Santa Claus Has Arrived!

TOYS! TOYS!! TOYS!!

—AT—

B. PIFFET'S,

123.....CANAL STREET.....123

OLD SANTA CLAUS has established his headquarters at this well-known establishment. He has brought for LITTLE GIRLS,

A Most Extraordinary Assortment

—OF—

DRESSED WAX AND KID, PAPIER MACHE AND MECHANICAL DOLLS.

For LITTLE BOYS, he has MECHANICAL TOYS, such as Menageries, Farms, Railroads, Cities, Ten-Pins, Noah's Arks, Horses, Sheep, Goats, Cats, Dogs, Mice, etc., etc.

And for CHILDREN who are too young to appreciate the above-named articles, he has brought

EVERYTHING THAT CAN BE IMAGINED

In the way of Toys.

The YOUNG LADIES will find they have not been forgotten, for he has for them a most beautiful lot of

BISCUIT AND PORCELAIN GOODS,

—Consisting of—

Vases, Vases, Toilet Sets, etc., etc.

And for EVERYBODY a supply of FANCY GOODS will be found to have been provided that is not to be surpassed in the world!

All are invited to call and examine this extraordinary importation of the good old Saint's, and if the goods please, to make their selection.

B. PIFFET,
122 Canal street,
Touro Buildings.

d17 2pMoWeSa

Further Reduction and

CONTINUATION

—OF THE—

LA... AND ATTRACTIVE SALE

—OF—

FINE FRENCH GOODS,

—AT—

TODD'S,

12 and 14.....Chartres street.....12 and 14

Forming the most superb assortment of

NE... AND ELEGANT FRENCH GOODS

Ever Imported.

The stock embraces very late Nouveautes in Chiqes, Striped, Reps, Watered, Broche, Pekin, Pompadour, Brocade, etc., etc.

—Also—

THREE HUNDRED PIECES

CHOICE DRESS SILKS,

At the following popular prices:

125 pieces at 75 cents a yard.....Worth double.
90 " $1 .....
60 " $1 25 .....
25 " $1 50 .....

—And—

Sixty Pieces PLAIN COLORED BATADERE SILKS—Very Rich and Elegant—At $1 25 a yard; former price, $2 75.

PLAIN COLORED SILKS—Just received.

One Hundred Pieces very rich PLAIN COLORED POULT DE SOIE and TAFFETA SILKS at 75 cents a yard.

THE GREATEST BARGAINS EVER SHOWN.

PLAIN and FIGURED BLACK SILKS—An immense stock, at unusually low prices.

DRESS GOODS

In all the NEW STYLES, at GREAT BARGAINS.

CLOAKS AND MILLINERY.

At Great Inducements!

RICH BLACK SILK VELVET PELISSES, PALETOTS and CLOAKS, from $30 upwards.

Fine Black and Colored CLOTH CLOAKS, from $7 50 upwards.

Very Rich and Elegant Black SILK PALETOTS, PELISSES and BURNOUS.

MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S CLOAKS, In all the new Styles and Material.

PARIS SILK MANTILLAS.

—JUST RECEIVED—

ANOTHER CHOICE INVOICE

Of those Elegant

BLACK SILK MANTILLAS,

At $5 each—worth $12.

Elegant Paris Winter Bonnets,

The latest shapes and newest material.

BRIDAL BONNETS and VEILS, WREATHS, FLOWERS, PLUMES, MATRONS' HATS, BOUND HATS, MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S HATS and BONNETS, of every style.

JOHN TODD,
d17 2pMoTuSa Nos. 12 and 14 Chartres street.

Millinery and Dressmaking,

187 CANAL STREET, Up Stairs,

ADJOINING D. H. HOLMES'.

MRS. M. E. BENSON

Calls the attention of the Ladies of New Orleans and vicinity to an elegant and varied assortment of

FRENCH MILLINERY,

which she is disposing of at GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

IN THE DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENT,

She is making up Ladies' and Misses' Dresses and Cloaks, of every description, at about HALF the usual prices charged.

All orders entrusted to her care will be executed promptly, and in the most elegant and fashionable manner.

d7 2pMoWeSa

CHEROKEE REMEDY!!—AN UNFAILING Specific for all Diseases of the Urinary Organs, and a General Alterative and Blood Purifier.

☞This "Remedy" cures when all other preparations fail.

☞It is entirely unlike every other medicine prescribed for Venereal Diseases, as it contains no Mineral Poison or Poisonous Drugs, being prepared from Roots, Barks and Leaves, in the form of a pleasant and delicious Syrup.

☞It is "nature's own remedy" for Gonorrhea and Gleet, Gravel, Strictures, and is especially recommended for Pimples, (Wines in Pustules) for which it is invaluable.

