DAILY CRESCENT.

NEW ORLEANS:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 23, 1849.

See Third Page for CITY NEWS, &c.

THE OVERFLOW.—The water yesterday continued to rise, and to encroach upon the dry districts. Canal street is now navigable to Philippa, and the water has risen upon the banquette as far as Carondelet street. Rampart street is a perfect lake, and further back the people step from their doors into boats which float without inconvenience alongside. Above the New Canal there was also a rise yesterday, amounting to about one inch.

THE CREVASSE.—We understood from Mayor Crossman, at a late hour last evening, that the work at the crevasse is progressing finely. It is thought that all the piles will be driven in by Saturday, and we may then hope for the speedy stopping of the breach.

CREVASSE AT TUNIS.—This crevasse is not yet closed, although the people residing in the vicinity are making the most strenuous efforts. On Monday night a part of the work was carried away; but it was replaced yesterday. It is now thought that the breach can be closed by Friday. The body of water rushing through at present is very great, and already a large portion of the adjacent country is inundated. In a few days there will be very little dry land for many miles on the other side of the river. By the effects of the combined floods from Fortier's crevasse and those at Tunis and the Powder Magazine, the crops on many fine plantations are destroyed.

Mass Meeting at the Commercial Exchange.

A mass meeting of the citizens of the Second Municipality was held last evening at the Commercial Exchange, for the purpose of taking measures to relieve the dist ess consequent upon the inundation. The meeting was called to order by Mr. George Christy, who nominated the following gentlemen as officer: President—James Freret. Vice-Presidents: *First Ward*—J. N. Lea, James Ross; *Second Ward*—Peter Conroy, Jr., Patrick Irwin; *Third Ward*—W. H. Garland, G. L. Carman; *Fourth Ward*—J. McMurdo, Wm. H. Rice; *Fifth Ward*—H. Gleason, Dr. M. Cannon; *Sixth Ward*—H. R. W. Hill, W. E. Leverich; *Seventh Ward*—William Christy, J. O. Harris. Secretaries: Robert McNair, Chas. M. Waterman.

The President, on taking the chair, explained the objects of the meeting, when Mr. C. M. Conrad introduced the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the President and Vice Presidents of this meeting be authorized to make collections, and to appoint one or more assistants from each Ward, for the purpose of relieving the distress in the Second, Fourth, and Seventh Wards, caused by the overflow; and the collections thus made shall be paid over to a Treasurer to be appointed by the President and Vice-Presidents of this meeting.

Resolved, That the President and Vice-Presidents of this meeting appoint a committee of twenty-one members, seven to be taken from each of the overflowed Wards; of which committee the Recorder of the Second Municipality shall be chairman, whose duty it shall be to distribute whatever funds may be collected.....The meeting then adjourned.

☞ We are requested to state that the President and Vice Presidents of the meeting held last night at the Commercial Exchange, will meet at 9 o'clock this morning, at the office of Mr. Christy, for the purpose of appointing the committee of twenty-one.

HISTRIONIC ASSOCIATION.—The Association gives an exhibition this evening for the benefit of the sufferers by the inundation. The play of the "Golden Farmer," and the farce of the "Dead Shot," are to be performed. Besides these, there is to be a song by an honorary member, a recitation from the "Maniac," Motives on Hernani, and a Trio from "Cinderella." The object of the exhibition, as well as the bill offered, will be certain to draw a crowd.

INTERESTING CEREMONY.—We understand that this evening, at 5 o'clock, at the meeting of the city Council of Lafayette, there will be presented a magnificent folio of correspondence from the Senate and citizens of Bremen, acknowledging the receipt of the beautiful German National Flag, recently presented by the City of Lafayette to the City of Bremen, in testimony of the friendly feelings engendered by the extensive inter-commercial relations lately established between the two cities.

SUPREME COURT.—Under the proper head will be found several decisions rendered by the Supreme Court on Monday last. Among others, will be found one which may be of interest to merchants. It treats of the question as to what constitutes a *delivery* of goods to consignees, on their giving to their drayman a written order and by him presented to the discharging clerk of the vessel.

SPECIE.—The steamer Oregon yesterday brought over from the English steamer at Mobile, from Vera Cruz, $55,886, consigned to the following houses: J. M. Del Campo, $30,000; T. Hale, $4661; J. L. Dabelsteen & Co., $4000; W. Mure, $3725; F. Rodewald & Co., $2000; Warneken & Kirchhoff, $1500.

☞ We are indebted to the officers of the Illinois for St. Louis papers.

☞ We acknowledge with real gratification the kindly feelings which prompted the personal courtesies in the Picayune of yesterday. Indeed, the tone of the whole city press has been courteous, liberal, and generous. We do not design to make any formal acknowledgment, or return thanks in set phrase—but these things shall be gratefully remembered, and the fitted return made—of laboring zealously to cultivate, in all future relations, the same sentiments of reciprocal good will.

