New Orleans Daily Crescent.
OFFICIAL JOURNAL
—OF—
THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.
FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 9, 1866.

NEW ORLEANS DAILY CRESCENT.

THE CRESCENT IS PUBLISHED DAILY (Sundays Excepted) AND WEEKLY, BY J. O. NIXON, No. 94 CAMP STREET. TERMS—DAILY, $10; WEEKLY, $5 PER YEAR.

VOLUME XV. FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 9, 1866. NUMBER 176.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOUISIANA.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1866.

Senate.

Pursuant to adjournment from yesterday, the Senate assembled at noon to-day, Lieutenant Governor Voorhies presiding.

On the roll being called twenty Senators responded.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Hedges.

The journal of yesterday's proceedings was read and approved.

There were present during the proceedings the following Senators, viz: Messrs. Anderson, Armstrong, Barrow, Brownlee, Burthe, Campbell, Cooley, Duvigneaud, Ellis, Fellowes, Foute, Gibson, Gordon, Kavanagh, Kenner, Lapeyre, Lott, Munday, Nelson, Newton of Jackson, Newton of Morehouse, Palfrey, Poché, Purcell, Scruggs, Taylor, Welch and Wilcoxon.

Mr. Bruslé, from the Committee on Enrollments, reported as correctly enrolled, the act to amend the first section of the act in relation to forced surrenders, approved March 14, 1855.

On motion of Mr. Armstrong, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Mohan.

On motion of Mr. Poché, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Palfrey.

Mr. Burthe presented a petition from Noel St. Martin, of the parish of St. Charles. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Bruslé offered a resolution to pay the committee appointed to investigate the claims of Messrs. Hahn and Cutler to seats in the United States Senate, their per diem for their sittings during the recess, out of the contingent fund of the Senate. Mr. Purcell called the yeas and nays. Mr. Foute, having been of the committee, was excused from voting. The bill was passed by a vote of twenty to two, Messrs. Purcell and Taylor voting nay.

Mr. Bruslé presented a joint resolution for the appointment of a joint committee to investigate the action of the Board of Levee Commissioners provisionally appointed by the Governor. The Senator stated that he, like the people generally, had every confidence in the board; but it was usual for the legislature to investigate the affairs of such boards, and he thought there was no good reason why this one should be made an exception. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Burthe, from the Judiciary Committee, presented a favorable report on a bill, the title of which we did not catch, and an unfavorable report on the act in relation to tacit mortgages. Referring to the latter, Mr. Palfrey said he had a motion to make, in relation to the bill which had just been reported on unfavorably by his friend, the honorable chairman of the Judiciary Committee, which was, that he be permitted to withdraw the bill. Senators would remember, undoubtedly, that upon introducing it he had stated that if the committee should report upon it unfavorably, he should not probably call it up, considering that, as it embodied provisions mainly of a legal character, the opposition of the Judiciary Committee would be of so formidable a nature as to make his endeavors in favor of its passage fruitless. Acting upon this suggestion, he now made the motion to withdraw the bill. He confessed, however, he did so with much reluctance, as he felt convinced that the plan proposed was the only one which went to reconcile existing difficulties, in preserving the rights and securities of minors on the one hand, and the safety of third persons acting in good faith on the other. Now, he was free to declare, that if any plan was hereafter proposed, that showed a leaning in favor of the commercial or any other interest which was calculated to weaken or impair the rights or securities of minors, such a plan would not have his support. He considered the claims of minors as sacred above all others. They required, more than any other class of persons the protecting shield of the law; and he could imagine no reflection that could be more consoling or cheering in his dying hour, except as he hoped to derive from a still higher source, than the reflection that those he should leave deprived of his protection, the laws of his country would protect. He felt convinced that the interests of all classes were protected by this bill, and regretted it could not meet the approval of the Judiciary Committee, whose objections he understood were mostly founded on the inconvenience of some of the provisions, and which he thought were more imaginary than real. He returned his thanks to the committee for their courtesy and candor in the investigation of the bill, and renewed his motion to withdraw it, which was assented to.

The same Senator, on behalf of Mr. Newton, of Morehouse, presented a report that the committee, to whom was referred the petition of G. R. and E. F. Newman, had not been furnished with the vouchers necessary to establish the claim, and begged to be discharged from further consideration of the petition.

The same Senator reported by substitute, from the Committee on Public Education, on the bill in relation to the abolition of the present system. They presented three bills, one to abolish the office of Superintendent of Public Education, another to impose the duties hitherto performed by him on the Auditor, and another to provide for the support of schools by the several parishes.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, the bill to regulate the commission of State tax collectors was taken up, carried through its various stages and passed, and sent to the House. It allows them one per cent. on their collections.

Mr. Foute presented a bill to fix the emoluments of the Attorney General, putting him on an equality with the district attorneys. It was carried through its various stages, passed, and finally sent to the other House.

The same Senator called up the unfinished business, the bill to amend the city charter so as to make the city pay one-third of the expense of paving the banquettes and streets of the city. It was carried through it various stages, passed, and sent to the other House.

Mr. Duvigneaud called up the bill to abolish the office of State Superintendent of Public Education. After considerable discussion, the bill was made the order of the day for Tuesday next.

A message was received from the House of Representatives through Mr. Maxwell, Chief Clerk. It announced that the House had concurred in the bill to organize the Supreme Court; in the bill in relation to the Grosse Tete railroad; and in the bill in relation to the navigation of Red River. It also announced that the Speaker had signed the act granting ferry privileges to C. K. Marshall, and the bill in relation to forced surrenders. It asked the concurrence of the Senate in the bill to amend the act relative to district courts in New Orleans; and in the joint resolution in reference to records of the land office, under which the Speaker had appointed Messrs. Nutt, McEnery and Jonas. It asked the signature of the President to the bill to extend the limits of Donaldsonville; to the bill granting ferry privileges to McDavitt, ect.; to the bill relative to the tax on gross sales and receipts; and to the bill to establish a ferry at Simmesport.

