a fearful eye behind, but always pushed forward. Fernand, his clothes in tatters, and yet bleeding from several wounds, still set an example to his men. At the foot of the entrenchment he encountered the bandit chief. One of his men stood between them; Fernand with a stroke of his sword threw him to the ground, and passing over his body like a conqueror, he brought his old enemy. El-Zorrzico (for it was he) drew in an instant a pistol from his belt, and pointing it, pulled the trigger before Fernand could reach him.

"The first shot is the best," said he.

Fernand ran his hand to his heart, and fell—his sword fell from his fingers; he made one powerful effort to seize it and rise, but he failed, and fell with his face to the deck.

When Manille saw Fernand fall he turned doubly pale; a cry like a hyena's escaped from his lips, and turning his sword against El-Zorrzico, he immediately fell at sage. The point of the cutlass reach the smuggler full in the breast and came out between the shoulders; El-Zorrzico opened his eyes and rolled to the deck. Manille left his sword in the body of the pirate, whose blood was pouring out of his mouth, and seated himself beside his master.

An hour after the scene of carnage, calm and peace reigned on board the Coquette; the two English frigates had gained the high sea, and a raise black and smoking indicated the place where the felucca had been. The large vessels, loaded with their prey, flot as a flight of birds the length of the coast; and a corvette bearing the French flag was hastening the Coquette.

This corvette was commanded by de Chanelure, who, having heard the report of cannon from his anchorage, had arrived on the place of combat at the moment when the Coquette, deprived of her Captain, was about striking to the pirates. The presence of Mons Chanelure and his twenty-four cannon changed the aspect of things. A broadside disabled the felucca, which was burnt; a part of her crew gained the Madagascar by swimming—the others were drowned. The Madagascar sent a few balls at the corvette, rather to protect her retreat than to sustain a new engagement, and retreated, followed by her sail.

The sight of the Coquette presented to the eyes of Mons Chanelure, on his arrival, a sad and sickening spectacle. Nothing was to be seen but the mangled dead and dying. Manille, seated against the mainmast, was sustaining his master—the flowing of whose blood he was trying to check with a bandage torn from his shirt. The fight had caused yesterday around him. A pile of corpses were lying at his feet, and his eyes danger had been unable to draw his attention from his master—himself was badly wounded. He had received his wounds without abandoning himself or preventing them. When Manille recognized the voice of Gaston he raised his head; tears ran down his wrinkled cheek—with a gesture full of despair, he pointed to his master.

El Zorrzico seized by death, was lying in a pool of blood. Manille's sword yet remained in his body. M. de Chanelure had Fernand carried to his cabin; a surgeon examined his wound, and declared it mortal. Fernand heard this declaration without showing the least emotion. He only begged the surgeon to cease tormenting him; and after he wound had been bandaged, he asked for a pen and paper. A powerful cordial having been given him, he was able to dictate his last will. He then addressed another letter to his wife, already in the pride of youth, other which he wrote to Laura as follows:

"My Dear Gaston—I cannot be rich, before leaving, that I would wish to do; but as conveniently having passed my life with a pirate, I collect it. Notify my father, and if he wants to see me, tell him I am dead. Tell Laura I was happy in spite of her, and that I have never ceased to love her. You will see that we are avenged. Manille is with me. You will love him, as I recommend it to you. Adieu, Gaston, I embrace you for the last time. Your brother, FERNAND."

After folding his letter, he turned his head on his pillow and closed his eyes. Manille held one of his hands, over which he wept. At the moment that the convoy that he had saved entered Marseilles, Fernand expired.

His body was taken to Pontgraviere, and deposited in the tomb of his forefather. Manille followed in the funeral procession. He was sadly changed. After the interment of his master, he constituted himself guardian of his tomb, near which he built himself a poor cabin. He walked around it every morning till night. When Laura, who loved him, heard of the love he showed to the memory of Fernand, proceed his wife to leave this place, and employ himself at the chateau, where he could find something to withdraw his thoughts, he would but sadly shake his head.

He lived thus two or three months. Not half cured of his wounds, of which he took no care, he never complained, and passed the most of his time seated on a stone, his elbows on his knees, and his head buried between his hands. At the expiration of the time he was found, one morning, stretched on Fernand's grave. He was taken up, but too late; he was dead!

THE END.

☞ Jos. M. Bigelow has been reflected Mayor of Boston, with very little opposition.

LEWIS CASS, JR.—The Detroit Tribune, of the 5th inst., has intelligence that Lewis Cass, Jr., Charge d'Affaires at Rome, was very ill at the latest dates.

☞ Maj. Brown, the new engineer appointed by the Emperor of Russia to superintend the construction of the great imperial railway, sailed for Europe in the Canada on Monday last.

☞ The Legislature of South Carolina have disposed of the bill before them for winding up the State Bank, by indefinitely postponing it by a vote of 56 to 49.

