



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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 1857.

The river is receding very slowly, and we have reports of another rise above the raft—Since our last Duke, Wm. R. Douglas, Planter, Era and Reub White, have arrived from New Orleans; the Silver Moon and Dick Nash, from Jefferson.

It was cool enough Monday morning to render a fire both acceptable and pleasant. Very singular for the 1st day of June.

The warm weather of last week proved most beneficial to the crops, and greatly revived the spirits of our planters.

The steamer Planter arrived on Thursday, loaded with provisions and materials for the Pacific railroad.

Dr. Culbertson having thrown up his contract, the work on the section of railroad between Shreveport and the Texas line has been suspended.

A public meeting of the planters and others residing in the neighborhood of the Red River has been called, with a view of petitioning congress for an additional appropriation to continue and complete the works commenced by colonel Fuller.

ANOTHER FIRE.—On Saturday night a fire broke out in the stable of Mr. Joseph Howell, situated on the suburbs of the town, which together with a quantity of corn and hay, was destroyed. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

The sheriff will sell on Saturday, in front of the courthouse, valuable land belonging to the succession of Wm. L. Pickens, several town lots, improved and unimproved property in the parish of Caddo, slaves, etc.

NEW HOUSE.—It will be found by reference to our advertising columns that Mr. John H. Carter, of New Orleans, has taken the new warehouse at the foot of Texas street, for the purpose of carrying on a forwarding and commission, storage and general grocery business, and from his known experience and energy will undoubtedly give satisfaction to all who may patronize him. Having an extensive establishment in New Orleans he is enabled to fill orders with the greatest despatch.

DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENTS.—Messrs. Menken and Mr. Herndon, having returned from Alexandria, propose giving a series of dramatic drawing-room entertainments, comprising recitations, imitations, readings, scenes from plays, singing, dancing, &c., in which they will be assisted by Mr. Menken. They are all too well known to our citizens to require commendation. The entertainments will undoubtedly prove attractive and worthy of patronage.

We are requested by Mr. Enos to return his grateful thanks to the gentlemen who rescued his stock of merchandise from the devouring element, on the morning of the 29th ult.

FOR NEW ORLEANS.—The fast running steamboat Wm. R. Douglas, will leave this evening. She is a comfortable boat, and her officers experienced and polite gentlemen. We commend her to the traveling public.

We are indebted to the hon. John Slidell for a number of valuable public documents.

Thanks to Mr. Jacobs, the attentive clerk of the Wm. R. Douglas, and Mr. J. A. Wolf, of the Reub. White, for late New Orleans papers.

THE CLOSE OF THE DRAMA.—General Wm. Walker and sixteen of his staff arrived at New Orleans, on the 27th ult., on board the steamship Empire City, from Nicaragua via Panama and Havana. Walker and his comrades (280 men) capitulated on the 1st May to captain Davis, of the U. S. sloop-of-war St. Mary's, after having been forced to live for three days on mule meat. Gen. Walker and captain Davis signed the articles of capitulation, the enemy not being represented. Capt. Davis had also seized in the name of the United States the schooner Granada, loaded with ammunition and provisions for Walker. So ends the Nicaraguan campaign.

LOSS OF THE ST. CHARLES.—The steamboat St. Charles, captain Bateman, from New Orleans for Swanton's landing, struck a snag about 11 o'clock Thursday morning, at the Devil's Elbow, (twelve miles below Shreveport,) and immediately sunk to the hurricane roof. The boat settled down so fast that a portion of the passengers were compelled to wade through water two feet deep before they could get out of the cabin. All the passengers were saved, but it is feared that one of the deckhands was drowned. The boat was laden with corn, hay and provisions for the Pacific railroad company, the greater portion of which will prove a total loss. The wreck lies in 20 feet water, but it is thought that the machinery will be recovered. The St. Charles was partially insured, and we trust that captain Bateman will soon have another boat in the trade.

ANOTHER.—The steamboat Sydonia, bound from Camden to New Orleans, was totally destroyed by fire, on the 23d ult., while descending the Ouachita river. The fire broke out in the wood racks, and spread with such rapidity that the passengers at the wheels were forced to jump overboard and swim ashore. One lady, with an infant in her arms, lowered herself into the river and clung to the guards of the boat until herself and child were rescued by three gentlemen who gallantly swam from the shore to her relief. Two of the crew perished.

