...ency? Who is there that would not trace the present and patriotic address with pleasure which had written by his own hand—that hand, which after having guided the sword that achieved the Independence of our country, traced with the instrument of peace the document which then gave us that advice as necessary to preserve and transmit to posterity the treasure he had bequeathed upon us? Who is there to bring that advice to beware of sectional spirit, to beware of demagogues, to beware of the consequences of the indulgence of a spirit of faction—who is there, in reading these lines of that parental advice, that will not in imagination transport himself back to the period when they were transmitted to paper by Washington, and think of the emotions, the parental and patriotic emotions at that precious moment, which must have animated his breast?

The Daily Crescent.

NEW ORLEANS:
MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 4, 1850.

EDITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—For the warm and most flattering greetings of the masters of the craft we return our sincere thanks, and assure them that their kind feelings are reciprocated, and we hope that nothing will ever occur to disturb our relations of personal regard or professional courtesy. We are all engaged in the same good work, and a difference of opinion as to how the common end is to be sought aught never to become a subject of hostility.

☞ In reply to the polite note of "A Stranger" we have to say that we cannot offer any encouragement.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—The article signed "Sarcens" is calculated to throw ridicule on the "Sons of Temperance." The sacred cause in which they are engaged should protect slight errors from censure. The nomination of Mr. White for the Presidency was a mere jest, we think in bad taste; but, really, bad jokes are not worth reproving. We shall be glad to hear from the author on subjects worthy of his pen.

☞ Many of our readers will be interested in the relation of the adventures of the "Arkansas Major," on our first page.

☞ The Public School Report will be noticed in Tuesday's paper. A press of matter excludes it from our columns to-day.

☞ Our thanks are due the officers of the steamer J. L. Day and Capt. Lane for fine [illegible]

☞ The corner stone of the Eighth Ward Church, corner of Felicity and Chestnut streets, Lafayette, was laid on Wednesday last, with appropriate ceremonies.

AMERICAN THEATRE.—The attraction at the American this evening, will bring together a large audience. The equestrian drama of "Mazeppa," in which the celebrated horse of that name appears, will be presented with new scenery, and all the appliances necessary to give a brilliant effect to the play.

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—Mr. Hackett appears tonight at the St. Charles, in his great character of *Falstaff* in Shakspeare's play of "Henry IV." The announcement is sufficient to crowd the house.

ORLEANS THEATRE.—This evening has been assigned for the benefit of Mr. Fiot. The performances will consist of the second and fourth acts of "Robert le Diable," in which Signora Ciocca will appear for the first time as *Helena*; "La Gitana," a dance by Signora Ciocca; the second act of "Les Diamants de la Couronne," and the vaudeville of "Le Code des Femmes."

BENEFIT OF THE HERON FAMILY.—This talented family appear for the last time, this evening, at the Lafayette Theatre, and the entertainments presented are of the first order. The "Spoiled Child" has been a favorite play for years; it will be given to the life by the Herons. After this, the laughable comic opera of "Why don't you Marry?" with songs, will be given. To conclude with a musical dish by Miss Heron, Fanny and Agnes.

PAPER WAREHOUSE.—We particularly call the attention of the public to the advertisement of Shelton & Potter, No. 72 Camp street. This firm, in addition to their stock of paper, of every kind, has just received from their factory, per ship Clifton, a fresh supply of printers' paper, of the different sizes in use, foolscap, letter, bankers and envelope paper, binders', straw and bonnet boards.

Synopsis of Prof. Forshey's Lecture.

Prof. Forshey commenced with the sublime sentiment, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." He alluded to the lectures of Mr. Mitchel, and spoke of the fitness of a course on Geology immediately following that on Astronomy. He said that the Geologist, like the Astronomer, had cause to be grateful for the triumphant demonstration, presented by Kirkwood, the American Astronomer, of the law which governs the axillary motion of the planets, because it lends a more powerful aid to the nebular hypothesis than all the reasoning hitherto known, and because that hypothesis is almost indispensable to the explanation of geological phenomena. He then glanced at the nebulous theory, as fully explained by Mr. Mitchel. He said, when the earth was separated from the central mass, it was in a liquid state, and occupied the space half way between Venus on one side, and Mars on the other.

When it had shrunk to a diameter of 250,000 miles it had thrown off the moon, just as it had been thrown off from the sun. It staggered belief that the earth had ever occupied such space: but a cubic foot of water, at boiling heat, expands 1800 times in bulk; and the application of heat which should melt the earth into a gaseous form, would expand its diameter so as to encroach on the orbits of Venus and Mars. There is strong reason for believing that the interior of the earth is still in a liquid state from central heat. This was inferred:

1st. From the smoke and steam observed to attend earthquakes.