G. W. JULIAN.—The Newcastle (Ind.) Courier, of the 1st inst., says that the health of this gentleman has so far recovered that he was to leave for Washington the next week.

H. W. Collier was inaugurated, on Monday last, as Governor of the State of Alabama, in the Methodist Church, at Montgomery, in the presence of a large concourse of citizens, both Houses of the Legislature, and the military. He delivered a strong and well-written inaugural address, in which he discussed State affairs fully, but devoted a large space to the absorbing question of slavery restriction in the Territories. We shall give, hereafter, an extract from this part of his address.

MANDAMUS PHILADELPHIA IN DANGER.—Two discharged policemen of Philadelphia recently applied to the Supreme Court there for a writ of mandamus, to test the validity of the election of Mayor Jones. They charge that he was not a resident of the city for two years preceding his election, as required by law—having, as President of Girard College, resided at that institution, in the District of Penn. The writ was issued, returnable December 26.

THE HUNGARIAN REFUGEES.—Col. Pragay and Major Forster, arrived at Boston on the 9th, in the steamer Europa, and proceeded South at once. It is understood that their errand to Washington involves an application to government in aid of their suffering fellow countrymen at home, who meditate coming to this country as soon as it is practicable.

JEWISH SETTLEMENT.—Several Jewish families have emigrated to the United States from Bohemia, with the view of founding a Jewish settlement in the State of Wisconsin.

☞ Dr. Forbes, of New York, late of the Episcopal Church, was received into the Romish Church on Sunday, the 9th, and went through the ceremony of Confirmation, in the presence of the congregation of St. Vincent de Paul, in Canal street. Mr. Preston, formerly an assistant to the Rev. Dr. Seabury, abjured at the same time.

THE NATURAL BRIDGE. — Two-thirds of the Natural Bridge property, in Virginia, was sold on the 3d inst., to Col. Wooter, of Henry county, for $6,000. He is proprietor, also, of the other third.

Morgan, the "Expose" of Masonry.—The death of Jeffery Chipman, on the 15th inst., at Kalamazoo, Mich., at the age of 60, is announced. He was arraigned on a charge of larceny, and committed to Ontario (N. Y.) Jail, from which he was taken and carried off. This was the first act in the tragedy that ultimately produced so much excitement. In all the "Morgan trials," J. Chipman was the first witness called.

ARRIVAL AT GUAYAQUIL OF OUR MINISTER TO ECUADOR.—J. T. VanAlen, Minister of the United States to Ecuador, and suite, arrived at Guayaquil on the 21st Oct., in the U. S. ship Falmouth. Mr. VanAlen landed next day, under a salute from the ship and fort, and was received with much distinction by the authorities. The Governor of the Province put at his disposal a war-steamer, in which he left on the 1st ult. for the head of navigation on the Guayaquil River, accompanied by the American Consul, N. P. Game. The condition of the Republic is said to be improving, the people are becoming more enlightened as to their civil rights, and more prosperous in their business relations at home and abroad. The term of the late President, Rous, having expired, Congress had made several attempts to elect a successor, but were not able to agree, and the duties of the Executive office had devolved upon the present Vice President, Ascasubi, who is represented as a very hospitable gentleman.

☞ Father Mathew was in Baltimore on the 10th inst.

The Daily Crescent.

NEW ORLEANS:

SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 22.

DIVINE AUTHORITY OF THE SABBATH.—We understand that the Rev. Dr. Scott will preach a discourse in the Christ, on Lafayette Square, on next Sabbath, at 11 o'clock in the morning, on this subject. The public are respectfully invited to attend.

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL.—The Ladies of St. Paul's Church held a festival on the evenings of the 20th and 21st inst., at the late Merchant's Bank, Lafayette Square. In the season of universal money-making, forget not the claims upon your purse for worthy objects of expenditure. The Ladies' Festival should be filled to overflowing, and we feel assured that it will be. They have made ample preparations to welcome their numerous guests, and the echoes will be arranged with all that taste and art can suggest to please the visitors.

☞ STRANGERS, who want a bijou of local gems, to send or take home to their friends would do well to call for a few copies of the "FAIR DIXIE." It is at most of the book stores; and like a universal almanac, will suit all climes.... A few dozen copies for sale at this office.

☞ There was a fine audience at Armory Hall last night to hear Miss Schoenhunner, the new Pianist, who made her first appearance in New Orleans. Her debut was completely successful, and won the unanimous plaudits of a delighted crowd. She is destined to make a sensation in the musical circles of the city.

The Extra-Mammoth Weekly Crescent

Will appear to-day, at 2 o'clock,

Filled with its usual amount of valuable and interesting matter. It will contain the Congressional proceedings as late as received, together with the proceedings of the State Legislatures and other deliberative bodies as far as these possess general interest. The foreign news, the conclusion of "Nelly," and a large quantity of other miscellaneous reading, will be found in the present number.

☞ Copies in wrappers to be had at the counter.

