DAILY CRESCENT

NEW ORLEANS DAILY CRESCENT, OFFICE NO. 69 ST. CHARLES STREET, will be regularly served to subscribers in this city at an early hour of the morning, at the rate of Ten Cents per week, or Forty Cents per month, payable to the collector, or 10 cents a week, payable to the carriers.

THE CIRCULATION of the Crescent, Daily and Weekly, is such as to offer a desirable medium to advertisers.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER

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THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 14, 1853.

The List of Letters will appear in this paper to-morrow as usual.

JEFFERSON AND LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN RAILROAD.—We were fortunate yesterday in being one among the many persons who took advantage of an invitation from the Directors of the Jefferson and Lake Pontchartrain Railroad to ride to the Lake on the first trip of the cars. Leaving the depot at Tivoli Circle at or about 12 o'clock, we were soon set down in safety on the shore of the Lake; and, after enjoying a quiet stroll, were summoned, in company of some one hundred and fifty others, to a sumptuous repast, spread on the balcony of the commodious house recently erected for the accommodation of visitors.

The table, extending the entire length of the balcony, was spread with every delicacy in and out of season, in the most profuse abundance; and fish, flesh and fowl, to say nothing of the viands and spiritual ingredients, were discussed with great gusto and evident good relish by all present. An hour, or perhaps more, spent at table quickened thought and imparted vividness to the imagination, and a feast of reason and flow of sentiment followed. At an early hour in the afternoon, the company, highly delighted with their trip, returned to the city "right side up with care," and separated to their respective homes, fully impressed with the safety and substantial character of the Jefferson and Lake Pontchartrain Railway, and with the liberality and public spirit of its Directors.

The road in question is one of the most substantial in the neighborhood of New Orleans, and no doubt prove one of the most popular outlets during the coming summer months.

News Items by Yesterday's Mail.

Yesterday's mail brought to hand Boston and New York papers as late as the 6th, Washington of the 6th and 7th, Baltimore of the 7th, and Charleston of the 9th, as late as 9th.

In the U. S. Senate, on the 6th instant, on a motion of Mr. Seward, a resolution was adopted calling on the President of the United States to communicate such official information as he may have received, touching the recent transactions at San Juan de Nicaragua.

Three thousand copies of Capt. Ringgold's charts of the Coast of California, heretofore ordered to be purchased were, by resolution, offered by Mr. Gwin, directed to be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Treasury for distribution among navigators.

On motion of Mr. Houston, the report of the examination of the Patent-office, made in 1851, was called for from the Department of the Interior.

Mr. Houston submitted a resolution, which lies over, proposing to introduce Mr. H. Johnson's yea and nay machine into the Senate, and setting apart $1500 for that purpose.

The Senate considered, and then postponed the resolution of Mr. Chase, proposing that all the proceedings of that body shall be public and open, except when matters communicated in confidence by the President shall be received and considered, and such other cases as the Senate by resolution, from time to time, shall especially order.

Lund Washington, Esq., a gentleman well known by his connection for many years with the Government Department, died in Washington City on the 4th inst., in the eighty-sixth year of his age. He was born in King George county, Va., but for the last fifty years had resided in the District of Columbia. He was distantly connected by descendant, it is said, with the Washington family, of immortal memory.

The Gas Works in the city of Philadelphia, are owned by the corporation, and it was stated in the publication of the committee of citizens, a short time since, that gas was furnished to the inhabitants at $2 per M., whilst those of the Northern Liberties and Southwark, who are supplied by private companies, are charged $3 50 per M. From the following, which we copy from the Journal of the Franklin Institute, it appears that the corporation now supplies gas at $1 90:

"The Philadelphia Gas Works is the largest and was one of the first establishments of the kind in the United States; and the price of gas is lower than from any other work in the Union, being but $1 90 per M. to customers making prompt payment. Its growth has been so rapid as to render necessary a removal of the manufacturing department, owing to want of space in its present position. The gasometers, however, will remain on the old place; they are eleven in number, and of the following sizes: eight single, 50 feet diameter, 20 feet high; two telescopic, 80 feet by 40 feet; and one telescopic, 140 feet diameter, and 70 feet high, which last is still the largest in the world. At the works the Trustees are erecting a grand distributor, 160 feet diameter by 96 feet, telescopic, which will hold nearly two millions cubic feet. The average daily consumption during the past year has been 6,000,000; the maximum consumption for twenty-four hours was 1,123,000 cubic feet."

COMMENDABLE.—The journeymen coopers of New York, who have not resolved to work for less than $2 a day, have resolved that any member attempting to secure the advance by any act of violence, shall not be recognized by any member of the society.

THE CUBAN SLAVE TRADE.—The British squadron watching the slave trade on the coast of Cuba has been reinforced by the steamers Devastation and Medusa. The French squadron consists of the steamer L'Ardent and the brig Ocasion. The Spanish squadron numbers ten or twelve vessels. The Saranac is the only American vessel lately on the station.

