THE DAILY CRESCENT.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CITY.

JAMES C. NIXON, WILLIAM H. ADAMS.

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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 in the same rates, or 90 cents a week, payable to the carriers.

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN'Y 9, 1856.

☞ SEE FIRST PAGE. ☜

☞ The officers of the steamer T. H. Larkin have our thanks for late Memphis papers.

STATE HOLIDAY.—Yesterday was observed as the State Holiday, being the anniversary of the ever memorable defense of this city on the 8th January, 1815. It has become, by legislative enactment, a dies non in trade and finance. For six or seven years following the great event, the day was regarded by those who participated in its eventful progress, as one worthy of being commemorated in all time to come, with which our law makers coincided, and enacted a statute which has given our citizens a day of rejoicing and festivity. A partial cessation from general business transactions was perceived yesterday. The banks and private banking houses were closed; the public offices, the Courts, Custom-House and Post Office closed at the usual hours of general holidays. Some of the exchange offices were opened in the forenoon to accommodate those who had forgotten to prepare the day previous. On the levee and steamboat landings there was, however, a great press of business. A great deal of produce was exposed, which it was necessary should be protected from the weather, which foreboded rain all through the day.

The regular coast packets for Vicksburg departed at the usual hour, as also did those for the intermediate landings. There have been so many impediments from rain, and general unfavorable weather to trade, that every hour and every minute which can be rendered available must be used; therefore, there was no cessation of business with the cotton presses, warehouses and on the landings generally. Vessels are arriving freely, which diminish the prospects for a further advance in freights, and as about one hundred mil of good and large vessels are nearly due, and upwards of the present rates, say 5/8 sterling for Liverpool, and 1/16 to 1/8c. to Havre, and ¾ and ⅞c. for cotton to New York, pays better than the rates from New York to Europe. Consignees of New York are very chary of sales on vessels loaded with grain for winter voyages across the Atlantic, consequently there is every reason to entertain the belief that the freighting of cotton will have the preference; moreover, grain loaded vessels from this port have also advantages which vessels from Northern ports have not at this season; they can take the Southern route on the voyage to Europe, and avoid in part those terrific storms which have been the destruction of so many vessels, the loss of so many lives, and the bankruptcy of so many insurance offices, within the past few years.

THE EIGHTH.—The observance of the greatest anniversary with which our city has to do—the honor of which is shared, however, by our countrymen all along the banks of the Mississippi, and the whole course of its tributaries—was never more general and complete than on yesterday. We could have wished for a more favorable day and for more agreeable attendants—the sun refusing to shine and the streets being heavy with much mud. The spirit of the occasion atoned, nevertheless, for any deficiency of the celestial influences, and the great observance was fittingly kept.

With the military, the day was a gala and glorification, as usual. The splendid Continental Guards were out with full ranks, and made an imposing appearance. The Louisiana Legion, the Washington Artillery, the Orleans Artillery, the Horse Guards, and the National Guard, mustered with full ranks, fine music and excellent discipline. They were reviewed by Gov. Hebert, Commander-in-Chief, and paraded many of our principal streets and thoroughfares, not more to their own honor than to the interest and delight of all who saw them. Long may they live!—the citizen soldiery of the Union. Its ornament in times of peace, its shield and defence in times of war.

THE MAILS.—We received a further dividend of the mails past due, on yesterday, being dates from New York and Philadelphia of the 1st inst. We also received the President's Message.

By-the-by, we never, in our memory, recollect of a Message being received with so little regard, or so little interest taken in its contents, as the one received yesterday. Verily, how are the mighty fallen! If the present feeling continues towards Mr. Pierce and his Administration, his next and last annual message will be deemed only as a formality required by the constitution. In the meantime, there are due to-day further instalments of mail matter, say of the 2d and 3d inst., from New York. We should like to be informed regarding the mail service or contract between this city and Galveston. Where are the contractors? Where are the mails?

COTTON.—The receipts of cotton for the 24 hours ending at 6 o'clock last evening, were by the T. H. Larkin, from Memphis, 9,437 bales; Wm. Bagley, from Vicksburgh, 1,563; Laurel Hill, from Bayou Sara, 81; O. Beasley, from Montgomery, 1,062. Total, 9,077 bales. Sugar, 507 hhds., and 1,555 bbls. molasses.

BRAZOS ST. JAGO PACKET.—The Brazos St. Jago and Rio Grande steamship Nautilus, having been detained by bad weather in the Gulf, had not arrived at a late hour last night, and cannot depart on the regular day, to-morrow.

FOG.—Considerable detention is occasioned to steamboats by the thick fog. Last night the river was so enveloped that objects could not be seen fifty yards; consequently we may expect considerable delay in arrivals of vessels, steamers and steamboats.

