[illegible] — This Evening.

[illegible] Tremont — Macbeth — As Other [illegible]

[illegible] — The Village Doctor — The [illegible]

[illegible] — Tractical and Scientific Ex[illegible]

Auction Sales — This Day.

J. D. Bradley & Co. will sell at 10 o'clock, at 77 Chartres [illegible]

[illegible] — 22 Chartres street — [illegible]

[illegible] — This Afternoon.

[illegible] — Concert Hall, 522 Tchoupit[illegible]

[illegible] — Unity Hall, Marigny Build[illegible] at half-past 7 o'clock.

[illegible] — Davenport No. 13, at Pelican Hall, [illegible] Carondelet streets, at 7½ o'clock.

Daily Crescent.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
Of the Council of the Second Municipality.

NEW ORLEANS:

FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 24, 1851.

See first and fourth pages for a variety of interesting matter.

THE ST. CHARLES.—We learn that some persons are [illegible] to subscribe for stock, lest they should be [illegible] for the debts of the old Exchange [illegible] Hotels were the property of the present [illegible] they were used in the purchase of the [illegible] from the original owners. Besides, the present company came into existence after the [illegible] failed, and have never had any connection with it.

MASSACHUSETTS U. S. SENATOR.—On the 14th, the Massachusetts Legislature cast two ballots for U. S. Senator. The whole number of votes cast was 383; necessary to a choice, 192. The following were the results of the voting:

FIRST BALLOT.

Charles Sumner (free-soil) had	186
Robert C. Winthrop (whig)	167
Scattering	10

SECOND BALLOT.

Charles Sumner (free-soil)	186
Robert C. Winthrop (whig)	169
Julius Rockwell (democrat)	8
Scattering	4

The balloting was to be continued.

PENNSYLVANIA UNITED STATES SENATOR.—Richard Brandfoud, democrat, was on the 14th elected to the United States Senate for six years from the 4th of March next. The vote stood, Brandfoud 76; and for all others 56.

PANAMA RAILROAD.—Among the passengers in the Empire City, which sailed from New York on Friday, seventy-one in number, were Mr. John Trowbridge, who goes out as assistant engineer on the Panama Railroad. Also, Col. Baker, of Illinois, who takes charge of a body of 400 men, raised by him in the Western States, under a contract for a passage to California, at the expiration of their term of service.

"Remember Chevalier's field,
And our Chevalier,
Where with Palmetto's fury shield,
We left his bones to rot!"

Will the editor of the Charleston Mercury explain the connection between a shield and a wreck? This couplet presents two distinct images—the warrior armed for the fight, and a vessel wrecked on the rocks. This is against all the rules we were taught to regard; but we presume there is a peculiar system for Columbia.

JENNY LIND.—We are authorized to state that Jenny Lind will arrive here on or about the 5th of February, and will give her first concert in this city on the 10th, if not earlier.

THE ST. CHARLES HOTEL.—The Mobile Advertiser of Tuesday, thus closes a notice of the St. Charles Hotel: "For a short time melancholy regrets will press upon the minds of the passer-by as they revert to the grandeur and splendor of its appearance, but the masses of brick and mortar will hardly have cooled, ere ambition will move the hand of industry, and soon another palace will rear its dome and cupola, forming a cherished landmark for the wanderer returning home. This destructive conflagration will bear heavily upon the insurance offices, but, from the known staunchness of most of them, they will merely bend before the blast, to rise again with renewed energy. We Mobilians likewise took great pride in the magnificent building which now lies lowly in the ashes, and if sorrow and sincere condolence could be of any effect, it would soon loom forth again in its huge proportions, an object of affection and pride to the citizens, and of curiosity and interest to the stranger."

THE RUINS OF THE ST. CHARLES.—Dr. Hunter, with his usual promptness, has published a lithographic plate, which faithfully represents the ruins as they were the day after the burning. Workmen are busily engaged in pulling down the walls, and in a day or two more nothing will be left but the granite basement. This, fortunately, is uninjured. The fire found so little to feed it in the lower stories that it did not affect the granite.

We have been permitted, says the Selma (Ala.) Reporter of the 11th instant, to copy the following extract of a private letter of late date from a distinguished member of Congress of this State: "I am truly gratified to find that a much better feeling prevails among the Senators and Representatives from the non-slaveholding States, on the slavery question, than at the last session. They seem determined, with very few exceptions, to put down all further agitation. The Fugitive Slave Law will neither be repealed nor changed; and the President assures me personally, that he will enforce it by all the means, civil and military, at his command. If the secessionists of the South will only be prudent and cease to advocate a dissolution of the Union, all will be well. The guarantees of the Constitution will be respected and further aggression cease."

The President recognizes J. L. Roger vice Consul for the Portugal States, at Charleston.

DR. J. L. SMITH will deliver a Lecture at the Second Municipality Lyceum, this evening, commencing at 7 o'clock. The subject is the "Nature of Gases," weight, manner of collecting them, and general properties, the properties of Oxygen as an element, combustion of metals, etc., illustrated by experiments.

