The Daily Crescent.

NEW ORLEANS:

FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 4, 1850.

LECTURE AT THE LYCEUM.—Professor Mitchel will deliver another Lecture in the Lyceum of the New Municipal Hall this evening, commencing at half-past 7 o'clock, precisely. Instruction of no ordinary worth, communicated in an interesting manner, make the Professor's Lectures worth listening to.

GRAND CONCERT.—Signors Biscaccianti and M. Strakosch give a grand musical festival this evening at the Hall of the Commercial Exchange. The eminent vocalist, Mme. M. C. Casini, and Signor Bischoff, the great violinist, will also appear. The programme promises a rare feast of music, and the hall will no doubt be crowded with the beauty and fashion of the city. Every arrangement has been made for the accommodation of the public, and it is particularly stated that no more tickets will be disposed of than the room can hold. The fame of the performers is too well established to need more than the announcement of the festival. During the evening Signors Biscaccianti will give an English song—"Napolitaine."

☞ We are indebted to the officers of the steamer Atlantic for western papers.

POULTRY BY THE TON.—Not less than 12,000 pounds of poultry passed over the Mount Holly Railroad, to the New York market, during one week, making altogether six tons! It all came from Burlington county, N. J. The freight was 10 cents per 100 pounds.

DR. RAPHAEL.—This distinguished Hebrew divine has received a unanimous call from the congregation in Elm street, New York, (Bnai Jeshurun) and will enter upon his duties in that Tabernacle on or about the 1st of March next. Dr. R. will be a popular and valuable accession to the Hebrew pulpit in this country.

☞ The "German Correspondent" of Baltimore issued the translation of the President's message, on Monday, a few hours after its arrival by the express, in the German language.

NON-RESIDENT BUSINESS MEN.—The Express states that 2957 business men of New York reside in Brooklyn, 450 in Williamsburg, and altogether some 3000 persons owning property and doing business in New York city, reside without its limits and are thereby exempt from taxation. The New Yorkers are about asking the Legislature to apply a remedy.

DEATH.—We are pained to learn that Mrs. Thibodaux, relict of the late H. S. Thibodaux, projector and founder of our town, died at her residence, St. Bridget, parish of Terrebonne, late on Saturday evening, the 29th inst.—Thibodaux *Minerva.*

☞ The Pennsylvania Railroad Company have resolved to discontinue Sunday travel on and after the 31st ult. At a meeting of the stockholders, it was also resolved on motion of George Darsie of Allegheny, to put under contract the western division of the road, (commencing at Pittsburg, and progressing eastwardly to the Allegheny mountains,) at the earliest practicable period. A subscription of $1,000,000 was also declared necessary by the citizens of Philadelphia, and a committee of one hundred persons is to be named, by the second Monday in March, for its consummation.

THE MEDITERRANEAN.—The great Panorama of the sea and shores of the Mediterranean, now on exhibition in Charleston at the Hall of the South Carolina Society, is nightly attracting large audiences.

☞ The Fredericksburg News, speaking of the probability of a controversy in the Senate between Calhoun and Benton, says:

"We can so easily imagine a contest between the bright serene stars of an Italian sky and the yawning mouth of Vesuvius, casting up its murky volumes of flame and smoke, as if it hoped to extinguish the immortal lustre of the heavens."

☞ The experiments of laying wires under the North River, made by the North American Telegraph Company, has been very successful. The line is now working through from the office, No. 69 Wall street, to Washington City, by means of gutta percha wires passing under the North, Hackensack, Passaic, and part of Schuylkill river.

☞ The New York Herald estimates the total loss sustained by Messrs. Woolsey & Co. of that city, in the destruction of their sugar refinery by fire a short time since, at $235,800, including materials, machinery and buildings. It is said that but a small portion of this loss is covered by insurance.

ROBBERY OF A CALIFORNIAN.—A gentleman named John Connell, a passenger who just arrived in the Empire City from California, arrived in Philadelphia on Christmas day, and put up at Congress Hall, corner of Third and Chestnut streets. Some time during the night his trunk was broken open and robbed of about $4,000 in gold dust and money. The unfortunate stranger was on his way to Cadiz, Ohio. No clue has yet been had to the robbers.

A QUARRELSOME FELLOW.—Alluding to the numerous duels which Pierre Bonaparte has lately been engaged in, the London Times says:

"The circumstances attending the unlooked-for reappearance of this eminent citizen in Paris are doubtless explanatory of his present engagements, but his pugnacity has been long ago signalized. He shot an officer of justice, some years since, at Rome; knocked down a doorkeeper the other day at the Orleans Railway, and during the last session of Assembly bestowed a terrific punch in the head upon a brother representative, who turned out to be the wrong man, and who had never said or done anything to offend him."

PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM TAXATION.—The County Board at Philadelphia state that the assessor's list for 1850 will probably show twelve millions of dollars worth of property exempt from taxation. They recommend application to the Legislature for the repeal of all laws which produce this state of things.

