The Daily Crescent.

FIFTEEN CENTS A WEEK. NEW ORLEANS, FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 4, 1851. VOLUME IV.—NUMBER 27.

The Daily Crescent.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
Of the Council of the Second Municipality.

Published Every Day—(Sunday Excepted)—
BY J. H. MADDOX & CO.
OFFICE.....No. 92 ST. CHARLES STREET.

TERMS OF THE CRESCENT.
DAILY—Fifteen Cents per week, payable to the carriers, or Eight Dollars per year, payable in advance—half yearly and quarterly at the same rates.
THE WEEKLY CRESCENT—Three dollars a year, payable in advance. Postmasters and others acting as agents, by sending ten dollars, will be entitled to two copies.

For the Crescent.

THE OLD HOUSE ON THE HILL.

'Tis silent and deserted now; (the Old House on the Hill)
And though its halls, once light and gay, there shrieks the night-wind shrill;
Upon the lonely hearth at even there is no blazing fire—
There is no voice to breathe a song—no hand to touch the lyre.

The trees are still as bright a green, the birds as wild and free,
Yet who in all the world doth care their greenwood haunts to see?
And who doth love to wander now within the mansion still?
And who doth cast one thought upon the Old House on the Hill?

There is not a room that doth not bear a story of its own—
There's not a spot that doth not tell of joys or sorrows flown;
Here many a heart hath learned to beat, and many a heart hath broke;
And who can tell the words of bliss the young bride here hath spoke?
And there the gray-haired sire hath knelt among his children gay,
And 'neath those old and shadowy trees the mother loved to stray.
Ah! mournful change! the halls are damp and dark and cold and chill,
And silent are the lips that cheered the Old House on the Hill.

The bell above the river stood! at midnight ye might hear
The flowing of the rapid stream, distinct and low and clear;
And when the moon rose up in heaven, beneath her placid beam
Ye might have seen the long bridge like a white path in the stream.
The mountains blue stretched far around, as far as ye might gaze—
Ye'd scarcely think they were not clouds within the evening's haze;
And far below the village lay—the bells—they're ringing still,
Thrilling the lonely listner in the Old House on the Hill.

The sweet-brier crept about the door, and with it hung the rose,
And many a bright face gathered there at evening's gentle close;
The locust boughs in shadows long across the window swept;
The window where so many an eye its anxious watch has kept.
The steps were stone, and long and wide—white as the driven snow—
In every crevice grew the moss; the soft grass lay below;
The trusty dog lay on the mat, and in the twilight still
Ye might have heard his whining from the Old House on the Hill.

At morn, before the tuneful lark lifted her wingiet flight,
Within the halls ye might have heard the step of busy feet;
And through the dark trees flitting, now across the window pane,
Ye might have seen the bright forms at their happy task again.
The moss about the rustic porch hath turned a darker green—
The spot hath passed to stranger's hands—the hand hath scattered been;
And some lie low, with folded hands upon the bosom chill,
Nor heed they, in their pleasant rest, the Old House on the Hill.

MELODIA.
Columbia, Tenn.

NEW ORLEANS, April 3, 1851.

Editors Crescent—Morn, Genia, and Amalfi, were the three important Republics in Magna Græcia, that sprang so early out of the ruins of the Roman Empire. Genia, however, has now but little trade, and but about 10,000 inhabitants, while Amalfi, which in the ninth century was the greatest mercantile community in the world, has dwindled down to an insignificant village.

Professor Fiske, in writing from Italy in 1835, speaking of the tyrannical Governments which had supplanted and withered the numerous and once prosperous Italian States and Republics, uses the following language:

"The American citizen feels a gloomy foreboding as he almost involuntarily asks, will some future traveller have occasion to record the same sad history of the lovely, prosperous, and populous cities that now stud the shores of the Atlantic, from Maine to Florida? Yes, doubtless, unless America learn wisdom from the historic lessons of the past. Like Italy, the States or sections of the Union should divide themselves into independent Governments, there will come jealousies and wars, and ruin will be in the train.

"If popular phrensy and *illegal assemblies* assume the reins of Government, then will some aspiring demagogue rise up, supplanted by the multitude, even as *they* will be flattered and pampered by him, until the foot of the conqueror is on their neck. America ought to know enough of human nature and of history, to avoid the rocks on which others have been wrecked; but how few consult the records of the past, or the dictates of reason, in these matters.

"Would that the past history and present condition of Italy could be hung up before the American citizen in all places of public resort, and especially at the polls, and in the Capitols of the States, and of the Nation. This is the most I desire from Italy. I have seen her antiquities, her statuary, her paintings, her unrivalled edifices, her picturesque scenery, her olive mountains, and her vine-covered vales; but all these, in view of the important interests I am now contemplating, are, for America, comparatively nothing. If from the deep-stained breast of her historic page, colored by the blood of her once free and intelligent sons, some vivid and striking pictures could be hung up in view of the American public, methinks it would be worth more to us, ten thousand times, than all the works of art, of which ancient and modern Italy can boast.

