"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,.....MAY 7, 1856.

FOR PRESIDENT
MILLARD FILLMORE, of New York.
FOR VICE PRESIDENT
ANDREW JACKSON DONELSON, of Tennessee.

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.

☞ OUR JOB OFFICE.—Having received our spring stock of fine paper, cards, and printing materials, including every variety, we are prepared to accommodate our patrons on the shortest notice. Bill-heads, bills of lading, cotton receipts, wagon receipts, blanks, circulars, pamphlets, cards, handbills, and every description of plain and ornamental printing executed in a style unequaled by any office in the State, out of New Orleans.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION.—At an election held on Monday last, for municipal officers, the following gentlemen were elected:

John W. Jones, esq., mayor.

Wm. A. Sterrett, treasurer.

Trustees—1st ward—H. A. Zoll; 2nd ward, L. M. Nutt and Wm. Thatcher; 3rd ward, Sam Ford; 4th ward, L. P. Crain; 5th ward, no election; 6th ward, J. M. Landrum.

Cotton and hides, from Texas, continue to arrive very freely. The wagons return heavily loaded with goods, plantation supplies, wheat machinery, &c. Mark well what we predict: ten years will not elapse before we shall see flour, pork and beef, descending Red River to find a market.

MORE RAIN.—Last Monday evening, we had another fine rain, together with some hail. We are induced to believe that much rain has fallen in the neighboring country during the past ten days. A rise above in Red River is currently reported, but, at this season, we do not think the river at this point can be affected much. The rains and reported rise, may however, fill up the lakes again, and as they act as feeders to the river, prevent its falling for a considerable time.

UPPER RED RIVER.—We are informed by Mr. Dawes, that Red River at Kiamichie had up to last Thursday, risen ten feet.

DROWNED.—A negro boy named Tom, belonging to T. Nelson, esq., fell overboard from the steamer Financier No. 1, opposite our town, on Monday last, and was drowned.

We are indebted to Mr. Bateman, of the St. Charles; Mr. A. Laidley, of the Leona; Mr. Smith, of the Wm. C. Young; and Mr. E. R. Perry, of the H. M. Wright, and Mr. Kenton, of the Rosa, for late New Orleans papers.

NEW NOVEL.—We learn by the Georgia Citizen, that David L. Roath, esq., of Augusta, is preparing for the press, and soon will be ready for delivery, a new novel, entitled "Fanny Lancaster."

BAPTIST PROTRACTED MEETING.—We have been requested to state that a protracted meeting will be commenced to-morrow evening in the baptist church on Market street in this town. Several ministers of ability will be in attendance on the occasion.

The Ouachita Register says the cut worm is creating great havoc in Caldwell parish and the lower part of Ouachita.

A meteor lately fell near Belfast, Missouri, which shook the buildings in the town very much. The sound resembled the explosion of a powder mill. We are not very anxious to witness such sublime freaks of nature in this region of country.

The West Baton Rouge Sugar Planter learns from some of the Bruly landing residents that lately several travelers have been stopped and robbed by negroes in the Cut-off road to Plaquemine. We would advise all who travel that road to go well armed.

IRISH INSOLENCE.—The Irish civic societies of New York city, lately held a meeting preparatory to the celebration of one of their festival days. The first business transacted was the expulsion of the reporter of the Express, an American newspaper. Before he was put out of the room, he was insulted with the most blackguard language.

The Memphis and Charleston railroad will be completed throughout the whole distance by the first of January next.

BEEF.—The Opelousas Patriot says, for several years our town council has been trying to establish a system of selling meat that would exclude a monopoly on the part of the butcher, but all has been in vain. The actual system, although it seems, would be the most liberal, as the market is open to competition, and the price of meat not fixed, yet but one butcher goes there, and his prices (6 cts. per pound) are such that the entire community is constantly complaining.

GOLD.—Mr. J. Brown, of Hart county, (Ga.) who is said to be the father of 29 children, has discovered a vein of gold which yields from a small panful of earth, a penny weight of gold. The old man and his little boys, with their pans and mortars, make from five to six dollars per day. If the old man has twenty-nine children to support, he ought to have a better gold mine.

The central Georgia papers represent the season as fine for planting, and says the cotton and corn has come up well.

In Virginia, the wheat crop looks particularly well. The last of this month they will commence harvesting.

We regret to learn that the lady of senator Rusk of Texas, died not long since at Nacogdoches, after a severe illness.

