"FOREVER FLOAT THAT STANDARD SHEET."

The South-Western.

BY L. DILLARD & Co.

Office—Corner of Texas and Edwards streets, OPPOSITE HITCHCOCK'S LIVERY STABLE.

SHREVEPORT:

WEDNESDAY.....DECEMBER 26, 1855.

AGENTS FOR THE SOUTH-WESTERN:
Col. T. W. Bledsoe, *Fillmore, Bossier parish.*
Messrs. J. M. & J. C. Murphy, *Jefferson, Texas.*
Mr. Ware Benge, *Bonham, Fannin County, Texas.*
Mr. James B. Likens, *Henderson, Rusk Co., Texas.*
Mr. Clarke Adams, *Plaquemine, and Iberville Parish.*
W. H. McDonald, 102 Nassau street, *New York.*
Thos. McIntyre, 28 Camp street, *New Orleans.*

☞ Those of our town subscribers who do not receive their papers regularly, will please send word to the office.

The river continues to rise slowly and, as we hear of heavy rains above, and a rise in upper Red River, we are in hopes of having in a few days sufficient water to afford navigation for the largest class of boats. Since our last the Victoria, Marion, and Hope have arrived from N. Orleans; the Effort, Runaway, M.L. Daugherty, and Lone Star from the falls. The Sodo attempted to reach Jefferson, but could not proceed further than Smithland. She reports that a large raft has formed in the Cypress, that will prove a great impediment to its navigation. We have no change to report in the rate of freight.

The Washington Telegraph states that Red River, at Fulton, on the 18th inst., had risen twelve feet, and continued to rise rapidly. The rise was altogether out of Little river. The rains had swollen all the small streams higher than they have been for the past year. Little river, at the crossing on the stage route from Washington, Ark., to Clarksville, Texas, had overflown its banks, so that the stage was unable to reach the ferry, and was compelled to return. The mail was also stopped by high water on the route to Little Rock, a circumstance that has not occurred before for eighteen months.

At the latest accounts the Mississippi, opposite the mouth of Red River, had fallen six feet, and was falling at the rate of twelve inches in twenty-four hours.

On the 17th inst., the Ohio was high and rising at Pittsburg, Cincinnati and Louisville.

After a week of warm and pleasant weather, on Sunday morning the wind chopped round to the north-east, and blew in a manner that would have done honor to Siberia. On Monday morning ice was to be seen in the streets, and yesterday every thing was enveloped in sleet.

Our town begins to wear a most lively appearance, which is doubly welcome after the long, tedious dull season. On every side merchants are busily employed in receiving and selling merchandise; hundreds of wagons, laden with cotton, are daily arriving—the receipts some days exceeding 1000 bales—while long lines of heavy teams are hourly leaving, loaded with merchandise and groceries, for eastern Texas and upper Red River.

The president has appointed Mr. Henry Hunsicker postmaster at this place, vice Mr. L. E. Carter, resigned. Mr. Hunsicker will make an efficient and attentive officer, and undoubtedly afford satisfaction to all whom business calls to the post-office.

M. Baer has on hand an extensive stock of groceries, provisions, liquors, hardware, staple dry goods, etc., which he is selling low. Country purchasers would do well to give him a call.

Fire.—We regret to learn that the gin-house of Mr. John Walpole, sen'r, situated four miles from town, was destroyed by fire, on the night of the 13th inst. Besides the building and machinery, some twenty bales of cotton were consumed. The fire was undoubtedly the work of some malicious scoundrel.

For New Orleans Direct.—The fine, light draught steamer Marion, captain Jo. Boisseau, arrived on Monday direct from New Orleans, and proceeded to Hurricane bluffs. She will leave here to-morrow, (Thursday,) for New Orleans direct. Merchants and others wishing to order freight from the city would do well to take advantage of this opportunity, as the Marion will immediately return to this port, without transhipping her cargo at the falls. The boat has been put in the best order, and ranks A.1, in the insurance offices. Capt. Boisseau, and Mr. Walsh, the clerk, are well known to our citizens, and afford a guarantee that satisfaction will be given to all who patronise their boat.

Thanks to the clerk of the Lone Star for files of late New Orleans papers. Also, to captain Dowd, of the Rosa, (at the falls,) for like favors.

Thanks to Mr. Jacobs for late New Orleans papers.

We are indebted to Mr. McCarty and to Mr. J. H. Lewis for late city papers.

Thanks to the officers of the Runaway, M. L. Daugherty, and Victoria for city papers.

Homer.—We recommend all who visit Homer, on business or pleasure, to sojourn at the "Claiborne House," where they will be regaled with the best fare the country affords, and be furnished with neat, comfortable apartments and fine beds. Besides all this, the host is a gentleman.

A New Party.—A new development in the political system of the U. S. senate, is reported by the Washington letter-writers. Senators Benjamin, of Louisiana, Fish, of New York, Pearce and Pratt, of Maryland, Jones, of Tenn., and Geyer, of Missouri—all old line whigs—have resolved to stand aloof from all party organisation—a fact which has been formally communicated to the democratic majority, with a view of not interfering with the arrangement of the standing committees of the senate.

