THE DAILY CRESCENT.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CITY.

JAMES O. NIXON, WILLIAM R. ADAMS.

BY NIXON, ADAMS & CO.

OFFICE, NO. 70 CAMP STREET.

TERMS:

The Crescent will be regularly served to subscribers in the city, at an early hour every morning, (Sundays excepted,) for $10 a year, in advance; half yearly and quarterly at the same rates, or 20 cents a week, payable to the carrier.

Advertisements, per square—first insertion, in all cases, $1; for every subsequent insertion, 50 cents.

Advertisements on the second page are charged $1 for every insertion.

Advertisements published at intervals, will be charged $1 per square for every insertion.

Advertisements not marked, will be published one month, or longer, and charged accordingly; no advertisement or subscription will be stopped until all arrearages are paid, at the option of the proprietors.

A Liberal Discount will be made to regular advertisers.

THE DAILY CRESCENT

Has a circulation which renders it a desirable medium for advertisers.

As a Family Paper it circulates largely, reaching many hundreds of homes at an early hour; and being read before the approach of business hours, consequently articles for family use may be advantageously published in its columns.

THE WEEKLY CRESCENT

Is published every Monday morning at $5 a year, invariably in advance. Having its extensive circulation throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama, Texas, and other States, it presents a favorable medium to advertisers of making their wares and commodities known. Advertisements inserted for $1 per square, each insertion.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 13, 1855.

☞ We invite the attention of our readers to a very able article in to-day's paper on the subject of the consolidation of our Public Schools, or, more correctly, the consolidation of the Boys' High Schools. We commend the article to our readers, as it is from the pen of a gentleman who thoroughly understands the subject. We shall publish another article on the same subject to-morrow.

ST. ANNA'S ASYLUM.—This evening, at Odd Fellows' Hall, Bishop Hopkins will deliver a lecture on "The true relation of Knowledge to the Welfare of Mankind," the proceeds being for the benefit of St. Anna's Asylum, for the relief of destitute females. The ability of the lecturer, the subject chosen, and the excellent object to which the proceeds are to be applied, will undoubtedly attract an unusually large audience.

THE MAILS.—The Northern and Eastern mails via Mobile, came through yesterday, bringing dates from all points as late as due.

The European mails by the America, from Liverpool, at Boston, will be due here to-morrow. Later intelligence is now due from Europe by the Collins steamer Baltic, which was to have left Liverpool on the 1st inst.

BUSINESS.—For the information of those who depend on public journalists for intelligence, we have to state, there is no diminution in the general state of trade on the levee; of course, it varies some from day to day. There were not quite so many arrivals of steamboats to-day, but this falling off gave room for those desirous of dispatch, and extended the time for removing the vast quantities of produce now on the levee. Since Saturday morning the receipts of cotton up to our usual hour of time last evening, were 49,012 bales. Several heavy loads are expected in to-day and to-morrow; we are all ready for it—prompt pay, speedy sales and good prices.

TENSAS RIVER.—Another large load of cotton from this bayou—we formerly called it—but we suppose, when boats bring out of it cargoes of 1800 to 2000 bales at a load, we must class it a river, particularly as the large quantity of 1137 bales comes to the address of one house, Buckner, Stanton & Newman, which will do tolerable well for a canoe stream, and to come to a place where the grass is to grow on our streets.

COTTON.—The receipts for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 o'clock last evening, were by the Southern Belle, from Grand Lake, 2658 bales; Frank Lyon, from Ashton, 2048; Linden, Bayou Macon, 525; Laurel Hill, from Bayou Sara, 329; from Tensas, by the Compromise, 1957; by the Jackson Railroad, 379—total 7896 bales cotton, 1166 hhds sugar, 2343 barrels and 235 half barrels molasses.

THE MISSISSIPPI CLOSED AT ST. PAUL.—At St. Paul, Minnesota, the Mississippi was considered closed on the 22d of November, the mercury having fallen to ten degrees above zero. In recapitulating the business of the season, the Pioneer shows that sixty-eight boats ran to that port, which is an increase of thirty over the previous year; and the total number of arrivals was five hundred and sixty; an increase of three hundred and fifteen. Sleighs commenced to run November 26th.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—The committee of arrangements of the Grand Military and Civic Ball to be given at the Masonic Hall on Saturday evening next, will please accept our thanks for the invitations they have honored us with.

The Ball is given to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Yager Company, and we doubt not will prove a very pleasant affair.

