Heaven and earth could not have moved her. Had she been a woman of high-toned feelings and strong sensibility, she might have done much to redeem him; for his imagination and taste were of that fine order that impelled him to respond to the beautiful in the moral as in the physical world. The very poetry of his nature would have secured Florence his affection, if her character had been in keeping with her beauty; and, selfish as he was, love would have elevated and purified him. True, earnest feeling had been the great quality in which he had been deficient; but Florence was not the person to gain influence over him. He grew somewhat afraid of her, it is true, for the cold temper, as we have said, always masters the irritable one; but, beautiful, high bred, and refined as she looked, the undercurrent of her character was commonplace in the extreme. There was not a generous touch in her; and, in her way, she was as exacting as Herbert. She took no pains to keep his affection, and she resented losing it. She never made an effort to make home agreeable; but still she was indignant if he spent an evening at the club. She took no interest in the subjects that interested him, nor made an attempt to understand the public affairs in which he frequently took a large share. And yet nothing vexed her more deeply than to have him address any conversation on such topics to other women. Not that she was jealous, for Herbert was no flirt, and she knew it. But he talked well, and was naturally fond of society, and was very apt to enter with spirit in conversation with any one, man or woman, who could understand him. But was he it to him if it happened to be a woman, for his wife scarcely ever spoke to him for a week after! And many an uncomfortable day he passed, in the early days of their married life, in consequence of a pleasant hour passed at an evening party.

If Florence did not improve her husband, she at least conquered him; and those who had known him during his first marriage looked on in surprise to see him, then so irritable and exacting, now governed by the dropping of an eyelid, or the compression of the lips, or some little movement almost imperceptible to bystanders, but yet most expressive in their silence to one who understood them. Florence's eyes never flashed, nor her voice altered, but, from the tip of her shoulder to the motion of her fairy foot, her whole being was eloquent with cold displeasure.

Herbert could not love her; but he watched her lightest movement, for he still loved his own quiet and peace.

Could Mary Harper have believed that this man was the man who was once her husband? If spirits return wrath, how would hers have been appeased could it have seen his punishment now?

And yet we wrong you, Mary Harper, even in the supposition! Your gentle, unoffending heart never roused to anger even here, when clogged with earth! The mortal did not need to put on immortality to forgive. But who, "unwhipped of justice," can wrong such a spirit? Is there not a retribution even here for the selfish soul that asks all and gives nothing? Was Herbert happy? If the first wife wept, the second avenged her.

DAILY CRESCENT.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SECOND MUNICIPALITY

THE NEW ORLEANS DAILY CRESCENT

OFFICE NO. 93 ST. CHARLES STREET,

Will be regularly served to subscribers in this city and Lafayette at an 8 to leave orders, (Number expected) for $4 a year, in advance, payable to the office, or Bennis a week, payable to the carriers.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING:

From and after this date the following rates of charges, for square of 10 lines, (Nonpareil, or Brevier equivalent), will be invariably adhered to, viz:

One insertion, in all cases $1 00

Every subsequent insertion 50

Advertisements for the second page are charged at one each day.

A liberal discount will be made with those who advertise by the year or for a shorter time.

Advertisements not marked will be published one month and charged accordingly.

No Cuts will be allowed on any advertisement, a medium of communication with the public. The circulation, which was large when it became to be the home of the paper, yet it has been steadily and rapidly on the increase, even Crescent Bill publication just closed, October 25, 1851.

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 24, 1852.

MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.—We will hereafter publish the simple announcement of marriages and deaths free of charge.

The Weekly Crescent.

Our weekly sheet, which will be issued this morning will contain an unusual quantity of interesting matter, including full details of the California News; News from Oregon, the Sandwich Islands; West Indies, Congressional Proceedings; Details of the organization of the Legislature; News by the Asia and other steamers, etc., etc. Copies carefully enveloped for mailing can be had at the counter.

China and the Chinese.

As our rapidly increasing commercial marine in the Pacific gradually draws us nearer to China, any information pertaining to the inhabitants of that country, its resources and products, becomes interesting. An intelligent correspondent of the Washington National Intelligencer, who is evidently well acquainted with the Chinese, their manners and habits, and with the country, as far as foreigners are permitted to explore, gives some interesting facts relative to this hitherto almost unknown people. The day is not far distant when the Pacific States of the United States with China will be of such an intimate nature that a full knowledge of the fundamental organization of society in that distant land will be invaluable, and all information which may be gleaned from the experience of those who have made this subject a study, should become public property. We make the following extract from the letter of which we speak:

"The Chinese empire, as it now stands, is more remarkable for the numberless ages that it has held together, the vast swarms of human beings that are living and established within its limits, than for any active influence it exerts upon the destinies of other countries. The silks and teas now the principal articles of commerce, administer to the comforts and luxuries of the wealthy and non-laboring classes of other countries, and to the very few who are employed to prepare them for use; but the large numbers of producers and laboring people in the United States and Europe are very little, if at all, benefited by the present state of trade with China. There are scarcely any foreign manufactures and products consumed in China. The opium trade, and some importations of raw cotton, are the only countervailing sources of reimbursement for all the money left here for teas, silks, etc., and they are confined almost entirely to British India, and consequently redound to England's advantage."