The National Intelligencer publishes a very elaborate paper on the late epidemic in the hotel at Washington, read before the National Institute by Thomas Antislack, M. D. The conclusion of the learned investigator is that he knows nothing whatever about the cause of the disease. He certainly deserves a medal for his modesty.

At the American convention to be held at Baton Rouge, next Monday, let men of talent and acknowledged probity—energy and ability in the advocacy of American principles and maintenance of their necessity, to meet any and all opponents who may enter the lists during the coming campaign—be nominated. We would have men who can, and who will, if elected and robed in the panoply of office exert all legitimate influence to advance and consummate the reforms which the American party aim to effect, and which we believe of vital importance to the prosperity and permanency of the federal government. We want none but good and true men—no lukewarm or half-way men. Our standard bearers should be actuated by a full consciousness that, in endeavoring to establish American principles, they are striving to further the real interests of the State and secure the prosperity and perpetuity of the Union.

At this time, more than at any other, since we have taken an earnest interest in political affairs, do we believe that selfishness and ambition for self-aggrandisement and preferment, should be discarded and discountenanced. The prosperity and welfare of our common country should alone actuate the actions of all good citizens. To accomplish this, each and all ought, if called upon, sacrifice their personal preferences and aspirations. No one should consider any office to which the people desire to elect him, or where they need his services, beneath his talent, his ambition, or his deserts. Nor should any one advance claims to any particular state office or offices. No man, we hold, has any claim to fill an office, until he is duly called there by the people. It is the duty of every citizen to advocate and exert all his influence to advance, establish and sustain, as far as he can, those principles he believes best calculated and most eminently fitted to secure and render stable the institutions of his country, and the peace, happiness and prosperity of the people. To do this, is his duty—his stern and imperative duty. If he shrinks, or neglects, or refuses to do this, he is recreant to the service and allegiance he owes his native land. But the performance of these duties gives him no claim upon offices of honor, trust and profit. These should ever be the free-will gift of the people, as a reward to the faithful citizen, for his capacity, honesty and tried integrity. The bestowment of the honor, however, but increases a citizen's duties to the State, and his responsibilities are but the greater because he is clothed with official dignity.

To hear men talk about their claims to office, but to have claims upon individuals; and when they need their services and indicate it, then is one of the most imperative duties of the good citizen, when he can do so without the sacrifice of vital personal interests, to acknowledge that claim and accept the proffered honor. The higher the station, the greater the responsibility and the duties. There are men in every parish belonging to the American party, who are capable and able to serve the State well and faithfully, but who do not seek and run after nominations. Such are the men that the American convention should choose for standard-bearers. The people would enthusiastically rally to their support.

We trust that every parish in the State will be fully represented at Baton Rouge, and the nominations put forth by the convention be such as will reflect honor alike upon our State and the party.

AMERICANS IN LOUISIANA.—At a convention of the Americans of the parish of Natchitoches, held on the 16th ult., the following gentlemen were appointed delegates to the convention to be held in Baton Rouge, on Monday next, to nominate suitable candidates for state treasurer, auditor of public accounts, and superintendent of public education; and to the district convention to assemble at Alexandria, to nominate a candidate for congress; and also, to the convention to meet at Mansfield, for the purpose of selecting a candidate for the state senate:

To BATON ROUGE.—Captain Wm. Smith, Major John Waddell, J. T. Toney, J. B. Packer, N. G. McNeely, J. O. Struvs, Wash. Gallenier and Octave Meyer.

To ALEXANDRIA.—Major John Waddell, Dr. S. O. Scruggs, W. P. Owens, J. W. Morris, Victor Bachal, G. W. Fox and Dr. T. G. White.

To MANASSAS.—Major John Waddell, C. L. Watson, John Sprawl and Willie Paulson.

