

the President's letter and the exchanging of the ratifications in Pekin, referring the place to be eventually designated to the Emperor. On the 8th the Deputy Commissioner called again to say that if Mr. Ward would write a letter stating that if he should fail to treat the Emperor with all the respect and honor he would show the President, the President would be offended by his conduct, the Emperor would order his seal to be affixed to the treaty, which had not yet been done, it seems. Mr. Ward replied that he had no objection to this, and wrote accordingly. The deputy then said if Mr. Ward would request the appointment of an officer to receive the President's letter one would be designated, and if, moreover, he would express the wish to have the ratifications exchanged at some place in the north of China, it would be granted. Mr. Ward declined doing either, as both points were matters belonging to the pleasure and decision of the Emperor. On the 9th a more conciliatory letter was received from the Commissioners, appointing the 10th for the reception of the President's letter, and the Buddhist monastery as the place, where the first interview was held, and the town of Pei-tang where we commenced our journey, as the place for the exchange of the ratifications.

On the 10th Mr. Ward, with his Secretary and Interpreters, proceeded to the temple, where again he met the three Commissioners, and delivered the President's letter in the following Oriental style: All the party stood; no business or discussion being allowed till this august ceremony was performed. First Mr. Ward's Secretary took the letter and handed it to him, who raised it above his eyes, signifying that he was inferior to the President; and then, passing it over the left shoulder, in sign of honor, according to Chinese ideas, handed it to Kwei-liang, the Prime Minister, who in turn raised it above his eyes and passed it over his left shoulder, handing it to a high Mandarin, who placed it reverently with both his hands upon the table in the centre of the room, around which a guard was at once placed to protect and honor it. Such are Chinese customs and rites. Thus, everything being satisfactorily concluded, and perfect good feeling preserved the Commissioners and Mr. Ward with his party sat down with a better relish to the rich tables, spread as at the first visit; when, returning to their quarters by the middle of the afternoon, all preparations were made for our departure the next morning.

It was said by some of the Chinese officials that the Emperor was intent on giving Mr. Ward an audience, and anxious to see him, and would in some way have managed to gratify his wishes but for the persistent opposition of Princes of the royal family. His own mind is evidently more enlightened and liberalized than those of most of the nobility, though the two Commissioners, and especially the Prime Minister, Kwei-liang, exhibited talent worthy of the respect of even European statesmen. Mr. Ward compared Kwei-liang to Gen. Cass, and Hwashana to the late Secretary Clayton.

In the morning we leave this grand capital of three millions of population, as the Chinese officials assure us, which has had such a historic renown, and whose future is so uncertain, in whose centre a handful of your unarmed neighbors found themselves as if by magic power, and where they spent a fortnight in a sort of dreamy unknowing, doubting, wondering existence, but full of gratification, and never to be forgotten—a privilege for which many would give a fortune, but which cost us nothing but the wear and tear of flesh, and the aches and torture of bone and sinew. What I saw in it and learned about it I must defer to another opportunity. When we reach Pei-tang, on our return journey, where the ratifications are to be exchanged, I will give you the finale of the first American mission to Pekin.

THE IROQUOIS.—In obedience to instruction from Washington, the U. S. steam gunboat Iroquois, which has recently been detailed by the Navy Department as flag-ship of the Mediterranean squadron, will go into commission at the noon to-day, at the Brooklyn Yard, unless the weather should prove unfavorable. A crew of sailors and a guard of marines, numbering all told one hundred and forty men, are under orders to go on board, and the officers have nearly all reported. The Iroquois is equipped and supplied with stores and provisions for twelve months. She is the first gun-boat ever built for the Navy in New York, and the third which has been commissioned, the Wyoming and Narragansett having preceded her on active service. The Iroquois was put on the stocks in September, 1858, and launched in April, 1859. She is 225 feet long, 33 feet wide, 1010 tons burthen, and carries an armament of four medium size thirty-two pounders, one nine-inch and two eleven-inch guns. Her machinery consists of two back-acting engines, with cylinders fifty-four inches in diameter and twenty-eight inches stroke, having Martin's boilers attached. The propeller is of composition, twelve feet three inches in diameter, and nineteen feet pitch.

THE LOUISIANA DEMOCRAT.
E. W. HALSEY, EDITOR.
ALEXANDRIA:
Wednesday, Dec. 14, 1859.