2d. The lava thrown out by volcanoes, in all latitudes and climates.

3d. The increase of temperature downwards, in all chasms sunk into the earth's surface.

4th. The evidence of fusion observed in the older rocks.

If there be a central heat, it must be diminishing; for the sphere at the crust, and the space around, are much cooler. If it cools, it must contract and the earth grow smaller. If there be central heat, now diminishing, the earth must have been once much greater—must have been always cooling—and hence, must once have been in the fluid state, and occupied a much larger sphere. Then he concludes that the area of the earth's sphere once extended to that of the other planets. They too must have had their central heat, and once met the nebulous earth. They must also have composed a single sphere extensive as the solar system. That great solar mass, too, must have been forever contracting, and must have once blended with the neighboring solar systems, and these with the next, until the hypothesis involves the universe in its range.

He then passed to the stratification of rocks, and referred to the horizontal layers on the Ohio; to the vertical ones on the Hudson, and the diamond-shaped masses in the granite-quarries of Baltimore and Washington. The relative position of the different rocks was so well known, that it was easy to predict the neighborhood of one rock by the presence of another. The character of a geological bed, like the character of a man, is to be judged by the company it keeps. He went into the theory of springs and artesian wells; but it is impossible to give a satisfactory sketch of this without illustrations. In the explanation of the different strata, he used a beautiful diagram of the earth's surface, with its different strata—in some places lying in regular order—in others, broken and rent in pieces—in others, traversed by veins of basalt, trap and porphyry.

To-morrow evening we hope to see a full attendance, and we are confident the audience will be amply paid for their hour.

Amusements...This Evening.

AMERICAN THEATRE.—"Mazeppa"—"Bamboozling."
ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—"King Henry the Fourth"—"A Day After the Wedding."
FRANTZ'S VARIETIES.—"The Dumb Belle"—Grand Divertisement—"The Post of Honor"—Second Grand Divertisement—"An Object of Interest."
ORLEANS THEATRE.—"Robert le Diable"—"La Gitana."—"Les Diamants de la Couronne."
LAFAYETTE THEATRE—*Benefit of Little Agnes.*—"The Spoiled Child"—Concert—"Why Don't You Marry?"
LYCEUM HALL.—Miss Kimberly will read Shakspeare's Tragedy of "Hamlet."
SANDY HALL.—HYDE'S PROGRAMME.

Our City Affairs.

There can be no subject more interesting to our fellow-citizens than that which treats of the present condition and future destiny of our city. On our system of city government, and on an enlightened administration of our municipal affairs, depend much their present and future welfare. We shall endeavor, in treating this subject to confine ourselves to facts, which amply suffice, without any appeal to the passions, or any resource to fanciful exaggerations, to show the incalculable advantages which have resulted to our community from the Act of 8th March, 1836, which, while it maintained the integrity of the city in matters of common interests, left the local affairs of each section or Municipality under the exclusive control of its inhabitants.

The Mayor and General Council were by that law constituted the administrative authority of the whole; their powers as such were defined and limited, and it has been clearly shown that the too restricted limitation of their powers and duties, with respect to the debt of the city existing at that time, is in a great measure, if not entirely, the cause of the pecuniary difficulties which have for some time embarrassed the finances of the Municipalities.

The debt, then amounting to about $3,200,000, was a matter of common interest, and it should have devolved on the body representing the whole city to provide for its payment.

This, indeed, was attempted by that law, but the mode adopted was soon found to be utterly inefficient, for the General Council were directed annually to call on the separate Municipalities for their respective proportions of the amount needed; and that, by a rule most arbitrary and unjust—according to their relative revenues. The people of the Second Municipality, who at the time of division found themselves destitute of every improvement essential to their prosperity—a consequence of the sectional hostility and national prejudice, which had induced the Legislature, with extraordinary unanimity, to adopt the act of 1836—without wharves for the convenience of commerce—without paved streets—without market-houses, engine-houses, public schools, and without a police—were obliged to provide for all these; and although certain writers so far presume on the ignorance of the people as to assert, this Municipality has "nothing to show for its debt," the above enumerated objects have actually cost to the Treasury more than double the amount of that debt. As the total income from all sources within the limits of the Second Municipality was at that time only $80,000 per annum—a sum insufficient to pay the unavoidable current expenditures—it was obvious to all, that those great improvements which within a few years thereafter had effected a change most magical—had converted this portion of New Orleans, which in 1836 was a neglected faubourg of the city, into the most important, most valuable, and most populous part of the whole—could only be achieved by borrowing the money, and relying on the means which were sure to result from such an enlightened policy for the payment of the debt so created. The result has fully realized those anticipations, and at this time the amount of revenue of the Second Municipality, adopting the same rates of taxation on real and personal property as those of the city of New York—namely, one and one-tenth per cent.—amounts to over $800,000, while its local debt does not exceed, deducting means in its possession, applicable to its payment, $2,400,000, or three times the amount of its annual income.