Mr. Taylor introduced a bill to amend and re-enact the act providing for the government of Baton Rouge. It was read and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Duvigneaud called up the bill authorizing the common council of New Orleans to divide the city into urban and rural portions, for the purposes of taxation. It was carried through its various stages and passed.

Mr. Newton of Morehouse called up the bill fixing the compensation of State Printer, as reported with amendments from the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Bruslé moved to recommit the bill. He was a member of the committee to whom it had been referred, but being absent had had no opportunity of examining it. He understood that only three out of the five members had been present, and that one of these was opposed to the amendments made by the other two.

Mr. Newton opposed the recommittal of the bill, on the ground that the consequence would be that the bill would not be passed this session, and the State Printer would fall back on the act of 1864. He had been assured by prominent editors and printers that the payment the committee had allowed was sufficient.

Mr. Taylor pressed the motion for recommittal.

On the question being put, the motion was lost by 9 yeas to 17 nays.

The bill was thereupon carried through its various stages and passed. One amendment to it, proposed by Mr. Newton, makes the fine $100 for failure to publish the journal within the specified time.

Mr. Palfrey called up the joint resolution instructing the Attorney General to institute proceedings in reference to the bill for the construction of a canal from Vermillion Bay to the Sabine river. It was adopted and sent to the House.

On motion of Mr. Lott, the bill for the relief of purchasers of sixteenth sections was taken up, carried through its various stages, and passed.

On motion of the same Senator, the bill to allow physicians to testify in their own cases, with an amendment allowing patients sued to testify also, was adopted and sent to the House.

Mr. Burthe presented, as correctly enrolled, the act relative to the navigation of Red River.

A motion by the same Senator, to call up the bill relative to a crevasse apparatus, the object of which was to clear the mouth of Red River, was negatived.

Mr. Munday introduced a bill to provide for the removal of obstructions from Pearl River. It was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Agriculture, Manufactures, etc.

Mr. Duvigneaud introduced a bill to authorize Mrs. Louisa Bourgeois, wife of Thomas Taquino, to alienate dotal property. It was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Bruslé introduced a bill requiring the assessors of the parish of Iberville to amend their assessment roll for 1865. They had assessed swamp lands, worth ten bits, at thirty dollars per acre. The jurors had protested against such assessments; but because of some technical objection, the assessors refused to entertain the protest. The bill was carried through its various stages and passed.

On motion of Mr. Welch, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Foute and himself, who are about to proceed up the Jackson railroad on legislative business.

The Senate then went into executive session.

On resuming, the Senate adjourned to noon to-morrow, Friday, March 9, 1866.

House of Representatives.

The House came to order at 12 M., Mr. Elam, Speaker *pro tem.* in the chair.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Walker.

Mr. Kent asked a suspension of the rules to take up the Senate bill providing for the appointment of a commission to survey the capitol and Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Baton Rouge, and report the repairs necessary. The House refused to suspend the rules.

Mr. Blackman also failed to procure a suspension of the rules to take up the bill to exempt, in certain cases, the properties of maimed and disabled soldiers, and of the widows and orphans of soldiers from taxation. The bill, however, was made a special order for Tuesday next.

The House likewise refused a suspension of the rules, moved by Mr. Williamson, to take up a bill to amend article 897 of the Code of Practice.

Mr. Halsey presented a resolution providing for the appointment of a joint committee to investigate the proceedings of the Board of Levee Commissioners, the amount of money expended by them for contracts, the levees not yet contracted for, etc., etc. The resolution was adopted, and Messrs. Halsey, Jonas, Leeds, Anderson and Harrison were appointed to the committee.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. McEnery, from the Committee on Internal Improvements, reported favorably on a bill for the improvement of the navigation of Bayou Couville.

Mr. Duffel, from the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, reported favorably, by substitute, Mr. Stille's bill to amend the Constitution of 1864.

Mr. Montgomery gave notice that, in behalf of a minority of this committee, he would hereafter present a report.

Mr. Voorhies, from the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures, reported back, without action, the bill to create a board of examiners of steamboat engineers, as the laws of the United States provide for the case.

Mr. Simonds, from the Judiciary Committee, reported:

Recommending that Mr. Ditto's resolution, directing an examination of the laws relating to the fees of ministerial officers, be referred to the Committee on Parochial Affairs.

On Mr. Kidd's resolution relating to municipal and parochial elections, unfavorably, as occasion for the resolution had ceased, by reason of the action of the Governor.

On the bill to provide the mode of making amicable demands upon third possession of hypothecated property, etc., etc., unfavorably.

On the bill to amend the judicial fee bill, unfavorably.

On the bill to punish attorneys-at-law who refuse to return papers belonging to clients, unfavorably.

On the bill to erase from the records of mortgages in New Orleans, mortgages arising from the record of bonds of notaries public, favorably.

On the bill to withdraw the public lands from entry and provide for their subsequent disposition, favorably.

Mr. DeLabarre offered a resolution which was adopted, for the appointment of a joint committee to investigate the management of quarantine affairs, and ascertain why the annual report to the General Assembly required by law, from the Quarantine Board has not been made. The Chair appointed on the part of the House, Messrs. DeLabarre, McEnery, Decker, Voorheis and Eldridge.

Mr. McConnell introduced bills: 1st, Relative to a site for a normal school in New Orleans; 2d, To amend the laws relative to public education. Both were referred to the Committee on Education.