HOUSE-KEEPING GOODS.—Messrs. Henderson & Gaines, No. 99 Canal street, have in their establishment an assortment of house-keeping goods, which, for variety, extent and quality, cannot, perhaps, be surpassed in this city, if cleared. Their stock comprises diver-ware of all kinds and qualities, plated ware, cutlery, glass and earthen-ware, stoves, willow-ware, kitchen and cooking utensils, with many other things altogether too numerous for specification. A good idea of the general character of the wares may be gleaned from the advertisement, and we only take the liberty of saying that every article sold at that establishment will be found to verify the representations made. For particulars refer to the advertisement.

FOR LOUISVILLE.—The magnificent, well-known and popular passenger packet steamer Robert J. Ward, Capt. Silas F. Miller, leaves for Louisville and all intermediate landings, this afternoon, at 5 o'clock. She will leave punctually at the hour designated, for Captain Miller is a minute man, as all masters of splendid and well conducted steamboats ought to be.

There is not, perhaps, on the waters of the Mississippi or its tributaries, a steamer more conveniently arranged for the comfort of passengers; where elegance and ease are so well combined; where the most sumptuous of fare and the most assiduous of attention, tend to make the sojourner feel entirely at home; and where the best of skill and the most unceasing watchfulness guard the passenger against the accidents so lamentably common upon our Western rivers.

Messrs. Batterton & Keefe, 30 Tchoupitoulas street, are the agents of the Ward, and at their office a plan of the cabin may be seen.

FOR CUMBERLAND RIVER.—The fine new steamer E. Howard, Northern, master, puts out this evening for Paducah and the Cumberland river. Lewis, Snapp & Co., 37 Front street, are the agents.

FOR CINCINNATI.—The regular passenger steamer Mediator, Wilkinson, master, leaves this evening for Cincinnati and way stations. John E. Hyde & Co., No. 66 Poydras street, are the agents.

COLUMBIA FIRE COMPANY.—Members of Columbia Fire Company will notice an advertisement requesting their attendance at a special meeting to be held this evening at 7½ o'clock. Business of importance is expected to come before them.

FOR CINCINNATI.—The regular packet steamer Indiana, Barber, master, puts out for Cincinnati and all intermediate landings, at the usual hour this evening. John E. Hyde & Co., No. 66 Poydras street, are the agents.

FOR RED RIVER.—The fine passenger packet steamer Rose, Joseph Sallis, master, leaves this evening, at 5 o'clock, for Shreveport, and all landings on Red River. Lewis Snapp & Co., 37 Front street, are agents for the Rose.

FOR CINCINNATI.—The fine passenger boat Hungarian, Collier, master, leaves for Cincinnati at 5 o'clock this evening. Those going up river will find the Hungarian a safe and comfortable boat, well officered and well regulated. John E. Hyde & Co., 66 Poydras street, are her agents.

THE POLICE OF THE CITY.

At the last session of the Common Council, Mayor Lewis sent in a message recommending that the present police force of the city be augmented by the addition of one hundred and fifty men—being one hundred less than recommended by the Grand Jury a week or two since.

On the plain proposition of increase of force there can be no difference of opinion. Indeed, double the number recommended, and let all, together with the existing police, be considered true and faithful men, and the force would hardly be sufficient to protect and guard the persons and property of a city like New Orleans, spread as it is over so large an extent of territory. We have plenty of room within the incorporated limits of New Orleans for half a million of population, were the packing process as well known here as in New York, and although we have not that population, the space ought to be carefully and sedulously watched. Because people are scattered, instead of being crowded like sheep in the shambles, it does not follow that they do not pay taxes and are not entitled to protection.

So far, all is plain sailing. But, now let us look at the other side of the picture. It is always well to look at both sides. In fact, the whole truth cannot be arrived at, no matter what the subject, unless all the points in controversy are dispassionately considered. The employment of one hundred and fifty additional policemen would cost the city at the rate of about $90,000 per annum. Now, here is matter for reflection: If these men are employed, where is the money to come from to pay them? They must be paid, and should be paid promptly. At best, the lot of a police officer is hard work, and poor pay, with continual grumbling ringing in his ears, whether he has been remiss in, or faithful to, the discharge of his duties. But, the money must come from some source! That is a foregone conclusion, if the additional expense is determined upon. What source? That is an extremely difficult question to answer. Real estate can bear no further taxation. The burthens put upon it are already enormous, and are reacting disastrously upon its value. Further imposts would be ruinous—would be like the last ounce that broke the back of the camel. Where, then, are we to go to provide the means to meet the proposed additional expense? We are very sure we can't tell. If there is any species of property not highly taxed in this metropolis, we would like to see it pointed out—we would be pleased to see the happy owner—and doubt not the whole community would take pleasure in bestowing unusual marks of regard upon him.