LIBERAL PAY TO LECTURERS.—A Boston newspaper says that F. B. Whipple, the essayist, received three thousand dollars, the past winter, for lecturing in various places. The same journal informs us that Dr. Holmes, the witty poet, has been paid eight hundred dollars for a single course of lectures.

A NEW SINGER.—Miss T. Kettle has been giving a series of private concerts lately to delighted audiences. There is a naturalness about her notes that is very charming. The music gushes forth with a warmth and freedom that is irresistible, and suite every listener to a T.

APPEAL ON BEHALF OF SWISS EXILES.—The Swiss Consul in New York has made an appeal to the Swiss residents in that city, as well as to the citizens generally, for contributions in aid of the 6000 Swiss citizens—including a great number of old men, women and children who have recently been expelled by the Austrian Government, without even granting them the necessary time to arrange and realize their little property. They have arrived in the Canton of Tessin, in the most destitute condition, at an inclement season. Contributions will be received by the Consul from any section of the Union, and be promptly transmitted to the Federal Council at Berne, for distribution.

DESERTIONS FROM THE U. S. STEAMER MISSISSIPPI.—The U. S. steam frigate Mississippi, of the Japan Expedition, which sailed from the Cape of Good Hope, February 2, as before reported, it is said, left without waiting for her consorts, in consequence of numerous desertions. After she sailed, the body of one of her men was found on the shore, with his clothes in a bundle on his back. He had been drowned while attempting to desert.

RECOVERY OF DIAMONDS AND PEARLS.—An important arrest was effected in New York on the 5th inst., and several thousand dollars' worth of diamonds and pearls recovered. This valuable property was stolen from the house of a gentleman at Boston, several weeks ago.

The Methodist Church in Liberia comprises 1130 members, 127 probationers, 20 local preachers, 20 Sunday schools with 731 scholars, 100 teachers, and 20 superintendents besides 16 day schools, with 417 scholars.

Mrs. Meagher, wife of the escaped Irish exile, had taken her departure from Melbourne, Australia, previous to January 31, in the ship Wellington, for London. She was accompanied by Bishop Wilson, of Van Dieman's Land.

The foreign emigration to New York during the first quarter of the present year, it is said, shows a falling off of 12,000, as compared with the corresponding period in the years 1851 and 1852.

Mr. Clay's birth day was to be handsomely celebrated by the corporate authorities and citizens of Lexington, Ky. Gen. Lewis Combs will be chief marshal, and the Rev. R. F. Berkley, the orator.

Senator Foote has formally opened the Senatorial campaign in Mississippi, at Raymond, and stated the ground on which he bases his "claim to a of seat."

The Congressional election in the State of Virginia will take place on the 26th of May, that being the fourth Thursday of the month.

The firescellers of Massachusetts are making arrangements for a complimentary dinner to Hon. John P. Hale, who is at present in Boston.

Licenses for the sale of liquors in Boston expired on Thursday last, when the bars at the Revere House were closed.

TELEGRAPHED TO THE CRESCENT.

By the Southern Line.

Want of Harmony in the Cabinet Contradicted.

BALTIMORE, April 11, P. M.

The Washington Union states that there was not the shadow of foundation for the report that there was a want of harmony in the Cabinet. Secretary Marcy never threatened to, nor did he design retiring.

Appointments.

WASHINGTON, April 11.

The President has appointment Geo. S. Welden Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama, and Archibald Young as Postmaster at Fayetteville.

Baton Rouge Correspondence.

Correspondence of the Crescent.

BATON ROUGE, April 9, 1853.

Two members of the Senate distinguished themselves in a remarkable degree on the Mechanics' and Traders' Bank, which came up in its regular order yesterday. One was Mr. Kittridge; the other, Mr. Neil. The former will be remembered as one of those shuffling, miserable, dirty politicians, who afraid to meet a question face to face whenever it comes before him, sneaks off whenever he has an opportunity, regardless of his own convictions, of his party, and his principles. The latter will be remembered by all who served with him in this Legislature as a man in whom not the slightest confidence can be placed—whose word no man can place the slightest reliance upon—whose promises are mere deceits, and whose pledges are nothing but hypocrisy. I write thus, because their conduct, to every man who was near them, both friends and foes, was disgusting in the last extremity, and because it is necessary that the people who sent them here should know what manner of men they are, and because the public should know the acts of those who represent them.

It is very well understood that Mr. Kittridge was in favor of the passage of the bill. He had voted, it is true, upon every side of the preliminary questions, but he was known to be in favor of its final passage. When it came up in its regular order, what was the astonishment of those who were supporting it to find that he had deserted his seat! Gone to join the band of *privy* councillors headed by Mr. Lacey!