"And yet who thinks of this? Who of the hundreds of American travellers that visit Italy, will even imbue their own minds with these subjects, *much less carry back these important lessons to their countrymen.*" N. V.

A String of Items.

Arrangements have been made by the postoffice authorities for the transmission of a closed mail to the British West India Islands, by way of Havana, whence letters will be conveyed to their destinations by the English Mail steamers.

The Constitution lately framed for the State of New Hampshire, has been rejected by the people. We believe that this is the first instance in which such a result has happened in the United States.

Advices from Laguayra to the 24th ult., announce that the newly elected President had not succeeded in forming his Cabinet. By a decree of the Executive all the offices were deemed vacant. The coffee crop will fall below an average yield. Business was active, and the country tranquil.

The bark Gem sailed from New York on the 22d ult. for Spain, taking out as passengers Rev. R. Potter and wife, destined for the Missionary station of the American Board on the Gaboon, in Southern Africa.

Hon. James Morris, the newly appointed Post-Master General of Canada, is now in Washington, for the purpose of negotiating a postal arrangement with the Post-Master General of the United States. At present letters do not cross the line from either side unless they are prepaid.

The Boston Commonwealth, speaking of the Boston Fugitive Rescues, says that the Grand Jury has found bills of indictment against all the "rescuers" but one. Government has retained Rufus Choate in those cases. It is evident that Elizur Wright, the editor of the Commonwealth, is not the one who has escaped.

The ship Roberna, which lately ran aground near Norfolk, has been condemned, though on the 23d ult. efforts were still making to get her off. She had ten feet of water in the hold, with the tide flowing in and out. A steamer went down with pumps and empty casks. The cargo between decks has been taken out.

Capt. Perry, of the brig Patriot, arrived at New York on the 23d ult., reports a great robbery of the Government Treasury having taken place the day previous to his departure, July 8th., at Gonaives, Aux Cayes. The robbers had not been caught at last accounts.

It is understood that Major Noah has left behind him an autobiography which his sons will publish. It will, no doubt, be very interesting, for it will comprise a history of politics, and other matters for nearly half a century.

A NEW CRUSADE FOR THE RECOVERY OF THE HOLY LAND.—It is stated in a late number of the Allgemeine Zeitung that the Austrian Ultramontane party is preparing considerable difficulties for Prince Schwarzenburg, by its zeal for an object which the Christian world has abandoned—the recovery of Jerusalem and the Holy Sepulchre from the hands of the Mahometans. The purpose of the crusades is to be revived, but it is to be pursued by the way of diplomacy, not by war. It is stated that the Catholic powers, with the connivance of Austria, intend to obtain possession (it is not precisely defined how) of all the sacred spots of the Holy Land, which will be then made over to the Catholic Church. The order of the Holy Sepulchre will be raised to the importance once possessed by the Knights Templars. The Pope is to be the Grand Master, and one Prince of every Catholic State of Europe is to be created Grand Prior. Prince Schwarzenberg, it is said, is not over zealous in the cause of the Austrian Pietists, and will probably suppress the whole plan as soon as it becomes politically inconvenient.

EXTRAORDINARY PASSAGES.—The ship Jamestown, Captain Homan, which left here on the 13th of last September for California, made the run from Rio Janeiro to San Francisco in eighty days, and from the latitude of Valparaiso to San Francisco in thirty-four days; the trip from Rio to San Francisco being only seven days behind the White Squall, which made the quickest time ever accomplished between those ports, and that from Valparaiso to San Francisco, the shortest ever made. The ship Saratoga, Captain Trask, made the voyage from San Francisco to Calcutta, a distance of ten thousand miles, in the short space of sixty-eight days, which is, we believe, within three days of being the quickest trip between those ports ever made. [N. Y. Post.

FURTHER BY THE ARCTIC.

France.

SCENE IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.—We have no cause this week to complain of the uninteresting character of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of France. The motion of M. Creton, which we alluded to last week, as fixed to come on last Saturday, has given rise to one of those scenes that recalled to mind the most violent tumults which disgraced the worst days of the Convention. After an interesting debate on Friday upon granting an extraordinary credit for the maintenance of the army of occupation in Rome, and during which the Bonapartists and Legitimists came in for their due share of reproaches for employing the republican troops of France to put down republicanism in Italy, an attempt was made to postpone M. Creton's motion for three days; but, upon a division, it was determined to take the discussion on the following day, by a majority of 340 votes to 319.

The result surprised every body, and M. Thiers, with his new friends of the Mountain, who were divided upon the question, entertained hopes of bringing back the Prince de Joinville and the Comte de Paris, with a view, perhaps, to contest successfully the next Presidential election. The Legitimists, strangely enough, opposed the repeal of the laws which doomed the Bourbons to perpetual exile, under the impression that by the return of the members of the elder and younger branches to France, the Orleanists might have the advantage. In this state of parties the debate was determined upon. M. Creton moved the repeal of the law, and M. Berryer opposed it, under the shallow pretext that it would divest the exiled princes of a portion of their dignity, and lower their personal position. The Government opposed the motion. M. Thiers and M. Piscatory were the chief promoters of the measure, although they did not speak. The issue of the debate was still doubtful when M. Marc Dufraisse mounted the tribune.