The opium trade, which the Government has been compelled, at the mouth of the cannon, to tolerate, costs the nation $20,000,000 per annum, but as yet, none of the products or manufactures of the United States, of any consequence, have been made necessary to the wants of the Celestials. We pay vast sums of money each year for teas, silks, and other articles, most of which finds its way into the hands of the drug speculators of India, while but for this extensive monopoly we might, in China, soon have a good customer for cheap cotton fabrics, and even breadstuffs. The enormous profits which are now confined to the few, would then be legitimately distributed throughout the world, and the United States would come in for a large share. The rapid encroachments which our clippers have already made within the last few years in the carrying trade from China, is but an indication of what American enterprise is destined to accomplish in that quarter of the globe. With our steamships covering the most distant seas, an easy and rapid communication between the Atlantic and Pacific, it requires no great stretch of the imagination to see, early in the future, an American influence in the eastern world, which will unlock its hidden treasures and turn to our shores almost the entire current of wealth which has so long been emptied into the coffers of our Anglo-Saxon neighbors.

We have the advantage of the world in establishing a lucrative trade with China, and it is in the nature of the progress we are constantly making as a nation, that these advantages should soon be improved to the utmost.

The Intelligencer's correspondent says:

"It is beginning to be the opinion here that in a few years Shanghai will be the chief trading port with foreigners, or the headquarters for foreign merchants. The reasons are obvious: The provinces lying adjacent to and in the interior from Shanghai are the ports of the country where the silks are principally made and teas cultivated. By shipping these commodities immediately from Shanghai, the expense and delay of the present land transportation may be saved, which will not only expedite business operations, but save something on the first cost of the articles to the merchants. The river Wusseng, on which the city is built, is deep enough for any class of merchant vessels, and is at all times a good and safe anchorage. The climate, too, as the city is several degrees farther north than Canton, is more pleasant and salubrious. The people of this more northern latitude are said to be a better class, and have none of the piratical propensities for which their brethren in Canton river are somewhat celebrated. By encouraging Chinese immigrants to California, and treating them kindly, much may be done to remove the prejudices that exist in China against us."

The Christian Missionaries in this benighted country have as yet been unable to make any great progress, as they have not only the language, but the prejudices of thousands of years to contend against. The missionary hospital at Canton has, however, done signal service to the cause of humanity, and the many operations and cures performed by the Rev. P. Parker, M. D., have done much to soften and enlighten the hearts of the barbarians.

The writer speaks with great pride of the appearance of the American shipping at Whampoa, in regard to our naval force, he thinks it bad policy to employ large ships on that station. Two steamers of 800 or 1000 tons burthen, can be kept afloat there at an expense not exceeding that of one large vessel, and he made much more efficient in protecting our commercial interests.

The contemplated line of steamers between San Francisco and Shanghai is an enterprise which would confer immense benefits on the commerce of the United States, and no efforts should be spared to carry it into effect.

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE PROMETHEUS AFFAIR.—The following facts connected with the resignation of Lord Palmerston, and the prompt measures taken by our Minister at the Court of St. James on receiving Mr. Webster's note respecting the firing at the Prometheus by the British brig of war at San Juan, are obtained by the New York Commercial Advertiser from a reliable source:

"When that note reached Mr. Lawrence, he immediately wrote to Lord Palmerston. This was on the morning of Friday, December 19. On the following Monday, a Cabinet Council was called, and the impression was, that the firing into the Prometheus was to be discussed before the Foreign Secretary could reply to Mr. Lawrence's note. From that Cabinet meeting Lord Palmerston was absent. Inquiry at the office of the American Legation showed that, in his anxiety for an answer, our Minister had on Monday written a private note to the Foreign Secretary, appointing to call at his office, for a personal interview, at half-past 4 P. M., by which time the Council would have adjourned. On calling, however, Mr. Lawrence was informed by the Under Secretary, Lord Stanley, that P was not in town, and had not attended the Cabinet Council."

ROSSUTH'S RECEPTION IN THE UNITED STATES is noticed at great length in England by the journals, and all his eloquent speeches are copied. The London Morning Chronicle, in an article upon the demonstrations in America, remarks that it is not among the least significant phenomena of the present day that the American people have lately evinced an unmistakable ambition to mix themselves in the affairs of Europe, and to take a part in that contest of principles which must ultimately decide the fate of the European Commonwealth. It says:

"We are compelled to recognize the high value and importance of displays which, despite all drawbacks, indicate a healthy vigor of opinion and political action, and a sound and generous state of feeling. It has been made clear to the world that the people of America can rise above selfish considerations, and that they are anxious to support the cause of political progress. If this be so, the separation of the old and new world has ceased to exist—both are bound together by a community of interests. The United States have taken their place, and naturally will not be a secondary one, in the great European commonwealth of nations."

