



The South-Western
BY L. DILLARD & CO.
Office, Corner of Texas and Edwards streets,
OPPOSITE HITCHCOCK'S LIVERY STABLE.

SHREVEPORT:
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1856.

AGENTS FOR THE SOUTH-WESTERN:
COL. T. W. BROWN, Editor, Benton, Ark.
Messrs. J. M. & J. O. MURPHY, Jefferson, Texas.
Mr. W. B. BERRY, Bonham, Fannin County, Texas.
Mr. JAMES B. LICKENS, Henderson, Rank Co., Texas.
Mr. CLARK ADAMS, Ft. Worth, Tarrant Co., Texas.
Mr. H. McDOUGAL, 192 Nassau street, New York.
THOS. McLESTER, 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 decline slowly, and, as at the last accounts from above it was low and falling, we cannot expect any improvement in navigation until heavy rains fall throughout the country. Since our last the Linda, Amanda, Storm, Swan and Compromise have arrived from N. Orleans, the Grenada and Marion from the falls, and Hope from Jefferson. The latter brought out 350 bales of cotton, and reports having experienced much difficulty in the lake and bayou from ice. The Runaway and Ariel have gone above, with the intention of attempting to get to Fulton.

At the latest dates the Mississippi, opposite the mouth of Red River, had risen six feet, and was rising rapidly, affording sufficient water for the largest boats to reach Alexandria.

LOSS OF THE UNION.—The steamer Union, captain Robert Graham, which left this port Thursday evening for New Orleans, laden with cotton, struck a snag just below Campie, and sunk in 10 feet water. It is feared that she will prove a total loss. No insurance.

Thanks to the hon. John Shilwell for congressional documents.

We are indebted to Mr. Hayes, clerk of the Swan, Mr. Murdoch, of the Linda, Mr. Moody, of the Storm, Mr. Wilson, of the Grenada, capt. Geo. H. Clark, of the Compromise, Mr. Walsh, of the Marion, and the clerk of the Amanda, for late papers.

Messrs. G. L. Kouns & Bros., on the levee, opposite Ogleby & Griswold's, have received a large stock of flour, whiskey, salt, potatoes, green apples, cheese, coffee, oats, sugar, coffee, together with a general assortment of groceries and provisions, which they are selling on the most accommodating terms.

The Minden Gazette has resumed its old title of "Herald." It will continue to be a fearless champion of American principles.

The Bienville Times comes to us in the garb of the "Louisiana Baptist," and promises to be of great benefit to the religious denomination to which it belongs. The rev. H. Lee, editor of the Baptist, is a gentleman of talent and experience, and we cheerfully wish him success in his new enterprise.

We have received the first number of the Young America, a comic sheet, on the model of the London Punch. It is published weekly in New York, by T. W. Strong, at \$2.50 per annum, and promises to do well.

The Marshall Republican says that "last Sunday (30th ult.) the thermometer was down to eight, which would be considered very respectable cold weather even in Missouri." The Washington (Ark.) Democrat states that in that town the thermometer was down to nine.

The following steamboats were advertised in New Orleans, on the 27th ult., for Shreveport: the Rosa, Saliba; Compromise, Kay; H. M. Wright, Clarke; St. Charles, Applegate; Rapids, Dowry; Swamp Fox, Kinball; Swan, Widener; R. W. Powell, Martin; Linda, Mann; and Financier No. 2, Swiney. Quite a respectable show for one day, and convincing evidence of the commercial importance of our town and the vast trade that is carried on between it and the great emporium of the south.

We were by business debarred the pleasure of partaking of the hospitalities of the City hotel, on the 1st inst. We are informed that the guests were regaled in a most sumptuous manner. Colonel Nelson has retired from the management of the establishment, and will be succeeded by Mr. L. L. Gwynn, a gentleman well known as an efficient caterer and accommodating host.

We have received the following letter from Mr. Buck, postmaster at Mansfield, in regard to the Shreveport mail returned a few days ago to this place:

"Massfield, La., Jan. 5, 1856.—Sir: My attention was called to an article in your last issue relative to the mail between Mansfield and Shreveport, under the significant caption of 'at it again.' You state that the entire mail was sent back, that not even the mail for Mansfield was taken out. I referred to my account of mails received on the 27th Dec. (Thursday, the day spoken of,) and there found that I had received from Shreveport on that day letters to the amount of 27 cts. by stamps and 3 cts. in money; letters also from Minden via Shreveport, Paralella, Norwoodville, Ark., and other places above. There was a mistake made by the drivers in getting their mails out of the office."

