The Daily Crescent.

NEW ORLEANS:

FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 18, 1850.

☞ The ninth lecture by Prof. Mitchel, of the Course on Astronomy, will involve an exposition of the principles which led to the discovery of the new Planets—the theory of the Asteroids—the mathematical discovery of Neptune by Adams and LeVerrier—and a comparison of the elements of the hypothetical and true planets. The lecture commences at half-past seven precisely.

☞ Our readers will find, in our columns this morning, a correspondence between Mr. Fleming and a committee of our citizens, who have a high appreciation of his Shakspearean Readings. Mr. Fleming has agreed to read the "Merchant of Venice" a second time on Monday evening next. This is a good selection. Those who had the gratification of hearing him read this play before were delighted, and can promise a rich treat to the much larger audiences to which he is entitled.

THE TEHUANTEPEC ROAD.—We are gratified to learn, by the late intelligence from Mexico, of the removal of the obstacle which has hitherto been in the way of the Mexican grant to Don José de Garay, of the right of way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, in not having a port of entry on the Gulf, at the mouth of Huasacualcos. The Mexican Government have made Alvarado of Huasacualcos a port of entry for the commerce of the world. This is an important step towards the completion of this grand enterprise; and it is probable that it has been hastened by the reported movements of the British Government, through their new Minister at Washington, in attempting to open the Nicaragua route, far below the Mexican line. New Orleans is deeply interested in this news. What has been done by the Permanent Committee, appointed some time since, and the arrangements for an Engineer to be sent down to survey the route?

FROM SALT LAKE—*Mormons.*—We publish this morning an interesting letter from a friend—a gentleman of this city—dated at the Mormon settlement of Salt Lake. It will be read with interest at present, as the would-be Mormon State is now applying for admission into the Union.

☞ Gov. Letcher, the new Minister to Mexico, left Mobile on Wednesday morning, in the U. S. steamer Walker, for Vera Cruz. He had been detained a fortnight waiting the arrival of the British steamer via Havana. Being disappointed by the unaccountable delay of that vessel, he made application to Com. Newton, at the Navy Yard, Pensacola, for special means of transportation, and the Walker, which belongs to the Coast Survey service, was placed at his disposal. With his consort, a large party of gentlemen, who were waiting for passages, were taken on board, furnishing their own supplies.

It must be pressing business, indeed, which calls for these extraordinary efforts to get forward to Mexico, after the complaints already made at Washington of his precipitate departure before confirmed. He must be acting under the express direction of the Government, and they will doubtless be prepared to show to the Senate good reasons for the haste.... The following is a list of the passengers on the Walker:

R. P. Letcher, U. S. Minister to Mexico, and servants; James Perkins, of Massachusetts, and Lt. Simes, of New York, attaches; John Parrott, U. S. Consul at Mazatlan, and servant; Lady Emmeline Stuart Wortley and servants; Miss Victoria Wortley; Lord Mark Kerr, of England; E. Hantsinger, Mobile; A. de Gotuz, Mexico; Felix Belmonte, do.; D. Gouverneur, do.; G. Brequiere, do.; Jas. Rathbonne, La.; James Yeh Sen, do.; H. M. Matthews, Miss.; W. L. Markham, do.; G. A. Chez, Mich.; J. W. Summers, do.; James Force, Ala.

☞ It appears by the Isabel at Charleston, that the British steamer Clyde, due at Mobile on the 1st, arrived at Havana on the 7th, with a large number of passengers for Mobile and this port. Her non-arrival at Mobile is thus made more perplexing, as it is evident she was destined for that port.

FOR THE PACIFIC.—The steamship Carolina, for Rio Janeiro, Valparaiso and Panama, to take her place in the line of packets of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, sailed from New York on Monday, the 7th inst.

THE PROPELLER COLUMBUS.—The Philadelphia Ledger announces that the merchants interested in maintaining a steam communication between that city and Charleston, have protested against the steamship Columbus being transferred from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and have been successful. She will resume her trips about the 1st February.

VESSELS AT CHARLESTON.—There were in the port of Charleston, one day lately, 22 ships, 23 barks, and 22 brigs, besides a large fleet of schrs.

☞ The U. S. Mail steamship Ohio, Capt. Schenck, from this port the 30th ult., and Havana on the afternoon of the 3d inst., with specie to M. O. Roberts, arrived in New York on the morning of the 8th. The Ohio made the run from Havana to Sandy Hook in four days, three days of which she encountered heavy head winds. Among the passengers by the Ohio, were Com. C. Vanderbilt, Capt. T. H. Vanderbilt, Mr. Fairchild (steward), who arrived in Havana by the brig Roscoe, from the steamer Crescent City.... The French and Spanish squadrons were daily expected to arrive at Havana when the Ohio sailed.

☞ As Col. Webb's sudden disappearance, before confirmation by the Senate, is attributed to matters connected with his marriage, it is suggested whether the subject should be referred to a special Committee on *Domestic Relations*, instead of the standing Committee on Foreign Affairs.