Other journals, of equal influence, express similar sentiments; and this is one of the signs of a change of opinion in England, respecting the position and influence of the United States.

On the other hand, the London Morning Post, of the 24th, devotes a long article to a severe criticism upon Hon. H. J. Walker's letter on the European position and foreign policy of England. After quoting portions of this letter, the Post exclaims:

"The Lord deliver us from these firebrand apostles of peace, and these despotic and tyrannical missionaries of liberty! If the Western world is to be confined a theatre for the piratical enterprise of the Yankees? And is there not room in the wide Pacific for their buccaneers? Will nothing content them short of doing to Europe as they have attempted to do to Cuba?"

Thanks to the steamer Chancellor for river favors.

We are indebted to C. L. Marshall, Sargeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives, for a list of the members in their seats in the Legislature, up to the 21st instant.

ROSSUTH AT ANNAPOLIS.—The greatest attention was shown to Kossuth at the capital of Maryland. On Monday evening the 12th he dined with Gov. Lowe's family, and a select party of friends. On Tuesday he visited the naval school, and was afterward introduced to both Houses of the Legislature.

ALTERATION IN THE TARIFF.—It is said that Senator James, of Rhode Island, has prepared a project for some important changes in the present tariff system, which, with the approbation of several leading democratic Senators, will in a few days be submitted to the Senate. It proposes a reduction of the rates of duties on some articles of manufacture that enter into general consumption, and increases the rate of duty on the finer fabrics. He proposes to add ten per cent. to the present duties on iron, and the same upon fine cottons, and fabrics of cotton and wool, but leaves the present system unimpaired in other respects.

MARYLAND AND NON-INTERVENTION.—The following resolution passed the House of Delegates of the Maryland Legislature by a vote of 59 to 16:

Resolved, That while this body concur in the resolution of invitation extended to Louis Kossuth to visit this House, we the representatives of the people of Maryland, do most emphatically disclaim the doctrine of intervention, and do earnestly recommend to the people of this State the policy heretofore pursued by the General Government, in relation to the domestic contentions of foreign nations.

FREE SUFFRAGE IN NORTH CAROLINA.—Gov. Reid, of North Carolina, has issued his proclamation, submitting for ratification by the people, at the next election, the amendment to the Constitution abolishing the free-hold of fifty acres of land, and substituting a residence of 12 months in an election district, and the repayment of public taxes, in order to enable a person to vote for a candidate for the State Senate.

TOBACCO.—The Maysville (Ky.) Watchman says: "Little or nothing has been done with the present crop of this staple, of this and the adjoining counties. Owing to the unsettled state of European powers, buyers are afraid of fire, and the producers having received extra high prices for the last year's crop are unwilling to sell at reduced rates; $6 and $8 only are offered, while $5 and $6 are demanded. The weather has not as yet been favorable for getting it ready for market, and we hope soon to be able to give something more definite as to the demand and prices."

THE MEXICAN INDEMNITY.—Eight columns of the Washington Telegraph are occupied with the memorial of Gen. Duff Green and Benjamin E. Green, to the President, in relation to the Mexican Indemnity. A memorial is to be presented by these gentlemen to Congress.

NEW JERSEY LEGISLATURE.—The New Jersey Legislature organized on the 13th inst. John Manners, Esq., was elected President of the Senate, and John Hughes, Esq., was chosen Speaker of the House.

THE BROTHERS WILLIS.—A letter from New York, says the three brothers Willis are all exciting the scandal-loving public about tale time—two of them as witnesses in the Forrest case, and the third in reply to the soothing letter of Lola Montez. His response is witty, as well as caustic. The Countess has succeeded very fairly before the public, and next Monday will startle the idiots of fashion with her presence. After that she goes to Baltimore and Washington and may choose to create a sensation among the notabilities there, not included in the bills.

COMET OBSERVED.—On the night of the 12th, Encke's Comet was observed at the National Observatory in Washington, by Mr. Ferguson, through the large Equatorial. The Comet is described as a faint white nebula, with brilliancy capable of bearing only the faintest illumination.

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—The continued cold and unpleasant weather cannot chill houses at the St. Charles. Miss Davenport appeared last night in the beautiful play of "Evadne" or the Statues, and she rendered the character of the chaste *Evadne* in the most impressive manner. We think the part peculiarly suited to her, and her performance of it evinces the possession of a high order of histrionic talent. Mr. Rynar appeared as *Cobenas*, and he got through with the part in a very respectable manner.

Miss Davenport appears to-night as *Margaret Elmore* in "Love's Sacrifice."