When Mr. Carter opened the bag, finding that the packages from the office of the South-Western and other papers had been returned to him, together with a bundle of letters directed to Mansfield, the natural conclusion was that the mail had not been opened at that office. As to what is to blame we know not. The matter is before the postmaster-general, and he will settle that point. Mr. Buck may rest assured that we have not the slightest inclination to do himself, nor any other postmaster, injustice; but the community has too long suffered from the neglectful manner in which the postal system is managed to quietly submit to the infliction of further wrongs.

The undersigned certify that they were present at a meeting held at Mansfield, on the 24th inst., at which the attention of the mail that was sent the previous morning from this office to Mansfield was returned. Further he showed us a package of letters for Mansfield, and stated that the postmaster at Mansfield had not even taken out his own mail. H. HUNNICHER
Shreveport, Jan. 8, 1856. P. H. KYLES.

The democracy of Kentucky passed a series of resolutions at Lexington, on the 6th of October. The democracy of Illinois met at Chicago the other day, and also passed a series of resolutions. They are identical in sentiment and almost in terms. Let the democracy of this State read the response of the great north-west; it expresses the political views of the democracy of the Union. Go east, west, north, south, and we have the same political doctrines in the great democratic party of the country."

The foregoing paragraph is from the Louisville (Ky.) Democrat, and is being extensively paraded through the south by the office-holders' organs, with a view of duping unsophisticated readers, whose sources of information are confined to Pierce journals, and whom they hope, will regard the statement of the Democrat as true. What the character of the Lexington meeting was, we know not, but the Kentucky Yeoman, the leading democratic paper in that State, denominated it merely as a meeting of some of the citizens of Fayette county. The meeting in Chicago, was a mere war gathering of a few political friends of senator Douglas, a man who, according to our respected cotemporary of the Caddo Gazette, has degenerated into a sot. And this is called "the democracy of Illinois." The democratic masses had no connection with the meeting, and yet its proceedings are heralded forth as "the response of the great north-west to Kentucky, and as expressing the political views of the democracy of the Union." This is decidedly cool. But this is not all, the Democrat assures its readers, that go "east, west, north, south," and the principles are the same! Wonderful, indeed, and most wonderfully do the government organs draw upon "their fancy for their facts." Every one who can read is aware of the significant truth, that Michigan, one of the democratic strongholds of "the great north-west," has virtually nullified and repudiated the fugitive slave law, by refusing to permit the U. S. marshal to send runaway negroes, when captured, in the jails of that State. All the world is familiar with the principles of the New York Pierce-democracy, and with the sentiments propagated by the Van Buren and the softshell freeholders, who are recognised by the administration as the democratic party proper in that State; and as such have been rewarded by president Pierce with all the offices in the customhouse and post-office. How do the principles of these free-soil office-holders correspond with those of the southern democracy? But, nevertheless, we are told that Illinois and Michigan has sent forth the "response of the great north-west to Kentucky." Why, the vaunted "response" is made in a language and style the very opposite of the principles and character of the sons of Kentucky. They are a law abiding and Union loving people, and abhor alike the fugitive slave law nullifiers of Michigan and the free-soilers of Illinois. Ohio is, also, a part of "the great north-west"—one of the democratic Sebastopol—and we find her electing an abolitionist governor by over 20,000 majority, and her democratic state convention openly proclaiming that the democracy 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" to "prevent its influence, to mitigate, and finally to eradicate its evils." This is a distinct avowal that the democracy of Ohio believe it to be their "duty" to do every thing in their power to abolish slavery at the south? Is such a "response" acceptable to the democracy of Kentucky? Will the Louisville Democrat inform us whether or not it coincides with the sentiments expressed at Lexington. The Democrat tells us to "go east, west, north, south, and we have the same political doctrines in the great democratic party of the country." Is such the fact? Dare the Louisiana Courier or the Delta endorse the assertion of the Louisville Democrat? By what mysterious process can the Pierce office-holders manage to make the democrats of Louisiana, and the fugitive slave law nullifiers of Michigan, the free-soilers of Illinois, the black republic abolitionists of Ohio, and the softshell freeholders of New York, entertain "the same political doctrines in the great democratic party of the country"? Are we to believe that the "political doctrines" of the party consist in nothing more than getting possession of the "loaves and fishes"?

