



# The South-Western.

By L. DILLARD & Co.  
Corner of Third and Edwards streets,  
OPPOSITE HITCHCOCK'S LIVERY STABLE.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1856.

AGENTS FOR THE SOUTH-WESTERN:  
Col. T. W. BIRDSON, Filmore, Boston, Paris.  
Messrs. E. J. TERRY & Co., Jefferson, Texas.  
Mr. W. B. BIRDSON, Bonham, Fannin County, Texas.  
Mr. JAMES B. LARKINS, Henderson, Henderson Co., Texas.  
W. H. McDONALD, Henderson, Henderson Co., Texas.

The length of the president's message compels us to omit a variety of interesting matter and several columns of advertisements.

The river continues to rise slowly opposite this place and at all points below. The Era reports it to be falling above the raft, but it is believed that the heavy rains of last week will cause another rise. Since our last, the Effort, Union, Alida and Osprey have arrived from N. Orleans; and the Storm from Benton. The Era has made two trips to upper Red River. The Duke, from New Orleans for this port, came up as far as Alexandria, but fearing that there was not sufficient water to admit of her crossing the falls, returned to N. Orleans. Her cargo will be brought up by the Daugherty.

NEW ENTERPRISE.—Mr. Black, at the foot of Edwards street, is selling and packing beef and pork, which he intends to ship to New Orleans. We understand that he will kill 600 hogs and several hundred hogs, and if the experiment proves remunerating will enter largely into the business.

The Union brought up from New Orleans 130 laborers for the Texas (Pacific) railroad. They will be immediately put to work on the road between Marshall and the Louisiana line. We learn that 200 more laborers are expected up in a few days.

SUDDEN DEATH.—A Mr. Anderson Robertson, aged about 60 years, of Pleasant Hill, DeSoto county, Mississippi, (23 miles from Memphis) was seized with an apoplectic fit, on Monday, while standing on the levee, and died. He had been on a visit to his children in Texas, and was on his return home.

MILLINERY.—Miss Linguist has resumed business, on Market street, near Millam. It would be superfluous to recommend her to the patronage of our fair readers.

NEW GOODS.—Charles Long, Texas street, has just received a large stock, embracing every variety of fashionable dress goods, staple and fancy dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes, hardware, cutlery, plantation supplies, groceries, etc., which he is selling at the very lowest prices. Give him a call.

NEW STOCK.—W. H. C. Hudgins, on the Levee, has just received an extensive assortment of groceries, provisions, plantation supplies, heavy linens, towels, boots, shoes, etc., which he is selling at the very lowest prices.

We are indebted to the clerks of the Union, Alida and Osprey for files of N. Orleans papers.

STEAMER SUNK.—The fine steamer Louisa, captain Keck, bound to New Orleans, with 2500 bales of cotton, sunk on the 5th inst., in the Ouachita river, six miles below Columbia.

SOMEbody CAUGHT.—During the month of August last India bagging was quoted at 24 cents per yard, in New Orleans. On the 3d inst., it was quoted at 12 cents per yard. A reduction of fifty per cent.

The electoral college of Louisiana met at Baton Rouge, on the 1st inst., and cast the vote of the State for James Buchanan for president, and John C. Breckinridge for vice president. Col. Robert A. Hunter, of Rapides, was chosen messenger to carry the vote to Washington.

MAIL ROBBERY.—The Nacogdoches (Texas) Chronicle states that the mail due at that place (from New Orleans we suppose) on the 3d has never arrived, and that in the missing mail there was one registered letter to Messrs. Arnold, Barrett & Linn, containing \$376. The Chronicle says: "A regular system of mail robbery has been carried on between this place and New Orleans, the amount of money lost or missing now amounting to near \$1000."

A lady, named Mrs. Mary McCoy, died in Palestine, Texas, on the 21st inst., leaving three small children in a very destitute condition.—The Advocate says:

We understand that Mrs. McCoy stated that she had formerly resided at Webberville in this State, from whence she emigrated to this place; that she has a husband living, but who had recently killed a man near where they lived, and had fled to the neighborhood where she now resides. She also stated that her father's name was Andrew R. or Reuben R. Craven, and that he lives in Greenville, Green county, Arkansas, and is an easy circumstanced man.