A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

On motion of Mr. McConnell, seconded by Mr. Tucker, the House then proceeded to the consideration of the bill relating to a constitutional convention. The bill provided that the sense of the people of the State should be taken on —— day of ——, to ascertain whether they were in favor of a convention being held to frame a Constitution for the State; that on the same day they should elect delegates; that in the event of the majority of the people expressing themselves in the affirmative, said delegates should meet in convention on —— day of ——, in the city of New Orleans, and proceed to frame a constitution, and that the basis of representation for the election of delegates, should be the same as it was for legislative representation in the State at the time the war broke out. The bill was on its second reading.

Mr. McConnell hoped the bill would pass without delay. At the extra session a committee of fifteen had been appointed to consider this constitutional question. The bill before the House had been approved by two-thirds of the members of that committee, and the major portion of the minority were not opposed to the measure *per se*, but differed only from the majority in the opinion that the extra session was not the proper time to act upon the question; that it would be better to defer it to the regular session. He conceived the bill, in its essential features, to be void of objection. It did not propose to order a convention. The question was left to the determination of the people. The choice of delegates would take place on the same day the people elected for or against a convention, and a suggestion he had heard, that the time for this election should be on the day the parochial elections were held, was, he thought, very good. The unnecessary trouble and expense of two elections were avoided, and if the people decided against a convention, no expenditure was incurred. The only question, then, for the decision of the House was, would they allow the people an opportunity of deciding this matter for themselves?

The representation allowed the city of New Orleans, by the present apportionment, under the so-called Constitution of 1864, had properly been a subject of complaint with the country. The city did not desire such an unjust predominance as that apportionment gave her. The city representatives had, therefore, agreed to take the basis established by the legislature in 1859. That the basis of 1859 would give, perhaps, a stronger representation to the country than it was at present entitled to might be true, for while the population of the city had increased since 1859, that of the country had decreased, yet the majority of the city representatives would waive objection to that ground, and members from the country might not again have so favorable an opportunity of recovering their relative representative strength.

Mr. McConnell reviewed the lengthy preamble to the bill, setting forth numerous reasons why a convention should be held, and said he was not wedded to the preamble. It might be amended, or all struck out, so far as he was concerned, but the act itself—the substantive bill providing for the election—he held to be the most important measure of the session. The approaching close of the session did not allow a full discussion of the question, but one fundamental principle he would call attention to: They had been acting under the so-called Constitution of 1864, and if the Assembly adjourned without signifying its repudiation of that instrument, it would be vitalized. The inevitable inference at Washington and elsewhere would be that this legislature regarded the convention of 1864 as a legally organized body, and that its acts were obligatory upon the State. And what might the effect of that be? The convention in adjourning authorized its president to call it together again at his pleasure, and would gentlemen hazard another convention of that body and leave within its power the character of the State and the rights of the people? This they would do if that convention was not distinctly repudiated. He had taken the Constitution of 1864 as part of the government circumstances placed over him, but he had not taken that constitution as the organic law of the State. Every lawyer would understand this distinction. But now an opportunity was presented of denying the validity of the instrument as a constitution and if that denial was not made silence would be deemed acquiescence and sanction.

Mr. McConnell having further argued to show that the Constitution of 1864 was not a constitution, by reason of its being the act of a small minority, and of never having been submitted to the people of the State, he concluded with an appeal to the House not to be deterred from a performance of duty by prognostications of displeasure from Washington. President Johnson had shown himself an advocate of the rights of the people, and he would not fail the people of Louisiana in this case.

Mr. Thieneman advocated the passage of this bill. He could not conceive how any gentleman could vote against a proposition to submit this question to the people. It did not become the House to distrust the people, for they were fully competent by intelligence and discretion to appreciate the existing state of affairs and decide wisely.

Mr. Kent offered an amendment, we did not hear, which was accepted.

Mr. Scanlan, at the extra session, thought it his earliest duty to propose a convention, but the House thought proper to ignore the measure and went on legislating under the Constitution of 1864, until there was no doubt that instrument had been accepted as the fundamental law, and from all he had seen and heard he thought it equally certain President Johnson recognized that Constitution. Gentlemen had given various reasons for a convention, among then one, that the whole judiciary and the State officers should be put out. He could not go for that. He had no friends to reward nor enemies to punish. He should be ruled by the interests of the people. He considered this, in many respects, an inopportune time for a convention. The expense, in the present impoverished condition of the people and with an empty State treasury, was a serious objection. Again, we were like Mahommet's coffin, suspended between Heaven and earth. We did not know what our status was. We only knew we were not allowed representation in Congress and were under martial law. He might support a proposition to submit the single question of a convention to the people, but he would not approve that part of the bill which put the people to the trouble and expense of electing delegates before it was known whether they would have a convention or not.

Mr. Tucker admitted that the gentleman who had just addressed the House was originally one of the hottest of all conventionists. What new light had fallen upon the gentleman he did not know. The committee thought it would save trouble and expense to determine the convention question and elect delegates at the same time, as the trouble and expense for one would be the same as the trouble and expense for both. The gentleman said he would allow the people to elect on the convention question. But would not allow them to chose delegates. Suppose they decided to have a convention, when would he give them the privilege of holding it? Would he trifle with the people, and tell them the legislature at its next sitting would say when the delegates should be elected, and when the convention should sit?

Mr. Tucker thought the legislature had stultified and disgraced itself by its course on this question, by its delay to the last hours of the session to keep the faith they had pledged to the people to give them a convention at the earliest practicable moment. He briefly recited the history of the convention of 1864, to show that its acts should not be regarded as binding. The constitution framed by that body was no constitution at all. The constitution of 1852 was the constitution, or there was none for the State. There was but one voice among the people on this subject, and that was in execration of the Constitution of 1864, and demanding the right to frame their own organic law, and gentlemen going before the people for office would discover that fact.