The donations and appropriations for education in the United States, appear to have been very liberal. According to a document read at a late meeting of the Connecticut historical society, by the hon. Henry Barnard, the whole amount of land appropriated by the general government for educational purposes, to the 1st of January, 1854, was 25,970,261 acres; which at the minimum price of such lands when first brought into the market, represented the sum of fifty-six millions of dollars; but which, at this time, could not be worth less than two hundred millions of dollars. The amount of donations and subscriptions by individuals far exceeds all that has been given by State legislatures. Mr. Barnard read from a table exhibiting the donations and bequests made by citizens of Boston alone within the last half-century, amounting to upwards of \$4,000,000. Notwithstanding all this lavish of money, our educational system is very defective.

On the 17th ult., senator Sebastian gave notice that on some early day he would introduce a bill for the improvement of the Mississippi river below the mouth of the Ohio; a bill for the improvement of the Arkansas river; also a bill for the continuation of the improvement of the navigation of Red River. Although a democrat, Mr. Sebastian, is convinced of the constitutionality of the general government improving the south-western rivers.

The annual statement of the trade and commerce of Cincinnati show good advantage the resources, wealth and industry of the great emporium of porkdom. The annual value of its manufactures is \$52,169,374. The annual imports are valued at \$75,000,000, and the exports at \$60,000,000. There are 6000 miles of railway now diverging from that city, and 4000 miles under construction.

The senate of South Carolina, on the 11th ult., passed an act to amend the constitution of that State, so as to require two years residence after naturalization before an alien born citizen shall be entitled to vote. South Carolina is a democratic State.

The papers from the southern parishes complain of the unusually cold weather. On the 24th ult., ice an inch in thickness formed on the levee, New Orleans.

The Picayune, in an article on "New Orleans and her prospects," after describing the animated and busy aspect of the city, says:

"We ought not, however, to let this occasion pass without suggesting the lessons of practical wisdom which this state of things ought to impress upon the minds of our citizens. A considerable part of the business of this season is the accumulation of a past year, diminished in extent and in profits by injurious delays caused by the lack of means of transportation. The low waters of one year cramp the revenue and diminish the trade, not for one year only. They produce positive and irreparable loss; and when the channels are open business pours into the city suddenly, loading our warehouses with produce, so as to necessarily affect prices by a sort of glut, and crowding within a space of a few months, business, which with regular and expedient modes of transportation, could be spread uniformly over their natural periods to the great advantage of the city and country. We shall not undertake to compute the losses which have been suffered in both quarters by the low waters of last season, or the deductions from the profits of this, by their effects, in the unthought pressure upon the markets. But the dullest cannot fail to see that there would have been a vast amount of saving to all interests, if the railroad communications, in which our people are engaged, had been brought into use during the last year. The Vicksburg and Shreveport road and Opelousas road, if carried to the points contemplated, would, in the opinion of many, have benefited the people of the State within one year, to an amount which, if bestowed on the works in their present condition, would place them in secure position and assure their completion. The Jackson penetrates a region affected in a less degree by these influences, but sufficiently so to make the same calculations entirely applicable.

We cannot see how any reflecting person can fail to be impressed by the present aspect of affairs, with the extreme value, and indeed essential necessity for the permanent future of N. Orleans, of carrying out these works by all possible means, to the earliest practicable point. When finished, we shall not leave to the carrying and hostile critics, a fact upon which the carrying their favorite vituperations of the decay of New Orleans. The prosperity of New Orleans is within the grasp and control of her own citizens, and if she does decay it will be because men who could prevent it, though forewarned, and thoroughly advised of the means of security, shall steadily and willfully refuse to employ them.

Have the merchants of New Orleans learned experience by the precarious navigation of last season? If so, how much have they done to aid in building the Vicksburg and Shreveport railroad?

It appears that Mr. Richardson, the democratic nominee for speaker of the U. S. house of representatives, is unsound on the slavery question, and is, therefore, not acceptable to the south. The Charleston Standard, a states-rights paper, charges him with having declared "that congress had the undoubted right and power to abolish slavery in the district of Columbia." It is also an official record that Mr. Richardson advocated the existence of full power in congress to pass the Wilmot proviso, and thus prohibited slavery in the territories. He is on congressional record as having officially expressed his intention to vote for that proviso, did not a territorial bill that he preferred succeed. "Mr. Richardson was in 1850, and is, we believe, to the present day, a believer in the existence of power in congress to prohibit slavery." It is strange, if the charges are true, that southern democrats would vote for such a man for any office.