EDUCATION.—Notwithstanding the ruinous effects heretofore attending the injudicious practice of parents and guardians sending the youth of the south to the north to be educated, still the course is pursued by many, with all the evil consequences staring them full in the face. It is absurd to say that the northern schools, academies or colleges are better than those in the south. Georgia, Alabama, South Corolina, North Carolina, Louisiana, Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee, have as good schools and academies as any in the U. States, and William and Mary college, in Virginia, is acknowledged by English literary men, to be equal if not superior to any in the Union. Why then, we ask, should the youth of the slave States be sent to the north to mingle with abolitionsts and imbibe their pernicious principles? There is danger in pursuing such a course, to say nothing of the impolicy of pampering those who are daily endeavoring to ruin us. Henceforward, we hope to see the practice abandoned. Let the youth of the south be instructed by southerners. The editor of the New York Tribune, has thought proper recently to give vent to his feelings, and he only expressed what all think. We trust it will open the eyes of southern men who are so eager to instil northern principles into the minds of their children that they send them to colleges where the professors regard them only as barbarians and a "curse to northern society." The Tribune says:—"We know of eminent persons, long connected with our most distinguished universities, who regard the southern students as the curse of their colleges, and who would like it as a blessing should never another enter their walls. They, are in fact, semi-barbarians with most of the vices, if with some of the virtues, of savages, and unfitted by their previous training for association with civilized and christianised youth. Of course there are exceptions of well-mannered, well-bred southern youths, in whose society there is no necessary contamination; but they are rare ones, and generally to be found among those who have been caught young and raised at the north." Now there is no doubt but the abolition editor in saying "those who have been caught young and raised at the north," meant the young fugitive slaves from the south—fit associates and companions for northern black republicans, of which party the Tribune is the acknowledged organ. We hope never again to hear of a southerner sending children to the north to be educated. We would just as soon think of sending our young ones to Africa.

THE ONLY SURE WAY.—We are glad to find by the Clarksville (Tex.) Standard, that the citizens of upper Red River are about to adopt the only plan which will ever ensure a certainty in the shipment of their cotton and the reception of their goods, plantation supplies, &c., viz: to make Shreveport the great depot. Nature designed this. From this point, Red River is always navigable to its mouth for small steamboats. When the improvements which are now making in the river above here are completed, very small steam-boats, keels or flat-boats, will be able to descend to this town without any difficulty, and re-ship their freight on larger boats. It is thought by some conversant with river navigatibn, that a few keel-boats would be well adapted for the upper trade during the low water season; as they could be chiefly manned by slaves or laboring whitemen at very moderate wages. Those who preferred to wait to take advantage of low freights by the large steamers, could store their cotton in our warehouses until such time as the river would admit of free navigation, with the certainty of obtaining advances the very moment the cotton is landed here. The Standard says, "this river, (Red) our only dependence as a means of getting our cotton to market, is now at low water mark. Our merchants and planters have been suffering severely during the last twelve months by the unprecedented continuance of the low water. Had boats been in readiness to take advantage of the rises in the river, which we have had this spring, our cotton might all have been in market, but this not having been the case, our cotton still lies at the various landings along the river, or stored at the gin-houses. We understand that some of our merchants and planters, are determined to wait no longer on steamboats. Preparations are being made for building flat-boats with the view of shipping on them to Shreveport or the Mississippi." It would be folly for the flat-boats to descend the river below this place, as our large boats are running with ease, and taking freights at very low rates.

The supreme court of the United States has decided that the president has the power to commute sentences as well as to pardon. The hon. judge McLean, however, dissented from the decision. He most assuredly erred, for if the president can pardon, he certainly can commute.

MAY PARTY.—On the 1st inst., the scholars of the rev. Mr. Ford's school, held a May-day celebration in the grove near the ice-house. We did not witness the ceremonies, but saw the procession on its return. It was handsome and interesting, and called forth our juvenile days of pleasure.

The Mobile Advertiser announces that the cars are now running on the Mobile and Ohio railroad to Scooba station, a distance of 176 miles. The Mobilians, in enterprise, have far outstripped our New Orleans friends. Notwithstanding the slothfulness of the latter, we still hope they will go-a-head. In starting both the Nashville and Jackson rail-roads, great errors were committed. The cost of constructing the drawbridge over the new canal, and the making of the road through a miserable swamp, bayous and boggy prairies, &c. would have made the railroad up the coast, passing through the richest plantations in the State, to the highlands at Baton Rouge, getting nearly all the freight and passengers between the two places, and all the passengers that would have collected at Baton Rouge from East Feliciaan, St. Helena, and several counties in Mississippi. But during the progress of the above road, our good citizens generally had become almost crazy about music, and thought, no doubt, the whistle of the locomotive, the bellowing of bull frogs, and screaching of owls, would be truly delightful to the lovers of good music.

The same will apply to the Opelousas railroad. Had it followed the river to Point Coupeé, and then struck through the swamp, (a distance of between forty and sixty miles,) to the beautiful highlands of St. Landry, where immense herds of cattle are raised for the New Orleans market, it would have been much better than passing through interminable swamps.

