The New Orleans Crescent.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS.

SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 17, 1869.

THE MOTHER'S SACRIFICE.

"God loveth a cheerful giver."

"What shall I render Thee, Father supreme,
For thy rich gifts, and this the best of all?"
Said a young mother, as she fondly watched
Her sleeping babe. There was an answering voice
That night in dreams:
"Thou hast a tender flower
Upon thy breast, fed with the dews of love.
Lend me that flower—such flowers there are in Heaven above."
But there was silence—yea, a hush so deep,
Breathless and terror stricken, that the lip
Blanched in its trance.
"Thou hast a little harp;
How sweetly would it swell the angels' hymn:
Yield me that harp."
There was a shuddering sob,
As if the bosom by some hidden sword
Was cleft in twain.
Morn came, a blight had found
The crimson velvet of th' unfolding bud;
The harp-strings ran a thrilling strain and broke,
And that young mother lay upon the earth
In childless agony.
Again the voice that stirred the vision:
"He who asked of thee, loveth a cheerful giver."
So she raised her gushing eyes, and, ere the tear-drop dried
Upon their fringes, smiled—and that meek smile,
Like Abraham's faith, was counted righteousness.

The Corn and Cotton Crops of the United States.

The Washington correspondent of the Newark Advertiser furnishes the following:

The monthly report of the department of agriculture, now in press, contains the following estimates of the corn and cotton crops of the several States—except those on the Pacific coast, which raise little corn and no cotton—in the year just closed. The figures of the corn crop of 1867 are also given, to show the increase or decrease of the respective States; a few States showing a decline, though the aggregate increase is over 137,000,000 bushels:

THE CORN CROP.

	1867.	1868.
Maine	1,575,000	1,890,000
New Hampshire	1,413,000	1,511,000
Vermont	[illegible]	1,672,000
Massachusetts	2,363,000	2,292,000
Rhode Island	340,000	346,000
Connecticut	2,242,000	2,152,000
New York	19,500,000	20,910,000
New Jersey	9,700,000	10,216,000
Pennsylvania	30,457,000	31,676,000
Delaware	3,629,000	3,275,000
Maryland	11,680,000	12,349,000
Virginia	18,473,000	19,958,000
North Carolina	17,974,000	23,396,000
South Carolina	7,854,000	9,870,000
Georgia	29,037,000	27,294,000
Florida	2,503,000	2,950,000
Alabama	34,050,000	31,240,000
Mississippi	30,667,000	35,512,000
Louisiana	9,535,000	17,397,000
Texas	20,716,000	21,337,000
Arkansas	21,240,000	32,449,000
Tennessee	50,250,000	54,772,000
West Virginia	6,500,000	7,695,000
Kentucky	46,550,000	58,187,000
Missouri	50,457,000	61,967,000
Illinois	109,091,000	134,399,000
Indiana	80,757,000	91,832,000
Ohio	64,000,000	74,040,000
Michigan	15,118,000	18,315,000
Wisconsin	9,885,000	12,515,000
Minnesota	4,500,000	8,255,000
Iowa	53,330,000	65,332,000
Kansas	8,152,000	6,487,000
Nebraska	2,325,000	3,185,000
Total	767,820,000	905,178,000

THE COTTON CROP.

The cotton crop, which, in the early part of the season, promised a large falling off from that of 1867, was so much favored by the fall weather, in the Gulf States especially, as to warrant the belief that the market receipts will fall little below the figures for the crop of the preceding year, which will be equal to half the amount of the great crop of 1859, and bring an equal or greater sum of money to the planters. The following are the department estimates, and the crop is more likely to run over than under these figures:

	BALES.		BALES.
North Carolina	140,000	Louisiana	280,000
South Carolina	180,000	Texas	280,000
Georgia	200,000	Arkansas	265,000
Florida	35,000	Tennessee	230,000
Alabama	285,000	Other States	75,000
Mississippi	400,000		
Total			2,380,000

The department estimates for 1867 was 2,340,000 bales, while the actual receipts proved to be 2,450,000 bales. The estimate for 1866 was 1,835,000 bales, and the actual receipts were about 1,900,000 bales.

First Look at Grant.