This compound of the bloody Jacobins St. Just, Couthon, and Callot d'Herbois, with compressed lips, pale head, intense expression, and resolute accent, whilst a hundred doubled fists threatened him with personal vengeance, exclaimed, "that those who recommended pity were Royalists, and enemies of the Republic." A violent scene ensued; the tribune was surrounded by indignant members, all menacing the undaunted favorite commissioner of Ledru Rollin, who followed up his taunt by recalling to mind "that the grandfather of the princes, whose banishment they wanted to repeal, voted for the king's death." The Assembly shuddered, and shouted; and M. Berryer, forcing his way through the crowd, reached the tribune, and was listened to whilst he indignantly branded the sentiments of M. Dufraisse as "detestable." M. Thiers, Remusat and Piscatory felt sure of success, and that the Chamber, out of dislike to M. Dufraisse, would have voted the repeal. But no; M. Berryer stopped short, and moved that the debate should be adjourned for six months. M. Thiers and M. Piscatory became furious; they tried to avert the danger, but M. Royer, the Minister of Justice, having accepted this offer, the adjournment was carried, and the vote of the preceding day reversed. The Paris journals have been since full of descriptions of the re-appearance of the "pale ghost of Robespierre" in M. Dufraisse; and altogether the scene seems to have been more disgraceful than any which occurred even in 1848. General Narvaez was present during the whole of the proceeding. Paris is tranquil, and the populace engaged in the amusements of the Carnival.

COMMERCE OF THE LAKES.—We have received a very valuable pamphlet, prepared by G. J. L. Barton. From it we gather some facts which show the vast resources of the North-West. The crop of wheat for 1850, is estimated at fifty millions of bushels. The import and export trade of Buffalo last year, is estimated at $70,000,000 in round numbers. There were arrivals in the course of the year 8441. The tonnage was 2,713,700. The number of men employed in the navigation was 14,403.

MR. WHITNEY AND THE CANADA ROAD.—Mr. Whitney, the projector of the great Railroad to the Pacific, sailed for England in the steamer from Boston, on the 26th ult. He has been called to England to make arrangements for superintending the construction of the great Canada Railroad, and goes out for the purpose of deciding whether he will undertake it or not. The plan of the English road is to reach the Pacific at Fuca Straits, opposite Vancouver's Island, and the route is said to be quite as feasible as that proposed from Lake Michigan to Puget Sound, and the territory over which it passes is represented as being the finest wheat country in the world.

WEST POINT.—We learn from the Norfolk Courier that Brevet Major George H. Thomas, a most accomplished officer of the 3d U. S. Artillery, has been assigned to duty at West Point, as Instructor of Artillery and Cavalry Tactics in that institution, in the place of Major Shover, deceased.

THE AMERICAN CHAPEL IN ROME.—Mr. Hastings, American Chaplain in Rome, has written a statement in the New York Enquirer in reference to the reported withdrawal of the permission granted to Americans in Rome of public Protestant worship. Mr. H. says:

"The worship of the American chapel has not been suspended by the Papal authorities; that we have no reason to suppose it will be; that the stated services of the Sabbath go on as quietly and as free from annoyances of any kind whatsoever, as if held in the United States; that there is but one sentiment among the Americans in Rome upon this subject, viz: that the Papal Government has acted handsomely towards us in the toleration of our Protestant chapel within the walls, and that we are bound to see that it has the credit for it. The publicity given to the false report alluded to has been a source of much annoyance and regret to us."

BOSTON, March 26.—It is believed here that the wreck seen off Montauk was that of the packet ship Ivanhoe, which sailed from New York on the 27th February, for Liverpool. The wreck was first seen on the 25th, since which a broken oar, marked "Ivanhoe," and other things have been picked up. It has been ascertained that the Ivanhoe had oars so marked, and also four on board marked the same as that seen floating.

A THOUSANDTH ANNIVERSARY.—The Russian Government has decided that the thousandth anniversary of the foundation of the Russian Empire, which, according to the historians of that country, dates from the year 852, shall be celebrated next year with the greatest pomp in all the cities and large towns of the European an Asiatic provinces of Europe.

Philadelphia County, according to a report just presented to the Legislature, embraces an area of one hundred and twenty square miles. The thickly populated portion of the county contains sixteen and one-eighth square miles. The charter of the City of Philadelphia was granted by Wm. Penn 25th of October, 1701. The district of Southwark was erected into a municipal corporation on the 17th of April, 1794. Northern Liberties was incorporated March 28th, 1803; Moyamensing, March 24th, 1812; Spring Garden, March 22d, 1813; Kensington, March 6th, 1820; Penn, February 26th, 1844; Richmond, February 27th, 1847.