A meeting of the Americans of the parish of Rapides was held in Alexandria, on the 16th ult., and the following gentlemen appointed delegates to the convention to meet at Baton Rouge:

J. H. C. Barlow, C. W. Boyce, P. W. Eyre, J. C. Johnson, A. S. Craythorn, Louis Texada, Jos. Lynch, C. A. Thornton, M. L. Lidy, J. N. H. G. Pickett, J. R. Palmer, Col. T. J. Wells, J. A. McWaters, Jefferson Wells, Col. T. H. M. Parham, J. H. Sewell, Jas. Lacroix, W. T. Davidson, J. W. Ledoux, F. H. Johnson, Guy Nugent, J. H. Dawson, J. A. Thomas, H. Robinson, A. S. Ogden, S. W. Henarie, Gen. G. M. Graham, Col. W. B. Lewis, Jabez Tamey, J. L. Davis, Joshua Kemp, M. West, J. T. Hewitt, H. Hilton, J. H. Hyslop, General M. Wells, W. H. Scott, B. H. Carnot, S. D. Cockfear, M. Deville, Jr., John Nugent, son, Jr., H. Lemmon, A. C. Lewis, Joshua Hite, Jno. Nugent, Jr., Lewis Stafford, S. Gillespie, R. L. Fox and W. L. Sanford.

Below we republish the delegates appointed to represent the parish of Caddo in the several conventions:

To BATON ROUGE.—Colonel M. Watson, Col. B. L. Hodge, Colonel J. A. McRady, Captain W. A. Lacy, Reuben White, J. B. Thompson, R. T. Noel, R. C. Roney, J. W. Baldwin, J. K. Winchester and C. H. Burns.

To ALEXANDRIA.—W. W. George, James G. Harrell, Capt. W. A. Lacy, C. F. Harris, F. P. Austin, T. T. Dillard, W. R. Shivers, W. C. Beck, J. W. Jones, D. L. Tally, W. Smith, J. W. Pogram, Alex. Walden, J. B. L. To MANASSAS.—Reuben White, Wm. W. B. L. Hodge, R. C. Boney, J. W. Pogram, Timothy Jenkins, B. W. George, J. W. Baldwin, James B. Meekins, Lewis Stafford, A. B. Lovison, R. Walden.

The Washington correspondent of the Delta writes: that the rejection of the Dallas-Clarendon treaty by the British government is still the leading topic of conversation in political and diplomatic circles, and that the administration feels decidedly belligerent on the subject. Gen. Cass expresses himself very warmly, and declares the reasons assigned by lord Clarendon for the action of his government as the most subterfuges imaginable. Many conflicting statements have appeared in the newspaper press of the country, as to the exact cause of the rejection of the treaty, and it may be well to state briefly the facts as they appear from the records of the state department. The treaty negotiated between England and Honduras stipulated that "slavery or involuntary servitude" should never be permitted in the Bay Islands; and declared African slavery an outrage upon the moral sense of the present age. The Dallas-Clarendon treaty which was submitted to the U. S. senate for approval [and which, by-the-by, was prepared in the state department by secretary Marcy, with, of course, the approval of president Pierce.] and only sanctioned by lord Clarendon, quotes the above article from the Honduras treaty, and guarantees its observance. This the senate struck out, and this striking out is alleged by the English cabinet as the reason, and the only reason, why they reject the treaty as amended. All the other amendments were ratified, but lord Palmerston positively refused to agree to the loss of the Bay Island clause. Why was such a clause ever inserted in the treaty? [Will the admirers of ex-president Pierce at the south answer that question?] What have we to do with treaty stipulations between other independent nations? But the present administration pronounce the treaty, in its original shape, as positively insulting to the American people, and lord Napier as good as admitted the fact to secretary Cass. "Suppose," said the latter, "that the United States in a treaty with Mexico should pronounce an hereditary monarchy as opposed to the best interests of man, and an outrage upon the moral sense of a civilized community, and afterwards in a treaty with England should propose that this clause should be quoted and endorsed by your government, would you regard the proposition as insulting?" "Most assuredly," promptly responded lord Napier. "Tell me, then, the difference, if you can, between such a proposition and the one that we should condemn an institution of our own country, one recognised by the constitution and possessed by half the States of the Union?" The English minister was silent, but his silence spoke more plainly than words his conviction of the truth of the position assumed by the secretary of state. Lord Clarendon proposes a renewal of negotiations, and expresses a strong hope that the "trifling differences," as he terms it, between the two countries may yet be reconciled; but it has been determined by the cabinet that no further steps shall be taken until after the meeting of congress, when it will be proposed to abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and repeal our neutrality laws. We want no treaty stipulations with England, or any other foreign power, relative to Central America. We can take care of ourselves, and under the healthy influence of the Monroe doctrine we have nothing to fear from foreign interference. Such I know to be the present views of the cabinet on this important question. Time alone can tell what the consequences may be. In the meantime our filibustering friends are collecting their thunder and preparing for a bold strike for Walker and for Nicaragua. Hon. Pierre Soulé has been with us several days, feeling the pulse of Mr. Buchanan, his associate in the Ostend conference, and left this morning for New York in high spirits. Your readers may now look out for some grand developments in a few days. It is now settled that the entire foreign diplomatic corps will be changed, and that, too, within the present year, with the exception, perhaps, of Mr. Dallas, who, having succeeded Mr. Buchanan, has been at his post but a short time, and is wishful one of the most popular representatives we have ever had at the court of St. James.