AMUSEMENTS.—The amusements of the city flowered out more than wonted magnificence, the last evening. The theaters were well attended, and all the people had a gay, gala and glorious time. The great ball at the St. Charles attracted as large an attendance as any, and the animation with which those present pursued their search for amusement, made life pulse with all the vigor of seasons now buried. The ball was military, mask and fancy dress—each department being well and happily represented. Among those who were participants we noted not a few of our well-known citizens, and a very large sprinkling of black and blue eyes, lit up by the zest of the occasion. Where so many forms of beauty were congregated it would be invidious to select any for special commendation. We have to remember the long-flowing tresses and tiny-laden eyes of those it was our happy fortune to meet by the side of similar enchantments which illustrated seasons past; to put away and preserve the intellectual and *spiritual* expression of the one, the full and complete beauty of another; for food to many agreeable recollections when the present shall be merged in the dim hereafter. Those who attended touched the cons of enjoyment, if appearances carry any weight or evidence with them, and when the pleasures had an end there were few who did not wish it might be their happy fortune and privilege to renew their enjoyment many seasons to come.

FIRST APPEARANCE OF M'ME OLUZIA.—In addition to the usual performances and the curiosities in the museum on board the Floating Palace, this distinguished artiste upon the tight-rope makes her first appearance to-day, without additional charge for admission. She will appear at 2 P. M. and at 8 o'clock at night; and from all accounts, aside from the attractions of the museum, she alone presents irresistible attractions.

M'me Oluzia is pronounced at the North, wherever she has appeared at the principal theaters, much the most expert performer that has ever appeared on the tight-rope. Besides ascensions backwards, forwards and blindfolded, to a dizzy height on a slender rope, she dances and plays upon the cornet-a-piston very beautifully during her most daring feats. She is described to be indescribably graceful and beautiful.

A dispatch of the 29th, from Albany, N. Y., says:

A copy of an order in council, dated at the Court of Windsor Castle, November 21, 1855, was this morning received at the office of the Prohibitionist, in this city. In it her Majesty gave her official sanction to the prohibitory liquor law of the province of New Brunswick, and directs the Governor, or Commander-in-Chief, and all other persons whom it may concern, to be governed thereby accordingly. The law takes effect on the 1st of January next.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The annual message of the President of the United States to the two houses of Congress, announcing the state of the nation, embodying the opinions of the Executive, and recommending such measures of legislation as are thought by the Cabinet to be of paramount importance, is generally a document of greater national interest than any which the year produces. As such, its appearance is looked for with considerable anxiety, and its sentiments are very closely scanned.

The message of President Pierce for the present legislative year, is, in length at least, equal to the very voluminous documents which President Polk forwarded. A greater variety of interests are alluded to, however, and the complicated nature of the politics of the world justify more than the usual extent of notice. We give to our readers the gist of the whole in a condensed form, believing that the great majority of our readers would prefer it in that shape.

With regard to our foreign relations, it is stated that although we are on a friendly footing with most nations, very grave questions are open with others. The state of affairs concerning Central America is discussed at length; and the understanding with Great Britain, at the time of the Convention, when the rights of Central America were brought forward, asserted to be the permanent peace and independence of those States, and that neither Government should exert any control over the States that compose Central America. The British Government, however, maintains her control of the Mosquito coast, in defiance of the treaty stipulations, and so interprets the treaty as to justify her in continuing it. This the United States cannot and will not allow. A friendly correspondence has hitherto been carried on concerning the matter, but unless some result is soon had, the permanence of our friendly relations with that Government will be in jeopardy. Some fears are to the termination of the negotiations now proposed, more especially on account of the violation of the neutrality laws which have occurred in this country by the agents and with the consent of the British Government. The facts in the case and the international law applicable thereto, are given at length, inasmuch as the matter is of more general interest than anything the contained in the message, we give it in full.

Such being the public rights and the municipal law of the United States, no solicitude on the subject was entertained by this government when, a year since, the British Parliament passed an act to provide for the enlistment of foreigners in the military service of Great Britain. Nothing on the face of the act, or in its public history, indicated that the British Government proposed to attempt recruitment in the United States; nor did it ever give intimation of such intention to this government. It was matter of surprise, therefore, to find, subsequently, that the engagement of persons within the United States is proposed to Halifax, in the British province of Nova Scotia, and there enlist in the service of Great Britain, was going on extensively, with little or no disguise. Ordinary legal steps were immediately taken to arrest such public parties concerned, and so put an end to acts infringing the municipal law and derogatory to our sovereignty. Meanwhile suitable representations on the subject were addressed to the British Government.

Thereupon it became known, by the admission of the British Government itself, that the attempt to draw recruits from this country originated with it, or at least had its approval and sanction; but it also appeared that the public agents engaged in it had "stringent instructions" not to violate the municipal law of the United States.