The Boston Courier, a whig paper, thus tells us Mr. Banks is:

"When Banks comes up in the end as the candidate of the 'republicans' and the 'north-west Americans,' he will be a whole of his vote. We advise them to confer him down to some principle, for he never has had any stable principle in all the course of his political life. When one of our contemporaries said that Mr. Banks was a fit successor to Messrs. Winthrop, Walley and others, as speaker of the Massachusetts house of representatives, its editor must have been asleep. If the republicans want him they must nail him down, and nail him hard, or they will not keep him. He is one of the most slippery and uncertain politicians in the world. If he is elected speaker, and the Pierce politicians want to buy him, they can have him without doubt, but it must be at a price."

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald says:

"If sobriety constitutes dignity, Banks must make a dignified speaker, in the event of his election. He has the air of a New England clergyman pacing the deck of a steamer which he expects every minute will blow up."

It appears from a telegraphic report of the proceedings of the house of representatives, on the 19th ult., that Mr. Fuller, of Pennsylvania, the know nothing candidate for speaker, defined his position with respect to the slavery question. He said in substance that he had been in the last congress, he would have opposed all territorial legislation, but now he would not vote for the restoration of the Missouri compromise, and would sustain the admission of Kansas with or without slavery.

The editor of the Columbus (Ga.) Corner-Stone—a southern rights democratic organ—gives the following reason for the interest that sheet has manifested in the subject of Kansas, and the anxiety he feels to import a number of slaves into the territory. It says:

"We feel no interest in the Kansas question, except that resulting from the hope that they may get up a difficulty over it, which may possibly result in a dissolution of the Union. We would not, for any other benefit we expect the south to derive from it, turn on our heels for choice whether it shall be a free or a slave State."

What a blessing that the destinies of the U. S. are not in the hands of such a man as the editor of the Corner-Stone, who cares for nothing except kicking up a quarrel between the north and south. What a precious patriot!

The whig members of the Missouri legislature, previous to the adjournment of that body, held a meeting and resolved that the national whig party "still lives," and in the coming presidential contest, "to show themselves worthy of the best days of the republic," and recommend the holding of a state convention at St. Louis, on the second Monday of April next, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the national whig convention, to nominate candidates for president and vice-president of the U. S.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Herald writes that president Pierce intends to court martial general Garland, of the ninth military division, for neglect of duty and unofficer-like conduct; and that an order has been issued that none but American ships on the new steam-ship Merrimack, now receiving her crew at Boston. Has the president turned knock nothing?

The postmaster-general has established new post-offices at Skull creek, Colorado county, Texas; and at Jamestown, Conecuh county, Alabama.

The President's Message.

The house not having effected an organization on the 1st of January, the president, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, has had to delay sending it until that time in consequence of the non-organization of the house; but that his convictions of duty to the country would not permit him any longer to delay in communicating to the state of the Union, and recommending the adoption of such measures as he judges to be necessary and expedient for its welfare. He commences by expressing satisfaction at being able to announce that relations of amity continue between the U. S. and all foreign powers; but observes that with some of the latter there are very grave questions pending, to which early and energetic action on the part of congress may be required.

The most important of these arise out of questions connected with Central America, and the president goes into the history of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, and argues our construction of that document in accordance with the views of Cass and Clayton. England is charged with having directly violated that treaty by maintaining the Mosquito protectorate and the government of the British colonies. The subject has been for some time under negotiation between the two governments; but they differ very widely and apparently irreconcilably in their constructions, and intimates that Great Britain is unfair in her pretensions. She is represented to have contended that the treaty was intended to operate only prospectively, and that it does not require her to abandon her previous possessions, rights or privileges. It is impossible that the United States could acquiesce in such a construction; but he hopes that a peaceful solution of the difficulty is yet practicable. No measures or steps, however, are suggested by the president. He says that it was the understanding of the states formerly composing the republic of Central America should they forth enjoy complete independence of action, and that the United States and England engaged equally for the present and future; that if either of them had any claim or right of control, it was unreservedly relinquished; and that neither should thereafter exercise influence or dominion in any part of that region. This government consented to these restrictions in regard to a country wherein we had specific and peculiar interests, only upon the conviction that they were binding in the same sense upon Great Britain. Otherwise we would never have consented to them. But her majesty so construes the treaty as to maintain unimpaired all her previous pretensions over the Mosquito coast.