A correspondent of the Independance Belge says: "Lamartine, after making great efforts to save the wreck of his shattered fortunes—efforts which have been feebly seconded by his countrymen is about to assign all his property for the payment of his debts, and seek a home in the United States. The estate given to him several years ago by the sultan has been taken from him by the Turkish government. It turned out to be one of those presents that bring ruin upon the recipient. Lamartine expected that a large subscription list to his course of literature would have diverted the disaster; but it is asserted that it is not yet large enough to pay the expense of publication."

OUR RAIL ROAD.—We perceive by a card in the New Orleans Picayune, signed "N. D. Coleman," that he has succeeded in obtaining the following subscriptions to the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas railroad:

For $1000 each, Messrs. S. W. Oakey; Fellowes & Co.; Goodrich & Co.; Brander, McKenna & Hubbard; Williams, Phillips & Co.; John Thornhill; Cuddy, Brown & Co.; Samuel J. Peters; H. Frellsen & Co.; North, Smedes & Co.; O. O. Woodman; Dyas & Co.; J. J. McMahon; Andrews & Sierau; James Robb, and James D. Denegre.

Messrs Pilcher, Goodrich & Co., $750.

For $500, J. M. Vernon; W. A. Violet & Co.; Benoist, Shaw & Co.; Cammack, Squires & West; B. M. Lowe; Slark, Stauffer & Co.; W. W. King; McKleroy & Bradford; Henderson & Gaines; C. C. Gaines; Duncan & Logan; McCutcheon, Howell & Co.; Payne, Steele & Co.; Geo. M. Pinckard & Co.; Ward, Saunders & Hunt; John M. Bell; A. Carriere; W. H. Letchford & Co.; C. A. Barriere & Bro.; M. Harris; W. H. Avery; M. Gillis; M. B. Brady; Jos. W. Carroll and Joseph Hoy.

For $250, Messrs. Sherman, Wharton & Co.; C. R. Railey & Co.; Giquel & Jamison; Thos. B. Lee; J. J. Bard and J. M. Savage.

VIRGINIANS GOING CRAZY.—A Miss Martha Burwell, of Botetourt county, Virginia, recently died, having previously emancipated thirteen slaves and made provision for their removal to Liberia.

Capt. Jas. H. Terrell, of Charlottsville, (Va.) who died in that place lately, emancipated, and made ample provision for their removal to Liberia, eighty or ninety slaves. They had better have left them to their poor relations.

The Washington Sentinel (democratic) concedes that if president Pierce is nominated at Cincinnati, Pennsylvania, Indiana, New Jersey and Deleware, will all be lost to the democratic party. We think the most of them will be lost to that party at any rate.

A Mr. Smith, of Tennessee, in a late speech on the Kansas question, gave a political classification of the house: Of the 234 members who compose the house, he read the names of 120, a clear majority of the whole house, who were elected as know nothings, or by the aid of know nothing votes.

The American party in Philadelphia, have nominated the following municipal ticket: For mayor, Jas. C. Hand; controller, S. S. Leidy; solicitor, F. C. Brewster; receiver of taxes, J. Kelly; city commissioner, Robert G. March.

PROGRESS OF THE PRESS.—Constantinople letters state that the sultan has given permission for the publication of a newspaper in the Arabic language, for circulation among the inhabitants of Syria, Egypt and other places in his empire where the Arabic is spoken. We bid the Crescent power an adieu.

The South-Western Baptist says, the rev. Z. Williams, of the protestant methodist church, was recently baptized into the fellowship of the Brooklyn baptist church, in Conecuh county Alabama, by the rev. W. C. Morrow.

STEVENS' IRON STEAM BATTERY.—The New York correspondent of the National Intelligencer, in his letter of March 27, says: The great iron steam battery building for the government by Mr. Stevens, at Hoboken, I believe is nearly at a stand-still for want of funds, the amount appropriated, and which it was understood was to finish her, being nearly or quite exhausted. Great secresy is observed as regards her, and no one is allowed admission. From an intelligent party, who had charge of a portion of the work upon her, I learn she is upwards of 400 feet long, and is to be built entirely of iron, and perfectly ball proof, even to the immense and powerful missiles of the most modern invention. Estimates, I understand, have been forwarded to Washington that it will require about $900,000 more to finish her; and, if all I hear about her is correct, even that large sum will fall short of the actual amount that will yet be wanted.

She has two propellers, and three engines to work each propeller. Now, as each shaft has thus three engines to work it, they must all move with the most uniform and mathematical precision to work at all; for of course one can not make the smallest fraction of a revolution more or less than the other two without deranging the action of the propeller. There are to be on board other engines besides the above six, among them two small ones as "blowers," to keep up a high state of ignition of the stone coal.