☞As a general alterative and blood purifier it has no equal, and does not fail to cure Scrofula, Secondary Syphilis, Glandular Swellings, Mercurial and all Eruptive Diseases, curing them more speedily and permanently than any other medicine known. It does this by purifying and cleansing the blood—causing it to flow in all its original purity and vigor, thus removing from the system all impure and poisonous causes which have induced disease.

☞In all old cases of Gonorrhea and Gleet that have baffled all medical skill, it is specially recommended; in old cases it never fails, and recent cases it cures in from one to three days. A few doses positively removes all scalding heat, chordee and pain.

☞It does not affect the breath, or interfere with any class of business.

☞It requires no assistance from other medicines.

☞It can be taken by any one in the counting room, without its ever being suspected as a "remedy" for private diseases.

☞A treatise on Venereal disease, with full directions for their permanent cure, accompany each bottle.

☞For full testimonials, get a Circular FREE from any drug store in the United States.

☞It is sold at retail for $2 per bottle, or three bottles for $5, by all responsible druggists and dealers in medicine, throughout the United States, and at wholesale by all wholesale druggists.

POTTER & MERWIN, Sole Proprietors, St. Louis, Mo.
J. WRIGHT & CO.,
Nos. 21 and 151 Chartres street,
Wholesale Agents for the South.

☞Sold by all Druggists. jal5 1yW

PEOPLES' LINE.....PEOPLES' LINE.

NOTICE.

We have completed the BLUE OFFICE on the Levee, foot of Canal street, where a CLERK will always be found in attendance to receive Freight and Bills Lading on the Packets GOLDEN AGE and R. W. POWELL.

This facility affords our friends the opportunity of shipping DAILY to Fort Adams and all intermediate points without incurring the EXPENSE of storage or extra drayage.

R. W. ADAMS & CO., Agents.
d6 1f

NOTICE.....NOTICE.

WIDOW N. BOUNY & SON

Beg leave to inform their former customers residing between Canal street and the upper limits of the city, that they have completed arrangements to supply them with BREAD, and will be happy to receive their orders at their Old Stand, Nos. 220 and 221 Chartres (late Conde) street.

d30 6c

NEW ORLEANS DAILY CRESCENT.

THE CRESCENT IS PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY, BY J. O. NIXON, No. 70 CAMP STREET. · · · TERMS: DAILY, $10; WEEKLY, $3 PER YEAR.

VOLUME XIII. SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 22, 1860. NUMBER 250.

New Orleans Daily Crescent.

SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 22, 1860.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

South Carolina is now a free and independent sovereignty. She is no longer one of the late United States. By the unanimous vote of her convention the ordinance ratifying the Federal Constitution in 1788 has been repealed, and the Palmetto State is now clothed with every attribute of sovereignty.

The first to sound the alarm when it was ascertained that the Northern sectional party had triumphed, she is also the first to resume the powers which she granted to the Federal Government, and to stand forth in all the radiant beauty of a free and independent commonwealth! Millions of hearts will beat happily to-day, not in South Carolina alone, but in every State of the South, when the great fact is proclaimed that one State, at least, has consummated the declared purpose of all her citizens, not to submit to the arrogant and oppressive sway of an Abolition party in the Federal Government.

Though the first to act, South Carolina has not been rash nor precipitate. She has acted promptly and decisively—that is all. She has moved, with quiet dignity, and yet with rigid determination, in a cause involving all that men hold dear. That she has accomplished her purpose, and accomplished it bravely and gallantly, the blindest submissionist will not deny.

Florida will come next, and then, in rapid succession, every other Gulf State. The great border States will not be—they cannot be—far behind. The clouds are now lifting, and in the horizon we already see the grand spectacle of a Southern Confederacy, rich and powerful and prosperous, and, above all, FREE!

Cooperation is now very dead. Before cooperation can be brought about, half the Southern States will be out of the Union. Events that are daily occurring, and that cannot be postponed, show that cooperation can only be had after the States are out of the Union. Futile and useless, now, are all efforts to divert or turn back the steady flow of the current of Southern sentiment. Dissolution is no longer a thing in the distance, no longer a myth. It is an accomplished fact. It is a stern, a palpable, and yet a glorious reality. The echoes of the guns which, in the streets of Charleston, heralded the fact, will reverberate throughout every hill and valley in the future Republic of the South.

Hail to South Carolina!

THE ALTERNATIVE MUST BE ACCEPTED.