"FREEDOM FROM COUGH IN TEN MINUTES."—When this announcement appeared in our advertising columns, accompanied by prices, only twenty-five cents per box, we naturally supposed it a mere catch-penny, but begin to regard it as a sober reality. As coughs, hoarseness, etc., are somewhat prevalent, we cannot, perhaps, render our readers a little favor better than to recommend to those who may be afflicted to try Bryan's Pulmonic Wafers, to be had at 72 Magazine street. They are pleasant to the palate, and their curative effects truly wonderful.

KOSSUTH AND CAPTAIN LONG.—The Exeter (N. H.) News Letter is authorized by Captain Long, of the Mississippi, to say that Kossuth, while on board the vessel, presumed to dictate to the officers upon subjects over which he had no control, and in a manner that could not be endured. This Kossuth was made to understand, but no challenge passed between him and Captain Long.

STEALING LETTERS.—A young man named Judson Walker has been arrested in Cincinnati on a charge of stealing or embezzling letters.

Baton Rouge Gossip.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BATON ROUGE, Jan. 21, 1852.

I have already telegraphed to you the standing committees of the Senate. The whigs, having the power, shouldered the responsibility and defied the precedence and will of many years of democratic rule. Mr. Martin, the Senator from Assumption, who is the impersonation of chivalry, and a whig without alloy—the very

"Sir Roderick Dhu"

of the Senate, was the first to throw the gauntlet to the opposing foe. He claimed the right of the whig majority to wrest the power of appointing committees from the President of the Senate. Yesterday Mr. Wickliffe, and to-day Mr. Phillips, charged such a course as a reflection on the presiding officer. Mr. Martin met the charge with manly intrepidity and withering rebuke and sarcasm. He said the Chair knew, and he reasserted it, that he had a high personal regard for the presiding officer—perhaps higher than those who made so many professions, and that he would not again permit any Senator to even insinuate otherwise. But the whigs had achieved a glorious victory; they could do as they pleased; the State had been under democratic control for eight or ten years, and had become bankrupt; and now that the whigs were in responsible position he claimed a right, which it was conceded, would be enforced. Only nine Senators voted against the proposition. Mr. Martin then presented a list of the committees. The democrats crouched at the foot of an unfamiliar fate with graceful humility. No whisper of discontent; yet all the disturbance of the inner man hung like a pestilential gloom on their every countenance. The list was adopted without opposition.

So far, the whigs seem determined to enjoy all the responsibility their position gives them, in endeavoring to reform our laws and redeem our State from the incubus of that miserable shadow which had its birth in the political manager of demagogues, and survived only by the basest subversion of common weal that party ambition could invent.

The Governor's message, vetoing the Citizens' Bank bill, was read, and no action taken on it. Mr. Rousseau, Cashier of the Bank, arrived this morning with the report of the managers of the affairs of the Bank and the Consolidated Association of Planters, which was read directly after the Governor's message.

Notice was given of intention to introduce a bill to make various changes in the Constitution. They, principally, propose to elect all the Judges, Attorney General, Treasurer, State Printer, etc.

A resolution introduced by Mr. Martin was unanimously adopted, to give to the defeated candidate for Secretary of the Senate, Gen. Horatio Davis, the sum of $600. Why this favor to Gen. Davis, when he has been receiving for thirty years the fullest compensation for his services, I cannot divine. But let him have it; it is his last crumb from the public crib, and he ought to remember, when next his whig committee address him a courteous note, to which there should be a courteous reply, that this, his "*pause cafe*," of official greediness, was given him by "*men belonging ponderously to the whig party*," to use his own unfortunate epistolary expression.

Mr. Martin introduced a series of resolutions, brief but pointed, recognizing the adoption of the adjustment measures by Congress as a final settlement of the slavery question; also approving the patriotic course of Senator Downs, which will take the usual course. They will probably be taken up to-morrow. There will no doubt be some warm discussion on them, of which I shall give you a full account. There is a new member, of the States Rights' school, whom I pity from my heart. He will be crushed in his arrogant attempt to sustain a cause so bad.

A report was read from the Committee on the Jackson Monument. The venerable public servant who presides over the Senator, Gen. Planche, spoke earnestly and eloquently in behalf of the patriotic purpose for which the committee was appointed. The Librarian also made his report.

Resolutions respectful to the memory of the late Senator Caulfield were adopted, when the Senate adjourned.

In the House, Mr. Sever presented the petition of J. B. Leefe and others contesting the seat of Mr. Weisheimer, which was laid on the table subject to call.

Mr. Harang offered preambles and resolutions authorizing the use of one of the State boats to the Public Engineer for clearing the obstructions from Bayou Lafourche, making an appropriation for the improvement of the Lunatic Asylum, and making a joint committee of five to visit and examine into the condition of all the Banks in the State, whether in operation or in liquidation, with power to send for persons and papers—which were adopted. Messrs. Durorges, Connelly, Rives, Cole and Hughes were appointed said committee.

A great many petitions, resolutions and motions of bills were presented, making enough work for the whole session. They were all appropriately disposed of or referred according to rule.