This being already an overtaxed community—as taxation has reached the extremest limit consistent with good policy or safety—it strikes us that, before a large expenditure is resolved on, ways and means should be provided to meet that expenditure. Let us not enter into any contracts which we are unable to see our way clearly through. The neglect of preparing for the future in advance has brought many evils upon this corporation. The bitter experience of the past should teach us to beware of such false steps for all time to come.

We are in favor of increasing the police force, and would cordially second the recommendation of the Mayor's message, if we could see where the money is to come from to pay the men thus employed, without increasing the onerous burthens which now press, incubus like, upon the energies and progress of our population.

In addition, we will remark that, were the Police Board abolished, and the present force placed under the exclusive control of the Mayor and Chief of Police, we believe thrice the existing efficiency would be at once seen and felt. Still we have no idea that party will allow such a desirable consummation.

A State Teachers' Association.

We notice in the Thibodaux Minerva, a call upon the male and female teachers of Louisiana, signed "Many Teachers," to assemble in the town of Thibodaux on Friday and Saturday, 28th and 29th days of this month, for the purpose of forming a State Teachers' Association. The object of the meeting is to elevate the standard of the profession, which can only be, done by a thorough co-operation oh the part of all of those engaged in the cause of education. To accomplish this end, an earnest invitation is extended to every parish in the State, to every college, seminary and academy, to the managers of city schools and originators of school systems, to send as many representatives as may be thought needful. From such a convention as this, there is little doubt good results would flow. The teachers could compare notes, hear arguments, and investigate the various plans and systems which might be urged forward by different advocates, and all might result in a *projet* for the re-organization of our present school laws, such as would meet with favorable consideration at the hands of our Legislature, and eventually redound to the improvement and moral elevation of thousands of children.

At all events, no harm can be done; and all we have to say, is to express the hope that the meeting may be largely attended by fitting representatives from all quarters of the State. Anything calculated to advance the cause of true education will receive from us a cordial support.

THE KANSAS TROUBLES.—The Kansas Herald of Freedom gives, in substance, the following account of the origin of the difficulties in Kansas:

A young man, named Dow, 22 years of age, while at a black-smith shop, where several border ruffians had congregated, was deliberately shot by one Coleman. An attempt was made to arrest the murderer, but through the assistance of his abettors, he escaped to Missouri.

A meeting of citizens, held on the spot where the affair occurred to enquire into the case, pronounced the act a cold blooded murder on the part of Coleman, and charged four men, Hagus, Burkley, Moody and Wagner, with being accessories. A series of resolutions were passed, and a committee appointed to investigate still farther, to search out the offenders, and to devise the means to bring them to justice.

Sheriff Jones arrested Jacob Brouson, at whose house Dow lived, for the purpose of having him give security to keep the peace, but, while proceeding to Lecompton, Bronson was rescued by a party of his neighbors. Jones sent to Pawnee, Missouri, for aid, declaring that the Governor of Missouri had assured him the assistance of 10,000 men if required.

In answer to Governor Shannon's call for aid, the President replied, by telegraph:

"Your dispatch received. All the power vested in the Executive will be exerted to preserve order and enforce the laws. On the receipt of your letter the preliminary measures necessary to be taken before calling out troops will be promptly executed, and you will be fully advised. FRANKLIN PIERCE."

The State Department received a dispatch by the America from Mr. Buchanan, to the purport that England positively declines giving any explanation in answer to our demands concerning alleged violations of the neutrality laws. All the Central American Governments have protested, through their diplomatic agents, against our recognition by Wheeler of the present Nicaraguan Government. These Governments state the opinion that the present Government of Nicaragua will not long continue, and declare their intention to exterminate all foreign adventurers who invade their soil for revolutionary purposes.

BISHOP HOPKINS' SIXTH LECTURE.

The sixth lecture of Bishop Hopkins—and last of the series—was delivered last evening at Odd Fellows' Hall. The usual large and respectable audience attended. The subject chosen by the Bishop upon this occasion was, the true character of the temporal power claimed by the Pope of Rome.

He had been glad, the lecturer said, to learn that the Papal power had been a subject of consideration by the last American Congress; the time had arrived when it had become recognized as an element in our politics and an influence of the greatest importance upon our elective franchise. He had considered with some attention the questions involved in the idea of Papal supremacy, for he himself—although adopted in early childhood—was a citizen of this great Republic, and held it a duty to make himself acquainted with a subject of such vital importance to his country.

