The Daily Crescent.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
Of the Council of the Second Municipality.

NEW ORLEANS:
TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 30, 1850.

THE CASE OF GENERAL ARMSTRONG.—The presence of an American fleet in the Tagus to extort tardy justice from the Portuguese Government, excites much interest in Europe. The British press, of course, sides with its miserable dependent, and reiterates the stale charge that the American privateer first fired on the British boats. Captain Reid was a good sailor, a brave warrior and a sensible man. He had done immense damage to the British commerce, and had been pursued into Fayal by a British squadron. Is it to be supposed that he would commit such an act of folly, as to disregard the neutrality of the port, which was his only protection? On the other hand, the British were smarting from a series of daring actions—the port belonged to a weak nation, whose royal family was at the time under the protection of the British Government, and they felt disposed to destroy the scourge of the ocean.

As to the want of generosity in dealing so summarily with a feeble Government, we wonder if Portugal is weaker than Greece, or if the terms we propose are not as liberal as those extended by the blockading squadron to that power?

In the recent debate in the House of Commons, we see it stated that the Ministry allowed a large quantity of arms to be taken from the Tower, and delivered to the Sicilians during their recent attempt to shake off the power of Naples.

In what does that act differ from the alleged delivery of the arms of Louisiana to Gen. Lopez? "*It and if*, said the lawyer."

We neglected yesterday to return our acknowledgments to our friends of the Picayune for the use of their express mail.

THE LYCEUM LIBRARY.—The recent debate in the School Board has had the effect of drawing public attention to this useful institution. We publish to-day a communication on the subject.

THE NEW CABINET.—It is said that Mr. Webster will not accept his appointment, nor retire from the Senate, until the vote has been taken on the Compromise bill.

Col. James H. Dakin, of this city, has been appointed Architect of the new Custom-house. He is a gentleman fully competent to the duties of this responsible situation, and the appointment is one that will give much satisfaction.

PRESIDENT FILLMORE'S TEXAS VIEWS.—The Washington Union of the 20th inst. says it is asserted that President Fillmore will not pursue the course of the last administration relative to Texas, and adds:

"In reply to an application made on Wednesday by the Texas delegation, he is reported to have declared that he should decide what was best to be done as soon as he had organized his cabinet, and that a reply would then be given to Governor Bell's letter. The impression seems to be that the President will avoid any thing that is calculated to annoy Texas, or bring on a collision between her and New Mexico."

☞ See Fourth Page.

BRICK-MAKING MACHINES—*Great Improvement.* We called yesterday, and examined the models of two machines, recently invented and patented by Mr. John Booth, of Mobile, for making Bricks. We understand from him that his machines have been fully tested, and that their success has more than equaled his highest expectations. One of them is for making bricks of tempered mortar. It is remarkably simple in its structure; and, in point of cheapness, probably exceeds any thing ever yet invented, compared to the work it will perform and the force required. Its entire cost, it is said, will not exceed one hundred and twenty dollars; and, with a force of five hands and one horse, it is capable of tempering the mortar and turning out 10,000 bricks per day, and, with double that force, may double the quantity.

The other machine is what the inventor calls a "Progressive Brick Press," for making the finest quality of front bricks, either of tempered or untempered mortar. It is also an invention of great simplicity, and, we were assured by the patentee, can be built for two hundred dollars. It is capable of making from 10,000 to 20,000 bricks per day, according to the force employed. Neither of these machines, we may remark, requires the use of sand, which fact certainly adds much to their value. We do not pretend to great excellence of judgment about these matters, but, from a careful examination, we could see no reason why they might not come fully up to the representations made in regard to them. If so, they deserve to rank among the most wonderful inventions of the day, and should attract the immediate attention of all persons engaged in the brick-making business. Mr. Booth remains in our city for a few days, and will be pleased to exhibit his models. They may be seen at the small office at the south-west corner of the new Custom-house building.

PLUM-PUDDING RHETORIC. — The following specimen of the mixed style has been going the rounds, and is quite a favorite with our brethren. Will some one separate its numerous beauties? It is the most finished piece of confusion we ever saw. Who first said it? The Mobile Register is fond of "small deer"—perhaps it can trace its paternity:

"As the wild flower of the desert springs up, blossoms, sheds its fragrance upon the summer air and dies, so man goes forth upon the ocean of life, and with a clear sky would fain believe, that his will be a prosperous voyage; but soon the storms arise, the surges roar and beat upon the tempest-tossed mariner. For a while he braves the storm and buffets the wave, but soon he sinks to rise no more! And thus man passes away!

Met a moment flow,
But pain is sickle in the field of life
And mows its thousands with their joys and cares."

FUNERAL OBSEQUIES IN MAINE.—The Legislature was in session at the time of Gen. Taylor's death. A committee was appointed to make all suitable demonstrations of respect. The Hon. George Evans was appointed orator, and delivered an address upwards of an hour in length. The Military and Fire Companies were out in strength, minute guns were fired, the Church dressed in mourning and every mark of respect paid to the memory of the gallant soldier and honest statesman.