MURDER IN ARKANSAS.—We learn from a gentleman who returned from Marion yesterday, that a most diabolical murder was committed upon the person of Mr. Jenkins, a highly respectable gentleman of Crittenden country, on Tuesday evening last, within two or three hundred yards of his residence, four miles west of Marion. He was returning to his home from Marion when he was deliberately shot down, a charge of buckshot and a pistol ball being lodged in his body. Circumstances led to the arrest of a man named Hendricks, the keeper of a drinking house in Marion, and a Mr. Garret, who formerly resided in south Memphis. Hendricks and Garret were examined before a magistrate, and bound over for their appearance in court, but in the meantime, the jail was surrounded by the excited crowd in attendance, and it is believed that ere this Hendricks has atoned for his suspected crime at the hands of judge Lynch. Garret is generally supposed to be innocent of any participation in the crime.

[Memphis Appeal.

OPENING OF THE HOUSTON TAP ROAD.—The Houston Telegraph says: On Monday last the work of the Houston tap road was commmenced. The contract has been taken for the whole length of the road from this place to the connection with the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado railroad, we learn, by Messrs. Kyle and Terry, gentlemen of means and responsibility, who intend pushing the work forward with all possible dispatch, and by the 15th of July next we may expect to see the iron horse plunging into our city on the south as well as the north.

These remarks lead us to look around at the progress of our city, which is visible on every hand. Business houses and private residences are being erected, all branches of mechanics and trades are in a flourishing condition, and a spirit of confidence is to be seen pervading every thing.

BETTING ON COTTON.—The New York Evening Post states that many thousand dollars have been staked in that city, in bets, on the amount of the cotton crop. Most of them are that the crop will reach 3,500,000 bales. It mentions one bet of $500 between an operator from Mobile and a broker in Wall street, and says that the dealers in that city are generally disposed to bet on three millions and a half.—There are also numerous bets as to prices—those who risk their money on an amount of 3,500,000 bales, being also willing generally to bet on a decline in prices. Many parties were buying speculatively for an advance.

DEMOCRATIC AUTHORITY.—We suppose every body interested in politics has heard of the Washington Sentinel, a democratic journal established in the federal city, and edited by Beverly Tucker, a thorough going Virginian statesright democrat. The Sentinel being entirely without administration patronage, can afford to be independent, though we must do Mr. Tucker the justice to add, that while enjoying the lucrative post of printer to the U. S. senate, he was as free and unshackled in the expression of his thoughts as he is now. As the Sentinel is an accredited exponent of the southern statesrights wing of the democracy, and of the New York hard shells, and national democrats, its opinions are valuable. They are undoubtedly the reflection of such minds as senators Hunter, Mason, Butler, Iverson, &c. What the Sentinel thinks of the present administration, of its head, its policy, and general conduct, is set forth in an elaborate leading article, from which we purpose to extract a few passages.—The article is a comment upon a letter from the honorable P. S. Brooks, of South Carolina, advising South Carolina to send delegates to the Cincinnati convention, and warmly endorsing the claims of Mr. Pierce to reelection. The Sentinel reviews the administration in order to prove it unworthy of southern support. In the course of its article it says:

"Franklin Pierce came into office nearly by acclamation, and he had for his encouragement and support a senate with a large democratic majority, and but four freesoilers, all told. A house of representatives with an overwhelming democratic majority, and with only a small freesoil party. By the 'fast and loose' course of his administration—his habitual faith-breaking with every body—his pledges ever disregarded, or, what is worse, evaded—his shuffling, undecided course in our foreign relations—his abolition appointments—and a thousand and one other things we could add, equally demoralizing in their tendency; the lower house is in the hands of the black republicans, and in the senate of the United States, the small nucleus of four freesoilers has been increased to one-fifth of the whole body."

Most veritable, but how was it brought about? Why, according to the Sentinel, by president Pierce's encouragement of freesoilers, and discouragement of national democrats; by his futile and fatal attempts to harmonize the various sections of the democracy; by his unauthorized and ill-advised interference with the New York customhouse; by his ejection of honest, national men, and substitution in their stead of a pack of hungry freesoilers who loved patronage, but hated slavery. Thus, according to the Sentinel, did abolitionism, 'from a gasping corpse under the galvanic battery of government patronage, leap forth into its full stature.' We quote from the Sentinel again:

"The constitutional democrats all over the country lifted up their voices against this injustice. Instead of relenting or abating the outrage, New York became a great slaughter-house for all good and true, sound and constitutional democrats. At the head stood Daniel S. Dickinson, who, by his pure patriotism had immolated himself, in his brave defence of the rights and honor of the south! All the offices of influence and profit were given to the freesoilers, and the best men in the party were made to give place to them."

Among the numerous political sins of which president Pierce has been guilty, the Sentinel enumerates his favorable expression in behalf of a railroad to the Pacific, to be constructed with government means, and under the government direction; his virtual approval of the protective feature introduced into the report of the secretary of the treasury; his organization of the Kansas and Nebraska territories by the appointment of a rabid freesoiler as governor of Kansas—the only territory in which slavery stood the ghost of a chance, and a southerner for Nebraska, which was effectually excluded by its latitude from slavery.