The True Californian, noticing the arrest of several of the late vigilance committee, while on a visit to New York, grows indignant and tells us on this side the continent that, "the yellow wave whose semi-monthly tide rolls into your harbors ought to induce you to extend to us the guardianship of your laws. But if we are destined forever to be beaten, bullied and insulted in the public thoroughfares of the metropolis of the east, we desire to know it at once, so that we may take proper steps to turn our trade into other channels." The True Californian speaks most spiritedly, but does not state what "other channels" it can turn its vast trade into at present.

The regular term of the U. S. supreme court, at Washington, commenced on the 1st inst.—There are on the original docket six cases, and on the general docket 173. The cases on the latter are as follows: appeals from California; Louisiana; Illinois; Wisconsin; Michigan; Maryland; Alabama; Pennsylvania; Rhode Island; Arkansas; Maine; Ohio; Tennessee; Texas; Virginia; Minnesota territory; 1; District of Columbia, 2.

Since the opening of Greenwood cemetery, on Long Island, New York, in September 1840, the interments have amounted to 47,223. A goodly number, considering it is located in a "healthy" country.

As we anticipated the organs of old line democracy are greatly perplexed and annoyed at Mr. Buchanan having come out in favor of the general government aiding in the construction of a railroad from the Mississippi to the Pacific. The Richmond Enquirer tries to smooth the matter over, by declaring that the "democratic party are in no way responsible, and therefore cannot be held accountable, for the peculiar views" entertained by Mr. Buchanan. That his elevation to the presidency cannot be strictly termed a democratic triumph, as he was centered on and supported by all those who were opposed to the northern sectional movement of Fremont. That he was not nominated by the Cincinnati convention on account of his known adherence to the principles of the democratic party; but, on the contrary, received the nomination because of his great talent, experience, known conservative character, and personal popularity.—The Cincinnati Enquirer, the leading democratic paper in the western country, goes further and says:

"Those who have always regarded Mr. Buchanan as one of the truest of that class of statesmen, who adhere with unwavering fidelity to the good old doctrine which has protected this republic in all its perils and evils, and preserved it in its unity and harmony to the present moment—the doctrine of the strict construction of the constitution, the limitation of the powers of the federal government to such subjects as are expressly referred to in the constitution, and the preservation to the States and to the people of all powers not so granted—will regard with incredulity the declarations of this letter. (Mr. Buchanan's to the people of California,) that congress has power to construct a railroad to the Pacific ocean, as emanating from the inveterate opponent of banks, tariffs and internal improvements by the general government. The first important speech ever made by Mr. Buchanan in congress was in favor of President Monroe's veto of a scheme of internal improvement not so grand, extensive, nor of such such unconstitutionality as the Pacific railroad scheme. Mr. Buchanan then gave his full support and sanction to the views of Mr. Madison, John Randolph and others, that the federal government had no power to construct roads, canals or other works, to facilitate commerce, to aid in the transportation of mails, or for any of the purposes for which said works were designed; and that nothing could be more dangerous than to vest the federal government with this enormous power, this terrible means of corruption and invasion of the sovereignty of the States. John Randolph, in his glibly illustrative style, compared this power to construct highways to a vagrant that had been kicked from parish to parish, and was driven at last into that general asylum of all doubtful powers—the general welfare clause." \* \* \* It was established as the true doctrine of the democratic party, that there was no authority whatsoever in the federal government to construct public roads and canals passing through the States, and that the exercise of such a power would be full of danger to our whole system. We cannot imagine a clearer case of the danger of such a system than is presented in the grand scheme of constructing a railroad, which will place in the hands of the general government more powerful patronage and influence than were dreamed of even by the old federalists, or the advocates of the great American system in the time of the second Adams. We cannot now go fully into this question; but will enter our protest against any such construction of the federal constitution as will give the government this enormous power. The question came before the democratic convention which sat in this city, and there was a decided majority against the right and power to construct this work, and in the committee on resolutions there was, we have heard, an unanimous vote against it. A vague and indefinite resolution in favor of the measure was, however, forced upon the convention by the pertinacity of the California delegates, and was passed towards the close of the session, when the temper of the body was not very favorable to deliberation and wise decision. In the final vote Pennsylvania voted against it, in spite of the menace of the California delegation and their withdrawal of their vote from Mr. Buchanan, in the canvass for the nomination. The resolution was no fair expression of democratic opinion, and is at war with the settled principles of the party. Its object can never have an assent or approval."