The lecturer then proceeded, by quoting from the Roman Catholic creed, as proclaimed by the Council of Trent, to show the true character of the temporal power claimed by the Pope. The book of Charles Butler—recognized by Roman Catholics in this country and in Europe as a faithful interpretation of their creed, defined the spiritual and temporal powers of the Pope as the highest on earth. The convert to that faith must acknowledge the Roman Catholic the mother of all churches and of all apostolic power, and must swear true obedience to the Pope, who held supremacy of rank, supremacy of jurisdiction, and supremacy over every matter in which a decision was to be rendered; so that the final conclusion must invariably be—"Rome has spoken, and the matter is determined!" According to the faith, as expounded by this author, the head of the church is the only recognized final tribunal in the world, and if a question could arise regarding its powers, the Pope, who is that head, would be the only judge to decide it. How can a power more despotic be imagined than this, where the potentate is his own judge?

In regard to the extent of these powers, and to the question of what is true obedience to the Pope, a difference of opinion had existed among Roman Catholics—the one side claiming them in the most unlimited sense—even to the right of depriving a sovereign of his crown—and the other dissenting therefrom; but practically the difference amounted to nothing. The convert in all cases swears obedience to the creed of Pope Pius IV, and that creed asserts the supremacy and infallibility of the head of the church. Therefore, if the Pope be personally infallible, who shall say that his decisions are ever wrong?—if he is above all laws and canons, how can it be said that temporal sovereignties are not subject to him, or that bounds may be set to his power on earth? From the time of Pope Gregory VII, the founder of the Romish Church, down to the time of Pope John, who excommunicated King Louis of France, the Popes had arrogated to themselves this extreme supremacy; each one had in turn steadily maintained the doctrine that all earthly power must be subject to his own, as the vicegerent of God on earth, and that empires and sovereignties must be dependent upon his will. After a struggle of nearly four centuries for complete spiritual and temporal power, the creed of the Council of Florence had been enacted, reaffirming and establishing these assumptions.

Can it be said that these powers are not now claimed? From the time of that Council up to the present day, events have proved that Papacy has no idea of surrendering this supremacy, and this opinion the learned Bishop sustained by citing numerous instances in which it had been arrogated and pertinaciously adhered to in later years.

What reply, then, should be made to those French, English and Irish Catholics, who assume that the head of their church does not now interfere with temporal affairs, or at least not with the attributes of temporal sovereignties? The claim to the right of doing so has never been abandoned. True, it has not been exercised, for the reason that political expediency would not warrant it, and the inability to do so was well understood. Who then would say that, were it expedient, this claim would not be enforced, and where do ecclesiastics and writers obtain their authority for asserting that the Catholic creed has in this respect undergone a change? France had adhered to that construction of the creed which refuses to the Pope these powers, and had not fallen under the papal interdiction; this was because it was feared that she might follow the example of England and shake off the yoke; but the fact had led multitudes to believe that the construction which did not recognize the Pope's political power was authorized by the church itself. This was a great error. Never yet had one Pope been found to admit that he yielded one iota of the ancient prerogatives, and the only reason why the Popes of later years do not assert and urge them, was that they dared not.

He had no doubt that such of our American orators and statesmen as are Catholics would deny to the head of their church this temporal and political supremacy, but that was merely a personal opinion, which concerned only themselves; they might indeed resist any attempt to establish it; history furnishes numerous precedents of resistance to it by men whose oath to this Church had acknowledged it. A few hundred years ago the Pope was universally recognized the great sovereign and spiritual and temporal head of the world; but times had changed—that tremendous power had declined—but the full light of history, the assertion in their creed of its unchangeableness, the fact that no Pope up to the present time has ever renounced his prerogative, proved that the claim to the right of exercising supreme jurisdiction still existed.

And who might undertake to foresee the consequences that may result to this country from a blind indifference to the future of this question? Let Europe continue to pour her millions among us, let the papal power continue to increase here, aided by foreign Catholic governments, who instinctively hate republican principles—and who shall say that a few years may not see our country deluged with the blood of civil war, brought about by bigotry and intolerance, and carried on with the sanguinary fury characteristic of Roman Catholic persecution?

He did not think such a war probable, but it might be possible. The power of the Romish Church was by no means to be looked upon as not dangerous, when wielded for temporal harm; it held absolute dominion over the souls and bodies of 13,000,000 human beings.

Want of space compels us to omit the concluding portion of this able and interesting lecture.

A farmer in Nebraska declares that the pumpkins in the fields are so large as to endanger the lives of his entire household. A few days since one of his family had, by means of a rope ladder, climbed to the top of a tremendous squash, when he was seized with a sort of dizziness and falling off fractured both his arms, broke his leg, and hurt himself besides. [Exchange.