The "City" contains an area of 1402½ acres, population 121,417, dwellings 16,272; Northern Liberties, 320 acres, population 47,223, dwellings 6854; Spring Garden, 1100 acres, pop. 58,895, dwellings 9150; Kensington, 1238 acres, population 46,776, dwellings 7555; Richmond, 1163 acres, population 5840, dwellings 1025; Penn, 1198 acres, population 8839, dwellings 1302; Southwark, 5081 acres, population 38,799, dwellings 6451; Moyamensing, 1486 acres, population 26,979, dwellings 4097.

ARMS FOR CALIFORNIA.—A correspondence has been published, between Senator Gwin and Mr. Conrad, the Secretary of War, relative to the quota of arms for California. Under date of the 8th ult., Senator Gwin addressed to the Secretary a letter on the Indian warfare in which the State authorities are constantly engaged, and their inability at present to make an official return of their militia force in order to secure their quota of arms from the United States Government. The Senator then estimates the number of militia in the State at 150,000, and asks for the State's quota of arms, requesting that 300 of Colt's pistols be included among them, as being peculiarly adapted to Indian warfare.

Gen. Talcot, of the Ordinance Department, being asked his advice upon the subject, advised that the estimate was far too high, as there are only three States in the Union having so many militia. Senator Gwin then, under date of the 14th, asked for 100 of Colt's pistols, 200 muskets, and the remainder in rifles, which request the Secretary of War granted, directing the estimate of the militia in the State to be placed at 100,000.

RED RIVER NEWS, ETC.—A passenger by the steamer Fashion, which arrived here yesterday from Minden, La., which place she left on the 31st ult., gives us this running information.

When at the mouth of Boggy Bayou, we found that Red River had fallen four or five feet, and was still falling at the rate of four and a-half or five inches in twenty-four hours.

The plantations above Grand Ecore are all nearly free from water, and the planters are planting again.

Red River had fallen about six inches at Alexandria. Cotton was up and looking finely on some plantations near there. Corn also looks well on many places.

In the Grand Levee in Pointe Coupée parish, a short distance above Bayou Sara, two large crevasses have occurred, and it is believed that they cannot be stopped until the Mississippi falls. The lower of these crevasses is sixty or seventy yards wide, and admits the water in fearful volume. Every thing was in a state of confusion near these crevasses. Many persons were vacating their homes and moving to dry land in skiffs, etc.

SOLON ROBINSON, ESQ. — "Uncle Solon," still "bearded like the pard" — his long, flowing, white beard making him known every where and to every body, was at Augusta, Ga., on the 29th ult., having just returned from a trip into the interior of the State.

FROM PORTO CABELLO. — Dates from Porto Cabello to February 26, have been received at the North. Freights to the United States scarce; from 35 to 40 cents per bag for coffee, and 11 cents for hides.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The Honolulu Friend of January 9, says: "We rejoice that on the opening of a new year, there is some thing new in Honolulu. We have a new market, new reservoir and aqueduct, new town clock, new stores, new houses, new wharves, new fences, new names to our streets, new people, and a new Athæneum; before the year 1851 shall close, we hope to be able to report that many other new and desirable improvements and changes have been made.

A RARE YOUTH.—There is a youth exhibiting at Hingham, Mass., nineteen years old, who stands nearly eight feet high, and is still growing. The Hingham Journal says his shoes are sixteen inches long, and his cap as big round as a Hingham bucket. Seven years ago, when he was twelve years old, he was known and noted as a dwarf, he was then but three feet high, and weighed only thirty-four pounds. Since that time he has grown eight inches a year on an average, and has not done yet. He now weighs four hundred pounds, and has strength in proportion.

LIGHT DUES ON UNITED STATES SHIPPING IN ENGLAND.—Mr. Abbott Lawrence and Lord Palmerston have had a correspondence on the subject of the light dues exacted of American vessels entering the ports of the United Kingdom. Mr. Lawrence says, that these dues conflict with the principles of the reciprocity treaty of 1815, and the recent repeal of the Navigation Laws, and hopes, as the United States imposes no such charges, the Government of Great Britain will extend the same freedom to the commerce of the Republic. Lord Palmerston replies, that the treaty and laws in question, do not apply to the subject, and that the Ministry have not entire control of the matter, as many of the charges are imposed by local and municipal authorities. At the same time, he promises to refer the question to the proper department, to see what may done in the premises.

Judge Burnside, of Philadelphia, died in that city on the night of the 25th ult. In both public and private relations, he has always sustained a virtuous and honorable position. He served in the Pennsylvania Legislature with distinction and usefulness, and on the bench, both as the President Judge of a District and an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. He was in his sixty-eighth year.