The senate of South Carolina has passed a bill giving the appointment of electors of president and vice-president of the United States to the house of representatives, by a vote of 23 to 19. People are fond of change.

Resolutions have been introduced into the South Carolina legislature, for the purchase of statues of Moultrie, Marion, Sumter, McDuffie, Hayne and Calhoun. Also, a sarcophagus for Calhoun's remains. South Carolina is famous for political vagaries; but is ever prompt to do honor to her noble sons.

The "national democracy" of Ohio, at their recent convention unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the people of Ohio, now, as they have always done, look upon slavery as an evil, and unfavorable to the development of the spirit and practical benefit of free institutions, and that, entertaining these sentiments they will at all times feel it to be their *duty to use all power clearly given by the terms of the national compact to prevent its influence, to mitigate, and finally to eradicate its evils!*"

Here we have the openly avowed doctrine and principles of the democracy of Ohio—the Pierce office-holders' democracy and the "regular national democracy," and it will be with men loudly proclaiming the above sentiments, that the delegates from Louisiana to the democratic national convention, to be held in Cincinnati, will be compelled to act, caucus and hourly affiliate. Not only with the fanatics of Ohio, who declare that their aim is "finally to eradicate" slavery; but with the freesoilers and abolitionists of Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, and all the anti slavery States. The Charleston Mercury, the leading statesrights democratic paper at the south, declares that the southerners cannot, with honor, go into this convention, because it would be "going into fellowship with abolitionists and freesoilers:" men who take pride in robbing southerners of their property and in coaxing away their servants. The leading southern rights journals of South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama freely endorse the sentiments of the Mercury; and the Richmond Enquirer, which is supported by treasury pap and official patronage, is inclined to take a similar position. It already informs its readers that the wire-workers of the democracy at Washington are even now "busily engaged" in "patching up the coalition" between Pierce office-holding democracy, freesoilers and abolitionists, and tells us that, "the people are indignantly contemplating the progress of the mesh of wire-work, and preparing to rise in their might to sweep the frail cob-web and their insect weavers from the places they pollute!"—What think the old democrats of Louisiana to such a fellowship of amalgamation? Have they become such serfs to federal office-holders that they must humbly follow the beck and call of those self-appointed leaders, without daring to murmur? Can they join hands with men who have pledged themselves "to eradicate" slavery from the land, and "to prevent its influence?" Is abolitionism and freesoilism less obnoxious to the Louisiana democracy, than it is to those of Virginia and Alabama? Will they, for no other reason than that of pleasing Pierce office-holders, who are intriguing to retain their fat places, affiliate with Chase's "black" republicans of Ohio, and the Pierce "soft" freesoilers of New York? Will men professing to be ardent advocates of southern rights permit themselves to be led into such an affiliation, through fear of offending their "leaders" and the administration? Surely, none but the office-seeker will be found doing so. Some of the democratic organs at the south inform us that if the Cincinnati convention does not adopt a "sound platform," the southern wing will cut loose, repudiate the concern. Bah! how can they build a "sound platform" out of rotten materials? Has not one of the new gods of the party—one before whom the southern democracy are to-day bowed in worship—informed them that their party is afflicted with "the dry rot," and beyond the help of medicine—that the canker is in its heart, and that it is "bound to die?" But similar tunes were played by the official organ-grinders in 1852, and echoed through the south by every aspiring "faithful" stump-speaker who could raise his feeble voice. Did the democratic convention of 1852 erect a "sound" national platform? Did it not crumble into dust in less than six months after the inauguration of president Pierce? The history of that convention has been written, and published in the columns of the Washington Union, the great official organ of the president and of all the "leaders" of the democratic party.—Speaking of that convention and the platform it erected, the Union says:

"When the Baltimore [democratic] convention [of 1852] assembled, the democratic party was split into three distinct divisions in regard to the slavery issues.

"The three divisions entertained different and *irreconcilable* opinions as to the merits of the laws passed in 1850, for the settlement of the slavery question.

"It was impossible to agree upon any proposition which required either the advocates or the opponents of these measures to surrender their opinions, and acknowledge that they had been in error. Upon such a proposition the disorganisation and disruption of the party were inevitable. *If the Baltimore platform had expressly approved or disapproved* the compromise, the nominee would have met with certain defeat."