The Memphis Appeal endorses all the Cincinnati Enquirer says; but believes that the latter is a base "forgery," unmindful of the awkward position in which the insinuation places before the world "the democratic executive committee of California," to whom the letter was addressed and by whose authority it was published.

The statesrights journals of South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama are fully as violent in their denunciations of Mr. Buchanan's letter, forgetting in their ire the fact that secretary Jeff. Davis, the living personification of their tenets, some three years ago openly advocated the construction by the general government of a railroad to the Pacific, and strove to make the enterprise one of the grand features of the Pierce administration; but was thwarted through the temerity and vacillation of the president and secretary Marcy. Mr. Buchanan presents to the world the singular anomaly of a president-elect, even before he assumes his official duties, advocating principles which his officers of the party that elevated him to power repudiate and declare to be wholly at variance with the doctrines of their party. A few short weeks ago the same gentlemen declared that Mr. Buchanan was the pre-eminence of democracy extant; that his every word and action was democratic. Now they tell us that they "protest against any such construction of the federal constitution" as he puts upon it. Democracy appears to be a very capricious jade. Well, let them protest. Mr. Buchanan, in this instance at least, is right, and the people will sustain him. Any candid, intelligent man, will admit the vital necessity that exists for the construction of the proposed railroad, as well as its importance to the whole Union—to none more so than the south-western States; while no one disputes the power of congress to aid the enterprise, both with money and the public domain, except a few self-sufficient abstractionists, whose brains are filled with a vague and undecipherable theory, which they in their arrogance are pleased to term "strict constructions" of the constitution. Surely if congress had power to aid in constructing a railroad from Shreveport to Vicksburg, one from New Orleans to Jackson, Miss., and another from N. Orleans to Opelousas—to say nothing of the Great Central road, which traverses the State of Illinois, the New York and Erie, and hundreds of other roads—it must have equal power to aid in building a railway from the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean. If congress has power to grant one acre of land or one dollar towards building a railroad, it possesses equal power to grant two hundred millions.

The New Orleans and Memphis papers complain much of the bitterly cold weather. It is feared that it has extended throughout the whole country.

IMPORTANT DECISION.—The supreme court of the United States at its last term rendered a decision of some importance in these days of statesrights and secession agitation. The case was an appeal from the U. S. circuit court for the State of Ohio, in which the questions of statesrights and federal rights came up for consideration and decision. It is reported in full in the last volume of Howard's U. S. Supreme Court Reports, and will command the attention of members of the legal profession throughout the country. We condense a summary of the facts as reported for the N. York Evening Post.

Mr. Woolsey, a citizen of Connecticut, and a stockholder in the Commercial bank of Ohio, together with others, filed a bill in the United States circuit court against the directors of the bank, to enjoin them from paying a State tax, which he deemed illegal; and to which the directors of the bank were disposed to submit.—When the case came up before the U. S. circuit court for Ohio, the defendants contended that the federal courts had no jurisdiction in the premises. The court overruled the plea, and an appeal was taken to the supreme court, at Washington. Here it was considered by a full bench—the chief justice and all the associates being present. The appellants again insisted that the United States courts had no jurisdiction; and, further, that the matter in controversy was purely a question of state sovereignty, for which the State tribunals furnished all the remedies that any of the stockholders of the bank were legally entitled to. This plea was overruled, and the lower court sustained—six justices out of nine claiming jurisdiction for the supreme court of the United States. These were: chief justice Taney, of Maryland; associate-justices Wayne, of Georgia; Nelson, of N. York; McLean, of Ohio; and Grier, of Penn.—Judge Wayne delivered the opinion of the court and thus defines the constitutional relation subsisting between the federal and state governments:

"The departments of the government are legislative, executive and judicial. They are co-ordinate and equal in rank, and the powers delegated to each of them. Each in the exercise of its power is independent of the other, but all rightfully done by either is binding upon the others. The constitution is supreme over all of them, because the people who ratified it have made it so; consequently, anything which is not done in accordance with it, is unauthorized by it, is unlawful. But it is not only over the departments of the government that the constitution is supreme; it is so, to the extent of its delegated powers, over all who made themselves parties to it—States, as well as persons within those concessions of sovereign powers, yielded by the people of the States, when they accepted the constitution in their convention. No one does its supreme power, it is supreme over the people of the United States, *separately and in their separate sovereignties, because they have granted themselves from its direct or immediate agency in making amendments to it, and have directed that amendments should be made representatively for them by the congress of the United States.*"