We had, before, some vague feeling of respect for that far-off land which Yankee inspiration described as the Hesperides of the century, and the Atlantis of the age. Statistics are, however, gradually abolishing our feelings of reverence, and changing the golden conception into a very hard and unpoetic reality. The clipping above is another instrumentality of disappointment. Why, in the name of all newspaperdom! should it be circulated as strange, that, in the great fields of Nebraska, pumpkins of, perhaps, ten feet high are grown, when, in our own Attakapas parishes, it is notorious that negro-quarters are composed of nothing else, and that the most comfortable domicile to be found consist of these hollowed agricultural habitations; that churches are made of squashes, whose natural spires not unfrequently overtop the best achievements of architectural skill, and are lit by stars which gyrate within their roofs! If no brighter prompting for the fire of genius is needed by our confreres of the press, we commend them to Attakapas, where the aborigines found dwellings with well-stocked larders, ready supplied to them by a beneficent nature, and where whole generations lived and do now live in agricultural glory and—agricultural homes.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

GAIETY THEATER.—"Paul Pry," "Giralda," and "Crimson Crimes."

ORLEANS THEATER.—Halevy's grand opera of "The Jewess."

ST. CHARLES THEATER.—"Othello," and the "Rough Diamond."

PEEL'S SOUTHERN OPERA HOUSE.—The Campbell Minstrels in a great variety of Songs and Dances.

VANNUCHI'S MUSEUM.—Wax statuary and cosmoramas, at 107 St. Charles street.

FRANKLIN MUSEUM.—Statuary, reptiles, etc., at 105 St. Charles street.

FOR VICKSBURG.—The Southern Belle, Capt. Broadwell, is off at 5 o'clock this evening, with the U. S. mail for Vicksburg and way stations. She is a fine, fleet boat, and those going up river should apply to her agents Carroll, Pritchard & Co., Union Row, No. 52 Carondelet street.

FOR PITTSBURG.—The fine, regular, passenger steamer Iowa, Moore, master, leaves for the head waters of the Ohio this evening, at 5 o'clock. For freight or passage apply on board, or to John E. Hyde & Co., No. 66 Poydras street.

FOR OUACHITA RIVER.—The fine, light-draught steamer R. L. Cobb, Northern, master, leaves this evening at 5 o'clock, for the Ouachita river and all landings as far as Harrisonburg. Lewis Snapp & Co., 37 Front street, are the agents.

FOR TENNESSEE RIVER.—The good and safe steamer Eastport, C. W. Harrison, master, leaves at the regular hour this evening, for the Tennessee river, direct. For freight or passage apply on board or to Lewis Snapp & Co., 37 Front street.

We are requested by Morphy & Nevius, auctioneers, to call the attention of the ladies and gentlemen who appreciate the fine arts, to the extensive and magnificent sale which will be continued this day at 10 o'clock in the sales-room up stairs, first floor, store No. 49 Magazine street. Great bargains can again be had.

New Orleans Money Market.

CRESCENT OFFICE, No. 60 Camp street, Wednesday Evening, Dec. 12, 1855.

There was more long dated paper offering to-day, but not sufficient to absorb the money now idle. Short dated that is outside of Bank time continues to be placed at 8 per ct. for A 1 names; longer dated of same character from 8½ to 9. The Canal and Louisiana State Banks discounted all that was offered, with some trifling exceptions. The general position of money matters continues to be of that favorable character which we have from day to day noticed.

The operations in Cotton to-day reached a tolerable high figure as regards the number of bales sold; in fact the Cotton market is buoyant, and cotton factors are about the most independent people we encounter in the daily course of our peregrinations.

In the Stock Market to day there was some further sales of Canal Bank, say sixty shares on P. T., and a negotiation in progress for 116 shares more. This Bank makes its regular semi-dividend on the 24th inst, which will be five per cent. The annual election of the Southern Bank was held to-day, which resulted in the return of the following gentlemen, as Directors for the year 1856: Frederick Rodewald, Louis Volz, James L. Wilbray, Ferdinand Rodewald, Gustan Miltenberger and Thomas Byrne, of the house of Byrne, Vance & Co.

