than refer the reader to the advertisement. Every body has heard of Mme. Tournaire, and every body ought to go and see her.

HERMANN'S MISTAKE.—The San Francisco (Cal.) *Commercial*, after announcing the death in San Francisco of Francis P. Blair, indulges in a protracted eulogium on the virtues of the distinguished ex-editor of the *Globe*, who is yet living, but is in the enjoyment of good health. It was his son that died.

☞ It is said that the President has determined to take forthwith pretty decided steps in relation to the imprisonment of the three Americans in Cuba, and a call has been made for information in the House of Representatives.

☞ The wire suspension bridge across the Licking river, between Covington and Newport, gave way on Monday evening last, while a drove of cattle were passing. Some of the animal were drowned, but fortunately two men who were driving them escaped.

AN ILLUMINATION.—The city of Detroit was illuminated on Tuesday evening in honor of the opening of the Great Western Rail Road. The place was densely thronged with persons in a distance, who came for the purpose of participating in the celebration.

ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE OF ART.—We are indebted to Montgomery, publisher, for Nos. XII of vol. 2, and No. I of vol. 3 of this superb pictorial publication. From the same house we have received No. 9 of the Popular Educator.

MAINE.—Business is still suspended in the Maine Legislature. On Saturday the House proposed a Convention for filling vacancies at 11 o'clock on the 17th instant. The Senate had adjourned, and of course there was no action. In the Senate, same day, an order had been passed proposing a Convention with the House for filling the vacancies in the Senatorial districts of Waldo and Cumberland. The House still is on the table and adjourned. And thus the matter now stands.

☞ The river is as low if not lower than it has been at any time during the season. It reported that a rise had taken place above the raft, but it proved to be a mistake, therefore, we cannot announce any improvement in the navigation until we have had heavy rains throughout the country.—*Shreveport Southwestern.*

VALUABLE LOTS OF GROUND IN DESIRABLE TOWN.—The attention of buyers is called to the sale of several Lots of Ground, advantageously situated in another column, which are large tracts of land fronting Bayou Bienvenue, to take place THIS DAY, at 5 o'clock, at the N. Louis Exchange, by Henry Hopkins & Co. The terms of payment are very advantageous.

LATER FROM MEXICO.

The steamship *Texas* arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the 9th instant, having been detained 48 hours beyond her time by heavy gales from the North. By this arrival we have received papers from the city of Mexico to the 16th instant. Our files are uncommonly barren of interest. Nothing of special importance appears to have transpired since our last accounts.

Adhesions to the plan of Guadalajara continue to come in, and His Serene Highness encounters no obstacle whatever to the fulfillment of his ambitious views.

A presidential decree establishes a vice-consulate at Charleston, Galveston and Pensacola.

Two musical celebrities, Messrs. Coner and Lubeck, are giving concerts in Mexico.

It is rumored that Mexico has stipulated for several millions of dollars as indemnity to the dwellers on the frontiers, whose hacienda have been destroyed through the neglect of the United States to observe the provisions of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

Santa Anna will shortly repair to the department of Vera Cruz and spend some months at his residence at Enero. He will be attended by his Cabinet, and a suitable escort.

Beltran, the young man who murdered a lady on board the *Amelie*, has been placed on board the English vessel, to be given up to the Commander of one of the French men-of-war stationed at Havana.

A Committee of Censors of the Drama has been appointed by the President.

The Prince of Nassau is quite a lion at the Capital. Ball fights and other entertainments have been got up expressly for him, and he appears to be on familiar terms with His Serene Highness.

The *Trait D'Union* says there is some talk of colonizing parts of Mexico with Germans, and promises further information shortly.

General Santiago Blanco has been appointed Minister of War.

The Mexican papers contain news from California to the 1st instant, and have learned that Walker and his men are not yet exterminated. The press seems greatly more alarmed than the occasion would seem to justify.

Mr. T. Pardo, a respectable citizen of Puebla, committed suicide a few days ago, by precipitating himself from the steeple of the church of San Francisco. Bankruptcy is said to have been the cause of the frightful deed.