The Mobile Register, which, in the late canvass, advocated, with uncommon ability, the election of Mr. Douglas, now accepts the issue which has been made, and says there is no alternative but dissolution. The following admirable article from that paper will show upon what grounds this position is taken:

By the late election the Union is completely *sectionalized, segregated and virtually broken up.* Nothing remains to be done but to accept the decree of both sections, and to *proceed gravely to work to execute it.* It is this consideration more than all others that has brought us to the conclusion announced in our last issue, and to advocate the withdrawal of the State of Alabama from the Union Confederacy in the manner and upon the terms therein set forth. We regard the present Union as broken up, and the *present* Union can never be reestablished. A new Union is possible, but upon new terms and conditions agreed to by the separated independent States, acting as our fathers did when this Union was formed. As Southern men we have no overtures to make in this behalf. Our present duty is plain—*it is to march on and register and carry out the decree of the people proclaimed at the ballot box, and place Alabama and such Southern States as will join her in that position of Independent Sovereignty which will enable her to negotiate with all other States, foreign or domestic.*

We sincerely sympathize with the good and true men in the North who have stood bravely and truly by us in the struggles with Black Republicanism for the past quarter of a century. We would that we had not to part political companionship with them. But the ever-ruling law of self-preservation counsels and commands us to look first to our homes and firesides, our rights as masters, and our liberties as men. *The Rubicon is reached and must be passed.* There is naught but danger and destruction behind and we cannot look back. To halt in activity is ruin, for the Juggernaut of Black Republicanism will be rolled ruthlessly over a passive South. Our only hope is a forward movement. We must withdraw from a Black Republican Government, and *stand upon the defensive in an independent Sovereignty.* Thus alone will the North ever be brought to believe that the Union is not indestructible, and that the South is in earnest in the warnings she has given for twenty-five years past.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

(Special to the New Orleans Crescent.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1860.

Mr. Editor—What's the use of trying to save a man *in articulo mortis*, with Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup? Where's the sense of treating what the doctors would call "a case of compound comminuted fracture," with Spalding's Prepared Glue? Such questions as these, put to-day to the Crisis Committee, would provoke as much derisive laughter as Wigfall's speech did in the Senate. They think disunion is a thing to be dealt with after the fashion of those excellent grannies who never dispair of life so long as a little "yerb tea" can be got out of the kitchen kettle. Like "Vanity Fair," the comic New York paper, they picture the state of the country as that of a young and robust man whose arm is broken and nothing more the matter with him.

But, the wise physician is well aware that the disease is organic, and that its seat is in the vitals. No man contends that the fault is in the written Constitution or in defective legislation; yet the Crisis Committee propose to remedy the evil by legislation; and because they voted, pretty unanimously, for Rost's resolution, the Union men are in high feather to-day. Stocks are rising in New York, and all is going to be well again. Two different and tanately hostile systems of civilization remain, and must remain, wholly unchanged and antagonistic as ever, long after the court-plaster bandages, now being applied, have been scattered to the wind. The incurable rot of agrarianism, which permeates Northern society from center to periphery, remains, and must remain long after the resolutions of Northern Union meetings and Crisis Committee pacificators have established their utter inefficacy to meet the requirements of the case.

I find it simply impossible to get men of Union proclivities to probe the national trouble to its core, and meet the fact of inevitable revolution face to face. They agree willingly that revolutions never go backwards; but, lifting their heads in horror and dismay, with Lieut. Maury, they shrink from contemplating the "bloody abyss of disunion." They blame this or that section, and above all they blame the politicians. "Get rid of the politicians," they cry, "and let the people rise in their majesty, and all will be well." Far, very far, from it. Neither the people nor the politicians are to blame. *The fault is in the form of society.* Politicians are but the weathercocks of public opinion, and public opinion is controlled absolutely by social structure and by *visible facts.* Thinkers—men who can abstract their minds from the influence of outward surroundings—may hold opinions totally at variance with the teachings of the society in which they live, but the opinions of the mass of mankind are commanded, shaped, irresistibly formed, guided and perpetuated, by the things they see with the eye, by the evidence of the bodily senses.

Whether free society can emancipate its opinion from the law by which it is controlled, will very soon be seen. The question of protection to slavery in the Territories, which will be and ought to be the *sine qua non* with the men of the South, is the great test. As the denial of the right of slavery to protection in the Territories was necessitated by the form of Northern society, so will it be seen that the persistence in this denial will actuate every thorough Republican, every man who truly represents and stands in awe of freesoil sentiment. For the sake of relieving the present intolerable financial distress, the people of the North may yield their opinions, but they will do so with the mental reservation of granting the demands of "Southern impudence," as they style it, only so long as the South, by insisting upon these demands, shall have the power to derange the commerce and business of the country. A frantic desire to get to work again at buying and selling may succeed in restoring a patched-up peace; but the moment all is quiet, the irresistible centrifugal force will begin anew, and continue its task, through whatever compromises may be made now or hereafter, until the final partition of the opposed civilizations is accomplished.