Judges Campbell, of Alabama; Daniel, of Virginia; and Catron, of Tennessee, dissented from the majority of the court, and denied the right of the United States courts to interfere.—Judge Campbell, in the dissenting opinion, says: "The acknowledgment of such a power would be to establish the alarming doctrine that the empire of Ohio, and the remaining States of the Union, over their revenues, is not to be found in their people, but in the numerical majority of this court. The constitution, 'But for my part, when I consider the justice, moderation and the restraints upon arbitrary power, the stability of social order, the security of personal rights and general harmony which existed in the country before the sovereignty of governments was asserted, and when the sovereignty of the people was a living and operative principle, and governments were administered subject to the limitations, and with reference to the special object for which they were organized, and their members recognized their responsibility and dependence, I feel no anxiety nor apprehension in leaving the people of Ohio 'a complete power' over their government and all the institutions and establishments it was called into existence."

This is, we believe, the first decision of the kind rendered by the supreme court of the U. S., and its declaration regarding state sovereignty and the rights of the people, will be far from acceptable to many persons at the south as well as at the north. The Savannah Georgianly defends the position taken by a majority of the court, while the Mobile Register and the New York Tribune and the Evening Post grow savage over the whole affair, and declare that judge Wayne and those who went with him displayed their friendship for the south and her institutions in the wording of the opinion of the court. The decision will undoubtedly be discussed and commented on throughout the country, and as it excites the ire of all ultra men south and north, it must possess some merit.

A serious warfare has broken out between Walker's partisans in New York, which lead to recriminations, exposures and challenges, but as yet no fighting. One general Goicuria, an "exiled patriot," is at the bottom of the affair. Walker appointed him minister or diplomatic agent to London; but the general neglecting to promptly assume the duties of his mission, was superseded. The general then comes out with a card, explaining the manner by which he became connected with Walker, the agreement or alliance made between, and concludes with personal denunciations of Walker, as being void of capacity and honor. He says that Walker was pledged to aid him, in person and with money, to emancipate Cuba from her vassalage; but that now he finds that Walker is opposed to Cuba becoming the property of the Americans, or freed from bondage, and that he at heart is hostile to the United States. On the other hand, Walker's friends declare that Goicuria is a humbug, unworthy of credence, and that he is Cuban by birth, and wants to emancipate all the slaves on the island. This flare up among the leaders, lead president Pierce to decline recognizing or receiving the new Nicaraguan minister.

A company, composed of several merchants of Maysville, Kentucky, are erecting a factory on the canal coal mines of colonel A. Stockton, Fayette county, Virginia, for the purpose of manufacturing oil from coal. Experiments show that one ton of the coal will produce 40 gallons of oil at a cost of 10 cents per gallon. (We suppose nothing is allowed for the coal,) besides a valuable wax, from which candles are made equal to the best star brand.

The Washington Union says that Mr. Donelson carried his own county, but that Mr. Fillmore did not. The organ might have added that Mr. Donelson is the only one of all six presidential and vice-presidential candidates that carried his own county.

OWING UP.—Under the caption of "Great Achievement," the Louisiana Courier, "official paper of the State" and the democrats therein, says: "It is our pleasing duty to congratulate the public of New Orleans upon the actual occurrence of an event which we have long expected, and which has at last really come to pass. For several days vague rumors have been floating through the streets that it would soon happen, but it was not until this morning that the universal expectation was actually gratified. About eleven o'clock, the great event became certain. New Orleans knew, by the delivery at the post-office of letters and papers, only three or four days behind their time, that a mail had really and truly arrived from the east."

"This unexpected occurrence naturally makes us proud of four positions together. It has long been said by his most intimate acquaintances, that the large lump which he carries on his shoulders, in the place where other people carry heads, contained no brains whatever, but only a quantity of fatty matter, just rich enough to grow a certain amount of hair on the outside, and just firm enough to preserve the lump in a shape resembling the human countenance. We, ourselves, in our poetical effusions upon the inspiring theme, have described him as a 'Campbell with a hairy hump'— 'Upon his shoulders, in the place of a head.'"

It has never been said, indeed, that he has an idea, but we never quite believed it. If he has a single one we should judge it to be too feeble to extend such a distance beyond his nose as to reach New Orleans. But now we must change our opinion. He has actually got a mail through. We have in our very hands papers published in New York which might have been read in that city only three or four days before their departure by persons who arrived in our city with the mail. If things go on improving in this manner we may some day expect to receive our letters and papers from the east at least once a week, and only a day or two behind time."