Several prominent citizens of New Orleans are making the necessary arrangements to erect a first class hotel on the ground formerly occupied by the old American theatre, fronting on Camp and Poydras streets and Lafayette square, and in the very centre of business. The plans have been purchased for \$65,000, and a lot of the building drawn by one of the ablest architects in the city. The design calls for seven stories on the basement fronting Poydras street, and two on Camp, and from 200 to 225 bed rooms; the building to be four stories high, with all the improvements and conveniences to be found in the best hotels of the day. The entire cost of the structure is estimated at from \$225,000 to \$230,000, so that the whole, lot included, will not exceed \$300,000. It is calculated that the stores will rent for \$10,000, and the hotel for \$20,000, yielding in the aggregate \$30,000 per annum, or an interest of ten per cent on the investment. It was the original intention to erect the hotel on the corner of Canal and Bourbon streets, but sufficient ground could not be obtained, unless the company purchased four splendid dwellings, at an exorbitant price, and demolished them. It is contemplated that the new building will be ready for occupation early next winter, which will be a source of gratification to all who may visit New Orleans, as no first class hotel has been kept in that city since the destruction of the Veranda by fire. The entire floating population having been thrown upon the St. Charles and City hotels, the proprietors of those houses have had more patrons than they could accommodate, and have consequently grown careless and indifferent to the comfort of guests; while the St. Louis hotel, being remote from business, is the resort of the elite and the planters of the southern parishes. The new hotel will at least create a spirit of rivalry among the older establishments which will accrue to the advantage of all who may visit the Crescent City.

The immense tract of country in Georgia, known as the Okefonoke swamp, and which includes a fourth of the territory of the State, has hitherto been reported as unavailable for agricultural purposes as the bogs of Ireland; but a recent survey proves the supposition to have been an utter mistake. The soil called swamp turns out to be no swamp at all, but on the contrary a flat area of rich, turfy soil, upon which the scientific explorers, much to their surprise, found it very difficult to procure water. This discovery will bring into market and immediate cultivation some of the finest virgin cotton lands to be found east of the Mississippi, while it will add vastly to the wealth of Georgia.

QUARRRELLING OVER THE SPOILS.—The States, the new democratic journal, recently established at Washington, by Major Heiss, (the late proprietor of the Washington Union and the N. Orleans Delta,) contains a call for a convention of the publishers of democratic organs, to meet at Washington on before the next congress, "for the purpose of devising some more honest and democratic mode for the execution of the public printing." The idea is not a bad one, and we are glad to see an effort made to put a check on the gross frauds practiced by the Union and other official organs upon the public treasury; but are somewhat fearful that the new mover of the States is induced rather by a hankering after fat and treasury pay, than a desire to subvert the public or prevent the pillage of Uncle Sam's strong box. The Cincinnati Enquirer endorses the States' call for a convention, strongly opposes the present plan, and demands a distribution of the official fat and golden gray among the various leading democratic organs, instead of bestowing it all on one—the Washington Union—as is now the case. The move will prove a heavy blow to the president's confidential organ—the Union—as it lives and breathes entirely upon public patronage, and would cease to exist in less than two months unless supported by the people's money, in the guise of official patronage—while a fair "division of the spoils" will be a pleasant and famous thing for the minor organs. A dozen or more greedy democratic editors have filled their pockets and gorged themselves with "official" drippings; but, in the meanwhile, the little organs have increased in number and grown in influence, so that they are now able to step in between the Union and the office-holders and demand a division of the spoils as a recompense for their labor.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.—The Americans of Georgia are actively preparing for the approaching campaign. At a convention held, on the 12th ult., in Upon county, Messrs. D. W. Alexander, Thos. S. Sharman, A. S. Brooks, Jordan Lyon and Greene Ferguson, were appointed a committee to draft resolutions, and after a short absence reported the following, which were enthusiastically adopted:

1. The American party in Upon, animated by love of country and a jealous regard for the rights of the people, do adopt the following declaration of principles:

1. So good a cause as the American cause, backed up by the unthoughtful suffrages of forty-five thousand voters, may be defeated but can never be conquered.