Then, according to the Union, the official organ of, and highest authority in, that party, the democratic platform of 1852 did not "expressly approve or disapprove the compromise" measure; but was a mere dough-faced fabric, erected to be viewed in one light at the south, another at the north, and yet another in the middle States. Wonderful architects! they put up their edifice so as to present a favorable aspect from all sides and to please the fancy of all beholders—but containing nothing real.—What prospect is there now, when the party is broken up into factions and cliques—"pure-steel," "softshells," "hardshells," "nationals," "freesoilers," "republicans," &c.—and governed by the same corrupt, two-faced leaders, of the south having her rights respected. What hope is there that the Cincinnati democratic national convention will, in 1856, adopt a platform upon which southerners can with self-respect and confidence stand? Is there any prospect that the convention will approve of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, and declare that the principles therein laid down shall be hereafter faithfully carried out by the "national" democrats, and that the fugitive slave law must be faithfully executed? We answer, no! For, to borrow the expression of the Union, "upon such a proposition" being offered in the Cincinnati convention, "the disorganisation and disruption of the party were inevitable." The national convention would explode, and its delegates be blown to the four quarters of the globe. But little would be left to record the mournful story of the rise, progress, and downfall of the, at one time, "great" democratic party.

The printing done for the last congress by the public printers amounted to the sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars. In addition to this they did work to the amount of five hundred thousand dollars for the executive departments. Two millions of dollars! No wonder the office-holders' organs at Washington are filled with encomiums of president Pierce and his "great" democracy.

Telegraphic dispatches from Washington announce that it has been ascertained, beyond possibility of cavil, that a dispatch has been received by secretary Marcy from Mr. Buchanan, relative to the Crampton difficulty, the tenor of which is that the British government, in a courteous but positive manner, decline giving such explanations as were demanded by the U. States, regarding the violation of our neutrality laws by the British minister and his agents.—This aspect of affairs, the Star says, imposes on the American government very delicate obligations, and it will require all its wisdom to extricate itself from its present dilemma.

The Washington correspondent of the Charleston Standard, (a democratic journal,) assures his readers that there "*are* at this very moment difficulties between this country and Great Britain, of a serious and alarming character." He says that the president and his cabinet are a unit on the subject, but are prudent as well as firm. He concludes thus: "We are on the brink of a war, all pacific rumors to the contrary notwithstanding." If the policy heretofore adopted by president Pierce and his cabinet, is to be taken as a guaranty of its future course, they will assuredly form a "unit" in backing out of the difficulty. 'Tis a fashion with the Pierce administration.

The citizens of Baton Rouge have been seized with a remarkable zeal for morality. Last week, one Robert McHatton and Samuel Marks were tried before the district court on an indictment for betting on the election. The jury acquitted them. The principle points for the defence, and which appear to be sustained by the verdict, were: 1. No money was staked. 2. The bets were made after the closing of the polls, and consequently not embraced in the policy of the law. The judge, however, charged against both of these points; but the jurors believed themselves to be more learned in the law than his honor.

We have before us another remarkable case, which demonstrates that the march of morality is "upward and onward." The scene is laid in Tennessee. The supreme court of that State, decided at its late term, in the case of Graham vs. the State, that "although the offence of cursing and swearing is not per se indictable, yet, when it is of such a nature as to disturb the public peace and good order of society, and become an annoyance to the community, it is indictable as a nuisance." Judge Caruthers in delivering the opinion of the court, said:

"The principle pervading all our laws, in relation to the description of offences under consideration, is that with the private vices of citizens the community, as such, will not concern itself; but leave them to the lash of conscience, and the frowns of their neighbors. But when their vicious acts are public, they are crimes, and should be dealt with as crimes, because of their tendency to disturb and annoy others, and exert a baneful influence upon the morals and habits of the community. Generally, any practices tending to disturb the peace and quiet of communities, or corrupt the morals of the people, are indictable as public offences by the common law."

This is all good and proper, but the same court that delivered the above decision, on account of a slight error in an indictment, cast loose upon society a man who had deliberately shot down an unarmed neighbor. According to such "common law," swearing is an indictable offence, but shooting a man no offence whatever. Wonderful science that of law.

Tax Decision.—A decision was rendered by the supreme court, on the 10th inst., upon a suit for taxes, which turned upon a single word. Among the delinquent tax-payers was one Mr. Schmidt. The law provides that a notice in a newspaper is sufficient for the delinquent to pay up. In the present instance there was one in such a category by the name of Schmidt. No notice being taken of it by the said Schmidt, judgment was rendered against him by default, and the account was presented to Mr. Gustave Schmidt, a well known member of the New Orleans bar. He refused to pay on the ground that a notice to Schmidt was no more a notice to him than to any other member of the great family of Smith. The supreme court took the same view of the subject, and a non-suit was the result.

The Washington letter-writers relate the following. It is both good and true. When the "prince" of democracy, hon. John Van Buren, boasted in Washington, a few days previous to the late election, that the Pierce "soft" freesoil ticket in New York would be elected by 50,000 majority, senator Slidell expressed his doubt of the correctness of the figures. The democratic "prince" proved his sincerity and his folly by vauntingly offering to bet one hundred dollars on each of Pierce's softshell candidates on the State ticket, and insisted so pertinaciously on being taken up, that the hon. John Slidell finally agreed to accommodate him. The result was that prince John found himself just six hundred dollars out of pocket, and swears he will never again be fool enough to bet with the hero of Plaquemines.