THE ST. CHARLES.—Notwithstanding the inclement weather, either Miss Cushman or *Mrs. Haller* attracted a large audience. There is no disputing about tastes, and people will flock to see a mean-spirited forgiving husband, and a Lady Bounty sort of an adultress. Last night a waggish fellow in the pit managed to spoil the pathos of the most sentimental scenes, by certain inkscribable noises, which made people laugh when fashion required they should weep. When Miss Cushman appears in a character worthy of herself, we shall do ourselves the honor to criticise her acting. She appears to-night as *Lady Macbeth*.

By her own genius and industry, this lady has placed herself at the head of the Tragic roll. Long may she continue to adorn the stage.

PLACIDE'S.—"The Two Dromios" and "The Old Guard of Napoleon" made people disregard the rain. The house was completely filled and the dress circle occupied by ladies. Mr. Placide's *Old French Soldier* was as fine a piece of acting as his *Grandfather Whitehead*.

DAN RICE'S CIRCUS.—The great electric light and the great Dan, continue to draw immense audiences to the pavilion opposite the Commercial Exchange. Everybody and his wife assert that the show is extensive, and that nobody should miss seeing it. The performances are varied every evening, and we have never seen audiences better pleased. Dan Rice's "pony races" are some fun.

SPALDING AND ROGERS' CIRCUS.—The "horse opera" seems to be all the rage, and the Circuses draw better than almost any other style of entertainment. The excellent performances at the Americus are nightly witnessed by large and delighted audiences. A fine bill is offered for this evening.

We invite the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Joseph Haffy, in another column. He has two establishments, one at No. 4 Chartres, and the other at No. 10 Camp street, where he offers a fine assortment of combs, brushes, guns, pistols, perfumery, and every variety of toilet articles. He is a Manufacturer of Shell Ladies' Combs, Brush, and Variety Stores, and it will be found so to the advantage of all who may think proper to avail themselves of their wants in his line.

WEEKLY EXCHANGE.—Editors, like other people, after remunerating our business thoroughfares, often feel, about lunch-time, a disposition to regale the inner man with the "goods the gods provide." Taking it for granted that such is the fact, we most cheerfully recommend to their consideration, and to the consideration of New Orleans at large, the lunches they are daily provided at that house, under the courtesy, supervision, and bland smiles of Stoppenhagen, known by that name by every good liver in the city, and by the functions, by the appellation of Stoppenings. The resort is at the corner of Tchoupitoulas and Natchez street.

BOARDMAN AND LADY MACK.—Mr. McRoberts, the owner of those celebrated northern trotting nags, is about to dispose of them by raffle; and a fine opportunity is offered to win a fine animal for a small amount of money. There are a few chances left, and the raffle will probably take place to-morrow night at the Tattersall Exchange.

THE COMMERCE OF AFRICA.—From an interesting article in the New York Colonization paper, we gather these particulars. It is written, to be sure, by one evidently an enthusiast in the cause. But the statistics cannot lie:

A few words on the productiveness of the soil. It has been proved that two crops of corn, sweet potatoes, and several other vegetables can be, and are raised in a year. They yield a larger crop than the best soils in America. One acre of rich land, well tilled, says Governor Ashmun, will produce three hundred dollars worth of indigo. Half an acre may be made to grow half a ton of arrow-root. Four acres laid out in coffee plants, will, after the third year produce a clear income of two or three hundred dollars. Half an acre of cotton trees, yielding cotton of an equal, if not superior, length and strength of staple and fineness and color than fair 'Orleans,' will clothe a whole family, and one acre of canes will make the same number independent of all the world for sugar. The dyes in particular, are found to resist both acids and light, properties which no other dyes that we do know of possess.

"In the year 1840, 39 British vessels arrived at Cape Coast. Since that time the trade has been gradually improving. The last year's report, which we have received, sets down the imports into Cape Coast as amounting to 422,170 pounds sterling, and the exports as 225,008 pounds sterling. The imports during the same period into Asia were 95,000, and the exports 115,000 pounds sterling. The total exports of British merchandize to Africa is at present estimated at 5,000,000 pounds sterling per annum.

The average import of *palm oil alone into Liverpool*, for some years past, has been at least 15,000 tons a year, valued at about 400,000 pounds sterling, and giving employment to 25,000 or 30,000 tons of shipping. The imports into the Republic of Liberia are estimated by an American (white) physician, who has spent six years there, at $120,000 per annum, and the exports as reaching very nearly the same amount. The commerce of our country with Africa is daily becoming an important item. The principal seats of this trade are Salem, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island. New York occasionally sends, while our city has at the present time 5 sails of brigs and barks actively and profitably employed. One of our merchants stated that he cleared $12,000 in one year on the single article of ground or peanuts. Strange as it may appear, nearly all these nuts are transhipped to France, where they command a ready sale, are there converted into, and thence find their way over the world in the shape of *olive oil*—the skill of the French chemists enabling them to simulate the real Lucca and Florence oil so as to deceive the nicest judges. Indeed, the oil from peanuts possesses a sweetness and delicacy not to be surpassed."