A sensible shock of an earthquake was recently felt in San Juan del Rio.

CORONER'S INQUEST, AND PROBABLE MURDER.—An inquest was holden yesterday on the body of a white man named Francis Faller Williams, aged 60 years, a native of England, found dead in a house on Houssaen street, between Jackson and Josephine, in the Fourth District. Verdict, "came to his death of *tetanus*, caused by injuries received on the evening of the 25th inst., at the hands of some person or persons unknown."

We understand that this unfortunate victim of violence was a private watchman, and engaged as such among the shipping—that on the day of his injury, he was admonished that he was in danger. He was found among some timbers at the head of wharf, with his arm broken, and complaining of internal injuries in the region of the bladder. The only statement he was able to make was, that while standing at his post, he was suddenly pushed off the wharf by two men whom he did not know.

What can we conclude from this? Within a few days a highly respectable citizen connected with a banking house in our city, while on his way from the Cattle Landing in Jefferson to Camp street, mysteriously disappears. He has not found, crushed and covered with mud; and this is all that is known of A. C. LACRAXE! A few nights since, the writer, while on his way home was accosted near the Lafayette Market, three bandits whose every action indicated a desperate purpose. On the alarm being given, the police assembled from every quarter, but the villains could not be found. It is melancholy to reflect that we were informed at the Police office of the First District, that our life was not safe in the populous Camp Street, or any other street, in our way from this office to our home! And now, a poor man, dependent upon sleepless nights for the means of honest livelihood, falls a victim to assassins, and the records of the Coroner's office elicit only the fact that the perpetrators are "unknown."

Our taxation is enormous, all admit: but we say, let it be doubled, trebled, aye quadrupled, if need be, but let the honest citizen feel that, while paying for protection, he lives in a country where his life can only be taken by the God who gave it.

CONGRESS.

In the SENATE on the 10th, Mr. Pettit offered a resolution directing an inquiry into the propriety of extending the laws regulating the pensions of widows of revolutionary soldiers to widows of soldiers of 1812. He read a letter on the subject, in which the ground taken was that any woman worthy of being the wife of a soldier who had sacrificed his life for his country would be very likely to get any another husband, and the wants of a woman who has buried two husbands are not less than those of a woman who has buried but one. (Laughter.) The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Gwin offered a resolution calling for information relative to the conduct of the U. S. Naval forces, at the time of the expedition from California to Sonora. Mr. Gwin spoke at some length, introducing the subject of the President's proclamation and declaring that at the time the expedition to Sonora sailed, it might have been stopped by a single U. S. vessel of war; but now the population came too late. After some discussion, the resolution was laid over, and the Senate went into executive session.

In the HOUSE, on motion of Mr. Bombiel, the committee on military affairs were instructed to enquire into the expediency of constructing a road from the Great Salt Lake City to the boundary of California, for military and other purposes.

The house then went into committee of the whole on the resolution, proposing to refer the various branches of the President's message to appropriate committees.

Mr. Kirth of S. Carolina spoke in advocacy of the levying of tonnage duties by the States.

Mr. Hughes addressed the House in defence of the New York Suffs, after which the House adjourned.

The SENATE was not in session on the 20th instant.

In the HOUSE the discussion respecting New York politics was resumed, and Mr. Cutting made a forcible and able speech in defence of the National Democracy, and in vindication of himself from the aspersions of his colleagues.

Mr. Bonham spoke in favor of the Messrs. Walbridge and Perkins, after which Mr. Wade obtained the floor, and the House adjourned to Monday, the 23d.

☞ **Appointments by the President.**

By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

COLLECTORS OF THE CUSTOME.

Henry F. Hancock, for the district of Washington, North Carolina.

Gideon Bradford, for the district of Providence, Rhode Island.

Geo H Reynolds, for the district of Bristol and Warren, Rhode Island.

John Lynch, for the district of Richmond, Virginia.

George Turner, for the district of Newport, Rhode Island.