Mr. Solomon's objection to a convention was in in regard to time. He doubted the propriety of agitating the question at this moment. He would put it to the sense of the House if Louisiana existed at this moment as a State? He thought not. This measure had been postponed from the extra session because our representatives were petitioning Congress to be admitted, to recognize Louisiana as a State. Had our position been changed since? If any gentleman would convince him that it had been changed, he would cordially support the bill. Believing that could not be done, believing that to call a convention now would be detrimental to the interests of the State, he would vote against the bill. When the proper time came he would as promptly as any gentleman call a convention, but he challenged gentlemen to controvert that it was denied we were a State.

Mr. Tucker—The Black Republicans say not.

Mr. Solomon—Unfortunately those Black Republicans are dominant and we are compelled to sue to them for our rights.

Mr. Hanlon expressed himself also against the bill.

Mr. Williamson observed that if the gentleman from New Orleans (Mr. Solomon) had read the speeches, letters and conversations of President Johnson, Mr. Seward, and all other conservative men at the North; either in or out of Congress, he would have had the solution of his question. All that class of public men held that the States had not lost their identity by the revolution.

There were many grave reasons for calling a Convention. The Convention of 1864 was not and could not be received as an exponent of the will of the people of Louisiana. The action of this legislature did not affirm or give validity to their work. It was necessary the people of the State should authoritatively re-assert their relations with the Federal government. It was not hoped by calling a Convention to place ourselves in a more favorable attitude to the radicals at the North, but to reorganize our own internal affairs. The number of representatives arbitrarily granted to New Orleans should be reduced to a just proportion. This was an auspicious time for the reform. If not obtained now he believed New Orleans would never yield that supremacy. The country should take advantage of the good temper and equity of the present New Orleans delegation. The salaries of State officers should be reduced. We were paying $60,000 a year more than ought to be paid, and he saw no reason why Louisiana should pay her officers higher salaries than other States. His objections to the Constitution of 1864 did not spring from the time it was made, 1824 or 1864, but from its radical vices and defects. We needed a Constitution that would allow a development of our resources by works of internal improvement, and we needed to guard ourselves from the interference of the Federal Congress. During the war there had been two conflicting State governments. The disputes as the rights people had acquired under these governments had to be adjusted or endless litigation would result. No lawyer could now tell his clients under what laws they were living.

Mr. Gates was opposed to the convention project at the beginning, and was still opposed to it. He did not admit the radical proposition that Louisiana had ceased to be a State, but in view of the complicated condition of our relations with the Federal government, the delicate ground on which we stood, he deemed it a duty to resist an agitation of constitutional rights or provisions at this juncture. He denied having ever pledged himself for a convention. The question was not discussed in his parish at the time of the election, nor even in the parish of the gentleman from St. Mary. The absorbing question at the election was a stay law. A convention was not mentioned. If his, Mr. G.'s, vote was to disgrace him, he was willing to take the disgrace. He was prepared to stand it; but believing he was right, although he knew he was in the minority, knew the bill would be passed, he would vote according to his convictions.

Mr. Walker, as a member of the Committee of Fifteen, was convinced during the extra session this measure was inexpedient, and his convictions now were the same. The legislature acted under the Constitution of 1864, and came together to do the best they could for the people. This did not imply that they sanctioned that instrument as the Constitution of Louisiana, implied nothing more than that they submitted to circumstances, and awaited a more propitious time to frame an organic law that would have a hold upon the hearts of the people. Several arguments used for the passage of this bill were specious. The difficulties arising from conflict of jurisdiction between the two governments of the State, could only be adjusted by judicial authority. They could not be adjusted by law or constitution-making authority. It was urged that sixty thousand dollars a year in salaries could be cut down, but the Convention to do this would cost two hundred thousand dollars. The defects of the Constitution could be cured without expense and without dangerous agitation by legislative amendment. His feelings of dislike to the Constitution of 1864 were as warm as those of any gentleman, but he would not allow himself to be borne by feeling into hazardous experiment. He thought, before acting on this measure, it would be discreet to await the report of the commission sent to President Johnson by the Assembly.

Mr. Scanlan moved to strike from the preamble an expression of doubt as to the validity of the ordinance of secession. He had no doubt it was invalid.

Mr. McConnell accepted the amendment, and no objection was made to it.

Mr. Scanlan moved to amend the bill further by providing that the basis of apportionment for delegates to the convention should be that provided by the Constitution of 1864, and addressed the House in support of his proposition; arguing that New Orleans was entitled to her present ratio of representation. He wanted to see who of the city members would vote away its strength.

Mr. Stille moved to adjourn, but the motion was rejected.

Mr. McConnell said the basis of representation was placed precisely as the war found it. No census had been taken since. The Constitution of 1864 fixed representation arbitrarily. Under it, New Orleans had in the House 42 members out of 118. A change had been made in this for the convention. The convention, when it met, would fix the basis. He would not allow himself to be influenced by sectional prejudices, and wished, as far as possible, to see geographical lines ignored.

Mr. —— moved to fill the blank for the day of election with "the first Monday in November."

Mr. Tucker moved to fill it with the first Monday in May, the day for parochial elections.

Mr. Tucker moved to fill the blank for the time of the meeting of the convention with the words, "second of July, 1866."

The previous question was then ordered.

Mr. Scanlan's amendment was rejected—8 yeas; 81 nays.

The first Monday in November was rejected as the day for the election—yeas, 22; nays, 65.

The first Monday in May was appointed for the election, and the 2d of July for the meeting of the convention.