Mr. Sever gave notice of introducing a bill to promote the purity of elections by establishing a registry law in New Orleans.

Both Houses met to-day for the purpose of counting the vote for Auditor. The result was:

For Bordelon	18.48
For Porter	18.115
Majority for Bordelon	323

Under suspension of the rules a bill was taken up and passed making the necessary appropriation to meet *per diems*, etc. Take care of yourself first and then the State.

H.

Religious Intelligence.

The most liberal religious toleration has been established in Piedmont; the church of the Waldenses is now entirely free in worship and of emancipation doctrine.

An effort is being made at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, to establish an Episcopal church. There is no priest on the Islands, and a temporary provision has been made by which one of the citizens is to act as lay-reader. The service of the Church of England is to be read regularly every Sunday.

A writer for the Episcopal Recorder compiles from the church records statistics showing the progress of that church in the United States from the year 1832 to the present time, a period of twenty years. In 1832 the number of clergy was 504; now it is 1605. In 1832 the number of communicants was about 32,181, or 57 to each clergyman; at this time the number is about 100,000, or 62 to each clergyman.

The Baptist Recorder has a table showing the population of each of the United States, according to the census of 1850, and the number of communicants in the Baptist churches. From this it appears that the whole number of the communicants is 715,737, or one in 32 of the whole population in the United States, which is 23,081,747. In Ohio, they are one to every 81 of the population; Indiana, one to every 44 of the population; Kentucky, one to every sixteen of the population. They are most numerous in proportion to the population, in Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia and Kentucky. They are more numerous in proportion to the population in the slave than in the free States.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT IN NEW YORK.—A calamity similar to that of the school-house, occurred on the evening of the 12th, in a large building back of Centre street, put up by the Commissioners of Emigration for the accommodation of newly arrived emigrants. It was five stories in height, and on the various floors no less than 480 persons were stowed. The alarm bell in the vicinity rang for fire, and a woman in the upper part crying out, led the occupants to believe that the building was in flames, and a wild struggle ensued upon the stairs. The crowd soon choking up this only avenue of escape, quite a number leaped from the windows into the yard below. Six lives were lost, all of whom are children except one, an unknown young woman aged 20. Eight others were taken to the Hospital seriously injured, five of whom will probably die. The following is a list of the killed and wounded:

Dead—John W. Dalton, 8 years; John Glennan, 8 years; Mary Murphy, 8 years; young woman, unknown, 20 years; unknown boy, about 9 years; unknown girl about 6 years.

The Injured in Hospital—John Hawk, leg and arm broken; a woman, arm broken; Eliza Savage, shoulder dislocated; Lucy Cushing, injured internally; Bridget Harrington, injured internally; William Whalen, shoulder dislocated; John Ragan, body injured; Catharine Sweeny, body injured.

On the morning of the same day, two children, who had been locked up in a house in Eleventh street, by their mother, were burned to death by the room taking fire during her absence.

INTERESTING SEARCH.—Col. Bezeneczery, one of Kossuth's suite, is now in Washington, making preparations for a journey to China and the East Indies in search of a tribe of aborigines, reported by an English traveller, a few years ago, to live in China, who speak the Hungarian language, and bear other unmistakable evidences of affinity to the Hungarians. The other military companions of Kossuth, except M. Pulszky and two secretaries, will proceed to New York, where they will await further instructions.

BRUTAL.—A drunkard in Dearborn county, Ia., near Harrison, a short time ago drove his wife from home in a cold night. She took with her a young child and started to a neighbor's. After being out awhile, he started a little girl, of six years, after the mother. The child was chilly clad, and started on her errand. Reaching a small stream, she could not get over it, and turned towards home. The Democrat says she had almost reached home in safety, but in attempting to climb the fence around the house, a rail slipped from its place, throwing her to the earth and falling across her neck. In this position she was found by her father the next morning dead, and cold as the snow drifts around her. Without lifting the rail or removing the corpse into the house, the brute started for an officer to hold an inquest over the body!

THE KIDNAPPING CASE.—The case of Thos. McCreary, charged with kidnapping and carrying away from Chester county, Pa., the colored girl Eliza Crouse alias Rachael Parker, is still going on in Baltimore, and it creates considerable excitement. McCreary obtained possession of the person of the girl on the pretence that she was a fugitive slave, and soon after his arrival with her in Baltimore, was arrested on the present charge. One of the witnesses in the case, Joseph Miller, it will be recollected, was found hanging to a tree in the woods, near Baltimore, and although the Coroner's jury returned a verdict of suicide, the public mind is not altogether satisfied.

Political.

MARYLAND.—Gov. Lowe's message is a well written, lucid document. "A review of the financial affairs of the State is made, from the time of its heavy embarrassment up to the present time; and it is now stated that the the funded arrears have all been paid; and that a surplus of between $300,000 and $400,000 is annually accruing towards the liquidation of the principal. In view of an excess in the revenue over and above the amount requisite to meet the interest and maturing debt, the propriety of reducing the direct tax twenty-five per cent., and of repealing the stamp tax altogether, is presented for legislative consideration.