OUR CANDIDATE.
The proceedings of the Senatorial Convention of yesterday will be found in another column. There is no risk in saying that their action will be cordially approved by the Democracy of Avoyelles and Rapides and ratified by a large majority. We have full, implicit and abiding faith in Democratic Conventions at all times and are willing in all contingencies to accept their action, to carry out their behests and to sustain their nominations. In the present instance the Convention has afforded to our Democratic fellow-citizens especial occasion for mutual congratulations by presenting for our suffrages an eminently worthy candidate to represent us in the State Senate.

TELEGRAPHIC.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The Southern Opposition members of the House of Representatives have held several conferences in relation to their agreement as to whom they will support for that office.

The Democratic members held a caucus to-day, and unanimously nominated Hon. Thomas S. Bocock, of Virginia, as their candidate for Speaker. Before the caucus adjourned, a committee was appointed to call future meetings of the Democratic members, if it became necessary.

Dec. 4.—The Republican members of Congress held a caucus yesterday, for the purpose of making a nomination for Speaker of the House of Representatives. The members were in conference until a late hour, and finally adjourned without making a nomination, having resolved to take their chances in the House to-morrow, and act as circumstances shall appear to dictate.

Dec. 5.—The first session of the Thirty-sixth Congress opened to-day. Both Houses assembled at 12 o'clock, M., and were soon after called to order. Most of the members of each House were present, and the House of Representatives was crowded with spectators.

Much excitement prevailed among the spectators, as well as members, in relation to organization of the House, which, it is believed, will not be effected for several days, if not weeks.

The Senate met at noon, Vice-President Breckinridge in the chair. After administering the oath to the new members present, the Senate proceeded to business.

Senator Mason offered a resolution providing for the appointment of a select committee, to enquire into the nature and consequences to the General Government of the recent capture of the United States arsenal at Harper's Ferry.

Senator Trumbull, (Republican) of Illinois, gave notice of an amendment to the Virginia Senator's resolution, by inserting a like provision for an inquiry into the nature of the recent capture of the arsenal at Frankfort.

After passing the usual resolutions, notifying the House that the Senate was ready to proceed to the transaction of business of the session, the Senate adjourned.

The members of the House of Representatives assembled soon after 12 M. and proceeded to a temporary organization. Nearly all the members were punctually in their seats. The first and most important business being the election of Speaker, a motion was made to proceed at once, and the vote of the House being taken, resulted as follows:

First Ballot—John Sherman, (Republican) of Ohio, 66; G. A. Grow, (Rep.) of Pa., 43; Thos. S. Bocock, (Administration Dem.) 86; Alex. R. Bostler, (American) of Va., 14. There were twelve other candidates each receiving from one to five votes.

Upon the announcement of the result, Grow of Pa., withdrew from the contest, stating that he did not like to embarrass those Republicans who had divided the vote between him and Mr. Sherman.

Before proceeding to another ballot, John B. Clark, (Adm. Dem.) of Missouri, offered the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, Certain members of the House, now in nomination for the office of Speaker, have endorsed and recommended a volume entitled "The Impending Crisis of the South," purporting to have been written by Hinton Rowan Helper, of North Carolina;

Resolved, That the doctrine and sentiments therein contained are insurrectionary in their nature, hostile to Democratic institutions and to the peace and tranquility of the country; and that no member of this House who has endorsed or recommended this book is fit to fill the high and responsible office of Speaker of the House.

The effect of this resolution was like a fire-brand in Republican ranks. Several prominent Republicans rose to a point of order, and tried to get the floor to explain their positions, but were unsuccessful in their attempt to interrupt Mr. Clark, who, during the speech by which he followed his resolution, "poured hot shot" into the ranks of the Republican Abolitionists with marked effect, producing much excitement on both sides of the House.

Upon Mr. Clark's resuming his seat, several Republican members obtained the floor, and disclaimed on their own account any insurrectionary sentiments or any desire to dissolve the Union, etc.

An animated debate—a sort of running fire—was kept up for some time, and the members had a lively time of it, although the discussion was generally conducted in good humor.

Without proceeding to another ballot, the House adjourned.

It is probable that the slavery question will be discussed in both Houses to-morrow, if not for several days.