The question then came on the engrossment of the bill, and it was ordered to be engrossed, by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson Samuel, Austin, Alverson, Addison, Bensel, Blackman, Brown, Collins, Convillon, Daigle, Delamore, Deporter, DeLabarre, Decker, Drew, Duralde, Eager, Eldridge, Fenner, Freret, Fishburn, Fulda, Gaisser, Green, Halsey, Head, Hatch, Henderson, Holt, Hudspeth, Jonas, Kent, Kelly, Kile, Labranche, Leeds, Lemarie, McEnery, McConnell, McDonald, McCloskey, Moreland, Montgomery, Nutt, Ormond, Peterson, Phillips James, Phillips Alf., Sambola, Scanlan, Seger, Simonds, Snider, Smith, Texada, Theriot, Thieneman, Tucker, Voorhies, Williamson, Waddell and Weeks—62.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson J., Bailey, Barry, Bruton, Dugas, Eastin, Edwards, Gates, Gantt, Hanlon, Harrison, Laurent, LeBlanc, Meredith, Powell, Pujo, Regenberg, Rogers, Ryan, Stille, Solomon, Tete, Walker and Whittington—24.

Mr. McConnell moved to suspend the Constitutional provision requiring bills to be read in each House on three separate days, and put the bill on its third reading.

The Chair remarked the suspension would require a majority of four-fifths.

Mr. Eldridge objected to a suspension, and Mr. McConnell withdrew his motion.

Mr. McConnell moved a reconsideration of the vote ordering the engrossment.

On motion of Mr. Tucker the motion was laid on the table.

And the House then adjourned.

From an official report we learn that there are in operation in Texas twenty-six negro schools, with 1691 pupils. These are entirely supported by the negroes, each pupil paying $1 50 per month.

TRADE WITH THE NORTHWEST.

In the river column of yesterday's paper we chronicled the arrival at this port of four barges from St. Louis, loaded with twenty-five thousand sacks of grain, which were towed from that city to this by the steamer "New Orleans." Large as this city is, and great as is the consumption of grain, the arrival of so large a quantity has had a sensible effect on the market, and prices have considerably receded. The city of New Orleans has saved by this shipment a very respectable sum of money, consequent upon a decline in the price of an article of general use and prime necessity.

We cannot but hope that this enterprise will lead to others of the same and similar kinds, and that the commercial alliance between the West and South may grow stronger and more intimate. New Orleans ought to be the importer of foreign goods for the whole Mississippi valley, and, on the other hand, she ought to not only be a heavy consumer herself of the agricultural productions of that valley, but the medium through which they seek the markets of the outside world. To bring about such a result, one of the most important agencies is cheap transportation. In former times, before the days of steam, flatboat transportation was costly only on account of the time consumed in making a trip. But now, under a barge and towage system, by which cheapness of transportation is combined with rapidity of movement, there ought to be many such enterprises as that to which we are alluding, and full return freights ought to encourage the people of the Northwest to extend their commercial intercourse with the lower Mississippi valley.

But, independent of the commercial interests involved, there is a growing tendency to a political combination between the West and South, as a means of protection against the insatiable demands of Eastern capitalists, merchants, shippers and manufacturers. The West, no less than the South, is plundered by high tariffs and monopolies of every description, and the principle of self-protection requires that the two should unite against their common political enemy. That an increase of the commercial ties between the two would lead to a closer political affiliation is evident enough. And that good would result in both respects is equally plain. With a great natural highway like the Mississippi, to say nothing of its tributaries, to serve as the path of commerce between the West and South, and with New Orleans sitting at the gate which opens into the ocean, the great highway of nations, there is nothing which should prevent the closest reciprocal trade relations, in the interest of both sections, and thus sever those Eastern connections which are a common burden to both.

Local Intelligence.

THE NATIONAL UNION CONVENTION.—This body met in the Lyceum Hall yesterday to nominate candidates for the approaching city election.

Joseph H. Moore was nominated by Mr. Oglesly, S. H. Torrey by Mr. Pitkin, and W. R. Bell by Mr. Hoyle.

Mr. Moore was declared elected.

Mr. S. Howell was unanimously elected as candidate for the Controllership.

James C. Kathman and W. H. Bell were nominated for the office of Street Commissioner. Mr. Bell received 38 votes and Mr. Kathman 28. Mr. Kathman was declared elected.

The Executive Committee of the party was continued in power, and instructed to make all necessary arrangements for the election.

The following gentlemen were then nominated for the remaining positions:

First District—For Recorder, Joseph Gros. For Board of Aldermen, J. Morgan Hall, R. B. Bell, E. Heath. For Assistant Aldermen, Francis Staitmeyer, James Dwyer, W. S. Roberts, P. K. O'Conner, E. Westberger, C. T. Estlin.

Second District—For Recorder, Eugene Staes. For Aldermen, L. D. Arnault, Dennis Cronan, Sr. For Assistant Aldermen, H. F. Sturoken, George Hanning, John P. Montamat, M. B. Dubisson.

Third District.—For Recorder, J. A. Letton For Aldermen, E. D. White, F. A. Woolfley. For Assistant Aldermen, Jos. G. Baum, Geo. D. Kautz, Dr. E. Goldman.

Fourth District—For Recorder, H. T. Vennard. For Aldermen, G. W. Kendall, Wm. McDuff. For Assistant Aldermen, John F. Crantz, Henry Bensel.

The Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

A LOUISVILLE ROBBERY.—Captain Dalton, chief of the detective force, yesterday arrested a person who gave his name as Wallace Johnson, on a charge of robbery committed Louisville, Ky., the amount being two thousand dollars. John Russel and John Roberts were taken into custody as accessories. The correct particulars of the affair will be developed in due time.

SAD.—Officer Gordon at a late hour night before last, found a man lying drunk upon the pavement of Gravier street, and carried him to the First District police station. He was unable to give his name. Yesterday morning he was found dead in his cell. From his clothing he appeared to have been a Confederate soldier. He was a man of about forty-five years of age, five feet eight inches in height, and has a dark goatee, slightly tinged with grey. On his person were found $3 75, a pair of spectacles, an ambrotype of a Confederate soldier—a young man with long black whiskers—and a blank book, on the fly leaf of which was: "Thos. Lang, (or Long,) his book;" also the address, "Mary Farguson, post office, Eutaw." Coroner Yelser examined his person yesterday morning, and his death is presumed to have been caused from exposure.