EULOGY ON GEN. TAYLOR.—We learn from the New Bedford Mercury, (Massachusetts,) that the Rev. George L. Prentiss, brother of the late S. S. Prentiss, of Mississippi, has accepted an invitation from the Municipal Committee, to deliver the Eulogy of the late President Taylor, in New Bedford.

THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH IN CANADA.—The Montreal Courier of Thursday has these handsome remarks on the death of President Taylor:

"Although he was a stranger to us here in Canada, in person, he was well known by reputation. Many a heart beat high at the news of his victories. The ties of congenerate blood overcame mere national separation, and we rejoiced to find that the blood and courage of our race, were not deteriorated by mere geographical and political severance from the Parent State. Zachary Taylor's name will live in the general history of the age; in his own land, it will be a "household word," familiar in men's mouths, through all time, as the Roman historian wrote of a great General, equally celebrated, and perhaps more intensely loved—"*manet, mansurumque est, in aternitate temporum, in famæ rerum.*"

It is a remarkable coincidence, that while intelligence of the sudden and unlooked for death of Gen. Taylor was on its way across the Atlantic to England, there was coming to us across the Atlantic from England, intelligence of the not less sudden and unlooked for death of Sir Robert Peel. At the last advices this eminent statesman, like our own illustrious President, was in the enjoyment of excellent health, and now both are lost to the world forever.

GARIBALDI.—The celebrated Garibaldi, who figured so nobly, as we will ever be so conspicuously, in defence of Italian liberty, last year, is on his way to the United States, where he purposes to spend the remainder of his days.

AT Augusta, Maine, the powder used in firing the funeral salute in honor of the late President was *Mexican powder, done up in the original Mexican bags*, being part of a large quantity taken by our troops at the city of Mexico, and sent to Augusta for deposit in the U. S. Arsenal there.

FORT WARDEN'S SALE OF FRENCH BLANKETS.—F. H. Peitpatin will sell this day at 11 o'clock, at the store No. 22 St. Louis street, 17 bales Grammer's three points French Blankets, slightly damaged. We call the attention of dealers to this sale, which is to be made without reserve.

The North American Fisheries.

The product of the Newfoundland seal trade, for the last year, has been very extensively circulated. The great value of this single branch of the fisheries has led us to make some inquiry into the actual value, pecuniary and political, of the entire business. "The Progress of America, by Macgregor," furnishes us with the information desired. As the work, from its readiness, is but little known, we proceed to compile from its pages the history, and present condition of this lucrative and useful branch of industry. The principal fishing ground in the world, is the great Bank of Newfoundland. It is an elevation of the submarine ground for a space of two hundred miles in width and six hundred miles in length. Various theories have been hazarded in order to account for its formation. By some it is supposed to have been formerly an island, which has been submerged by an earthquake, or other violent convulsions. Others think that it has been formed by the gradual deposit of sand, carried along by the Gulf stream, and there stopped by the northern currents. The soundings are from twenty-five to ninety-five fathoms. On the *Virgin Rocks*, though there are four fathoms of water, yet in a high sea, it is probable that a ship would be dashed to pieces on them. The first English ship which had visited Newfoundland was in 1517. But at that time, fifty sail of French, Spanish, and Portugese were on the Banks.

In 1578 the Spaniards had one hundred ships, the Portugese fifty, and the English only fifteen. In 1615 the English had two hundred and fifty ships, and other powers four hundred. In early times the ships carried twenty guns, and about the same number of boats, and a hundred men. Now, the business is conducted in small schooners, with not over a dozen men. As early as the commencement of the eighteenth century, the people of New England had engaged extensively in the fisheries, and annually exported to Spain and the Mediterranean the value of £172,000—nearly $800,000.

But the French fishery was still more valuable, and in 1745, at the taking of Louisburg, by the Yankee Merchant, Sir Wm. Pepperill, the annual value was estimated at £982,000, or nearly $4,000,000. But with the loss of their North American provinces, the fisheries of France diminished. Those of England proportionately increased.

In 1814, the exports from Newfoundland amounted to £2,881,528, nearly ten millions of dollars. This, however, was owing to a combination of circumstances, which will not probably occur again. In 1843, the exports from the Island of Newfoundland were £839,260, nearly four millions of dollars.

The Labrador fisheries employ about 400 schooners and some 20,000 British seamen, whose product is £350,000. In 1829, the Americans of the United States had 500 vessels and 1500 men engaged, and realized £268,000. This is certainly a wonderful superiority in our sailors. We should deem it a mistake, but we quote from British authority. And in official documents embodied in the work, we find the highest compliments paid to the superior skill and energy of the New England fishermen. Nova Scotia employs 10,000 men in the fisheries, and the product in 1840 was £500,000. The same document says that Massachusetts in 1837 employed 11,149 men, and received £800,000!! The province of St. Johns exports about £50,000.