It is somewhat curious that we have frequently charged Mr. Pierce with identically the same shortcomings of which he stands accused by the Sentinel. We have almost used the very words penned by the editor of that sheet; but as our paper does not profess to be democratic, we suppose our articles were regarded as the mere effusions of partizan hostility. The Sentinel, however, is amenable to no such charge. Its democracy is as indisputable as that of any administration journal in the land, and we believe that it fully represents the sentiments and convictions of a majority of the south. How any sane man in the south can approve the course pursued by president Pierce, is a subject of special wonder. We are aware that in his last message he endeavored to undo part of the mischief he had perpetrated by a studied defense of the south and her constitutional rights. Brave words we admit them to be, but they are a poor compensation for vile acts. And people will draw their own conclusions as to the coincidence between this change of front, and the proximity of the presidential election.

[N. O. Bee.

A CANDID EDITOR.—The editor of the Greenville (S. C.) Patriot, one of the most uncompromising anti-American papers in the State, pays the following deserved compliment to Millard Fillmore:

EX-PRESIDENT FILLMORE.—This distinguished statesman and pure patriot has been nominated for the presidency by the national know nothing convention in Philadelphia. We rejoice at the nomination, though we do not expect to support it. We rejoice on the principle that an honorable man likes to have a gentleman for his opponent. There is another feeling which gives us joy, and it is, if the democratic party should be defeated, there is not a man in the United States we would prefer to see heading the defeat, and enjoying the success of such a victory, as Millard Fillmore. He is a gentleman, and a patriot and a statesman of ability, soaring above all sectional considerations in the administration of the government. In his hands we should feel that the Union, the constitution, the rights of the States and the rights of the south were safe.

The Patriot, after expressing its determination to support the democratic candidate for the presidency, proceeds, mark its language:

If successful, we shall be proud of our success, and if defeated by president Fillmore, we shall not mourn or grieve over our defeat. In regard to the know nothings we begin to think that a good many come from Nazareth. They have adopted, as a part of their creed the principle that the people of a territory have a right to establish slavery or not, as they may see proper, or find it their interest to do so. Perhaps three-fourth of the United States approve this doctrine, none deny it except the abolitionist. Why do we think, then, that slavery is in any danger, or that the south are endangered, when sustained by three-fourth of the United States?

Would not every democratic editor and every democrat in the south say the same thing, if they had the independence to give utterance to their real sentiments?

LETTER FROM MR. DALLAS.—A dispatch from Washington, under date of the 17th, says:

Mr. Dallas, in a letter just received here, says that the subject of the differences between the English government and the United States will be fully discussed in parliament. He is led to believe that the discussion will not be devoid of acrimony towards this country, but he is prepared to bear it like a philosopher. He mentions with particularity numerous acts of marked courtesy extended him, including those of members of the cabinet; and he regards these manifestations as expressive of a peaceable disposition towards this country.

A Toronto dispatch of the 12th ult. says: There was a strike among the laborers on Chats canal, at Bytown, on Thursday last.—The contractors' barns were set fire to, and one hundred tons of hay, two hundred bushels of oats, and many valuable horses destroyed. Further destruction of property is anticipated.

[Communicated.

MURDER.—An outrageous murder was committed on Friday last about noon, at the residence of dr. J. W. Vance, in Bossier parish, eleven miles above this on the river, by one Charles S. McKeown on the body of Ralph Foster, overseer of dr. Vance. McKeown and Foster had previously passed some harsh words to each other, and on that day the difficulty appears to have originated at the dinner table, when Foster retired to an opposite room of the house, McKeown it seems commenced firing at him with a double barrel shot gun, there being in the dining room two double barrel guns, both heavy loaded with buck shot. Foster was shot four different times; the first load, it seems, passed into the right hip, which it is supposed caused him to fall to the floor; the second passed into his right side, another broke the bones of his right leg below his knee, the other load passed into his right arm above the wrist.—There was also found a small wound on the back part of his head. It is not known what caused it. Foster instantly died, living but a few minutes. An inquest was held on the body. McKeown was immediately arrested, brought before justice Bush, and committed to bail, to await his trial at the regular term of our district court. It is not known what brought about the difficulty, nor what caused it, as there was no white person on the plantation at the time of the murder. McKeown admitted having done the deed. Mr. Foster has a wife and some four or five children near Vicksburg, Miss.

A NEIGHBOR.

Vicksburg papers please notice.

ROTATION OF CROPS.—An intelligent and enterprising planter of Mississippi writes us as follows. Would that every cultivator of the soil throughout the south could be induced to emulate his example. It would add millions to the value of our lands within the next ten years:

'I have taken the Cultivator for six or eight years and would not be without it for ten times the amount.