A DARING ACT.—To-night, about 8 o'clock, as Dr. C. T. Buddecke was sitting in his office on Camp street, having just counted his cash and put it into his cash-box, an individual entered, and, after asking some questions, suddenly turned off the gas, seized the cash-box, and succeeded in making his escape with the spoils.

THE CRICKET MATCH YESTERDAY.—Two elevens of the Crescent City Cricket Club met yesterday on the Delachaise Ground, to contend against each other in the "manly game" of cricket. The match was a spirited one, and well contested on both sides, though the fortune of the day went against the eleven selected by Mr. Hand, Vice President, and in favor of their opponents, chosen by Mr. Wright, Secretary of the club. The play was, in quite a number of instances, admirable, and was good generally, both in regard to batting and fielding. A number of ladies were present to witness this beautiful field game, and the hospitality of the club was exemplified in the most bounteous manner.

THE CHOLERA.—There was a dispatch received yesterday from General Grant, by the military, for them to act in conjunction with the city authorities in establishing a rigid quaratine for the prevention of the epidemic, which is now raging in the West Indies. It is said that the disease can obtain no foothold here on account of the piny woods which surround the city, but we are not sure of that. Let us, at all events, be as well prepared as possible, against its ravages. [Mobile Times.

Dido fell in love with Æneas, but he gave her the cut direct. And he has his imitators. Men have been cutting didoes ever since.

The next session of the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will meet in Baltimore, in March, 1867.

Senator Stockton, of New York, fills a seat that was once occupied by both his father and his grandfather.

One of the Memphis papers is told by an old citizen of that city that in 1828, when the town contained a population of six or seven hundred, Capt. Shreve landed there from the steamer George Washington, and made a speech, in which he boasted that his boat had made the trip from New Orleans to Louisville in twenty-five days, and declared that it could never be done again.

The New Haven Register, with a great flourish of trumpets, announces the arrival of a consignment of the best oysters that ever grew. We fear, however, that the editor is a selfish gourmand, since he has written to Senator Sumner for an "amendment" of the Constitution, providing that "no white man shall eat more than six of them at one sitting."

Utah, with a population of 100,000 inhabitants, only pays $30,000 into the United States treasury this year, whilst Colorado, with 30,000 inhabitants, contributes $196,000.

TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

Special to New Orleans Crescent.

THE LOUISIANA DELEGATION.

Important Declaration of the President.

WASHINGTON, March 7.

The Louisiana Legislative delegation will have an interview with the President to-morrow.

The President, in a recent conversation with General Stedman, of Ohio, said that resolutions like those of the Tennessee legislature were unnecessary—that the Southern States are in the Union, and that no legislation is required to entitle them to representation.

General Stedman is a prominent candidate for Secretary of War. D.

Gen. Stedman to Succeed Stanton.

Gen. Geary Radical Candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

LIVERPOOL COTTON QUOTATIONS.

REVOLUTION IN ROMANA.

MILITARY TROUBLES IN MEXICO.

BAZAINE PREDICTS WAR WITH THE UNITED STATES

EXCITEMENT IN CANADA.

VOLUNTEERS ORDERED OUT.

Parliamentary Grants to Princess Helena and Prince Alfred.

MONUMENT TO LORD PALMERSTON.

The Cattle Plague Still Increasing.

NEGRO SUFFRAGE THE CONDITION OF TENNESSEE ADMISSION.

HOME AND FOREIGN MARKETS

RIVER NEWS, Etc., Etc.

[Associated Press Dispatches.]

NEW YORK, March 8.—The steamer Java, telegraphed as having arrived this morning, brings the following additional commercial and political news:

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 25.—The following are the authorized quotations of Cotton: Orleans fair, 20½d., middling Orleans, 18½d., uplands fair, 19½d., middling uplands, 18½d. The market on Friday was flat at these quotations.

The stock of cotton on hand is estimated at 418,000 bales, including 214,000 of American descriptions.

Breadstuffs quiet. Provisions firm.

The Paris Bourse closed flat with *rentes* at 69f. 32c.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—A revolution has broken out in Romana. Prince Cauza was taken prisoner by the army and forced to sign his abdication. The legislature has unanimously proclaimed the Count of Flanders, Hospodar amidst general satisfaction.

The amount of bullion in the Bank of England has increased £526,000.

The House of Commons has voted £6000 a year, and £30,000 dowry to the Princess Helena, and £15,000 annually to Prince Alfred.

The erection of a monument to Lord Palmerston has been ordered in Westminster Abbey.

The cattle plague is still increasing. Thirty thousand were returned last week.

The banks of France, Prussia and Italy have all reduced their rates of discount.

NEW YORK, March 8. Late Mexican advices state that the Belgian troops refused to fight under Gen. Mendez who shot Ortega not caring if the Belgian prisoners were to be shot in retaliation. Marshal Bazaine wanted to have every fifth of the offenders shot but the Empress interposed in their behalf. Marshal Bazaine had intimated that there must be war with the United States.

Heavy detachments have been sent to Queretaro and San Luis Potosi.

MONTREAL, March 8.—Great excitement prevails. Ten thousand volunteers have been ordered out within twenty-four hours.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—Representatives Boutwell and Washburne, from the Reconstruction Committee, have made a minority report, saying that the colored people of Tennessee are undoubtedly loyal, and that half the white people are disloyal. East Tennessee, they say, is thoroughly loyal, and Middle and West Tennessee are disloyal. There are about 120,000 whites, and 80,000 colored males, of the voting age. They propose requiring of Tennessee for her admission to Congress to confer the elective franchise without distinction of race or color.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The House has passed the Senate joint resolution appropriating $5000 to reimburse Miss Clara Butler, for money expended by her to discover missing soldiers.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to protect all persons in their civil rights.