The value of the New England fisheries is not given, but the number of men employed in 1840 was 36,584, and the capital invested was $16,429,620. The *right* of the Americans to take fish on the Banks of Newfoundland, the Coast of Labrador, and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, was in conformity with the treaty of 1783. For this recognition we are indebted to John Adams.

"For this favorable article," says Mr. Pitkin, in relation to the fisheries, "as in the case of the boundaries, the Americans were indebted to their negotiators, and particularly Mr. Adams, who knew their value and importance to his countrymen."

The British negotiators, for a long time, refused their assent to this article, and particularly to that part relating to the Coast fishery, and which acknowledged the *right* of the Americans to take fish on the Grand Banks, etc., and at last insisted on inserting the word *liberty* instead of *right*. Upon this, Mr. Adams grew warm, and declared to the British negotiators he would put his hand to no articles, without satisfaction about the fisheries; he asked whether there was, or could be a clearer right? In former treaties, he said, that of Utrecht, and that of Paris, France and England have claimed the right, and used the word. When God Almighty made the banks of Newfoundland, at 300 leagues distance from the people of America, and at 600 leagues distant from those of France and England, did He not give as good a right to the former as to the latter?

If Heaven, in the creation, gave a right, it is ours, at least as much as yours; if occupation, and possession, give a right, we have it clearly as you; if war, and blood, and treasure give a right, ours is as good as yours.

We have certainly been fighting in Canada, Cape Breton, and Nova Scotia, for the defence of this fishery, and have expended, beyond all proportion, more than you; then, the right cannot be denied; why should it not be acknowledged, and put out of dispute? Why should we leave room for illiterate fishermen to wrangle and chicane!"

The British negotiators finally yielded this last point, and agreed to the article.

The right was not recognized in the Treaty of Ghent. It will be recollected that John Q. Adams was willing to barter the free navigation of the Mississippi river for it. But Mr. Clay refused to accede to the proposition. Consequently the new treaty is silent on the subject. By the Convention of 1818, *liberty* is given to our fishermen to take fish as formerly. But, as under the Reciprocal Navigation acts, we believe the navigation of our rivers is now open to British vessels, we ought to insist on the reinstatement of John Adams' sacramental word, the "*right*" instead of the *privilege*.

This article is already too long for a warm day's reading. We will, to-morrow, if the room is to spare, publish an interesting account of the mode of fishing followed by the hardy sealers of Newfoundland, and the former sailors of New England.

LOUISIANA INTERIOR.—The Bayou Sara Ledger says: "The building of the levee around this town will be commenced on or before the fourth of August next. Bids for the contract have already been received, and each bidder bound by good securities to complete the work by the first day of January, 1851."

The Concordia Intelligencer announces the death of Mr. J. H. Lacy, an esteemed citizen of that parish.

ANOTHER VICTIM TO INTEMPERANCE. — The following notice in the Memphis Appeal of the 23d, struck us with surprise and sorrow. John Tomlin was a man of more than ordinary poetic talent. He has contributed to many of the best literary publications of this country. Within a few months, he has been an occasional contributor to the columns of this paper, both in verse and prose. We knew not of his death, until we read the announcement below, though it occurred in our very midst. What multiplied calamities has not the Demon of Intemperance accomplished!

DEATH OF JOHN TOMLIN.—The death of this gentleman is announced in the last number of the West Tennessee Whig. He died recently in the Charity Hospital, New Orleans. Domestic troubles and reverses of fortune had for many years rendered his life unhappy, and forced him to seek relief in the fatal cup. He had resided, for the last eighteen or twenty years, in Jackson, in this State, where he drew around him a large circle of warm and devoted friends. He was a passionate votary of the Muses, and had acquired considered distinction as a chaste and beautiful writer, both of prose poetry.

In his death, a noble and generous spirit has taken its exit from earth, and mingles in a more congenial throng beyond the Stygian river.

The New York Day Book, speaking of the new Opera of Strakosch, says:

"We understand that the score of this opera is nearly finished; and we saw Strakosch himself at Saratoga a day or two since, looking as cool and fresh as a May flower. We have thus far only been enabled to judge of M. Strakosch's powers as a composer, from stray and flitting leaves of wild and exquisite musical reveries, which have flown from beneath his fingers with marvelous rapidity. They indicate a delicate and exuberant fancy, a fervid enthusiasm, and a brilliancy of style which promise him a sudden popularity. The cast of his genius is evidently dramatic, and we expect an opera worthy of being compared favorably with the established favorites of the stage. It will be produced early in the season at the Astor Place opera house."

COOPER'S WELLS.—At this popular Watering place, in Mississippi, there were 327 boarders on the 25th inst.

The degree of LL. D. has been conferred on Orestes A. Brownson, by the St. John's College, New York.

The scenery, dresses, etc., of Placide's theatrical company, from this city, reached Louisville on the 19th inst.

Correspondence of the Crescent.

VICKSBURG, MISS., July 26, 1850.