THE JAPAN EXPEDITION.—Honolulu papers state that they have received from the office of the Chinese Repository a detailed account of the visit of the U. S. ship Preble to Japan last spring. Everything relating to that exclusive Empire is of peculiar interest at this junction of commercial expansion; and Japan, bordering so closely on China and North-eastern Asia, will continue to be besieged by adventurers till her restrictive policy is forced to yield to the demands of trade, and her ports are opened to the commerce and enterprise of the world.

☞ The editor of the Savannah Republican has received some specimens of superior brown sugar, raised on plantations in Effingham co., Ga.

AMERICAN LITERATURE—*The Drama.*—It is reported in theatrical circles that a new American comedy, entitled the "Millionaire," by a gentleman now connected with a leading theatre in this city, which has lately been received with marked favor in the North, will soon be presented for the judgment of a New Orleans audience. Of this play the able editor of Neal's Gazette remarks: "It proved, as we anticipated, a most excellent comedy, equal in interest, spirit and effect to any similar production that has been submitted to the public for years—abounding with fine sentiment, happy hits at the times, sparkling wit, and the characters generally well drawn and but exaggerated—it affords as sincere pleasure to say that its author has fairly earned a rank among our leading dramatic writers." May we not hope that the public in this city will unite in force on the occasion, to give due encouragement to the worthy managers in their production of "home manufacture."

AMERICAN THEATRE—*Fourth Night of Mr. Booth.*—This great actor appears this evening as *Iago*, with Mr. Jamison as *Othello*. The character of *Iago* has been generally considered the master-piece of Booth, and to-night a fine opportunity is offered to see this eminent tragedian in a tragedy that calls forth all his powerful delineation of character. The cast is a good one—the talented Jamison as the *Moor*, Charles as *Michael Cassio*, Mrs. Pope as *Desdemona*, and Mr. Gleason as *Emilia*.

Last evening Mr. Booth appeared as *Bertram* in a large audience, and sustained his reputation throughout with great ability. He is confessedly at the head of the American stage, and bids fair to remain so for long as he treads the boards.

ST. CHARLES THEATRE—*Last Night of the Heron Family.*—The grand spectacle of the "Forty Thieves" will be again presented this evening. The performance will commence with "A Day in Paris," characters by the Heron Family; then a concert by the same; to conclude with the musical spectacle of the "Forty Thieves."

PLACIDE'S VARIETIES.—The new burlesque of "Fortunio and his Seven Gifted Servants" will be performed again this evening, with all the scenery and wardrobe belonging to the beautiful spectacle. After which, a Grand Divertissement, by the principal dancers. To be followed by the farce of "Flasher and Crasher." The whole to conclude with the "Engaged," by the principal dancers and all the corps de ballet.

Cheap Postage and New Coin.

The President in his Message, and the Postmaster General in his Report, suggest a change in the rates of postage, and recommend that a uniform charge be made of five cents for every letter carried by mail. So far as a reduction of postage is concerned, almost everybody seems agreed that it may be made not only safely, but profitably to all parties—to the letter-writers and readers as well as to the Government.

It is strange that those who favor a uniform system of five cents, do not see that their admissions lead necessarily to the conclusion that three cents for short distances, and five cents for long, would produce more revenue than the uniform rate of five cents. At present the charge of the Department is five cents for short and ten cents for long distances. It is clear that the reduction proposed by the President and Postmaster General can only affect the number of letters sent through long distances. Now, if a reduction of five cents on letters which have hitherto paid ten cents will increase the revenue of the Postoffice Department, for a much stronger reason, a reduction of two cents on letters which have previously paid five will swell the receipts from the letter-mails. The only doubt as to the principle of cheap postage is where the mails are to be carried through long distances. The danger, then, is that the cost of transportation may exceed the revenue from a cheap system. It is apparent to every one, from a little reflection, that cheap postage is better adapted for a thickly inhabited country than for a sparsely settled region. Hence we should be more cautious in applying the doctrine of cheap postage to those parts of the country where the distances are long and the people few, than to districts where the routes are short and the correspondents numerous. In one case the number of letters is necessarily limited; in the other, the mail matter sent is more dependent on the charge to which it is subjected.

But the Message and the Postoffice Report—and certainly the Administration officers are good judges of the matter—assert that a reduction from the present rates for long distances would increase and not diminish the revenue. The deduction is irresistible that if a reduction of the price for long distances would be profitable to the Government, a reduction for short distances and thickly inhabited districts would be yet more profitable.

In connection with the three cent postage, it would be convenient to issue a three-cent coin. Mr. Niles, of Connecticut, proposed this at the last session; but the fourth of March put a stop to this as well as to a good deal other unfinished business of the last Congress. It is to hoped that the measure will not be delayed this year until it is too late to make it a law.