Henry Hobart, for the district of New London, Connecticut.

James Lyle, for the district of Presque Isle, (Erie) Pennsylvania.

Eben W. Allen, for the district of Nantucket, Massachusetts.

William Barrell, for the district of Marblehead, Massachusetts.

William S Pomeroy, for the district of Fairfield, Connecticut.

Samuel T Sawyer, for the district of Norfolk and Portsmouth, Virginia.

Hugh Archer, for the district of St. Mark's, Florida.

Ezra Chesebro, for the district of Stonington, Connecticut.

John S Parker, for the district of Cherrystone, Virginia.

John S Sherrad, for the district of Burlington, New Jersey.

Julian A Baratte, for the district of St Mary's, Georgia.

Robert N McMillan, for the district of Tache, (Franklin,) Louisiana.

Ephraim K Smart, for the district of Belfast, Maine.

Supreme Court of the United States.

WEDNESDAY, January 25, 1854.

J. N. Platt, Esq., of New York, was admitted an attorney and counsellor of this Court.

No. 45. Wm. Livingston *et al.*, appellants, ex. Wm. W. Woodworth *et al.* The argument of this cause was continued by Mr. Curtis for the appellees, and concluded by Mr. Schley for the appellants.

No. 46. Thomas Kearney *et al.*, appellants, ex. John J. Taylor *et al.* The argument of this cause was commenced by Messrs. Dayton and Reverdy Johnson for the appellees.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

THURSDAY, January 19, 1854.

W. Claude Jones, Esq., of Missouri, and Jas. Raymond, Esq., of Maryland, were admitted attorneys and counsellors of this court.

No. 46. Thomas Kearney *et al.*, appellants ex. John J. Taylor *et al.* The argument of this cause was continued by Messrs. Dayton and Reverdy Johnson for the appellees.

Adjourned till to-morrow, 11 o'clock, a. m.

NAVIGATION OF THE AMAZON PROHIBITED.—Official proclamation is made by the Consols of Brazil and Para, at New York, that all trade and commerce in the waters of the Amazon is strictly prohibited. The Brazilian Consul declares as follows: "No foreign flag is permitted to enter the said river Amazon." The Herald on proclamation is combed in the following language:

"Whereas, an incorporated company, entitled the 'Amazon Steamship Company,' is about to commence trade on the waters of the Amazon, that river and its upper waters, within the limits of trading therein, and as means are in abundance, and men are wanting, the success of said company are to use the Peruvian flag, this consulate has been instructed to give public notice that the Diplomatic Minister of Peru in this country, has not granted, nor can grant the use of said flag for purposes contrary to laws or regulations of any power with which Peru is at peace."

OUR BATON ROUGH CORRESPONDENCE.

BATON ROUGE, Jan. 26th, 1854.

The slow wheels of legislation are now turned loose. The mighty axe has fallen! Justice is once more polluted. The Constitution, ruthlessly trampled upon, answers, no longer, as a safeguard to the rights of the people, and a security against hasty, imprudent or corrupt legislation. The vilest apportionment ever inflicted on any people, is now a law, having, only, the Governor's signature, which he dares not withhold, because a party caucus, has dictated that it should become a law. This renders the constitutional prohibition against the passage of other bills, and now we may expect business to be a little more tangible and active.

The apportionment made was so unjust and disproportionate that many Democrats were about to make open rebellion on the scheme which sacrificed their constituents to the Moloch of party. The wire pullers became alarmed and on Monday the following notice was posted about the public places of the Capitol:

NOTICE.

The members of the Democratic party in the Legislature are respectfully invited to attend a meeting at the Judiciary committee room, at 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning the 24th instant.

WM. W. KING,
ROBERT C. WICKLIFFE,
U. B. PHILLIPS.