Eds. Crescent—My last was dated at Cooper's Wells, where having spent some two days most agreeably, I concluded that I had laid in a sufficient stock of health to bear me through the coming campaign, i. e., term of Court, I took the stage for Bolton. After a most hilly ride, and encountering all the inconveniences attending stage traveling, was soon aboard of the cars, and in a very few hours after pleasantly installed in the comfortable quarters afforded by mine host of the Prentiss House. Here we found, as usual, fine accommodations, and a fine table most bountifully provided; but there was one thing I missed, in common with all the visitors of the Prentiss House—it was the jovial countenance of its proprietor, Gen. McMakin, that prince of *bons vivants*, whose sole motto has been "*Dum vidimus vivamus*," who is now dispensing his favors to his numerous patrons at the Artesian Springs. Since my last, very little of interest has occurred at the Wells. Some ten days ago, immediately on the reception of the melancholy news of the President's death, a large meeting of the visitors was held in the Saloon at the Wells, and appropriate resolutions passed; and the Hon. Mr. Chilton, of this place, was invited to deliver a Eulogy on Gen. Taylor. Tuesday last was the day appointed for the delivery of the address, and a large assemblage of the citizens of Hinds county, as well as all the visitors at the Wells, were collected together, to pay a last tribute of homage to the memory of the hero-statesman. Unfortunately, on the evening previous Mr. C. received the melancholy news of the serious illness of some member of his family, which required his immediate departure; his manuscript was therefore by him entrusted to the Hon. Dr. King, of Princeton—ex-member of Congress from this State—who did ample justice to the eloquent production of Mr. Chilton. After this, Mr. King himself favored the audience with some remarks of his own, in which he (though differing in politics from Mr. Taylor) paid a merited tribute to the character of the Old Hero. In the course of his remarks he related an anecdote of the old General, which I do not recollect to have ever seen in print.

It goes far to show the great confidence placed in the General's bravery and capacity in times of emergency: "In the little town of Princeton, Miss., quite a crowd was assembled, discussing the news just received of the departure of General Taylor from Point Isabel for Fort Brown—many at the same time expressing their fears that the little band would meet with defeat; when an old man, dressed in the attire of a backwoodsman, who had been an attentive listener to these various doubts, inquired whether this Gen. Taylor of whom they were speaking was the same as Capt. Taylor, who was at Fort Harrison, which inquiry being answered in the affirmative, he immediately replied, 'Well then you need not be afraid, for this Capt. Taylor is just the lightnintest man you ever seed. I was with him at Fort Harrison, and jist before the fight came on he made us promise not to let the Injuns come in, but if they did, that we should set fire to the magazine. Now I don't much think any of the boys would have set fire to the magazine, but we all knew it—I well that the Captain would.'"

The crowd at the Wells is steadily increasing, and the pressure we are doing all in their power to make their visit pleasant. I see still lingering around several members of the Editorial corps, among whom is Professor DeBow of New Orleans, who, if that lying jade, Madame Rumor, tells the truth, for once, is detained there by the powerful attraction of a pair of bright eyes—but I will not vouch for any of that dame's stories.

There is nothing new in Vicksburg. I must hurry this letter, to get it off by the Princess. You shall hear from me again at Jackson, La., where I shall attempt to give you a sketch of the proceedings of the Commencement of the Century College, which is to come off on Wednesday next.

Yours truly, BAPTISTE.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA MADNESS.—The Columbia South Carolinian thus discourses:

There is not a paper in NewOrleans, with the exception of the Delta, that is true to the South at this juncture. And why? In reply to a charge of this kind, one of them says the charge is susceptible of easy proof, as its advertising columns show; for without the subsidies of the Northern men in this respect, it reckons there would be precious few papers either to support or injure the South in that city. Such an avowal is degrading in the extreme, and shows how utterly regardless of any thing save dollars these journalists are.

This quotation admits that Northern men alone support the papers of NewOrleans! For without them, there would be but few papers of any kind in a population of 150,000! But the editor is not content with giving the North the entire credit of supporting the papers of NewOrleans, but it lashes that Quixote of Nullification and Ultraism, J. D. B. DeBow! Who would ever have supposed he would fall so low, as to need the aid of the Crescent to protect him from the assaults of his worshipped South Carolina!

Another instance in the same quarter. DeBow's Commercial Review has caught this Union-loving infection; and, as we observed in a brief notice of the publication a few days since, in all the semblance of wisdom, and with all the air of a Solon, its editor pronounces the effort of the South to secure her rights failures. Of the Nashville Convention he says:

"A few men have met; but to call that a 'Southern Convention,' or to say that the South had any active participation in it—preposterous! The address and the Convention were alike failures."

In the same issue of this Review comes a prospectus and circular. In his appeal, the editor says:

"At a period like this, it becomes every citizen of the Southern and Western States to encourage and support a work devoted so widely to the development of our resources and progress, and to remove the mortifying dependence upon other sections of the Union for the knowledge we get of our own operations and movements."