LIFE-SIZE DAGUERREOTYPES.—Art seems to be approaching this result gradually. A NewYork editor, on the 26th, makes mention of having been shown a head which measured seven inches in length, and in which, notwithstanding its size, the lights and shades were as minute and softly-toned, as in a picture of smaller size.

EXTRAORDINARY AFFAIR.—J. P. Wyman and James Walker, of Woburn, Mass., have visited Newcastle, Me., for the purpose of prosecuting Capt. Farley Hopkins, of ship Powhatan, for deserting them about the 20th of November, on the Mexican shore, several hundred miles north of Panama. The ship having got out of provisions Mr. Kellogg, of Connecticut, and ten passengers, went ashore in a boat to procure them, whereupon, as the men allege, Capt. Hopkins weighed anchor and stood away. After waiting six days, the party started overland for Vera Cruz, which they reached after losing four men by death.

Loss of the Steamer Lowell.

A dispatch from Pittsburg, in the Baltimore papers, gives full details of the loss of the steamboat Lowell, by collision with the Vinton, near Catina Island, below Wheeling, at half-past 10 o'clock on the night of the 24th ult. The night was very dark, and as soon as the pilots of the boats perceived each other, the bells were tapped; but through some unfortunate mistake or accident, the Lowell ran across the bow of the Vinton, which struck her aft of her boiler.

The force of the collision was so tremendous, and the Vinton being a large boat carrying about 900 tons, and having probably the strongest hull of any boat on the river, that the Lowell sunk in about thirty seconds after the collision, the cabin parting from the hull and left floating. The cabin passengers and the crew escaped (many of them in their night clothes) to the top of the hurricane deck.

The first engineer, two firemen and twelve deck passengers were drowned. The names of the firemen and deck passengers are unknown, they having been taken on board at Pittsburg, and the clerk not having entered their names on the register. A large family, consisting of a man, his wife and children, from Bedford, Pa., on their way West, were among those who perished.

The captain of the Vinton immediately ordered that the boat be stopped, and towed the wreck of the Lowell's cabin to the shore, where every thing that could contribute to the comfort of those saved was done.

Joseph B. McKeown, the first engineer, who was drowned, leaves a wife and seven children, residing in Allegheny.

The hull of the boat lies in about thirty feet water. The engines will be saved, also the cabin furniture and a portion of the dry goods, though in a damaged state.

CONSTRUCTIVE MILEAGE.—The decision of Mr. Whittlesey, Comptroller of the Treasury, rejecting certain payments of mileage at a special session of the Senate, having been published, the Washington Union, by request of the Secretary of the Senate, publishes the official opinion given by Mr. Reverdy Johnson, when Attorney-General. In that opinion, (which fills nearly six columns of the Union,) the law officer of the Government denied the authority claimed by the Comptroller over the subject, and sustained the legality of the payments.

Touching this opinion and recent disputes of a grave character about the propriety or legality of U. S. Senators drawing special mileage, the Union says:

"Since this opinion was given, Congress has, by provision of law, made the certificate of the presiding officers of the two houses conclusive upon all the departments of the government; and it has also properly put an end to the allowance of similar mileage at special sessions of the Senate after the 3d of March, 1853, and consequently the questions involved in this discussion will no longer exist."

NAVAL.—Dr. Samuel Barrington has been appointed to the Navy Yard, Gosport, to succeed Dr. Solomon Sharp, who is waiting orders....The U. S. sloop-of-war Vandalia, Com. W. H. Gardner, was at Guayaquil, (Pacific coast,) December 9th, for San Francisco....The U. S. sloop-of-war Saratoga, Com. W. S. Walker, sailed from Cape Town, C. G. H., on the 2d ult., for China.

ANOTHER COMPLIMENT TO AMERICAN SKILL.—It is announced in the Philadelphia papers that Amin Bey, the Turkish Envoy, has engaged the inventor of the machine in operation at the Washington Navy Yard, for the manufacture of percussian caps, to accompany him to Turkey, to exhibit its operations to the Sultan.

The new Constitution of Ohio contains among its features the non-imprisonment for debt principle; the right to vote and hold office is confined to white persons; the Legislature is elected and meets biennially; no State debt exceeding $750,000 can be contracted; corporations must be chartered under general laws, and the next Legislature shall appoint three Commissioners, who, under the general supervision of the Legislature, shall proceed to "revise," reform, simplify and abridge the practice, pleadings, forms and proceedings of the Courts of Record of the State; and as far as practicable and expedient, shall provide for the abolition of the distinct forms of action at law now in use, and for the administration of justice by a uniform mode of proceeding, without reference to any distinction between law and equity."

The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser states that there is every probability of a riot on an extensive scale, on the lines of the Conhocton and Hornellsville and Attica railroads and Genesee Valley canal. Great numbers of Irish, some 5000 or 6000 in all, it is said, are concentrated in that region, armed with deadly weapons, and are ready and willing to use them against each other. The cause of the ill-feeling among them is, not that some of them are Catholics and some Protestants—but that all of them were not born in the same township, and therefore they array in deadly hate, province against province, county against county, and town against town, just as they sometimes do at home. It is affirmed by those well informed, that there will be a collision between the "Corks" and "Connaughts" in a few days.