Surely the loodoco party have cause to be grateful to Messrs King, Wickliffe and Phillips. They have added a new feature to party trickery. A committee having a party majority, prepare a bill which they openly confess is intended to gerrymander the State, and secure to the democratic party a majority, when Mr. Sibley is next ready to command—if not to buy—whomsoever is to be bought. A large proportion of the members know nothing of this bill until it is reported. It is such a gross and iniquitous outrage upon their constituents, that impulsive justice makes them speak out against it. Senator Griffin, although placed in a democratic district, swore such vengeance, that his district was changed so as not to impair his democracy. Without conscience and pallid with shame, two grave Senators and one representative convert themselves into political party tricksters, and summon the unintered democracy to come into books and learn the first lesson in locofocoism—a reckless disregard of equity and manly honor, when party ends can be attained in no other way. The street innocents go into the school room and commonest quite satisfied the report of a democratic committee is the very best thing for the democracy, in their estimation.

The caucus assembled and resolved to choke down opposition, by cutting off all discussion with the previous question. The members who were angered, came out muzzled—the party were threatened with the same infliction, and debate was not attempted. Of the democracy in the Senate, Messrs. Ryan, Delaussy, Griffin and Bonner were in the execrable abomination. Mr. Ryan, in explaining his vote, said that he knew none of the wishes of his constituents, than any committee could do, and that Rapides had been so unjustly apportioned, that he could not lend himself to expediency when it was so openly inconsistent with justice.

Although the Third District, the largest in population and wealth of any in the city, was robbed of half its present representation, not one Democratic member of the House dared to oppose it, except Col. R. W. James. He deserves high commendation for his vote against it, in spite of the caucus, and his effort to convince members that a great wrong would be consummated upon his constituents. After the final vote, Messrs. Roberts, Caldwell and Olney obtained leave to explain why they had voted for the bill. Their explanations were lame and impotent, to a pretty near confession that they were drilled into it. They said they had tried to have things differently, but finding that no other representative number could be agreed on than the one 17,000 selected, they were forced to vote for the bill; and that the census was not fully taken in their District, and they could do no better. How they could be *forced* I cannot comprehend. The majority of a committee, of course, controls the report of a committee; and can *force* the votes of members in the House, is inconceivable. If the census was wrongfully taken, why should they not rectify mistakes by statistical information, and ask for the same immediate action that was perpetrated by enlarging several Parishes, not reported, by the census of 1850, adding 4 per cent for increase of population? One was just as easy and proper as the other.

In justice to the independence of Col. James, I must say, that he was not informed of the Democratic caucus and said—"Mr. Speaker, I have no explanations to make."

The fact is, about this census matter, that the census in the Third District was not taken accurately. In order to equalize the compensation of the labor among the census-takers, a part of the Third was added to the Second District. But enough of this. The thing is done. May those who did it sleep quietly, and sweet be their constituents with conscience void of offence.

Party goes on and leaves nothing in its way.—To-day Mr. Dubuclet, (D) who contested the seat of Mr. Billaudon, (W) of St. Bernard, was sworn in and took his seat. The proof was that the second ward of the parish the commissioners made a second Patent Office Report, with a cross on it, as a bible, for taking oaths, and a great many illegal votes were taken. Excluding this but Mr. B. was defeated.

Mr. Wickliffe is anxious for the passage of an act allowing the appointment, every three years, of twelve weighers of cotton and sugar for New Orleans, with power to appoint deputies, and to charge cents per bale, for weighing sugar, and 6 cents per bale for weighing cotton. Owners of cotton and sugar are to be subjected to a fine of ten dollars for each bag-head or bale sold without the brand of these weighers. This gives the governor room to appoint quite a number of party friends, and will be very likely to get up another stir among the merchants. The cherrie bill still slumbers. Mr. Marigny has been very watchful, but owing to the absence of Mr. McCay nothing has been attempted in regard to it.

The health committee left for the city this evening.