It is an interesting fact to know that the democratic organs have at last found out the improbability and stupidity of a prominent member of Pierce's cabinet. What a pity that they did not make the discovery and promulgate it some two or three years ago.

COTTON PACKING.—We find in the N. York Journal of Commerce the following communication, in answer to the circular recently issued by the Liverpool cotton brokers:

MESSRS. EDITORS.—You have published the address of the American chamber of commerce, and the board of cotton brokers at Liverpool, Savannah, Mobile and New Orleans, in relation to the evil of false packed cotton. That address is all in their own favor, as it is well known spicers have twelve months of this side of the water, when each and every mark on the bale can be given; and as in many cases this cannot be done, the loss falls on the last shipper. A large dealer in cotton informed the writer, many months ago, that he had packed 8000 bales of false packed cotton, and could not recover a cent for it, as it was various marks required. How this evil is to be remedied, the Liverpool savans do not tell us. It is not a fraud; for often samples of cotton show two qualities, and it is sold by the poorest, and value paid for the same accordingly. My remedy would be, that the purchaser have the cotton examined on the day of sale, and take care that it is well examined, and let him reject any that is not to sample. If bought on speculation, he should have no redress, unless claimed within two weeks after delivery. There are, however, evils of much greater magnitude practised in Liverpool, which the Argus-eyed chamber commerce have overlooked. I allude to the mode of sampling the cotton. In the American cotton is sampled on the side, and a fair sample is taken, as it is from the middle of the bale. Now, allow the bale to be cut between the ropes, on each side, and you will, no doubt, get good and fair samples. In Liverpool, however, they rip the ends of the bales, and take samples out of the ends, by drawing a piece of one of the layers of cotton. Now, any one conversant in pressing of cotton, knows that the end of every bale is the last thing sewed up, after the bale has been rusted, rolled out of the press, and takes up the dust of the house, and it comes in contact with this. This mode of sampling often makes cotton rank worse than treacle, and the spinners get the advantage, if any.

Again, all comes out of, before weighing, and the cotton is packed in the ropes, and is not in good order unless there are five or six ropes cut, but never appear in the account of sales. It is, indeed, hard to lose the difference in weight; but to be robbed of the rope is adding injury to injury.

Again, all loose sticks and loose cotton are picked off, and put aside and sold. The poor spinner neither sees nor hears any more of that, and his account of sales shows a heavy loss, whilst his consigned pockets at least 10d. sterling per bale.

Will the chamber commerce at Liverpool, in their anxiety to look after the honesty of the planters, factors, dockers and shippers in America, turn their thoughts home before taking the mode of our own, and adopt a uniform mode of sampling, as in the American cotton, to whom the address is given, and let the consignees allow no claim without every mark—planter's and county mark—is specified on the certificate. Add to account of the proceeds of his ropes, pickings, &c., and endeavor not to make two commissions, one by peculations and the other legitimate. Also, use for weighing the beam, as in this country, and not the old 6 lbs. weights; allow for draught, tare, and such as are now obsolete, excepting in old England.

In fine, let them do their best to make the customs and practices of both countries harmonize, and they will then get their claims for false packing more cheerfully paid.

COTTON SHIPPERS.—A late letter of honorable James K. Paulding, says the National Intelligencer, now far advanced in years, conveys some wholesome truths worthy of consideration: "Nothing appears to me more certain than if our political contests are to be exclusively sectional, they must inevitably bring a dissolution about us at no distant period. Human nature is everywhere the same, and the same causes everywhere produce similar results. Individuals, communities and States are united by the same ties of mutual interest, and disinclined by the same ties of mutual prejudice. Mutual prejudices are propagated, mutual hatreds engendered, by parties become habituated to the enmity of one another, instead of friends and countrymen, and a voluntary confederation such as ours, I should like to know what bonds are strong enough to keep the States together, when their citizens have become accustomed to look upon each other as aliens and enemies. The idea of exercising one half of the States of this confederation to remain in a union thus cemented by mutual antipathies and ill-will, by the exercise of force on the part of the other half, would be simply absurd and ridiculous, were it not that the attempt would be productive of consequences which no man who loves his country would contemplate without shuddering, and some better, insidious damage, such as has been endeavored to be done by the confederating elements now forced into a temporary fusion in the fiery furnace of fanaticism, would decrease, as one has lately dared to present to the contemplation of his countrymen, as even a possible contingency. The union of the States was a voluntary association, and it is neither possible nor desirable that it should rest on any other foundation."