☞ The mails were through yesterday as late as due, although they did not bring all the papers that are due. We get the 15th from Charleston, the 14th from Washington and Baltimore, the 13th from New York, and the 12th from Boston. We have a bushel of papers, from which we have culled what is news for this morning's paper.

The Party Snarl in Congress.

The Congressional manœuvre by which Mr. Brown, of Indiana, came so near being elected Speaker of the House of Representatives on the 40th ballot, has been portrayed to our readers in the extracts and letters we have published. It is altogether a curious and disreputable affair, but its principal use is to show, that the free-soilers really cared but little for the principle which they have been pretending to think so vital that it could not be abandoned without dishonor. Mr. Brown's letter to Wilmot conveyed in its terms a concession to the free-soilers of such an arrangement of the Committees on the Territories and on the District, as would suit the views of Mr. Wilmot and his friends. It is difficult to comprehend that this could mean anything else but a control, for the purpose of presenting the free-soil views with the sanction of a standing committee. But, Mr. Brown explains that he only intended to give a free-State majority—not a Wilmot Proviso majority—and that he meant that the free-soilers should have their relative weight, which, taken literally, would be small. Mr. Wilmot comes before the House and admits that he did not expect the free-soil majority, but only a free-State majority and a free-soil representation! And so understood Mr. Brown. If these things be true, it proves what we have stated, that the free-soilers, who voted for Brown, on Wilmot's views, were only anxious for some excuse to get off of their ground, and willing to appear to be cheated for some ulterior purpose. It is more remarkable in the case of Allen and Giddings, whig free-soilers, who voted for Brown; for they were sure of obtaining from Winthrop everything which, on Wilmot's interpretation, they expected from Brown. In fact, Mr. Winthrop had, at both sessions of the last Congress, constituted these committees with a majority of free-State members, and members friendly to the Proviso. Evidently, then, the free-soilers who voted for Brown were playing a juggle to accomplish some purpose different from that of their avowed organization. They can no longer defend themselves for factiously opposing the organization of the House on the plea of conscientious scruples, but must be set down as wilful disorganizers.

☞ Thanks to Ensign, of the Delta, for Mobile papers, and to the officers of the J. T. Doswell for Red River papers.

HAVANA LOTTERY.—The following list comprises the principal prizes drawn in the Havana lottery on the 11th December:

19,678	$20,000	8,705	$6000	6,478	$2000	3,366	$1000
19,678	10,000	11,705	6000	22,678	2000	3,366	1000
19,678	10,000	4,943	2000	1,378	1000	7,127	1000
	10,427	15,119	18,256	22,666	each 1000		
4250	4000	11,119	11,256	17,666	1000	22,716	
		19,678	14,716	each 1000			

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—The Washington Republic contradicts, in the most emphatic manner, the rumors that the President's Message or the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, both or either, have been sent out in advance, any where or in any shape, from Washington. It adds: "We have been informed that the greatest pains have been taken in the Departments to prevent the possibility of these papers coming before the public, except in the usual and regular way. Believing there has been no fraud practised by or upon the copying clerks, and being quite sure these documents have not escaped through any other channel, we are persuaded there is not a copy of either any where out of the city of Washington."

RISE IN RED RIVER.—The Alexandria Democrat of last Tuesday says:—"It seems probable that we will be again submerged. Accounts from above state that a portion of the country is overflowed, and that the river was rising rapidly. One account places the water at only eighteen inches below the flood of August last! The river at this point is quite high, and the rise a foot per day. This is truly alarming. If again made to perform aquatic exercise, we may as well ship for dry land."

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN CHARACTER.—Every one, in passing through Royal street, has remarked the old man who for years has daily walked backward and forward in the rear of the Old Cathedral. Strangers have seen pencil and paragraphs written upon his singular fancy and inoxious manners. Yet as it was believed that he was perfectly harmless in his wanderings, no one cared to disturb or annoy him. He had a mania that admitted of but one idea—the absorbing thought of his existence—he believed that he kept watch over a large treasure buried near the spot, and with unceasing vigilance he was at his post, neither incoherent words nor he passed along. He died the death that he lived, alone. No one was present when he died, no friends to close his eyes. Yesterday morning the poor old wanderer was found dead in Peyroux Market. "Apoplexy" was the verdict; and we trust that it was so, and not what. He was unknown—unfriended—his life a secret, and his death the same. Not even his name could be given. The "Wizard of the Cathedral" was his usual title, and by that we record the passing from the world of one who has exchanged his troubled hours for the quiet of the grave.

POKAREES'S PANORAMA.—This is the last opportunity to see this beautiful exhibition, without the proprietors can be prevailed upon to remain one week longer at Armory Hall. The painting is well worth a visit from every citizen; and no one will leave the room without being highly gratified. The view commences with the junction of the Ohio, and proceeds along the bank of the Mississippi to Falls of St. Anthony. The scenes varies with the seasons; and we have all the difficult shades of light, while the canvass progresses, from the dawn to moonlight. Boats, with steam up, and wheels moving, ply backward and forward before cities, towns and hamlets—flats and skiffs pass in review, and pilot raftsmen use their long sweeps to the life; the Indian paddles his canoe above the Rapids, and the wild scenes of savage warfare, are faithfully portrayed. The Panorama suits all ages—childhood is delighted—mature years pleased and amused. Go, then, to Armory Hall to-night.