DINNER TO MR. WEBSTER, AT ANNAPOLIS, THE CAPITAL OF MARYLAND.—The friends of the Union, attending the Reform Convention, lately gave Mr. Webster a dinner as a mark of their approval of his course on the Compromise. His speech is reported in full in the Baltimore papers. It is marked by the peculiarities of his style, and breathes that devotion to the Union which has been the marked feature of his public life.

OPELOUSAS RAILROAD.—The Red River Republican of the 29th, says that the project of building a railroad between Opelousas and New Orleans, is attracting a large share of public attention. Not only are the people of the lower parishes, who are principally interested in the road, energetically exerting themselves to carry through the project, but men of capital and enterprise in New Orleans give it their coun tenance and favor. The road, if made, is, it seems to us, bound to be profitable and useful. The country through which it is to run is rich and fertile, and produces large and valuable crops. The difficulty of getting its produce to market has, however, been a great drawback upon that section of the State. Not only will the road benefit the country through which it is proposed to carry it, but it will be of great advantage to the western portion of Louisiana beyond it, and to the adjoining counties in the State of Texas. We trust that the enterprise will be successfully carried through, with as little delay as possible.

THREE CENT PIECES.—These are going to be the most convenient coinage for small change that we can possibly have. They will be the death of the copper currency. The following statement will show how easily change can be made with them—for payment of three, six, five and ten cents, the existing and proposed silver coins would naturally be used. For nine cents give three cent coins; for eight cents, a five and a three; for one cent give two threes and take a five, or give a dime and take three threes.

EXTENSIVE FORGERY AT NASHVILLE.—Mr. Wesley Wheeler, broker, in Nashville, paid out on the 25th ult., $4920 on a genuine draft, with a forged endorsement. The draft was drawn by W. T. Partee & Co., of New Orleans, on J. L. Maghee & Co., of New York, payable to J. J. Hodge & Co., Nashville. The letter containing the draft, was taken out of the postoffice by one J. J. Hodge, formerly of Wheeling, but recently resident at Nashville as a blacksmith. He forged the endorsement, obtained the money, and cleared for parts unknown.

Pursuit and Escape of the Swindler Hodge.—On the night of the 24th, a party in search of the swindler Hodge, came up with him about two miles out on the Knoxlingsville turnpike. He was on horseback. Several shots were exchanged in quick succession. He escaped, however, leaving his horse and hat. Seven or eight hundred persons are in pursuit of him. Two thousand one hundred dollars of the money had been found secreted in his house—the money being endorsed W. Whiless, banking-house, Nashville. Five hundred dollars reward is offered for his apprehension.

THE EFFECT OF GOOD LEVEES.—Now that the water in 'Old Red" is receding, the editor of the Red River Republican, Alexandria, La., finds breathing time enough to congratulate the people of Rapides on the immense amount of property they have saved by the stability of their Levees. On the 29th, he says:

"The river has fallen about sixteen inches, and in a few days will be within its banks. The last accounts from above report that it was falling rapidly. The effect of good levees has been seen here, and they are consequently more appreciated than ever. Many who doubted the practicability of leveeing in old Red, are satisfied that it can be done easily. The levee in front of town, though a large portion of it was new, has resisted a very heavy pressure of water, and incomplete as it was, could, many suppose, have stood a rise of a foot more, which would have brought it to the height of the flood of 1849. The lands back of town, on Bayou Robert and Bayou Beuff, have had the advantage of the town levee to them fully tested. Though several plantations have been more or less covered with water, coming in on them from breaks below, the extent of the damage they have received is very small indeed, to what it would have been, had they had the water from a break in our levee let in upon them."

THE FRANCHISE IN NOVA SCOTIA.—A bill has passed the Nova Scotia House of Assembly, which qualifies every male inhabitant over twenty-one years of age, to vote for members of the Legislature. This will enfranchise one-fourth of the population, who could never vote before.

Accounts from Switzerland state that Mazzini has taken up his residence at Lausanne, and is zealously engaged in circulating Liberal documents.

A convention has been signed between France and Spain for the mutual delivering up of criminals accused of crimes against person or property, embracing all serious offences, but exempting political crimes and offences.

RULE FOR FARMERS.—A "quarter of wheat" is an English measure of eight standard bushels—so if you see wheat quoted at 56 shillings, it is 7 shillings a bushel. A shilling is 22½ cents; multiply by 7, and you will have $1 57½ per bushel.

Captain Joel Small, after a short but severe illness, died St. Louis, on Wednesday, the 26th ult. He was aged thirty-five years and ten months.

The Boston Museum on American Diplomacy.

This Journal, of the 18th January, undertakes the very difficult task of imparting instruction to its readers, in relation to the history and character of our system of diplomacy. It has ventured upon a comparison of the past, with the present condition of that important branch of the public service. This duty required correct information on the subject, and a spirit of candor, which would render justice to the eminent men who have represented our nation in foreign countries.