These pretensions are founded upon the assumption of political relations with the remnant of the Indians of the country, who were entered into the territory of the United States, and to Spain. This assumption being contrary to the rights of the Central American states, as understood by us, had been the subject of negotiation through our minister at London. Notwithstanding Great Britain has by repeated acts renounced all pretensions of her own and recognized the full rights of Spain in the most unequivocal terms, she now resorts to the assertion of rights to this extent on the Gulf-coast along the eastern shore of Nicaragua. Her interference, once exercised in the form of a military occupation of Fort San Juan, now presents itself in the form of a protectorate of the Mosquito Indians. The president denies that at the date of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty Great Britain had any other possessions in the region referred to than a limited establishment at Belize, and he says that her majesty's government admits no reason for her interference with peaceful relations or account of the difference of opinion. He has reasons to apprehend that G. Britain is in actual possession of the disputed territory; and this international difficulty could not long remain without involving serious peril to the friendly relations which it is the interest of both countries to maintain and preserve.

He next alludes to the violation of our neutrality laws by Great Britain in recruiting soldiers in the United States for her army, and denounces the deed as a violation of our sovereign rights as a nation, as well as our municipal law, and complains that it was pursued by high official functionaries in full view of the law being perpetrated. The cause of complaint, he says, was the fact that the law was pursued, not of merely casual occurrence, but of deliberate design, entered upon with a full knowledge of our laws and national policy and conducted by responsible public functionaries. This has compelled him to present the case to the British government, in order not only to secure a cessation of the wrong, but also reparation. The subject remains undisturbed.

He refers to the boundary between Washington territory and British North America, and recommends the appointment of a joint commission to establish the line; he thinks there is danger of a collision there, and intimates the propriety of buying out the claims of the Puget sound company.

The message treats of Kansas affairs. It states that discord has been occasioned there, but he declines to justify executive interference. That, it is remarked, could be proper only in cases of obstruction to federal laws or of organized resistance to territorial laws, assuming the character of insurrection, in which events, the president says, it would become his duty promptly to meet and suppress them. The people, he remarks, must be protected in the exercise of their rights without interference on the part of the people of any other state. He commends the subject to the early attention of congress. He eulogizes the doctrine of popular sovereignty, and gives a history of the formation of our union. Enlarges on state rights with particular reference to slavery and the fugitive slave law, regarding the adoption of the fugitive slave law as one of the durable constitutional obligations and refusing to obey the laws of congress, denies that the southern states have obtained any advantage over the north in the administration of the federal government, refers to the ordinance of 1787, and the acquisition of Louisiana, in their effects upon the balance of power between the slave and free states, carrying his review down to the annexation of Texas and the repeal of the Missouri compromise, and argues that the south has obtained no more than what constitutionally belongs to her, makes an elaborate defence of the principles of the Nebraska bill, and indignantly denounces that there was any breach of faith.

On this Kansas question the president says that if the friends of the constitution are to have another struggle, its enemies could not present a more acceptable issue than that of a state whose constitution embraces a republican form of government being excluded from the union because its domestic institutions may not in all respects comport with the ideas of what is wise and expedient which are entertained in some other states. Fresh from the groundless imputations of a breach of faith against other men, they will commence the agitation of this new question with an indisputable violation on their own part of an express compact between the independent sovereign powers of the United States and the republic of Texas, as well as the older and equally solemn compact of the union, which assure the equality of the states. He argues distinctly that such proceedings involve the dissolution of the union; but he expresses his conviction that the union is stronger than all the wild schemes for social changes which may be generated one after another in the minds of visionary sophists and interested agitators.

In reference to the question of the Danish sound dues, the president remains of opinion that the United States ought not to continue to tolerate them, and that he had declined to participate in the proposed convention at Copenhagen on the subject, on several grounds. The first is because Denmark did not offer to submit to the convention the question of her right to levy the sound. The second is because, if the convention were to be called, still it would be a question of the great international principles involved, and affect the rights of commercial freedom, as well as access to the Baltic. The proposition is pronounced objectionable because by the terms in which it was made, it was contemplated that the consideration of the question of the sound dues should be commingled with and made subordinate to a matter wholly extraneous—namely, the balance of power among the governments of Europe. At the same time the message declares that the U. S. are ready to pay a fair proportion of the expenses incurred by Denmark for the improvement of the navigation of the sound. The difficulty with Mr. Dillon, the French consul, is announced to have been settled, as also is that with doct. King, at Athens.