CHICAGO, March 8.—The Republican has a telegram from Cincinnati stating that a private dispatch, entirely reliable, from Washington, has been received there, stating that Hon. E. M. Stanton will soon resign the Secretaryship of War, and that Gen. Stedman has accepted the position.

HARRISBURG, March 8.—The Union convention has nominated Gen. Geary for Governor.

VICKSBURG, March 7.—The steamer Henry Ames passed down at 3 P. M., and the J. H. Groesbeck and John W. Garrett, with five barges in tow.

The Mollie Able passed up at noon, the Welcome at 2 P. M., and the Magnolia at 5 P. M.

The river is high and rising.

VICKSBURG, March 8.—The steamer City of Memphis passed down at 5 P. M.; the Atlantic at 8 P. M. The Virginia passed up at 6 P. M., and the Olive Branch at 5 P. M.

LOUISVILLE, March 8.—Leaf tobacco firm for the new crop—old crop lower; sales, 102 hhds. Flour, $6 50@$7 25 for superfine. Corn, 62c. Oats, 43c. Pork, $28. Hams, 23c. Lard, 18c. Whisky, $2 26.

CINCINNATI, March 8.—Flour dull and unchanged. Pork, $28. Lard, 18c.

NEW YORK, March 8.—The steamer Geo. Cromwell, from New Orleans, has arrived.

ST. LOUIS, March 8.—Cotton lower; no sales. Flour declined 25@50c. Wheat dull at $1 75. Corn 56c. Pork $27 50. Bacon heavy at 17½@17¾c. Clear sides 22½c.

NEW YORK, March 8.—Cotton closed heavy and lower at 43c. Flour dull. Coffee quiet. Sugar quiet, Muscovado 12c. Molasses heavy. New Orleans, 90c. to $1 01. Sterling Exchange, 109½. Gold closed at 131⅞.

CHICAGO, March 8.—Flour quiet. Wheat steady, at $1 25½. Corn and Oats dull. Pork $27 50. Lard 18c. Hogs $8 97½.

[From Yesterday's Evening Papers.]

NEW YORK, March 8.—The Royal mail steamship Java, from Liverpool the 24th and Queenstown the 25th, has arrived at this port with three days later news.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 24.—The week's business in cotton closed with quotations at ½d. below those of Friday, the 17th. The week's sales comprised 58,000 bales. On Friday the sales amounted to 8000 bales, and on Saturday to 6000, the market closing easier.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—Consols unchanged. Five twenties, 69½ to [illegible].

NEW YORK, March 8.—The Fenians last night passed resolutions requesting the conferring of belligerent rights on the Irish Republic by the United States.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The Fenians held an immense mass meeting here last night.

In the Senate, yesterday, the bill for the admission of Colorado was made the special order for next Monday.

The House yesterday ordered the testimony given before the Reconstruction Committee, relative to the States of Louisiana, Texas and Florida, to be printed.

The House concurred in the Senate amendment to the joint resolution transferring the counties of Berkley and Jefferson to the State of Western Virginia.

Mr. Kelley addressed the House approving the bill regulating trade with the British North American Colonies.

At the election in Alexandria, Va., yesterday, the mayor and several others were elected who have been in the Confederate army.

NEW YORK, March 8.—Dry goods remain weak. Foreign goods and domestics have reached a lower figure than for six months past. The rates for paper are quite firm at 7½ to 8 per cent.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—Commodore Winslow, the principal witness in the Semmes trial, has been released from Washington, and it is now probable that Admiral Semmes will not be trial.

Arrivals at the Principal Hotels.

ST. CHARLES HOTEL—G D Neafus, Lawrence; B L Crough, Springfield, Ill; J A Breckinridge, Booneville; W K Baylor, Texas; Miss Murray, G Picker, Covington, Ky; Chas Houston, steamer Thompson; Capt Norton, steamer Vigo; J T Graves, Austin; S T Hamilton, J L Frisbie, L Pless, J M Forgard, Tex; W O Lee, La; W D Lavender, Tenn; W S Miller, Miss; H N Frisbie, Pt Coupee; Col J O Picken, Rapides; A Nicholas, Cairo; J Ramond, Hickman; Dr S Niblett, J A Miller, Miss; S Jacke, N Y; J J Emery, Cinn; F C Euling, Lafourche; W Fowler, Ala; E A Hammond, N Y; J T Ward and wife, Houston; W A Benton, St Louis; J A Gifford, N Y; J Nelson, J H Halsey, Mrs N Crocket and son, W G Fitzgerald, E Fairclough, La; A H Tracy, Mobile; R N Swift, R G N Swift, Mass; J S Smith, Baltimore; L A Lienan, N Y; H Fiskins, Niagara Falls; H Chapman, T S Garrett, Iberville; D M Layman, Cinn; J Spencer, Quincy, Ill; J P Harrington, Jackson; S F Casey, H P Gray, B G Duvall, Austin, Texas T H Clement.

ST. LOUIS HOTEL—J McCoy, B Highton, W Highton, Austin; E Wells and family, Rapides; T T Evans, J M Hunt, Miss Hunt, N Y; J Leman, Donaldsonville; H B Cohen, Miss Cohen, Miss V Cohen, J J Slade, city; J C Beman, N Y; J F Douglas, J J Wood, St Louis; J W Graham, city; E W Andrews, Baton Rouge; Mrs W M Daily, St Louis; W H Vance and lady, J Vance, Miss K Westfall, San Antonio; A Astrance, N Y; William Orskine, Plaquemines.