It has classified the periods of our diplomacy; the first, during the Revolution; the second, up to the close of the late war with Great Britain; and the third, subsequent to 1815. Franklin, Jay, Adams, and Jefferson, are justly regarded by the Museum, as having elevated the national character abroad, by their skilful negotiations. In the second period, Rufus King, Gov. Morris, William Pinkney, J. Q. Adams, James Monroe, Jonathan Russell, Richard Rush, Albert Gallatin, and Henry Clay, are regarded by the Museum, as "among our leading diplomatists of the second generation of American great men." To this catalogue Robt. R. Livingston, who was associated with Mr. Monroe in the purchase of Louisiana, may be added, and, also, Gen. Armstrong, Wm. H. Crawford, John Marshall, Elbridge Gerry, and Oliver Ellsworth, and the two Pinckneys, of South Carolina.

The Museum asserts, that since the peace of 1815, our diplomacy has been steadily on the decline—"rarely has it happened that we have sent a first class man abroad." "That there have been able men employed in our diplomacy since 1815, we do not deny. Gen. Cass in France, and Mr. Van Buren in England, show that we have had some first rate men in Europe." "Of those who now represent the country abroad, we know not one who has a high reputation as a diplomatist, no matter how clever they may be in other respects. If Mr. Rives should be mentioned as an exception to this remark, it should be recollected that he came very near involving the country in a war with France about a paltry sum of money." The readers of the Museum, who have attended to the subject, could supply the editors with the names of other distinguished men in the diplomatic service since 1815—Rufus King, Albert Gallatin, J. Q. Adams, Edward Livingston, James Brown, Louis McLane, Edward Everett, Washington Irving, and Henry Wheaton, have added as much lustre to our diplomatic annals, as the career of Gen. Cass, whose labors in regard to the right of search, entitle him to the lasting gratitude of his country; or of Mr. Van Buren, whose brief period at London, did not afford scope for the display of his acknowledged ability.

But the wit of the Museum is exercised particularly in relation to the mission to Russia, which, it says, "has been a mill in which broken down politicians have been ground over, and either soothed or made as good as new. The Hon. Mr. Snooks has rendered some service to government, and he is forthwith appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. Petersburg. He pockets the nine thousand dollars outfit, proceeds to Russia, is introduced to the handsome Czar, who forthwith converts him from a radical to an absolutist—that is from a spoon to a snob—lives for six or eight months in the frozen capital at the imminent risk of his nose—draws for his *first year's* salary at the earliest moment when the rates of exchange are in favor of such an operation paying—comes home, takes his infit, ($4,500,) and in less than a year is living on his farm or plantation again, having cleared some fifteen thousand dollars by the "transaction," and ready to afford the country the benefit of his extensive experience in the diplomatic line. This is no caricature, but a picture of a rather subdued character than otherwise. There are a dozen men now living in this country, who have been Ministers to Russia since 1828. The only one of the number who ever staid at the post for any length of time was thrown from his horse five times in one day, at a review, being once for each year of his residence in St. Petersburg—which disgrace undoubtedly befell him from his negligence of a good old custom. His successors have not seen fit to imitate his example. If it be true that the severity of the climate is the cause of our Ministers not being able to stay longer in the Russian Capital, it would seem that we have almost a direct interest in the realization of the Muscovite dream of the transfer of the imperial residence, from the banks of the Neva to the shores of the Bosphorus."

These remarks, upon the frequency with which changes have been made at St. Petersburg since 1828, are essentially correct, except in the amount of the *infit*, which is only a quarter's salary, or $2,250; and the number of Ministers now living is only *nine*, instead of twelve. The rapid changes at that Court has secured for that Mission the name of the *Russian Job*. The eloquent and eccentric Mr. Randolph remained at St. Petersburg twenty-five days in 1829—spent the winter in London, and returned to the United States in the spring; Mr. Buchanan continued from 1830 to '32; Mr. Wilkins, from '33 to '34; Mr. Dallas, from '36 to '38; (has the Museum forgotten that these statesmen are of the first class?) Mr. Cambreleng remained a year up to 1841; Mr. Ingersoll spent a year; Mr. Bagby less than a year. It may not be impertinent to remark, that all of these Ex-Ministers are of the democratic party, and requested their recall; and, if the criticisms of the Museum are just, in the first part of the paragraph, *Col. Todd*, who was the Minister from 1841 to 1845, was entitled to receive credit for having continued at his post, instead of following the example of his predecessors, in making a job of the mission. So far from rendering him this act of justice, a stale slander, as to his having been thrown from his horse five times in one day, at a military review, is introduced, to neutralize the effect of his remaining there, and thus constituting an exception to the general criticism on that mission.