IMPORTANCE TO OFFICE SEEKERS.—Since Jackson inaugurated the system of removing men from office under the government, on account of their political opinions, it has been customary with thousands of mere partisans, who have not exhibited their time and talents towards the elevation of their favorite candidate to the presidency, to demand of him some remuneration, in the shape of office, for their valuable services. Now, presuming that New Orleans is no more remarkable for the disinterestedness of its politicians than other places, we suppose there are some, (very few, probably,) who are casting about for some fat offices wherein they can enjoy their otium cum dignitate, after the fashion of the ancients, but who take the liberty of suggesting to them a foreign mission or lucrative, and for their special benefit, give them a synopsis of the new diplomatic and consular service bill, as passed by congress. That act gives the ministers to England and France, \$17,500 per annum each; those of Russia, Spain, Austria, Prussia, Brazil, Mexico and China, each \$12,000. Ministers resident are to receive seventy-five per cent; charge d'affaires, fifty per cent, and secretaries of legation, fifteen per cent, of these amounts. Consuls hereafter are not to trade directly or indirectly; nor are they to assume diplomatic functions, but a diplomatic officer of the United States is to be in the country. The two best consulates, Liverpool and London, are hereafter to be salaried at \$7,500. The consuls at Havana, Havre and Rio de Janeiro are to get \$6900 each; Paris, \$5000; Canton, Shanghai and Honolulu, \$4000 each; Vera Cruz, \$3500, and so on down, as low as \$500. The act also vests the president with authority to appoint a consul to any port or place instead of a commercial agent, or vice versa, the compensation for such consular office to be the same in any such cases, as that fixed for such port or place in the schedule embracing the same. [N. O. Bulletin.]

CASHY HIM.—The plea of insanity has permitted many a scoundrel to go unwhipped of justice, but the design to ride the same hobby again in a recent case in this village through the kindness of a medical committee. As the fact came to our ears they are: Hugh Holt, indicted for horse stealing, was imprisoned till, during this time he acted out insanity, and demeaned himself more like a brute than a human being. This gave publicity to the story. The solicitor—J. P. Reid, esq.—is up to such dodges, and resists the pulling of wool over his eyes. He therefore sent a competent medical board to make a survey of the wretched mind. After talking with the unfortunate Holt, and seeing his incoherent gibberish, with a wink and a nod to each other, they gave a subtle expression to their opinion that his was a hopeless case of "mind diseased," and duty required them to "remit him fit only for the rigors of the lunatic asylum—the terrors of which were expiated upon with no pleasing fancy.—The description given of the place, to which they were unwilling to send any being wearing the human form, conjured up terrors and torments, in the ears of Holt, little short of the infernal regions, and operated upon by his fears, he exclaimed, "Gentlemen, I swear I'm no more crazy than you are!" They assured him of their concurrence in this opinion; and after trial, he was duly convicted of the crime of horse stealing. [Spartan (S. C.) Journal.]

SILK IN KENTUCKY.—A few counties in Kentucky, in common with several in Tennessee, Indiana, Ohio, &c., grow the mulberry and produce raw silk to a small extent. It has been very satisfactorily demonstrated, especially in Kentucky and Tennessee, that this crop will pay better than three-fourths of all other farm productions; but owing to recollections of the "mulberry fever," and ignorance on the part of the rural population as to the management of the worms, the lightness of the labor, and the quickness and certainty of the return, silk raising is not adopted generally among the crops of these several States. In the agriculture of Kentucky, we therefore class it with rice and cotton, rather as a curiosity than a crop. In the growth of the one thousand bales, or eighty-one pounds cocoons produced in this State in 1850, thirty-six counties participated. Owen, Casey, Wilkes, Lewis and Pulaski, each produced over one hundred pounds. Since 1850 the business has been regularly but slowly extending. In Meade county it has been quite well systematized by an enterprising farmer, who indulges hopes of living to see silk classed among the regular crops of Kentucky. It certainly ought to be so placed.