FOR CALIFORNIA.—List of passengers per bark Seneca, from this port, for Chagres:

E. Letcher, J. E. Fleischman, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Getter, J. H. Gee, B. J. Beverly, H. C. Parker, A. McKenzie, W. L. Jenkins, A. L. Forbes, J. R. Rea, J. B. Pritchett, R. Parsons, R. Gerrison, R. H. Wilson, G. W. Wood, E. R. Ryan, W. Eames, J. Dater, C. Withers, A. R. Furtius, D. H. Burrows, J. H. Bondurant, S. A. Tichenor, Wm. Smith, J. Tanner, J. Adams, A. Miller, J. Goubles, G. Pray, C. Kane, G. W. Burdsall, J. Grime, W. Grime, G. Schatter, J. J. Ransom, J. Wright.

List of passengers per brig Thos. P. Hart, from this port, for San Francisco:

S. Rotnrrier and lady, A. Duplux, Mr. Roland, Mr Bluti, L. Herzog, L. Hoffman, Patrick Quinn, S. Hnutriss, John Long, Jacob Long, T. Shirkill, T. Kreig, John Watson, L. Alezen, J. D. Ewing.

☞ We are indebted to the officers of the Montezuma and Oregon for Mobile papers.

THE NEW YORK MAYOR.—The following passage in the testimony given before the Coroner's inquest by Mr. Woodhull, the Mayor of New York, describes very briefly his share in the suppression of the late disturbances, and shows that he at least took no responsibility on that occasion, but went off and left the whole affair to be managed by others:

"I went to the Opera House a little after 9 o'clock, found an immense multitude there, and entering the theatre inquired for the Recorder, Sheriff, and Chief of Police, and found them. The windows and doors had been broken in, and the military were outside doing duty. The Chief of Police expressed his doubts of being able to protect the place with the force which he had, but would do his best, and commanded the actions of his force. About fifteen minutes after my arrival, Gen. Sandford came to me for orders to fire, to which I replied, 'not yet.' The General said that unless they had this order his men would leave the ground, as they would not be beaten down with arms in their hands, if they were not allowed to defend themselves; they would not be beaten to death. He had been wounded with stones, and the blood was running down his face. I did not give the order, and he left me without it. Some short time afterwards I left the place, stating that I was going to the New York Hotel, and would there await any requests which might be made to me. I did not make any proclamation, nor give any order to fire. I left before there was any firing. I did not give any order because I did not consider myself sufficiently informed of the general aspect of affairs. Left the theatre with my brother, and went to the New York Hotel, and remained there until past eleven, when I went home. The disturbances were then all over. The proceedings which were taken during the day were precautionary only."

☞ The exports of munitions of war from any of the German States to Denmark, has been prohibited. A ship called the Emigrant, bound from the United States to Bremen, laden with tobacco, has been captured by the Danes, and sent as a prize into Copenhagen.

☞ A general order has issued from the War Department, assigning General Scott to the command of the army—head-quarters to be at or in the vicinity of New York. Heretofore the head-quarters of the commander-in-chief have been at Washington City. Gen. Scott's private residence is at Elizabethtown, New Jersey, which is in the "vicinity" of New York.

The Eastern and Western Divisions are assigned to the two senior Brigadiers. These are Gaines and Wool. The choice is given to Gen. Gaines, as senior. The head-quarters of the Eastern Division are at Baltimore—of the Western Division, Cincinnati, where the commanding Generals are sent on visits of inspection and tours of duty.

The Inspectors General of the army are directed to report for duty (by letter) to the Major General commanding-in-chief. Commanders of departments, regiments, and posts within the Western Division, are to make their returns and reports to army head-quarters, New York; and the commanders of the Pacific division, and of departments Nos. 10 (California) and 11 (Oregon) are to report directly to the head-quarters of the Major General commanding the army.

☞ James Gordon Bennet has declared his intention of becoming an American citizen, and has taken out his first papers.—*N. Y. Sun.*

The Free Soil Party.

It is not in the origin of parties that we are to look for their instincts and their tendencies. Born too often of individual passions, and deriving their first nourishment from the cabals of cliques, rather than from the sympathies of the masses, they pursue, in their earliest days, a blind and irregular course. But, after a time, the party becomes organized—the body assumes a spirit—and then the true tendencies of the movement begin to develope themselves. He, therefore, who would endeavor to understand the course which a new party is likely to pursue, must forget, if he can, the men to whom the party owes its existence, and ferret out the instincts which move the masses to attach themselves to the new organization.