Besides its use for paying postage, the three-cent piece would be of great service to all parts of the Union—especially to that part of the country where copper coin is not freely circulated. The three-cent piece would, in fact, supersede the necessity for the copper cents. In order to pay a cent a man could give two three-cent pieces and receive a half-dime in exchange. Two cents could be paid by giving a half-dime and receiving a three-cent piece. To pay four cents, three three-cent pieces might be given, and a half-dime received, or a dime given and two three-cent pieces received. To pay seven cents, a dime might be given and a three-cent piece received. It is apparent, then, that the three-cent piece would probably drive all the one-cent pieces out of circulation.

The three-cent piece would be, in every respect, a more convenient coin than the present copper cent. So clumsy and inconvenient is the latter that it has never obtained a general circulation in several of the States. In some neighborhoods, corporations—such as turnpike companies—have tried to introduce copper; but the country people have fought against them and refused to take the coin. The three-cent piece would not be so violent a change, and would not excite the same degree or amount of prejudice.

Report of the Secretary of the Interior.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior to the President of the United States opens with a sketch of the manner in which the department was organized last March. A want of clerks is complained of, and the Secretary recommends the creation of the office of Solicitor of the Department of the Interior. This officer would perform the same functions as formerly belonged to the Solicitor of the General Land Office—an officer who was dispensed with by an act of 1842. Attention is also drawn to the fact that the Department of the Interior was established so immediately before the adjournment of the last Congress that no provision was or could be embodied in the general appropriation act for its support.

The Secretary recommends the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau, separate from and independent of the Patent Office. If such a bureau is to be organized, the systems of France and Belgium—of the latter especially—are mentioned as good models.

The amount of business in the Pension Bureau is stated to be large.

The number of invalid pensioners has increased during the last year nine hundred and eighty-nine. The whole number now on the list is four thousand one hundred and fifteen. The amount of claims for bounty-land warrants filed prior to the 5th of November last was about	83,000
If these there have been suspended or rejected about 9,000. The number which remain to be filed may be estimated at	20,000
Making an aggregate of	103,000

The Public Lands take up a large portion of the report. No provision has been made to extend the laws for the disposition of the public lands into the territories of Oregon, California and New Mexico. The public interest would seem to require this should be done at an early day.

"In California such commission will be more especially necessary. Many of the older grants in that territory, of considerable extent, have been resumed by the sovereign authority, and are now held under new grants, which require examination. Many important and commanding points are claimed under very recent grants of a questionable character; and but a part of the public records were, at the time of our last advices, in the possession or within the knowledge of the proper authorities. There is, however, a large amount of land in this territory, held by grants of unquestionable validity, and some of them, especially those granted for pasturage, are large, covering many square leagues in extent. A considerable amount also is held by inchoate titles, regular and fair in their inception, but which have not been perfected. These titles, where commenced in good faith, by concession from the Spanish or Mexican authorities, ought to be favorably regarded, especially if followed by possession. In no case should the occupant of the soil suffer injury by the transfer of the sovereignty to the United States. This consideration has induced Congress to confirm inceptive grants, even where the conditions were not fulfilled, in all cases where it could reasonably be supposed that the government which made the grant would have waived or allowed further time for their performance.

"This liberal consideration ought not, however, to be extended to doubtful grants of positions on the bays, islands, and headlands, which, when acquired, were known to be necessary to the United States, as sites for forts, light-houses, or other objects of a national character. It is understood that titles of some kind, generally not valid without the confirmation of Congress, have been procured, and are claimed, to some of these points, which, if confirmed, to and made the property of individuals, must be purchased back at a very large price. The right of the United States to such sites, where valid, ought to be at once asserted; and every spot necessary to the use of the government should be selected and separated from the general mass of public lands, and reserved from sale, and from the operation of the pre-emption laws, as they shall be extended to that territory."

The mineral lands of California are then treated of, and the right of the United States to their possession maintained. In disposing of gold lands, the report suggests that they be transferred by sale or lease, reserving a part of the gold collected, as rent or seigniorage.

The subject of a road to the Pacific is treated of in a very general way; and the report closes with a summary of Indian affairs.

THE INSANE.—Miss Dix, the distinguished philanthropist, in a memorial to Congress, by which she asks a grant of land for the benefit of the insane in our country, shows that in the New England States the proportion of the insane to the whole population is about 1 in 600; that in the Middle States it is 1 in 700; and that in the Western States it is 1 in 1300. The worst State is Rhode Island, where there is 1 to every 503; and the best, South Carolina, where there is 1 to every 5,058. In some of these States there is comparatively excellent provision for the insane; but in others little or nothing has been done.

☞ Seven Catholic priests were ordained at St. Louis, on the 10th ult., by Archbishop Kenrick.