Mr. Buchanan, under date of the 16th ult., writing to a friend, says: "I had calculated with confidence that I should return home by the steamer of the 6th October last, but unexpected events rendered this impossible. I shall now be detained here, I know not how long, in consequence of the present aspect of affairs between the two countries. I trust, however, that within the period of three months, I may meet you all again." It will be seen that Mr. B., expressed no opinion that the difficulties between the United States and Great Britain will be early adjusted.

The grand jury of the parish of Orleans, on the 14th inst., made the following report to the first district court:

The grand jurors of the parish of Orleans having carefully investigated the matter of the ballot-boxes, at the late election in this city, beg leave to make this report: They have examined forty-nine witnesses, and have elicited no evidence that appears to lead to the detection of the perpetrators of this outrage. The grand jury recommend that a reward of $1000 be offered by the governor of the State, for such testimony as shall convict the person or persons guilty of this great violation of law and order.

We cannot perceive why the State should be called upon to offer a reward for rioters and vagabonds who prowl around the Crescent City, which from its large population and police ought to be able to protect itself and to pay for the apprehension and punishment of its own rascals. Why did not the grand jury request the city council, in its capacity of ex-officio police jury of the parish of Orleans, to offer the reward of $1000 for the detection of the ballot-box destroyers?

A cotemporary asks, "to whom is the federal patronage dispensed?" "To anti-American organ grinders," replies the Philadelphia Sun, and refers to the following curious facts, copied from the official books in the departments at Washington:

"In Connecticut, the editor of the New Haven Register is collector of the port of New Haven; the editor of the Bridgeport Farmer is collector at Bridgeport; the editor of the Middletown Sentinel is collector at Middletown; the editor of the Norwich Aurora is postmaster at Norwich; the editor of the New London Star is inspector at New London. In Massachusetts, the editor of the Boston Post is naval officer in the Boston customhouse; and the Times' editor holds an office in the same building; the editor of the Barnstable Patriot is collector at that place; the owner of the Lowell Advertiser is postmaster at Lowell; the owner of the Herald at Taunton is postmaster there; the editor of the Pittsfield Sun is postmaster at Pittsfield.—In Ohio, the editor of the Plaindealer, the leading abolition paper in the Union, is postmaster at Cleveland. In Virginia, one of the editors of the Richmond Enquirer, has been sent to Europe as a bearer of dispatches. The principal editor of the Washington Union, is clerk of the house of representatives, and that office receives over half a millions of dollars a year from the government. In Alabama, the proprietor of the Mobile Register is collector of the port of Mobile. In Louisiana, three of the editors and proprietors of the Delta received appointments from the president to lucrative offices in New Orleans, viz: W. G. Kendall as postmaster, D. Corcoran to a place in the customhouse, and judge Walker as pension agent; the principal editor of the Louisiana Courier, published in New Orleans, enjoys the lucrative office of inspector and guardian of the live-oak forests belonging to the general government; the editor of the Natchitoches Chronicle is register of the land office at that place; and the editor of the Ouachita Register is register of the land office at Monroe—and so on, through five or six hundred other Pierce office-holders, to the end of the chapter.

"Now, is there any wonder that such papers should laud Piercism and the office-holders, and at the same time abuse the American party and every thing that is American? The editors are merely praising those who keep them in their pay, and are fighting to retain their hold upon the loaves and fishes. 'Tis their occupation to defame all who oppose the administration—they are placed in office to do so. The above paragraph reveals a significant fact: that a large majority of the papers named as published in northern States, are the most ultra in their anti-slavery proclivities."

The Washington Union publishes the following dispatches, which have passed between governor Shannon, of Kansas, and the president of the United States, on the subject of affording aid for the execution of the laws in that territory:

Westport, Mo., Dec. 1, 1855—I desire authority to call on the U. S. forces at Leavenworth to preserve the peace of this territory, to protect the sheriff of Douglas county, and enable him to execute the legal process in his hands. If the laws are not executed civil war is inevitable. An armed force of 1000 men, with all the implements of war, it is said, are at Lawrence. They have rescued a prisoner from the sheriff, burnt houses and threatened the lives of citizens. Immediate assistance is desired. This is the only means to save bloodshed. Particulars by mail. Wilson Shannon.
To his excellency Franklin Pierce.

Washington, Dec. 3, 1855—Your dispatch received. All the power vested in the executive will be exerted to preserve order and enforce the laws. On the receipt of your letter the preliminary measures necessary to be taken before calling out troops will be promptly executed, and you will then be fully advised.
Franklin Pierce.
To W. Shannon, governor of the territory of Kansas.

It will be perceived that the president fully recognises the right of the general government to interfere, and by force aid the local authorities of the territory in executing the laws; but declines until regularly advised by letter of the state of affairs taking any hand in the affray.—President Pierce has no intention, if he can by any means avoid the contingency, of affording "aid and comfort" to the pro-slavery men in Kansas. He has no idea of so far committing himself.