2. We reaffirm the programme of principles adopted by the American convention which met in Macon the 6th of July, 1856, and especially do we reiterate our condemnation of the present naturalization laws and alien suffrage—those favorite instruments by which modern abolitionists seek to get control of the sword and purse of the nation.

3. The late decision of the supreme court of the United States in the case of Dred Scott, is but a judicial endorsement by the highest tribunal in the land, of the position heretofore held by the American party of Georgia upon the slavery question. We, therefore, adopt and incorporate it as a part of our political creed.

4. Opposition to those politicians and parties who deceived the people in the last presidential canvass, by assuring them that Kansas, under its organic territorial act would come into the Union as a slave State, and who are now seeking to prepare the public mind to receive it as a free State.

5. A thorough reform in the postal system of the United States is zealously advocated in all the principal northern and western cities, and will be brought before the next congress. Petitions and memorials are circulated for signatures by the leading commercial men of the country, praying for: 1. A uniform postage of two cents on each and every letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight, throughout the United States; and a cheap uniform rate for printed matter. 2. Receiving-houses and letter carriers in all cities and principal towns, without extra charge. 3. Money orders for sums not exceeding twenty-five dollars, to be drawn by the principal post offices on each other. 4. A uniform and low rate of ocean postage between the United States and foreign countries. 5. The postage on all government documents and franked matter to be paid out of the public treasury. 6. The compulsory payments to be continued. 7. The prompt return of all dead letters to the writers, and when practicable without opening. 8. The adoption of requisite measures to insure the safe transmission of valuable letters by mail, and to compel mail contractors and postmasters to faithfully execute the duties imposed upon them. Committees have been appointed by the merchants of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, St. Louis and Charleston, to prosecute the movement, and a powerful effort will be made to effect the proposed, and, we may say, much desired reforms.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Crescent, writing from Jackson, under the signature of "East Feliciana," speaking of the present aspect of political affairs and the nominations to be made by the American convention, says:

In order to arrive at this desirable end, the first and most essential action is the proper selection of men as standard-bearers of our party in the ensuing fall elections.

Select honest and capable men, and we must succeed. These remarks have been suggested by learning that the name of Mr. John S. Scott, of Pointe Coupee, a native of this parish, has been very favorably spoken of as a suitable candidate of the American party for the office of auditor of public accounts. His nomination would be highly gratifying to the Americans in this portion of the State. Within the confines of my observation, I know of no one whose name in connection with this office would create greater enthusiasm among the people. He is as well known as any one of his age in the State. By birth and by education a Louisiana, though comparatively young in years, he has won for himself an extended reputation as a planter and a politician. His political course has ever been consistent and firm. He has endeared himself to his party by the staunch and unflinching devotion with which he has clung to it in its adversity, as well as "its prosperity."

Mr. Scott has a large circle of friends and acquaintances in Caddo parish.

The St. Louis Intelligencer states that there are now scarcely 100,000 acres of public land left for sale in north-western Missouri, and that the great portion of that is claimed by preemption. The immigration from all parts of the northern and middle States is very heavy, and in a few years west of Grand river will be the thickest settled part of the State.

Good paper is made in Belgium from refuse tanned leather. After the tanning is washed out of the leather, about 20 per cent. of old hemp rope is mixed with the scraps, and the whole cut up and reduced to pulp, from which a fair quality of paper is made by the usual process.