CONSPIRACY DETECTED.—An extraordinary development has been made in Saratoga county, New York, of a conspiracy to procure the conviction of an innocent man, for the sake of the reward offered for the detection of the person who caused the death of an engineer of a railroad by laying obstructions on a track. The party accused was a wealthy and intelligent farmer named Talmadge, living in the neighborhood, who had been subjected to the loss of cattle and other damages by the cars, and been put to expenses by law. Talmadge had been heard to say he "hoped to God the cars would run off," and this, together with the circumstance referred to, had concentrated public suspicion upon him and he was indicted for murder. At length two witnesses (Irishman connected with the road) were found, who saw Talmadge place the stones on the track. Their story was simple and plausible. In this state of things the day of trial arrived. The most eminent counsel were employed on both sides. The prisoner persisted in his entire innocence. The two principal witnesses took the stand. They were calm and apparently honest in the natural and plausible story which they told, from the effect of which it seemed impossible for the accused to escape. His wife, who sat by his side, burst into a flood of tears, and by her sobs interrupted the proceedings of the trial. The friends of Talmadge began to abandon all hope and to prepare their minds for the awful sentence. At this point, two men pressed up to the prisoner's counsel, and whispered, agitated and almost breathless, in their ears. A fellow Irishman, who had long known that the story of these two witnesses was all a fabrication, to obtain the reward offered for the detection of the man who placed the stones, had been moved by conscience to disclose it, and to bring forward proof, positive and undeniable, that when the fatal catastrophe occurred these men were not in this country but in Ireland. The witnesses were placed upon the stand. The evidence of Talmadge's entire innocence was clear and undeniable—the attorney for the people withdrew the prosecution, and arrested the two false witnesses on the spot. Talmadge was borne off on the shoulders of the people, and the booming of a six-pounder, as expressive of their exultation, closed up one of the most novel and exciting scenes that ever transpired in any court or country.

☞ The Cherokee Indians, it is said, design to apply for admission into the Union in a few years, and with that view, they are exceedingly anxious to compete with the whites in all kinds of improvements.

☞ Mr. Samuel Appleton, of Boston, has contributed $1000 towards the erection of an observatory in Lowell, on the height immediately back of the reservoir in Belvidere.

☞ Rev. Cyrus Barker, missionary at Gowhatty, and who has resided in heathen lands over ten years, writes Rev. Dr. Cheules that he was to sail for the United States *via* England in September.

Affairs at Washington.

Both Houses of Congress adjourned from Monday the 24th to Thursday the 27th. We have accordingly nothing by yesterday's mails later from either of these bodies. The Baltimore Sun has a couple of correspondents from Washington, who lean different ways in their political creeds—one being evidently democratic, and the other whig. We copy below a letter from each, to show the various speculations upon the state of politics:

General Taylor's Message—Views of the Members—The Slavery Question—Views of the Administration—Chairmen of Committees, etc.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26, 1849.—The members are improving the holydays in a very becoming manner, in studying the message; and have already made considerable progress towards appreciating it properly. The Southern members, who at first saw a threat in Gen. Taylor's determination to support the Union at all hazards, beheld in his recommendations on the subject of the Territories enough that reassured them in regard to the Wilmot Proviso. Northern members say he will sign it; Southern members swear that the man who, in his message, recommends waiting till the territories knock at our doors for admission into the Union, and accompanies that recommendation with the admonition that, "with a view of maintaining the harmony and tranquility so dear to all, we should abstain from the introduction of those exciting topics of a sectional character which have hitherto produced painful apprehensions in the public mind," ought not, cannot sign it.

My opinion is, the administration has no objection to postpone the settlement of the Slavery question in New Mexico and Deseret for any number of years, say till 1852, when it will furnish a handsome platform for a second heat. But it will do all it can, and has done all in its power to procure the admission of California into the Union. Its policy consists in extracting one tooth at a time, and not to pull out the other till the pain produced by the first operation has subsided. The administration does not wish to have the Wilmot Proviso put to Gen. Taylor, but the *squeezers* of the Message may bring it about. In the meantime it would not be amiss to apply the sentiments expressed in the Message in regard to the Union, to *the resistance made by the Calhoun Senators to the admission of California as a State*, and the admonition against "the introduction of exciting topics of a sectional character" to the Wilmot Proviso and the territories of New Mexico and Deseret.

The *diplomatic* account of our diplomacy, contained in the message, is not so equivocal as these subjects are generally treated in public documents. We learn that Mr. Clayton "invested an agent, then in Europe, with power to declare our willingness *promptly* to recognize her independence, in the event of her ability to *sustain it*." This, the message says, was "upon the *contingency* of the establishment by her of a *permanent* government." So the agent had *discretionary* power to acknowledge the independence of Hungary in case she had established a *permanent* government. When this agent would have been satisfied of the *permanency* of the Hungarian government does not appear; but the instructions given to him by the State Department, show a foresight, prudence and skill rarely equaled in the annals of our government. On the other hand, however, no mention is made in the message of the hurried dispatch of Col. Webb, of the regular army, to the Emperor of Austria, who is not yet crowned, and of whom it is not yet known whether he will continue as an independent sovereign or a fief of the Emperor of Russia.