In speculating, then, on the influences which the Free Soil party of the North will probably exercise over American politics, it rather impedes than profits our inquiries to remember that the party probably owes its being to an ex-President of the United States. For we immediately try to fasten his present to his past—we puzzle our brains to discover the coherence between the opinions this statesman professes to hold and the special policy the Free Soilers advocate. Far more philosophical would it be to take up the Free Soil doctrines independent of their origin—analyze them carefully, and discover the true principles on which they rest, and then, from their inherent and inevitable instincts, deduce the course which the party must in the future pursue.

Every one must see that the Free Soil can never be, in itself, one of the great parties of the Union. Its base is too narrow for the support of a large number of adherents. For this party rests upon an opinion—and a single opinion, even if true and reasonable, can never be a gathering cry for large masses of men. You must have faith, as well as opinion, in order to build up an extensive party; and faith is a matter not so much of reason as of sentiment. The Free Soilers, then, if they wish to be powerful and effect their ends, must attach themselves to one of the two great parties which at present divide, and which have for years divided the American people.

The two opposing American parties, like all those which have preceded them in history, and all those which coexist with them in other countries, are founded respectively on the principles of faith and of fear. One looks forward, the other backward. One wishes to advance and go ahead; the other would go backward, if it could, but failing in this, struggles hard to stand still. All their principles and instincts may be summed up in the faith which one has in the future, and in the fear which possesses the other that, if we change in the least our social condition, it may be for the worse. Hence, one party struggles to increase the individual liberty of the citizen, while the other wishes to increase the restraints which the Central Government imposes on those under its control.

Now, it is clear that the Free Soil party must, in its impulses, be more nearly allied to one of these parties than to the other; and it is certain that it will, in the end, attach itself to that party with which it has the strongest sympathies. But the Free Soil doctrines all spring from fear—they are the consequence of an indisposition to trust the people of the Territories so far as to allow them to legislate for themselves on the question of slavery. The Free Soilers wish to strengthen the Federal Government so as to give it the power of legislating on the subject of slavery in the Territories. Hence, by its instinct—which is fear—and by its principle—an increase in the powers of the General Government—the Free Soilers will be powerfully drawn towards one of the great parties which at present divide the country.

ANNEXATION OF CUBA.—The London Times, of the 21st ult., reviews Mr. Thomas Caute Reynold's letter relative to the Cuba question, at some length, and calls it a "mare's nest." The same paper, on the 23d ult., after mentioning that a cabinet council had been held on the 21st ult., says:

"It appears unnecessary to assure the public that there is not the slightest foundation for the negotiation attributed by Mr. Reynolds, the American diplomatist, to Sir H. Bulwer. In our remarks upon the subject on Saturday, we gave the extract from Mr. Reynold's letter as a specimen of American credulity or American ingenuity—nothing more. There is no intention, nor has such ever existed, of 'swapping' away Gibraltar, nor of doing any of the dreadful things attributed by Mr. Reynolds to the English embassy at Madrid. Mr. Reynolds is, we fear, in the habit of going a mare's nesting by moonlight."

☞ Mr. Forrest, we are told, desired to testify his respect for the proclamation of the Mayor, yesterday, requesting the citizens to remain within their homes, by having the Broadway Theatre, where he is engaged, closed. The management, however, were of the opinion, that such a course might provoke a feeling unfavorable to the result which was aimed at, and exacted from Mr. Forrest a compliance with his engagement. The house was very thin, scarcely a hundred at 8 o'clock.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

PARSON HOWE.—The Lexington (Miss.) Equal Rights calls on the democracy and urges them not to overlook the claims of E. Percy Howe of the "Pine Knot," at Napoleon, Hancock county. The Rights proposes the Parson to the convention which is to meet in June, for Auditor, Secretary of State, or some other State office. A man of the Parson's universal genius is evidently fitted for any place in the gift of the people.

DEATH OF MR. BURNES OF FRANKFORT.—We are pained, (says the Louisville Courier of the 14th,) to hear of the sudden death of James Burnes, of Frankfort, a gentleman well known, not only in this State, but throughout the whole West. He was attacked with apoplexy on Saturday, and died after a sickness of only a few hours. He was rather an eccentric person, but when *Paddy Burnes* breathed his last never did a kinder heart cease to beat.

☞ The new license law of Pennsylvania graduates the cost of a license by the amount of liquor sold by the tavern-keeper. The publican who does a business amounting to $10,000 a year, pays $350 license; while he whose receipts amount to only $2000 per annum, pays but $100. This, it seems to us, is a very equitable mode of apportioning the liquor tax.

Affairs at Washington.

[Correspondence of the Charleston Courier.]