It is distinct, to understand how it should have been supposed that troops could be raised here by Great Britain without violation of the municipal law. The unmistakable object of the law was to prevent every such act, which, if performed, must be either in violation of the law, or in studied evasion of it; and, in either alternative, the act done would be alike injurious to the sovereignty of the United States.

In the meantime, the matter acquired additional importance, by the commitments in the United States, not being discontinued, and the disclosure of the fact that they were prosecuted upon a systematic plan devised by official authority; that recruiting rendezvous had been opened in our principal cities, and provision for the reception of recruits established on our frontier; and the whole business conducted under the supervision and by the regular co-operation of British officers, civil and military, some in the North American provinces, and some in the United States. The complicity of these officers in an undertaking, which could only be accomplished by defying our laws, throwing suspicion over our attitude of neutrality, and disregarding our territorial rights, is conclusively proved by the evidence elicited on the trial of such of their agents as have been apprehended and convicted. Some of the officers thus implicated are of high official position, and many of them beyond our jurisdiction, so that legal proceedings could not reach the source of the mischief.

These considerations, and the fact that the cause of complaint was not a mere casual occurrence, but a deliberate design, entered upon with full knowledge of our laws and national policy, and continued by responsible public functionaries, impelled me to present the case to the British Government, in order to secure not only a cessation of the wrong, but its reparation. The subject is still under discussion, the result of which will be communicated to you in due time.

The subject of the Sound Dues is next brought forward and a general resume of the negotiations relative to them is given. The President says:

I remain of the opinion that the United States ought not to submit to the payment of the Sound Dues, not so much because of their amount, which is a secondary matter, but because it is in effect the recognition of the right of Denmark to treat the entire Baltic and its maritime highways of nations as a close sea, and the navigation of it as a privilege for which tribute may be imposed upon those who have occasion to use it.

This Government, on a former occasion, not unlike the present, signalized its determination to maintain the freedom of the seas, and of the great natural channels of navigation. The Barbary States had, for a long time, exacted the payment of tributes from all nations, whose ships frequented the Mediterranean. To the last demand of such payment made by them, the United States, although suffering less by their depredations than many other nations, returned the explicit answer, that we preferred war to tribute, and thus opened the way to the relief of the commerce of the world from an ignominious tax, so long submitted to by the more powerful nations of Europe.

The state of affairs with France is briefly alluded to as amicable, and the adjustment of our troubles with Greece mentioned. Our difficulties with Spain have been adjusted by the latter Power consenting to make reparation for damages sustained by our citizens. With regard to Mexico, our Government has been very liberal on account of the unsettled state of affairs there; but, "if the revolutionary movements which have lately occurred in that Republic, and in the organization of a stable government, urgent appeals to its justice will then be made, and, in may be hoped, with success, for the redress of all complaints of our citizens."

With regard to Nicaragua, the President says:

In regard to the American Republics, which, from their proximity and other considerations, have peculiar relations to this Government, while it has been my constant aim strictly to observe all the obligations of political friendship and of good neighborhood, obstacles to this have arisen in some of them, from their own insufficient power to check lawless irruptions, which in effect throws most of the task on the United States. Thus it is that the distracted internal condition of the State of Nicaragua has made it incumbent on me to appeal to the good faith of our citizens to abstain from unlawful intervention in its affairs, and to adopt preventive measures to the same end, which, on a similar occasion, had the best results in reassuring the peace of the Mexican States of Sonora and Lower California.

Treaties of amity and commerce have been made with the two Sicilies, with Nicaragua and the Hawaiian Kingdom. The condition of the treasury department is referred to at length:

It appears from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, that the receipts during the last fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, from all sources, were sixty-five million three thousand nine hundred and thirty dollars; and that the public expenditures for the same period, exclusive of payments on account of the public debt, amounted to fifty-six million three hundred and sixty-five thousand three hundred and ninety-three dollars.—During the same period, the payments made in redemption of the public debt, including interest and premium, amounted to nine million eight hundred and forty-four thousand five hundred and twenty-eight dollars.

The balance in the Treasury at the beginning of the present fiscal year, July 1st, 1855, was eighteen million nine hundred and thirty-one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six dollars; the receipts for the first quarter, and the estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters amount together, to sixty-seven million nine hundred and eighteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-four dollars; thus affording in all, as the available resources of the current fiscal year, the sum of eighty-six million eight hundred and fifty-six thousand seven hundred and ten dollars.

If, to the actual expenditures of the first quarter of the current fiscal year, be added the probable expenditures for the remaining three-quarters, as estimated by the Secretary of the Treasury, the sum total will be seventy-one million two hundred and twenty-six thousand eight hundred and forty-six dollars, thereby leaving an estimated balance in the treasury, on July 1st, 1856, of fifteen million six hundred and twenty-three thousand eight hundred and sixty-three dollars and forty-one cents.