Resisting the ultimate action of this force with hastily-formed expedients, suggested by the sufferings of the moment or by a fanatical patriotism which clings to the corpse of the Union after the soul has departed, can have no other effect than to retard it for a little time, during which the States nearest the poisonous influence of freesoil principles will sink still deeper into that stupefaction from which it seems impossible even now to arouse them. The obvious duty, therefore, of those States which by virtue of geographical position have escaped the noxious and enfeebling effects of freesoilism (and thereby retained sufficient vigor of heart and brain to appreciate the certain coming dangers and betimes to declare their independence) is to carry on the brave work of revolution without pause or hesitation, assured that their sister slave States on the border are submissive only because of the course into which they have fallen by reason of their proximity to the sources of that social malaria of which the Black Republican party is the legitimate offspring, and which operates alike as an infection and a contagion, but most rapidly, certainly and fatally by contact. Nor should the Gulf States be deterred from instant and conclusive action by any doubt as to the possible issue of the revolution, either to themselves or to those other afflicted States from which (knowing the occasion of their tardy movement) they feel naturally unwilling to separate. The attractive force of identical institutions and a common destiny must sooner or later draw all the slaveholding States together and cement them in a Union which will endure so long as their social organization remains unchanged. Well meaning people, with honest hearts but childish reasoning faculties, may interpose ephemeral obstacles in the way of the border States, but the final consummation of a great slaveholding Republic cannot be prevented. The happy day that witnesses this consummation will witness also the outspoken, boundless gratitude of the border to the Gulf States for forcing them out of their lethargy, and compelling them to cut themselves off from that freesoil cancer which they had learned to endure simply because they believed that its excision would be fatal to their existence.

Such, but in sadly commingled metaphors, are my views in regard to the present state of affairs, and such my candid impressions as to the duty owed by the Gulf States to the border States. Knowing the fire and spirit of your people, I cannot doubt that the issue will accord with the wishes of the strong and rapidly increasing secession party in Maryland and Virginia. It is decreed that the younger shall take precedent of the older States in this, our second Revolution. Let them not shrink from the task. We will follow. It is meet that the honors should be divided. Go on, then. God speed you.

As for news, there is, happily for my disinclination just now to play the reporter, little to tell. Cass resigned to-day because the President would not send additional troops to Fort Moultrie. Thus the old public functionary, as you call him, is bereft of friend after friend. Cobb has gone his ways. Beau Hickman is very rich on Cobb's maladministration of the Treasury. "He begun the game," says the Beau, "with a double sot o' checks that old man Guthrie left him when he quit dealing. Hoping to git a good game and give his house a great reputation, he played at first to lose, and soon got busted. Congress staked him, and he started agin. The revenue men changed in freely, cords of money came in from all parts of the country, and when we all thought the game was going on finely, to! and behold, the bank is busted agin and the dealer run off, leaving neither checks nor nothing else; and how the h—ll Frank Thomas" (the new Secretary of the Treasury) "is going to git any game when he aint got the first chip to show and 'bleest to deal out of his hand, I'm d—d if I know. Where's the money, and where's the checks? The man that's been playin' agin the bank aint got none. Cobb aint got none, nobody aint got none. I've gone stap up the spout, and nobody aint never going to see the color of it agin'. Cobb done right to quit the game. He handled his cards, he stocked 'em till the splits came every other turn; he done everything he could think of to make 'em run right; he won all the money and lost all the checks; got played out himself, and nobody was left to call the turn, and so he jes' cussed old Buchanan and made tracks for Georgy, where his friends has opened a new game for him on a bran new table that never was dealt on before. It's the worst dealing that ever was done in this town. He has left the country in nudo *silice*, on a necked rock, with just grease enough to help it to slide into everlasting blazes." MALOU.

AMUSEMENTS.—*Varieties.*—At this pleasant and delightful theater, to-night, Messrs. Mark Smith, George Jordan, John E. Owens, Charles Bass, A. H. Davenport, Mr. Biddles, Mr. Morton, Mrs. Chapman, Miss Charlotte Thompson and Mrs. Leighton, will offer Holcroft's three-act idea of "The Road to Ruin." The Owens and the Leighton will afterward show married folks something instructive in the way of a "Conjugal Lesson." There will be dancing between the pieces. All who go will feel as they leave that they are glad they went.

St. Charles.—Farewell benefit of Mrs. Wallack; Mr. and Mrs. Wallack appearing together as *Rob Roy* and *Helen McGregor*, and Mr. Wallack afterward appearing as *William* to Mrs. Perrin's *Black-eyed Susan.* This will be positively the last appearance of the Wallacks.

Academy of Music.—A grand performance at noon, for ladies and children, Dan Rice coming out with a predetermined intent to tickle the ladies whilst he kills the children. "Ward's Mission to China" will be one of the lively new features of the noonday performance. At night, the usual beautiful, astonishing, and funny show, will be given for the comfort of the grown folks. Just look over the bills.

Museum.—Miss Reed, the beautiful doll-baby lady; the Swiss lady who has whiskers like a pirate; the Swiss Warbler, who looks like a Dutchman, but whistles like a Mocking Bird; the Hippopotamus, which looks like a cross between a hog and a rhinoceros, but isn't; and any number of other wonders, are to be seen in the Museum day and night; truly a great collection.