STATISTICS OF LOUISIANA.—Mr. DeBow, having been appointed under the act of the Legislature to prepare a report upon the resources and general statistics of the State of Louisiana, has issued a circular letter, addressed to the press of Louisiana, which we hope will be copied in every parish, and produce the desired results. Editors in this manner influence the collection of accurate information, and serve the cause of the State. The co-operation of citizens in general is requested:

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 22, 1851.

To the Editor: As I am engaged in collecting information with the view of preparing an elaborate work upon the resources, progress, and development of the State of Louisiana, will you aid me through the columns of your journal in making a call upon its citizens for any information it may be in their power to give, and will you aid me also in publishing in the same columns at your convenience, sending me the pieces, whatever you can collect from any source, relating to the history, progress, and resources of your parish, or the adjoining ones. Thus can be no doubt of obtaining the knowledge more fully and accurately than this, and I trust I may rely upon the interest you take in advancing our common State for a liberal co-operation. Several valuable historical and statistical works have been carried to high perfection in this way. In every neighborhood there are men familiarly acquainted with every thing that relates to it, and I should be happy to receive their notes and suggestions addressed to me in this city. Every member of the Legislature is in possession of the circular I have sent out. It embraces in all their minute divisions the following heads:

I. Settlement and History of Parish—Indian Remains.
II. Biography of Remarkable Men.
III. Topography, Geology, Natural History, etc.
IV. Agriculture, Timber, Roads, Navigation, Value of Lands, Levees, and Canals.
V. Diseases and Health—Meteorology.
VI. Population—Its Growth, Classes, Size of Towns, Labor.
VII. Education, Schools,—Proportion Educated, Expense—Churches etc.
VIII. Manufactures and Arts of Parish.
IX. Commercial Statistics.
X. General Statistics—Societies, Pauperism, Charities, Crime, Remarkable Physical Events, Climate, etc.

I also desire to obtain knowledge of any old manuscripts, public or private records, letters, journals, rare old books, files of newspapers relating to the State. I will most cordially acknowledge in the work the aid I may obtain.

J. D. B. DeBow.

Will the Columbia Telegraph, when it copies an editorial from the Crescent, give the proper credit? We do not suppose the Delta is at all flattered by the improper credit.

WHAT AUSTRIA THINKS OF THE UNITED STATES.—A correspondent of the Boston Transcript states that, in Austria, considerable exultation is felt among the absolutists, at what they consider the approaching dissolution of this confederacy. The difficulties in reference to slavery have been greatly exaggerated there, and every believer in the "divine right of Kings" fancies the Union is about to fall to pieces. This fact forcibly exhibits the joy that would be felt abroad, if any disaster should happen to the American republic; and the knowledge of it ought to increase the reverence with which we should cling to our national constitution.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE OFFICERS.—The Legislature on a formal ballot elected the following State officers: Secretary of State—Amasa Walker, free soil, 230; William P. Calhoun, whig, 181. State Treasurer—Charles B. Hale, democrat, 230; Ebenezer Bradbury, whig, 183. Walker, free soil, and Hale, democrat, are elected.

THE NIAGARA SMUGGLING CASE.—Joseph Dolliver, who was arrested on the 13th instant, on a charge of smuggling on board the steamship Niagara, has given bail for $600, and been set at liberty. He says he was only doing a job for a man who wanted himself and baggage taken off in his boat.

FROM VENEZUELA.—The brig Swan, at Philadelphia, brings dates from Porto Cabello to the 22d ult. Up to that time the country was very quiet, but nothing was known with regard to the Presidential election. Congress was to meet in the latter part of January, at which time the matter would be determined.

DEATH OF A NEW YORK MERCHANT.—Robert Ainslie, Esq., a highly respectable merchant of New York city, and President of the North American Insurance Company, died on the 14th inst. He was 73 years old.

NEW STEAMBOAT IN THE LAFOURCHE TRADE The Doctor Bayley, Capt. W. C. Wilson, has just arrived at Thibodauville. She is represented by the Minerva as truly a model boat.

SCARCITY OF SILVER.—In the House of Representatives, on the 13th inst., a resolution offered by Mr. Chandler, of Philadelphia, was passed in the following form:

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reducing the value of the silver coin of the United States by diminishing their weight, or of increasing the proportion of alloy in the same, or both, so as to prevent their exportation; and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

FATAL RENCOUNTER.—A rencounter took place at Holly Springs, on the 17th, between a man named Byers, from Tennessee, and Mr. N. W. Burns, carriage maker, of that place, in which the latter was killed by a shot in the head and face.