In the above estimated expenditures of the present fiscal year are included three million dollars to meet the last instalment of the ten millions provided for in the late treaty with Mexico, and seven million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars appropriated on account of the debt due to Texas, which two sums make an aggregate amount of ten million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and reduce the expenditures, actual or estimated, for ordinary objects of the year, to the sum of sixty million four hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars.

The amount of the public debt, at the commencement of the present fiscal year, was forty million five hundred and eighty-three thousand six hundred and thirty-one dollars, and deduction being made of subsequent payments, the whole public debt of the Federal Government remaining at this time is less than forty million dollars.

The remnant of certain other Government stocks, amounting to two hundred and forty three thousand dollars, referred to in my last message as outstanding, has since been paid.

The army and navy are reviewed; their present force and occupation given, and the reorganization of the former strenuously recommended. The Post-Office Department is stated to have expended, for the last fiscal year, nine million nine hundred and sixty-eight thousand dollars. The report of the Secretary of the Interior is summed up in the following statement:

The aggregate amount of public land sold during the last fiscal year, located with military scrips or land warrants, taken up under grants for roads, and selected as swamp lands by States, is twenty-four million five hundred and fifty-seven thousand four hundred and nine acres; of which the portion sold was fifteen million seven hundred and twenty-nine thousand five hundred and twenty-four acres, yielding in receipts the sum of eleven million four hundred and eighty-five thousand three hundred and eighty dollars. In the same period of time, eight million seven hundred and twenty-three thousand eight hundred and fifty-four acres have been surveyed; but, in consideration of the quantity already subject to entry, no additional tracts have been brought into market.

The District of Columbia comes in for a slight notice, and its interests briefly mentioned. The Territories, their settlement and the conduct of the Indian tribes there, are brought forward and a statement made that efficient measures have been taken, which it is believed will restore quiet and afford protection to our citizens. The troubles in Kansas, the President hopes will be ended "by the sound sense of the people of the Territory, who by its organic law, possessing the right to determine their own domestic institutions, are entitled, while departing themselves peacefully, to the free exercise of that right, and must be protected in the enjoyment of it, without interference on the part of the citizens of any of the States."

The constitutional theory of our government and the constitutional relations of slavery are discussed. With regard to the latter subject the President is so clear and emphatic that we extract his language relative to slavery. He says:

It has been matter of painful regret to see States, conspicuous for their services in founding this Republic, and equally sharing its advantages, disregard their constitutional obligations so far. Although conscious of their inability to heal admitted and palpable social evils of their own, and which are completely within their jurisdiction, they engage in the offensive and hopeless undertaking of reforming the domestic institutions of other States wholly beyond their control and authority. In the vain pursuit of ends, by them entirely unattainable, and which they may not legally attempt to compass, they peril the very existence of the constitution, and all the countless benefits which it has conferred. While the people of the Southern States confine their attention to their own affairs, not presuming officiously to intermeddle with the social institutions of the Northern States, too many of the inhabitants of the latter are permanently organized in associations to inflict injury on the former, by wrongful acts, which would be cause of war as between foreign powers, and only fail to be such in our system, because perpetrated under cover of the Union.

It is impossible at present this subject so dear to truth and the occasion requires, without noticing the reiterated, but groundless allegation, that the South has persistently asserted claims and obtained advantages in the practical administration of the General Government, to the prejudice of the North, and in which the latter has acquiesced. That is, the States, which either promote or tolerate attacks on the rights of persons and of property in other States, to dispute their own injustice, pretend or imagine, and constantly aver, that they, whose constitutional rights are thus systematically assailed, are themselves the aggressors. At the present time, this imputed aggression, testing, as it does, only in the vague, declamatory charge of political agitators, resolves itself into misapprehension or misinterpretation, of the principles and facts of the political organization of the new Territories of the United States.

The history of slavery, of the compacts and compromises which have attended it, are given in full, and the course of frantic abolitionism severely reprehended. Its connection with the Territories of the Union is stated, and a brief, but clear, resume is given of the Kansas troubles. The message closes with the following straightforward language:

If the friends of the constitution are to have another struggle, its enemies could not present a more acceptable issue, than that of a State, whose constitution cherishes an republican form of government, being excluded from the Union, because its domestic institutions may not in all respects comport with the ideas of what is wise and expedient concerning a number other States. Fresh from grounds imputations of breach of faith against others, men will commence the agitation of this new question with indubitable violation of an express compact between the independent sovereign powers of the United States and of the Republic of Texas, as well as of the older and equally solemn compacts, which assure the equality of all the States.