AMERICAN THEATRE—*Rosalie of Mr. Chanfrau.*—To-night a new bill is presented at this popular establishment for the benefit of Mr. Chanfrau, and we expect to see a house emphatically and truthfully crowded from pit to gallery. We have not only the greatest original *Mose* charbering over the stoks of California, and *Gaby* up to the New York b'hoys under every vicissitude of fortune in a style unmatchable, but we have the inimitable Chanfrau in that sterling national drama of "Blackeyed Susan," as *William*, and also in "A Model for a Wife," as *Reynaldo Rosalfet*. What more is needed to attract a crowd?

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—This evening will be presented for the second time, the new ballet of the "Devil's Violin;" to conclude with the play of "Damon and Pythias."

PLACIDE'S THEATRE.—This evening will be presented the new comedy of "The Dutch Governor," after which, a variety of dancing by the Ballet Company, and the evening's performance will conclude with the new farce of "Going to the Races."

ORLEANS THEATRE.—To-night the opera of "Les Mortes" at the Orleans. The admirers of Donizetti will be there, of course.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCUS.—Let everybody remember that this is the Benefit Night of Sam Lathrop, the celebrated Clown. Look out for fun, for you may depend upon it, that prince of the right stripe, and plenty of them; and as for his Stump Speeches, they are the only thing of the kind now extant. He don't fail to give him a call.

Nicaragua.

The Nicaragua question has assumed a very threatening aspect. If our Government sustains Mr. Squier in his purchase of the Island of Tigre, and the proceedings of the naval officers of Great Britain are not disavowed at once, there is imminent danger of a speedy collision. The seizure (in the name of the British Queen) of this island, in contempt of the title of Honduras to grant, as well as of the right of the United States to hold possession, is a clear case of collision by force between the two Governments, on a question of territorial rights. It would seem that Great Britain has resolved, that if she must negotiate for the right of way across the isthmus at Nicaragua, it is safest to seize both outlets and negotiate with the strong hand of possession. She has taken the island which commands the Pacific mouth, and has and purposes to keep the town which is the terminus in the Mexican Gulf. A naval station is to be established there, and in a short time there will be a powerful fleet to keep possession of the San Juan river, in the name of the Mosquito King, for the benefit of his royal sister, Victoria.

Two things are not yet sufficiently clear to make the omens of hostility with Great Britain certain, as they are lowering. The first is, whether this island, forcibly taken by the British, was in effect ours, lawfully by virtue of any authority competent to buy and take title in the name of the United States. There will be some shrewd inquiries made into Mr. Squier's authority to buy islands and take possession before the President and the Senate have had their full share in transactions so important.

Again, it is happily somewhat doubtful whether the summary proceedings either of the English Chargé or the Admiral on the station, is in accordance with the true policy of the British Ministry. It is noticed of late that the tone of the English press is much modified in its maintenance of rights claimed through *Sambo*, the Mosquito caricature of royalty, that even the London Times has taken occasion to dispute Lord Palmerston's arguments in favor of the claims to the protectorship of the Mosquito Kingdom. It is not at all unlikely that the present views of the British Cabinet will lead them to disclaim the position assumed by Mr. Chatfield, and to propose some measure which will reconcile the real wishes of both parties with their real interests, none of which truly conflict, if the subject be taken up in a good temper.

Alabama Banks.

Mr. Walker, a member of the Alabama Legislature from Macon county, has introduced a bill into the Legislature, to provide for the redemption, within a stated period, in specie, of the outstanding circulation of the old State Bank and its Branches. By one of the papers of this city, yesterday, this was treated as a proposition for the resumption of specie payments by some existing bank. The State Bank System of Alabama, which consisted of a State Bank at Tuscaloosa, and four Branches, situated respectively at Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville and Decatur, was abolished about five years ago, and the process of winding up has been going on ever since, with an occasional change of system. The last and most successful plan was the vesting of the whole of the assets of all the institutions in one Commissioner, with ample powers, and a direction which it required the highest virtue and energy, to administer wisely and faithfully. It was a dangerous experiment, to place in the hands of any one man the vast and practically irresponsible power which the Legislature vested in Mr. Lyon—an experiment only to be excused by the successful issue, and never to be repeated. The choice was a happy one, and the event has justified amply the extraordinary confidence which placed in the hands of Mr. Lyon millions upon millions of State means, to be collected, invested and employed to pay the State debt and protect the State credit.