SANTA CLAUS IN TROUBLE.—"Krishkringle" has such a big country to look after just now, that his faithful deer steeds cannot travel all over it, between this and Christmas; so he has had to appoint agents to distribute his favors. Among the foremost of the agents so appointed, are Messrs. Alfred Monroe & Co., who are specially commissioned to distribute, among the fathers and mothers of all good boys, suits of the prettiest and nicest Christmas and Sunday clothes that were ever seen or dreamt of.

All fathers and mothers of good and handsome boys must therefore act accordingly; and the fathers may treat themselves as well as the boys, if they feel like it, at the same time and place. Money, but very little of it, the chief passport. See what A. M. & Co. hint about it, in the advertising way, in another column.

Local Intelligence.

THE GREAT EVENT OF YESTERDAY.

SYMPATHY WITH SOUTH CAROLINA.

HOISTING THE PELICAN FLAG!

THE SCENE ON CAMP STREET.

A GRAND MASS MEETING AT MID-DAY.

RED HOT SECESSION SPEECHES.

THREE HUNDRED GUNS FIRED.

Great Enthusiasm Everywhere.

There is no occasion for any very lengthy report of what took place in this city yesterday. The event was one which absorbed the attention of the entire city; for it was not only interesting, but important and portentous.

It was nothing more nor less than the unfurling to the breeze of the Pelican Flag—the new flag of Independent Louisiana.

A brief announcement in two or three of the morning papers that the Pelican Flag would be spread to the breeze at noonday, from the Headquarters of the Southern Rights Association, No. 76 Camp street, (just above the Crescent office) had the effect of filling the street long before e hour named.

From the central window of the second story of the building obtruded a board, on which was a bust of John C. Calhoun, begirt with a blue ribbon and the cockade of Independent South Carolina. This attracted much attention, and contributed not a little to warm the feeling of the multitude long before the hour arrived for unfurling the Flag of Independent Louisiana.

At 12 o'clock, Camp street was densely jammed. We may here state that the crowd was of a respectable and highly important character; it was one of those multitudes which cannot assemble at mid-day without a very extensive suspension of the heavy business of the city; it was conspicuous not only for its genteel appearance and demeanor, but for the wealth and business status of the great part of it.

The solitary telegraphic tap on the bells, indicative of noonday, had hardly died away, when, from an upper window of No. 76 Camp street, a white flag shot out upon a mast previously prepared, and gracefully spread itself out on the warm South breeze which was blowing, disclosing in its center a large red star, in the center of which star was pictured the shield of Louisiana, a pelican feeding her young.

The heads of the whole multitude uncovered at this first sight of the flag of Independent Louisiana; and the cheers and huzzas that arose, we can liken only to the roar of the sea in a gale.

As the flag came out, and as the people shouted, a brass band in the street greeted it with that stirring air which recent events have made so popular in the South, the "Marseillaise." At the same moment the Washington Artillery, at the foot of Canal street, let forth a thundering jubilee salute of one hundred guns.

An incident which aroused renewed enthusiasm was this: As the flag came out on its mast, the sun was behind one of the white clouds which were fleeting by. The flag had hardly unfurled itself and spread itself out on the breeze, when the sun, emerging from the cloud, shone vertically through it, rendering it as bright and transparent as a bridal veil. The flag, with its scarlet star picture, floated nearly horizontally just at the moment that the sunshine fell upon it; the suddenness and beauty of the display struck all, and the effect was well expressed in the still more lusty roar of cheering which followed.

Speakers were called for, and the call was answered. Gen. W. R. Miles, Mr. Daniel E. Adams, Mr. W. C. C. Claiborne, Mr. H. H. Chalmers, Mr. J. O. Nixon, Mr. B. S. Tappan, Dr. Austin, and Mr. H. J. Leovy, eight in all, made brief but fiery and stirring speeches, in less than an hour and a half.

Each speaker was forcible and eloquent according to his style, but the same sentiment was expressed by all; the long forbearance of the South, under Northern aggression; the right and duty of the South to stand to her rights, and to do it now or never, by seeking that equality out of the Union, of which she has been deprived in it; and the duty of every citizen standing to the flag of Independent Louisiana, though fire and blood be the ordeal.

The different speeches were uproariously applauded by the multitude, with, here and there, such interruptions as "We will!" "We won't!" "Yes!" "No!" "Never!" "To the death!" etc., according to the propositions or questions of the speakers.

When the eighth speaker concluded, the multitude refused to leave, so anxious were they to hear more. But, as most of the speakers had said "action" was now the thing, "appeal" and "argument" with the North being exhausted forever, the multitude gradually dispersed, and allowed the omnibuses and other vehicles to pass through the street, as before. In every point of view the meeting was astonishing, in such a city as this, held as it was at noonday, and in the middle of such a rushing business thoroughfare as Camp street.