The debt of the First Municipality, where immense improvements have also been made since 1836, bears a yet less proportion to its annual revenue, assuming the New York rate of taxation on real and personal property.

As to the Third Municipality, which, since 1836, has more than doubled its population, the proportion of income to debt is not so favorable, but there is good reason to believe that the time is not distant when this portion of our city will not be far behind her sisters in prosperity and in pecuniary resources. Now in New York the city debt is six times greater than its annual income. Real estate is there assessed at one-third to one-half more than it is here, in proportion to its productiveness. A lot and building there—the rent of which is $1000 per annum—is assessed at $12,000, and here at $8,000. Yet how is it that we do not see in the journals of that city the complaints and exaggerated statements that certain papers here use when commenting on our city affairs?

How far, we may be permitted to ask, have these exaggerated statements, which are read and republished with avidity by the people of other sections of our country, who seize upon them to add to the prejudices which already exist against our Crescent City, for selfish purposes, checked our prosperity and impaired our credit?

That such statements are producing such effects abroad it is fair to presume; for, many of our fellow-citizens, even possessing some intelligence, and having their fortunes invested here, but who spend their princely revenues in distant climes, only hibernating in our city, return brim full of vengeance, suggesting measures they think remedial, but which, if adopted, would prove more disastrous than any misfortunes with which we have yet been visited.

The proposed change in our present form of city government, by which the people of each Municipality are to be deprived of the exclusive control of their own local affairs—a right guaranteed by the pledged faith of the State of Louisiana, by the Act of 11th March, 1836—(unless two-thirds of the legal voters of the city shall desire it otherwise,) meets with our unqualified disapproval; and this sentiment, we believe, is entertained by nine-tenths of the resident inhabitants of this city.

We shall continue this subject. We shall endeavor to convince those who differ from us, by reason and by incontrovertible facts, of their error, and at the same time we shall advocate such measures as are attainable and practicable, the adoption of which will remove all embarrassments resulting from the defects of the law of 1836, maintain the harmony which now happily exists between the inhabitants of the Three Municipalities, and place the credit of our city, and of each Municipality, in an elevated and honorable position.

MISS KIMBERLY'S READINGS.—To-night this lady reads "Hamlet." This noble drama we have never thought an acting play—the hero himself is a thinker and not an actor—its grand passages are metaphysics in rhythm—there is but little action. On the other hand, it is eminently fitted to be read aloud. Those of our citizens who absent themselves from theatrical representations, because of their attendant evils, and not from any objection to the legitimate drama, will find a rich treat in the reading, or rather recitation, of Miss Kimberly. We should be pleased to have her read some of Schiller's beautiful plays, which are so little known in this country. *Maximilian* and *Theckler*, of his "Piccolomini," have been justly styled the German *Romeo* and *Juliet*—and in all that distinguishes high intellectual affection, the modern play is far superior. It is also well adapted to the reading-table. We commend it to the attention of the lady, and shall be pleased if she will introduce to an American audience this author, who has been called the "Poet of Woman."

MISS DAVENPORT.—There was a very brilliant house at the American, on the occasion of the farewell benefit of this lady, on Saturday evening. We have seldom seen a more fashionable audience.

MR. MURDOCH.—This gentleman received on Saturday evening, at the St. Charles, a convincing proof of the estimation in which he is held by his countrymen. It was his farewell benefit, prior to his departure for Europe, and the occasion called forth a number of our most prominent citizens. As *Claude Melnotte* and the restless *Vapid*, Mr. Murdoch was admirable, receiving the enthusiastic plaudits of the whole house. At the fall of the curtain, he made a brief but very happy speech, bidding farewell to his host of friends around.

CARPETING, OIL CLOTH, MATTING, &c.—The extensive stock of these articles on hand at No. 26 Chartres street, is a great inducement to housekeepers to call and examine the latest styles and patterns. Messrs. Chittenden & Dameron are famed for their low rates, and are to this established fact the large patronage they now enjoy.

LESSONS IN LANDSCAPE DRAWING.—We have received from the publishers, Messrs. D. Appleton & Co., through our friend, J. B. Steel, No. 14 Camp street, Part 2d, containing *sixteen easy lessons in Landscape*, by F. N. Otis. This capital little portfolio of drawing is just the thing for new beginners, embracing a number of beautiful sketches, accompanied with instructions in perspective.