☞ Flags were suspended from different public buildings in various parts of the city of New York, on the 8th inst., in commemoration of the Battle of New Orleans.

☞ Three Liverpool packets arrived in New York in one day, and one from Havre—the Sheridan, Albert Gallatin, the Constitution, and the St. Nicholas. All of them had heavy cargoes.

☞ The President of the United States has recognized James Dempsey as Vice Consul of his Danish Majesty for the port of Alexandria, in the State of Virginia.

MISS DAVENPORT.—This distinguished actress treated quite a sensation last night at the American Theatre. Her *Countess*, in "Love," was one of those fine efforts of genius and legitimate dramatic talent, that take us back to the days of theatrical excellence: no starts for unnatural effect, or mouthings for applause—all was real and pathetic. The transition of the acting when *Huon* is struck by lightning, and the scenes of the fourth and fifth acts, were admirable; and the struggles with the natural pride of the noble lady, nurtured in the deceptions of high-bred aristocracy, were finely given; as was the rush of pure love in the maiden heart, which swept away all those prejudices of rank and training—for a time the tide is stemmed—at last the torrent is irresistible. The acting with the *Empress*, in the scene where the *Countess* determines to resign her rank and estates, charmed the house—a pin might have been heard to drop—and when she speaks to her as "Woman should to woman," the applause was immense. Mr. Jamison played *Huon* sensibly and well. Miss Patrie was excellent in *Catherine*. Miss Davenport must again appear in "Love," as it will certainly bring a crowded house. Her *Pauline*, in the "Lady of Lyons," this evening, we should think will be an exquisite performance.

Amusements.

HISTRIONIC ASSOCIATION.—The Association give a series of benefits at their Hall, commencing to-morrow evening with the comedy of "The Rivals" and the farce of "A Pleasant Neighbor."

AMERICAN THEATRE.—Miss Davenport appears this evening as *Pauline*, and Mr. Jamison as *Claude*, in Bulwer's Play of "The Lady of Lyons." After which, a Dance. To conclude with "Chaos Is Come Again."

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—The performances this evening commence with the drama of "St. Patrick's Eve," and conclude with "More Blunders Than One." Mr. Hudson appears in both pieces.

PLACIDE'S VARIETIES.—This evening will be performed "The Fair One With Golden Locks;" after which, a grand Ballet Divertissement; to be followed by "The Past of Honor;" then, a second Ballet Divertissement; to conclude with "The Secret."

LEARNED BIRDS.—The wonderful Canaries attract crowds to see them at the National Gallery, No. 13 St. Charles street.

AUCTIONS.—Spence sells Valuable Horses at Tattersall's at 11 o'clock.....Dupuy sells at half-past 10 at the corner of Union and Baronne a large lot of Horses and Mules.

The Nicaragua Question.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser says that President Taylor will appeal to the Senate for its opinion "on the grave controversy which now exists with Great Britain, relative to the affair of Nicaragua." To make such an appeal effective for any good, it ought to be accompanied by a distinct proposition in regard to a specific plan upon which the advice of the Senate is asked. Merely to present the facts of an international difficulty, for the decision of the Senate of what ought to be the duty of the President, would be an abnegation of executive duty, which is not to be expected. If the President consults the Senate it will be on the expediency of some definite line of conduct, which he will point out for their consideration. In the case of the Oregon treaty Mr. Polk submitted the terms of the treaty, after it was made, for the advice of the Senate, whether he should accept or reject them, intimating distinctly, that he would, if unadvised to the contrary, reject them. We remember that he was censured very strongly for even thus much waiving Executive responsibility to the control of the Senate, but we believe he was defended, as having the example of the "earliest President."

The Nicaragua question, is without doubt, one of grave difficulties, notwithstanding the off-hand way in which the letter-writers assure the public that all will be speedily settled. The controversies about Tigre Island, and the acts of both Chatfield and Squier, may probably be settled without much trouble, in a spirit of amicable disavowal of whatever has been rash or offensive in the conduct or language of these agents. We suppose Great Britain willing to withdraw her pretensions to the Island, conceding that the seizure, at a time when it had, constructively at least, passed into the possession of the United States, was not an act sufficiently courteous towards a friendly nation. We think it not unlikely, too, that Mr. Squier may be disavowed on some points of eccentric diplomacy, as having gone beyond the instructions and wishes of his government. These things out of the way, there is in all probability, a mutual desire to arrange the Canal question on terms which shall deprive the contemplated work of all traits of monopoly in favor of either party, and open it to the unrestricted commerce of all nations. With great care and reciprocal moderation these points of difficulty may be solved, and the question between the two nations carried back thus far. But here interposes the great difficulty which will embarrass the British government. It has assumed and declared authoritatively the want of sovereign right in Nicaragua over the territory on the Gulf Coast essential to the completion of the Canal, and it has asserted with equal positiveness the sovereignty of another power, viz: the King of the Mosquitoes. That sovereignty, the Central States concerned deny in the most uncompromising terms. The United States can never recognise it, in any form, directly or indirectly. A convention of those parties cannot take part without a retraction from Great Britain on her side, or an acknowledgment by the other powers which shall practically dismember Nicaragua and acknowledge the Indian sovereignty.