WASHINGTON, May 14.—Although there is not as many strangers in this city now as there was a month ago, yet there are a number of persons here from abroad, and most of them are here for the "loaves and fishes," as any one may fairly suppose, from the appearance of their anxious countenances of most of those who may be seen on Pennsylvania Avenue on a pleasant afternoon. The weather has been very changeable in Washington this spring, and much more so than at this period of former years. The Capitol grounds now present a beautiful and attractive appearance, as also those at the President's House. These places are kept in a manner and degree of perfection worthy of the nation; a fine band of music delights the large crowds which frequent those grounds, and lends additional interest to these pleasant places of resort. The contractors to build the wings to the Patent Office have commenced operations, and will prosecute the work with vigor and energy. It will make a large addition to the present extensive and handsome building, and the whole will constitute one of the largest and most imposing buildings in this city. The Washington Monument is going up rapidly, and is situated on one of the most beautiful sites available for it. An extensive view of the Potomac river, up and down, may be had from it, as also from the Capitol and President's House, etc. The board of control or superintendence, have suggested that each State in the Union should send a piece or parcel of marble or granite, upon which its name is to be placed. Will South Carolina do so? I hope she will. The building of the Smithsonian Institute is progressing—a portion is so far finished, as that lectures are delivered in one of the rooms, which is in a neat and unique order of architecture. Professor Hitchcock, of New England, has been lecturing on Geology during the last two weeks; immense numbers go to hear him, and so great has been the interest excited here, that numbers have not been able to get in the large hall.

Not the least charming and lovely place in this vicinity, is the Navy Yard. It is indeed one of the most pleasant and beautiful places which a stranger may find about Washington. It is on the banks of the Annacosta river, or Eastern branch, as it is sometimes called, about half a mile east from the Capitol. There is here a number of large houses, in which is a variety of the most extensive machinery, and in which almost any kind of material used for our Navy is furnished. It is wonderful to see with what expedition and ease, cannon, bombs, shot, percussion caps, and bullets are turned out in these shops. The Chief Engineer, Mr. Ellis, is having a large lathe for turning, planing, etc. in iron—perhaps the largest in the United States. Under the superior skill and direction of Mr. Ellis, (I am informed,) chief of the mechanical and engineering department of the yard, very much has been done for our naval construction. A *hydrostatic* press is used to try the strength of all chain cables made at the yard. The vast number of forges in one of the buildings, would forcibly remind a visiter of the ancient "Vulcan," newly forged "thunderbolts for Jupiter." A willow is growing here which was brought from the tomb of Napoleon, on the island of St. Helena. CALEB.

Emigrants to California through Mexico.

We publish below a letter from a member of a company composed of fifteen or twenty emigrants for California, who left this city a few weeks ago on their way to the Pacific, through Mexico. The letter contains a particular account of Mr. Bugbee's death, and other information valuable to those who may wish to take the same route to California:

CITY OF MEXICO, May 3d, 1849.

Dear H.—We arrived here last Monday, having been sixteen days on the road from Vera Cruz. For twenty-two passengers with their baggage we had two wagons, drawn by eight mules each—the mules none of the best—and by dint of walking a great deal and pushing occasionally, we got in here in two days more than we had calculated. We all stood the fatigue of the journey and the change of climate very well—did our own cooking and camped out most of the time. We got up at four in the morning, struck our tents, arranged our baggage, took our breakfast, and were ready to start by sun-rise. We then travelled until one or two o'clock in the afternoon, when we stopped for the day.

The only exciting incident which occurred on our journey up, was the robbery of the Diligence near San Juan, on the morning of the 18th April. Mr. Bugbee, who, I believe, was formerly connected with the "Picayune," and lately with the "New York Sun," was shot. The Diligence passed the place we had stopped at—the "Robber's Bridge"—just as we were getting ready to start. Bugbee appeared to be suffering very much; but it was thought he might be taken to Jalapa. They were obliged to leave him at Plan del Rio, where he died on the 19th at 1 o'clock in the morning. Eight or nine Americans were with him when he died. Dr. Anson, of Virginia, did what he could for him; but the shot had penetrated his intestines, and nothing could be done except to give him something to relieve his pain. We got to Plan del Rio the morning after he died, and tried to get his body buried while we were there; but the Alcalde had to be consulted—besides other delays—and our teamsters would not wait. Some Bostonians in company with us, who had come from New Orleans with Bugbee, paid his bill and the burial charges. They commenced digging a grave for him alongside of one of Capt. Richardson's company, who had died here some two or three weeks before. Some Americans there are engaged in building a bridge to replace the one the Mexicans blew up during the war, and we might have got them to attend to the burial, if they had not been absent in the woods hewing timber. Col. Ramsay, from Pennsylvania, and a Mr. Jewell were in the Diligence at the time of the attack. The only shot fired was the one at Bugbee, and no attempt was made afterwards to rob the passengers.

Two Diligences, on their way to Mexico, were robbed a few miles in advance of us on last Saturday. We understood along the road that there were a great many robbers congregated about Rio Frio, and were on the look-out when word came to us from the Dayton Company, who were in advance, that the Diligences had been robbed by thirty men well armed. We prepared for an attack, but fortunately our bravery was not put to the test. We were not attacked, and still live, therefore, in the belief that we are brave men.