Before the meeting was over, dispatches arrived, announcing South Carolina's final and formal ratification of the ordinance of secession from the North American Union.

At 2 o'clock, the Washington Artillery fired 100 guns more at the foot of Poydras street, and at the same time the Orleans Artillery fired 100 guns at the foot of Canal street. Three hundred guns in all, for Independent South Carolina and for Independent Louisiana, the independence of the latter State to be ratified in Convention next month.

It was an event which stirred the city everywhere. The number of men wearing blue rosettes and badges was astonishing; yet these were not more than one-third of those who intend to vote for secession.

Last night the Pelican flag coquetted gaily between the breeze and the moonlight; and there it will continue to wave, defying all sorts of weather, until it shall in State Convention be formally ratified and confirmed as the flag of Independent Louisiana.

TALK ON 'CHANGE.

The movements on the flags yesterday opened under the influence of the Persia's advices from Liverpool of the 8th inst. The advance in cotton of ¼d. which was so industriously circulated during the day proved to be just nothing at all—a fallacy. The dispatch was something of the same character which has been doled out, or the effects thereof, with so great zeal and talk during the past six weeks. However, the spirits and feelings on the flags yesterday were free, and a good demand for cotton prevailed. The sales of the staple this week will foot up the largest since the commencement of business, on the 1st September. For the past four days 62,000 bales, equivalent to $2,500,000, have been sold; with sales of sugar, molasses and other stuff, the total sales for four days will amount to three millions of dollars—all for cash, and the money ready to be paid, secession notwithstanding. There is a very good feeling prevailing among Western traders. The receipts of flour, corn, wheat, bacon, pork, lard, hay, oats, potatoes, cattle, pigs, turkeys, chickens and other things are large, under interruption of navigation in the Upper Mississippi and tributaries. The Western merchants, traders and dealers in general, who are located and do congregate on the levee, Levee street, Tchoupitoulas, Poydras and other localities, do not appear to be under any apprehension or alarm for the future. True, some few houses have been hard up; but having weathered the storm, matters and things connected with the great Western trade are in a flourishing position. If some folk are not realizing great returns, there are other dealers and traders who appear to be well contented with the daily movements, and are in no way alarmed about the course of events. Secession has no fears for them. Some one inquires, where do all the large receipts of Western produce go? We can only remark, for the information of all, that if they will avail themselves of the present fine weather, and walk or ride to the depot of the Pontchartrain Railroad—to the depot of the Jefferson and Carrollton Railroad—to the depot of the Jackson Railroad—to the basin of the New Canal—to the Old Carondelet basin—to the Texas steamship landing—to the Opelousas Railroad depot—to the Havana steamship landing—to the Florida steamship landing—looking over the small matters at the Red river steamboat landing—they would soon be convinced of the gigantic business of our emporium; they would speedily learn where and whence go the cargoes of the argosies which daily arrive at our landing. Although we have no communication as yet direct with Japan, that is no reason we should not have. However, it is not of much use to talk of Japan trade; there are many markets nearer home, and with which we can have as much business as prudence and safety will warrant.

The great desideratum—the establishment of a line of steamers for direct trade with England—is often talked of. The pressure in the general money market has rather scared those who have the matter in hand from urging the claims. As the crisis is passing away, and the money market being greatly relieved, it is hoped that the undertaking will be considered. When it is actually known that one million of dollars will establish a line of steamers to arrive and depart once a week from New Orleans and Liverpool, it is surprising that this project, which will go greatly towards relieving us of Northern domineering and thraldom, should attract so little notice. The simple sum of *fifty cents* on every bale of cotton received at this port last year would have built and equipped the contemplated line. This subscription of fifty cents per bale from each and every planter would not have been in the light of a donation, but subscribed, as to any other stock or incorporation. If one planter makes one hundred bales of cotton, another five hundred, it would not be a very great hardship for one to take one share of stock and the other five shares.

The general freight market was rather weak yesterday. The great decline in the receipts of cotton operates against the shipping interest. The regular packets in the lower cotton trade are bringing in very light loads, and some of the boats have been withdrawn—manifestly confirming the impression that planters are either holding back or that the crop is not raised; in fact, it is useless to undertake to conceal the financial impression that there has not been cotton enough picked this season (1860) to cover the paper afloat by many millions of dollars. In the meantime the talk is, what is to be done? The reply is—retrench, economize, instead of buying splendid broadcloth clothes, return to first principles, and wear Attakapas cottonade, Virginia jeans and Kentucky linseys. Retrenchment and economy have to be carried out, and our good citizens may as well commence first as last.

We regret to learn that the storm of rain on Tuesday night last carried away the Chatuna bridge on the Jackson Railroad, which causes some interruption in the freight trains. The mails, expresses and passengers go through as usual—the damage only extending about two hundred and fifty yards, which will be all repaired by Monday next.