George C. Harding writes to the Indianapolis Mirror, from Mattoon, Illinois, as follows:

It was here I first saw General U. S. Grant. It was in June of 1861. I had just come down from Chicago, where the dead Douglas was lying in state, and stopped here long enough to wait an hour or two for a train bound East. Mattoon at that time didn't offer many attractions to the stranger, and I strolled out to a field to look at a lot of wild human beings there corralled, for the purpose of being converted into defenders of their country. In sooth they were a measly set, the dirtiest and barefootedest I ever saw—some of them with pantaloons slit up the leg clear to the knee, and the ribbons flapping in the breeze as they went through the double-quick. They looked as if they had been run down with hounds in the wilds of Effingham county, and the wild men of Borneo never gave vent to such blood-curdling yells as came from the lungs of these savages. A dead-beat by the name of Goode had been in command of the regiment, but had been relieved by Grant, who was reviewing his ragamuffins when I strolled into the camp. Writing at this late day, and in the light of after events, I ought to chronicle first impressions of greatness. I ought to have then and there, in the countenance of that reticent, stolid looking man, have seen traces of the genius which smashed the rebellion at Vicksburg, and received the capitulation of Lee at Appomattox. I am ashamed to say I saw nothing of the kind. I only saw a little man with a square jaw, who stood square upon his legs, was dressed in a shabby suit of slops, and smoked a villainous cigar—two for five, I could swear, as I stood near him, and the wind wafted the infernal odor of cabbage right into my face. The only thing that impressed me favorably was his standing square upon his feet, without shifting his weight from one leg to the other, and a certain steel-gray glitter in his eyes, which augured of nerve enough to go his last dollar on a "queen-full." If I had been called upon to pick from that motley crowd the future hero of the war, I would as likely have chosen any other man as Ulysses. All of which goes to show that appearances are deceitful—that phrenology is a humbug, etc.

THE MAN FROM BOSTON.—"Howcus," a writer for the Syracuse Journal, gives the following pithy description of "the man from Boston:"

The weary, worn pleasure-seeker, as the cheery, lively, business traveler, has noticed that prevalent personage, the man from Boston.

He is of medium size, dapper built, neat and band-boxy; he has an outside stripe down the leg of his pants, whether it be the fashion or not; in summer he carries a duster, in winter a shawl; at all times a trim satchel filled with toilet articles, for which he has a womanly tendency and tenderness.

He is a sedate young man, and not to be easily approached; he is opposed to conversation, and dislikes a joke. Boston sits steadily upon him, and he must maintain her reputation as he journeys. At home, to be admired of a small tea party is a part he can do active justice to, but away from there, Boston's graver aspect must find a reflex in his mode and manner.

His pronunciation differs from others; he slights the first o in Boston, and entirely omits the second.

He is opposed to capital punishment, on the ground that banishment from Boston is expiation full for any conceivable offense. That he should leave Boston is a calamity oft times equally regretted by himself and those he honors by the bestowal of his company.

At a hotel I became honored by the notice of a man from Boston; he became unusually communicative and intrusted me with his opinions of —— Boston. There were many towns, few cities, one Boston. His name was Charles or Gustus. Deeply interested, I inquired, which? and apologized for misunderstanding his pronunciation on his claiming both. At the table he is reminded of home and its pleasures, and sighs for brown bread and minced codfish. In Boston man's only want is a want. He asks a small boy to please pass the butter; boy says, with pleasure, and begins: butter is a common noun, singular number, neuter ——. Boston man looks Webster at boy and leaves the table.

On the cars he pays his fare, inclusive of the "five cents additional will be collected on all fares paid in the cars." He asks the conductor what the "five cents" is for? For the company—and our friend is speechless.

He is on his way to Boston.

The Louisiana Legislature.

TENTH DAY.

Senate.

FRIDAY, January 15, 1869.

The Senate met at noon, Lieut. Gov. Dunn presiding.

Twenty-eight members present.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Rusk.

Reading of minutes dispensed with.

A message from the governor was received submitting the report of the Opelousas and Grosse Tete Railroad Companies. Referred to the internal improvement committee and ordered to be printed.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. Lewis—A resolution providing for a committee on health and quarantine. Under suspension of the rules the resolution was adopted.

By Mr. Antoine—A resolution requiring the secretary of the Senate to turn over all papers of unfinished business of last session to the committee on unfinished business. Referred to committee on rules.

A resolution authorizing the committee on public buildings to employ a clerk. Adopted.

By Mr. Jenks—A resolutions changing the hour for taking up the order of the day from one to half past one o'clock daily.

By Mr. Wittenstein—A resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee of five on railroads.

Mr. Smith moved to lay the resolution on the table.

The yeas and nays were called, resulting in yeas 12, nays 12—a tie.

The president voted to lay on the table. The resolution was therefore lost.

A resolution to appoint a committee on slaughter-houses was offered and laid on the table.

Mr. Campbell reported a bill from the finance committee for the relief of Robert T. Carr, sheriff and State tax collector of the parish of De Soto, and allowing him an extension of time to make his report.

The bill was taken up under suspension of the rules, and finally passed after the explanation by Mr. Blackman that the extension of time was rendered necessary on account of the failure of the assessor of the parish to make his returns to the sheriff within the proper delay.

NOTICES OF BILLS.

By Mr. Antoine—Of a bill to create a criminal court in the parish of Caddo.

ACCORDING TO PREVIOUS NOTICE.

By Mr. Ray—A bill to aid the Mexican Gulf Ship Canal and to issue bonds for that purpose. Referred.