At the time these banks were closed, they had a very large circulation afloat, for the redemption of which the bank assets were the only fund. The State was bound for the bonds issued for the capital stock, and had paid all the expenses of government out of the supposed bank profits—at all events, by annual drafts upon the banks, which were nevertheless insolvent, inasmuch as they had sunk a large part of their capital. The bank-notes outstanding at the time the banks were shut up, were receivable, of course, for all the debts due to the banks, and moreover, were made receivable by law for all public dues and taxes. They were not to be paid out again, but directed to be destroyed in a certain manner, when paid in. The effect has been, that although nowhere redeemable in silver or gold, they have maintained a credit nearly equivalent to specie. They ceased to be used as currency, and became an article of merchandise. The demand is still good, as there is a large amount of bank debt still collectable, and a considerable revenue to be collected, for which these notes are required.

The process of collection has reduced the outstanding amount to about a half million of dollars, and the Trustee has convertible funds on hand to a large amount, in the shape of U. S. Treasury notes, bearing interest; and Mr. Walker's proposition is, that the Trustee be required to provide the specie funds to redeem the whole. The measure would not have the effect of calling them in immediately, but rather to relieve them from the custody of the broken, and set them in circulation as money. The State has a deficiency of currency of its own creation, there being but one bank in existence within its borders. A simple notice that the State Bank had provided the cash for redeeming the old currency on demand, would raise it to par, and probably set it afloat in the community again. The State can do it easily, and we join with the Bulletin in wishing to see it done.

The Royal Youths from Honolulu and Dr. Judd, and the Corporation of New York City.—At 3 o'clock, the Common Council of the city of New York proceeded to the Irving House, according to previous arrangement, and were introduced by Mr. Howard, the proprietor of the house, to the two young Princes from Owyhe, and Dr. Judd, Minister of the King of Owyhe, with whom they are travelling. Alderman James Kelly, owing to the sickness of the Mayor, headed the honorable body, and on being introduced to the young princes and Dr. Judd, briefly addressed them. He expressed his regret that his honor the Mayor was prevented by sickness from having the pleasure of visiting them. He, however, begged to welcome Dr. Judd back to his native country, after so many long years of absence, and the two young princes with him, to whom, in the name of the Mayor and the Corporation, he extended a hearty welcome on the occasion of their visit to New York. At the same time, he regretted that their contemplated departure for Liverpool by the steamer to-morrow, would cut short their stay in the city, and prevent the Corporation from the happiness of extending to them the courtesies of the city, and affording them an opportunity of visiting whatever was of public interest in New York.

The two young gentlemen and Dr. Judd were then personally introduced to each member of the Common Council present. Dr. Judd, on behalf of his two youthful protegés and for himself, returned thanks to the honorable Corporation of the city of New York for the kindness and attention paid to them. He (Dr. J.) was not accustomed to public speaking, but he could not refrain from giving vent to his feelings on this occasion, however imperfectly, he could express the sentiments which filled his bosom. On revisiting his native country, after an absence of thirty-three years, he felt the strongest admiration and delight at all he saw. He had come from Honolulu, had stayed for a short time at San Francisco, had passed through a portion of Mexico and visited some of the old Spanish towns of the southern portion of America; he had also seen Kingston, in Jamaica, on his voyage home, but nothing which he had seen could compare, in progress, in civilization, in the intelligence, industry and activity of the people, with what met his view in New York.

After the ceremony of introduction was thus concluded, the party entered into a general conversation, in which the young Sandwichian princes participated, with perfect ease and self-possession. The party then withdrew to the City Hall, where the beautiful rooms and paintings, and other objects of great interest, were shown to our remote visiters, after which they were taken to see the arsenal and the trophies of American valor. Here they were courteously received by Gen. Stewart, who showed the party over the extensive and interesting collections. The doctor and the two royal youths were highly pleased with the kind attentions shown, and expressed themselves with warmth accordingly. To-day, at 12, M., they leave in the steamer for England.—*N. Y. Herald, 19th inst.*

☞ The Sandwich Island princes, who sailed from New York for Europe, with Mr. Judd, are named Kamehamea; are aged respectively 18 and 20 years. They are tall and finely formed; their eyes are dark and piercing, and their hair straight and black as a raven's wing. They speak English fluently, and have been liberally educated. They will return in about four months, and the Princes remain in New York some two months.

PROFESSOR MITCHEL'S LECTURE.—Professor Mitchel's opening lecture on Astronomy, was listened to last night, at the Lyceum Hall, by an audience as large as that which filled it on the first evening. Not a seat was left vacant, and a *fair* proportion of the fashion and beauty of the Second Municipality graced with their presence the beautiful hall. The introductory gave an earnest of the course. The speaker acquitted himself in a manner every way worthy of the high reputation that he enjoys; and the audience listened throughout the very interesting address with an attention that proved the gratification conveyed. Professor Mitchel's voice is well adapted to the capacity of the room; it is clear, distinct and powerful; and his easy and graceful delivery clothes the matter in a very agreeable dress.