Let every man vote, upon every question, precisely as he chooses. This is an inherent right, possessed by every man. Let him declare his opinions, openly and frankly, without the hope of reward or the fear of punishment. This is every man's privilege. But, in all conscience, whatever a man does let him do it openly and in the broad light of day, not sneak off from an expression of any opinion, more especially from an opinion to which he has pledged himself. This is what Mr. Kittridge did, and for this he will be remembered. His getting into the Senate was the merest chance. If he ever gets there again his constituents deserve to suffer.

Mr. Neil was worse, if worse could be. For he did what no man in his senses, provided there was one grain of honesty in his composition, could possibly have done. He had promised Mr. Rivers—than whom there is no more upright, honest gentleman—not to vote upon the subject. Mr. R. had an interest in the bill, but received advices from home which rendered his presence there necessary. He knew that Mr. Neil was opposed to the bill, and he entered into an agreement with him, wherein Mr. Neil pledged himself not to vote on the question if he (Mr. Rivers) was not present. Acting under this agreement, which was as positive as any contract could be, Mr. Rivers went off and had not returned when the bill came up. Now, any one would have supposed that no man would have acted, in a matter of this kind, in any other manner than the one he had pledged himself to, and that Mr. Neil having promised Mr. Rivers that he (Neil) would not vote if Mr. Rivers was absent, that he would have stuck up to his promise. This would have been nothing but honesty, and every man is presumed to be honest. But the presumption failed in this instance, for, when his name was called, he voted in a loud voice against the bill! And by his voting, when he was pledged not to, and by Mr. Kittridge deserting his post, there was a tie vote, which was decided by Mr. Farmer, who voted with the privy councillors, and thus the bill was lost.

What will the public think of these men, stultified as they are—with their pledges broken, and their promises a sneer and a by-word of deceit? What will the people who honored them with their confidence say when these faots are brought to their knowledge? Can they look men in the face any more? Can they expect to be trusted in any thing again? If fairness and honesty, truth, justice and decency are required to insure success in the community they live among, their political career has been nipped in the bud, and all they will ever do for their country will be to serve as a warning against sending incompetent and imbecile men to discharge the high office of Legislators.

The democrats about the capital do not understand exactly how things are going on at Washington. Thus far it seems that none of those who have been recommended by "the democratic members of the Assembly" have been treated with no sort of consideration, with the exception of Mr. Moise. As every third man among them was an applicant, the disappointment is considerable.

It is understood hereabouts that Mr. Slidell will not accept the mission to Central America. The reason I see assigned by the papers is that he does not wish to take his family to so unhealthy a country. The true reason (as given by his friends here) is that he has no idea of playing second fiddle to Mr. Soulé. That Mr. Soulé has received a first class mission, and that Mr. John Slidell is as good as he—therefore, unless he gets as good a place as Mr. Soulé, he won't have any. In the meanwhile his friends are making exertions to get him into the Senate, in Soulé's place, should that gentleman go to Spain. If he can get there now, he will have a chance of being elected next year. On the other hand, some of the Legislators think they ought to send one of their own men there, and Mr. Wickliff is prominent among the foremost of these aspirants. One thing is certain about this Senator—he is a thorough going democrat, and a thorough going partisan; but he is an honest man; the opinions he has, whether right or wrong, he is not afraid to express. He is attentive to his duties, and would make an industrious member of the U. S. Senate. His party owe him something, and they now have it in their power to reward him for efficient service, and he has supporters who will push his claims. Col. Fluker is also a candidate, and has some votes pledged to him, but he stands no chance. Nor do I think, from what I can see, that Mr. Slidell is any better off. If Mr. Soulé goes to Spain, Mr. Wickliff will get his seat. CEDRIC.

BATON ROUGE, April 12, 1853.

The announcement by telegraph that Mr. Soulé was really going to Spain, has given another impetus to the aspirations of the politicians about the Capital, and the report that Mr. Downs is an applicant for the Central America Mission makes them look forward with still more earnestness to the prospect of being seated, for a short while, in the United States Senate. It is a high post—and to obtain it is worth a struggle, and a desperate struggle will be made.

I wrote you some days ago that, in view of the vacancy occasioned by Mr. Soulé's mission, Mr. Slidell's friends were working for him, but that my impressions were that Mr. Wickliff would succeed. His chances then were remarkably good, and I think them so still; but this morning a number of other applicants have sprung up, and they will give him some trouble. Among the most prominent (though they are all prominent) are the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. Mr. Lacey, the Hon. Mr. Short, the Hon. Mr. Sandige, the Hon. Mr. Griffin, together, it is said, with the Secretary of the Senate, and all the enrolling and translating clerks, besides a number of outsiders. All these gentlemen are making themselves remarkably amiable, and will get the place—if they can. It is also reported that some of the democrats, wishing to reward Mr. Kittridge, intend voting for him, while, on the other hand, the opponents of the Mechanics' and Traders' Bank, being as much indebted to the Hon. Mr. Neil, and wishing to give him a little plum, intend to get him elected. He should have something, to keep his conscience down, but I fear he will have to look to some other consolation.