The Spanish government is reported to have expressed its disapprobation of the action of the authorities in Cuba in the Black Warrior case, and to have paid the indemnity claimed for the damages sustained. Spain has also agreed to pay indemnity to American citizens for losses sustained, in consequence of the sudden repealing of the decree of 1844, permitting the free importation of building materials and provisions into the island for six months, as stipulated in the El Dorado case, it is stated, has not yet been received; but there is no doubt, it is added, that it will be accorded. The president expresses the hope that the U. S. will be able to settle in an amicable manner, all her difficulties with Spain.

The state of our affairs with Mexico is referred to. The unhappy condition of that country, has prevented the pressing of the claims of American citizens against Mexico for redress of grievances which they have sustained. These will be pressed as soon as a stable government shall be established.

Central American affairs are also noticed. The message states that the weakness of the government and their consequent inability to perform the duties which are imposed upon the president, has devolved upon the president the necessity of restraining them from being sent out of this country.

Treaties of amity, commerce and navigation are announced to have been concluded with the Two Sicilies and Nicaragua upon the principles of commercial reciprocity.

The receipts into the U. S. treasury from all sources are stated to have amounted to about \$65,000,000. The payments, exclusive of the public debt, are reported to have been upwards of \$56,000,000.

The amount of the public debt of the U. S. is now reduced below \$400,000,000. The message suggests the creation of a retired list for disabled army officers, and an increase of compensation to officers in active service. The recommendation formerly made by the president for the partial reorganization of the army is renewed.

With regard to the navy, the message also suggests further legislation. An appropriation for the building of sixteen new sloops of war is recommended.

WAR AND FOOD.

The governments of the old world present a remarkable contrast to that of the United States. They are struggling for gold, and contracting vast debts, while the American government is struggling to get rid of gold and get in its debts. The English chancellor and the French minister issue the most taking offers for money in stocks, and our minister offers tempting proposals for his stocks in money. The ministers of Europe are contriving, however, to make new taxes and old ones more productive, the American congress is puzzled with the problem how to diminish the revenue by ameliorating taxes. The political fears of Europe and America are both directed to revolution, and the consequent financial embarrassment, but from diametrically opposite causes. The Gulf of bankruptcy yawns before monarchial governments, and the slough of corruption threatens to overwhelm republicans. In France, particularly, the evil day is at hand, since it seems to be a fatality that no government can stand a bad harvest. To the frightful cost of the war, is added now a deficiency in food seldom equalled, and from which the gravest results are apprehended by the government.

The measures adopted in relation to the live-lives exist in relation to the coming year, and it is a curious fact that food is higher in the usual markets of supply than in those of demand, showing the operation of causes other than commercial, at work. If the government of France, like that of the old Roman empire, undertaken to feed the imperial city at all, it must do so wholly, since the moment it enters the markets to purchase, it raises prices upon all mercantile buyers, and when it sells, it is at a loss, which individual merchants cannot and will not sustain. The moment, therefore, it is known that the government is in the markets, the consumers lose the whole cooperation for their supply of the vast mercantile capital employed in the trade. The inadequate operations of the government then jeopardize starvation. To avoid such a result, the government must enlarge the system of supplying bakers' tickets to the people of Paris, by guaranteeing a profit to the bakers in food! The government's responsibility is fast resolving itself into one of food and finance. The well being of the people must be considered, and these are incompatible with gigantic wars from government motives. The money which has been raised in France, and wasted this year in war, would have met the food question without much difficulty. As it is, the horrors of famine for the masses are augmented by the evils of war, and the coming year is likely to test the stability of the Napoleon dynasty.