'Crops of corn and cotton in north Mississippi have never been better than the past year.—My own crops, all upland, half of which came up in June, made 1,500 pounds per acre; corn, six barrels. I raise my own meat, wool, mules, flour, and, in short, every thing for the use of my little farm, and generally sell enough to pay expenses of the same, without taking any of the proceeds of the cotton crop. My land is all rolling, well circled, and with hill-side ditches when necessary. After a crop of small grain I rest two or more years; plow under with two horse plows, and follow with subsoil, and flatter myself that my little farm is improving daily. To do this it is necessary to have double as much cleared land as you cultivate in cotton and corn. Any system of farming by which land is worn out, or suffered to wash away by the rains, is ruinous, no matter what may be the immediate yield of crops. I have long since been impressed with this fact, but were I not continually reminded of it by reading the Cultivator, I fear I should not keep up the improving system, although convinced of its necessity. I cultivate from 9 to 10 acres of cotton, and from 7 to 10 acres of corn, and sow as much wheat, rye and oats as I can to the hand. If my efforts at farming, in a small way, have been at all successful, I attribute it, in a good degree, to information obtained from your valuable paper. But, as I only intended to send you my subscription money, and not write an article for publication, you will pardon me for troubling you with this letter about my mode of farming.'

[Southern Cultivator.

THE WAY LAWS ARE MADE.—Under this caption the Baton Rouge Comet relates how many shoals and quicksands a bill has to encounter after it passes the legislature before it becomes a law, if it ever do. The most dangerous place, it says, for a bill is in the hands of the enrolling and translating clerks, and it gives the following illustration of the fact:

A law was in force up to the year 1853, providing for the payment of expenses in "criminal prosecutions." As the State of Louisiana is always a party on one part of such suits, it was deemed proper for the State to pay, and that law stood in force to that period. Some gentleman in the legislature of 1854, who no doubt, stood peledged on the retrenchment question, had the law repealed. The consequence was, that clerks and courts and sheriffs who advanced money to witnesses for their claims were minus the amount during the year 1855. The legislature of 1856 re-enacted the law. The bill originated in the senate—passed the house unanimously, and in the bill providing for the current expenses of the year, the sum of $20,000 was appropriated to pay such claims. Strange to say that the bill was lost and never could be found, even in sweeping out the rubbish of the capitol. The consequence is, that although there is $20,000 apropriated, yet witness' claims in criminal prosecutions cannot be paid. Clerks and sheriffs would do well to make a note of this.

SANTA ANNA.—A New Grenada corespondent of the New York Herald lately visited the ex-dictator of Mexico at his quiet residence, a few leagues from Carthagena, and describes his appearance in the following manner:

Santa Anna has all the appearance of a well preserved man of about fifty, about five feet ten or eleven inches in height, with a large robust person, erect and somewhat rotund; his eyes are dark, and the projecting brow gives them a sunken appearance, making their color changeable with varying light; complexion a fine olive, no whiskers or moustache, and with the exception of a few crow's feet about the corner of the eyes, no wrinkles are to be seen about his face or brow; his hair is of a light iron gray color, but I am told he uses a dye for it. He entered the room slowly, walking with some apparent labor and quite lamely, using a cane. His dress was that of a plain southern gentleman; pantaloons of a small check on a brown ground; light vest, thin brown coat, loose neckcloth, and well made boots. The only ornament was a pin of large brilliants in his bosom. From his reference to dates during the conversation, I deduced his age to be fifty nine, and in reply to the question, he told me that his birth-day was the 21st of February.

A SINGULAR DISCOVERY.—A correspondent in Virginia writes that while some hands, employed by Mr. William Keavons, were digging out a cellar in Botecourt co., Virginia, about four miles from Buchanan, they came upon a quantity of coin, consisting of some eight pieces in an iron box about fourteen inches square. The coin was larger than a dollar and the inscription in a language wholly unknown to any person in the vicinity. Upon digging down some sixteen inches lower, they came to a quantity of iron implements of singular and heretofore unseen shape. Several scientific gentlemen have examined into the matter, and have come to the conclusion that the coins, together with the various other curiosities, must have been placed there at an extremely early date and before the settlement of this country.

THE MORMONS—A fine ship, the Enoch Train, having been chartered to convey a cargo of mormons to the United States en route to their settlement in Utah territory, three hundred men, women, boys and girls, left Birmingham for the purpose on the 19th April, to join the rest of the contingent at Liverpool. There are altogether nine hundred on board the Enoch Train.

The Boston Journal says: We hear from Washington an authentic statement that the Fillmore ticket meets with more favor among the Massachusetts delegation than some of the republican writers had asserted. The ranks of the disaffected are thinning out, and the leaders must strike quick or they will not make an advantageous bargain with the Law men of the republicans.

Gen. Wells' celebrated race horse Lecompte, has been beat again at New Orleans.

General Intelligence.

NEW YORK, APRIL 30.—Cotton market firm.

Accounts by the Persia speak of a growing difficulty between Austria and Piedmont. Austria avoids bringing affairs to a crisis, and is holding back with the intention of fomenting a difficulty between England and France.