"The cases of Alberti and Prince, agents of Mr. Mitchell in the recovery of his fugitive slave, are set forth at length, and exhibit proceedings apparently involving great injustice. The two men are still in the penitentiary of Pennsylvania, and there is no measure of relief for them, nor for testing the legality of the proceedings in their case, but through the Legislature of that State.

"The Governor adverts to the Christiana affair with a tone of indignant remarks, and proceeds to make some strictures upon the trial of Hanway, and the general judicial character of the proceedings.

"The propriety of adopting some permanent system with respect to the financial condition of the Maryland penitentiary is spoken of; and thus, with two or three minor matters, the document is closed."

GOVERNOR MARCY'S PROSPECTS.—Although the Iowa delegates to the National Convention from this State are almost equally divided between the two sections of the party, they are nearly all in favor of the nomination of Gov. Marcy for the Presidency.

KENTUCKY.—The Kentucky Legislature adjourned *sine die* on the 9th. The Apportionment Bill failed to become a law.

Gen. Butler was nominated for the Presidency by the Democratic State Convention of this State.

HON. HENRY A. WISE.—This gentleman is prominently spoken of in connection with the office of United States Senator from Virginia.

THE LOUISVILLE CANAL.—The Louisville Courier of the 12th has a lengthy article on the subject of the Louisville and Portland Canal, showing that the United States Government is already the owner of eight-tenths of the stock in this work, and that it has already received in the shape of dividends, more money than was ever subscribed by it. In 1826 the United States, by act of Congress, subscribed and paid for one thousand shares of stock $100,000

In 1829 a second subscription was made by the United States for 1386 shares, and paid for 138,600

Total payment in cash by the United States ... $238,600

There has been paid into the U. S. Treasury in cash dividends between January, 1834, and January, 1842 257,778

$24,278

Making the sum of $24,278 more cash paid into the Treasury of the United States by this company (raised by taxes on Western commerce) than the United States originally paid for her stock.

The Courier says that when the provisions of the charter, as amended by the Kentucky Legislature in 1842, shall have been carried out for the year 1851, the number of shares owned by others than the United States, will be only 1340. When these shares are purchased, the Government will be the sole owner of the canal, with the surplus of $24,278, over and above the amount of money ever paid out of the Treasury for the use of this national work. The Courier says:

"We shall conclude by declaring it a shame and an utterly inexcusable neglect of the West, on the part of the National Government, that Congress has not long since made this national free, by a direct appropriation to purchase the outstanding stock, instead of letting the commerce of the West do it, while at the same time the Government pays all the expenses of protecting the navigation of the Atlantic coast."

ALABAMA RIVER.—The Mobile Tribune of the 23d says: "The steamer Cuba arrived last evening from Demopolis with only 153 bales of cotton. She reports the river very low and falling. The Warrior is also too low for any class of boats."

The water in Lake Pontchartrain is so low, that several schooners are detained at the "Pickets," and the Mobile steamers are compelled to refuse nearly all the freight offered.

SCREW STEAMERS.—The London Morning Chronicle, reviewing the recent rapid voyages of the screw-propellers between England and the United States, calls upon the great ship owners and public companies to place such vessels in the Indian, Australian, and American trades, and remarks that the comparatively cheap manner in which screw-ships are worked, and their great capacity for the conveyance of both cargo and passengers, enable them to compete successfully with the more expensive steamships for passengers, and with sailing vessels for goods. It refers in detail to the success which seems to attend almost every vessel fitted with the screw-propeller whether on long or short voyages; and states that, of their ultimate success, the testimony of many eminent and practical men in their favor can leave but little doubt. The more so when it is considered that the change only involves the application of steam as an auxiliary power to sailing vessels built upon the most approved models. Beyond this they will be enabled from their capacity for stowage, and the small amount of room occupied by machinery and fuel, to carry cargoes far exceeding anything that could be stowed by steamships of the ordinary construction.

COAL LOAD.—The Louisville Courier of the 13th inst. says: "In Saturday's Courier we stated that four flatboats, laden with coal, had been lost on the falls the evening previous. We have since learned that there were six boats sunk in all. The coal in two of them will probably be saved, as the boats sunk below the falls, near the mouth of Silver Creek. They belonged to Morris, and McCloskey.

The rumor that three or four of the hands belonging to the coal boats were drowned, we are glad to say was incorrect. No lives were lost.

One of the men hired to help work the boats over the Falls, swam ashore on a barrel of crackers. After getting out of the water he shook himself, and then pulled out his jack-knife and picking up a small chunk of the wreck, commenced whittling away with perfect unconcern. After a few moments reflection he concluded that he would go home, as he had some little things to see after there.