By Mr. O'Hara—A bill providing for the management of the school fund. Referred to the committee on education.

Also, a bill prohibiting State officers from dealing in the indebtedness of the State. Referred to the judiciary committee.

By Mr. Campbell—A bill relative to notaries, and to attorneys and curators *ad hoc*. Referred to the judiciary committee.

An act relative to fixing the terms of the district courts was presented. Referred to the judiciary committee.

By Mr. Blackman—A bill relative to the State printing and providing for the election of a State printer. Lies over under the rules.

By Mr. Ogden—A bill providing for the regulation of the payment of State officers. Referred to finance committee.

By Mr. Todd—A bill to incorporate the St. Bernard and Barracks Railroad Company. Mr. Todd moved to refer to the committee on internal improvements. Adopted.

A petition from the Southern Express Company asking for relief. Referred to the committee on claims.

By judiciary committee: Substitute for a bill relative to auctioneer's bonds.

Mr. Ray explained the object of the bill by saying that the substitute limited the expiration of auctioneer's bonds. The law as it now exists provides for no limit, so that very often bonds are given which become valueless by the death of sureties, after running for a period of years in their valueless condition. The bill underwent two readings, but before its final passage, there being no quorum, about ten minutes were lost to await the return of absent members. A quorum having been obtained the bill was finally passed.

BILLS ON SECOND READING.

Mr. Bacon's bill providing for the consolidation and government of the city of New Orleans was read and laid on the table, subject to call upon the motion of Mr. Bacon himself.

By consent Mr. Ray gave notice of a bill to ratify the lease of the Penitentiary to Messrs. Huger & Jones, etc.

A message from the governor was read informing the Senate that he had signed joint resolution authorizing the appointment of a joint committee on joint rules; and also a joint resolution relative to the death of Gen. Lovell H. Rousseau.

The Senate went into executive session and adjourned.

House of Representatives.

The House met at noon, Speaker Lowell presiding; sixty-three members present.

Minutes read, amended and approved.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Heidenhain of Orleans, authorizing members of the House to smoke up to one o'clock. Lost.

By V. M. Lange, of Baton Rouge, colored, ordering the appointment of a committee of five to investigate alleged conspiracy and other crimes charged against the parish judge, sheriff and clerk of the court of the parish of East Baton Rouge. Mr. Pratt, of Claiborne, moved to lay on the table, but failed to carry the vote.

Upon the suggestion of the Hon. Isabelle, Lange withdrew his resolution in order to prepare a "jint resolution" to the same import.

McMillen, of Carroll, submitted a report from the committee on corporations of last session relative to the affairs of the New Canal Company. Report and documents ordered printed.

By Gair, of East Feliciana, directing the sergeant-at-arms to purchase two hundred two cent stamps and three hundred three cent stamps for the use of the members. Lost.

By Morey, of Ouachita, requesting from the auditor a statement of pensions paid by him since July 1, 1868. Adopted.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Ways and Means—On the resolution authorizing the lease of a room for the use of the enrolling committee, favorably. Report adopted and authorization granted.

Judiciary—On the bill appointing a joint committee to investigate destruction of newspaper offices by mobs since April 18th, 1868, unfavorably, because individual corporations are liable for damages, and not the State at large. Report accepted and bill killed.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

Balance sheet for 1868, showing the expenses of the last session. Report ordered printed, and made special order for Wednesday next.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY.

This was Warmoth's veto of the bill paying the members of joint committees authorized to sit during the recess. The veto was sustained by a vote of 25 for the bill to 45 against it.

The Senate bill regulating appraisements under seizure and succession sales in the parishes of Jefferson and Orleans. Postponed till Monday.

BILLS ON THEIR SECOND READING.

Senate joint resolution respecting extra compensation to employés of the Legislature and gratuities. An effort was made to indefinitely postpone but failed. Referred to committee on ways and means.

Senate bill to furnish the Seventh District Court with law books. Judiciary committee.

BILLS ON THEIR THIRD READING.

Senate bill appropriating $9500 to pay expenses of getting into new State House. Referred to the committee on appropriations.

The report of the Board of Public Works was received and ordered printed.

Wm. Baker, chairman, communicated with the House, to state that he will report on Monday.

Mr. Wiltz, of Orleans, gave notice of a bill amending the law passed last summer, relating to the filling of offices not then filled.

The chair announced the following committees on the bill abolishing the present city government, and creating a provisional government for the city: Carr, De Grange, and Adolphe, of Orleans. To investigate the selling of the 1884 levee bonds, Gartskamp, of Jefferson; Prescott, of St. Landry and D. Young, of Concordia.

Mr. Kent's resolution rescinding the resolution ordering 2500 copies of the report of the peace and order committee to be printed came up.

Mr. Pratt took the floor in advocacy of it, delivering a long and eloquent speech, showing the falsehoods in the report, defending the people of Louisiana against the charges brought against them, and freely denouncing the men who have, by their falsehood and villainy degraded the State by assuming the control of her destinies.