We doubt very much the propriety of fostering a work, which, however acceptable in other respects, strikes in harmony with the Northern aggressionists. The "mortifying dependence on other sections," mentioned by the editor, will never be removed by such articles as that which ushers in the present enlarged number of the Review.

We consider it our duty to notice such aberrations in a Southern Journalist; and, having noticed them, leave the corrective in the hands of the people.

Our esteemed friend of the Commercial Review, though partially insane on the subject of Southern ism, has lucid intervals; he is fond of the society of the editors of the Crescent, (we mention this as proof of his sanity,) associates intimately with the practical business men of the South West, and has become convinced, in spite of his prejudices, that the Nashville Convention did not speak the voice of this prosperous region of the South. We know that many of his best friends here regret his intemperate opinions on the subject of Southern confederacies, and we fear he may yet feel it in his next year's subscription.

At the same time South Carolina threatens to cut off all supplies, and leave her talented son to promulgate his Northern errors as he can!

We have never seen a meaner or more contemptible specimen of sectional bigotry, than this denunciation of Mr. DeBow and his Review.

The editor of the South Carolinian ought to have been a grand inquisitor, and roasted all who dared to differ from his standard. Freedom of opinion consists in thinking as he does. What a capital Sir Antony Absolute he would make!

THE COURT DRESS OF MISS LAWRENCE.—Some of the Northern papers are reading lectures on the young lady's extravagance. The New York Star says:

"We have an idea that this costume would contrast somewhat curiously with the Sunday go-to-meeting apparel of Miss Lawrence's grandmother. Let us see. The old lady, if we mistake not, was the wife of a poor but decent laboring farmer. Her costume must have been about as follows: Bodice and skirt of linsey woolsey, spun, woven, cut, and made up with her own hands; looped at the sides with both hands, when the road to church happened to be muddy."

But just at that time, we are inclined to think, there were young ladies, and old ones, too, who appeared at Court and wore the style of dress which was the fashion. We have no doubt the dress of the American Minister's daughter was very appropriate. It was such as suited her position, just as her grandmother's dress was also in good taste. They were both in keeping with their circumstances. Mr. Lawrence, by his industry, energy and talent, is able to endow a chair in Harvard University with $57,000 and give his daughter silks and diamonds and feathers. We have no doubt our young countrywoman fairly represented the young ladies of America at the Court of St. James.

There were 13 deaths in Louisville on the 19th inst.—two only of cholera.

SHIP TIMBER FROM WISCONSIN.—Large quantities of ship-timber, consisting of oak-knees, plank, etc., now lie in our ship-yards, and are being worked up into elegant ships, after having performed a journey of eight to ten hundred miles, from the forests of Michigan and Wisconsin. Within a few days past, Wm. H. Webb has received 1500 ship-knees from Michigan, via Buffalo and the canal, and another large lot is on the way from Wisconsin, for Messrs. Perrine, Patterson & Stack. Enoch Hunt, of Ohio City, is the mover in this enterprise, and is reaping the reward of his sagacity. A railroad having been built from Monroe, Michigan, at the Western extremity of Lake Erie, into the interior of that State, he distributes through the adjacent country, circulars describing the size and quality of the sticks desired, and they are soon forthcoming, and commence their long journey toward the rising sun. The woodmen engaged in the business of preparing this timber, are just beginning to know what is wanting of them, and the timber produced is of an excellent quality.

The oldest oak tree in Belgium, planted in the reign of Charles the Fifth, about 1540 or 1550, was recently cut down at Rooborst. It measured thirty-six feet in length, and eighteen feet in circumference. Planks two feet wide were cut from some of the branches, and one from four to five feet wide is to be sent to the European exhibition in London in 1851.

The Lyceum Library.

EDS. CRESCENT—*Gentlemen*: Any one who has read our city dailies for the past few months, can hardly have failed to observe frequent notices of the Lyceum and Library of this Municipality. These have appeared in the form of editorials, reports of debates in the Board of Directors of our Public Schools, and communications from our deeply interested citizens now and concerning in this institution.

First, the Picayune, early in this month, has a short editorial notice, declaring the institution to be in a most excellent condition; its circulation rapidly extending, it efficiency, as proved by experience of its benefits in disseminating useful knowledge, and increasing the reading class of society, wonderful; and that it is an honor to the Second Municipality.

This was copied with approbation by other papers. Similar sentiments were uttered by others, and they were generally received as true by the originators, benefactors, subscribers, readers and friends of the Lyceum and Library. They really believed that in it they enjoyed a great benefit; and this conviction was prevalent in the community, until certain resolutions and debates sprung up in the Board of Directors of the Public Schools. These being published in some of the daily papers, we have had shoot, instead of the general confidence in, and general satisfaction for, the prosperity of the Library, which constitute its most essential resource for ultimate and high success; a sly innuendo here, and a paltry jest there, an anxious inquiry on the part of friends, and a self-complacent taunt on the part of the enemies of this beneficent enterprise, concerning the *materials* of which it consists.