At this moment we could enumerate forty houses here in a very narrow circuit of a few squares, whose large interests in the Red River region are paralyzed by low water, and we might say, are annually so, yet, although a paltry subscription from each of five thousand dollars, to the stock of this railroad, would relieve them from anxiety, while it would add enormously also to their gains of trade, they will not come forward and advance it, so utterly dead is all enterprise, utterly extinct is all pride in those who ought to have, apart from selfish considerations, an earnest desire to promote the greatness of New Orleans. With such a subscription from even forty of the houses in the Mississippi valley, and the cotton and northwestern Louisiana, the directors of this company would have us in direct connection with the Texas line in about twelve months, and whether Red River was low or high, or entirely obliterated, would be a matter of comparatively indifference to the business public here.

Vicksburg, too, twenty-five of whose wealthy inhabitants pledged themselves for her, that she should become a subscriber to the extent of one hundred thousand dollars to the road starting from her own door, is among the defaulters, and the inhabitants of the wealthy parish of Bossier, which is crossed by this road, have only taken the pitiful amount of some seventeen thousand dollars in stock.

Need we wonder that this great work languishes; ought we not rather, in truth, express astonishment and delight that in spite of such calculations of selfish indifference, and, in some instances, absolute opposition, so much has been done to promote the interests of a public so inessential to what concerns them so vitally. [True Delta.]

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.—One of the most remarkable illustrations of our progress as a nation is to be found in the rapid and unparalleled increase of our mercantile marine. Our tonnage already exceeds that of any other nation, and at the rate of increase during the last fifteen years, we may, at no very distant period, be the largest shipping nation in the world combined. Let us glance at the progress of the mercantile marine of this country and of the world. No longer ago than 1830 the tonnage of American vessels, according to the New York Shipping List, was 1,191,776 tons; the number of seamen and watermen under the American flag, including those in the navy, a little over 90,000. In 1855 the tonnage had increased to 5,212,000 tons, and the number of seamen to nearly 400,000, both more than quadrupled in one-fourth of a century. In 1814 the tonnage of the British commercial marine was 2,615,965 tons, employing 172,766 men and boys. In 1854, forty years afterwards, the tonnage had increased to 6,043,370, and her seamen, including the 62,000 in the navy, to nearly 400,000, both having doubled in less than half a century. The commerce, tonnage, and seamen of the world, have much more than doubled during the last forty years. Everything indicates a more rapid increase in the future. This century shall not end ere the 150,000 vessels of the civilized world shall have become 300,000, with swifter wings and stronger power to do the bidding of the commerce.

General Intelligence.  
N. O. BULLETIN, Dec. 11.—The steamship Texas brings interesting news from Nicaragua. Walker's forces had an engagement took place at the Midway house, on the transit road, between 200 men, under general Hornsby, and 1100 of the enemy, under the command of general Canas, who was well fortified, but were immediately routed with great loss. Hornsby had 2 killed and 11 wounded. Among the killed was general Canas. After the battle Hornsby marched to Granada. The next day Walker, with 500 men, also went to Granada. The enemy in the meantime rallied his scattered forces and occupied their former position. Walker immediately attacked them in person when they retreated. They were pursued to San Juan de Sur, and along the coast, until dispersed throughout the country. About 150 of them escaped to Costa Rica. Their loss was unknown, but not more than 100. Walker had 3 killed and 9 wounded. Walker returned to Granada for reinforcements, and then started for Masaya, where 1400 of the enemy were posted. He was suddenly attacked by 200 of the enemy in a combat, and after a sharp fight the enemy disbanded. Walker then marched into Masaya, found the church filled with troops, and after an attack of five minutes dispersed them, and had possession of the church and the city. He then advanced to the town and destroyed the greater portion of the town and returned to Granada. The seat of government has been removed to Rivas. A sea-light took place off San Juan de Sur, on the 2d inst. The Costa Rican fleet of 2 guns and 114 men. After two hours fighting the Onza blew up and destroyed all on board except 7. The Costa Rican fleet has been scattered. Hornsby has 35,000, and Fremont 19,000. The State officers and both congressmen are democrats. In the senate 18 democrats, 10 republicans, and 11 unionists. In the assembly, 60 democrats, 8 Americans and 11 republicans.

The 23d, Dec. 9th.—The United States mail steamer Atlantic, from Liverpool on the evening of the 22d, has arrived.