WASHINGTON, April 30.—In the house to-day, gen. Quitman, in a speech on the state of affairs on the Isthmus, advocated the repeal of the neutrality laws, and the seizure of the Isthmus by the government.

The Mobile Tribune of May the 1st, has the following dispatch, dated New York, April 30:

The steamship Orizaba has just got in from Greytown.

She brings news confirmatory of the reported defeat of the Costa Ricans by Walker; but adds that he was compelled to evacuate his vantage ground from want of ammunition. The battle lasted eighteen hours.

The Transit route was in posses-ion of the Costa Rican troops, who had orders to kill every American they could, regardless of age or sex.

Walker was at the head of 1,000 American and 800 native troops, with which he intended to attack the enemy at Virgin Bay on the 25th.

San Juan or Greytown was blockaded by a British frigate, and many homeward bound passengers for the Orizaba were compelled to return.

The traitor Schlessinger had succeeded in making his escape from Walker's party and joined the enemy.

The Orizaba brings intelligence that the British government has tendered to the Costa Ricans 2000 stand of arms.

NEW YORK, March 29.—The royal mail steamship Persia, capt. Judkins, from Liverpool, on the afternoon of Saturday, the 19th inst., arrived at this port early this morning.

LIVERPOOL, March 19.—The brokers circular says that the last advices from the United States had a favorable effect on the market, and an advance of ¼d. was experienced, which afterwards partially receded, but again partially recovered, and the market closed firm at an advance of ⅛ to ¼d.

Breadstuffs have declined considerably. Wheat shows a decline of 3d.

The quantity of flour and wheat stored in France is immense, and great reductions in prices must follow.

The peace conference closed its session on Wednesday, the 16th.

Mr. Dallas had a civic banquet in London, at which lord Panmure declared that the sending of troops to Canada is not intended as a demonstration of hostility towards the United States, but were to replace the forces withdrawn from there during the war.

The French emperor has conceived the magnificent project of cutting a ship canal from Havre to Paris, which will be navigable by vessels of a large size.—This would give to the latter city an important commercial character.

Sixty thousand men are said to be under arms in Arabia and Mecca, and Jedda in complete insurrection. The new government just appointed from Constantinople is the cause of the revolt.

It is reported here that the allies are to commence the evacuation of Turkey within forty days after the ratification of the treaty of peace, and that all the troops are to quit within six months. This is not credited in the best informed circles.

A letter from Constantinople, dated 31st ult., says: At Necomedia a collision had taken place between the Turks and christians. The latter, assisted by the English who were there, made an attempt after the publication of the Hatti-Houmayon, to place bells in their churches. Immediately upon this demonstration the Turks made an indiscriminate attack upon all christians, not excepting the English. Thirty of the christians were killed or wounded, but the English in exasperation laid hands on the governor, and together with some 200 Turks besides, despatched him to Constantinople.

CHARLESTON, April 28.—The steamship Isabel has arrived, bringing Nicaragua papers of the 14th, from which we learn that on the seventh a great battle took place at Rivas, between the Costa Ricans and general Walker's forces, in which the former were routed with a loss of 600 killed.

The American loss amounted to only thirty killed.

Col. Wheeler, the U. S. minister to Nicaragua, has addressed a letter to Mora, president of Nicaragua, relative to the shooting of American citizens, and protesting against the conduct of Mora in ordering the expulsion of Americans.

TERRIBLE RIOT AT PANAMA.—We learn by that valuable journal, the Picayune, that the steamship Granada arrived at New Orleans on Monday the 28th ult., bringing the Panama Star of the 19th, which gives the following account of a terrible riot at Panama, on Tuesday evening, the 15th of April. It appears that many Americans were killed and wounded, the express mails were destroyed, the Panama railroad, to the extent of some two miles, was torn up, and much property was plundered and destroyed. The Star says:

We are now able to lay before the public a correct version of the proceedings on Tuesday evening last, at the railroad station, by which so many valuable lives were lost, so many wounded, and so much property plundered and destroyed. The particulars are drawn from the depositions of Mr. Center and Mr. Wm. Nelson, of the railroad company, and the statements made to us by captain McLane, agent of the P. M. S. S. Company, all of whom were on the spot, and actively engaged in attempting to provide for the safety of the passengers.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 970 passengers, per Illinois, arrived from Aspinwall at the station, for the purpose of embarking on board the John L. Stephens, for California. Owing to the state of the tide, they were detained on shore until a late hour. A little before dark, whilst most of the passengers were around the railroad station waiting to get their tickets registered, others were at the Ocean hotel, and in the other hotels and eating houses in the Cienega.