I had supposed that the well written article over the signature of "Justice," which appeared in the Picayune of the 17th inst., characterized as it is, by moderation, truth and intelligence, based upon actual investigation, would have set this matter at rest. But I am constrained to think otherwise, when I see in the Crescent of the 23d (day before yesterday), in connection with a notice of the noble effort of Mayor Bigelow, of Boston, to found a Public Library, a reflection upon what is termed "our Theological Library." I refer to this remark, not with a view to objects against it, though it certainly is unlike to encouragement, and possibly was not intended by the writer to indicate either his belief or disbelief of the extravagant and unfounded statement afloat regarding the constituents of this Library. I note it mainly, because many other persons, not really unfriendly to this scheme for the benefit of our citizens and their children, may have been startled by these statements which "Justice" enumerates and relates; and may yet remain undecided in their estimates of the value of the Public School Library to this Municipality.

These statements are, that this Library consists of the following materials *chiefly*, to wit:

1250 volumes of Presbyterian Sermons, old stuff and trash.
81 volumes of Jurisprudence—and those some of the best.
1400 volumes of Travels, selected without judgement.
3113 volumes, a good portion the writings of women; 1252 volumes of those, under the head of Belles Lettres, being novels.
1250 volumes on Science and the Arts, 612 of which are ordinary works on Mathematics.
Making 6196 volumes into condemned out of the whole catalogue of 8868 volumes.

This residuum is decidedly small, and "Justice" well remarks, that "though figures cannot lie, those who deal in them may sometimes err." This truth he abundantly illustrates by the cursory examination he gave the subject, and his publication of the results. As our "Theological Library" was deemed so superlative in its extent and resources, I have thought it worth while to look a little further into its catalogue. According to the latest one published, and the one on which the above statements were doubtless based, under the entire head of "Religion," which is more a "class" and contains much of philosophy, history, biography, travels, literature and miscellanies, that might as appropriately be classed in other departments; we have, by actual count, under 700 volumes.

This statement may cause the dependent maiden aunts of our Presbyterian friends awfully to subside, by reason of the cruel substraction it makes from their reputed stock in this concern; but it is nevertheless true. Of "sermons" alone, *they were said* to have accumulated in this Library at least 1,200, (some said 1,700,) volumes. Enough, in all conscience, to have settled long ago in that Kirk, all discussions respecting the locality of Theological Seminaries in this Western world, and brought their young men from all the colleges round about, with quickened step, and one accord, to our municipality.

By entering our Public Schools, and subscribing to our Library, they could have no further need of Columbia, New Albany, Alleghany, Princeton or Geneva. Think of it—1,700 volumes of Presbyterian Sermons!! The whole Divinity School of Harvard has only 2,000 volumes of all sorts. All "printed in New England" too; and this, in what we are gravely told is, as yet, no library at all; but according to the dominatrixes bestowed upon it, we should judge it to be a mere beginning of a speck, of a germ, of a nucleus, of an embryo, of what may some day become a library.

As these *Presbyterian Sermons* are the only ones which seem to have occasioned anxiety and alarm, I have noticed them more fully than I should otherwise have done. That there are other than such Sermons, and other than "Sermon Books," included under the first head of the catalogue, I think some extracts from an analytical table, which I have prepared, of its contents, will conclusively show. Its accuracy may be tested by the catalogue itself.

As has before been stated, much has been here grouped, that might, with equal propriety, be placed under other general heads, in part, perhaps, because written by clergymen of various denominations, and in part, because the books form parts of whole sets, such as the Englishman's Library, Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia, Coustable's Miscellany, Biblical Cabinet, Christian Family, Library etc., etc.

Well, taking in all these, many of them not written by clergymen, and many others by clergymen but treating general subjects, such as morals, Divinity, as to Science, Letters, Commerce and the proper regulation of the social relations, and we have, as before stated, under 700 volumes—say 692 volumes, by 280 writers.

Parcelling these out, among the several religious sects; which has been done, not only by the catalogue, but by a careful examination of the books themselves, and with the aid of some of the ablest Bibliothecaries and scholars in the city, we find

The Episcopalians have	225	volumes, by	120 writers.
Roman Catholics	300	" "	117 "
Unitarians	50	" "	9 "
German Divines (all sects)	41	" "	19 "
Presbyterians	50	" "	26 "
Baptists	10	" "	5 "
Universalists	32	" "	4 "
Methodists	10	" "	3 "
Congregationalists and Independents	20	" "	12 "

Quakers, Christian Fathers, Jews, Reformers, Mahometans, miscellaneous writers, and those whose denominal attachments are unknown, make up together a medium of 90 volumes by 52 writers. Perfect accuracy in these details is not pretended, but it is believed they will be found, if examined with sufficient care, substantially correct.