The incident referred to by the Museum, in such garbled terms, was the subject of commendation at the time by the Emperor, for instead of being thrown by the horse, *Col. Todd threw the horse*, and escaped without injury, in a manner which established his horsemanship. The story, magnified five-fold in crossing the ocean, was contradicted at the time upon competent authority by the press in New York and Philadelphia, and the wit of the Museum is therefore as stale as the slander upon a Minister, who, having served with distinction throughout the second war of independence as the bosom friend and associate in arms of the lamented Harrison, and having conducted with acknowledged fidelity, a hazardous and important mission to South America, under President Monroe, had the diplomatic ability in the mission to Russia, to which the Museum refers in such terms of disparagement, to win the approbation, officially expressed, of that eminent diplomatist, Daniel Webster, and to acquire the esteem of the Imperial Government to which he was deputed. His military character afforded better access to the Emperor, and to his chief officers, which it is known Col. Todd improved by securing increased respect for the character and institutions of his country, and by advancing the interests of his countrymen who were extending their enterprises into that vast Empire. He received the unprecedented compliment of being made a member of the Imperial Agricultural Society, and was awarded a gold medal for his valuable contributions. His recall in the midst of the usefulness, resulting from his knowledge of the French language, and from his general acquaintance with the members of the Government, not less than from the efforts of his vigorous pen, was a matter of regret in both countries, and violated the principles attempted to be inculcated by the article in the Museum. The hope may be indulged that the next essay of that print on "American Diplomacy," will display a better knowledge of the subject, and discard the wit that feeds only upon a silly rumor, designed to detract from the merits of a gallant and distinguished citizen.

A NATIVE OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY.

RIVERS—*The Ohio.*—The Louisville Journal of the 26th says:

"The river had fallen an inch or two in the 24 hours ending last evening. There were 9 feet 10 inches water in the canal. The river is falling quite rapidly here, but a rise in the Kentucky counteracts a similar fall here."

CINCINNATI, March 25.

The river has fallen 5 inches. The weather is fine.

PADUCAH, March 25, 7 P. M.

The Ohio and Tennessee rivers have been nearly stationary for the last four days, and are now on a stand. The weather has been very pleasant for the past few days, but to-night there are slight indications of rain.

The Cumberland.—At Nashville, on the 27th, the river was falling slowly, with 6 feet 6 inches on the shoals.

The Mississippi.—The Memphis Enquirer of the 28th says:

"The river at this point continues falling slowly, it having receded some seven or eight inches in 24 hours up to 6 P. M. yesterday."

At St. Louis, on the 25th, the river was at a stand.

At Memphis, on the 29th, the river was 10 feet below high-water mark, and falling slowly.

Red River.—The Madison Journal of the 25th says: "The water continues to rise slowly. Many plantations, nearly all on Tensas, are more or less injured."

BRAZIL.—Files of the Jornal do Commercio, from Rio, up to January 25, give us the following items, which we had not by last arrival:

"The British armed steamer Sharp Shooter, from Bahia on the 13th January, had brought notice that the commander of the steamer Cormorant had notified the President of the Province that five vessels lately arrived at Bahia from Portugal were intended for the slave trade, and ought to be seized by the Brazilian authorities. The President, Sr. Gonzales Martins, on inquiry, differed from this opinion, and the matter remained undecided for the present, neither party being inclined to recede.

"An arrival from Buenos Ayres up to January 9, brought a notice of the execution of twenty individuals taken from the prisons of Santos Lugares, by order of Rosas, at his residence in Palermo. Rosas had postponed his message to the Legislature. The period of adjournment was not decided. Gen. Urguiza remained inactive at Entre Rios and Rosas was stated to be making preparations for war.

NEW ORLEANS MARKETS.

CRESCENT OFFICE,
Friday Morning, April 4, 1851.

Cotton—The inquiry was again limited yesterday, and the sales reached barely 750 bales, at irregular prices. We quote as before:

NEW ORLEANS CLASSIFICATION.

Interior	7 @ 8¾	Middling Fair	11¼@11½
Ordinary	9 @ 10	Fair	12¼@13
Middling	9 @ 10¼	Good Fair	nominal.
Good Middling	10 @ 11¼	Good and Fine	nominal.

Tobacco—The demand was good and resulted in sales of 225 hhds, as follows: 18 hhds new crop at 7@8¾; 15 at 7¾; 15 at 9¼; 167 (a fine running lot) at 10; 30 old crop at 10; 20 new at 10¾; and 16 old crop, selected, at 11c ⅌ lb.

Sugar—The market was quiet and only about 400 hhds were taken at 4¾@5¼c for fair.

Molasses—Improving, with sales of 700 bbls good fermenting at 27@27½, 100 prime at 30, and 90 choice re-boiled at 33c ⅌ gallon.

Flour—The sales sum up about 8000 bbls, of which 6400 Ohio were taken by a single purchaser at $4 10; the sale embraced four fancy brands, all of a straight brand, lined, and deliverable alongside ship at Lafayette. Also 500 bbls St. Louis at