The difficulties are therefore much greater than the public seems to understand, in expecting a ready solution by the agreement of the governments concerned in relation to the freedom of the Canal. There are points involved, of international importance, which, we apprehend, may cause more embarrassment than the practical details of a Canal Convention.

COL. WEBB'S DEPARTURE EXPLAINED.—The New York Courier and Enquirer, in regard to an assertion Mr. Cass made on the floor of the Senate, in his speech on the Austrian Mission, that Col. Webb had flown "from the judgment of the Senate," has the following in reply:

"We deem it, therefore, due not only to Colonel Webb, but also to the Senate, to state, that the impression, however natural it may be, is entirely erroneous. Col. Webb, down to Wednesday, the 27th of November, had intended to sail for Europe on or about the 20th of December, supposing that his nomination would have been confirmed, if confirmed at all, before that time; and his departure on Saturday, the 1st of December, was caused by circumstances entirely unexpected—in the highest degree embarrassing to himself, and which he was compelled to regard as imperative upon him. He felt and expressed very great reluctance thus to leave at that time, knowing the misconceptions to which he would thereby become liable. But the considerations referred to left him, in his judgment, no choice, and he therefore yielded to the necessity imposed upon him—trusting to the knowledge which Senators possessed of his feelings and character, and to the confidence in both which many of them had often expressed, for a defence against the suspicions of disrespect to which he became exposed.

"What these considerations were it is impossible, with due regard to the feelings of others, and the proprieties of social life, for us here to state. They were, however, entirely domestic and personal, and such as every Senator would pronounce highly honorable to Col. Webb himself. We take it for granted that the Senate will not assume the truth of the presumption to which the matter naturally gives rise, after the explicit and intelligent self-denial given them by the New York Senator, without giving due opportunities for the submission of proper evidence."

On this the Washington Union remarks: "But the misfortune is, that this 'proper evidence' is not forthcoming. We are told that 'it is impossible to state them,' and yet the public is called upon to admit them. This is a most extraordinary mystery, and it is already giving rise to very delicate reports, which are certainly not very 'highly honorable to Col. Webb himself.' We forbear to state them."

☞ MR. Gentry, of Tennessee, arrived in Washington on Monday, the 7th inst., and took his seat in the House of Representatives. He was the last comer, in this branch of Congress, of the members having been detained at home by matters of a domestic character. Dr. Nes, of Pennsylvania, is at home, quite indisposed.

THE POSTOFFICE INQUIRY.—It appears that Senator Dickinson's resolution in the U. S. Senate, calling for information of the Postmaster General whether he had ever removed persons from office, which he had not the legal power to do, refers to a particular case of error at Binghamton, New York. The papers in that case were referred to Mr. Collamer, and he removed the incumbent. That functionary refused to give up the office on the ground that the appointment, by law, belongs to the President. The power of the Postmaster General only extends to offices which return a given amount of revenue, or less. The President then issued a commission to the same appointee, but the party held on until a mandamus was issued, when he caved in.

GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS.—George N. Briggs has been re-elected Governor of Massachusetts. In the House, Briggs received 157 votes, Phillips 63, and Boutwell 59. In the Senate, Briggs received 23, and Boutwell 12 votes, the free-soil members voting for the latter. John Reed, of Yarmouth, was chosen Lieutenant-Governor. These are the regular whig candidates, who failed to receive a majority of the popular vote at the election in November.

FINANCES OF KENTUCKY.—According to Governor Crittenden's message, the finances of the State, though the figures are small, are in good condition. Receipts for the past year, $468,630; expenditures, $447,620. Public debt, Nov. 1, 1849, $4,497,652. Stocks owned by the State, $1,270,500. The State owes in addition to the debt above mentioned, $225,768 to the Board of Education for common schools. The sum annually applicable to common schools is about $150,000.

THE RACES.—Yesterday's contest was a most interesting one to those fond of the sport. Two entries were made—*Lithgo* and *Jesse Bullock*. So prepossessing was the mare, that large odds were laid on her, and she was the general favorite, until after the first heat, when popular favor, ever fickle on reverse, settled equally strong on the victor—Lithgo—who won in two straight heats. Time—3:37; 4:00.... The following are the entries for to-day: John Harrison enters ch. horse 4 years old; W. A. Stewart enters b. c. 3 years old. There will be a second race for saddle horses.—*Columbia South Carolinian, 11th inst.*

☞ The Mobile Trotting Club races were to commence at 2, P. M. on Wednesday last.... *First Race*—For trotting horses, two mile heats under the saddle—purse $150. C. J. Ellis enters ch. g. *Barney*. David Barnes enters ch. g. *Buckskin*. W. L. Nunnales enters r. g. *Telegraph*.... *Second Race*—For trotting horses 1 mile, best 3 in 5, in wagons weighing with driver 500 pounds—purse $100.