On motion of Carr, of Orleans, the resolution was laid on the table by a strict party vote, 46 to 16.

Carr introduced a bill amending the metropolitan police bill. Read twice and ordered printed.

Also an act amending article 165 of the Code of Practice. Judiciary committee.

NOTICES OF BILLS.

By Carr of Orleans, a bill for the relief of Alfred Shaw.

By Mr. Noble of Orleans, a joint resolution, ordering the appointment of a joint committee, three from the House and two from the Senate—two of the House delegates to be Democrats and one from the Senate to be a Democrat, to prepare a refutation of the statements made in the report of the peace and order committee—which statements are so prejudicial to the State and so injurious to her best interests. Mr. Noble tried to introduce this bill, but was refused.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

By McVean of Caddo, providing for the formation of a militia, and appropriating $200,000 to pay the expenses thereof. Read twice and referred to the committee on appropriations.

By Hanlon of Orleans, a bill making a game law for the State. Read twice and sent to the judiciary committee.

The committee on rules, in compliance with instructions, reported an amendment to the rules creating the office of official reporter. Amendment adopted and the office created.

The claims committee reported on the bills for the relief of McLean and Holland, favorably by substitute. Referred to the committee of the whole.

By Morey of Ouachita, an act repealing the bill passed last session relative to notaries public. Referred to the judiciary committee.

Gartskamp of Jefferson, gave notice of a bill amending the law of 1866 creating an additional justice of the peace for the parish of Jefferson.

Adjourned.

Ritualism—Important Decision on Church Practices.

[From the London Times, Dec. 24.]

The case of "Martin vs. Mackonochie," in which some of the most characteristic practices at St. Albans, Holborne, were challenged, was yesterday decided, and the result is that Mr. Mackonochie is condemned upon every one of the points raised, and is required to pay the costs both of the original suit and the present appeal. This decision is as important as it will be satisfactory to the public. The case has brought to the test of law some of the most prominent innovations of the ritualists. They were innovations closely connected with their most characteristic doctrines—these, namely, which relate to the Holy Communion. To indicate their peculiar belief respecting this sacrament, they introduced a variety of novel gestures, ceremonies and ornaments. Though, in the aggregate, these produced a change so conspicuous as utterly to alter the character of the service, it was, as usual, very difficult to describe them with sufficient accuracy for a legal test. At length, however, after the ingenuity of numerous lawyers has been exerted on both sides, the question has been brought to a distinct issue, and on that issue Mr. Mackonochie has been, without exception, condemned. Ritualism, in short, has been fairly challenged in the highest court of law, and has been completely defeated. The issue, though limited, is of material significance, and the condemnation pronounced is sufficient to prove that the position of the ritualists is wholly untenable.

The case may be very simply explained. Mr. Mackonochie was originally charged—first, with elevating the elements during the prayer of consecration; secondly, with kneeling before them during the same prayer; thirdly, with using lighted candles on the communion table during the celebration of the holy communion, when they were not required for the purpose of giving light; fourthly, with using incense in the same service; and, fifthly, with mixing water with the wine. The elevation by Mr. Mackonochie discontinued before the suit commenced, and he was admonished not to resume it. The judgment of the Court of Arches condemned the use of incense and of water. It admitted, however, the lawfulness of lighted candles and considered the kneeling a minor point of order, which, if raised at all, should be referred to the discretion of the bishop. The judicial committee have now ruled that kneeling during the prayer of consecration is contrary to the rubric and that lighted candles are not admissible. There remains, therefore, not a single point on which the defendant has sustained his case. What is still more remarkable there is scarcely an argument on which the counsel for ritualist relied which has not been rejected by the court; and this may involve more important consequences than the judgment itself. With respect to the kneeling, the court observed that the posture of the officiating minister is prescribed by various directions throughout the communion service. He is directed when to stand and when to change this posture for that of kneeling. But it is expressly ordered that the prayer of consecration is to be said by the priest "standing before the table," and there is no indication that he is intended to change his posture during the prayer. In reply, after one or two formal objections, it was contended that this was one of those minute details which the rubric could not be held to cover. To this the court make the important answer that it is not for any minister of the church, or even for themselves, to assume that any departure from or violation of the rubric is trivial. The present case, indeed, is a conspicuous proof that violations which in themselves might seem very trivial may practically involve most material consequences. It is as notorious historically as it is evident from the minute directions of the prayer book that variations of gesture and posture during the communion were connected at the Reformation with important points of doctrine; and those who put this plea upon the record knew perfectly well that the gesture which they described as trivial implied on their own part equally important opinions. This consideration has a further bearing upon the equally questionable plea that there was no evidence to show that adoration was intended by kneeling. The court would, in any case, find it very difficult to judge strictly of outward movements." On this point, in short, Mr. Mackonochie had violated a distinct rubric, and the question could not therefore be referred to the discretion of the bishop.