The Washington Union publishes a proclamation of the president, dated Washington, Dec. 12, to the effect that the province of New-land has consented to have the provisions of the reciprocity treaty between the United States and Great Britain, signed on June 5, 1854, extended to it, and to allow the United States the full benefit of all the stipulations therein contained, so far as they are applicable to that province, the articles enumerated below, being the growth and produce of the British North American colonies, shall be admitted from Newfoundland into the United States free of duty, so long as the aforesaid treaty shall remain in force:

Grain, flour and breadstuffs of all kinds, animals of all kinds, fresh, smoked, and salted meats, cotton wool, seeds and vegetables, undried fruits, dried fruits, fish of all kinds, products of fish and all other creatures living in the water, poultry, eggs, hides, furs, skins or tails, wrought stone or marble in its crude or unworked state, shales, chesses, tallow, lard, horns, manures, ores of metals of all kinds, pitch, tar, turpentine, asphalt, timber and lumber of all kinds, round, hewn and sawed, manufactured in whole or in part, firewood, plants, shrubs, and trees, pelts, wool, fish, oil, rice, broom corn and bark, gypsum, ground or unground, hewn or wrought or unwrought burr or grindstones, dyes, flax, hemp and low unmanufactured; unmanufactured tobacco and rags.

Speaking of the prolonged struggle at Washington, and the difficulty of organizing the house, and the threatening aspect of the war, generally the Petersburg Intelligencer exclaims "At such a time how involuntarily and how strongly does the mind of the honest-hearted and patriotic man revert to those good and great men, whose voices, now hushed in the dread silence of the grave, have so often controlled and lulled the storm of strife when it raged loud and fierce, and threatened most, and how earnestly comes up the heart-felt wish, that the grave could give back its prey, and a day even of life, reanimate the frames of Henry Clay and Daniel Webster! Vain thought!—idle wish!

THE BAKER TRIAL.

The jury in the case of Baker tried in New York for the murder of Poole, came into court on the 14th ult., and declared that they were unable to agree. At the last ballot they stood nine for murder, with a recommendation to mercy, and three for manslaughter in the second degree. Of Baker's guilt the jury were convinced, and it is strange that they could not bring in a verdict when there was so slight a difference in their estimation of its extent. The difference between the verdict of murder, with a recommendation to mercy, and that of manslaughter, was more a difference of form than substance, for the effect of either would have been the same, namely, imprisonment for a term of years in the state penitentiary. This case has attracted an immense amount of attention, and has been productive of no little excitement in New York city. It occupied three weeks, and was conducted by the ablest members of the bar of that city, whose speeches were remarkable for length, research and eloquence. Yet all this expenditure of time, talent and labor has proved fruitless, because of the jury sticking upon a mere abstract matter of opinion, and the offender goes for a time unwhipped of justice.

The great institution of trial by jury, is getting to be very much abused and perverted, and most people are beginning to think that twelve men seated in a row in a jury box, are about subject to the same infirmities and infidelities, as by-standers who are not bound down by the obligations of an oath to discern all the probabilities, and be governed solely by the law and evidence. We are disposed to believe that the usages and practices of the ancients in determining important issues are not as unreasonable and absurd, as they are represented to be, and that the wager by battle, the ordeal by fire and water, casting of lots, throwing dice or drawing straws, are not by any means irrational means of arriving at conclusions.

Messrs. John Randolph Tucker, Lewis M. Lauck, John Bell Giddings, Thomas A. T. Riley and Hugh H. Love, members of the "Morgan continental guard," at Winchester, have been appointed a committee to erect a monument to the old revolutionary soldier and patriot, Daniel Morgan, so well known for his gallant services in the great conflicts which characterized those times. We extract the following paragraph as setting forth their wishes:

"The bones of brigadier-general Daniel Morgan are in our midst, marked by a crumbling tomb, which a few brief years will entirely destroy. About his name cluster revolutionary memories of no ordinary interest, which tradition has gathered, and history will perpetuate. The resting-place of a hero, whose fame is immortal will soon be sought in vain by the pilgrim who, to revive the spirit of our fathers, visits their honored graves, and the pall of oblivion will cover the remains of a patriot chieftain whose services should be perpetuated in a monument to his memory."

Those who fairly appreciate the services of such a man, are called upon to aid with means to erect a monument to his memory. We conclude by saying the appeal is well written and eloquent, and would well repay a perusal.