From Col. Lonsdale, Son & Co.'s weekly coffee circular, which will be found elsewhere, we observe that the berry has received another knock, and prices are quoted at 11½c., a decline of 3½c. within thirty days. The inquiry is made, what is the matter with the berry? All we can say is that it is receding to living prices, and there is no prospect whatever that consumers will be deprived of the usual cup in the morning.

There was some talk about salt, but the supply is sufficient to last for the entire year 1861, or it would not be selling at the very low price of 45 to 50c. per sack, cargo sales. Well, who is afraid of salt at 12½c. per bushel?

LATE PUBLICATIONS.

We have received from the publishers, through Mr. George Ellis, of the new book-store, opposite the Postoffice, the following late publications, to which we direct the attention of our readers:

TRAVELS IN THE REGIONS OF THE UPPER AND LOWER AMOOR, and the Russian Acquisitions on the confines of India and China; by Thomas Widlam Atkinson, F. G. S., F. R. G. S., author of "Oriental and Western Siberia." New York: Harper & Brothers, publishers.

This a very interesting work, abounding in adventures among the people through which the author traveled. It is splendidly illustrated, and has numerous illustrative maps.

THE RUINED GAMESTER; by George W. M. Reynolds, the popular English novelist. Philadelphia: Peterson & Brothers, publishers.

Reynolds has succeeded as well in this as in any thing he ever wrote. Novel readers will find it an interesting addition to their libraries.

THE MAN WITH FIVE WIVES; by Alexander Dumas. Philadelphia: Peterson & Brothers.

As the admirers of Dumas' writings are so numerous in this country, we are sure that the bare announcement of a new book of his will be sufficient to give it a large sale. We cannot speak of its merits, not yet having had time to read it; but would fain believe it good, as the author has seldom failed.

ONE YEAR: A CHILD'S BOOK, in prose and verse, by the author of "John Halifax, Gentleman;" illustrated by Clarence Dobell. New York: Harper & Brothers.

This is a collection of stories suited to each month in the year, and will not fail being a pleasing holiday gift to a girl or boy. Mr. Ellis has also laid on our table the October numbers of the London Quarterly and Edinburg Reviews, and the November number of Blackwood. They all contain their usual amount of good reading. He has also sent us the first volume of "Tom Brown at Oxford," from the press of the Harpers.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—A destructive conflagration occurred at Orange, N. J., on Friday night, the 14th, involving the loss of eight stores, the market and the post-office. The Methodist church, a fine building, which cost $10,000, was partially destroyed, and had it not been for the arrival of some fire companies from Newark the edifice would have been entirely consumed. The fire lasted for nearly five hours, and at times raged with great fury. If there had been a single fire company in the village it is thought that the fire could have been promptly extinguished. It is impossible to estimate the loss at present. Report says that the property is half covered by insurance.

THE JAPANESE EMBASSY.—The United States steam frigate Niagara, with the Japanese Embassy on board, arrived at Batavia on the 30th September, en route for Japan, having made the passage from Loando, a distance of 8000 miles, in forty-six days, without stopping.

A TALL WOMAN.—The Boston Courier chronicles the arrival in that city, from New York, of a woman eight feet high and large in proportion. She is estimated to weigh upwards of five hundred pounds.

WHALEBONE FLEX BROOMS.—Messrs. D. C. Lowber & Co., No. 172 Camp street, advertise a general assortment of these articles.

TELEGRAPHED TO THE NEW ORLEANS CRESCENT.

THREE DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE FULTON OFF CAPE RACE.

SERFDOM ABOLISHED IN RUSSIA.

ADVANCE IN BREADSTUFFS.

Liverpool Cotton Market Steady.

DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(BY THE SOUTHWESTERN AND AMERICAN LINES.)

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Dec. 21.—The United States mail steamship Fulton, Capt. Walton, from Havre the morning of the 11th instant, and Southampton the evening of the same day, was boarded this (Friday) morning by the Press yacht and the following summary of her news obtained.

The advices by the Fulton are three days later than those by the Persia at New York.

The Liverpool, New York and Philadelphia Mail Company's steamship City of Baltimore arrived at Queenstown on the 11th inst., from New York, whence she sailed on the 1st inst.

Commercial Intelligence.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 11.—The sales of Cotton on Monday and Tuesday amounted to 18,000 bales, including 5000 taken on speculation and for export. The market closed quiet and steady at unchanged prices.

The advices from Manchester and the surrounding manufacturing districts were unfavorable.

The prices of yarns were easier, but the quotations of last week remained unchanged. Cloths closed very dull.

The business in breadstuffs since the departure of the Persia has been active. Flour has advanced 6d. to 1s. the bbl. The prices of Wheat are 1d. to 3d. higher. Indian Corn was sold at an advance of 6d.

Richardson, Spence & Co. report provisions dull.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 11.—Sugar closed quiet at unchanged quotations.