Mons. Louis Blanc, the file-leader of the socialist wing of the European red republican democracy, has published in London a manifesto, dissenting from the means and ends proposed by Kossuth, Mazzani and Ledru Rollin. He advocates "discussion" before the revolutionists are called on to fight, and adds:

"The republican form of government is not the object; the object is, to restore to the dignity of human nature those whom the excess of poverty degrades, and to enlighten those whose intelligence, from want of education, is but a dim, vacillating lamp in the midst of darkness: the object is to make him that works enjoy all the fruits of his work; the object is to enfranchise the people by endeavoring gradually to abolish this double slavery—ignorance and misery. A very difficult task indeed, the accomplishment of which requires long study, deep meditation, and something more than discipline! As to the republican form of government, it is a means most valuable certainly, and which we ought to strive to conquer, even at the cost of life, but which it is very imprudent to mistake for the aim, the consequence might be to make us take the shadow for the substance, and run through a heap of ruins to fatal delusions."

It is no part of the policy or creed of Louis Blanc, Kossuth & Co., to boldly fight for liberty in their native lands, nor to draw the sword in behalf of republicanism in Europe. The patriotism of such heroes consists in publishing long manifestos and advocating "discussion," while they sumptuously banquet on the means furnished by generous, but very credulous, people. All such patriots as named above are mere office-seekers in disguise.

The Memphis Eagle, in speaking of the gentlemen suggested for the presidential contest of 1856, intimates its preference for Crittenden, of Kentucky, for president, and Bronson, of New York, for vice president. It says:

"The first is one of the greatest names on the roll call of American glory—a fit successor in the senate to Henry Clay, the great, the immortal. The second is the name of a man who has always been true to the south, the Union, and the constitution—the vanquisher of Mr. Guthrie, and the slayer of the present freesoil administration. It is a great ticket, and no mistake! Let Americans think about it!"

A "great" ticket, truly.

Rather too Cool.—The Mississippi river, opposite St. Paul, Minnesota, was closed by ice on the 22d ult., the mercury having fallen to 10° above zero. In recapitulating the business of the season, the Pioneer shows that 68 steamers ran to that port, which is an increase of 30 over last year. The total number of arrivals of steamers was 560, an increase of 315 over last year. Sleighs commenced to run on the 26th ult. The ice will break up sometime next spring.

Several heavy commercial failures have occurred at Maysville, Ky., causing considerable excitement among the creditors.

Here is a picture of democracy, as painted by one of its own artists and chief organ grinders. We copy the following from the Richmond Enquirer. No comment is necessary:

There are two lines of policy contemplated for the democratic party in organising for the presidential campaign of 1856—the policy of condition and compromise, and the policy of stern unflinching constitutionalism. The first is policy of politicians; the second is the policy of the democracy. The first contemplates a coalition between southern democrats and the northern freesoilers; the second contemplates a stern reproval of every such scheme of bargain and corruption, an out-and-out repudiation of all compromises, and a sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish, rally to the constitution, the whole constitution, and nothing but the constitution.

The politicians are busily engaged at Washington and elsewhere patching up the coalition. The people are indignantly contemplating the progress of the mesh of wirework, and preparing to rise in their majesty and might to sweep the frail cob-web and their insect weavers from the places they pollute.

The coalition policy, the politicians say, will carry New York and Pennsylvania for the democracy, at the loss of a few insignificant southern States. This is better, the politicians argue, than getting the united south and Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Iowa, Maine and such other lesser northern States as can be carried with a strictly constitutional platform. This is the way they talk; and they are willing to barter half a dozen southern States and all their principles for Pennsylvania and New York, whose votes will secure the spoils.

Such is the unblushing language of the men who aspire to control the affairs of our republic. Such is the policy by which they endeavor to secure their own insect preferment at the cost of all that a patriot can hold dear, of the destruction of national principle, and of the overthrow of the constitution.

Is the Enquirer firing at Mr. Dallas and his coalition friends, or at president Pierce and his office-holders? Let the organs answer.

Origin of the Monroe Doctrine.—In October, 1822, in conformity to what had been agreed upon by the holy alliance at Laybach, a congress of the sovereigns of Europe was held at Verona. The emperor and empress of Austria, the kings of Prussia and Sardinia, and the emperor of Russia, were present in person. France was represented by the viscounts Montmorency and Chateaubriand. Among the eminent personages who participated in the proceedings of this congress were prince Metternich and the chevalier de Gentz, count Nesselrode, count Pozzo de Bouro, the senator Tatischieff, and cardinal Spert, the representative of the pope.

The conferences lasted till the middle of December, and were conducted with uncommon secrecy. No stranger was allowed to remain in Verona without a most satisfactory explanation of the business which called or kept him there.

The chief subject that occupied the attention of the congress was the condition of Spain, that country being under the government of the cortes, which was considered inconsistent with the safety of monarchical power, and Russia, Prussia, Austria, and France were inclined to reinstate Ferdinand by the intervention of foreign power. England dissented and protested, she maintained that foreign powers had no right to interfere in the affairs of Spain, and that if they did it might lead to a general war in Europe. The result was, notwithstanding the protest of England, that there should be no joint declaration of hostilities, but that France might invade Spain for the purpose of restoring Ferdinand to power, and she would meet with no opposition from any of the powers of the continent.