Dec. 6.—In the Senate to-day, Mr. Mason's resolution was called up and a long discussion ensued, in which several Senators took part on either side. Mr. Trumbull, of Illinois, favored the resolution and wished the matter thoroughly investigated, but offered an amendment that the select committee so appointed should also enter into an investigation of a similar affair which occurred in 1855 at Liberty, Missouri. Mr. Trumbull urged his amendment as a characteristic speech, to which Mr. Mason replied that the object of the resolution was to obtain official information upon which to base Congressional action.

Mr. Mason made a lengthy speech in support of the resolution, in a course of which he called John Brown a vagabond, a ruffian, a thief and a robber.

John P. Hale, of New Hampshire, occupied much of the attention of the Senate, making numerous speeches in his characteristic style, ridiculing the invasion of Brown as a crazy scheme, and reflecting upon the people of Virginia and their conduct, for which Hunter, of Virginia, rebuked him, saying that his (Hale's) attempt at wit was like the laugh of a drunken man at the bed of death.

Messrs. Green, Hughes and Iverson addressed the Senate, favoring Mason's resolution, but opposing Trumbull's amendment.

Messrs. Wilson and Clark advocated the amendment as well as the resolution, but precious to any action being taken upon it the Senate adjourned.

In the House, Mr. Clark's resolution in regard to those members of the House who had endorsed Helper's book, was still under discussion and consumed the entire session.

Mr. Leake, of Virginia, made an able speech, and was for making the Republicans "face the music."

Mr. Milson, of Virginia, said that those who endorsed Helper's book were not fit to live, much less to be Speaker of the House.

Mr. Keitt, of South Carolina, in an able and temperate speech, showed that the present state of feeling between the North and South, and the fate of John Brown and his deluded followers was the legitimate fruit of the seed sown by Wm. H. Seward and other Abolition agitators.

Sherman and Curtis made speeches in vindication of their position, and said as Republicans they did not justify any interference by force between master and slave.

Democratic Nominee for State Senate,
DR. S. A. SMITH,
OF RAPIDES.
ELECTION ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 2d, 1860.

See Third page for reading matter.

See among our new advertisements Mr. Bynum's notice of lost Cattle.

Also Mr. Vardy's advertisement of lost money, and Lloyd's strayed mule. It will also be seen that Mr. Johnson has a carriage which he desires to sell, and that a lot of 129 negroes are to be sold on the Allen plantation at Plaisance.

We are requested by the managers to state that the Masonic Hall of the 27th inst. is changed from the Masonic Hall to the capacious and brilliantly gas-lighted room of the Ice House. The Rapides belles and beaux that desire to display their flashing diamonds in the advantages of gas-light will note the change.

For the past few days our wharf has been thronged with steamboats. The reported swell in our River deceived many of the Captains who even cargoes at the city for Stureport and received at Jefferson, giving through Bills of Lading at high water rates. Of course, upon arriving here and finding the bars exposed, their visions of gain were greatly dimmed.

Above the Falls the whole rise has not exceeded two feet, and there is little prospect of its being any better soon.

Mr. J. S. Charles.
We had the pleasure of a call the other day from Mr. J. S. Charles, who is on a visit to our town for the purpose of making arrangements to open a Theatre during the present season.

We were pleased to learn that he has succeeded in obtaining the capacious hall of the Ice House, in which the gas fixtures are now complete and that his Theatre would be opened by the 13th of January.

Mr. Charles proposes furnishing permanent and new scenery and other ornaments of the room by means of a stock subscription, to which our business men and lovers of the drama will subscribe liberally.

Homicide.
On Monday evening James Bradford, a man of family and resident of this Parish, came into town in company with the deputy Sheriff, W. L. Gray and some friends, and reported himself to a magistrate as having been forced, on Saturday evening 10th inst., in self-defense to slay his fellow-man, William Fox. It seems that Fox and one James Whiteside had called at the house of Bradford a neighbor on friendly terms—perhaps a small trade was pending between Fox and Bradford.

All parties got to drinking—high words passed and serious threats made and much disorder in the presence of the family.

Matters cooled down however so far that the visitors had started to their horses—but for some reason they unfortunately determined to return into the house when Bradford sent to the heart of Fox the contents of one barrel of a double barrel shotgun. Whitesides immediately left.

These are some of the outlines as given by Mr. B. What the real cause of the difficulty, or which of the parties was in fault, are questions for higher tribunals.