Coffee was quiet at previous rates.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—Consols for the account closed at 93½ to 93¾ to-day.

American Railway Stocks closed flat.

Breadstuffs, steady; American qualities slightly higher. Sugar, dull.

The steamship Fulton has $600,000 of specie on board. The steamship City of Manchester sailed from Liverpool on the 12th, with 14,500 Sterling specie.

Political Intelligence.

It was reported that the Emperor of Austria was about to annul the recently concluded Concordat with Rome.

The crisis in the Ministry of Austria is passed.

It was reported in political circles that the Austrian cabinet at Vienna had discussed the expediency of declaring martial law throughout Hungary.

RUSSIA.—The Czar of Russia emancipates all serfs by a decree to take effect January 1st, 1861.

ITALY.—King Victor Emanuel returned to Naples from the Island of Sicily on the 7th.

In Italy there was a continued reactionary movement.

The Sardinians await the fall of Gaeta before demanding the surrender of the citadel at Messina.

TURKEY.—In the Danubian Principalities and along the Pertil great agitation prevailed.

BATAVIA.—The affairs of this country are somewhat improving.

CHINA.—The city of Pekin was surrendered to the Allies on the 13th of October.

A new rebellion had broken out at Shanghai.

Foreign office telegrams say that the Allied forces had taken possession of the city of Pekin. The Emperor's summer palace was sacked of immense spoils. The Emperor himself had fled to Tartary.

FURTHER FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

A SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY PROPOSED.

THE CONVENTION IN SECRET SESSION.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 21, 3 P. M.—The Convention met at noon to-day, pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer was offered, beseeching Almighty God to unite the people of the South in the formation of a Southern Confederacy.

A motion was made that a Committe be appointed to invite the Governor, Postmaster and Collector of the Port to be present, which, however, was temporarily postponed.

Barnwell Rhett, Chairman of the Committee, presented an address to the Southern States; a long and able paper, reviewing the injuries of South Carolina during her connection with the Union.

The Convention refused to issue the address until its final adoption; made the special order of Saturday.

Judge Wardlow made a report by ordinance, amending the Constitution of the State of South Carolina.

Other unimportant business was transacted, when the Convention went into secret session, excluding all but members.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 21, 9 P. M.—The excitement here to-night knows no bounds.

A grand procession, composed of the regularly organized body of Minute Men, several thousand "Minute Citizens," strangers, and the entire military and fire department, is parading the principal thoroughfares, with soul-stirring music, appropriate transparencies, banners, and large locomotive reflectors.

The procession formed in front of "Secession Hall," and proceeded to the Mills House.

Mr. Pickens, the Governor elect, was handsomely serenaded. At a late hour the following persons were honored in a similar manner, the procession accompanying the serenaders:

Hon. Wm. D. Porter, President of the Senate, General Simmons, Speaker of the House, General Jamison, President of the Convention, Mayor Macbeth, and other distinguished personages delivered speeches expressive of thanks and in acknowledgment of the compliment, which were received amid demonstrations of the wildest enthusiasm.

Immediately in front of the procession floated the veritable flag recently unfurled by Capt. Berry from the mast-head of the steamer Columbia, off Governor's Island, New York.

A number of private residences, public places, and newspaper establishments, are brilliantly illuminated.

Reception of the News in Memphis.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 21, 9½ P. M.—Fifteen guns were fired here to-night in honor of the secession of South Carolina from the Federal Union, and the prospect of a Southern Confederacy. An impromptu meeting gathered, which ratified the proceedings of the Palmetto State.

The "Avalanche" offices and other public buildings are splendidly illuminated.

The News of Secession in Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The news of the passage, by the South Carolina Convention, of the ordinance of secession, produced intense excitement in Congress yesterday.

The News in Augusta.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 21.—On the reception of the news from South Carolina yesterday, one hundred guns were fired, while the new mammoth bell was tolled for one hour in manifestation of the general joy.

Cushing's Mission to South Carolina.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 21.—Caleb Cushing arrived to-day, remained five hours and left for Washington.

The News of Secession in New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The Times, Tribune, and other Black Republican journals, in their editorial articles of to-day, ridicule the secession movement of South Carolina.

Effect of Secession on the Markets.

State Stocks have declined in consequence of the Secession movement.

Opinion in England.

Letters by steamers recently arrived state that the British are still in doubt of any serious difficulty resulting from the present excited state of public feeling in America.

The Election in Mississippi.

JACKSON, Dec. 21.—The following is the result of the vote in Claiborne county for delegates to the State Convention: Elliott, Secession candidate, 323; Magruder, Cooperation, 143; Archer, Independent Secessionist, 23.

Congressional Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—*House.*—The House yesterday, in Committee of the Whole, adopted the substitute for the Pacific Bill, as offered by Mr. Curtis, of Iowa, which, thus amended, passed, 99 against 74.