The use of lighted candles raised a question of even greater significance and importance. They had been treated either as a ceremony or as an ornament, and on either alternative they had been justified by an argument which has been extensively used by the ritualists, and on which, in fact, they base their whole system of innovation. They have alleged that they are justified in adopting any practice which the prayer book does not explicitly condemn—in other words, that whatever is not expressly abolished is retained as lawful. In this instance they appeal to certain injunctions issued in the first year of Edward VI, and their counsel even went so far as to quote a constitution made by a council held under the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1322. The court, we rejoice to say, dismissed those antiquarian references as utterly irrelevant. They lay it down, in direct opposition to the principal of the ritualists that all ceremonies are abolished which are not expressly retained in the prayer book. This is plainly implied in the preface, but it is placed beyond doubt by Elizabeth's act of uniformity, now applicable to the present prayer book, which prohibits any rite, ceremony, order or form which is not mentioned in the prayer book, and declares void all prior usages and ordinances. The opening rubric, again, orders that "such ornaments of the Church and of the ministers thereof shall be retained, and be in use, as were in this Church of England, by authority of Parliament, in the second year of the reign of King Edward VI." The ritualists have argued from this that whatever was lawful in the designated year of Edward VI is lawful now; and through this loophole, as the reader has already seen, they have introduced into the controversy not only the shifting usages of that confused period, but the endless and antiquated canons of medieval ecclesiastics. Anything, of course, might be built on such a foundation. The court, however, have now distinctly explained that those things only possess the authority of Parliament which are expressly in the named prayer book referred to. It is nothing to the point that the candles were lawful at the time when the prayer book was issued. They are not prescribed in it, and they are therefore abolished. The rubric, they observe, might have said that such ornaments should be retained as were then lawful, or such as were then in use; but in fact it says such only as were then in use by authority of Parliament, and that is now decided to mean such as are expressly prescribed in the first prayer book, or as are consistent with and subsidiary to them. As a matter of fact, the use of lighted candles was almost universally discontinued after the Reformation, which affords a strong confirmation of the view thus taken of the law.

IDENTIFYING A HUSBAND AND FATHER.—The Reno (Cal.) Crescent relates the following:

A mother with four little children reached Reno from the States last Saturday, on the way to join her husband in Surprise Valley. The husband came to Reno the same evening, en route for San Francisco, to meet his wife. By accident he met one of his own children on the street. He spoke to the child, asked her name, and when it was told him he said to the child: "I am your father; go and show me where your mother is." The mother was just conversing with a lady and telling her that her husband was a fair-complexioned, smooth-faced man, when the little girl came rushing in, announcing the presence of the husband and father. The mother turned from her child to the man, but seeing a swarthy, full-bearded, long-haired "hombre" before her, said: "Why, child, that is not your father; it is an Indian." But the "Indian" insisted that he knew the lady, and finally convinced her that she knew him; but not until he went down town and had his hair and whiskers dressed did the poor woman seem entirely satisfied, and one of his children stoutly resisted acknowledging his paternity until he bribed her with goodies."

Hayti and San Domingo in Congress.

In the House of Representatives, on the 12th, Mr. Banks reported the joint resolution, already published in the newspapers, proposing the protection of Hayti and San Domingo by the United States. He said this subject had been brought to our attention very recently, and that the resolution was based upon the theory that these republics desired the action recommended. He was not, however, authorized officially to state the fact, but mentioned it on his own responsibility, predicated on the best information which he could obtain. He had presented the subject to the committee on foreign affairs; there was not time for full consideration; it was a novel question, and of importance, but he received the unanimous authority of the committee to make the report.

Mr. Mullins inquired whether, by pursuing that course, they were not running the hazard of interfering with the foreign government.

Mr. Banks replied: "In no respect whatever. No European government had the slightest claims on the island, and the resolution did not contemplate intervention in the slightest degree. It was only for the purpose of assisting Hayti and San Domingo to maintain their own institutions."

Mr. Ingersoll asked Mr. Banks to inform the House what would be our future liability by virtue of the proposed protectorate or our relations.

Mr. Banks said the resolution did not contemplate a protectorate, in the European sense. It might require nothing more than sending thither a vessel of war, and in case of the interruption of the public peace, to advise the parties attempting revolution that they had better wait till the period of election occurred. He was satisfied that this would be sufficient to secure the object of the resolution.

Mr. Woodward inquired whether this was not initiating steps for entangling alliances, against which the father of our country had warned us.

Mr. Banks replied that it was not initiating steps, except to secure a good government. All the European powers had recognized the independence of these republics, and Spain had withdrawn all claims to the sovereignty of the island.

Mr. Woodward inquired, "If we extend our protection to these feeble, though independent, governments, do we not initiate aggression with European powers?"