We have sent most all our baggage to Acapulco. The most of our party have purchased horses; myself and two others, however, have taken seats in a coach drawn by eight mules, for Guadalaxara. My necessary expenses from Vera Cruz to this place were $34; here they will be $6; and between this and Tepic about $28. At Tepic we can ascertain whether there are any vessels up for California for San Blas; if not, we will go on to Mazatlan. I think, however, our chances for getting off from San Blas are very good. Mr. Parrot, our Consul at Mazatlan, arrived here a few days ago, direct from California, and reports that when he passed through San Blas there were five or six vessels up for San Francisco. He reports gold plenty, and is on his way to the United States, intending to leave Vera Cruz on the British steamer.

There are letters here of the 11th April from San Francisco, stating that rents are very high. Flour $12, and Mess Pork $17 per barrel.

Persons travelling through this country had better deposit their money in New Orleans and take a draft on Vera Cruz. Three and a half per cent premium can be had for money deposited at Vera Cruz, and 5 per cent for taking a draft on Mexico, thus realizing 8½ per cent. Gold is 3 per cent here; so that 5½ per cent may be cleared by the operation, without the trouble and risk of carrying the money. South American doubloons should not be bought, as they do not pass here for their full value. At Vera Cruz they are worth only $15 50, here they offer $14, while on the Pacific coast they are worth as much as Mexican. American gold is worth 1 per cent premium, but scarce. Yours, truly, J. F. H.

[From the National Whig....Official.]

Appointments by the President.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.—George Lunt, of Massachusetts, to be Attorney of the United States for the District of Massachusetts, vice Robert Rantoul, Jr., removed; Charles Devens, Jr., of Massachusetts, to be Marshal of the United States for the District of Massachusetts, vice Isaac O. Barnes, removed; Gideon Fitz, of Mississippi, to be Receiver of Public Money at Jackson, Mississippi, and not Gideon Fitch, as heretofore announced; Thomas H. Kent, of Maryland, to be Marshal of the United States for the District of Maryland, and not James H. Kent, as heretofore published.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT—*Deputy Postmasters.*—William V. Brady, New York; William Hayden, Boston, Massachusetts; Lewis Benedict, Albany, New York.

IMPORTATION OF A POSTMASTER.—We see from the Jackson (Miss.) papers that the present postmaster, C. R. Dickson, has been removed and Mr. John McAlister, of Cincinnati, Ohio, appointed in his place. Mr. Collamer may be in favor of protecting home produce and domestic manufactures; but he seems to be opposed to the encouragement of home-made men and postmasters.

VIRGINIA.—The official returns of the Congressional election in the fifth district of Virginia give for Powell (dem.) 3136; Goggin (whig) 3029—Powell's majority 107. In the eighth district the vote is, Holliday (dem.) 2163; Forbes (whig) 2078—Holliday's majority 85. In the ninth district the vote is for Morton (whig) 2799; Pendleton (whig) 2381—Morton's majority 418. The vote in the Norfolk district is for Millson (dem.) 2736; Watts (whig) 2559—Millson's majority 177. The legislative returns for the whole State are in and are thus given in the Richmond Times:

	Dem.	Whigs.	Taylor D.
Senate	21	11	0
House of Delegates	73—94	61—72	1—1

Democratic majority in the Senate 10; in the House 12; on joint ballot 22.

Whig Gains.—Frederick 1, Goochland 1, Henry 1, Morgan 1, Marshall 1, Norfolk city 1, Princess Anne 1, Rockbridge 1, Stafford 1, Wood, &c., 1; total 10, and 1 Senator, making 11 in all.

Democratic Gains.—Berkeley 1, Braxton, Lewis, &c., 1, Cabell and Wayne 1, Fairfax 1, Fauquier 1, Nottaway 1, Randolph and Barbour 1, Smythe 1, Taylor 1; total 9.

So the whigs have gained one member in the Senate and one in the House of Delegates, and reduced the democratic majority on joint ballot from 26 to 22.

☞ The Board of Census consists of the Secretary of State, Mr. Clayton—the Attorney General, Johnson—and the Postmaster General, Colamer.

☞ The New York Evening Post announces that it is the purpose of Mr. Bancroft, our Minister to London, on the termination of his mission, to take up his residence in the city of New York.

CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE IN MISSISSIPPI.—It is thought that in the Second Congressional District the whigs will put forward W. H. Harris as a candidate for Congress.

☞ The whig convention at Charlestown, Ind., nominated William M. Dunn, of Madison, as a candidate for Congress in the fifth district.

INDIANA NOMINATIONS.—The democrats of the third Indiana district have nominated John R. Robinson as a candidate for reëlection to Congress.

☞ William H. Mitchell, brother of the Irish exile, has been appointed a clerk in the Home Department at Washington, and has entered upon the duties of his office.