Gen. Lewis, too, has some supporters. Not having received any federal appointment, his friends want to salve over his disappointment; but, inasmuch as his election would be something of a censure upon the President, he can only come in as a compromise candidate. The race is now between Governor Hébert and Mr. Wickliff. They are both of them anxious for the seat, and both of them have strong friends. Their present strength, however, may be their future weakness; for, unless one or the other is elected on the first ballot, a third man will come in and take the prey from them—and, in that event, I think Gen. Lewis will be the man—although the choice may fall upon some one of the clerks, many of whom are much more competent to fill the place as it should be, than a good number of the aspirants. *En attendant*, every body is on the lookout—the whigs laughing at the strife going on around them, and the by-standers much amused. I will keep you informed of the progress of the struggle from day to day, as it goes on.

In the House yesterday, a bare quorum was present, as is usual on Monday morning, but a good deal of business was pushed through—altogether, however, of a private character. This morning the Pension Act was passed, which disposes of about eighty thousand dollars—a small, little trifle, which the Treasury is very well able to let go. It used to be said that "when the brains were out, the man was dead." This may have been true once, but Banquo's ghost established a contrary doctrine, which has been adhered to ever since. By reference to authentic documents, it can be made to appear that there are more names on the Pension List now than there were soldiers on the plains of Chalmette! But what's the odds? What's the use of money if it isn't spent? And, suppose the money *is* raised by exorbitant taxation, are politicians to be refused the making of political capital? It's all right, you may depend upon it, or, if it isn't, (as the planters say to the merchants when in arrears to them) "we'll make it right in the fall"—and this, by turning out the party in power, and letting other and abler men get there in their stead.

In the Senate, the bill creating twelve or more weighers, with authority to appoint one or more assistants, was taken up and after considerable debate passed. The duties they are to perform consist in weighing all the cotton and sugar which comes to the market. The operations of this bill I can say nothing about, as I know nothing upon the subject. It was introduced by Mr. Nichols, who pressed its passage with some earnestness. It is said that great complaints are made by the planters because their cotton and sugar does not weigh as much in New Orleans as it does at home, and that by appointing regular weighers, this cause of complaint will be removed; but it appears to me a special legislation upon commerce, which is doubtful in any beneficial results.

The Senate was occupied a good part of the morning in the reconsideration of the act abolishing tacit mortgages. There seems to be a disposition among a certain class of politicians to do away with all the security now insured by law to minors and married women, upon the ground that it effects commercial interests and the money market. This, in my opinion, is all a falacy. Any tacit lien upon property can not be easily discovered, if the proper pains are taken, and to release the property of husbands and tutors from the mortgage of their wives and wards is to put the latter at the mercy of careless and dishonest men, against whom no recourse can be had. Mr. Nichols took something of this view of the question and argued it at length, and with commendable vigor. Mr. N. has only lately shown any of his powers in the Senate. He has a fine command of language, his ideas are always well digested, his manner is remarkably good, and himself in debate one of the ablest men in the Senate. The bill was recommitted to the Judiciary Committee.

A bill passed the Senate (having heretofore passed the House,) appropriating ten thousand dollars for the payment of the damages caused to the plantation of a man named Carr, I believe, from the cutting of the Raconrci cut-off. This opens the door for all sorts of reclamations from the citizens of Point Coupee and West Baton Rouge, who all suffered more or less from the same cause. The next thing will be an appropriation for every man whose levee has caved in high water; and then will follow, I hope, an appropriation of enough money to every man in the State to buy a farm. What is most singular is, that it passed without any opposition. And yet it is said that Mr. Macmurdo, from the Committee on Finance, in the House, is preparing a bill, the principal object of which is to raise the taxes one-sixth of one per cent! He had better make it ten per cent, at once, and even that amount would not be enough to satisfy all the treasury beggars. Perhaps, some time or other, the people, who, in the end, have to pay the piper, will look a little into these things.

The Pontchartrain Railroad bill is still hanging in the House. It would have passed this morning, but it has an agent up here of whom some of the members are suspicious, and they are fighting it off so as to be able to inquire into it. It will get through though, to-morrow. CEDRIC.

Baltimore Correspondence.

SOUTHERN COMMERCIAL CONVENTION—SENATOR DAWSON AND THE LADIES—JOLLY OR NOT JOLLY—BULL VS. BEAR—SEEDLING STRAWBERRY—CHIEF JUSTICE TANEY.

Correspondence of the Crescent.

BALTIMORE, April 8, 1853.