J. S. H.

RAVAGES OF THE CHOLERA AT ST. THOMAS AND CONSTERNATION AMONG THE INFANTS.—A letter from this Island, dated 27th ult., which we find in the New York *Times* of the 17th inst., gives a frightful account of the appearance and progress of this disease, principally amongst the blacks, at that place. It commenced upon an estate near the city, and is said to have been communicated by a negro man who had been at work on board the merchant ship Atlas, which had put into that port in distress, as he was the first victim; from thence it was communicated to others, on the estate and in its vicinity. Its ravages were confined, up to the last dates, to a district lying back of the largest Savannah in the town, which was densely populated by the poor classes. The rapid progress of the disease may be seen by the statement that, on Friday, the 23d, there were but 9 deaths in the town; on Saturday, 17; on Sunday, 65. On Thursday the excitement was intense, and all business was suspended:

"The alarm among the negroes is very great, as the disease is thus far confined to them, and it is distressing to behold their unwillingness to assist each other when taken down. Scores are bearly found abandoned to suffer and die alone. There were 53 burials yesterday up to 6 P. M., and others were lying dead, but not removed, to the grave yard. This makes 146 deaths in four days, of which 116 occurred in the 24 hours preceding 6 o'clock last evening. What a frightful mortality!"

SHOCKING TRAGEDY AT LEXINGTON, VA.—A young man named Thomas Blackburn, a son of Dr. R. S. Blackburn, of Charlestown, Va., and a Cadet at the Military Institute at Lexington, in that State, was killed, on Sunday last, by a young man named Christian, a member of Judge Brockenbrough's Law School. The Woodstock *Tenth Legion* gives the following particulars of the sad affair:

Christian had sought and obtained an introduction to a young lady, a cousin of Blackburn, and, by her consent, had made an arrangement to accompany her to church. Blackburn joined the young lady that Christian was not a suitable person for her to associate with, whereupon she wrote the latter a note desiring to be released from her arrangement. Enraged, Christian demanded of her the name of his traducer, when Blackburn acknowledged that he had given the information to his cousin, and that he was responsible to him. On Sabbath evening, Christian armed himself with a bowie knife and went to the door of the church to await the arrival of Blackburn. The latter came, in company with a lady. Christian asked Blackburn to step aside with him. When they had proceeded a few steps from the church door, Christian cut him in the neck with the knife, entirely severing one of the carotid arteries, causing his death instantly. This rash act was no doubt committed in the heat of passion, as it is difficult to conceive how any man could, at such a place, on the Sabbath day, coolly and deliberately perpetrate so dark a deed. Christian has been arrested.

PUBLISHING FROM LETTERS.—A special agent of the Post Office Department, has within a few weeks, caused the detection and arrest, in New York, of two youths, employed in mercantile houses in that city, for stealing money letters addressed to their employers through the mail, and received by them from the post office. It appears that numerous losses had occurred to both houses, and had been reported to the Post Office Department, as referable to the carelessness or dishonesty of its agents or employes. Not the least suspicion was entertained by either house that their own young men might be unworthy of the confidence reposed in them, and probably neither could have been convinced of the truth by any evidence short of the actual detection of the culprits, which was secretly accomplished by the agent of the Department.

☞ A singular phenomenon occurred at Bayshore, Va., during a recent snow storm.—While it was snowing fast, and the wind high, a white appearance in the air resembling a flock of wild geese was observed, but it was soon after ascertained to be bells of snow collected in the air by a thousand whirlwinds.—They increased in size and number for about twenty minutes, when they fell to the ground, covering more than an acre. On examining the spot where they fell, balls were found from one to twenty inches in diameter.

FIRE IN SHREVEPORT.—The *Southwestern* of the 19th says:

A fire occurred on Saturday night, which consumed the lumber drying kiln, belonging to Messrs. Clafin & Robinson. Fortunately no buildings were in the immediate neighborhood. There was due plausible the Sonora in Clafin, boy, but Mr. Clafin thinks that the origin of the fire was the work of an incendiary, and will give three reward for his arrest and conviction. Loss about $1000.

BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

[TO THE N. O. BEE.]
[By the National Line.]

STATE LEGISLATURE.

BATON ROUGE, January 27, 1854.

SENATE.—There was no quorum in the Senate today.