Telegraphed to the "Daily Crescent."

By the Southern Line.

Further Advance in Cotton at New York. Canada Arrived.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 14, P. M.—Sales of Cotton at New York to-day, 3000 bales, at ½ to ¼c. advance since the steamer. Flour and Grain are also firmer.

SECOND DISPATCH.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 15, P. M.—Cotton very active at New York to-day. Sales 8000 bales, at ½ to ¼c. advance. Fair Upland and New Orleans 13½ to 13¾c. Ohio Flour $5 25. Corn 60 to 63c. Mess Pork $19 75; Prime $8 37½. Sugar firm. New Orleans Molasses 26½c. Rio Coffee 12½c. Sterling 8 per cent. prem. The steamer Canada is below.

THIRD DISPATCH.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 16, P. M.—A further advance in Cotton at New York to-day. Sales 5000 bales. Fair Upland and New Orleans 13¾c. Flour and Grain unchanged. Sales 1000 bbls. New Orleans Molasses at 26½c. Sales 2000 kegs Lard at 6½c 2000 bbls. Mess Pork at $19 50 to 19 75. The letters by the Canada are more favorable to Cotton.

☞ Wm. F. Ritchie, senior editor of the Richmond Enquirer, has been re-elected Printer to the State of Virginia, by the flattering vote of 133 to 1.

CONNECTICUT.—The democratic State Convention has been called at Middletown on the 13th of February. The free soilers hold their Convention on the 20th inst. at Hartford. The whig Convention is not yet named.

☞ The American Colonization Society was to hold its annual meeting in Washington, on the evening of the 15th inst. They hope to get the use of the Hall of the House of Representatives for the purpose. Henry Clay will preside. The Rev. George W. Bethune, D. D., the Rev. R. R. Gurley, and Robert G. Scott, of Richmond, Va., would deliver addresses.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The whigs of New Hampshire have nominated Levi Chamberlain, of Keene, for Governor. In the Convention, a series of resolutions was adopted, sustaining the majority of the whigs in Congress in voting for Mr. Winthrop for Speaker, and declaring that though factionists at the North and South may unite in desperate efforts for unconstitutional power, with disunion as the alternative, the great heart of the whig party still beats high and strong for Union, for Freedom and Progress. They declare, too, that recent votes of the democratic Members of Congress from the Northern States, for Speaker, show to the people the extent of their anti-slavery principles, and illustrates the old adage of "preaching *versus* practice." Another whig meeting, at Marlborough, denounced Peaslee and Hibbard, democrats, for giving their votes for a slave-holder.

VERMONT CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.—This body, now in session at Montpelier, for the revision of the laws of Vermont, had not succeeded in the choice of a presiding officer on the 3d inst., being the second day of the session. The first ballot for President stood: for Carlos Coolidge, whig, 91; Levi B. Vilas, free-soiler, 101; Luther B. Hunt, democrat, 29; scattering 12. Four more ballotings were had without any material change, except a slight decline in the vote of Mr. Vilas, when that gentlemen withdrew, and nominated Mr. Bartlett, free-soiler, from Lyndon. Two more ballotings were had without a choice. The last vote stood: for Bartlett, 106; Coolidge, 57; Hunt, 37; scattering, 4.

Important Arrest on Long Island.

This morning Mr. James Arlington Bennett, of Long Island, was arrested for forgery on Count Foster, of this city. The note forged was for $8000. The following article from the Era, of the 9th, tells the whole story:

ANOTHER MYSTERY TO BE DEVELOPED.—Some few weeks ago we placed before our readers information which had come to our knowledge concerning a wide-spread system of conspiracy existing in this country. The following facts which came to light last week, may furnish some clue to the *modus operandi* of these operators:

There resides in this city a wealthy and fashionable gentleman whom we will designate as F——, (he is sometimes called Count by his warmer admirers.) Not long since he loaned Mr. B. A., of Long Island, $5000 on mortgage of property held by him. This mortgage, of course, brought the parties into immediate communication with each other, and several letters passed between them. One of these letters was subjected to a chemical process, and all the written matter above the signature erased. On this paper thus rendered blank a note is made at one year's date for $8000—the signature to which is of course genuine.

This document, so cleverly obtained, was sent to an accomplice—or perhaps merely a confidential friend—in Illinois, and by him forwarded to a young lawyer in this city for collection. It so happened that a gentleman, whom by way of distinction we will call Cyclops, had been spending some time at Long Island at the residence of B. A., and had some transactions with the young attorney in question, which made visits to his office necessary. On one of these visits Cyclops saw this note, and advised his friend, the attorney, to have nothing to do with the collecting of it, as by so doing he might probably involve himself in trouble. The lawyer thanked Cyclops for his advice, and promised to be careful.