The Southern and South-western Convention, an offshoot of that held last winter in Baltimore, which is to assemble in Memphis in June next, appears to largely attract attention throughout the entire South and West, and we may expect important and beneficial results to flow from it if any degree of harmonious action can be educed from the necessarily conflicting views of the different sections that will there be represented. That action of that character will be produced, just to all sections but partial to none, I have every degree of confidence from a review of the proceedings of the original Convention. That body, however, so cramped itself in time that its action was to a degree necessarily vague and unsatisfactory. This I hope will not be the case with the Memphis Convention; whatever it puts forth should be deeply considered and well matured before being exposed to the opposition it must excite. It is not only, however, in the South and West that the Convention excites notice. The NewYork papers have taken the alarm at some of the measures proposed which look to rendering the South independent of that city, and the Herald and the Post have given the initiative in leaders which are alternatively wheedling, coaxing and denunciatory.

Talking of Commercial Conventions, (if I may be excused so wide a jump, and your readers will not "put too fine a point on it,") reminds me of a little episode that will do to tell. At the grand banquet given subsequent to our Convention, the ladies were of course toasted, and after a regular response was made a vociferous call was made on Senator Dawson, of Georgia, to say something about "Heaven's last best gift to man." The galleries were filled with the youth, beauty and fashion of the city, and the Senator, being a fine specimen of well preserved middle age, a *sensation*, as the French say, greeted his rise. An enthusiastic eulogium on womanhood generally was followed by particular references to our Baltimore fair. He said that in walking down Baltimore street with a bachelor friend he had admired their fascinating beauty, etc. The aforesaid bachelor friend agreed with him, and said he could not get the Baltimore ladies out of his head; but, said the Senator—raising himself and looking up to the galleries, whilst he gracefully moved his hand—I told him "they affected me *lower down*." Here a suppressed tittering was heard, which rose into a roar of laughter, as the speaker's hand fell decidedly lower than his heart, the point, it is charitably supposed, he intended to indicate. The ladies blushed and laughed behind their fans, but did not seem to take the joke unkindly.

All the Baltimore appointments have been made, and the question now is, whether, under the circumstances, our democracy are or are not jolly. The question, as Mr. Partington would say, is "decidedly duberous," and ought to be decided by a mixed commission. The victors are unmistakably and decidedly jolly, and so are their friends, who at this time are especially numerous. Champagne flows to celebrate the inauguration of this and that officer, and their exuberance is worked off in a variety of ways, whilst the complaisant aspect of their countenances, as they mingle with the crowd, seems to say, "we are the patriots who have sacrificed our private ease to serve the country—for a con-si-de-ra-tion. The disappointed are wofully cut up, and have the hard task of looking jolly when they are not jolly. They feel their wrongs, but dare not resent them. Even Richardson, of the Argus, who was an applicant for the Post-office, sings pæans over the elevation of his opponents, and now pronounces excellent nominations, which, before they received the seal of official confirmation, he said "must greatly disgust the democracy." Such is politics and such are politicians. Like Potenius, they alternately see a cloud, a camel, a weasel, or a whale, as the key note is given. Out-door rumor ascribes all our appointments to the influence of Robert McLane, son of Louis, who has portioned them out with special view to his own prospects for the Governorship of the State.

How is it that you Orleanois, just at this eventful moment, when the one-legged hero of Mexico is returning home, breathing wrath and fury against our country allowed his bearship, Gen. Jackson, to be so badly worsted by his bullship, Santa Anna. Is not such a result ominous, and ought not some patriotic Crescenter to have given old Attakapas a settler just at the time Bruin had him by the eye. I am afraid, after all, Gen. Jackson was nothing but a "greaser." N. B.—What a god-send this item of New Orleans Sunday amusements will be to Grosley! The "peculiar institution" will have to answer for it.

Religious circles here are agitated by another convert from the Episcopal clergy to the Roman Catholic church. The Rev. Mr. Baker, rector of St. Luke's church, in this city, yesterday, without previous notice, suddenly resigned his charge and announced his intention of joining the Catholic communion. His friends pronounce him insane. He was an ultra High-Churchman. Many Episcopalians here seriously believe that Bishop Whittingham, now in Europe, will, before his return, follow in the footsteps of Dr. Ives, and surrender the "signs of his rebellion to the Pope."

The fine seedling annual strawberry, lately introduced by a horticulturist of your city, has attracted the attention of our gardeners, and will, probably be largely cultivated here. The Messrs. Feast, and others of our fruit-raisers, are understood to have a high opinion of it.

Chief Justice Taney has been seriously ill at his residence in this city, but is now convalescent. Even his temporary sickness has given occasion to some of the papers to discuss the question as to who his successor would probably be, and what section of the country would be entitled to the nomination. OBSERVER.

From an Extra of the South-Western.

Destructive Fire.

SHREVEPORT, Friday Morning, April 8, 1853.—A fire broke out about one o'clock a. M. in a store on the Levee, near the corner of Texas street, which at one time threatened the destruction of the entire business portion of the town. How it originated is unknown. The flames were not got under until all the buildings from the corner of Milam and Commerce streets to Mr. Baer's store on Texas street, were consumed.