The science of Astronomy is a thrilling subject to descant on; the mind is lifted upabove the ordinary thoughts that pertain to almost every other theme; it roams through space as far as imagination can wing its way, and the development of the wonders of the trackless heavens fills us with awe and profound admiration. In the hands of the lecturer, the subject was treated in a masterly manner, and the shadowing forth of the materials that will compose the course was clear and comprehensive.

The second lecture takes place on Tuesday next. In the series, the science of Astronomy, from the discoveries by the Egyptians, Hindoos, Babylonians and Greeks, up to the present time, will be set forth, illustrated by suitable apparatus. Last evening, after the lecture, Prof. Mitchel exhibited several illuminated views of the recent discoveries by Sir John Ross. We predict that the course will be well attended throughout. To the seeker after knowledge it possesses attractions sufficient to draw him each night to the Lyceum Hall.

We think this is the beginning of better times for our city, and that those who have been laboring to advance the cause of education and the improvement of our children and youth, as well as those of riper years, will now see the fruit of their labors. We hope all who can, will attend these lectures.

STEAMBOAT LIBERALITY.—The steamboats on the Alabama river have volunteered to bring down, free of expense, the delegates to the great Railroad Convention on the 26th.

BRITISH STEAMERS.—The Mobile Herald contradicts, positively, the rumor that it is in contemplation by the British West India Mail Steam Company to omit Mobile as a stopping place. On the contrary, that paper says, "on the best authority," there is not "the slightest tinge of truth" in the story.

SIX STEAMERS FOR CALIFORNIA.—Three large steamers left New York on the 14th, for Chagres, with California passengers; two others, the Gold Hunter and the Isthmus, were to leave on the 16th, making five. These, with the Sarah Sands, on the 8th, for San Francisco, via the Horn, make six from New York in one week. The Sarah Sands had 40 passengers, and cargo mainly of coal.

THE IRISH PATRIOTS.—The Irish convicts, O'Brien, McManus, Meagher and O'Donohue, arrived in the brig Swift, at the Cape of Good Hope, on the 12th of September. She sailed the next day with them for VanDiemen's Land. John Mitchel reached the Cape, in the Neptune, on the 19th of September. Seven out of 292 convicts on the Neptune, died during the voyage.

REPORTED FATAL NAVAL DUEL, ETC.—A correspondent of the New York Commercial, writing from Edgartown, Mass., Dec. 12, says:

The ship Atlantic, which arrived at this port last week, brought the intelligence that a son of John C. Spencer, a passed midshipman, was killed in a duel with an English lieutenant, fought by one of the islands of the Pacific. The cause which led to it was that the Englishman said the Yankees were cowards. This Mr. Spencer resented. The parties fought with rifles, each putting the muzzle of his piece at the mouth of the other. Both were killed.

The same vessel brings us a report that Captain Hussey, of the ship Planter, of Nantucket, had deliberately, and without any just cause whatever, shot one of his crew.

We have the authority of the officers and crew of the Atlantic for both these stories. Some of them were present at the duel of Spencer.

[We give the above as furnished by our regular correspondent at Edgartown. We trust, however, that there is some mistake about it. On reference to the Navy List of the present year, we see that there was no midshipman, passed midshipman, or lieutenant, named Spencer, in the service on the 1st of January.]—*N. Y. Com. Advertiser.*

LOSS OF THE PILOT BOAT HACKSTAFF.—She left San Francisco in July, with 24 passengers for Oregon. In entering Roque river in a gale, she went ashore and was wrecked. The passengers and crew encountered great trials in the wild country, but found their way at last to Oregon city.

A BOLD PIECE OF VILLAINY.—A keg of powder was recently placed beneath the Congregational meeting-house, at Enfield, Mass., and a slow match laid to it, for the purpose of blowing up the building during a concert. The Ware Gazette says that the presumed object of this diabolical outrage was revenge upon certain proprietors of the church, who had taken active measures to put down the sale of liquor in that town by prosecutions.

FATAL AFFRAY.—A young man named Walter Goodrich was killed yesterday by William Nicholas, a creole, in an affray. Nicholas immediately gave himself up and was lodged in the county jail. Nicholas is a butcher, and has a stall in the New Market. The affray occurred at the Market-house. There was also an affray on Tuesday, near the western boundary of the city, in which a man was stabbed by a worthless fellow named Eldridge Grady. The wounded man—whose name we have not learned—was alive yesterday, but is not expected to recover. Grady is in jail.—*Mobile Daily Advertiser, of Thursday.*

THE STATE vs. H. G. MCCLINTOCK—*Trial for Murder.*—This case was called yesterday morning in the Criminal Court, and both the State and the accused having announced themselves ready for trial, the Court ordered the Sheriff to proceed with the call of the panel, and after sounding nearly two hundred jurors, the following named gentlemen were sworn to try the case, to-wit: Abraham G. Moore, Henry Richart, Peleg Brown, Charles Gaesnigue, Collier H. Miage, Daniel Fowler, Jr., John Nettles, Thomas R. Bolling, Charles K. Foote, John S. Remsen, John A. Howze, Anderson Clemmens. The examination of witnesses will be commenced this morning at 10 o'clock.—*Mobile Daily Advertiser, of Thursday.*