HOUSE.—Mr. Deason introduced a bill to authorize a Harbor Master for the Fourth District. A bill has been introduced to authorize the Commissioners fifty thousand dollars, also a bill allowing securities to be given out of the Parish, in certain cases.

There will not be, from present appearances, a quorum in either house, to-morrow, Saturday.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

TUESDAY, January 24.

SENATE.—Majority and minority reports on the apportionment were submitted by Messrs. Boatner and Moore and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Griffin, of Avoyelles, asked that the rules might be suspended, and introduced a bill for the relief of J. Lee Sidier, who was printer to the Convention of 1852 and who complained of having received too small a sum for his labor and asked for $15,000 more. Referred.

Mr. Rivers, of Concordia, asked that the rules might be suspended and the following resolution taken up:

Resolved, That the board of commissioners, of the Swamp and overflowed lands be instructed to cause the engineer of the 3d Land District to examine the Bayou Cocodrie and Wild Cane Bayou at their junction with Black river, and report as to the practicability and expediency of constructing levees across their mouths, in order to reclaim a large body of Swamp and overflowed lands in the parish of Concordia, and to prevent the country from overflow. And if found practicable and expedient, he cause the same to be constructed. Referred after debate.

Mr King according to previous notice introduced the following bills:

An Act relating mortgages, &c., &c.

An Act relative to minors and married women.

The President laid before the Senate the report of the President of the New Orleans Jackson and Great Northern Railroad Company—1000 copies ordered to be printed.

Several bills of a local character were read and referred.

Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Campbell offered a resolution to appoint a joint committee to proceed to New Orleans and examine into the affairs of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Western Railroad Companies. Adopted.

Mr. Roberts, from the committee on elections, reported that in the case of the contested election of W. E. Gill, as a member of this House from the parish of Calcasieu, no evidence had been presented to the committee, the sitting of the contestant, and that W. E. Gill, the sitting member is fully entitled to his seat, and recommended that the House so retain him.

Mr. Miller a bill to appropriate $270,000 to more fully carry out the act in relation to the draining of the swamp lands of the State. Read twice and referred.

Mr. Roberts, on leave, a bill to amend the act to organized district courts in the city and parish of Orleans. Read twice and referred.

Mr. Beecher's bill having a similar object.

The Speaker appointed on the part of the House, Messrs. Farrell, McWhorter, Phillips, Heard and Nixon, the Committee to examine the affairs of the Railroad Companies, as provided in Mr. Campbell's resolution adopted this morning.

On motion of Mr. Roberts, of Orleans, the Koszta and Cuba joint resolutions offered by him yesterday were taken up and referred.

On motion of Mr. Morrison, the joint resolution introduced by him, instructing our delegating in Congress to use their efforts to secure the passage of bills now pending in Congress to donate lands to Railroad Companies in this State, was taken up and passed.

Mr. Roberts, from a joint resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the expediency of Judicial interchanges, and whether any law on the subject is required, reported by bill or otherwise—adopted.

House adjourned.

MONDAY, January 23.

SENATE.—The bill repealing the act creating the Police Jury of St. Landry was passed.

The apportionment bill was then taken up and read by sections and passed.

The Report of the Citizens' Bank of Louisiana was received and referred to the Senate Committee. Ordered printed and referred to the Committee on Banks and Banking.

A resolution ordering the Secretary of State to subscribe for 1,000 copies of B. Marigny's New Work, was referred.

Senate adjourned without transacting any important business.

HOUSE.—Mr. Roberts offered a joint resolution instructing our delegation in Congress to vote for an act to give 160 acres of public lands to each actual soldier thereon—read twice and adopted.

Mr. Roberts, of Orleans, from the Committee on Elections, in case of the contested election for Representative in Congress, from the Third, reported in favor of the claim of the contestant, Mr. Duvilion, and adverse to that of Mr. Billaudon, the sitting member. 200 copies ordered to be printed.

Mr. Miller, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported back the bill to appropriate $270,000 to drain the swamp lands of the State, recommending its passage.