In the spring of 1823, a French army entered Spain, the constitutional government was overthrown, and the monarchy restored—the object of the holy alliance was attained, and as soon as Ferdinand was restored he invited the allied powers to coöperate with him in subjugating his revolted provinces in America.

England had already taken decided grounds on the question, and while she absolutely disclaimed not only any desire of appropriating to herself any portion of the Spanish colonies, or any intention of forming any political connection with them beyond that of amity and commercial intercourse, yet declared that she would regard the aid of any foreign power in an enterprise of Spain against the colonies as constituting a new question, and one in regard to which she would act as her interests might require.

In this emergency, it became desirable for England to obtain a decided expression of opinion from the United States, and it has been said that the American minister at London was solicited by Mr. Canning to call the attention of the government of the United States to the proposed interference of the holy alliance, and to obtain some expression from the president on the subject. It was under these circumstances, it was in this crisis, that Mr. Monroe's declaration was made.

Hard to Please.—The London Times complains bitterly, because, as it alleges, the American government does not sufficiently enforce the neutrality laws, and in the same breath it complains of the enforcement of these laws in the case of Mr. Crampton. The New York Times well remarks upon this subject:

The London papers, one and all, concede that the attempt of the English government to enlist troops here for the Crimea, was a violation of our laws. The London Times itself condemns that act, and censures the government in the strongest language for it. It claims, indeed that the assurances of friendship made by the American minister, and the promises of support given by the American press, misled the government into the false step, but whatever these assurances may have been, the British government had no right to presume upon them so far as to violate our law. It could not plead ignorance of that law—for it had too often reproached us with our inability to enforce it. It could not presume it to be a dead letter—for it knew that our government had, within the last year, broken up one or two expeditions directed against Cuba. Its instructions to its agents show that it knew the law—and the instructions of Mr. Crampton show that he relied on evading its provisions.

The long contest of Bell vs. Hufty, involving the possession of the office of sheriff of the parish of Orleans, which has been pending before the first district court, was brought to a close on the 16th inst., the jury bringing in a verdict for Hufty, the defendant. Under the law regulation the contestation of elections in the parish of Orleans, the voice of a majority of the jury determines finally and conclusively the relative claims of the contestants. The jury stood 7 for Hufty, and 5 for Bell, and their verdict therefore being in favor of the former, and against the latter, colonel Hufty will occupy the office during the coming two years.

The Washington Union officially announces that Francis P. Blair, (the editor of that paper before it was changed from the Globe to the Union,) official organ of the Jackson and Van Buren administrations, has joined the "black republicans." Just so the "faithful" democracy go. Look out, or the Union will be found ere long claiming a seat beside Blair.

On the 17th instant, up to 6 o'clock, P. M., 13 steamboats, with 23,733 bales of cotton, arrived at New Orleans. Of the cotton, the John Simonds, from Memphis, had on board 5609 bales.

Spanish papers announce that one half of the vintage of Xeres de la Frontera, one of the principal sherry depots, is entirely lost this year.

They have had superb sleighing in Montreal for sometime. Sleighing is also good in some sections of northern New York.

The anti-Americans have secured two able confederates in France, which will undoubtedly create much rejoicing among the "faithful." We copy the following from Gallignani's Messenger, the British organ at Paris, of Oct. 27th:

The Débats, in an excellent article on the political condition of the United States, depicts the ever increasing spirit of hostility which reigns between the northern and southern states and our contemporary discerns in the restless and imperious policy of the latter a source of much future evil. In the opinion of the Débats it is to the southern states that must be ascribed the responsibility of any home of foreign disturbances, and it thus expresses itself:

It is not in the north, the real cradle of liberty, industrial activity, civilization and of progress, that the thirst of annexation exists, but in the south, which plans and accomplishes those conquests which have become for it a fatal necessity. It has continually want of fresh territory for the culture of cotton, which exhausts in five years the best soil, of new supplies of slaves to meet the ever increasing demand of cotton in America and Europe, and of new slave states to its denomination, and by that the continuation of slave institutions. Thus Europe is directly interested in the question of slavery, for the spirit of contest, its natural consequence, cannot fail to bring about in a short time the most serious conflicts between the Union and the different states of Europe, similar to the one which now menaces Spain. The animosity which exists since ten years in America towards the European emigration and strangers in general, is well known.

This animosity, which is personified by know nothingism, is the more unaccountable from the fact that precisely to this emigration is the Union indebted for a great portion of its prosperity. It is above all the south which nourishes that sentiment, because it sees in emigration an auxiliary of the abolitionist party. The sympathies for Russia, scarcely dissimilated, which Europe remarks in astonishment, is a logical proof of the tendency of the south, betrayed in its foreign policy. These Russian sympathies, will however, appear perfectly natural, when we reflect on the singular analogy of the question of slavery, which agitates the Union, and the eastern question, which has disturbed all Europe.