LORD ELGIN'S ALLEGED LETTER TO THE BISHOPS.—We observe, by the Quebec papers, that, in reply to a letter of inquiry from M. Cauchon, the Secretary to their Lordships, the Archbishop of Quebec and the Bishop of Sydime, distinctly states that there is not one word of truth in the rumor which has been so currently circulated, on the subject of Lord Elgin's correspondence with these high ecclesiastical dignitaries.—*Montreal Herald, 6th.*

☞ There is to be a series of theatrical entertainments in England enacted by Kean, Macready, Wallack, and others, at Windsor Castle, during the holydays.

Arrivals at the Principal Hotels.

ST. CHARLES.—C. B. Foote, Ohio; S. Sewell, N. Y.; Dr. C. A. Oliver, S. B. Fiserson, Miss.; J. A. Frampton, J. H. Hannah, Miss W. Buckles, Ky.; J. Rhodes, F. W. Rhodes, Miss.; Maj. Walbridge, Ga.; Miss Banks, Miss J. W. Sanders, Ind.; H. O. Anderson, S. C.; Wm. J. Keller, Balt.; J. W. Taylor and family, Mo.; W. J. White, Miss.; Capt. Sewell; M. Vindfuss, Boston; J. Hayes, Jr., and lady, Conet; A. Kennedy, Balt.

HERMITT'S.—H. Magrue, Ala.; T. J. Cooler, W. H. Cooley, N. Benamin, O. Lepesne, La.; J. Hanson, S. C.

PLANTERS.—S. W. Wade, La.; A. L. Hopkins, Ga.; J. Dunne, R. Dunne, E. E. Kennedy, J. M. Jones, Ala.; A. M. Lanier, G. S. Allen, J. R. Harris, T. Clark, Tenn.; B. F. Atkins, N. C.; W. A. Anthony, F. F. Taylor, Tenn.

VERANDA.—W. F. Chapman, J. W. Bailey, N. O.; W. B. Peck, Cin. W. Bailey and family, E. Pugh, Dr. Perry and son, T. McCombs, La.; H. K. Cooper, Dr. H. McGuffin, C. A. Oliver, Dr. Arrington, G. W. Tucker, B. H. Bankston, Miss. Chotard and lady, Miss Chotard, Miss H. Chotard, Chas. Chotard, Wm. W. F. Chotard, Kentucky; A. G. Cook, U. S. E. M.; B. Conger, Baltimore; J. B. Lee, La.

LOUISIANA.—J. Nichol, Gloucester; J. Colfax, Conn.; F. S. Culbertson, S. B. Reid, T. Thornton, St. Marks; Mr. Crengle, N. O.

Holyday Festival.

☞ The LADIES of St. Paul's Church will hold a FAIR, commencing on MONDAY, the 21st inst., at the late Merchants' Bank, opposite Lafayette Square.

☞ A great variety of handsome Christmas Presents have been prepared, including many suitable Gifts for Children.

MASONIC DINNER.

ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN The Evangelist,

ON THURSDAY, Dec. 27, 1849, at the

St. Charles Hotel.

☞ Subscribers to the above Dinner can now procure their tickets by calling on either of the undersigned.

Brethren who may desire to purchase tickets can obtain them at H. K. Baldwin & Co's, No. 1 Carondelet street; H. Williams, on Camp street, opposite Armory Hall; J. Magnon's Dagguerreotype Gallery, corner of Canal and Camp street; D. I. Rivarde's office, 78 Gravier street; Wm. H. Harper, Lafayette; and either of the undersigned.

SAMUEL G. RISK,
D. J. RICARDO,
WM. B. HAYDON, } Committee.

Auction Sales This Day.

J. A. BEARD will sell, at 12 o'clock, at Banks Arcade—Real Estate.

J. M. DUPLESSIS will sell, at 12 o'clock, at Banks Arcade—Family Slaves.

THOMAS J. SPEAR will sell, at 10½ o'clock, at the corner of Commercial and Bienville streets—Mules, Horses, Drays, etc.

Dry-rot--Rafts--Children--Weather.

PARISH OF PLAQUEMINES, December 19, 1849.

Edr. Crescent.—The dry-rot, which prevails in the upper parishes of this State, has extended its ravages so far as the empire parish; but until now, it is impossible for me to tell you whether in this section of the country it is general or partial; for I was only informed by two planters of the loss of their seed. It is probable that our sugar growers will not suffer much from this unexpected disease, for five-sixths of them have not yet finished grinding. One "knowing one" attributes the cause of the spoilt seed to the sickly state of the mattressed cane.

Last week two rafts of square pieces of pine timber, one numbering forty-five, and the other almost one hundred, were caught in the river, above Jesuits' Bend, about twenty-six miles from the city, on the right bank of the river.