The Asia's advices had no effect upon the cotton market. The market was dull, and nominally unchanged, though there was a tendency in favor of the buyer. The sales for three days amounted to 15,000 bales, of which exporters took 500 bales. Speculators taking none at all.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The treasury estimates of appropriations required for next year were transmitted to congress by the secretary of the treasury. For deficiencies of the current year, the amount is \$1,250,000.

No vote was taken in the house on the question of the admission of general Whitefield, as delegate from Kentucky. He was admitted eventually.

The report of the secretary of the treasury shows that the total exports during the last fiscal year of foreign and domestic merchandise, including specie, amounted to \$1,000,000,000. The total imports, including specie, amounted to \$1,000,000,000. The total exports of specie amounted to \$1,000,000,000. The total imports of specie amounted to \$1,000,000,000.

The secretary maintains the advantage of ad valorem duties on foreign valuations.

After a prayer by bishop Elliott, Mr. Thaxton, of Pennsylvania, was appointed temporary secretary.

A committee of one delegate from each State was then appointed to report officers and rules for the permanent organization of the convention, after which a recess was taken until 4 o'clock.

There are about six hundred delegates present, representing ten southern States.

André, Misses, and others, Kentucky and Delaware are not represented.

The Pacific railroad and Nicaragua affairs will be the engaging questions.

4 O'CLOCK, P. M.—James Lyons, of Virginia, is appointed president of the convention, with the usual number of vice-presidents and secretaries.

The rules of the house of representatives are adopted.

Each of the States vote according to the number of voters in the electoral college.

President Lyons made a lengthy speech, asserting the wish of the south to maintain the constitutional Union, but expressing her determination to prepare for future contingencies.

A committee of one delegate from each State was appointed to prepare and arrange the business of the convention.

Dudley Mann was admitted as a delegate, and added to the committee on business.

The convention then adjourned. Strong conservative sentiments are manifested by the members.

Next day, Dec. 10th, Jacob Little's liabilities are confined to stock contracts amounting to some millions of dollars. All other liabilities are protected.

We learn from Newburg that in the case of Lewis Baker, on the 1st inst. the murder of Bill Pool, in New York, the jury disagreed.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 5.—Ten feet water in the channel of the Ohio river.

The regular train of the Pittsburgh and Cleveland railroad was passing the town of Alliance, Ohio, it came in collision with the Ohio and Pennsylvania express train. There were ten persons killed, and several injured.

PERRISVILLE, Dec. 5.—The river is rising rapidly opposite this city, and navigation has been resumed and giving a joyful tone to our markets.

BENSAW & SONS, of Boston, as well as the firm of Henshaw & Sons, of Boston, have been ordered to discontinue their business in this city.

Buchanan's majority in that State was 666.

DECEMBER.—Slaves have declined 25 per cent in Virginia, and 30 per cent in Kentucky.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 8th.—An explosion has occurred on board the Cincinnati and Portsmouth mail steamer tuesday. Eighteen persons were scalded; six of them it is supposed, fatally. Two are dead.

LOSS, \$25,000.

The Memphis Bulletin of the 3d inst., says, the tide of waters are swelling with considerable rapidity. The Mississippi valley begins to look like itself as a mighty and magnificent river.

The Huntsville independent chronicles a debut of one of its town residents, Mrs. Mary M. White, who held forth in the court house in religious enthusiasm, to a large crowd, drawn together, no doubt, through curiosity to hear a woman preach.

FACTS.—The following is a list of the 2d inst., which says that the militia under Titus would soon be disbanded. Governor Geary had quietly submitted to the act of enrolling the corps issued by Judge Le Compte, in the case of Henshaw & Sons, which was to have been sworn with one hundred men for Nicaragua.

BULLIEN Freeman's Journal chronicles the sailing of an Irish emigrant ship for Buenos Ayres number about 12,000, and they have succeeded remarkably well, forcing their way to 250,000 being not uncommon among them.

When they do not a sound in England whose crime can be legally punished, they make short work of him. The same is the case with the great forger, was arrested in New York, during the Times of that city, a man named Robson, who had been indicted for the forgery of a \$20,000 note, and was arrested in London, and sent to New York, where he was imprisoned. Huntington, on the contrary, has not been arrested.

The Providence Journal says, the proposition to dole the pay of the members of the general assembly was not enthusiastically rejected on Tuesday.—The people seem to think that one dollar a day is ample compensation for the services rendered by the legislators. Who else can they hire so cheap as that?

In our first consular tables, just published, report that in our first consular tables, just published, report that in our first consular tables, just published, report that in our