Mr. Bradford placed himself in the hands of the officers and awaits an investigation.

Mons. Mallefert, the contractor for widening a channel through the Falls at this place, has been engaged in active operations for some weeks. The wreck of the steamer Adams lying in the upper channel has made it necessary for him to do much work aside from the specifications of his contract. It certainly was the duty of the State Boats to remove this wreck but inasmuch as it was neglected for months and months and has now been effected by private enterprise, the principle that no person shall enrich himself at the expense of another will no doubt induce the Legislature to refund the amount expended in clearing the obstruction.

A Good Sign.—The recent local elections in Ohio show symptoms of reaction in favor of the Democrats. They have gained largely in many strongholds of Free-Soil.

THE CORNER STONE.—A weekly paper with this title, devoted to Hebrew interests, has been commenced in New Orleans. It will defend the worship and cherish the traditions of Israelites.

ULTRAZISMS.—The Courier of New Orleans appeals to the people of the South to forbear putting forward ultrazisms to embarrass our friends of the North. The Courier enumerates them as follows:

The proposed revival of the African Slave Trade.

The proposed demand for Congressional intervention in the Territories for the protection of slave property therein; and

The meddling for introduction in Congress of the Slavery questions, on measures with which they have no real connection.

OLD BARNUM AND OLD BROWN.—The great showman, on Dec. 5, after the old clothes and arms of old Ossawatimie, as soon as the breath was out of his wretched old body. Barnum offered \$100 for his garments and his pike!

VICTORIA BRIDGE.—The first locomotive and train passed over the Victoria Bridge across the St. Lawrence at Montreal, Canada, Nov. 24th.

An English cockney, at the Falls of Niagara, when asked how he liked the Falls, replied: "They're 'ansome—quite so—but they don't hanser my expectations; besides, I got thoroughly vetted, and lost me 'at. Hi prefer to look at 'em in a hingsrav, bin 'ot weather and bin the 'ouse."

A LARGE NEGRO STAMPEDE.—The Chicago Journal says, that on Thursday evening, the 17th inst., the Underground Railroad arrived there with thirty passengers; five from the vicinity of Richmond Va., twelve from Kentucky, and thirteen from Missouri. They are now safe in Canada. The thirteen from Missouri were sold to go down the river the very day they started. A stalwart six footer and a Sharp's rifle were the only guides.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
\$100 REWARD.—A Pocket Book or Money Bag which was a \$100 bill on Canal Bank of Louisiana—a draft by Wm. H. Campbell, of Louisville, Ky., for \$100, due 6 months after date—\$75 bills on different banks—one \$10 gold piece, and other Kentucky and Tennessee money.
The above reward will be given for the delivery of the Book and its contents at the Democrat Office, Dec. 14th-31st JOHN VARDY.

SALE OF 129 NEGROES.
On TUESDAY, the 10th of January next, will be sold at public auction, on the plantation of J. D. Allen, Red River, Rapides Parish, Cottle Land, a gang of 129 prime plantation Negroes, fully acclimated, including Blacksmiths and Mechanics.
This is an unusually prime force and can be treated for at private sale.
Terms—One third Cash, the balance on twelve months, with eight per cent. interest, with approved security. For particulars address DAVID F. MEYERS or GLADDEN & SEIZAS, Dec. 14th-31st
R. R. American, and Natchitoches Chronicle copy, and send bill to Gladden & Seizas, N. O.

FOR SALE.
A handsome close carriage. The owner having no use for it will sell it at less than cost. For particulars enquire of
Dec. 14th, 1859-4 S. K. JOHNSON.

STRAYED from the plantation of M. & T. J. Wells, on, or about the 1st day of December, 1859, a small bay horse mule, well compact shaven mane and tail. I think that he will make his way to the Race Track about 2 miles from Alexandria. I will give \$10 reward to any one who will inform me of the whereabouts of said mule.
Address J. D. LOYD
Dec. 14th-14f Cheneyville, La.

Cow and Calves Strayed off.
THE cow is large, red, long bodied, with speckled, frosty looking head—large broad horns—bored underneath, both hips branded S. T. She has with her a calf six or ten weeks old, and a yearling heifer much like the mother, having speckled sided faces.
I will give \$10 dollars for any information that will enable me to get the red cow and her progeny.
Dec. 14th, '59-3f JOHN T. BYNUM.