THE OHIO RIVER.—The Louisville Journal of the 14th says:

The river had fallen two inches in the 24 hours ending last evening, leaving five feet seven inches water in the canal. All the New Orleans boats that have passed through the canal since Sunday, have had to lighten. The Wm. Noble, from Cincinnati, with a heavy cargo, has laid up here till the river rises. The New Orleans, bound from Cincinnati to New Orleans, has been aground several days on Vevay bar.

THE TOBACCO TRADE.—The Baltimore American estimates the crop of 1850 at 116,000 hogsheads, being less than two-thirds of an average crop.

Arrival of vessels at Wilmington, N. C., from foreign ports for 1850, 93; coastwise, 687.

The Central Committee will not accept articles for the London Industrial Exhibition after February first.

Signorina Parodi intends giving a grand concert at Tripler Hall, New York, in aid of the refugees in that city from Italy. She is an exile herself.

IMPORTATION OF DRY GOODS IN NEW YORK.—1849, $45,514,775; 1850, $58,329,823. Increase in 1850, $13,815,068.

Supreme Court of Louisiana.

A PRACTICAL EXPOSITION OF THE ATTACHMENT LAWS.

STOCKTON vs. HARRISON...*Downey, tenant in possession.*

1. It results from the attachment laws, that in cases in which there is no garnishment, the actual seizure of the property of the debtor, is alone the basis of the attachment, and of the jurisdiction of this court.

2. The Sheriff must not only take charge of, and keep possession of the property attached, but he must make his return in writing, stating the manner in which he has executed the writ of attachment.

3. The use of the word *attach* in the Sheriff's return is no compliance with the commands of the writ of the law. It is the duty of the Sheriff in his return to give his doings under the writ, so that the Court can judge of their sufficiency, and whether they created a valid attachment, on which judgment can be rendered.

4. Every return ought to answer the point of the writ, and the whole writ. It ought to be certain to every intent, according to a reasonable intendment and construction. It must state the facts truly, and must not be argumentative.

5. To make a valid seizure of tangible property under a *fieri facias*, the thing levied upon must be taken possession of by the officer.

Suit for Two Lots of Ground—The plaintiff alleges he brought two suits, by attachment, against one Craddock, for five lots of ground, including the two now sued for; and that he recorded the attachments and Sheriff's returns in the mortgage office, etc., and after due proceedings had, judgment was rendered against Craddock, with privilege on the property attached and costs; and that under execution issued thereon, all the property thus attached, except the lots now claimed, was seized and sold, leaving a balance of his judgment still unsatisfied. During this litigation, Downey, he alleges, had illegally possessed himself of these two lots. Downey was required to surrender, and filed his answer, admitting possession, but avers he held under Harrison.

Harrison claims the property in virtue of a sale made under a mortgage by Hall, the proper owner, in 1839, and Sarah Connelly became the purchaser, in 1841; they were resold (Sarah Connelly not complying,) and Biggs purchased, who sold to the defendant. The plaintiff traces his title back to Hall, under whom both parties claim. There was judgment for defendant, and plaintiff appealed.

EUSTIS, Ch. J., delivered the opinion of the Court. "The defendant stands before us as a *bona fide* purchaser, without notice, unless he can be held to constructive notice, resulting from the plaintiff's attachment."

The objection has been made that there was no attachment of the lots, and that this is apparent from the Sheriff's return, which is the only evidence, except the judgments in the suits on which the legality and validity of the attachments can be tested. The judgments, to the satisfaction of which the plaintiff seeks to subject the property in dispute, were rendered against Craddock [in the attachment suits] with privilege on the property attached. The copies offered in evidence do not give their date, nor is there any evidence to fix the day on which they were rendered. The plaintiff has not shown that the judgments were rendered previously to the Sheriff's sale to Sarah Connelly, which was made on the 13th October, 1841, which he was bound to do, to enable himself to derive any advantage from the judgments adversely to the defendant. An examination of the originals has relieved us from any consequences resulting from this view of the facts. They both bear date the 7th February, 1842, so that the plaintiff's case rests solely on the effects of the attachments as established by the *return of the Sheriff*. The defendant and those under whom he claims, were neither parties nor privies to the judgments.

By the writs of attachment the Sheriff is commanded to *seize* and attach, according to law, and to take into his possession, the goods and chattels, lands and tenements, rights, moneys and effects, and credits, of the said J. N. Craddock, etc.; and to make return of these writs, and endorse thereon the manner he will have executed them. The only compliance with this precept appears by the Sheriff's return. On each the writ states that "he received the writs and attached the following described property, pointed out by the plaintiff, to wit: a certain lot of ground, etc." The lots in dispute are included among those described, and the return concludes: "Served notice of this attachment on P. Landreaux, Esq., Recorder of Mortgages, and as herein stated, the defendant residing out of the State of Louisiana; and posted citation and attachment to the door of the church of St. Louis, of New Orleans, in New Orleans; and to that of the room in which this court is held; and executed this writ in all things as the law directs. Returned February 15, 1841."