But, deplorable as would be such a violation of compact in itself, and in all its direct consequences, that is the very least of the evils involved. When sectional agitators shall have succeeded in forcing on this issue, can their pretensions fail to be met by counter pretensions? Will not different States be compelled respectively to meet extremes with extremes? And, if either extreme carries its point, what is that so far forth but dissolution of the Union? If a new State, formed from the territory of the United States, be abusively excluded from admission therein, think how of itself constitutes the disruption of union between it and the other States. But the process of dissolution could not stop there. Would not a sectional decision, producing such result by a majority of votes, either Northern or Southern, of necessity drive out the oppressed and sectional minority, and place in presence of each other two irreconcilably hostile confederations?

It is necessary to speak thus plainly of projects, the offspring of that sectional agitation now prevailing in some of the States, which are as impracticable as they are unconstitutional, and which, if they are persevered in, must and will end calamitously. It is either disunion and civil war, or, if in more angry, idle, unless disturbances of public peace and tranquillity. Disunion for what? If the passionate rage of fanaticism and partisan spirit did not force the fact upon our attention, it would be difficult to believe that any considerable portion of the people of this enlightened country could have surrendered themselves to a fanatical devotion to the supposed interests of the relatively few Africans in the United States, so totally to abandon and disregard the interests of the twenty-five millions of Americans—to trample under foot the injunctions of moral and constitutional obligation—and to engage in plans of vindictive hostility against those who are associated with them in the enjoyment of the common heritage of our national institutions.

Nor is it forcibly against their fellow-citizens of one section of the Union alone. The interests, the honor, the duty, the peace, and the prosperity of the people of all sections are equally involved and imperilled in this question. And are patriotic men in any part of the Union prepared, on such an issue, thus madly to invite all the consequences of the forfeiture of their constitutional engagements? It is impossible. The storm of phrensy and faction must inevitably dash itself in vain against the unshaken rock of the constitution. I shall never doubt it. I know that the Union is stronger a thousand times than all the wild and chimerical schemes of social change, which are generated, one after another, in the unstable minds of visionary sophists and interested agitators. I rely confidently on the patriotism of the people, on the dignity and self respect of the States, on the wisdom of Congress, and above all, on the continued gracious favor of Almighty God, to maintain, against all enemies, whether at home or abroad, the sanctity of the Constitution and the integrity of the Union.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

MIMIC LIFE; or, Before and Behind the Curtain. A series of narratives by Anna Cora Ritchie. Boston: Ticknor & Fields.

Mrs. Ritchie, better known as Mrs. Mowatt, having quit public life so far as playing upon the stage is concerned, seems determined to retain her connection with it by playing a part in the field of letters. She has essayed reciting the language of others in order that she may give expression to her own; and deserted the drama that she may be better able to criticise it. Her former work, entitled the "Autobiography of an Actress," won no inconsiderable amount of praise and enjoyed a very marked popularity. The same animating principle which inspired that, gives life to this. They both treat of the stage, its tinsel crowns, grand dresses, mimic reality, its joys and its sorrows, its triumphs and defeats. The field is a broad one and has been but slightly cultivated. Mrs. Ritchie has, therefore, the benefit of novelty to commend it with, and has, also, a very considerable ability to sustain it. Those who sit down to the perusal of "Mimic Life," will be apt to continue to its conclusion. It is in itself "as good as a play."

SONGS AND BALLADS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.—With Notes and Illustrations. By Frank Moore. New York: D. Appleton, & Co.

What Percy in his reliques has done for England, and Ritson for Scotland, Mr. Moore has essayed to do for this country; i. e., collect and preserve the fugitive verses which embalms the spirit of the age that produced it. "Give me the songs of a nation and I will tell you its history," was a remark made by one whom the world has honored. Of the history of this country, all the leading facts are patent and familiar, but the spirit of the earlier times of the Republic was not more clearly written in the deeds of that time than in the songs which illustrated and inspirited them. The collector of the volume embodying the songs of the American Revolution has been very happy in his researches, and has produced a volume which will be of inestimable value to our future Niebuhr's and Macaulays. It has all the popular songs of the land in the days of its infancy, of which we have ever heard, with many new and strange, but not the less interesting. It is neatly printed and well worthy of purchase.

THE HOMESTEAD ON THE HILLSIDE, and Other Tales. By Mrs. M. I. Holmes. New York and Auburn: Miller, Orton & Mulligan.

Mrs. Holmes, the authoress of several interesting works, prominent among which is the "English Orphans," has given another story to the world, of considerable length and pretension. It is in character, like most of the domestic novels of the day, but of a happier and more oriental exemption than the majority of them, and will be read with interest by all who obtain it.

HOME COMFORTS; or, Economy Illustrated. By Lillie Savery. New York: Dunce & Brother.