The London Times of the 9th ultimo, in one of its leading editorials, expresses itself in the following terms of the superiority of efficiency of the officers of the Russian army: "Nothing has come out more clearly in the course of this war than the high military and scientific character of the Russian officers. Through a trial of unexampled severity they have shown themselves in every way worthy of the confidence of their master and of the reputation of a great military monarch. Ardent in attack, undaunted in retreat, full of skill, energy, and resource under all circumstances, masters of the three languages of the three belligerent powers it makes one shudder to reflect what such a band of officers might accomplish if supported by troops worthy of such leaders. The Russian army, like our own, is officered by gentlemen, but by gentlemen who have not merely the rank and courage of their class, but its education and its acquirements. While poor general Simpson cannot even attempt a single word of French, a vast number of the officers of the Russian army speak our language as well as ourselves. Their scientific defence of a fort, and their conduct in the field, and the superiority in skill of the champions of barbarism over those of civilization is written in our best blood."

We extract the following from the proceedings of the house of delegates on Monday: Mr. Heiskill offered the following resolution: Resolved, That leave be given to Job B. Crabtree, of Lee county, to change his vote for senator of the United States, he having inadvertently recorded his vote for Geo. W. Summers.

It appears that Job didn't know, when he voted for senator, who was who, or what was that. He thought Mr. Summers was the democratic candidate, and Mr. Mason, the American candidate—never having heard, perhaps, of either of those obscure gentlemen before. But the cruelty of the house in not letting Job "change his vote for senator" was monstrous. What will Job's democratic constituents say of his voting for a whig—a knock nothing? We fear his "inadvertency" will destroy his prospects for congress, or a foreign mission.

We move as an amendment to the foregoing resolution, that the people of Lee be allowed to change their vote, by having "inadvertently," no doubt, voted for Job, while intending to vote for somebody else. [Richmond Va. Whig.]

The Working Farmer states that the value of the hog crop this year in the United States will fall little short of two hundred millions of dollars, or \$50,000,000 more than the cotton crop. Mr. P. L. Simmonds, in the transactions of the Highland society, gives some interesting statistics of the number of swine raised in the various countries, as near as can be ascertained. In the United States there are believed to be 50,000,000, or more than in all the states of Europe combined. Great Britain the number is estimated at 2,000,000. Ireland has a large proportion, and Scotland about 200,000. Austria has about 5,500,000 swine, and Austria Italy, 250,000. France has from 8,000,000 to 6,000,000. Russia has an immense number of wild hogs, but they are merely skin and bone, valuable principally for their bristles. It is estimated that 96,000,000 lbs of lard are made in the United States—of which 20,000,000 are made in Cincinnati. England and Cuba take each annually 9,000,000 or 10,000,000 lbs of American lard.

CHINA GOVERNMENT.—Vermont appears to be model State in regard to the management of its finances. The total disbursement of the State revenue, for the whole of the 3d day of August last, were only \$168,127—or about twenty-seven times less than the actual expenses of the government of the city of New York, which has considerably less than twice the population of Vermont, and there was a balance of money in the treasurer's hands at the end of the year amounting to \$16,700.

The expenses of the legislature were about \$24,130; the State printing cost \$7,421; executive salaries and expenses \$2,461; judiciary and prosecuting expenses \$92,469, nearly one half of the State expenses. For the relief of the poor \$5,000. Paid for papers in asylum \$733. For deaf and dumb \$8,340. To agricultural societies \$1,855. Bounties for killing bears and wolves \$285. Cost of the Vermont State Fair \$1,800. The other item, says the Burlington Free Press, is only about the cost of six of such bombs as were thrown at Sebastopol.

Four citizens of Yazoo county, in a spirited and published in the Yazoo City Banner of the 14th inst., renounce their allegiance to the order of the "rag niggers," a council of which they say exists in that city, and of which they have heretofore been members of good standing upon an equality.

General Intelligence.

New York, Dec. 29.—The Pacific arrived at the pool to the 15th December from Liverpool. On board were 2000 British troops, and 1000 British sailors, except those furnished by the state to the officers of the garrison, named Kennedy, who are on board for the purpose of hastening the advance of the Pacific to the relief of Kars. This officer states that the British troops on board send a flag of capitulation to the Russians, which was clearly explained which is believed to be the case.

Nothing further is known, but it is believed that the garrison surrendered for lack of provisions, and that the British troops, far to work a force to cut through the Russian army that surrounded it.

The only event of importance that has transpired in the Crimea, is the arrival of a Russian force of 30,000 men on the extreme French frontier, the right of the French army, meanwhile, when the Russians were driven back, which was very considerable on both sides, we have not yet learned.

Both armies are well housed, and a sufficient quantity of provisions is at their command. The British