It does not appear that the lots in dispute were vacant and unimproved; on the contrary, the return states that they were attached, with the buildings and improvements thereon; and it appears that they were pointed out to the Sheriff by the plaintiff; and from the whole complexion of the return, it does not appear to have been made unadvisedly, nor that its defects were matters of mere neglect on the part of the officer. Why was not of the attachment served on the Recorder of Mortgages? So unusual a mode of serving an attachment could only have been done under the order of a vigilant superintendence. In this return we find a complete omission to comply with the requisitions of the writ, so far as relates to the property attached; and it has every appearance of an attempt to avoid the responsibility of a disturbance of the possession of the defendant, the consequences of which would be thrown on the plaintiff, and his security on the attachment bond. By the return it does not appear that any *seizure* of the lots was made, or that any change of possession, real or symbolical, was even attempted; no notice was given to the tenants *to attorn*, no act of custody or possession was done in relation to the property by the Sheriff, or any one for him. Under this state of facts, and previous to the rendition of the judgments, the sale to Sarah Connelly was made, under which the defendant holds; and the question is presented whether there was, in fact, any attachment of the lots in dispute, at the time of this sale."

"It clearly results from our attachment laws, that in cases in which there is no garnishment, the actual seizure of the property of the debtor is alone the basis of the attachment, and of the jurisdiction of this court. Code of Practice, Art. 235, et seq. 256 and 257.

The Sheriff must not only take charge of and keep possession of the property attached, but he must make his return in writing, stating the manner in which he has executed the writ of attachment. If the attachment was wrongfully obtained, the debtor is to be indemnified for the unlawful seizure of his property in the bond given by the plaintiff. The requisition of the bond by the law presupposes the injury to the debtor by the seizure of his property, and provides for his indemnity against it. The return does not state the manner in which the writ was executed, which the writ itself, as well as the law, commanded the Sheriff to state. The use of the word *attach* in the return, is no compliance with this requisition. It was the duty of the Sheriff in his return, to give his doings under the writ, so that the Court could judge of their sufficiency, and whether they created a valid attachment, on which the Court was authorized to proceed to judgment in the case. The conclusion of the Sheriff that he attached is not to be heeded, as he is not the judge of the fact."

"The Sheriff's return is defined to be nothing else than the answer of the Sheriff touching that which he is commanded to do by the writ, and its effect is to inform the Court of the truth of the thing. Dalton, who gives this definition in his Writ on Sheriffs, page 162, remarks that the return is the most difficult thing belonging to the Sheriff's office; for the Sheriff must be very careful and circumspect in making these returns according to law, both for substance and form, otherwise he shall not only endanger himself to be amerced and sued for the same, but he shall endamage the parties and may hazard the suit itself. Every return ought to answer the point of the writ and the whole writ. It ought to be certain to every intent, according to a reasonable intentment and construction. It must state the facts truly and must not be argumentative. Gwinne on Sheriffs, 453. Sawell on Sheriffs, 386

A return, in which the Sheriff stated his opinion of the law, of a constructive custody, was quashed and not allowed to be amended. Sewell on Sheriffs, 386.

We do not think that the conclusion to the return, "and executed this writ in all things as the law directs," remedies the defects in the body of the return. It gives the opinion of the Sheriff in general terms on his own acts, and is liable to the objections made to the other parts of the return.

We have held in several cases, that to make a valid seizure of tangible property under a fieri facias, the thing levied upon must be taken possession of by the officer. Flecker vs. Bullard, 2 Annual Rep. 338; idem 492, idem. 785, idem. 910. Gaines vs. Merchants' Bank, 4 Annual Rep. 371.

We therefore conclude that the proceedings under the writ of attachment in relation to these lots constituted no impediment whatever to their being sold at the instance of the mortgage creditor, and that the plaintiff has no right by reason of the attachment to call in question the validity of the title under which the defendant claims.

We have always held the proceedings under our foreign attachment laws as matters *strictí juris*. We think the action of our Court can only be based on the presence of the property of the debtor within its jurisdiction, subjected to its process by garnishment, or a real taking into possession; that it would not be proper or lawful to admit a mere fictitious and constructive seizure of the property of the debtor to be the foundation of judicial proceedings against him."

SNAGS IN THE MISSISSIPPI.—A writer in the Louisville Journal, who has given the subject much examination, states that in the Mississippi River, between Cairo and New Orleans, there are at least six thousand snags, which is less than the average estimate of the pilots and steamboat captains, who are acquainted with the stream. The number of steamboats passing daily by every point between the two places named, will, it is said, average nearly twenty—each boat, with the freight is valued at over $40,000—making in all over half a million of dollars. The crews and passengers exceed a thousand. So it is shown that the obstructions in the navigation referred to, daily imperil half a million of dollars worth of property, and the lives of a thousand persons.

THE NIAGARA.—The bonds given by the agent of this steamship, at Boston, to release her, amounted to $275,000.