The Exchange market continues to stiffen; the Banks were firm to-day at ¼ per ct. dis. on New York, with one exception, the Southern, which was drawing in the early part of the day at ⅜; private bankers sold at ¼, under a good demand; sixty days bankers bills were taken at 1⅜ and 1½ to 1¾ for other grades, though some of the Banks were only offering 2. The Banks are buying sight at ¼ to ⅜. Sterling advanced to 8¾ for investment for strictly prime, though some drawers ask 8¾, the market closing from 7¾ to 8¼ for clear bills, and 7 to 7¾ for bills with shipping documents. Francs firm at 5.28¾ to 5.25¾, the latter for first class drafts on Paris direct. On New York private drawers, at the close of the day, were asking ¾ dis. for sight; ⅝ for three days; ½ to ⅝ for fifteen day, and ⅜ to 1 per ct. for thirty days sight for the general run of produce bills, sixty days sight, there is a scarcity, and rates are firm from 1⅜ to 2¼ per ct. dis. With the very heavy basis for making Exchange and the large amounts held by the Banks, the market presents features which have not occurred for many years. Of course it is highly advantageous to cotton, and it is not the deficiency in sugar exchange which occasions the singular state of affairs, because that it is more than made up by the large amounts of cotton bills, and we must only regard the existing state of the market as being under control of the natural law of supply and demand.

In the course of our duty as public journalists, we find it of interest to our readers and the public in general to comment on many operations in trade, and particularly on finance; to scrutinize the dealings of the Banks with the community and the community with the Banks, and those questions of importance which have to be settled by appeals to law, are paramount objects of attention, and when a defense is made of "usury!" to resist a contract formed in Louisiana—a defence which would nullify one half of the contracts which are daily made, and vitiate the most solemn obligations between man and man, or between borrowers and lenders of money; in fact the contracts with, and loans from the Bank of Louisiana and the Louisiana State Bank might be sought to be avoided by the plea of usury, on the ground that they charge nine per ct. interest on long loans by the terms of their charters and the rate having been established by law since their charters were granted at eight per ct. Conceiving that a plea entered by Messrs. James Connoly & Co., of this city, in a suit brought by the Bank of New Orleans to compel them to comply with an obligation which they entered into with this Bank in behalf of Messrs. Page & Bacon, St. Louis; we, in this column of our paper, on the 22d inst., commented on the non-payment of the two notes of hand made by Page & Bacon for $20,000 each and the non-performance on the part of Connoly & Co. of their contract with the Bank, and referred to Page & Bacon in the following words, regarding the plea of usury:

This is a singular defense of Messrs. Page & Bacon, who, it is presumed, are the real defendants, after receiving $40,000 at a time when the business of New Orleans required all its available capital; to give a note dated New Orleans, and in which place the negotiation and contract was made, refuse to liquidate the balance and carry out the original agreement, then coolly assign as a reason that the debt is usurious, and plead the laws of another State to evade payment. Page & Bacon have had the reputation of being honorable and high-minded men. If they desire to retain the good name, we recommend them to settle the debt immediately. We may refer to it again.

This has elicited from Messrs. Page & Bacon the following letter, the singularity of the superscription probably delayed its receipt, being "Editor and Proprietors of the New Orleans":

ST. LOUIS, November 30, 1855.

Editors and Proprietors of the Crescent, New Orleans:

GENTLEMEN—In your money article of the 22d inst., you have called attention to the suit "now in progress before the Fourth District Court, entitled the Bank of New Orleans vs. James Connoly & Co."

The apparent particularity with which you speak of the case, justifies us in the supposition that it was penned with a malicious intent, and as the article is libelous, and your statements relative to ourselves without foundation and wholly untrue, we have to say, that without an explicit admission on your part, and in a manner as public as the libelous article, that the same was written without knowledge relative to our agency in the defence to which you refer; that you have reason to believe and do believe, that at the time the same was written, that we had made no defense whatever in the suit referred to, and that the defense set up of "usury," is alone attributable to the defendants, James Connoly & Co.; we shall at once place the matter in the hands of our friend Hon. J. P. Benjamin, with instructions to bring suit against you for libel.

Respectfully, PAGE & BACON.

At the time we wrote the article the impression was general in the city that the plea of usury was made under instructions from Page & Bacon; apart from this the inference we drew was a natural one under the circumstances. We think that no person except Page & Bacon will discover in our article any evidence of a desire to do them an injury, or any malicious intent, and we here desire to state that no such motives governed us. We were acting in the discharge of our duty as journalists to keep the public advised of important matters transpiring in our midst, calculated seriously to affect the commercial character of our city.