A great deal of good and useful information, concerning the familiar scenes of every-day life, has been incorporated into the little book which professes to tell us of "home comforts"—of those comforts than which there are none purer, sweeter or more lasting. Inasmuch as all education must be nugared in order to be palatable to the taste of the day, the information has been embodied in the form of a novel, but of as strong a nature as that it is enabled to bear up and sustain the great amount of valuable and instructive matter to which it serves the purpose of a literary skeleton.

BALLADS. By William M. Thackeray. Boston: Ticknor & Fields.

All who know Thackeray as a novelist, will be curious to learn of him in the new department of letters which he has undertaken—poetry. Many of the pieces have appeared before in his novels, but the brood was never cooped until now. As is wont to be the case with most writers, those pieces upon which we suspect the author principally plumes himself, are very tolerable and not to be endured; while those which seem like literary waifs, have a fair magazine excellence. None of them will cross the world, but the jingle of some is quite creditable to the jongleur. The volume is handsomely printed.

CASPER. By Amy Lathrop. New York: G. P. Putnam & Co.

Since Peter Parley's time, and the able editor of the Rollo books turned his attention to a history of Napoleon, we have not seen a better conceived or more judiciously executed work, for the instruction and edification of the juveniles, than "Casper." It is well written, well printed, and quite handsomely illustrated.

NORTH BRITISH REVIEW. November. American edition. New York: Leonard Scott & Co.

The finest, soundest and ablest of the English reviews, has reached us, for the month of November. It contains its usual amount of reading matter on various literary, historical and political subjects, all carefully and ably prepared.

We are indebted to J. C. Morgan, Exchange Place, adjoining the Post-Office, for copies of the above named works.

COSMOPOLITAN EXCHANGE.

We have several times, within the past week, devoted a portion of our leisure to the sights and scenes of the Cosmopolitan Exchange, or World's Market, of our city. Other cities and other countries may boast their World's Fairs and Exhibitions, which are gotten up in most instances at a great expense, merely for the empty name of the greatness attaching to them; but here at home we have an unheralded Exhibition, which, though it be different in its nature, is still by far a greater thing to see and to consider than anything that human capital or pomposity has ever yet achieved in any other part of the world.—Our readers here will of course understand us as alluding to "the levee," but as the word fails to convey to the distant reader any sort of an idea of its real meaning, we prefer substituting for it something more appropriate and comprehensive. Our levee is a Cosmopolitan Exchange, or a World's Market, in the fullest sense of either term.

It is difficult, in fact impossible, at any time to depict properly this distinguishing feature of our city. Just now we may say that it is still more so; for there has never been, since the foundation of the city, such a glut of commerce in its lap as at the present time. Our purpose, therefore, is only to sketch our Great Exchange in a loose, rambling way, for the edification of those of our readers who seldom or never visit the city.

Our Great Exchange is a belt of land about six miles in length, and of a breadth varying from a hundred yards to a quarter of a mile. It is serpentine, just like a letter S, the widest part being in the middle, the same as in the S. The front side of the S is the broad face of the city—a seemingly endless range of brick warehouses, their windows staring upon the river like so many unwinking eyes, and their line of business proclaimed in stunning signs, readable a mile off. The rear side of the S is the mighty and muddy Father of Waters, whirling and gurgling beneath a chain of water craft so dense as to exclude him from all sight of the shore, and the shore from all sight of him. The upper and lower semi-circles of the S bristle with the masts of ships and other sail vessels, from every country of the civilized world and from some countries that are uncivilized, being moored in tiers from two to six deep! Across each tier of vessels a plank highway is erected for the use of all, with branch planks leading down to the deck of each vessel.

The middle, or thick part of the S, bristles with the chimneys of steamboats—the queerlike leviathans and clippers of the Mississippi and Ohio, wedged in tightly with the smaller craft of the tributary streams, and the little runty things that labor through our Southern bayous—their hows setting savage into shore, and forming a gigantic saw of more than sixty teeth, and more than a mile in length. At the upper end of the saw is a clump of steamships, with an indentation, or basin, jammed tight with up-country flatboats; at the lower end, another clump of steamships, and a clump of lake schooners, with the chinks filled up by oyster smacks from Barataria and elsewhere. There are four gaps at regular intervals in the S, for the different lines of ferry-boats that connect with the settlements on the right bank; and in several places there are nuisance wharves or platforms, upon which the filth of the city is carted during the night and early in the morning, and emptied into old scows which, when full, are towed out into the river and emptied by means of traps in their bottoms.

Now for the S itself, or the filling of it. Throughout its whole length, cotton is the principal thing that meets, and almost wearies the eye. In the shipping section it is scattered about in comparatively small quantities, and in small bales, having gone through the cotton presses. In the steamboat section, it verily looks as if all creation had been raising cotton. Whole acres of cotton, piled to various altitudes, in some places over twenty feet, loom upon the vision; here ranged systematically into regular Babel-topels, with their Malakoffs and Redans, and there recklessly heaped into Alps—all surmounted by little parti-colored consignee-flags fluttering in the breeze.