Mr. Banks—"We do not; but we prevent aggression."

Mr. Ward inquired whether there was any precedent for the contemplated action?

Mr. Banks replied that there was no precedent, but we are in the age when new action is required. He then stated that, owing to the frequent revolutions, our commerce had, within a few years, suffered to the extent of millions of dollars, and within these republics our trade would be very much increased, and this, if there were no other reasons, was sufficient why we should desire peace.

Mr. Judd asked whether there was any pending negotiation between the executive and those governments looking to a protectorate.

Mr. Banks replied that he was not at liberty to state that there had been, but that he could state, as his own belief, that these governments and peoples desired, and would accept, our friendly intervention. More than this he could not say, without compromising those governments. He believed that, when we made the offer, it would be accepted.

Mr. Garfield remarked that the gentleman from Massachusetts had said we might send a ship of war to that island. How could peace and quiet be urged unless the vessel was called on to do something?

Mr. Banks replied that we could not take possession of the territory, or occupy their seas, without a treaty between those republics and our own. If the government ask for our protection, our vessels would be accompanied by officers who, if there should be an organization to revolutionize the government, could advise insurgents to desist from their purposes until the time for the election of president occurred, in pursuance to law.

Mr. Judd inquired—Suppose the revolutionists should refuse to accept the advice?

Mr. Banks—Then it would be for the government of the United States to determine what ought to be done, and consult the Senate in the form of a treaty.

Mr. Bingham asked whether it would not be well to limit the scope of the resolution by adding the proviso that it was deemed important to restrict the president, so as not to be involved in an appropriation of money, without consulting the Congress of the United States and obtaining its consent for further action. Otherwise we might involve the country in a conflict of arms.

Mr. Banks replied that we did not intend to enter into a conflict of arms. We want a good government: therefore revolutions in that island imperil the peace of our own country. The resolution did not warrant an expenditure of money.

Mr. Ferris did not see how the object could be made effectual by the limited power in the resolution, and he inquired whether the committee, in determining to recommend the protectorate of the island, regarded it as a stepping stone, having in view the ultimate annexation of the territory?

Mr. Banks replied that the committee had no such an idea, nor had it any time for a full consideration. They gave him authority to report the resolution, and nothing more than that.

Mr. Cullom said the understanding of the committee would not justify the gentleman from Massachusetts calling for a vote on the resolution to-day.

Mr. Judd said that they wanted further time.

Mr. Banks said he would consent that the resolution should go over till to-morrow.

The House, at 4:15, adjourned.

The Reported Discoveries at Rock Island.

WONDERFUL RELICS—STATUES IN COPPER—AN OBELISK OF BRASS.

The Rock Island (Illinois) Argus gives the following particulars of the reported discovery of aboriginal relics at that place—a remarkable story, if true, and an ingenious hoax if untrue. In either case, the story is worth reading.

The Argus says:

We have the pleasure this evening of laying before our readers the result of one of the most interesting subterraneous exploring expeditions ever attempted on this continent. It is nothing less than an underground passageway under Rock Island—the present site of the United States arsenal, and the discovery of antiquarian relics of the rarest and most interesting character.

The entrance to a large cave—as our home reapers are doubtless aware—is plainly visible from the ferry landing, as well as other portions of our city bordering on the river bank, and although some ten feet in diameter at the entrance, it gradually diminishes in size until some twenty-five feet are reached, when it is with difficulty that a person can effect an entrance by crawling through the aperture, but when once fairly through, there is no difficulty in standing erect.

Until the recent interesting discoveries were made by the enterprising explorers, representing an eastern scientific society, and who are now sojourning in our city, this cave has never been known to be over one hundred and twenty feet in depth, and has possessed nothing more than ordinary interest, except as having been thought by the stern old Sac warrior, Black Hawk, to have been the chosen abode of the great spirit that presided over their destinies. But upon close examination at the terminus of one of the darkest and most intricate recesses, a narrow cavity was discovered in the rock, and by the aid of a torch forced into it, an interior apartment was found, upon entering which the party were enable to explore the subterraneous passage for a distance of nearly one thousand feet. The main passage is some six feet in width and about nine in height, and is evidently a natural cavern, though in some places there are evidences of its having been widened, as chisel marks can be distinctly discovered on the walls—besides numerous small recesses at regular intervals of fifty feet, which bear traces of having been hewn out of the massive solid rock.

The second corridor, leading from the main one, is very extensive—containing six ponderous pillars enwreathed with gorgeous decorations. Beyond this is a shorter chamber, in which is the entrance to the *sanctum sanctorum*, and which contains one of the grandest collections of antiquarian curiosities ever discovered on this continent. It contains a huge pedestal in the center constructed of solid copper, upon which is erected a magnificent shrine which, with its unique inscription, denotes the antiquity of its devotees. Surrounding it are the colossal figures of the twelve worshipers in kneeling posture, and quite contiguous to them is the symmetrical though diminutive figure of an Indian maiden, with a countenance of surpassing beauty, and strong marked features, indicative of deep thought and wondrous surprise, pointing with one hand to the expressive word engraved upon the wall—*Sheol*—indicating thereby that the end of their destiny and race is at hand. Above them all, on its projecting and crescent-shaped roof, are arranged in systematic precision, crossbows, arrows and other weapons in warlike profusion—reminding one of the ancient sons of Persia and Greece.