It will be seen that it was not with Page & Bacon that we were dealing, but with the character of the plea by which it was sought to evade a just obligation. In a commercial community like ours it is of vital importance that everything calculated to impair a lofty spirit of integrity should be held up to public condemnation. The defense in this case was, in our opinion, calculated to militate against the public interests, and we deemed proper to call attention to it. We had no personal ends to serve, we but discharged a duty devolving on us as journalists, and we take this occasion to distinctly announce that no fear of suits or personal consequences will ever deter us from expressing an opinion on all matters of public interest.

When a matter of public interest becomes part of the records of our judicial tribunals, we do not perceive any impropriety in placing before our readers its purport and progress, particularly when we consider the defense violates commercial faith and uprightness, yet we shall ever scrupulously respect the rights and private acts of individuals.

As Page & Bacon unequivocally and explicitly deny that they made the plea of "usury," nor endorsed it, the allegations against them falls to the ground, and we give them the full benefit of their communication. A question of veracity now arises, as to who suggested the plea of usury, and at whose instigation it was made.

The relative position of the plaintiffs and defendant in the suit at the time of the negotiation must be taken into consideration. One of the co-partners of J. Connoly & Co. was a director in the bank, and resigned June 20, 1854. Mr. Connoly, a partner, was elected to fill the vacancy, but held it only a brief period. Mr. Fox was re-elected, took his seat, and on the 25th of December delivered, while a director, the last note of Page & Bacon and received the proceeds thereof.

We shall return to this subject again.

FOR CINCINNATI.—The regular passenger steamer Delta, James Ford, master, leaves for Cincinnati and intermediate landings, at 5 o'clock this evening. John E. Hyde & Co., No. 66 Poydras street, are her agents.

FOR GALVESTON AND MATAGORDA BAY.—The fine steamship Mexico, Capt. Lawless, leaves for Galveston and Matagorda Bay, this morning, at 8 o'clock. Harris & Morgan, foot of Julia street, are the agents of the line.

FOR LAKE PROVIDENCE, NATCHEZ AND FORT ADAMS.—The great Frank Lyon, Capt. J. H. Estes, leaves for the above named ports this evening at the usual hour. She is one of the best boats on the river, and passengers can secure berths by applying on board or to T. B. Smith, No. 12 New Levee street.

MARRIED:

On Tuesday evening Dec. 11, by the Rev. W. T. Leacock, JAMES S. PRAGUS to Miss MARIA F. WATKINS, daughter of the late Wm. H. Watkins, all of this city.

☞ Baltimore and Washington papers please copy.

☞ We have frequently heard the celebrated German Bitters, sold by Dr. C. M. Jackson, 120 Arch street, Philadelphia, spoken of in terms of the highest commendation, and we believe that it is one of the best medicines advertised for the complaints for which it is recommended. They are pleasant to the taste, and can be taken under any circumstances by the most delicate stomach. The press, far and wide, have united in commending this invaluable remedy for dyspepsia, debility, etc., and such are the healing effects of this panacea, that we hope it may be introduced to every family where dyspepsia has or is likely to have a victim. See advertisement. d4 1md&W

☞ CIRCUS COMPANY COMING!—HORACE M. SUTTON'S American Circus Company will be in town in a few days, and the lovers of Equestrian Exercises may expect a rich treat, as the Company comprises some of the best talent in the world, consisting of superb Riders, Vaulters, Vocalists, Tumblers, Clowns, Comedians, Acrobats and Dancers, etc.

☞ They will be located at the old Circus stand, corner of Poydras and Baronne streets. d11 3p

[Communicated.]

CONSOLIDATION OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

High School for Boys—University of Louisiana.

Messrs. Editors—Believing that the leading importance of the subject will justify the request, I ask the attention of your readers to some considerations connected with our city's educational interests.

While, with very many of my fellow-citizens, who have given earnest and continued attention to the whole matter of public education as adapted to our necessities, I would deplore any action tending to the general consolidation of our Public Schools, I am convinced that for special reasons, one step in that direction may be safely and advantageously taken. Leaving the Primary, Intermediate and High Schools for Girls, as they are, I would respectfully submit that the several High Schools for Boys should be condensed into one.

Some of the arguments which, I think, should weigh in favor of centralizing these particular schools, are as follows:

1st. The eminently successful examples we have in the Central High School of Philadelphia, and the Free Academy of New York, institutions which not only illustrate the high claims and benefits of free public education, but in doing it, honor and bless the cities which gave them birth and sustenance.

2d. The higher scholastic grade, and more extended course of studies which such a school might adopt, as compared with those now practicable of our High Schools. Neither of the justly celebrated schools above named could have attained their present commanding positions and usefulness in the higher departments of science and learning, but for their *setting* in the great cities where they exist.