This Cyclops, who is near akin to Mephistopheles, immediately wrote to the Mayor advising him of the suspicions he held concerning the note, and subsequently imparted the matter to the Chief of Police. F——, the unconscious signer of the note, was apprised of its existence, and upon disavowing all knowledge of it was recommended to take legal advice. F—— went accordingly to an eminent lawyer, and, by the way, one of the wealthiest of the class, and upon disclosing to him the nature of his business and the name of the suspected party, the legal gentleman was struck with astonishment.

"Good God!" said he, "you must be mistaken; the man you suspect is one of the most respectable and wealthy of my clients. I loaned him $8000 last week, on bond and mortgage. But at any rate you must employ some one else!"

Off went F—— with his story to a gentleman holding a high legal official station. The official's reply was—

"Go back to your legal friend, and ask him if he is sure his $8000 bond and mortgage is all right? Ask him if the property on which it is secured was not conveyed by B. A. to his son while the latter was a minor, and if the re-conveyance to the father, while his son is still a minor, is not invalid, and if so the security is invalid also."

When this communication was made to F——'s lawyer, one of the latter's sons happened to be present, and when he heard the question, he replied indignantly—

"A minor be d—d! why, I met him at B. A.'s house not long since; he's thirty years of age, and has but one eye!"

"Well, my dear sir!" said F——, "you are sold! The person you saw there was Cyclops! A man like you, who has been on the town all your life, to be sold like that!"

In fact it appeared that B. A.'s son is what the Scotch people call "daft," and one day during Cyclops' sojourn at B. A.'s house the son of the legal gentleman paid them a visit, at which it was advisable that his son should be introduced to him. But the good father was unwilling to expose the weakness of his unfortunate offspring, and appealed to Cyclops for assistance.

"You know," said he to Cyclops, "my son is not quite O. K. There's a young gent coming here to-day on a visit, to whom I want to marry one of my daughters. Now I want you to personate my son—I will introduce you in that character, and you can retire as soon as you like after the introduction."

Cyclops—ever willing to oblige his friend—consented, the introduction took place, and hence the mistake of the son of F——'s wealthy legal friend.

Now it may appear the whole facts are elicited, that B. A., who has been reputed wealthy, and who has repeatedly boasted of being the architect of his own fortunes, has been in fact for some time past very poor, and in the habit of raising money any how in connection with Drury and Ashley. The latter's mode of operating in mortgages is well known, and among the property found in Drury's possession were these gold watches belonging to B. A.

The plan of the accomplices was doubtless to *remove* F——, (the loss of whose handsome presence would have been greatly felt in the fashionable world,) and then the note from the Mormon State, with the genuine signature of F——, would have been good. Their schemes, however, are frustrated, and the note will be subjected to further chemical operations, by which it is said it is possible to make visible the original writing which had been effaced. If the experiment should prove successful, and the writing should prove to be a portion of one of F——'s letters to B. A., it will be evidence a little too strong for the gentleman's comfort. If also the body of the note above the signature, should be found to be in the handwriting of his *daft* son, that will be more than a foregone conclusion. The note, with the letter which enclosed it, will be sent to Illinois, and strict investigations will be made so as to ascertain the character of the writer of the letter, and his connections with B. A. and that familiar to the devil—Cyclops. More developments to come.

From the Salt Lake.

[Correspondence of the Crescent.]

CITY OF THE SALT LAKE VALLEY, Sept. 1, 1849.

Eds. Crescent—I have got thus far on my way to California without any serious impediment. I left the Missouri river on the 6th of June, and arrived here on the 24th of August. We travelled on the north side of Platte river to about 60 miles beyond Fort Laramie, and until then the road had been good with plenty of feed for our animals, but now nothing was to be seen for 150 miles but barren hills. Now and then we would come across a small stream, with willows, which was the principal food for our cattle that distance. After getting through the Black hills to this place the road is good, to Fort Bridger it is very good, but from Fort Bridger to this place, 112 miles, it is very bad indeed, having to cross most of the way through the Cañon of the Bear river and Salt Lake valley mountains, in which the small streams run, which obliges those with wagons to be incessantly crossing. But on entering the valley of Salt Lake the traveller is struck with admiration at the magnificent scene. Before him lies a valley from 25 to 30 miles broad, east to west, and 60 miles long, north to south, surrounded by mountains and large fields under high cultivation. To a person that has been travelling better than two months on the road, the sight of a community, even of Mormons, is agreeable. The city proper is laid out two miles square, with wide streets. Each ward has its Bishop who watches over it. The wards are only fenced in for the present, so one ward constitutes one large field, with streets between them, but not enclosed. As timber is scarce here it was necessary for some plan to be hit on to expedite the work of making fences around each man's property. The wards are divided into small plots for gardens, surrounded in part by logs but mostly of adobes. Most of the houses have but one room. Taking all things into consideration these people have done wonders in the three years they have been here, and when they get their irrigation perfected their crops will well repay them, provided they can find a market to dispose of it. Wheat yields now from 25 to 40 bushels to the acre. Potatoes and oats grow well. Corn grows but it is now green, and most of the farmers think that wheat and other small grains will do much better than corn. All kinds of vegetables grown in the United States are cultivated here with success. Fruits are as yet scarce; watermelons are pretty good, also muskmelons. Fort Bridger, for 42 miles from the city, are all enclosed in one large field each. Each man has his farm selected for him by the heads of the Church, and he can have as many acres as he can cultivate by paying the surveying and recording.