The following buildings were destroyed: On Commerce street, (the Levee)—T. M. Turner, building and stock burnt; no insurance. Iler & Beck, building and stock; partly insured. G. M. Nicholls, building consumed; part of the stock saved—$10,000 insurance. J. J. Gallagher, building and stock burnt. Roseland, building burnt; part of the stock saved. Robert Donnell & Co., buildings and stock burnt; partially insured. J. S. Thrasher, building and stock burnt. Norman's Exchange, building burnt. Fox & Hamlet, building burnt; part of the stock saved. On Texas street—Winter & Weinstock, building burnt; part of the stock saved. B. M. Johnson, building burnt; books, etc., saved. L. Newburger, building burnt; stock mostly saved. Of the goods saved the greater portion is badly damaged. The buildings on Texas street, belonging to Judge Jones and L. P. Crain, Esq., were uninsured. Those on Commerce street belonged to Messrs. Donnell, Nicholls, Norman Cain and Roach, of this place, and Paine and Harrison, New Orleans. A large amount of merchandise was damaged by our merchants hastily removing their stock, while fearful of a destructive conflagration.

It is impossible to ascertain the precise extent of the losses sustained. The following will approximate and perhaps reach them:

BUILDINGS.—Messrs. Crain & Jones, four store houses, $8000; Mr. George M. Nichols, four stores, $5000; Messrs. Payne & Harrison, $8000; R. Donnell & Co., $5000; estate of Wm. H. Waddy, $3000; Mr. T. Norman, $4000; Messrs Roach & Cain, $600. Messrs Crain & Jones and G. M. Nichols were partly insured, but to what extent they do not precisely know themselves. The above figures show the value of the buildings, according to our estimate.

MERCHANDISE.—Mr. Newburger, not ascertained; B. M. Johnson, loss trifling; J. S. Cutliff, artist, loss trifling; A. Winter, not ascertained; T. M. Turner, stock $12,000, no insurance, nothing saved; Iler & Beck, stock $22,000, insured for $10,000, some papers in an iron safe saved, and some merchandise of trifling value; G. M. Nichols, stock $18,000, partially insured; J. J. Gallagher, stock $7000—no stock belonging to other persons, $23,000; R. Donnell and Co., stock $12,000, partly insured; John Thatcher, stock $1000, insured for $8000—books and papers saved; Durham & McDonald, drinking house, stock $1000, a portion saved, no insurance. Fox & Hamlett, loss $1500, produce and groceries. In addition to the loss by fire, of goods which had been put upon the levee, we understand that thieving was carried on with a pretty high hand.

Some of our merchants are nearly ruined, but they are honest and have credit, and, with their usual energy, may recuperate.

Foreign Details by the Arctic.

Threatening Aspect of the Turkish Question.

The full accounts by the steamer Arctic at NewYork from Liverpool to the 23d March have come to hand. Among the distinguished passengers are Joseph Dembinski and Henry and Myer Rothschild.

The complicated state of affairs between Turkey and her neighbors begins to assume an alarming aspect. Part of this agitation is doubtless got up by speculators, but enough remains to show that there is more than probability of a storm breaking out in that quarter. The matter is referred to at length under to caption "Turkey."

ENGLAND.

Twenty sample bags of cotton, grown on the estates of the Pachs of Egypt, have just been received by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. The samples were grown under the superintendence of a young man sent from Manchester by the Chamber, and exhibit great improvement in cleaning and packing.

The reduction in the value of money in England begins to tell upon most classes of the community. During the past few days strikes for increase of wages have been made by workmen of nearly every description in Liverpool. Increased remuneration has been obtained by the carpenters, shipwrights, coopers, boot and shoe makers, warehousemen and seamen on the channel steamers, and steps have been taken for increased pay by the railway employees, watch-makers, paper-hangers, plasterers, carters and some other trades.

Lady Franklin's steamer Isabel would sail during the week for Behring's Straits. Mr. Kennedy takes command of the steamship.

Great adulterations have been detected in some of the imports of Australian gold.

The four seconds and surviving principal in the late duel of Egham, near London, have been found guilty of manslaughter, in killing Frederick Courvet, and are sentenced to two months' imprisonment, in addition to the five months they have already endured.

The once celebrated Court of St. Patrick's Day passed off very quietly this year at Dublin.

FIRE AT WINDSOR CASTLE.—About 10 o'clock on Saturday night of the 23d ult., a fire broke out at Windsor Castle, which was not subdued until 6 o'clock on Sunday morning. It appears that the Queen and Prince Albert returned to the Castle from Buckingham Palace in the afternoon, and dined in the Gothic dining room, and soon after Mr. Baker, the head collar-man, discovered smoke issuing from the south angle of the apartment, in consequence of fire having communicated from a flue. The tower in which this misfortune commenced, was a splendid piece of architecture, and nearly faced Eaton College, while the beautiful terrace and promenade stands immediately in front, and under the battlements is the tastefully laid out flower gardens and slopes, where her Majesty and royal children frequently enjoy walking exercise. On the ground floor was an apartment of great extent, and splendidly appointed, which was used by the Queen as the dining-room. The roof, or more correctly speaking, the ceiling, was inlaid with carved oak delicately heightened with gold. Over this magnificent apartment there were a number of rooms, principally devoted for sleeping apartments for the royal children and attendants, various other rooms adjoined those just mentioned, and the whole touched, or nearly so, the apartments in the Brunswick Tower.