But, tremendous as is the accumulation of cotton, cotton is not all, by any means. The tobacco hogsheads and flour barrels, pork barrels and whisky barrels of the West, constitute a mighty army; and the army is doled in its might by the sugar hogsheads and molasses barrels of our own region. But then the grain seaks of the West give that section the preponderance in bulk. The articles we have named constitute the great bulk of the chaos of produce that gorges the steamboat landings, but there are a thousand other articles of produce or manufacture, from the thousands of farms and settlements in the Great Valley, that we could not begin to enumerate, even if our readers would have the patience to read the list. Three million dollars would not purchase the produce to be taken in as one sweep of the vision.

Much of this produce has been damaged by the recent rains. In ordinary seasons, there are either enough drays to house the goods, or enough tarpaulins to protect them from the rain. But latterly, under the unprecedented outpouring of the Western cornucopia, both drays and tarpaulins have fallen immensely short of the demand. There are thousands of drays that work from early dawn till night, hauling away produce; but no sooner is a gap made on the platform, then another mountain of cotton is seen coming down the river, with the chimneys of a steamboat sticking out of it, or some lazy-looking steamer wearing a double-breasted vest of grain-sacks or lard-kegs, and a paunch so heavy that she looks as if ready to take a dive—and in another hour the gap is no more.

The tarpaulins are mostly engaged all the time, by either the commission houses or the regular steamers, at fifty cents a day for each, whether there is freight to come or not, or whether it rains or shines. Each tarpaulin is about the size of an ordinary carpet. During the recent rains, the tarpaulins, of course, have been monopolized, either by those who own them, or at the standing rates, by those who always have them engaged. On Wednesday, there was such an amount of dry goods on the levee, when the rain came up, that offers of five dollars a-piece for tarpaulins went begging. As the tarpaulins could not be had at any price, property was damaged to the extent of thousands of dollars.

We have so far touched only upon the inanimate or quiescent scenery of the levee. To describe the bustle that prevails at all times, would require a daguerreotype apparatus rather than a pen. We will allow about fifty persons to each of the seventy steamboats and steamships, and the two hundred and forty mill vessels that are moored along the levee; making a river population of over fifteen thousand souls; all of whom are on the levee at some time or other during the day. Then there are several thousand draymen; several thousand longshoremen, or laborers, negroes and Irish, who work in gangs, loading and unloading vessels by the job; every man having a cotton hook in his belt; and indefinite thousands of travelers, immigrants, merchants, clerks, weighers, inspectors, policemen, cabmen, peddlers, loafers, pickpockets and scavengers—a human menagerie, with specimens from every clime under the sun—those of Ireland, Germany and Africa, furnishing the larger proportions and each individual pursues his particular line of duty, regardless of the multitudes around him. We may thus safely estimate that our Cosmopolitan Exchange is daily attended by at least fifty thousand people.

To make one's way along the levee—walking, as it were, through a vast human kaleidescope, in which every step presents a new combination of faces and costumes, with corresponding changes of sound and language to the ear—squeezing through the narrow lanes in the freight, reaching the freight piles when the lanes are choked, jumping over drays' tails, under mules' necks, and out of the way of tumbling bales and rolling barrels—noticing the currents of commerce as they mingle and intervine in every direction; the boxes, barrels and crates of foreign countries clashing with the boxes, barrels and bales of our own country, and exchanging places in store-houses, and on ships and steamboats—constitutes a physical and mental exercise, the like of which cannot be obtained elsewhere in the wide world, in Christian land or Pagan. To the masses who daily throng the levee, such a journey is a labor and a fatigue; to citizens like ourselves, who rarely have occasions to go beyond the brick-and-mortar precincts of the city, it is an agreeable and exciting variation from our ordinary pursuits; whilst to strangers, it is a wonder that they scarcely know how to grapple with, and cannot fully comprehend in less than a week. Whether the newcomer be from the green forests of the West, or the classic shores of the Levant, his wonder and admiration are the same.

And then, to mount the hurricane deck of some majestic steamer, or the upper story of a warehouse—there to take in at a glance all that we have been describing, or as much of it as possible, say the steamboat section—and reflect that but little more than a century has elapsed, since the muddy stream at our feet was navigated only by the red man in his canoe, and skirted by moss-draped forests, whose solitudes were awakened only by the song of the frog and the whippoorwill, and the bellowing of the alligator!

Shade of DeSoto! What a change!

TESTIMONIAL.—Capt. Ludlow, of the American ship Monmouth, and his crew, have received a letter and testimonials from a committee of the inhabitants of Sydney, New South Wales. We extract the first paragraph, and copy the letter from our Consul:

SYDNEY, 1854.