Whilst Messrs. McLane, Center and Nelson were standing on the wharf, they perceived a commotion among the passengers, many of whom commenced running towards the town. Sending a messenger to inquire what was the matter, they were informed that a native had tried to steal a watermelon, a pistol had been discharged, and a man slightly wounded. Almost at the same time, and before the party left the wharf, the bells of the church of Santa Anna commenced to ring the alarm of fire, and immediately after the natives were seen running along the beach and through the Cienega, and then followed the attack on the Ocean hotel, McAllaster's store, and the Pacific house, situated more to the left.

From the time the first difficulty arose until the attack on the houses, not more than fifteen minutes elapsed. During this time a few shots were fired.—Capt. McLane immediately sent a messenger to town for Garrido, and the police, and then all three proceeded to the station.

Many of the passengers ran down to the wharf to embark, and others at the depot were anxious to go out to rescue the women and children in the hotels, and a few went, the rest crowding into the office asking for arms and ammunition. All the arms in the office were a double barreled gun, a pair of pistols, a sabre, and fourteen old flint muskets, all private property, which, after some delay, (believing there would be no attack) were given out and loaded for defence, but a sentry was placed at the door to prevent any one from going out and joining in the fight. At this time Mr. Center sent and had the women and children removed from the Ocean house.

Col. Ward, U. S. consul, and Mr. Sabla, his secretary, just then arrived at the scene of action, and endeavored, along with the other gentlemen, to restrain the passengers, some of whom were anxious to go to the rescue of the women and children in the Cienega, and could, with difficulty, be kept back, although at this time the work of plunder had almost ceased, and things were comparatively quiet.

An old cannon belonging to the company was dug out of the sand and loaded, being charged with rivets instead of ball, but col. Ward, Mr. Center, and all who had authority, gave positive orders that it was not to be fired unless an advance was made by the mob.

The consul then sent his secretary to see if the police were coming, but as he did not return, [having been shot in the leg by a revolver ball,] the consul himself and Mr. Nelson went forward to see how things stood. They had not advanced beyond the Pacific house, when a crowd of natives advanced through the cane huts, and Mr. Nelson called out to them in Spanish not to fire—that they were friends; but they disregarded the notice, and a number of shots were fired, some of which hit col. Ward's horse, which caused it to become restive. In vain Mr. Nelson expostulated with the people; they told him to keep out of the way, and not to return to the station if he did not want to be killed. Seeing that Mr. Nelson persisted in advancing to the station, a man called out to him to keep to the left, which he accordingly did, and got to the track about a hundred yards above the depot, and then walked down to the building.

In the meantime, most of the passengers and persons at the station had got inside the company's fence, and sheltered themselves, as well as possible, from the bullets that now flew about fast, a regular fire being kept up upon the building, and, at this time, many were killed and wounded.

A report was then spread that the natives were coming down the track to attack the depot; and from the direction of the balls, it was evident they were changing their positions. There was no firing at this time from the station or passengers. Col. Ward, captain McLane, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Corwine, then changed their position, and moved to the old mess house, whilst Mr. Center went into the depot to see after the passengers—all of them believing that when col. Garrido arrived with the police, the whole matter would be speedily terminated. Presently the bugle of the police was heard, but by this time the natives had advanced on the freight house, and commenced pillaging. One or two shots were at this time fired by the passengers; still no attempt was made by the police to restrain the mob, but, on the contrary, they joined the people, and commenced firing on the depot.

Col. Ward, capt. McLane, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Corwine, then returned to town to induce the governor to come down and stop the massacre. On their way up, they were stopped by a party of armed natives, but allowed to proceed. On reaching the government house, they found that he was not at home, whilst a crowd round the house, armed with guns, demanded that powder and ball should be given to them.

At last, the governor was found in Juan de Dios street, and agreed to return to the station, but said he had been there, was fired at, and received a ball through his hat. At length, he set out, accompanied by capt. McLane and Mr. Nelson.

Reaching the scene of the riot, they found the people still plundering the Ocean hotel and McAlaster's store, whilst on the beach a man named Dolores Uriola, had a cannon loaded, pointed at the steamer Taboga, and could, with difficulty, be induced not to fire at it. They then learnt col. Carrigo had gone or sent on board the Taboga, disarmed the passengers and taken away the ship's gun.

When Mr. Nelson and capt. McLane were thus employed, Mr. Center entered the depot, where he saw the natives advancing down the track to attack it. Entering the freight room, he found it filled with men, women and children, trying to screen themselves from the firing which was then brisk, and all in the wildest state of excitement. From thence he entered the office (the nearest the beach at the left hand corner of the depot,) and found many persons there trying to keep the door closed; the room was filled with smoke, while there aiding, he saw one man killed before him, and three more killed or wounded on the floor; there was no firing from the room.

Leaving this scene of slaughter, he next managed to get to a plank over the beams of the freight house, and looking out to the Cienega, through a large open door, he distinctly saw the police outside close to the house firing deliberately into it, col. Garrido, with his sword drawn, cheering and urging on his men. Proceeding to one of the rooms in the upper story, he found two passengers trying to hold the door; he hel