The whigs have resolved to nominate a candidate for the clerkship, in opposition to Col. Forney, the regular nominee of the democratic caucus.

I believe I am safe in giving it as the general impression that Mr. Linn Boyd will be the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, and Judge Bayly chairman of Foreign Relations. The proposition to *elect* the committees by plurality or otherwise is preposterous. If adopted, the House will not organize till the middle of the dogdays. X.

The Message and its Views—The Tariff—Improvement Measure—The Austrian Mission—Reduction of Postage, etc., etc.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26, 1849.—The President's message will, for some days, command almost exclusive attention. It is a well written, business-like, and unostentatious document, and is free from the fault of excessive length. More than half of the message is devoted to a view of the condition of our foreign relations; and, while the narrative is distinct, all the suggestions are patriotic, wise, and pacific. In regard to this subject, the message will certainly meet with general approbation.

The recommendation for a revision of the Tariff, with a view to an augmentation of the revenue, and the encouragement of home industry, is more explicit and decided than was generally expected. The question before Congress will, it is very certain, be distinctly a question between specific and *ad valorem* duties. The specific duties will not only augment the revenue, but afford some additional protection to home products and manufactures. We shall see whether Congress will not prefer to augment the revenue by imposing duties on articles now free.

The citizens of this district have every reason to be gratified with the President's very cordial commendation of their interests to the liberality of Congress.

On the whole, this message will give great satisfaction to the country, and must have the effect to promote that habitual attachment to the Union and the Constitution which it so forcibly inculcates.

General Foote has promptly brought forward his scheme for a compromise of the territorial question. His proposed bill will admit two new States, California north of 36° 30', and the District of Jacinta, in Texas, (with the assent of Texas,) and establish territorial governments for Deseret and New Mexico. The bill will recognize and apply the principles of the Missouri Compromise.

General Cass has verified rumor by submitting his proposition to suspend diplomatic intercourse with Austria. The General will doubtless make an eloquent and statesman-like speech. Perhaps Mr. Webster will second his views.

Mr. William J. Brown has taken early occasion to give notice of a bill to reduce the rates of postage. Mr. Brown is, I learn, prepared to go further in this manifest line of policy than the present Postmaster General has proposed. The public will not be satisfied without a three cent rate, at least for letters within a distance of three hundred miles, and the finances of the department will be promoted by that reduction. 108.

☞ The U. S. steamer Missouri, it will be remembered, was burnt to the water's edge and sunk at Gibraltar some seven or eight years ago. Since that time two English companies have made ineffectual attemps to raise her. Last June the U. S. Government sent out our old friend Capt. Taylor, of submarine notoriety, to make a survey and report on the practicability and estimate the expense of raising the old hull from her slimy bed. Capt. T. executed the commission and sent his report some time since to the Secretary of the Navy. He has just returned in the Empire City *via* Medina, Jamaica, etc. It is understood that the remains of the Missouri can probably be raised, though it would doubtless prove rather an expensive enterprise. On his way home Capt. T. was taken seriously ill at Lisbon, and was attended by the royal physician, who assured him that he could not possibly live but a few days; but having no disposition to "give it up so," he discharged his medical attendants and doctored himself so successfully as to be able to leave Lisbon in a few days for home. He has not entirely recovered, but his physician, Dr. Doane, thinks he will be "about" in a few days.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

FROM AFRICA.—The brig Venezuela, Fowler, at New York, from the River Gaboon, West Africa, Oct. 19, reports that the port of Gleanis is under blockade by the English for the purpose of suppressing the slave trade, and that since May 12 the Assinee river has been under a blockade by the French.

A LITERARY SWINDLER.—Edward Youl is the name of the individual who has been soliciting the nobility of England in behalf of Mary Howitt, representing her in a most destitute condition, and pocketing the money. It is supposed that he and his wife have come to America. He is about 30 years old, sallow complexion, and five feet two inches high—dark hair, supposed to be a wig.

NEW LITURGY.—At the late meeting of the German Reformed Synod at Norristown, Pa., animating debates were held upon the introduction of a liturgy into the churches connected with this body. All opposition was finally overruled, and a committee was appointed to prepare for the next meeting of the Synod a plan or schedule of a liturgy for general adoption.

☞ "*Let them work hard and fare hard*, and they need not go to California to get rich," said Uncle Simon, as he stood talking with a neighbor, about some friends who had lately left for the gold streams of California. "That is the secret of success," added Uncle Simon, as he thrust his hand under his frock, and turned on his label. "Only let people work as hard and fare as hard here, as they do when they go to California, and my word for it, they'll soon get ahead anywhere, and no mistake."

SAFETY LOCK.—A new safety lock, so contrived that when the key is turned on the inside of a room, an impenetrable steel plate slips over the hole on the opposite side, has been recently patented by Mr. J. B. Gibbs, of Boston. The contrivance is a simple one, but said to be most effectual against burglars and lock-pickers.