Now for the people: they are from every State in the Union—healthy, though pale and poor about the face, cheek bones apparent. They are industrious, and temperate in the use of ardent spirits. Probably one reason is the high price of it, (as one-half of the selling price of liquor sold here has to go to the city.) They claim no allegiance to the United States, but call themselves Mormons, and many think they are in a Mormon country. They are generally ignorant, and seldom think for themselves, except it is in driving a bargain, but appear enthusiastic as regards their faith.

There is a great number of settlers from Alabama and Mississippi who have come to this place with their negroes, and hold them here the same as they did formerly.

Now comes the richest part of all. It is sanctioned by the Church, and the men presiding over it, that every man shall have as many wives as he can provide for; there is no limit to the number; and as long as they do not come in competition with the high functionaries of Mormondom they get along pretty successfully they say.

The successor to Joe Smith is a man by the name of Brigham Young, about 45 years old, a pretty 'cute fellow if you lose would say. He has the largest number of wives of any one in the settlement—only 26. This is not a large number, considering he had to take all the wives of Joe Smith that could not get other husbands. Some that have come under my observation have had 11, 5, 3, 2, 1. These things are here, beyond cavil; and the only tie that binds this people together is money. The spectacle is revolting, and in the course of a few years there will be a dozen children, all of the same age, having the same father, but different mothers. To what part of the world can they go and be respected?—no where. To be a Mormon is to be all that is base and vile. All the ties that bind the opposite sexes together in mutual confidence and affection are trampled under foot by designing men, to gratify their own lustful passions, and the ignorant people they cannot be doing right without following the example of their High-priest Young and their Twelve Apostles.

The Mormons have to give one-tenth of the produce of their farms or other business to the Church, and also the tenth working day the whole year, making twenty per cent.—a pretty heavy tax most people would think. The object is to get as much money in the treasury as possible, so as to be able to carry out their plan, which is to have a line of settlements to the Pacific from this place, having its termini in the Southern part of Upper California, hoping to be able to dominate their religion in the newly acquired territory. But in that I think they will fail; for if there is any Spanish blood left in the California dames, the Mormons will find it difficult to reconcile them to one man's having five or six wives.

Now as to myself—I have enjoyed this trip much more than any I have taken before. I knew pretty well what it would be. My health has been excellent, and I have been in good spirits. We have had to get fresh mules, and have concluded to go the Southern route, striking the Santa Fe or old Spanish trail to California. The usual emigrant route to the Sierra Nevada we could not try with the animals we had; and the time it will take to perfect our arrangements and get ready to start, and considering the small quantity of feed there must be after seventy or eighty thousand head of animals have travelled through a poor grazing country, have induced quite a number of emigrants to take the Southern route, being only 500 miles further, and no danger of being caught by snow in the mountains.

Gen. Wilson arrived here on the 1st instant, on his way to California. His animals are in poor condition. I have understood that Capt. Stansbury, of the Topographical Department, who is here with instructions to survey Salt Lake and the Valley, has transferred part of his animals to Gen. W., so as to enable him to pursue his journey.

Yours truly, R. O. M.

MASSACHUSETTS ON THE SLAVERY QUESTION.—Gov. Briggs, of Massachusetts, in his recent message, treats at length on the subject of excluding slavery from the Territories, concluding in the following terms:

"On one side of this question is the clear and unequivocal language of the Constitution, giving to Congress the power to 'make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States;' the great principles of the ordinance of 1787, re-asserted and adopted by many acts of Congress under the Constitution, approved and sustained by the most illustrious statesmen of the Republic in every part of the Union, and the principles of eternal right and justice. On the other side, is the institution of slavery, which deprives man of his inalienable rights, effaces from him the image of his Maker, and degrades him to the condition of a thing—a chattel.

"The people of Massachusetts, come what may, will be faithful to the Constitution and the Union. Her patriotic statesmen helped make that Constitution, and her citizens agreed to and adopted it. She would not knowingly withhold or violate any right secured by it to any citizen or section of the country.

"Her opinions upon the subject of slavery have been known to the world from the time of the Declaration of Independence to the present time.

"As a member of the Union, she is content to leave slavery where it is left by the Constitution, that is, within the limits of those States where it exists. Whilst it is clear that Congress has no right to pass over the limits of a State to interfere with the institution of slavery within it, it is equally clear that no State has the right to push the institution beyond its own limits into and over the territory where it does not exist.