It is hereby readily perceived, that even if we make the term "*Presbyterian*" a generic, instead of a *specific* appellative, and include under it all gentlemen in dark clothes, at whom the dog of Lawrence Sterne's father was wont to bark, thinking them clergymen; which some, mayhap, under the influence of the maxim, "When ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise," may do. Still, the sum total of all the Theology, and all that wears the habiliments, or goes in the company of Theology, of all the denominations, from the Arkites in the time of preacher Noah, to the Latter Day Saints of Joe Smith, in and about our Lyceum and Library, will not half way fill up the capacity allowed it for Presbyterian *sermons* alone.

Reducing it to its true and generally understood signification, taking both sides of the water and "Mass achusetts," and the number of Presbyterian "sermon books" in this Library, as per catalogue, will be just about *ten*; rather less than more, for really only four volumes of these are characterized as sermons. Among these ten volumes, are counted the complete works of President Edwards, 4 volumes, (though not exclusively sermons;) the Discourses of Dr. Chalmers, 3 volumes; and those elegant specimens of English composition, the sermons of Hugh Blair.

The works of the *Catholic* and *Episcopal writers*, though more numerous, are, many of them, as "Justice" has already shown, of a valuable and standard character. Of none of them, I am persuaded, will their respective adherents be ashamed to name the defence.

The Dissenting and German authors are such as in British and Continental Libraries, would find a welcome place.

Of *Channing*, *Priestley* and *Dewey*, what scholar, possessing any taste for the vigor, flow and elegance of the English tongue, would wish to deprive such a Library?

The *Baptist*, *Methodist*, *Congregational* and *Quaker* segments present us with such "ravings and scribblings," as John Bunyan, Dowling, Foster, Robert Hall, Dr. Gregory, President Wayland, Adam Clark, Wilbur Fisk, John Wesley, John Howe, Edward Payson, Moses Stuart, Lindley Murray, and Robert Barclay, are want to utter; and concerning whom nothing is risked in saying, the opinions of those who have read them, differ essentially from the notions of those who have not.

Of the *Early Christian Fathers*, we have Eusebius, Jerome, and Justin Martyr; of the *Jews*, Whiston's translations of Jewish History by Josephus. Also, Josephus's complete works, and other writers of less note; and even the great Eastern leader in religious empire and success is represented, as in such a collection he should be, by his *Alcoran* in two volumes, translated from the original Arabic, by Gen. Sale. Indeed, I see not how a Library designed to subserve the interests of liberal learning in any respectable degree, can do without many of these very works now comprehended under the head of "Religion" in our Public School Library. My opinion, fortified by the concurring decisions of much abler judges, is, that the selections have been judicious, and that the Library merits the confidence and cooperation of all our citizens. Even the Presbyterian authors, reduced as they are by actual investigation to so small a number, and their volumes of sermons almost to exclusion, still make up in *quantity* what they lack in *quality*. Such writers as Archibald Alexander, Albert Barnes, Hugh Blair, Thos. Chalmers, Merle d'Aubigné, Jonathan Edwards, Eliphalet Nott, Keith and Sylvester Larned, are not to be had at every deposit of the offal and debris of literature. They are ornaments to any age or country that can claim them; their fame coexistence with the annals of religion, learning and civilization, and their works a desiratum in any Library.

I have heard and seen two other erroneous and injurious statements concerning this Library, one only of which shall I attempt to correct. The other, as will be seen, can take care of itself.

It has been alleged that these books have been purchased at extravagant prices; and that few, if any, have been donated.

As to the *prices* at which they have been obtained, I have not taken the pains to learn any thing, for this reason: If those gentlemen charged with the purchases did pay so much more than the books were worth, it is not only in perfect contrast with their known character for general intelligence and business ability, but, inasmuch as they themselves performed most of the labor of originating and establishing this Library, and bestowed large proportions of the necessary funds to procure it from their own purses, it becomes a rather violent presumption that they would wilfully or negligently throw waste the proceeds of the labor of their own hands. Be this as it may, however, I shall not gratuitously assume the unnecessary task of defending them. It strikes me that they stand related to this institution somewhat as the honest Dutchman did toward the village church, to the building of which he had liberally contributed. Some of the restless philosophers of the hamlet, whose claims to extraordinary research, wisdom and foresight, did not, perhaps, strike the perceptions of their worthy weight, or as forcibly as they should, conceiving that their Tabernacle was unsafe without a lightning-rod, applied to Mynheer for his subscription to buy one. To which call, he responded: "I have helped to pull a house for to Lost, and if he chooses to *dender* on it and knock it down again, he must to it at his own risk." The several committees on this Lyceum and Library have given as good reasons to believe they have performed their duties with zeal, faithfulness, perseverance and liberality; and now, if the community, for whom they have thus labored, choose to deny and defame their efforts and achievements, it is easy to see who are to be the greatest sufferers. But, as to the *donations of books*, the erroneous assertion is so positively made, and does such rank injustice, not only to the donors, but also to the recipients of their liberality, inasmuch as it places them in the attitude of ignorant and ungrateful beneficiaries; it deserves to be more directly met. Instead of *four* books having been contributed by two wealthy and public spirited gentlemen, as was asserted, I find upon inquiry that *over three hundred volumes* have been donated.