Congress.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14, 1851.

SENATE.—The chair laid before the Senate a communication from the executive committee of the Industrial Exhibition to be held in London in June, 1851, stating what has been done to enable citizens of the United States to exhibit articles at the same, and asking that provision may be made for agents to represent the interests of the United States at the Fair. Referred to the committee on commerce.

Mr. Hamlin presented the petition of Thomas Ritchie, Esq., the public printer, asking the abrogation of the contract for printing, and an advance of funds.

Mr. Pearce submitted a resolution directing an inquiry into the expediency of providing by law for the payment into the Treasury of all moneys collected by military officers as duties, etc., in California, prior to December 12, 1849. Adopted.

Several other resolutions of inquiry were adopted.

Mr. Underwood moved, and the joint resolution authorizing the assignment of military land warrants was, after debate, taken up and made the special order for Friday next.

Mr. Shields called up the bill to reduce and define the boundaries of the military reservation at St. Peter's river, Minnesota, and to secure the rights of actual settlers therein, and the bill was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Jones called up the bill amending the act supplemental to the act for the admission of Iowa into the Union; the bill regulates the place of holding the U. S. Courts in Iowa, etc., and it was ordered to be engrossed.

The Senate then proceeded with the consideration of the bill to cede the public lands to the States on certain conditions, etc.

Mr. Felch concluded his speech in opposition to the bill.

Mr. Walker commenced a reply, and in support of the bill, but had not progressed far when he yielded the floor, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Hammond, of Maryland, presented a petition of one hundred persons, residing at the "Union Works," in the State of Maryland, praying for a modification of the tariff laws; which was referred, under the rule, to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, on the bill for reducing the rate of postage.

The Clerk read the first section of the bill, imposing three cents on letters not exceeding half an ounce, when pre-paid, and five cents when not pre-paid, and the amendment to the amendment, which were before the committee.

Before the question on either of these propositions was taken, it was moved that the postage on letters of the description alluded to, when carried a distance less than five hundred miles, be two cents; over five hundred miles and less than one thousand, three cents; over one thousand and not exceeding two thousand miles, five cents, and beyond that distance, ten cents; which was lost.

The question was then taken on the amendment to the amendment, which was negatived, as was the amendment of the member from Ohio.

Mr. Duer, of New York, moved an amendment to the effect that after the first of January, 1852, the rate be two and a half cents, when a suitable currency might be provided; the rate in the mean time to be three cents.

A sort of running debate here took place, interspersed with innumerable amendments, which occasionally elicited discussion. Among them was one carried, providing that no Post-office or mail route be discontinued, or Postmasters deprived of their commissions, owing to the insufficiency of the revenue of the Post-office department to sustain and pay the same.

Another, propounded by Mr. Perry, of Maine, that all letters carried a less distance than 300 miles over two cents postage, and ten cents when carried beyond that distance, to and from any place in the United States, occupied some time, and was at length negatived.

Mr. Parker, of Virginia, then moved that the postage of letters when carried within three hundred miles be three cents; beyond three hundred miles five cents, and when sent to or received from California and Oregon, ten cents.

This was opposed by the delegate from Oregon, who insisted upon a uniform operation of American laws. The motion of Mr. Parker being negatived, that made by Mr. Perry was put and also negatived.

An amendment, imposing letter posting on all circulars, and other printed matter, was then proposed and carried.

Mr. Brown, of Indiana, moved that a uniform rate of postage of five cents be established, and on drop letters two cents; that no postoffice or mail service be discontinued, that the Postmaster General establish requisite offices when required where they do not now exist, and that the compensation of no postmaster be discontinued in consequence of a decrease in the revenue.

Mr. Strong, of Pennsylvania, proposed three cents as an amendment, which he supported by able and most conclusive arguments, showing that only one-fifth of the number of letters now sent are ten cent letters, and that the proposition before the committee would not add to the circulation of what are at present five cent letters; while it would require that the ten cent letters be increased a hundred per cent. to make up the deficiency. He contended that if cheap postage is to succeed, it will be by the introduction of a uniform rate of three cents.

The question was then taken upon Mr. Strong's amendment and carried—88 to 81—and the original motion as amended was subsequently agreed to. It was then moved to add a proviso, rendering all unpaid letters liable to a postage of five cents, which was lost, there being 71 in favor of the motion, and 74 against it.

The tellers not being satisfied with their report, the House was again counted, when there appeared to be 85 in the affirmative, and 60 in the negative.

The committee then rose, and the House adjourned.

January 15, 1851.

SENATE.—Mr. Clay presented three petitions from citizens of Indiana, praying Congressional aid in the colonization of free negroes.

He also presented a memorial, numerously and most respectably signed by citizens of Rhode Island, praying the establishment of a line of steamers or of sailing packets between the United States and the coast of Africa.