THERAPEUTIC VALUE OF COD-LIVER OIL.—A committee of the Boston Society for Observation in Medicine and Collateral Sciences, have addressed a circular to the profession in the city, and we trust extensively, also, in other directions, inviting some account of their experience with cod-liver oil.

IMMENSE ROPE.—A new rope to be used on the Inclined Plane of the Columbia railroad, just manufactured in Philadelphia, is six thousand feet in length and nine inches in size. It required fourteen tons of Italian hemp, and weighs twenty-five thousand pounds.

☞ The fall in the Merrimack river between tide water in Haverhill, Mass., and Lake Winnipisseogee, in New Hampshire, is 452 feet—25 feet of which are within the town of Lawrence. So says the Lawrence Courier.

GAS IN CHARLESTOWN.—According to the Bunker Hill Aurora, a company is to be organized in Charlestown, under a charter granted in 1846, for supplying that city with gas.

A GOOD PUN.—The N. Y. Tribune, speaking of the custom prevalent among German fishermen, who attach small bells to their shad fishing nets, says that our own fishermen in the spring will try the *cast-a-net* system, as the one most likely to be successful.

NEW ORLEANS:

FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 4, 1850.

THE CITY.—The Holydays are nearly over. Next week the Courts will reopen, when several cases of interest will be brought before them. The city is now filled with strangers, and every day adds to the number. Business of every kind thrives apace; the influx of purchasers enables our merchants to dispose of the large stocks imported this season, and so far no one can complain of the present or distrust the future. Our Levee shows the vast amount of trade that flows to our port, and every where enterprise manifests itself in the number of improvements progressing in our midst.

THE WEATHER.—Yesterday was really too warm for comfort and winter clothing. Old Sol, without any respect to the seasons, woos the new year with an ardor not becoming so short an acquaintance, and which must and will "create a talk." Thousands at last emerge from too much freedom, and we expect to see a different mood after the present wooing breezes and amorous dalliance.

COFFEE FOR FIVE.—Philip L'Enfant, on Monday night, invited four friends to regale themselves at his saloon, Gravier Coffee House, with a cup of coffee, and that beverage in the Marine style, Philosophically. After doing ample justice to the article, L'Enfant handed a half dollar in payment, which the fair vendor pronounced spurious, and refused to receive. To this the man, as she alleges, grossly abused her, and would not tender other coin. Caroline accordingly asserted the rights of woman by obtaining a warrant against the ungallant coffee-drinker for attempting to pass spurious money.

STEAMBOAT ROBBERY.—Henry Baker *alias* Dutch Henry, *alias* John Green, was brought up before Recorder Genois yesterday, charged with breaking open a trunk belonging to a passenger on board of the steamboat Bulletin. Baker when arrested, had a chisel and other implements of his profession. He is a notorious swamp, and has been up before the Recorder's Courts time and again. On the 14th ult. he was sent to a bond for $500, with one J. C. Mosley as security, for his good behaviour for six months, and he fled. His bond is now forfeited. After hearing the evidence, the Court remanded the prisoner to take his trial before a higher tribunal.

BROTHERS IN MISFORTUNE.—Edward McDonnell and George Scott were arraigned before Recorder Baldwin yesterday, the latter for lying drunk on the levee, and the former for robbing him of $10. McDonnell insisted that he was merely taking charge of the funds out of friendship; and Scott, although he owned that he had no recollection of having the honor of his quondam acquaintance, yet he was fain to believe the story, and asked that the Recorder would also tax his credulity to that extent. This, however, was considered incompatible with the ends of justice, and McDonnell, in default of a voucher to prove that he earned an honest living, was sent down to the Work-house.

BURGLARY.—George, a slave belonging to Mr. Wisler, was brought before Recorder Baldwin yesterday, charged with committing a burglary on the previous evening in Tchoupitoulas street. He was bound by the Watch in the store, No. 95, while quietly employed in breaking open the safe, and no intent was he upon this that he did not bear the entrance of the officer until Mr. Gully interrupted his employment. The prisoner was remanded to await an investigation.

ATTEMPT TO BURN THE HOUSE OF REFUGE.—Yesterday morning, about half-past 11 o'clock, the roof of the House of Refuge was discovered to be on fire. Fortunately the flames had made but little progress, and through the exertions of Commissary Dillard and others the fire was extinguished without doing much damage. It is supposed to have been kindled by one of the boys confined in the institution, but suspicion has not yet fallen upon any particular one.

ROBBERY.—James Robertson, of the ship Thomas, made an affidavit yesterday before Recorder Genois against a suspicious unknown, who robbed him on the 28th December last of a drab overcoat and sixteen sovereigns. Robertson had employed the cab to take him to his ship, and after being plundered, he was unceremoniously pushed out and left in the street. A warrant was issued for the arrest of the offender.