Indeed the catalogue before me shows about 300 volumes, with the names of the several donors plainly printed with the titles. I have given it but a very cursory examination, however, as to this point, and can only be certain I do not make the number too large.

Among these gentlemen, I find the names of John McDonogh, Alfred Hennen, Charles Gayarre, A. Steele, H. D. Richardson, B. F. French, Ezra Davis, H. Hughes, B. M. Norman, Erastus Everett, John Taylor, T. B. Skinner, Mr. Harris, George T. Dunbar, Alex. Baggett, N. A. Ware and the State of Massachusetts. The gifts of this last named donor, though valuable are not *extensive*. They consist mainly of works on Geology, Botany and sundry departments of Natural History. Of her supposed intellectual staple—sermons—I am compelled to say she seems to have been unmindful. We have no acknowledgements to make to her on that score.

The erroneous statements, concerning the condition and management of this Library, in the other departments, have been boldly made; but as "justice" has afforded adequate correctives, in his article above referred to, I shall not prolong this communication by any farther reference to them. He does not undertake a quantitative analysis of them, but I think the founders, subscribers and friends of the Institution, and the good citizens of the Second Municipality, may safely conclude, that if these injurious reports are only as well founded in regard to them, as they are concerning the *first class* or division of the catalogue, and the matter of *donations*, this Lyceum and Library enterprise may yet survive and be worth sustaining. The liberality of the donations in books to this undertaking, by the gentlemen above named, is apparent, not half so distinctly from the *number*, as from the *quality* of the volumes given.

Take for example, the benevements of a single one of them, John McDonogh, Esq., amounting in the aggregate to over 170 volumes. They consist of such works as Blackstone's Commentaries, 4 vols.; Park's System of the Law of Marine Insurance; Weskall's complete digest of the Theory, Laws and Practice of Insurance; Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, 8 vols.; Junius' Letters, 2 vols.; Roscoe's Leo X., 4 vols.; Historical and Philosophical Memoirs of Pius VI., 2 vols.; Plutarch's Lives, 6 vols.; The Voyages of Captain Cook, 4 vols.; Voyages of Discovery in the Southern Hemisphere, 3 vols.; Humboldt; Jefferson's Notes; Curran's Speeches; Fac Similies of Washington's Letters, 4to; Monuments of his Patriotism, being fac similies of his accounts during the Revolution, 4to; British Classics, complete in 29 vols.; Works of Blair; Robert Burns' Works, 4 vols.; Gifford's Juvenal's Satires, 2 vols.; Pope's Essay on man; Rees' Cyclopædia, (American edition,) 47 vols.; Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations, 2 vols.; etc., etc.

Other gentlemen have bestowed volumes of equal merit and just as appropriate to the object aimed at in this enterprise as these; but to enumerate further would be tedious. The catalogue and the collection itself are open to all.

The facts are, the aim is a noble, an excellent one, fraught with an amount of present and future good, which no fancy can transcend; and the measures for its achievement, and the progress already made, are worthy of all commendation. I am well persuaded that those who now speak of it so harshly and condemn it so summarily, would think very differently of the material it contains, were they better acquainted with them.

A CATHOLIC AMERICAN.

New Orleans, July 25, 1850.

*See Picayune of 17th inst., Eds. Ed.

Crimes and Casualties.

A fatal rencounter took place at Hawesville, Ky, on the 18th, resulting in the instant death of J. H. Childers, of that place, by the hand of Wm. Roberts. Childers chancing to meet Roberts made an attack upon him, whereupon the latter drew a pistol and shot him through the heart. Roberts then surrendered himself to the authorities.

Moss, the blind fiddler, well known in the small towns along the Kentucky side of the river between Madison and Cincinnati, died of cholera at Bedford, Ia., on the 16th inst.

Mrs. Kent, the popular actress, died of cholera in Cincinnati, on the 17th.

An insane man, named J. Peters, committed suicide, in Sandusky, Ohio, on the 16th.

In Vicksburg, during a storm, a Chinatree near the residence of Dr. Keep, was struck by lightning. Mrs. Keep was knocked down insensible, and a negro was instantly killed.

Mr. John Wheaton, known for years as a prominent *employee* in the house of Pierre Chouteau, Jr. & Co., of St. Louis, wandered at night, from the Planter's House, in that city, under the influence of morphene, and was found dead, nine miles in the country.

In Marshall County, Miss., a few days since, a man named Burrers shot a Mr. Harris, inflicting a severe, though perhaps not mortal wound. The Sheriff and posse attempted to arrest Burrers, in his house, when he resisted, and presented his gun at one of the posse, who immediately shot him dead.

FATAL CAMPHINE ACCIDENT.—Mr. James M. Alard was burned to death, and his