With as little delay as possible, the news was communicated to the officers of the Royal Household, and in less than seven minutes a battalion of 700 of the Fusilier Guards were on the spot, and formed a barricade, and were quickly followed by the whole regiment of the 2d Life Guards, with three barrack engines, who battled nobly with the flames, but the intense cold froze the water in the hose. Meanwhile, the flames extended from the ground floor up the staircase, and having entered numerous apartments in the Prince of Wales's Tower, the whole became ignited. The parties in command of the engines did all they could to confine the fire within that part of the structure, but without the least success; and, in a space of time comparatively brief, the destructive element forced its way into the centre of the Brunswick Tower, when the sight that presented itself was such as to terrify all who beheld the spectacle—for the flames, in huge bodies, were rushing out of the various windows in each tower, threatening to take a complete circuit round the castle.

The reflection of the fire could be seen for miles distant. At Reading, nineteen miles away, it was stated that the inhabitants could see the fire issuing from the battlements of the tower, and many looked upon the work of destruction in the distant with fear and astonishment.

During this trying scene her Majesty and his Royal Highness, Prince Albert, betrayed not the least signs of fear, but appeared rejoiced at the willingness displayed by her loyal subjects in mounting the ladders, scattering the water over the fire, and doing all that was possible to subdue the conflagration. Prince Albert remained at the fire during the whole time, but the Queen and her household retired to their private apartments.

At about 11 o'clock the fire was at its height, when several engineers were playing on the tower from various directions. An express was also dispatched from the castle to the London fire brigade, which arrived with two powerful engines, under the superintendence of R. Braidwood, at two o'clock in the morning. About this time the fire was partially got under, but it was not totally extinguished before six o'clock.

The fire was chiefly confined to the tower, and the rooms destroyed are the Gothic dining-room and upwards of a dozen bed-rooms, with nearly all the splendid furniture. The Prince of Wales's Tower may be said to be completely gutted, and even a great portion of the roof is destroyed.

The plate rooms, which contained gold plate valued at between two to three millions of money, are situated immediately under the Gothic dining-room, where the fire was raging, but it was not considered necessary to remove any portion of it, as the rooms were made fire proof. As no portion of the property is insured, the loss will fall chiefly on the Lord Chamberlain's department. The kitchen and confectionery were uninstalled with water to the depth of seven feet. The loss was at first estimated at £100,000, but it has since been ascertained that £20,000 will repair all damage.

FRANCE.

It was stated in the diplomatic circles, that at the interview which took place between the Emperor and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, the Emperor repeated, in the strongest possible terms, his desire to act cordially with the English Government on the Eastern question, as the only means of preventing a conflict, which would only lead to the dismemberment of the Turkish Empire or a war in Europe.

It is currently reported that the Emperor of Austria has written a letter to the Pope in strong terms, that as the representative of an ancient monarchy, he desires to assert his right to precedence before Napoleon III. and that he would feel himself slighted if the Pope were to crown the Emperor of Europe until several months after his own coronation by the head of the church at Rheims.

The Legislative body met on Friday, when the President announced that he had received from the Minister of State the budget of 1853. The amount of revenue is 1,025,000,000f., that of the expenditure, 1,019,000,000f., which gives a surplus of revenue of 9,000,000f.

TURKEY.

The threatening aspect of Russia towards Turkey has caused the highest degree of excitement not only at Constantinople, but in France, and in a lesser degree in England. The late capitulation of Austria upon the Porte, public feeling was tranquilized by the thought that Russia took no part in the matter. No sooner, however, had the Sultan succumbed to the Austrian demands, than Russia, under the pretext of a mission to treat respecting the disagreements arising from the guardianship of the Holy Places, and other matters which diplomatic custom would have confided to an Envoy of no special *prestige*, dispatched Prince Mentschikoff, Minister of Marine, with the accompaniments of a staff of military and naval officers that gives his embassy more the appearance of a challenge to an enemy than of a mission to strengthen the footing between friendly powers.

Previous to his setting out for Constantinople, this envoy, Mentschikoff, passed in review the army on the Turkish frontier, and the Russian fleet in the Euxine gave as thorough a drilling to both as could have been done in view of a campaign, and even practised the troops of all arms in embarkation and disembarkation from the ships. These facts, although kept quiet at the time, have been elicited by the haughty tone assumed by Mentschikoff towards the Porte, and as may be supposed, have not tended to assuage the alarm which conduct so unlooked for naturally induced. Turkey, after all, being the weak spot in the relations between Russia, France and England, the public funds of the two latter countries have shown a depression, although much more in France than in England.