State of Louisiana,
Parish of Rapides.
J. J. Swann, }
vs. } No. 6601.
D. T. Smith.
PURSUANT to an order of the District Court of the Parish of Rapides, rendered in the above entitled suit, I shall sell at PUBLIC AUCTION, at the late residence of Daniel T. Smith, on
MONDAY, the 26th day of December, 1859,

the following property, viz:
500 bushels Corn,
300 bundles Fodder,
Sundry articles of Household and Kitchen Furniture
Terms—For all sums under \$50, CASH—for all sums exceeding that amount, a credit of three months.
J. C. WISE, Sheriff.
Dec. 14th-14f-see \$4 50.

FINE JEWELRY.
THE UNDERSIGNED has just received a selection of FINE IMPORTED JEWELRY, consisting of—
Etruscan, Enamel, Cameo, Painting, Almandine, Amethyst, Setts and Ball Setts;
Chatelain Chains and Pins;
Ladies' Sleeve Buttons;
Bracelets and Neck Chains;
Crosses—in Jet and Gold;
Lockets and Charms;
Gold Thimbles;
Ear-Rings and Finger-Rings—in variety;
Fans, Reticules and Necessaries;
Fine Porte Monies;
Head Dresses;
Patent and Detached Lever Watches—in Silver and Gold;
Ladies' Watches—crane-met and plain.
As I keep nothing but Genuine Goods, I can warrant every article with confidence, and respectfully solicit a share of the patronage of the public.
Dec-7-4f JOSEPH MEVOY.

Succession Sale.
Succession of Eli Damerell, Deceased.
BY VIRTUE of an order of the District Court of Louisiana, rendered on the 15th day of November last, and in conformity with the advice of a Family Meeting, the Sheriff of the above said Parish will sell at Public Auction, at the late residence of the deceased, on
Saturday, the 14th day of January, 1860,

all the property belonging to the Succession of Eli Damerell, deceased, consisting of the following
SLAVES, LAND,
and Movables, viz:
JIM, ... aged ... 56 years.
JULY, 23 "
ELIZABETH, 22 "
AGY, 16 "
MARY, 44 " & 3 children.
NELLY, 23 "
JACK, 28 "
MACK, 56 "

The 40th Bottom Field Improvement—the Branch Improvement—40 acres of Land and Improvements—all situated in the Parish of Rapides.
60 Head Hogs;
280 Head Stock Cattle;
8 Horses;
1 Yoke Oxen;
64 Head Sheep;
1 Mule;
1 Ox-Wagon;
5 Yoke Oxen;
Lot Plows and Gear, and Household and Kitchen Furniture.

Terms of Sale.
All sums of Twenty Dollars and under—CASH. All sums between twenty and five hundred dollars, on 12 months' credit—all sums of five hundred and over, on one and two years' credit; purchasers to give their notes, with good and solvent security in solido, payable to Robert Smith, Administrator of the Succession, and bearing eight per cent. interest from day of sale till paid, with special mortgage and vendors' privilege retained on the land and slaves. No warranty as to slaves except that of title.
Dec. 7, 1859-14f-see \$21 00

State of Louisiana, District Court,
Parish of Rapides.
Succession of Charles P. Peyton, Dec'd—No. 4495.
WHEREAS, P. B. Compton, has petitioned the Court to be appointed Administrator of the estate of the late Charles P. Peyton, deceased, intestate; Notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern, to show cause within ten days from the date hereof, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted.
Clerk's Office, Alexandria, the 3d day of December, 1859.
By order of the Court. M. R. ARIALL, Clerk.
dec-7-2f

Lost or Mislead
NOTE drawn by A. Cazabat in favor of F. H. Raxsdale, for One Hundred Dollars, (\$100) payable on the 1st day of January, 1860, Now, this is to warn all persons from trading for the same, as payment has been deposited.
F. M. RAXSDALE.
7-3f

THE ATTORNEYS.
OF OLIVE STREET MEMBERS OF F. A. M. called to come forward—**DECEMBER, No. 34,** is either to G. W. Barrett, by their annual dues assigned. Take notice and govern, or the undersigned will receive the same.
By order of the W. M. and brethren.
HENRY A. FORTY,
Nov. 30, 1859