The atmosphere in this apartment is almost unfit to sustain animal life, being damp, heavy and very impure. The torches of the exploring party were several times extinguished, and the persons having the expedition in charge barely escaped suffocation.

A BRASS OBELISK.

Immediately adjoining the room containing these wonders is an obelisk of solid brass—some seven feet in height, beautifully sculptured on four sides. There are, in all, twenty-one small bas-reliefs, and above, below and between them is carved an inscription seventy-six lines in length. The whole is in the best state of preservation—scarcely a character of the inscription is wanting, and the figures are as sharp and well defined as if executed only a few days ago. One of the scenes represented is a circle of the ancient aborigines sitting in council—with the all-potent pipe of peace performing its wonted circuit, while the fortunes of war and peace are being discussed in the presence of the white-winged presiding genius. Another scene represented is a royal chieftain followed by his attendants—a prisoner is at his feet, while men are being introduced leading various animals and carrying ponderous cross bows, javelins and other weapons. The animals represented are the elephant, polar bear, lion, stag, and various kinds of monkeys. The ornaments delicately graven on the robes of the party, the tassels and fringes, the bracelets and armlets, the elaborate curls of the hair and beard are all entire. One of the chiefs stands very erect and carries in his arms an animal resembling a chamois upon his right arm, and in his left hand a branch bearing fine flowers. Around his temples are a filet adorned in front with a rosette.

One of the other characters, in a tragical attitude, holds a square vessel, resembling a basket, in his left hand, and a drawn dagger in the right, while on his head is worn a rounded cap, at the base of which is a horn. The garments of both consist of a robe falling from the shoulders to the ankle, and a short tunic underneath, descending to the knee, and are richly and tastefully decorated with embroideries and fringes whilst the hair and beard are arranged with study and taste. The limbs are delineated with peculiar accuracy, and the muscles and bones faithfully, though somewhat too strongly marked.

A COPPER STATUE.

After proceeding further, the party reached a large room with a high arched roof, in which were the entrances to many other chambers. These contained the crowning gem of the wonders—nothing less than a huge sarcophagus of copper—nine feet long and three feet in width, minutely sculptured within and without, with several hundred figures representing an immense funeral procession and ceremonies relating to the deceased chieftian, with emblems and other devices. The lid was partially removed, and revealed a quantity of bones and javelins.

TOPHET.

In one of the secluded corners of this apartment, and a few feet below the level of the floor, is the arched entrance to an unexplored chamber—approached by a narrow passage-way down through a hideous stone stairway. The party, after repeated efforts to effect an entrance, were obliged to abandon it. In plainly-defined Indian characters, it bears the significant inscription, 'All hope abandon, ye who enter in,' an admonition which, while it tended only to excite and increase the curiosity of the explorers, was wisely heeded.

WEAPONS AND ORNAMENTS.

The knowledge of this ancient and interesting race does not seem, by any means, to have been confined to statuary and sculpture. Their weapons, and the jewel ornaments with which their persons were adorned, though principally of copper, are, in some instances, finished with gold and silver, and carved in the most exquisite manner conceivable, indicating mechanical genius and scientific attainments of the highest order. The luxury and refinement of an enlightened civilization are clearly delineated in these mysterious images and devices, rather than the wretchedness, ignorance and superstitions of a semi-barbarous race, as eminent authors of the present age have surmised our country, previous to its discovery by Columbus, to have been inhabited by.

At present the strictest vigilance is observed at the cave—no person being allowed to enter it without permission from one or more of the explorers. During the interval we understand it to be the intention of the party having the relics in their possession to ship the movable portion of them at once to New York, if permission from the war department for their removal can be obtained.

The Norwegian Cooking Apparatus.

The peasants of Norway, wise in their generation, are great eaters of porridge. They found that by boiling their mess for only five minutes, and then immediately inclosing the saucepan, all hot, in a little felted box, the heat acquired by boiling was sufficient to complete the cooking of the porridge and keep it hot for many hours. The accumulated heat, instead of passing off rapidly by radiation, which would have happened if the saucepan had not been inclosed in a non-conducting substance, was retained by the felted covering, and completed the cooking without any further application of fire. The Norwegian government, taking a leaf out of a peasant's book, adopted the practice in the Norwegian navy, where it has proved successful for the last three years; and, with the prestige in its favor, the apparatus was exhibited and repeatedly tested in Paris during the summer of 1867. At the close of the French Exhibition, the Society of Arts invited the patentees, Messrs. Sorensen & Plahte, of Duke street, London, England, to exhibit their apparatus, and to allow it to be tested by the Food Committee; those two gentlemen attended the Committee, and submitted their apparatus to trial. "A leg of mutton, with vegetables, was placed in the stew-pan, boiled for five minutes, and then carefully inclosed in the felted box and the lid sealed. When opened, at the expiration of three and a quarter hours, the whole was found to be perfectly cooked, the temperature of the water being then about 160 degrees Fahrenheit." Several further trials were subsequently had, and the Norwegian principle may be declared to be established.