"Entertaining no doubt of the constitutional power of Congress to exclude slavery from its own territories, and believing that such exclusion is demanded by the highest principles of morality and justice, she never can consent to its extension over one foot of territory where it now is not. If the other free States concur with her in this resolution, the thing will be done, and consequences be left to themselves."

NEW AMERICAN NAVAL STEAMERS.—There are now building for the American Navy, four steamers, Powhattan, Susquehanna, Saranac and San Jacinto. The first at Norfolk; the second at Philadelphia; the third at Portsmouth, N. H.; and the last at New York. The first two are 250 feet long, and 45 feet beam; the last two are 196 feet long, and 37 feet beam. The first two have side wheels, and two inclined engines, each with cylinders 70 inches diameter, and 10 feet stroke; the third has side wheels, and two inclined engines, with 60 inch cylinders, 9 feet stroke; and the fourth has a propeller and two inclined engines, working across the ship, with cylinders 60 inches in diameter, 4 feet 2 inches stroke.

LETTER OF THE HUGARIANS TO THE MAYOR OF NEW YORK.—The following answer has been handed to the Mayor of New York by L. R. Breisach:

NEW YORK, January, 1850.

To Mr. Caleb S. Woodhull, Mayor of City of New York:

SIR—The friendly welcome, arising from the fullness of a noble heart, which you so kindly sent to my dear comrades of the Hungarian emigration and myself, has moved our warmest feelings. It has poured balm into the woundsinflicted by wanton tyranny.

It excites one of the bitterest emotions of the human heart to be forced to leave the graves of our ancestors and all the monuments of a national existence that has endured for a thousand years; but if there is any emotion which can equal the love and fond memory of one's country, it is the warm feeling of gratitude for proofs of sympathy.

Your kind letter has awakened such a feeling in its full force in my companions and myself.

We know how to honor these friendly expressions which have their origin in the nobleness of our soul, and proceed from a man who has been chosen by the confidence of the citizens of the first city of the Union to be their chief magistrate.

Any words of gratitude that I could utter would be but poor interpreters of our feelings, and I can only say that your letter will ever remain in our memories.

We have indeed been driven by a wild tempest from our unhappy country, but after the storm, more fortunate than many a poor mariner, we find ourselves not merely on a shore of safety, but in a haven of brotherly friendship and hospitality.

We came hither inspired with warm admiration for the free and grand institutions of the glorious country—a country, as you tell us, whose fertile plains can still furnish room for countless millions; and as we will not spare our strength to obtain by a laborious life that independence which is the first want of man, we have only a cheerful future before us, and we all join in the cry—Man's true country is that where freedom is!

I am heartily rejoiced to learn that your health is restored, and I take the occasion to request you to appoint a time when I may have the opportunity of expressing my regard in person, with the assurance of which, meantime,

I remain, your obedient servant,

LADISLAUS UJHAZY.

In his and in the name and in behalf of his companions.

A FRUITLESS ROBBERY.—A daring attempt, (says the Boston Traveller,) was made a week or two since to obtain the evidence given before the Coroner's Jury in the Parkman case. Supposing that the evidence was in the possession of the Coroner, his office was entered and his desk and safe forced open. A list of the witnesses in the case were carried off, but the document wanted was not there.

T. B. Thorpe.

We cheerfully comply with the request of Mr. T. B. Thorpe in inserting the letter below, which he has addressed to us from Baton Rouge. It is a comment to the passage in our correspondence from Baton Rouge, wherein it was said that "Poor Thorpe was sadly disappointed—and I think badly treated by old Zack"—and his claims to a good appointment were well defended. There is no phrase which implies that Mr. Thorpe was in any way a "seeker" for office, or importunate in any respect, by himself or his friends. It appears from his explanation that he never had any inducement to apply, possessing as he did the unsolicited promise from the President, of just such an employment as would suit his tastes. The "expectations" which the promise caused are not yet gratified, and to that extent Mr. Thorpe is doubtless disappointed—and has a right to be—although his confidence in the future is not shaken.

BATON ROUGE, Jan. 14, 1850.

Eds. Crescent—Gentlemen: Permit me to return thanks to your correspondent for his very kind notice of my professional labors; at the same time, I regret that he should have mistaken my position with regard to matters political, so far as to infer that I am a "disappointed office-seeker." The early support I gave Gen. Taylor I trust will ever move me from the charge of ignoble motives. Entire correspondence of political sentiment with General Taylor, and a warm personal admiration, induced my action, and I claim no merit in behalf. For this I have been amply compensated by the high estimate the public has been pleased to put on my services. Moreover, upon General Taylor's departure from Baton Rouge for Washington, he was pleased to seek me, and in terms expressive of the regard which had ever characterized his intercourse with me, and without solicitation on my part, or on the part of others, with my knowledge, he offered me a foreign appointment—a station he was pleased to say I had talents to fill with honor; and I am not yet prepared to believe that a solicitude of forty years' standing would not fulfil a promise voluntarily made, even if in so humble an individual as myself.