He alluded to the slave trade, and the failure to suppress it effectually by means of the joint squadron of Great Britain, France and the United States, on the coast of Africa. He pointed out the immense extent of the slave trade carried on in Brazil, and to the fact that the trade was carried on mainly in American vessels. The vessels were sold in Brazil to be delivered on the coast of Africa, and by these means the slavers succeeded in getting to Africa under the American flag. Sailors were then either obliged to navigate slavers home, or remain to perish on the coast of Africa. For this he recommended as a remedy that no sea letter or authority be given to any vessel to trade between such ports and the coast of Africa.

He argued the squadron on the coast of Africa was a great expense, and the lives and health of seamen were exposed, and very little good resulted. He contended the true and only effectual remedy for the suppression of the slave trade was to colonize the whole coast of Africa, and thus cut the trade off at its threshold. He depicted the depraved condition which free negroes would ever experience in this country, and pointed to the shores of Africa as the only place where they could ever expect to enjoy a contented or happy existence.

The petitions were then referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Hale presented a petition from Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, praying the immediate repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law. He said that, after the example of others, he would comment on the petition. He pronounced the Fugitive Slave Law a reproach to the age of civilization, and a perfect parody on the Constitution.

Mr. Whitcomb moved to lay the petition on the table.

The vote was then announced as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Atchison, Bell, Benton, Borland, Bradbury, Cass, Clay, Clemens, Davis, of Miss., Dawson, Dickinson, Dodge, of Iowa, Douglas, Dawns, Felch, Foote, Gwin, Houston, Hunter, Jones, King, Mangum, Mason, Morton, Norris, Pearce, Phelps, Rhett, Rusk, Shields, Soule, Spruance, Sturgeon, Walker, Whitcomb—35.

NAYS—Messrs. Baldwin, Benton, Chase, Cooper, Davis, of Mass., Dayton, Dodge, of Wis., Ewing, Hale, Hamlin, Miller, Seward, Smith, Upham, Walker, Winthrop—16.

So the petition was laid on the table.

Mr. Pearce presented the memorial of Mr. Blackistone and others, members of the Constitutional Convention of Maryland, praying that a contract may be entered into by the Government with Wm. B. Clarke for the transportation of the mail from Baltimore and Norfolk by steamers to some port in England.

After the petitions and reports, the Senate took up the bill to cede the public lands to the States in which they lie, on certain conditions, etc.

Mr. Walker concluded his remarks in support of the bill, after which the bill was postponed, and the Senate took up the French spoliation bill. The Senate then went into executive session, and shortly after adjourned.

HOUSE.—The amendment proposed yesterday, just prior to the committee rising, that the postage on all paid letters shall be three cents, and on all unpaid letters, of less than half an ounce, five cents, and that no mail route or compensation to postmasters be discontinued in consequence of the passing of the act, came up, and was decided in the negative.

Mr. Brown, from Indiana, moved that the postage on all letters carried a distance less than 300 miles be three cents, and on all letters beyond that distance, in both cases weighing less than half an ounce, five cents, and the same for every additional half ounce; on all drop letters two cents; which was negatived, 73 to 52.

It was then proposed as an amendment that the postage under 300 miles should be three cents; over 300 miles and less than 1000, five cents; and over 1000, ten cents; which was negatived, there appearing only thirty-eight in its favor.

Several other amendments were proposed, either the same or similar to those which were voted upon yesterday, and were lost; among which was one for establishing a uniform rate of five cents, there being 60 for and 76 against it.

Mr. Potter, of Ohio, moved as an amendment, that the postage on a letter weighing less than half an ounce, and so on in proportion, be three cents; and that no post route be discontinued in consequence of the passing of the act; which was carried, 91 to 70.

The postage on newspapers was the next subject of consideration, and various amendments to the second section of the bill, were proposed and negatived; among which was one authorizing the circulation of papers of 950 square inches, throughout the United States, upon pre-payment of half the usual rate of postage. The object was to promote the circulation of papers published by religious and benevolent societies, but in favor of which only 41 members voted.

An amendment pending, that papers, when circulated in the county where published, or within thirty miles of the place of publication, be transmitted free of postage, was carried by a vote of 70 to 46.

It was also agreed, that fifty per cent of the postage on magazines and other periodicals, be remitted when postage shall have been prepaid.

The committee then rose, and the House adjourned.

The citizens of Natchez are endeavoring to raise a sufficient purse to induce Jenny Lind to give one Concert in that city on her way from New Orleans to Louisville.

A "GENTLEMAN."—We consider every man who evinces a proper regard for the rights and feelings of others, a gentleman.

For the Crescent.