☞ The newly appointed federal officers at Philadelphia were duly sworn in and took possession on the 12th inst.

☞ The Mexican Government has been trying hard to reëstablish its credit among its London creditors, by payment of one dividend, and the promise of doing something *handsome* when the national bank is established.

☞ The Richmond (Va.) kidnapper, S. A. Smith, who is charged with boxing up and attempting to carry off the two negroes, has been examined before the Mayor of that city, and several witnesses having testified to the facts already published, Smith was sent on to a called Court on the 7th inst. Messrs. Scott and Lyons have withdrawn from the case, and Mr. J. H. Gilmer appeared as the prisoner's counsel.

COMMON COUNCIL OF MONTREAL.—The civic authorities of this city have addressed Lord Elgin, denouncing with great indignation the conduct of the rioters there. Alderman Tully described the mob who pelted the Governor, as a "lot of destructives excited by political office-loafers."

☞ Some person has had the curiosity to estimate the glass broken out of the windows of the Opera House, New York, and has given the following result: 184 panes of glass and 4 cross-bars on 8th street; 159 panes of glass and 5 cross-bars on Astor Place.

Telegraphed to the "Daily Crescent."

By the People's Line.

AWFUL FIRE AT ST. LOUIS!

Loss—$4,000,000!

Fire at Milwaukie—Loss of the Empire.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS:

Triumph of he Hungarians!--Russia and Austria!

LOUISVILLE, May 18, 1849.—A most destructive fire occurred at St. Louis last night. At about 10 o'clock the steamer White Cloud, which was lying at the head of the Levee, took fire. The fire was communicated to the Edward Bates, which was immediately in flames, and floating down, set fire to all the other boats, which were unable to get out, owing to a strong gale prevailing at the time. The whole fleet at the Levee was soon burning, and the following boats, with their cargoes, were destroyed: The White Cloud, Edward Bates, Belle Isle, Taglioni, Boreas No. 3, Alice, American Eagle, Sarah, Kit Carson, Montauk, Inda, Acadia, Mameluke, Prairie State, Eurdora, St. Peters, Red Wing, Alex. Hamilton, Martha, Eliza Stewart, Mandan, Gen. Brooke, and Frolic. In addition to these a large number of barges and wood boats were destroyed.

The intense heat from the burning boats soon fired the stores on the Levee, commencing at Locust street, in the heart of the business portion of the city, and extending from that street three quarters of a mile down the Levee, and thence back to Second street—nearly every building within these boundaries being laid in ruins.

It is almost impossible, in the confusion, to give accurate particulars. The new Republican office, with extensive materials is destroyed; also, the offices of the following newspapers, the New Era, Organ, Reveille, and German Advertiser. Part of the materials of the Telegraph office, the banking houses of Benoist, B. B. Anderson, Presbury & Co., Clark & Co., Nesbitt & Co., and E. P. Person, were destroyed, but the vaults are all good and the contents supposed to be secure. In the burnt district were the heaviest business houses, and of their immense stocks of goods very little was saved.

The lowest estimate of the loss is *Five Millions of Dollars.* How much was insured it is impossible to say.

At Peru the steamer Revolution was destroyed by fire on the 16th inst.

Deaths by Cholera.—On Wednesday there were 24 deaths by cholera, and yesterday twenty....The river has fallen here 18 inches.

LOUISVILLE, May 18, 11 P. M.—*Fire at Milwaukie.*—A great fire broke out yesterday at Milwaukie, at 4 o'clock in the morning, which destroyed a large number of houses, including the offices of the Sentinel and Gazette newspapers. Several barns belonging to the stage companies were burned with the whole stock. The loss is estimated at $60,000 to $80,000. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

Loss of the Steamer Empire.

NEW YORK, May 18, 9 P. M.—The steamer Empire was sunk last night by coming in collision with a schooner. She is still submerged to her promenade deck, and her cabin is supposed to contain the corpses of a large number who were drowned. Eleven bodies were found in pumping out the water from her boilers. The boat was not insured.

Latest Items by the Canada.

The latest telegraphic dispatch from London to the Courier & Enquirer, says that consols declined there ¼ per cent.—the supposed cause being the junction of the Austrian and Russian cabinets.

The great fête at Paris passed off without disturbance; a few cries of *Vive Republique* were heard, and the President was cheered with shouts of *Vive Napoleon*....The Government report state, the necessity of reforming prison discipline.

Sardinia and Austria were about signing an offensive and defensive treaty—the former paying eighty millions to Austria, who vacates Alessandria.

At Vienna, 1300 wounded were brought in on the 13th of April.

On the 30th inst., the siege of Comorn was raised by the Austrians, and the Hungarian dictator installed at Pesth. He proclaimed the independence of Hungary. The Hungarian cause is daily gaining ground....A large Russian force, estimated at 140,000 men, were about to enter Austria in five columns.