With great respect, I am yours, T. B. THORPE.

Compliment to Mr. Fleming.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 13, 1850.

Mr. Fleming: Dear Sir—We, the undersigned, being greatly pleased with the reading you gave on the 12th inst. of that very interesting drama of Shakspeare, "THE MERCHANT OF VENICE," in which, we think, you did full justice to that Great Delineator of the Character of Man, of whom it has been well said that "he knew the human heart almost as well as if he had made it;" and believing that no method conveys a truer knowledge of the writings of the immortal Bard, or makes a stronger impression on the mind, or is better calculated to increase a refined and literary taste in this community, than the one practised by you of Public Readings, would respectfully request you to give a second reading of the Merchant of Venice whenever your convenience will allow you, during your sojourn in the city. We remain, with esteem, yours,

JOHN W. CROCKETT, WM. L. HOWARD, JOHN LEEDS, THEO. H. McCALEB, SAM. H. PETERS, PETER CONREY, JR., L. MATTHEWS, W. B. LINDSAY, R. HUNT, GEO. W. SMITH, THOS. A. ADAMS, N. R. JENNINGS, J. BALDWIN, E. MACPHERSON, S. P. WILSON, W. H. GARLAND, A. D. CROSSMAN, W. M. GOODRICH, S. S. PRENTISS, W. S. SCOTT, M. M. COHEN.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 17, 1850.

To Messrs. N. R. Jennings, J. Baldwin, E. Macpherson, John W. Crockett, Wm. L. Howard, Jas. H. Leeds, Theo. H. McCaleb, Geo. J. Peters, S. P. Wilson, Wm. H. Garland, Peter Conrey, Jr., A. D. Crossman, L. Matthews, W. B. Lindsay, R. Hunt, Geo. W. Smith, M. M. Cohen, Thos. A. Adams, W. M. Goodrich, S. S. Prentiss and W. S. Scott:

Gentlemen—I have received your very complimentary letter, combining a request that I would repeat my reading of the "Merchant of Venice." This proof of your approval is most dear to me. It has afforded me infinite pleasure to reflect that my audiences have witnessed some of the brightest minds of the city, whose approbation is the greatest reward.

I am proud to comply with your kindly expressed wish, and would respectfully suggest MONDAY EVENING, the 21st inst., at LYCEUM Hall, for the purpose, as circumstances seem to render that the most appropriate time. With feelings of respect, I remain, very truly, yours,

W. M. FLEMING.

DEATH OF AN EMINENT CLERGYMAN.—The venerable Dr. Miller, long a distinguished Professor in the Theological Seminary, died at Princeton on the 8th inst. He was about 80 years of age.

☞ A correspondent of the Griffin (Ga.) Whig, speaking of cotton culture, says he made off of one acre of ground the first season 3173 lbs. of seed cotton, and a neighbor of his, C. P. Combs, 3050 lbs

HOGS PACKED IN CINCINNATI.—The Cincinnati Times says that the number of hogs slaughtered and packed in that city, up to the 4th inst., this season, was 406,500. The largest number, 33,000, had been packed by Mr. Henry Lewis; the second largest, 29,000, by Milward & Oldershaw.

THE ASTOR PLACE RIOTERS.—The trial of the Astor Place rioters has again been postponed, in consequence of the absence of witnesses. The Judge now says that he will not admit or allow of the case being further postponed—that the trials must be proceeded with on Monday (last) whether the witnesses are present or not.

JAIL BURNT.—The jail of Adams county, Pa., was entirely consumed by fire on the morning of the 7th inst.; and what is worse, two human lives were lost by the catastrophe—Isaac Musselman and John Toner, both insane, and confined for safe keeping, each occupying a separate room. Every effort in the power of man was made use of to rescue them from a fate so terrible, but in vain.

A STARTLING INCIDENT.—The passengers of the train of cars from New York to Philadelphia were thrown into some excitement upon approaching the Elizabethtown depot, about half-past five o'clock on the evening of the 7th inst., by the report that some one had just been run over. It appeared that a man, who subsequently gave his name as John Riker, while standing upon the platform of the depot, impelled by some strange hallucination, jumped down in front of the approaching engine, and every one who saw the movement supposed that he had been crushed to atoms. It appeared, however, that the cow-catcher attached to the engine, caught and threw his body aside between the track and the posts which support the platform—a very narrow space—from which he was finally extricated and properly cared for in the passenger room of the depot. One of his legs was badly wounded by the wheels of the cars, which almost miraculously avoided crushing his whole body.

Died:

On Wednesday night, January 16, 1850, of chronic diarrhoea, HENRY TUPPER, aged 54 years, a native of the State of Maine, but recently a resident of Aiken, South Carolina.

☞ Charleston and Savannah papers please copy.

Steamboat Departures This Day.

☞ SEE ADVERTISEMENTS ON THIRD PAGE.

St. Louis.....ALTON, Fulton, 12