The number of children now of age of being educated in this parish, amounts to 554, of whom 266 are males and 288 females.

Our weather has been very inclement for the past few days.

Adieu. GLEANER.

GREAT STEAMBOAT SALE.—A great steamboat sale is to take place in New York on the 25th inst. All the steamboats of the People's Line, on the Hudson, are then to be sold. They comprise the North America, South America, Isaac Newton, Hendrik Hudson, Oregon, New Jersey, Rochester, and Columbia, and one-half of the Empire, Troy, and John Mason, and the hulls of the De Witt Clinton and Diamond.

GOLD THIEF ARRESTED.—A New York letter of the 12th, to the Philadelphia American, says that a person has been arrested who is believed to be the thief of the gold dust on board the Empire City about a month ago. He has heretofore held a very respectable position.

S. of T....Meetings This Evening.

WASHINGTON FOUNTAIN, No. 1, at the Hall of Crystal Fount Division, 242 Tchoupitoulas street.

S. of T. Meeting....Sunday Morning.

LIBERAL DIVISION, No. 17, at Felicity Hall, corner of Common and St. Charles streets, at 10 o'clock.

Pearl Division, No. 8, S. of T.

The Members of this Division are respectfully informed that the Meeting will take place THIS EVENING, at 7 o'clock, instead of half-past, as usual, in order to allow time for the meeting of the General Committee.... Members are requested to be punctual, as business of importance will come before the Division.

W. H. FORTUN, A. R. S.

Grand Division, Sons of Temperance, State of Louisiana.

☞ A Special Meeting of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of the State of Louisiana will be held on MONDAY next, the 24th inst., at half-past 7 o'clock P. M., in Felicity Hall, corner of Common and St. Charles sts.... By order of the G. W. P.

EDWIN L. LEWIS, G. Scribe.

New Orleans Mechanic Society.

The Regular Monthly Meeting of this Society will be held in their room, Commercial Exchange, St. Charles street, THIS EVENING, at 7 o'clock.

H. B. SWABEY, Secretary.

Native Am. Fire Co., No. 16.

A Called Meeting of the Company will be held on SUNDAY MORNING, Dec. 23d, at 9 o'clock. Punctual attendance is required.

L. P. MOULTAIN, Secretary.

Steamboat Departures This Day.

☞ SEE ADVERTISEMENTS ON THIRD PAGE.

Mobile .....JAMES L. DAY, Gibson, 10 P. M.
Red River .....SHREVEPORT, Hart, 4 P. M.
Louisiana .....BELLE ARCO, Delaney, 4 P. M.
Louisville .....BELLE KEY, Key, 4 P. M.
Alabama .....ALABAMA, Hall, 4 P. M.
Ms. Wells River....PATRICK HENRY, Crosby, 5 P. M.
Pittsburg .....NEW ORLEANS, Whiting, 5 P. M.
Alabama .....L. E. SELLERS, Ivy, 4 P. M.

For Mobile, Mississippi, Wetumpka, and all landings on the Alabama River, via the River.—The splendid steamer J. L. McLEAN will leave THIS DAY, Saturday, at 5 o'clock A. M., from foot of St. Louis street.

HYDE & OGLESBY, 18 Poydras street.

For U. S. Mail Steamer NEW ORLEANS—For Cincinnati, Madison, Louisville, Pittsburg, etc.—This fine packet steamer will leave THIS DAY, Saturday, at 4 P. M., from foot of Poydras street, wharf.

HYDE & OGLESBY, 18 Poydras st.

Passengers and shippers will please be ready. 422

PATRICK HENRY—For Memphis, Helena, Mouth of Arkansas, Columbia, Lake Providence, Bayou Sara, Vicksburg, etc.—This splendid packet is now receiving freight on the foot of Canal st., and will leave THIS DAY, at 5 o'clock P. M.

HYDE & OGLESBY, 18 Poydras st.

Passengers will please be on board at the above hour.

For Louisville, Cincinnati, Wheeling, New Madrid and Memphis. 422

T. J. SMITH, Agent.

The elegant and well-coming passenger steamer LATONA, Capt. Wilson, is now receiving freight on the foot of Canal st., and will leave THIS DAY, at 5 o'clock P. M., for Marks of Cold Water, Tallahatchie, Lafourche, Lake Providence, Bayou Sara, Vicksburg, Grand Gulf and Natchez.

T. J. SMITH, 38 Magazine st.

For Tampico, per ship SHEFFIELD, Capt. Lewis, now loading, that she will have removed to the Foot of Fort St. Bienville, Bienville street, and will receive freight on and after the 20th inst.

J. W. ANDREWS & CO., 81 Common st.

The new AQUILA, Capt. Newell, from Boston, is now discharging her cargo at Foot St. Bernard Municipality.... Consignees will please send for their goods as soon as the Levee, or they will be stored at their expense and ris