By the Southern Line,

Fire in St. Louis—Markets, etc.

BALTIMORE, May 18.—A fire broke out in St. Louis this morning, and nearly half the city is at present in ruins. The houses destroyed were in the very heart of business, including five banking houses and every insurance office in the city. Twenty-seven steamboats lying in dock, together with the telegraph office, were consumed.

BALTIMORE, May 18.—At Liverpool, on the afternoon of the 5th, Cotton closed firm; sales were 7000 bales, chiefly American, at from 3½d. to 4½d. At New York, Cotton is active....The steamer Empire has been sunk by a schooner opposite Newburgh—all but three passengers saved.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The following are the resolutions adopted unanimously by the State Convention of Delegates from the Committees of Safety of South Carolina, held at Columbia, on the 14th and 15th ult.:

[*Resolutions of the Committee of Twenty-One.*]

1. *Resolved*, That a full and deliberate examination of the whole subject has forced a deep conviction on the Delegates of the Committees of Safety here assembled, from the several Districts and Parishes in the State, that alarming and imminent peril is hanging over the institutions and sovereign rights of the slaveholding States, caused by unconstitutional and mischievous interference with our domestic slavery and the rights of slaveholders on the part of the people of the North, their Legislatures, Courts, and Representatives in Congress; and by withholding from them the aids and remedies guaranteed by the Constitution. That arguments and appeals to cease and abstain from this course of unprovoked wrong and insult, have been exhausted in unavailing efforts, which have only been followed by repetitions of injury, and aggressions more alarming, persevered in with an appearance of concert and determination, which leaves to us no alternative but abject and humiliating submission, or a like concert and determination in maintaining our constitutional rights, and in defending our property and persons thus wantonly put in danger. That South Carolina should stand prepared, as she now is, to enter into council, and to take that "firm, united and concerted action" with other Southern and Southwestern States in this emergency, which the preservation of their common honor, sovereignty, and constitutional privileges demands, and to maintain them at every hazard, and to the last extremity and; that, in view of this alarming condition of public affairs, a Central State Committee of Vigilance and Safety, to consist of five members, be now raised by ballot, to correspond with other committees and persons in this and other States, with a view to such concerted and united measures as may be expedient in any emergency that may arise.

2. *Resolved*, That we entirely approve "The Address of Southern Delegates in Congress to their Constituents," as the wise and patriotic course of the Senators and Representatives who signed the same.

3. *Resolved*, That we confide implicitly in the wisdom and firmness of the State authorities for maintaining our constitutional rights, equality, and honor, and that we heartily approve the course hitherto adopted by them in relation to the aggressions of the non-slaveholding States.

4. *Resolved*, That we would regard the passage by Congress of the Wilmot Proviso, or any measure for abolishing slavery or the slave trade, or the admitting of slavery in the District of Columbia, or of any equivalent enactment as a direct attack upon the institutions of the slaveholding States, and as such to be resisted by them at every hazard; and that in either of such events, the Governor be, and he is hereby requested to convene the Legislature, at such time as he may deem most proper, for the purpose of resolving upon such measures as the rights and interests of the State may then require.

5. *Resolved*, That we do concur in and adopt the resolutions which have twice been confirmed by the Legislature of Virginia, as containing the clearest exposition of the rights and duties of the several States, feeling and declaring that what she will continue firm and resolute in maintaining, and has announced with so much wisdom and firmness, and that the liberties, honor, and interest of the slaveholding States will be safe under her lead.

The Central State Committee of Vigilance and Safety, appointed under the first resolution, is composed as follows:

F. H. Elmore, Chairman; Wade Hampton, D. J. McCord, James Gadsden, F. W. Pickens.

☞ The Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad is about being put under contract. It passes over the Cumberland mountains, and requires a tunnel of 2100 feet. In fact, it crosses all the mountains dividing the Atlantic from the valley of the Mississippi. When finished, it will connect with 738 miles of road now in Georgia and South Carolina, in one continuous line reaching Charleston and Savannah.

Died:

At Louisville, on Friday morning, May 11, at half-past 3 o'clock, GEORGE W. ORMSBY, in the 27th year of his age, of inflammation of the brain, after a brief illness.

Arrivals at the Principal Hotels Yesterday.

ST. CHARLES....Geo W Johnson, Const; G Davenport, Hugh Monroe, Mobile; J P Stapley, Va; Dr R G Ellis, La; Wm F Hall, Vera Cruz; Chas W Claude, Liverpool; A Juncesu, R O Ledyard, Thos Howie, Jose Leo Garcia, Ignacio Fellizche, Mexico; J A Edwards, Geo C Arthur, N O; Wm Culvert; Wellernat and lady; Jno F Clark and lady; Miss H H Clark.

VERANDAH....Geo C Childerall, Mobile; J E Dunham, Isaac Monroe and lady, Miss Sarah Monroe, D B Howard, N O.