LATE FROM CALIFORNIA.

The steamship Alabama arrived last evening from Chagres, which port she left on the 27th ult. She brings news of the election, as U. S. Senators, of J. C. Fremont and W. M. Gwin. Both these gentlemen arrived at Panama on the Oregon. Dr. Gwin had taken passage on the Empire City for New York. Col. Frémont was detained at Panama by the sickness of his family. Thos. B. Winston, of this city, was at Chagres, on his way to the West Indies. We are favored with files of San Francisco papers up to the 31st of December. They are filled with Legislative proceedings. The Governor recommends the adoption of the Common Law as regards evidence, crimes, and commerce; and of the Louisiana codes in all other cases. He recommends direct taxation upon persons and property. He discusses the propriety of legislation prohibiting the immigration of free people of color. He thinks it inexpedient at this time, as such a course might throw difficulties in the way of admission as a State; but advises that, if admitted, they should have all the rights of citizens.

The number of votes given at the late election was 15,000. It will be seen that Pacificus Ord is not among the Judges.

The New State Officers.—The following is a list of the officers elected under the State Constitution: Governor, Peter H. Burnett; Lieut. Governor, John McDougal; U. S. Senators, John C. Frémont, William M. Gwin; Representatives in Congress, George W. Wright, Edward Gilbert; Secretary of State, William Van Voorhies; Treasurer, Richard Roman; Comptroller, J. S. Houston; Attorney General, E. J. C. Kewen; Surveyor General, Charles J. Whiting; Chief Justice, S. C. Hastings; Associate Justices, H. A. Lyon, Nathaniel Bennett.

Destructive Fire in San Francisco.—A very destructive fire occurred at San Francisco on the 24th of December. It seems to have been in the heart of the city, and the consequences must be most disastrous in a city with such limited accommodations and increasing population. We publish the account on our first page. This calamity, so terrible to San Francisco, will only make an increased demand for houses and merchandise; thus New Orleans will greatly benefit by the losses of her neighbor on the Pacific.

The high waters prevent all profitable work at the mines.

A destructive fire occurred at Stockton on the 23d of December, destroying property to the amount of $150,000.

The U. S. sloop Falmouth was at Sancelita on the 13th December.

From the Price Current we select the leading articles:

Building Materials—American Lumber, by cargo, $180@200; Mill, ground Flooring and Siding, $25@35@50; Framing Timber, $22@$26; Scantling, $20@$24; *Bricks*—affloat, $50 ⅌ M.; landed, $60.....*Candles*, Sperm, 50 lb, $2 50; Tallow, 12c.....*Lime*, $10.....Cent. $30@$45.....*Coffee*—Java, 10@11c. Rio, 9@10.....*Domestic Goods*—Brown Sheeting, 1c@1½c.; White Shirts, $11@$14 ⅌ dozen; Blankets, Mackinaw, $14@$20.....*Hay*, $28@$30.....*Liquors*—Brandy, $2 75 ⅌ gallon; N. E. Rum, 60c.; Jamaica, $1 75@$2; Whisky, first proof, 45@50c.; Old Rye, $1@$1 50.....*Provisions*—Beef, Mess, $16; Prime, $10; Pork, Mess, $20; Prime, $22@$24; Lard, 5@5½c.; Ham, pickled, 4@4½c.; smoked, 5@5½c.; Butter, Goshen, 20c.@$1; Oregon, $1 12½@$1 25; Cheese, American, 3@3½c.; Potatoes, $15 ⅌ 100 lb.....*Rice*, 3@3½c.....*Sugar*—Brown 3@3½c.

The Alabama brought $35,700, in gold dust, to M. White & Co.; $3000 to P. J. Pavy & Co.; besides which, there were $300,000 in the possession of passengers.

The steamer Chesapeake, from New York, had arrived at Panama.

The Falcon, from this port, arrived on the 26th ult. The Cherokee, from New York, had just arrived. In port, brig Osceola and schr. Maria, uncertain.

The Alabama brought the following passengers: J Mulholland and lady; D White, lady and daughter; F Smith, lady and children; Wm C Lacey and lady; G A Pizarro and lady; B B Redman, lady and children; Messrs W H Hoag, R Butterfield, J T Mudd, J Clark, H Robinson, Peabody, Stevenson, J Bradley, A Bowen, Capt A Hawes, John Lacey, A Reed, W S Rankin, J W Jenkins, J W Brown, L Hopkins, C Kinney, A Dolnier, F Frebrich, Mr Monsarrat, Wm Graves, Edw James, F Hargwood, J Hamilton, Geo