FOR THE SOUTH-WESTERN.—Well, Messrs. South-Western, I perceive that the people of Ouachita have gone to work, and if we may judge from their resolutions, it is a reasonable calculation to conclude that they are not anywise intimidated on account of our failure in the presidential election. And why should any true American "give up the ship," because he has been unsuccessful in the first attempt to stem the current of the mighty ocean? Shall we drop anchor almost without sight of land, because the winds are a little contrary? Truth is always in the background in a land of "progress" and enterprise, and if we, as Americans, do not succeed in obtaining the reins of government, if our principles prevail in the end that is all we want. It is the drones that grow up in the beehive, lay their eggs, and then seek to devour all the honey, of which they did not make a particle; and it is thus with the demagogue, who ejects his slimy stuff—for instance, "squatter sovereignty" and alien suffrage—in order that he may pander to and flatter the masses, and thereby get into power and thus be enabled to satisfy his vampire-like greediness for the spoils of office. Timid parrots and political croakers may cry out that the "American party will never succeed;" but that is nothing new, for in the dark days of the revolution—in the times which tried our forefathers' souls—the British cabinet and British mercenary soldiers affirmed that the Americans could never succeed, and the Tories swore that it was a self-evident fact. Yet the Americans did succeed in spite of the British, their mercenaries and the Tories, and securing the freedom of their native land, erected upon it the most glorious government that the sun has ever shown upon; and, now, notwithstanding the trickery of modern Tories, the Americans will triumph as they did in the days of '76, and finally establish throughout the Union American principles. What more can any American desire?

Then, Americans, cheer up and prepare for the coming contest. Let us not weary in well doing, for if we faint not, we will reap in due season, and in the meantime have the proud satisfaction of knowing that we have been the very groundwork and pillars of our nation, the mightiest nation of freedom that the world has ever produced, and, if we but do our duty, possessing facilities for scattering the principles of republican government to earth's remotest bound.

KEACHEE. (Communicated.) Editors South-Western—I arrived at home in four days from your city, and had the happy fortune of finding my family in good health. There is quite a contrast in the appearance of the forest here and around Shreveport. Here the trees are quite naked, just beginning to leaf out again; with you, they are full robed. I am glad to inform you and your numerous readers that, although when heading out our wheat was killed down by the April frost, it is out again, new shoots from the roots, thicker than before, have shot up and the fields are now in full bloom. Should the weather remain dry until after harvest, we shall make fair crops of wheat; should it be wet, the rust will interfere with the crop. I wish to say to my friends, that, if you are anxious, there will be no issue of the "Texas Bible Union," until I return from my second southern tour, which I set out on the 23d inst. The reason is, my publishers do not understand the taste and character of my readers sufficiently well to give satisfaction. There is much complaint about the numbers issued during my recent visit to your city. I do not know how long I shall be absent, but shall resume publishing immediately on my return. On the 16th inst. we had a very heavy rain, with hail and wind, since then it has been very cool considering the lateness of the season.

A. PADON.
Paris, Texas, May 30, 1857.

Late Washington letters state that the official dispatches from London in relation to the Central American question, have been received by the executive, and that the tone and nature of the documents entirely forbid the further alteration of the treaty, although it is intimated that one or two slight modifications would render it acceptable to the British ministry. These modifications, though slight in the estimation of the English, are not so considered by the president or a majority of his advisers, hence the treaty may be regarded as dead and buried. An effort was made by the British minister to reopen negotiations upon a new basis, but, without success, and appearances indicate that all future efforts of the kind will meet a like result. The advertisement inserted in your issue of the 10th inst. and it is hoped that lord Palmerston will find that the United States can neither be coerced, bought or bullied; if other words that we are no longer to be humbugged.

HARD TIMES.—Singular as it may appear there is a great scarcity of grain in some portions of Missouri. The St. Louis News says that in many parts of the State actual want is experienced, while everywhere farmers are reduced to a system of close feeding to prevent their supplies from giving out. The winter was so long and severe that ordinary stocks of grain have given out long since; and the absence of grass occasioned by the backwardness of the spring and the prevalence of bleak east winds, is a want severely felt in the country in the starving of cattle, and in St. Louis in the scarcity and dearth of beef and butter. In Callaway and Marion counties the hogs are dying for lack of something to eat, while cattle are barely able to sustain themselves on prairie grass. Corn is being bought here in St. Louis for feeding in the country—a fact which tells, in a few words, the tale of scarcity.

DEATH OF AN OCTOGENARIAN.—One by one the phalanx of merchants and citizens is being reduced. We have had within the past three years to record the death of several of our oldest residents. We have now to note the decease of William Flower, for a long period of time one of our most respectable and influential merchants. For the last half century Mr. Flower has been engaged in commercial pursuits in this city. Forty-five years ago he was at the head of the house of Flower & Finlay, afterwards W. & D. Flower, attaining the highest credit and occupying the most elevated position in commercial and social circles. A score of tens of thousands of instances, success and fame did not attend him. He, however, maintained and carried through life an unswerving name and reputation. He died sans peur, sans reproche, in the parish of East Feliciana, on Tuesday morning last, in the eightieth year of his age. We believe he was born in that parish a few miles from Bayou Sara.