Mr. Phillips, from the Judiciary Committee, reported favorably on a bill relative to the Fire Department of New Orleans—read twice and recommended the printing of 500 copies of the bill to abolish tacit mortgages, and the same number of copies of the bill to perpetuate testimony, and to make it operative.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, and passed the bill to pay legislative expenses.

The Senate apportionment bill was made the order of the day for Thursday.

On motion of Mr. Nixon, the bill to protect creditors from the fraudulent attachment of assets of successions and insolvencies in the Parish of Orleans, was taken up and passed.

Mr. Pursley, on leave, offered a resolution instructing the State Printer to furnish 4 copies, and a few pair of pantaloons, from Tommy Barfield, on the 20th instant, valued in all at $3. Fixed for the 30th instant.

THE WOMEN AT IT AGAIN.—Mary Mullgan had Emily Hemingway, and hence her arrest.

Pat. Duffy was arrested for assaulting and threatening the life of some one with a knife.

HAMS IN REQUEST AGAIN.—James Young was arrested for stealing a ham.

Poor Mary Donovan applied to be sent to the Work-House, she was so drunk she knew Mary might have done worse. Her request was promptly complied with.

Chas. Edwards was arrested on Magazine street charged with larceny.

☞ The particular attention of Buyers is called to the sale of one hundred and fifty pa kages and lots Foreign and American Dry Goods, by Vincent & Co., 43 Bienville street, THIS DAY, at 10 o'clock.

—MARRIED—

On Thursday, the 26th inst., by the Rev. Dr. Leacock, Lieut. Augustus Ogle to Miss Adeosta, daughter of Mrs. E. A. Slocomb.

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THE GRAEFENBERG FAMILY MEDICINES are widely and justly celebrated as the most safe, valuable and reliable Family Medicines ever offered to the public. They are endorsed by the first Physicians of the day, and those who have used them guarantee their beneficial action.

A most valuable Pamphlet containing a list of more than 60 diseases with their symptoms and treatment, can be obtained without charge, from

J. WRIGHT & CO., Agents,
No. 151 Chartres street,

Who keeps a full supply of the Medicines on hand at all times. jan26-1y

SOMETHING OF IMPORTANCE to every Citizen, and Stranger visiting New Orleans.—We have received a large supply of that most valuable and justly celebrated preparation,

MORTIMORE'S INDIAN CORDIAL AND BLOOD PURIFIER.

This delightful Cordial, so beneficial to the breath, and so marvelously wonderful in restoring the sick to health, from almost every disease to which the human family are subject, can be had of us in future, in any quantity, wholesale or retail.

Every lady and gentleman, and every family in our city should use it. Call and get a Pamphlet, or a Circular. TO DRUGGISTS AND MERCHANTS.—Having made extensive arrangements with the proprietors for a constant supply, we will fill their orders, by the dozen or gross, at lowest wholesale prices.

This Cordial now stands immensely sale wherever introduced, and should be kept by all Druggists and Merchants, and used by every community.

Price $1 00 per bottle. J. WRIGHT & CO.,
dec 18-3m 4w No. 151 Chartres st. N. O.

REVALENTA ARABICA,
PREPARED BY
De Barry Du Barry & Co., London

Certificate of the celebrated Physician Rudolph Wurzer.

BONN, 19th July, 1853.

This light and agreeable Farina is the best of all aliments. At once nourishing and restorative, it is an admirable substitute for every kind of medicine. It is particularly efficacious in habitual constipation, obstinate cases of which it dissipates, affections of the lungs and urethra; pulse in the back, diseases of the bladder, hemorrhoids or piles, dimness of the bright, nervous irritation, nervous debility, hypochondria, gout, rheumatism, &c. &c.

Depot for the Samuel Louisiana at

F. F. DUCONGE,
No 29 Chartres st. N. O.

And at Z. GERMAIN, No 137 Royal st.