Honored Sir: It is with inexpressible pleasure we forward for your acceptance the accompanying gold medal, with the sum of £300, from the inhabitants of Sydney, N. S. Wales, as a testimonial of their profound esteem for you, as the deliverer of the distressed and endangered passengers of the bark "Meridian," wrecked on the island of Amsterdam on the 24th of August last.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Sydney, New South Wales, Sept. 5, 1855.

Sir: I have the honor herewith to send you, for presentation to Captain Ludlow, of the American ship "Monmouth," and his mate, two gold medals; and twenty-one silver medals for the crew of the ship.

The circumstances connected with the presentation of the medals by the inhabitants of Sydney, you will learn from the address to Captain Ludlow contained in the one once forewith sent.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant.
J. H. WILLIAMS, U. S. Consul.
The honorable the Secretary of State, Washington City.

☞ On the night of the 3d inst., Mr. G. W. Murray was stabbed to the heart and instantly killed in Memphis, by a man named Hendson. The quarrel which led to the affair arose over a game at cards.

STEAMBOAT DEPARTURES THIS DAY.

H. M. Wright, Clarke, master, at 5 o'clock. T. B. Smith, 12 New Levee street, and Lewis Snapp & Co., 37 Front street, agents.

B. E. Clark, Lodwick, master, at 5 o'clock. T. B. Smith, 12 New Levee, and Lewis Snapp & Co., 37 Front st., agents.

ATCHAFALAYA RIVER.

Alice W. Glaize, Lounilier, master, at 5 o'clock. J. M. Johnston & Co., 3 Front Levee, agents.

RED RIVER.

Opelousas, Neal, master, at 12 o'clock. M. J. M. Johnston & Co., No. 3 Front Levee, agents.

TALLAHATCHIE RIVER.

Fulton, Wm. Gwathney, master, 5 o'clock. L. Snapp & Co., 37 Front street, agents.

TALLAHATCHEE RIVER.

Planter, Phelps, master, 5 o'clock. T. B. Smith, 12 New Levee street, agent.

OHIO RIVER.

Madison, Hurd, master, 5 o'clock. John E. Hyde & Co., agents.

J. H. Hallman, Hays, master, 5 o'clock. John E. Hyde & Co., agents.

Avondale, Hoople, master, 5 o'clock. John E. Hyde & Co., agents.

J. C. Fremont, Stockdale, master, 5 o'clock. J. E. Hyde & Co., 66 Poydras street, agents.

Susquehanna, Whittenberg, master, 5 o'clock. J. E. Hyde & Co., 66 Poydras street, agents.

Queen City, Neal, master, at 5. J. E. Hyde & Co., 66 Poydras street, agents.

TENNESSEE RIVER.

Eastport, Harrison, master, 5 o'clock. L. Snapp & Co., 37 Front street, agent.

LOWER MISSISSIPPI.

F. P. Kimball, Orr, master, 10 A. M. Speake & McCreary, 5 Tchoupitoulas street, Oakey & Hawkins, 59 Gravier street, and Payne & Harrison, 112 Camp street, agents.

ARKANSAS RIVER.

C. Hays, Brandenburg, master, at 5 o'clock. Lewis Snapp & Co., 37 Front street, agents.

UPPER MISSISSIPPI.

Granite State, Ford, master, at 5 o'clock. John E. Hyde & Co., 66 Poydras street, agents.

☞ A meeting of the members of the American Party running in the Second Representative District, between Julia and Thalia streets, will take place at their room, No. 8 New Basin, on SATURDAY EVENING NEXT, the 12th inst., at 7 o'clock. Every member is requested to be present, as business of importance will be transacted. Jan 3 d

☞ Among diseases, dyspepsia and liver complaint rank as most difficult to cure. We are pleased to have it in our power to offer a remedy which has proved efficient in many cases, and which we can safely recommend as certain and infallible cure; it has been the means of restoring thousands from an untimely grave. We mean the Horsford's German Bitters, prepared by Dr. C. M. Jackson, at the German Medicine Store, 120 Arch street, Philadelphia. See advertisement. Jan 4 lmd & W

Pantaloons.

Colored Cassimere PANTS, at cutting prices.

LEIGHTON & BARBOT,
corner of St. Charles and Canal streets.

jan 8 tp 61

Uniformity Low.

NO DEVIATION FROM MARKED PRICES.

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF CLOTHING.

ALFRED MUNROE & CO.,
34 MAGAZINE STREET, 34
Are now exhibiting to their customers an unusually extensive assortment of

SEASONABLE CLOTHING,

To which they invite the attention of purchasers. Among is particular list:

Silk Plush and Colored Cloth Dress and Frock COATS;
BUSINESS COATS, cloth in each, variety of colors;
BEAVER OVER FROCKS, very fine;
PILOT C