It will scarcely be believed, in the face of a bare assertion, that the receipts of Flour at this point, up to this period, are several hundred thousand barrels less than at the corresponding period of last year; this, too, in the midst of a crop of wheat equally as great in amount, and as fine in quality, as that ever before produced in this country. How is the fact to be satisfactorily accounted for? Is the sole cause to be found in the superior and cheaper communication of the railroads, which Northern enterprise and capital have made to reach the most prolific portions of the great West, and confine us almost exclusively to that immediately contiguous to the Mississippi river and its tributaries? or is it partly owing to that, and to the little money which is made to circulate, but at *enormous* rates of interest, rates so *enormous* as to defy the most profitable pursuits from reaping a reward? We think, on dispassionate examination, that the evil will be found to have sprung from two causes, to wit: too much dependence on our *natural* resources of river communication, despising artificial, as railroads are called; and too little confidence in the utility of well directed banks, from which the remotest portions of the North are being effectually developed, and through the want of which New Orleans is dwindling to the dimensions of a depot, a turnpike-gate, to which the producer of the surrounding country only pays a small comparative toll or tribute. Money is as essentially the sinew of commerce as of war, and it is worse than folly to cease any high reach of success in either without a liberal use. What we mean by liberal use, are uses purely adapted to purposes of legitimate commerce, whether that commerce be in the interchange of agricultural or manufactured commodities, or in the development of all other hidden sources of wealth and prosperity. What has produced the elevation of New York to her present proud and growing eminence, but the continued great plenty of money, at small interest, at the disposal of all enterprises giving promise of salutary remuneration. Through her banks, the rate of interest is kept as low as to deter capitalists from employing their means, to any great extent, otherwise than in the pursuit of dignified trade; and hence the enterprising and intelligent, of all crafts, have the consolation of knowing that their well directed efforts will always be seconded by the necessary means, at a cost they can well afford to bear, when properly presented to the consideration of monied institutions, whose interest it is to cherish their adventurous spirit, and give him a character, but it was rather an equivocal one, and Mr. K. was required to give bonds to leave the State.

Some of the prisoners charged with stealing from the fire were remanded for the third or fourth time, and the Court then adjourned.

THE RUINS OF THE ST. CHARLES.—The portions of the walls of the St. Charles, which remained standing after the fire, are now being pulled down, and a large number of laborers are engaged removing the rubbish which has already too long blocked up the streets. The tottering walls particularly have proved a great annoyance, and very injurious to the business of those who have establishments in the vicinity.

By the way, we have seen a very neat and correct lithograph of the ruins, done by Audibert. It is worthy of notice.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT.—O. F. Bostwick was yesterday tried and found guilty in this Court on the charge of making counterfeit coin. Bostwick was arrested in the Second Municipality about four months since, and at his place in Cypress street, a considerable quantity of base metal, dies and counterfeit coin were discovered.

SERIOUS ASSAULT.—P. Donagus was yesterday examined before Recorder Genois, on the charge of attacking George Gelot with a shovel, and injuring his head to a considerable extent. The accused was sent before the First District Court for trial.

ACCIDENT.—A laborer in the employ of Herr Ryninger, the great wire-walker, while engaged in fixing the wire in Lafayette Square yesterday, fell from a height of about forty feet, and was very seriously injured. He was taken to the Hospital. In consequence of this accident, there was no wire-walking yesterday.

INQUESTS.—An inquest was yesterday held on the body of a white man, who was found floating in the New Canal. No clue to the identity of the deceased could be obtained, and a verdict of "found drowned," was rendered.

An inquest was also held on the body of a middle aged man, named Dubois Halbran, who was found dead in a house No. 200 Royal street. The deceased was very intemperate and died from a fit of apoplexy. Verdict accordingly.

BURGLARY.—Some daring scoundrels made a burglarious entrance into the Holbrook Oyster Saloon some time after two o'clock yesterday morning, by breaking a pane of glass and shaving back the bolt of one of the side-doors. They carried off two or three fancy articles which were in the window, but succeeded in getting only about $5 in money. From appearances, it is supposed that the burglars helped themselves to "half a dozen raw"—but a large quantity of the fine bivalves usually kept in the establishment have since been received, and they can be obtained with all the necessary "fixings," and in any quantity, by an early application this evening.

Arrivals at Principal Hotels....Jan. 23.

BEVERANDA....Wm McNeil, Eng; W Rankin; T A Butler, Eng; R Kennedy, Ga; R R Cox, W H Clemmons, W S Taylor, F H Kent, W H Rose, Miss; H G Smith, R E Goldsbrd, Tenn; Miss L Hatch; Mrs Hatch; Mrs Rauch; P H Haywood, Mrs Haywood, Miss Haywood, Miss Cunningham, Miss Cunningham, J Farrington, F Tom, S H Packer, J T Davis, W H Davis, Tenn; W K Cowgill, Ky; A A Williamson, W G Forster, Mr Butler, Lo; Mrs Ann Harvey, Master Harvey, T S Graham, Mo; W L Green, Ky; W H Robinson.

RANKS ARCADE....G H Walworth, K S Livingston, NO; Dr M A McLeod, W Thacher, W S Lowe, W H Gaster, NC; G H Lamson, Mass; J A Perkins, W McKay, NO; M Hamilton, St Louis;