HEWLETT'S....Luther F Rose, Miss; W Holloway; R G Bayley; Hugh Bier.

PLANTERS'....J C Shearer, Jas Scott, Mobile; Jas D Pendleton, Pass Christian; Moses Meusen, St Helena, La.

Steamboat Departures This Day.

☞ SEE ADVERTISEMENTS ON THIRD PAGE.

Cincinnati.....ROCKAWAY, Davis, 5 P. M.
Louisville.....HIRAM POWERS, Pearce, 5 P. M.
Louisville.....PRINCESS, Holmes, 10 A. M.
Nashville.....AMERICA, Johnson, 4 P. M.
Red River.....DUCK RIVER, Applegate, 5 P. M.
Yazoo River.....MUSCLE NO. 2, Gwartney, 5 P. M.
Yazoo City.....HARD TIMES, Wilson, 5 P. M.
Mobile.....JAS. L. DAY, Gibenson, 2½ P. M. cars.

☞ Red River Packet Duck River, Capt. Applegate.—This light draught steamer will positively leave THIS DAY, Wednesday, 23d inst., at 5 o'clock p. m., for Fort Caddo, Jefferson, Shreveport and Alexandria.
my23 T. B. SMITH, 96 Magazine st.

☞ Nashville Packet America, Captain Johnson—This magnificent passenger boat will positively leave THIS DAY, Wednesday, at 5 o'clock, p. m., for the above.
my23 T. B. SMITH, 96 Magazine st.

☞ The Steamer Hiram Powers—For Louisville, Cincinnati and Pittsburg.—This packet leaves as above THIS DAY, Wednesday, at 5 o'clock P. M., positively, from Poydras street wharf. HYDE & OGLESBY, 12 Poydras st.
☞ Passengers will please be on board at the hour. my23

☞ Neither the Captain nor Consignees of the British Bark WOODSTOCK, from Liverpool, will be responsible for any debts contracted by the crew of said vessel.
my22 3t GARDNER, SAGER & CO.

☞ Fire Department.—An Adjourned Meeting of the Foremen of the different Companies will be held at the Hall of Mississippi Fire Company No. 2, on SATURDAY EVENING, the 26th inst., at half-past 7 o'clock. Representatives are earnestly requested to be punctual, as business of importance will be transacted. [my23] T. B. BEARTT, Secretary.

☞ James Gulick Fire Co. No 17.—A Special Meeting of the Company will be held at the Engine House, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, the 23d inst., at half-past 7 o'clock, for the Election of Foreman. By order:
i my21 JOHN R. PEGG, Secretary.

ARMORY HALL.

For the Benefit of the Sufferers by the Present Flood

The most splendid Galaxy of Musical Talent ever introduced to a New Orleans audience.

THURSDAY EVENING, May 24, 1849.

HERR KRAUSS has to announce that he will give at the above Hall a Grand, Fashionable, Gala CONCERT, with full Orchestra and Chorus, on which occasion Mme. FLEURY-JOLY, Prima Donna of the French Theatre, has kindly consented to assist, and also Mr. CORRADI.

Herr K. will introduce on this occasion his grand Pot-Pourri on "THE CONFUSION OF BABYLON," in twenty-five different languages, and which will conclude with the composition of THE BATTLE OF MEXICO.

Admission—$1....Tickets to be had at all the principal Music Stores in the city.

☞ For further particulars see small bills. my23

LOUISIANA HISTRIONIC ASSOCIATION.

☞ Benefit for Sufferers by the Inundation.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 23, 1849.—The Histrionics take pleasure in announcing that on WEDNESDAY EVENING, the 23d inst., a performance will be given at their Hall, to alleviate, by Pecuniary Assistance, the Distress of the Sufferers by the Existing Flood, on which occasion will be presented the popular Comic Drama, in two acts, of THE GOLDEN FARMER; Or, Jemmy Twitcher in England....SONG, by an Honorary Member....Recitation—THE MANIAC....Fantasia on Violin—"MOTIVES D'HERNANI," Composed and Executed by Mr. P. Luciani.....TRIO, from "Cinderella," by Mr. M——, and Others.....The whole to conclude with the farce of THE DEAD SHOT.

☞ Doors open at a quarter past 7 o'clock; Curtain to rise at 8 o'clock, precisely.

☞ TICKETS $2; to be had at the Secretary's Office, under the St. Charles Hotel, and at the Door; also, of the following gentlemen: E. A. Tyler, 39 Camp street; W. A. Beecher, 43 Chartres street; H. Parsons, 99 Camp street; J. B. Steel, 14 Camp street; D. Felt & Co., 24 Chartres street. my22

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In the English, Greek, Latin, French and Spanish Languages, at Reduced Prices,

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WORCESTER'S UNIVERSAL AND CRITICAL DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, to which is added WALKER'S KEY.
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