Our cotemporary concludes by expressing its conviction that the good sense and morality of the northern states will finally triumph over the dangerous policy of the south, but that great efforts will be demanded to bring about so desirable a triumph, on the realization of which depends the prosperity, nay the very existence of the Union.

It will be perceived that the Débats places the hostility of the southern States to further immigration entirely to the anti-slavery prejudices entertained by Europeans. What better reason could southerners have?

President's Message.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia North American says, all the speculations and predictions of an extreme policy being pursued by our government towards Denmark, in the matter of the sound dues, are likely to be overthrown by the suggestions of the president's message. He gives the following as the scheme of settlement adopted:

The plan adopted, and which will amount to a recommendation, is to pay Denmark a sufficient commutation for buoys, light houses and other accessories of commerce, which she has incurred and must continue, in consideration of the relinquishment of the taxation imposed on American shipping. By this mode, the right claimed by the United States would be protected, while, at the same time, Denmark would not be wholly deprived of the benefit derived from the present source of revenue. In other words, the principle contended for on one side, and the interest on the other, would be both protected. The idea is received with favor among those legations most concerned in the adjustment of the question, and there is little doubt that they will recommend its adoption substantially by their respective governments. The year's notice for terminating the treaty will expire on the 14th of April next, but should the negotiations be protracted until that time, and Denmark ask further time for their completion, the indulgence may, perhaps be extended, upon condition that the tax would be suspended pending the final arrangements.

We can hardly believe after the position assumed by president Pierce, and the letters of secretary Marcy, that he intends to back out.

The Gaines Case.—The supreme court yesterday decided favorably upon Mrs. Gaines' appeal from the second district court. By this decision, the alleged lost will of Daniel Clark, making Mrs. G., his sole heirs will be admitted to probate. The property claimed by Mrs. Gaines was sold many years ago by the executors under a previous will which is hereby set aside. The plaintiff filed in her petition, a form of an olographic will, in which Clark recognizes Myra (Mrs. Gaines) as his legitimate child and makes her universal legatee of his estate. The decision, therefore, settles her legitimacy and her heritage. This is a great, if not decisive victory, and concludes a litigation which has been perhaps one of the most protracted that ever occurred in this country.
[N. O. Crescent.

Three at a Birth.—An elaborate story in a nut-shell is the recording of an incident which occurred at the steamboat landing yesterday morning. A widowed lady, of English extraction, inconsolable with the loss of her husband, determined to leave the home of her childhood, the scenes of her earth's bliss and sorrows, and seek a home in this "much lauded land." Thus determined, she with some friends started on their long voyage, and arrived in this city yesterday morning per steamboat from New York. On the passage up the river, she was taken violently ill, and so continued until the boat landed at the wharf. Then all was confusion and bustle among the emigrants, as among all others, both on the boat and docks. The emigrants, live freight, and their luggage, were speedily hurried off and away to the central depot. Not so with the poor ill widow. In the confusion she had been forgotten, but anxious to continue her journey with her acquaintances—can we say friends?—she managed to walk off the boat to the wharf, but the exertion quite exhausted her physical means, and she sank prostrate on the dock. Several stevedores seeing her incapacity to walk, and her evident prostration with pain, procured some matting and laid her down beside a huge pile of freight. Having done this charitable act, they resumed their labors. The female was not thought of till an hour later, when to the surprise of one who sought her, to inquire if she felt any better be found that in the interim, three bright boys had been born into this "breathing living world." The friendless emigrant was no longer overlooked, she had found friends, for an apartment at a hotel hard by was soon assigned her, and thither she was conducted with her "little family." Mother and the "triplets" are now doing as well as well as could be expected.
[Albany Argus.

The Montgomery Mail, in alluding to the recent proscription in Alabama, for judicial as well as for other office's says: "That the system will soon degrade the whole judiciary of the state, there is little doubt. Gradually it will come to be understood that it is not a good judge, but a faithful, strong-spined party hack, that is to be elected in each case. One advantage, however, is that the officers under the new regimé, will after a while, need precious little law learning. It will only be necessary to know the political bias of the litigants.

That sterling old sheet, the National Intelligencer, has placed at its head, for a motto, the beautiful words of Rufus Choate: "We join ourselves to no party that does not carry the flag and keep step with the music of the Union"—a patriotic and noble sentiment.

General Intelligence.

Washington, Dec. 14—Some persons from Massachusetts, who left Kansas on the 3d inst., state according to the papers that 700 men were under arms at Lawrence, and that 500 Missourians were at Hesa creek, 7 miles from Lawrence, with 6 pieces of cannon, and that they met other parties of Missourians two days after with cannon and other implements of war.