N. B.—This Farina is particularly adapted to sick persons and convalescents, and to children of a feeble constitution. jan30—6m

54 Chartres st., corner of Customhouse street

OLYMPE

BEGS leave to inform the Ladies that she has just received a complete assortment of Bazage Dresses, from Boulogne, of the latest patterns. Perse Dresses, Ball Dresses, of the latest patterns. Perse Umbrellas and spring Marquise Umbrellas. Polonaise Black Lace Pelerines and Mantelets. Polonaise, of Brazil's application, and of Point d'Alençon, Embroidered Tulle, Lace Mantelets. All of which she will open on Friday, 27th inst. jan26-1y

AGENCY OF
The Sence Mutual Life Insurance Company of Worcester, Mass.
JOHN DAVIS, President. SAM'L COOLIDGE, Sec'y.
Accumulated Cash Capital, $650,000.

AND

The Merchants' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of New York.
CHAS. B. OSTRANDER, Pres't. JAS. BARKER, Sec'y.
Capital $200,000.

A AGENT for the above respectable Companies, is having a combined Capital of $850,000, I am prepared to insure Buildings, Merchandise, Steamboats, Vessels, Cotton, Sugar, Molasses, Pork, and Bacon, at a reasonable rate, and on the most favorable terms.

FLOOD IN THE SUSQUEHANNA.—The water is high and the river is filled with floats, but the fishermen have been successful. The shad and sturgeon have been detained.

BOSTON, Jan. 20.

THE TUSCARORAS TO THE RESCUERS.—The merchants here have subscribed $5,000 for those who aided in rescuing the passengers of the San Francisco.

BOSTON, Jan. 20.

FIRE AT SACO, MAINE.—The large block of buildings, including the post-office, in Saco, Maine, has been entirely consumed by fire.

CATSKILL, N. Y., Jan. 20.

MURDERER EXECUTED.—Warren Wood was executed here to-day for the murder of the pedler Williams.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 20.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.—The Senate, to day, passed the bill repealing the charter of the Franklin Canal Company by a unanimous vote.

GODENSBURG, N. Y., Jan. 20.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—The large factory owned by J. C. Judson, was destroyed by fire last night. Loss $10,000. Insured.

M. D. F. R. S.—We always thought we knew what these capitals implied until a few days past, when we met with an anecdote which threw new light on the subject.

It seems that Mr. Bennett, when in London, among whom was a Fellow of the Royal Society, were on a pedestrian excursion to Edinburgh. Not far north of the Tweed, they stopped at an ale-house by the road-side, for refreshment. While there, their attention was attracted by the tavern sign on which was printed in glaring capitals JOHN BURNS, M. D.—F. R. S.—"What do you mean," said the indignant associate of Sir Joseph Banks, "what do you mean by presuming to confer those honorable letters to your name?" "I only meant" replied the humble publican "that I was drummajor of the Royal Scotch Fusiliers." The *Sonnet* stood before his host, perfectly dumb founded.

LOCAL ITEMS.

FIFTH DISTRICT COURT.

IMPORTANT SUIT.—A. Vs Burr, J. L. McCrea by and Lewis F. Hel instituted suit against W. C. Templeton and Vanderbilt, (proprietors of the Bienville line of steamboats from New Orleans to San Francisco) for damage in consequence of detention on the Isthmus. The case was tried by a jury, and $350 were awarded to each of the plaintiffs.

MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARDS.—An assembly of the Boards of School Directors of the different Districts of the city, was holden last night in the room of the Assistant Aldermen. Gen Hornsby was called the meeting to order, and Mr. Elmore took the chair. Gen. Davis was appointed Secretary. The names of the Directors of each District being called, it appeared that there were present from the First District, Messrs. Rawle, Baldwin, Beebe, Crichard, Elmore, McCauley, Mathews, Price, Simpson, Stallings, Jennings, Atem and Hoar, from the Second District, Messrs. Bacon, Charvet, Cavillier, Dufourd, Dupre and Emerson; from the Third District, Mr. Key, and from the Fourth District, Messrs. Sunderland, Dowler, McKnight, Brewer, Vernand, Brierson, Waples and Mount—in all 29 members.

At this st