A curious and highly important feature in the present aspect of this "very pretty quarrel" is the evident disinclination of England to interfere in the business. This disinclination is so evident, as to have provoked the sarcasms of the Continental press, and especially of the French papers. The London Times has, indeed, stepped forward as the advocate of letting Turkey drop to pieces if she will, and argues that the integrity of the Ottoman Empire in Europe is no longer necessary to preserve the balance of power. Although the Times has doubtless *weighty* reasons for its opinions, it is not considered that the present feeling of the British Government is much different. In the meantime, the Admiralty, so far as is known, has contented itself with ordering a few ships to reinforce the Mediterranean squadron—the French fleet having, on the first intelligence of the difficulties, received orders to proceed to the Archipelago.

While this want of alacrity is displayed in England, Mr. Rose, acting for Britain at Constantinople, had dispatched the steamship Wasp with dispatches, dated 8th, for England, and, it was stated, with instructions to the British fleet at Malta to hasten with all speed to the Dardanelles. Notwithstanding these threatening appearances, it is reported in England to be the opinion of both the French and Austrian Courts that the matter in dispute will be peacably arranged. Up to the latest accounts, we are without authentic information as to what the demands of Russia really are. A careful consideration of all the information we can come at leads to the inference that the Russian has, in fact, to the present time, demanded nothing in particular, but has exhibited such an amount of what is vulgarly called "sauce," as has thrown the whole diplomatic world into a state of the liveliest indignation, a not unlikely circumstance.

PATAGONIA.

ATTACK ON AN EMIGRANT SHIP.—Intelligence has been received at Lloyd's, under date, Stanley, Falkland Islands, January 5, of a most daring attack on the ship Porcupine, of Liverpool, Millinger, master, by the Patagonians. It seems that, on passing through the Straits of Magellan, on her way to California, the Porcupine grounded. Early the next morning, the ship was surrounded by numerous canoes full of natives. The Captain, thinking they might be of no use to them, and a terrible conflict ensued; the savages fought despetately, and tried to burn the ship. After a severe struggle and great slaughter, they were beaten off, and three hundred bags of oats being thrown overboard, the ship floated. Two of the emigrants, named George Rowell and Henry Boyle, were killed, and several others severely wounded. The ship returned to the Falkland Island terribly disabled.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

We have news from the Cape to the 4th of February, a few days previously the Governor and his staff had left Graham's-Town to make some arrangements with the friendly chiefs, with a view to a declaration of peace. His Excellency had appointed a board of officers to assemble at Graham's-Town, for the purpose of investigating all claims or losses sustained during the war.

STOCK.—81 shares Pontchartrain Railroad for sale by E. McFARLAND & CO., apl12 2t 20 Commercial Place.

Official.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

APRIL 12, 1853.

The Board was to meet this day, pursuant to adjournment.

At half-past 6 o'clock, P. M., the roll was called.

Members present—Messrs. Braud, Converse, Irwin, Lugenbuhl and Sinnott.

There being no quorum, the Board adjourned to Thursday next, April 14, at 5 o'clock, P. M.

CHS. CLAIBORNE, Secretary.

Local Intelligence.

UNION COURSE.—The three mile race yesterday was won handily by Mr. Minor's horse *Berry* in two straight heats, beating *Louis D'Or*, the *Downing Filly* and *Wade Hampton*, the latter being distanced in the second heat. The attendance was very good and the track in fine order.

W. J. Minor's b. g. *Berry*, four years.....1 1
D. F. Kenner's b. h. *Louis D'Or*, five years..2 2
A. L. Bingaman's b. f. ——, three years...3 3
S. M. Hill's c. g. *Wade Hampton*, four years..4 dis.

Time—5:47 5:40¼.

There are but two entries for the race to-day, *Wade Hampton* and *Regent*. The former, we believe, has rather the call in betting circles.

INCENDIARIES.—An attempt was made on Tuesday night last, to set fire to the premises of Mr. Chs. J. Alleyn, on Calliope street, near the corner of Liberty and directly opposite the scene of the late disastrous conflagration. The fire was placed in a tin pan with half burned coals, pine wood and shavings; fortunately for Mr. Alleyn, the wood, after igniting and burning the end of one of the joists went out of itself.

THE COURTS.—Now that the election for Judges of the Supreme Court is over, the officers of the law are again busily engaged in their usual occupations. For some time before the election, Judges, lawyers, Clerks and Sheriffs troubled themselves in advocating the claims of proper men for the Supreme Bench; but now, that patriotic duty having been performed, they respectively trouble themselve with the decision of cases, the receipt of fees, the copying of papers, and the serving of citations, etc.

HURRAH FOR THE LAWYERS!—A case is now occupying the attention of the Third District Court in which not less than forty lawyers are