3d. The liberal annual appropriations for the maintenance of four High Schools for Boys, amounting probably to $15,000, will not only suffice for the attainment of all this most desirable elevation and progress, but may, with anything like judicious administration, be diminished fully one-half.

An endowment affording a cash income of $6,000 per annum, (which is in equal monthly portions, would, it is conceived, be adequate to the sustenance of a school of a high order of excellence; especially, if this sum could be (as in a single school) almost wholly devoted to the securing of the best teachers in the country. It is the *teacher* that makes the school.

At present, with four annual rents, four porters, four annual bills for renovations and repairs, and four bills for fuel—to say nothing of other contingencies of each separate establishment, too much of the yearly appropriation is necessarily consumed upon their mere accessories, and too little of it left to secure and compensate such teachers as are required. Besides which, in lieu of the twelve or thirteen teachers now employed, a Central High School would, for some years, in all probability, not require more than four or five, including the principal. When other instructors were made necessary by an increasing prosperity, tutors, at lower salaries—young men trained in the institution—might be, as they generally are, employed.

4th. The unquestionable physical ability of the boys in our High Schools to attend one suitably located with recitations at one session of all. This is presumed to be so generally conceded, as to need no argument. If there be sufficient in the thoughts above presented to awaken inquiry, perhaps one of the first questions to be answered will be: "Granting that such a condensation, for the reasons given is desirable, where can a suitable building be found; and how can our School Board, in the present embarrassed condition of the city finances, and the diminished amount of their own resources, procure it?" The query is proper, and merits a reply. The State of Louisiana, with great liberality, and with the enlightened and patriotic purpose of providing the means of a home education to the youths and young men of the State, has built and kept up by direct appropriations of its Legislature, the commodious edifices pertaining to its University, on Common, between Baronne and Dryades streets. That University is governed, in its general concern, by a Board of Administrators, under a charter which gives to them the power to rent, for purposes consonant with the general design of the institution, any portion of its ample premises not required by its existing schools. They are also similarly authorized to incorporate with the University, in addition to its Medical, Law and Collegiate Departments, any other scientific or literary schools or bodies that it may judge to be conducive to its great object—the advancement of general and liberal learning. With these powers, so liberally bestowed by a State which was at the same time proving its sincerity by its acts of positive benefaction in the bestowal of money and valuable property, to guide them, it is not to be presumed that this Board of Administrators would fail to meet the School Boards in a spirit of liberality, should the use of some of the empty halls of the University be sought for a great Central High School for the youths of our city. On the contrary, it is presumable of easy proof that its own interests, as a University, would be speedily and permanently promoted by inviting the city to locate its High Schools for Boys in one of its ample buildings.

Any legal objection to this, would be fully met by either a moderate rent, or by allowing the boys from any of the parishes to enter this school upon paying, per capita, the actual expense of its maintenance.

The true positions of the Boards of Administrators of the University and the School Boards, with reference to such an arrangement, might be stated thus: The former have ample buildings, located precisely where they would be wanted for a Central High School or Academy, and well adapted to its purpose; but they have no endowment, and no funds with which to pay any teachers; so that even the small Grammar School which now exists within it, is, in fact, a private enterprise. On the other hand, the Board of Public Schools control and expend large funds, received by them with as unanimity of public approval and with certainty, by annual appropriation. They have also a large number of pupils, ample provisions in text books and other expensive concomitants of a school—with what would be, if they had any place in which to collect, preserve and use it, a respectable scientific apparatus. Could an arrangement be effected between them by which the west wing (formerly the Medical College) could be appropriated to the accommodation of a High School or Free Academy, the results, it is conceived, must be mutually most beneficial. This building is three stories high, of large area and susceptible of entire adaptation to the purpose of such an institution. Besides the reason for such a combination of resources already hinted at, a long series of additional arguments might be offered, and the details of a plan of operations submitted which would go far to obviate possible and partial objections. But if the present article is only successful in attracting the attention of the several Boards indicated, their own patriotism and experience will suffice to furnish and adjust all these.

The subject is one of vital importance, and with your consent, I will resume it in your next issue. C.

A powder-house near Portsmouth, Ohio, took fire a few days ago and exploded with a tremendous shock. No lives were lost. An astonishing number of powder explosions have taken place in this country within the last two years.

STEAMER CAPITOL.—The favorite steamer Capitol, Capt. Ure, failed for once to arrive regularly yesterday, and considerable anxiety was evinced by many that she had met with some serious accident, but all apprehensions were quieted by the arrival late in the evening of the C. D. Ure and New Latona, the officers of which report her aground at LeBlanc's plantation.

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