EXAMINED.—Edward Kelly, Wm. B. Lennon, John Smith and F. Nicholas appeared before Recorder Baldwin yesterday, to answer the charge of stealing $300 worth of clothing from a store in Canal street. Nicholas stated that he knew nothing of the property, and that he had full reverse for doing so. The others were discharged, and the examination of Nicholas postponed.

A BLACK AFFAIR.—Some crimes have so dark a tone that all the whitewash that indulgent friends would lavish upon them, only makes the offence more rank. Andrew Contino was returned yesterday from the First District Court for beating a negro woman in Poydras Market, being the third or fourth time that the ingenuous qualities of Andrew have been made apparent before Recorder Baldwin.

DISCHARGED.—Andrew Feller, arrested on a charge of larceny, was discharged yesterday by Recorder Genois. Also James Chapman, who was taken into custody for firing a pistol into the face of a boy on the 1st inst., and bursting it badly. No one appeared to prosecute.

ARRESTS.—Mathew Welsh was arrested yesterday by the Second Municipality police, accused of purloining a whip belonging to the negro boy of Mr. Thacker. John Daugherty was taken in charge for the theft of a coat and saw belonging to Mr. Ledurin.

DISCHARGED.—Henry Jacobi, accused of larceny by Lavinia Sims, was discharged yesterday by Recorder Genois

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

UNION DIVISION NO. 3, at Crystal Fount Hal, 122 Tchoupitoulas street, at half-past 7 o'clock.

LOUISIANA DIVISION NO. 11, at Unity Hall, Marigny Buildings, Third Municipality, at half-past 7 o'clock.

STAR OF HOPE DIVISION NO. 26, at Younger Brothers' Hall, Lafayette, at half-past 7 o'clock.

YOUNG MEN'S MARTIN DIVISION NO. 15, at Pelican Hall, cor. Common and St. Charles sts., at half-past 7 o'clock.

St. John's Day Committees.

☞ The Committees appointed to make arrangements for the celebration of St. John's Day are requested to meet at the Masonic Hall, corner of Bourbons and Perdido sts., on FRIDAY EVENING, 4th inst., at half-past 8 o'clock. Each Delegate will come prepared to report the number of members belonging to his respective Lodge.

WM. H. RONDEAU, R.M. G. HISS, Secretary. Chairman.

James Gulick Fire Co. No. 17.

☞ The officers and members of this Company are invited to attend the Regular Monthly Meeting on SUNDAY MORNING, 6th inst., at 8 o'clock, immediately after the Regular 6 o'clock Meeting will take place.

JOHN R. FEGO, Secretary.

Officers of George Washington Lodge No. 1, A. Y. M. & O. KIRK ..... W. M. | D. BRICKHOU ..... J. W.
T. R. BRADY ..... S. W. | C. MYERS ..... Treasurer
E. L. HYAMS ..... J. W. | F. A. DENTZEL ..... Secretary
C. T. ESTLIN ..... S. D.

Married:

At Christ's Church, on the evening of Thursday, 31 inst., by the Rev. Dr. Neville, JOHN C. LARUE, Esq., to Mrs. MARIA LOUISA PALMER, all of New Orleans.

Arrivals at the Principal Hotels....4th.

ST. CHARLES.—W. S. McMahon, A. Darrilo, Mr. Bunnell, N. O.; Geo. W. Johnson, Dr. W. W. Wilkins, R. H. Barrow, La.; J. F. Woodhall, Ala.; W. C. Moore, T. W. Low, N. Y.; A. Hinds, Boston; Mr. and Mrs. Dean, Miss Julia Dean, Mobile; H. Doyle, La.; M. L. Robinson, A. W. Mackey, H. Gray, Ky.

VERANDA.—A. Robinson, Jas. Wood, Jas. Lear, F. M. Emerson, C. Hillman, J. Miller, G. Miller, W. Adams, N. Stewart, Wm. Polk, W. B. Stewart, S. B. Axtell, A. A. Williams, R. C. Martin and two sons, La.; E. H. Grant, Ala.; Mr. and Mrs. Gardner, S. T. Jones, N. O.; J. Whitakes, J. D. Steward, Judge Smith, H. Smith, Miss.; T. W. Dunnan, S. B. Lesoes; Thos. C. Nicholls; J. Raffin, N. C.

PLANTERS'.—Mr. Richmond, R. P. More, N. O.; Dr. Stack, T. Starke, Alfred Brown, Mrs. Smith, La.; F. A. Woodward, Dr. Strother, H. Bowyer, Miss.; J. L. Wallace, Ala.; Dr. S. W. Parkhill, Fla.; John Jennett, Jr., Maine; Jas. C. Urce, Tenn.

HEWLETT'S.—W. A. Reed, C. Adams, S. F. Slatter, W. A. Sims, G. C. Ruhr, La.; J. Damon, N. O.; J. Diego, Tenn.

COMMERCIAL.—Wm. Soery, N. O.; Hugh Roblen, J. L. Moore, Iowa; Zeph. Hustis, Jas. Groff, Lawrence Bay, Ia.; Martin Owens, John Marston, Chas. Wilson, Ky.