COLORED CONVENTION.—A colored convention was to commence its session at Cincinnati on the 14th inst.

ROBBERY.—Dr. C. F. Robinson, of Cincinnati, was robbed of $2300 in gold, on board the steamer Hibernia, during a recent trip to Pittsburgh.

A SIGHT.—A white man and a negro were brought into Louisville on the 10th, chained together by the ankles. The white man had kidnapped the negro, and the police kidnapped both and committed them to jail.

A LICENSE QUESTION.—The coffee house keepers of Detroit, Michigan, are displeased with the licenses of their city, and have held an indignation meeting. *Fifty cents* has been subscribed to obtain legal advice on the subject.

ODD FELLOWSHIP.—The Richmond Enquirer says: "A sensation has been excited by the indics of Quakerdom by the mysteries of Odd Fellowship having been opened to the wives of members of the Order, by virtue of a receive of the Grand Lodge of the United States. Seven ladies of that city were initiated in Atlantic Lodge during the last week, and partially satisfied their curious longings to fathom the secrets of the lodge.

JUDICIAL ELECTION.—An election for a Judge of the High Court of Errors and Appeals of Mississippi, took place on Monday last. All the returns have not been received, but it is probable that William Yerger, Esq., is elected.

GRAND LODGE OF I. O. O. F. OF MISSISSIPPI.—The last meeting of this Grand Lodge, held in Natchez in July last, having decided to remove its location to Vicksburg, and their action having been approved by the Grand Lodge of the United States, we understand that a special session of said State Grand Lodge has been ordered to be held in Vicksburg, on Monday, the 26 day of February, 1852.

NAVAL MATTERS.—A letter from Philadelphia says: "The board of chief naval engineers is now in session at our navy yard, for the purpose of examining the qualifications of candidates for admission into the navy as assistant engineers, to fill the vacancies caused by the recent promotions recommended by the board. There are a large number of candidates, and the board will be in session for several weeks.

"There is great bustle at the various naval stations in preparing the vessels of war for active service, for the purpose of sending a large squadron to the European stations, which would otherwise be without any vessels of war, as those now there are to come home in the spring."

NAVAL.—Commander Timothy G. Benham, Lieutenants Enoch G. Parrott and James M. Duncan, have been ordered to the steamer Fulton; Lieutenants Latham B. Avery, Washington Gwathmey, and John K. Duer, to the receiving vessel North Carolina.

Orders have been received at the Navy Yard at New York to refit the brig Perry for sea. She is probably destined for the coast of Africa, to relieve the brig Bainbridge.

The United States surveying schooner Morris, Lieutenant Commanding Tunis A. M. Craven, will sail in a few days for the coast of Texas.

U. S. STEAMSHIP MISSISSIPPI.—Orders have been received at the Philadelphia Navy Yard to prepare the steamer Mississippi for sea without delay, and the car-seaters will be set to work in a few days, for the purpose of dismantling her preparatory to the repairs required. The cylinders of her engines are to be replaced with new ones, and other repairs to her machinery, which will require about two months time or more to complete.

SCARLET FEVER.—This fearful epidemic, so destructive to the young, is prevailing to an unexampled extent in the interior of Pennsylvania. A correspondent, writing from Pittston, Luzerne county, says: "I suppose it would not be an exaggeration to say, that sixty or eighty children have died with it (the scarlet fever) in this township during the last six or eight weeks. Some have lost all their offspring, consisting of five, and sometimes six in number. The whole community is in mourning over the ruin Death has wrought, and Desolation has fallen like a pall upon the hearth-stones of nine happy families and smiling and contented homes."

Telegraphed to the "Daily Crescent."

By the People's (Mobile) Line.

Ice in the Mississippi—Steamboats Laid Up.

VICKSBURG, Jan. 23—2 P. M.

There is now much ice floating in the river here, and reports from above are of the most unfavorable character. It is said that navigation is suspended at no great distance above, owing to the danger from ice. The steamers Lexington and Fashion are to be laid up at this place for the present.

VICKSBURG, Jan. 23—9 P. M.

Ice continues to accumulate in the river here, and the steamers Fashion and Lexington have been laid up—their captains considering the navigation too dangerous to allow them to proceed. The steamer George Collier is expected to lay up at Memphis. The Magnolia left for New Orleans at eight o'clock this evening.

We learn that the river is closed by ice at the mouth of the Arkansas.

An Act to Call a Convention.

The following is the Act introduced into the House of Representatives by Mr. Sever, of New Orleans, in regard to a Convention to amend the Constitution:

An Act to take the sense of the People on the expediency of calling a Convention to change the Constitution.

Whereas, The opposition of public opinion manifested to the present Constitution, clearly demonstrates that many of its provisions are defective, and that its general workings and effects are not in harmony with the views and wants of the people, but are destructive of their best interests, and subversive of the general prosperity and progress of the State; and

Whereas, A Constitution thus defective and inadequate to the wants, and destructive of the vital interests of the people and the general welfare of the State, ought to be immediately changed. Therefore, be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana:

§ 1. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That on the ——day of ——, next following, polls shall be opened at each of the election precincts in this State, now established by law, for the purpose of receiving the votes of the qualified voters of this State for or against the calling of a Convention to change the Constitution.