In connection with this plan, one further remark will suffice here. In every farm, in every cottage, a fire is lighted and a kettle boiled in the early morning. On that fire let a saucepan or saucepans, containing the provisions for the midday meal, be placed to boil for only five minutes, and then be shut down, all hot, in a common deal box, well fitted with cheap felt; and the good man of the house, with the good woman and children, need concern themselves no more about the matter until the time for dinner shall arrive. At that time the food will be found to have cooked itself, as it were, by its own heat, and will be piping hot. The laborer may carry his dinner, in a little box, in the fields, and while he is working the food will be cooking, and he will have the benefit of a hot dinner, instead of a cold meal, when the hour is come. The superior force and power of work which the laborer would derive from eating hot instead of cold food cannot well be arithmetically stated, though it is known by experience to be very great. It is probable that the course of events may tend to make it in the interest of the farmer to concern himself more and more in the actual feeding of his laborers.

HOW STARFISH EAT OYSTERS.—Wherever the oyster appears in sufficient quantities, there men are ready to consume them as fast as they can be procured; but the poor unselfish oyster has enemies nearer home, in its own native element, and close upon its borders. The arch-enemy is the sleepy, stupid looking starfish, the Master Fivefingers of our boys, who eats them as spat or even when grown to considerable size. These greedy devourers have the curious power of rolling themselves up and floating away, so that they appear and vanish again, no one knows how. But all of a sudden, and often at the very time when the sanguine fisherman gets ready to reap a rich harvest from a well stocked oyster bank, he finds upon coming to the grounds that the foe has been there before him, and millions of starfishes have settled down, like a flock of wild pigeons on a field of wheat. Generally they prefer the spat, or very young oysters, which they take whole into their capacious mouths, and there digest it slowly. But how do these tender, fragile creatures manage to get at the full grown mollusc in its impregnable fortress? The ancients had a story that they watched it till they found it incautiously yawning, and then slyly slipped their greedy fingers between the valves to keep them open while they devoured the contents. This is, of course, a mere fable, as the soft, slimy fingers would be squeezed off in an instant even if the starfish were not famous for falling to pieces by immediate suicide as soon as it is brought into contact with a hard substance. Its murderous assault is far more curious. The first step in the process is for the enemy to lie close upon its prey, folding its slimy arms tightly over it so as to hold itself in the right position. Then it applies its mouth closely to the victim, and as it can not, by any force of its own, put the oyster into its stomach, it deliberately proceeds to put its stomach into the oyster. It begins slowly but steadily to push out this organ through the mouth, and wraps the mollusc in the folds of that capacious bag; patience always does its work, and in due time the native surrenders to the devourer.

DROWNING.—The following rules for the cure of persons apparently drowned ought to be cut from the paper and kept in the pocket for immediate use:

1. Lay the drowned man at once flat on his stomach, with his face to the ground—a folded coat or bundle under his chest. 2. Place your hands flat between his shoulder blades and make firm pressure, so as to squeeze the air out of his chest; then turn the body slowly on to one side and a little beyond. Replace him quickly on his face. Count four, to mark four seconds of time, and then repeat the process, commencing by squeezing the air out of the chest again. 3. Wet clothes should be removed and dry ones substituted, each bystander contributing. The body to be rubbed dry briskly, and the face kept from contact with the ground by an assistant. 4. Do not squeeze the air out of the patient's chest if he is breathing, but wait and watch, merely drying the body and changing the clothing.

How Queen Isabella Lives in Paris.

[Translated for the Louisiana Commercial from La Petite Presse.]

The queen occupies the first floor of her new mansion—that which opens upon the Rue de Rivoli, while the king consort and Prince of Asturias live in the rooms looking down upon the Rue Sainte Honore.

The queen's apartments are the most spacious and gorgeous. The first of the suite of these magnificent rooms is the large white and gold *salon*. The hangings are made of crimson velvet, and the furniture beautifully wrought out of rosewood. Then follows a small room with red silken hangings and black walnut furniture. The boudoir, hung with green velvet and furnished in the most elegant style, which is adjoining to the bed chamber, has been transformed into the queen's study.

The bed-chamber is hung with dark red velvet, spacious and very beautiful. The bed, which the queen has brought with her from Spain, is made of c