CITY HOTEL—J M Stone, Scott Co, Ky; W H Coleman, La; J A Aiken and family, J H Renge and family, J Keinock, Mobile; F J White, Nashville; T H Wheeler, Miss; C T Hampt and wife, city; D L Foute, La; W Smythe, Texas; T C England, Dr J Alexander, J C Harris, J M Harris, Miss; E A Stebbins, R M Higgins, St Louis; W P Wentworth, V'bg; W W Cockrum and wife, D J Fuller and wife, J Henderson, Miss; H T Fortier, Terry, Miss; T S Pitts, Jackson, Miss; W L Walls, Summit, Miss; L O Weatherby, Liberty, Miss; W E Butler, do; R Mott, Holly Springs, Miss; B F Jones, Miss; J B Wian, Liberty, Miss; J Hollander, Miss; C E Tennison, E L Smith, Washington; J C Rhote, Texas; W W Berchner, W Gantt, W C Roberts, Texas; A Wade, L Noel, L Meyer, J N Nolan, La; J C Santle, A P Newhill and wife, Texas; R and P Hill, S P Laynox, Baton Rouge; T O Pollock, M Leisle, Natchez; J Jorone, Morehouse; R B Hill, Texas; T W Carpenter, H Smith, Va; J P Williams and wife, Mobile; Mrs Laughley and daughter, Miss Ployher, Texas; B Chandler, Tenn; A D Croxall, L P Tenbrook, Ind; T Gorman and wife, Pensacola; D E Harper, Miss; H Ware and family, Shelby co, Ala; J T Sayers, Bagdad, N R Barker, R H Conny, New York; J B Miller, S B Barrow, J G Menies, Texas; G H Brott, Texas; Capt G W Norton and wife; W H Reefe, Texas; L E Laird, Miss; N Staacke, San Antonio; R W Jones, W A Jones, D Hoskins, Texas; S Powers, Cincinnati; F B Sturgess, Austin, Texas; T R Marrey, N Y; S Rinker, Galveston; S D Forte, do; W G Belding, Gonzales; B C Murray, Mrs L S Owings, Mrs Swisher, Miss Swisher, San Antonio; C C Speers, Houston; J B Slack, Texas; Miss L Shuford, do; J S Baker, Huntsville, Texas; J D Berry, Waco, Texas; W B Haley, Centreville, Texas; Mrs Alexander and child, do; A S Darden, Texas; B C Truman, N Y.

ST. JAMES HOTEL—J C Tappan, Ark; Wm S Beall, Ohio; T J Grumbaugh; J D Corr, G M Croxton, La; C Cartwright, F Edmonston, Capt A Q Withers, Major Ford, M Wills, W A Buffalo, James McCoy, Miss; A Reny; H Brewster, La; T A Bagley, Ga; H L Fox, W Friedlander, A Harris, H North, Washington; J W Lane; J N Drune, Plaquemine; H D Gibbs, Plaquemine; O Shearer, La; Miss J Serley, Plaquemine; A L Pope, Mississippi; B T Holt, F H Ruff, M Nile, Miss; J W Murrell and wife, Va; Mrs Gicksaw, Miss; W A Bragg, Va; J R Davis, J T Sessions, W Simmons, S B Hurtley, Miss, J R Groover, J Lipscomb, T P Holliday, Texas; J R Shelley, Miss; J M Oliver, C B Buck, St Louis; M V Johnson, La; J A Craig, Miss Craig, Selma; W L Bragg, Ala.

Foreign Items.

A Paris paper describes a singular incident, that marked the second ball at the Tuileries. The wife of Savfet Pasha, the embassador of the porte, appeared in a European costume, with her face uncovered. She is perhaps the first Turkish lady that has thus openly discarded the national prejudices of her countrywomen. She wore an elegant Parisian toilet, and danced several mazourkas with perfect good grace and distinction.

Baron Rothschild has been swindled. A month ago a venerable and decrepit old man offered to sell him a splendid service of old china—12 pieces only—for an annuity of £18 a year. The man looked so old and so near his end that the Baron consented; but when the month had elapsed, instead of his venerable friend, a spruce, vigorous young fellow of about thirty claimed the annuity. The Baron stood aghast. "Why, you seemed a century old a month ago!" "Yes, M. le Baron, but you see your assistance has renewed my lease of life."

According to the latest official returns, there are in the 11,314 cafes, beer-houses and wine-shops of Paris, 27,711 public billiard tables; some of the cafes on the boulevards have from 20 to 30. The receipts from every public table are supposed to average about 10 francs per day, which would give 277,110 francs for the daily receipts of the whole, and 101,145,150 for the year of 365 days. Even reducing this sum by one-half, there will still remain above 50,000,000, a great portion of which is paid by the working classes.

In consequence of the alarm about the pork disease, the pig dealers of Vienna have telegraphed to their agents in Servia and Hungary not to send them any more animals for the present, as most of the greatest hotels have suppressed all preparations of pork in their bills of fare.

The late heavy snow storm in England was the most destructive of any of the last forty years amongst firs and other evergreen trees. It is estimated that the weight of snow on the trees was an average of three pounds to the square foot. Hundreds of fine trees have been either totally wrecked or sadly mangled.

The Russian army has been reduced from 1,135,-000 men in 1864, to 805,000, a lower figure than that of the army after the close of the Crimean war. The military expenses have been reduced 36,000,000 roubles, about £5,000,000.

THE CHOLERA IN THE WEST INDIES—ELEVEN HUNDRED DEATHS IN GUADALOUPE.

By way of Santiago de Cuba we learn that the cholera continues in Guadaloupe. Statistics up to January 1st show that there had been one thousand one hundred deaths.

On the 17th the epidemic had decreased in Guadaloupe, but had made its appearance in Dominica.

Passengers per steamship Texas from Galveston: H W Bachman, Ed Brown, J F Bennett, Miss Campbell and 4 on deck.