§ 2. That the Governor shall issue his proclamation, ordering the said polls to be opened in the time, manner, and form now provided by law, for ordering a poll to be opened for the election of members to the General Assembly, and the said polls shall be presided by the same Commissioners, to be elected in the same manner, and the voting shall be conducted, and all proceedings shall be had in the same manner as is now provided by law in case of elections to the General Assembly.

§ 3. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That every qualified elector voting for or against a Convention, shall have written or printed upon his ballot, the word "Convention," if he be in favor of said Convention, and the words "No Convention," if he be opposed to such Convention.

§ 4. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That the several Commissioners presiding at the said polls, shall make returns of all votes received for a Convention, and of all votes received against a Convention, to the respective returning officers of the parishes, in the same time, manner and form as is provided by law for making returns of elections to the General Assembly; and the said several returning officers of each parish shall make return of the said votes, in the same manner, time and form, as is provided by law for making returns of Elections to the General Assembly.

§ 5. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That on the ——day of ——, 1852, the Governor, Secretary of State and Attorney General, shall proceed to count the votes so given as aforesaid, for and against a Convention. If a majority of all the votes taken at the polls hereinbefore provided to be held, shall be in favor of calling a Convention, the Governor shall immediately issue a proclamation, making known the result of such votes, and shall within the time now required by law for ordering elections to the General Assembly, issue his proclamation, ordering the several sheriffs of the several parishes of this State to issue writs of election for the election of nine hundred and twenty-nine persons, to serve as delegates in a State Convention; said persons shall be chosen at a special election, to be held on the ——day of ——, 1852, in the manner now provided by law for the election of members of the General Assembly; and the several Senatorial Districts shall elect the same number of delegates, as they now elect Senators to the General Assembly, and the several Parishes and Representative Districts shall elect the same number of delegates as they now elect representatives to the General Assembly.

§ 6. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That the qualified voters of this State voting for delegates to the said Convention, shall designate on their ballots, the name or names of the persons voted for as delegates for the Senatorial District from those voted for as delegates from the Representative District or Parish, as the case may be. The returns and certificate of election of the members of the Convention shall be made in the same manner and time as for members of the General Assembly.

§ 7. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That any Commissioner, sheriff, or other officer, failing or neglecting to perform any duty required of him by this act shall be fined in a sum not less than one hundred, nor more than one thousand dollars, or punished by imprisonment, not exceeding twelve months, or both, at the discretion of the Court.

§ 8. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That if any Commissioner of Election of any precinct shall fail to make return to the returning officer of the parish of any poll or vote required to be returned by this act, on or before ten days after the time of closing any of the polls required by the act to be opened, or if any returning officer of any parish shall fail to make returns of any vote require i to be returned by this act, it shall be the duty of said returning officer, or the Secretary of State as the case may be, to send for persons to make said returns, at the expense of the State to be reimbursed by him or them, through whose neglect the said returns shall not have been delivered, the amount to be sued for by the District Attorney of the district where he is a returning officer, or failing, they results.

§ 9. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That the delegates elected to said Convention shall meet at the seat of government on the ——day of ——, 1852. In case any person elected to said Convention should die or resign, a new election shall be ordered to fill his place, in the same manner and time as is provided by law for filling a vacancy in the General Assembly.

§ 10. *Be it further enacted, etc.*, That the delegates to the said Convention shall receive the same mileage and per diem pay to which members of the General Assembly are now by law entitled. The sum of twenty-five thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for the use of said Convention, to be drawn for by the Auditor, in favor of the duly constituted members and officers of the said Convention.

THE FIRE AT BRANDON.—The Vicksburg papers contain some of the particulars of the recent destructive fire at Brandon, Miss. The loss is very heavy. The office of the Brandon Republican was burned.

LOCOMOTIVE EXPLOSION.—The pipe of a locomotive on the Baltimore railroad recently exploded, and the fireman was dangerously scalded.

TROOPS FOR CALIFORNIA.—The steamship Falcon, which sailed from New York on the 13th, took out 500 troops for California. The detachment is under the command of Major Patten, of the second Infantry.

SNOW STORM.—A dispatch dated Buffalo, January 19, says that the most violent snow storm ever known there, had been raging for twenty-four hours, and still continued with unabated fury, accompanied with a violent wind. Business was completely at a stand.

City Intelligence.

MOCK AUCTION OPERATIONS.—A countryman, who has just arrived here from a land where newspapers must be unknown, yesterday morning strolled into an auction store in Magazine street, where the operator in charge was holding off vast quantities of clothing to a crowd of seedy individuals gathered about his counter. Mr Country