Five ballots were had for speaker to-day, the last ballot stood: for Banks, 100; Richardson and Fuller, 41. No prospect of an election.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The thirty-third ballot was taken to-day, and resulted, Richardson, 103; Banks, 100; Fuller, 10; Zollicoffer, 3; Bennett, 1; scattering, 14. The next ballot, Banks, 102; Richardson, 76; Fuller, 28; Zollicoffer, 3; scattering, 11. As necessary to a choice, 113. There is considerable doubt as to Mr. Banks' ultimate success. Mr. Bennett offered resolutions to the effect that after thirteen ineffectual ballots more, and no one should have a majority on the 14th call, then the one having the largest number of votes should be declared elected speaker. The resolutions, after some excitement, were withdrawn.

We understand, says the Washington Star, a memoy of the old United States senators has presented claims on the U. S. treasury for "retroactive" mileage in attending the sessions of congress at which takes place immediately after the adjournment of congress. Of late years the senators have been paid mileage under such circumstances from the contingent fund.

Washington, Dec. 13—At a cabinet council to-day, the administration positively determined not to recognize the government established in Nicaragua, under Walker's auspices, nor to receive Parker as minister from that country.

It is expected here that French will be arrested and held to answer charges of having committed various crimes in the United States, previous to his departure from there.

The governments of San Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica, have strongly protested to this government against the recognition by Mr. Wheeler, our minister, of the present Nicaraguan government. He has probably thus acted, however, with the concurrence of our government in accordance with a uniform policy, whatever may be the objections on the part of the Central American states.

The government of San Salvador predicts that the present order of things in Nicaragua will not continue, for reasons stated, and declare themselves resolved to exterminate all foreign adventurers who may invade their soil for revolutionary purposes.

Captain Keller, of the Vanderbilt steamship Northern Star, convicted a short time since of shooting one of the writers of the ship, was sentenced to be imprisoned and pay a fine of $100, has been pardoned by president Pierce.

Cincinnati, Dec. 17.—The river is still rising at this place. Flour has declined, and a large business has been done to-day. Superfine has sold mostly at $7 62½ per bbl.

Miss Eume, of Williamsburg, Indiana, was tried at Indianapolis, on the 1st instant, on a charge of robbing a mail bag.

A revival is in progress in the methodist episcopal church, at Henderson, Kentucky. Already about fifty-five persons had joined.

Louisville, Dec. 10th.—Several boats were blown across the river during the gale on Saturday. The telegraph wires were blown down.

The Kentucky military institute was destroyed by fire to-day.

St. Louis, Dec. 6.—The pro-slavery party are engaged on the Wakassa river, and last night, by order of the governor, they arrested gen. Pomeroy, who was on his way to Kansas city, with an important dispatch for the east. Threats have been made to destroy the American hotel at Kansas, on the supposition that it was owned by the emigrant aid society of Massachusetts. The citizens pledged themselves to defend and prevent its destruction. Four or five hundred men, several pieces of artillery, and probably a thousand muskets passed through Independence yesterday from the border counties of this State, to aid the sheriff of Douglas county in maintaining of order.

December 7th.—By a dispatch from Weston, Mo., we have the following accounts from the seat of war. There are eight hundred men armed with Sharpe's rifles at Lawrence. They say they can raise three thousand more. They are willing that sheriff Jones should peaceably search for the escaped prisoners, and that they will not commence hostilities, but will act on the defensive to the last. Pomeroy is now at Lawrence, having escaped from his captors. 'Tis said the pro-slavery party have three hundred men at Franklin and two hundred at Douglas and Lecompton. Sheriff Jones was to execute the writs on the prisoners yesterday, and if resistance was offered would await further orders from government.—'Tis thought that there would be a fight before matters were settled. No United States troops ordered out yet.

It is stated that a majority of the members of the Missouri legislature claim their per diem for the whole of the recesses which that body has taken, one extending from the 6th of March to the 3rd of April, and the other from April 4th to November 4th, making together nearly seven months. The State auditor refuses to draw a warrant for the money, and a case has been agreed upon for the decision of the supreme court.

The Milledgeville (Ga.) Federal Union says:—A man calling himself D. R. Henry, captain U. States army, figured quite extensively in this place for a week or two during the present session of the legislature. His exit was quite as unexpected as his debut, but somewhat more painful to some of our good citizens, who, deceived by his fine military address, and more especially by a very flattering letter from judge Lumpkin, of the supreme court, (which the said Henry was wont to exhibit when in a very tight place) had advanced him funds.

At the municipal election in Milledgeville, Ga., on the 1st instant, Mr Hawkins was re-elected mayor. The whole American party ticket was successful.

At the election for municipal officers, which took place at Columbus on the 8th instant, the American party elected their mayor without opposition, and all their candidates for aldermen, except two. In Macon, the American ticket for mayor and aldermen has been elected by about 100 majority.

Georgia is nearly chequered by railroads, and yet she stands before the world with a debt of only two millions six hundred and forty-four thousand two hundred and twenty-one dollars against her on the balance sheet. No other state in the Union can point to the amount of works of internal improvement, and show so small an indebtedness.

An intelligent writer in the National Int