ARCADE.—R. McCord, D. R. Sampson, C. G. Warren, N. O.; A. Sanford, S. B. Johnson, J. H. Bonn, Mobile; T. M. Christy, Io. A. Adams, Mich.; C. Black, R. Dair, Lafayette; J. M. Phillips, A. Brown, R. F. Curry, Trinity; J. J. Dawson, N. O.

INDIAN QUEEN.—Wm. Shrimp, W. H. Cooney, George Hill, F. Haines, Louisville; J. R. Simpkins, Little Rock; A. L. Cunningham, A. Robinson, Pa.; Robinson, Pittsburg; Wm. Davison, H. Gibbons, John Hall, St. Louis.

Auction Sales This Day.

BENJAMIN KENDIG & CO. will sell, at 10 o'clock, at the corner of Tchoupitoulas and Julia streets—Furniture.

Steamboat Departures This Day.

☞ *SEE ADVERTISEMENTS ON THIRD PAGE.*

Cincinnati ..... DUROC, Johnson, 4 P. M.
Mobile ..... CALIFORNIA, Reynolds, 24 P. M. Cars.
Pittsburg ..... DUCHESS, Wade, 4 P. M.

☞ U. S. Mail Steamer DUCHESS—For Louisville, Cincinnati, Wheeling, etc.—This fine passenger steamer will leave as above THIS DAY, Friday, at 4 P. M. punctually, from Poydras st. wharf.

HYDE & GOLESBY, 12 Poydras st.

Passengers will please be on board at the above hour. jn4

☞ Neither the Captain nor Consignees of the British brigantine PETREL will be responsible for any debts contracted by the crew of said vessel.

jn1 3t PARADISE, LAWRASON & CO., 67 Gravier st.

☞ Neither the Captain nor Consignees of the British ship ARAB, from Liverpool, will be responsible for any debts contracted by the crew of the said ship.

d29 J. W. ANDREWS & CO., 91 Common st.

Perseverance Fire Co. No. 13.

☞ The officers and members of this Company are requested to attend the Annual Meeting on SATURDAY EVENING, the 5th inst., at 7 o'clock.

jn4 By order: HENRY J. HYASS, Sec'y.

Jackson Fire Company No. 18.

☞ The officers of the above Company are hereby notified to attend the Annual Meeting on SUNDAY next, January 6, at 10 A. M. for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year.

jn4 my salon. W. MOYNAN, Secretary.

Clothing Made to Order.

THE subscribers beg to inform their customers that Mr. THOMPSON is now in the city and will leave for New York on Wednesday, 9th inst., prior to which date he will be pleased to receive orders for CLOTHING for the coming spring season. Articles ordered will receive his personal attention, and are warranted to give every satisfactory as regards fit, style, goods and workmanship. THOMPSON & NIXON,

jn4 3t**p No. 19 Camp street, opposite Hewlett's.

LIBRARY EDITION OF

Standard Authors,

For Sale at 49 Camp street.

HANNAH MORE'S COMPLETE WORKS: 2 vols.; MACAULAY'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND: 2 vols.; THE COMPLETE WORKS OF JOSEPH ADDISON: 3 vols.; ALISON'S HISTORY OF EUROPE: 4 vols.; BLAKE'S BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY: 1 vol.; LIVES OF THE QUEENS OF ENGLAND: 12 vols.; RASSELAS, by Dr. Sam'l Johnson: 1 vol.; PHILLIPS', CURRAN & GRATTAN'S SPEECHES; WEBSTER'S LARGE QUARTO DICTIONARY: GOLDSMITH'S ANIMATED NATURE: 2 vols.; HUME, SMOLLETT AND MILLER'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND; GIBBON'S HISTORY OF ROME: 4 vols.; CHITTY'S BLACKSTONE'S COMMENTARIES: 2 vols.; RUSSELL'S HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE: 3 vols.; THE WRITINGS OF FREDERIKA BREMER: 1 vol.; For sale by J. H. BEUHTEL & CO.,

jn3 3t 49 Camp street.

Guinness & Co.

12 CAMP STREET,

DEALERS IN

Fine Fancy Articles, Gold Pens, &c.,

HAVE now open an assortment of carefully selected, choice fine FANCY ARTICLES suitable for PRESENTS, consisting, in part, viz:

Cloth Fans;	Porte Monnaies;	Card Cases;	Desks;
Music Boxes;	Opera Glasses;	Papetaries;	Purses;
Dressing Cases;	Bouquet Holders;	Reticules;	Canes;
Work Boxes;	Glove Boxes;	Fine Albums;	Gums;
Accordeons;	Jewel Cases;	Other Boxes;	Dolls;
Flutes;	Portfolios;	Curiosities;	Vases;
&c.		&c.	&c.

We have also upon a full stock of

Combs, Brushes and Perfumery,

Gent.'s Furnishing, Travelers'