We find Mr. Flower's name enrolled as one of the defenders of this city in the memorable battle of the night of the 23d of December, 1814, in which he was wounded and taken prisoner. He resided permanently, until within a very recent time, our city.

There are but few of the old line of merchants who were engaged in commerce in the first quarter of the present century remaining among us. We are reminded of the connection between the present and last generation by the presence of Messrs. W. W. Montgomery, R. D. Shepherd, Laurent Millandon, A. M. Nathan and Richard Ref.

Under the graduation act of the last legislature, all swamp lands that have been appropriated for five years in the parishes of Ouachita, Winn, Jackson, Bienville and Union, will be subject to entry at 75 cents per acre after the 6th of May instant, at which time the first selections under act of 1849, in said parishes, will have been approved for five years. This law also covers all swamp lands in the district north of Red River, that are not overflowed by Red, Ouachita and Mississippi rivers. No one person, however, can enter more than 320 acres, directly or indirectly. [Ouachita Reg.]

The Arkansas river is low and falling.

IMPORTANT.—If True.—We extract the following from the New York Herald, and give it our readers for what it is worth: The foreign appointments, at the discretion of the administration, will come up within a week or so in cabinet council. Their consideration will involve some very curious views touching our policy, especially in reference to the acquisition of Cuba. Mr. Pierce's whole corps of European diplomats, with one exception, Mr. Vroom, at Berlin, are under desirous of holding on. They stick like leeches to their honors and emoluments; but such is the virtuous pressure here, and unless they make a purpose of necessity, and resign, every mother's son of them, from Paris to the Golden Horn, will be shown the door. Four or five hundred democratic applicants, who have done the party some service, and who claim the right to inspect the courts and curiously enquire at the public expense, will shorten the list of rotation. It is to be shown, the paramount movement upon the cabinet comprehends a most interesting and unique plan for the acquisition of Cuba—a plan embracing the active cooperation of England, France and Spain, upon the most moderate terms, without any fuss or trouble, and within the limit of Mr. Buchanan's term of four years. Purchase is this plan, and the Ostend valuation of \$120,000,000 is the sum. Under Mr. Polk, Mr. Buchanan as secretary of state, offered the sum of \$100,000,000, and it is thought now that an advance of twenty per cent. will be satisfactory market of allowance for the increased value of the island. The Rothschilds are to be entrusted with the financial genius of the reigning house of Israel. The Rothschilds are to be entrusted with the practical business of this great arrangement; and their first requisition will be the appointment of a member of their class and their great financial family—Mr. Auguste Belmont—as minister to Spain. Coordinate with, or rather subordinate to, Belmont a new minister will next be required at each of the courts of St. Cloud, St. James, St. Petersburg, and St. Peter. We say Madrid must not be influenced by Rome over the matter, and be overlooked. In the meantime, Mr. Belmont has been making the tour of Italy, and will come round, via Spain to Paris and London to take the necessary soundings. Thirdly, it is supposed that the distribution of the "monish," will embrace thirty millions to the Rothschilds for the purposes of their financial negotiations at Madrid, and among the Spanish railroad stock jobbers of London, &c. The Rothschilds are to be entrusted with the financial genius of the reigning house of Israel. The Rothschilds are to be entrusted with the practical business of this great arrangement; and their first requisition will be the appointment of a member of their class and their great financial family—Mr. Auguste Belmont—as minister to Spain. Coordinate with, or rather subordinate to, Belmont a new minister will next be required at each of the courts of St. Cloud, St. James, St. Petersburg, and St. Peter. We say Madrid must not be influenced by Rome over the matter, and be overlooked. In the meantime, Mr. Belmont has been making the tour of Italy, and will come round, via Spain to Paris and London to take the necessary soundings.

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Major Dashiell, paymaster of the army, while attending to the duties of his office, was sent by the government to take \$200,000, which was intended to pay the troops in Florida.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Colonel Cummings has declined the governorship of Utah, which has been offered him.

Mr. O'Reilly has offered to put up a telegraphic wire to the Pacific, without any other government aid, and has offered to give a guarantee for the recipient of any office under the administration.

The cabinet to-day agreed upon the appointment of Mr. Dashiell as paymaster of the army, but have not yet agreed, but it is understood that Mr. McClelland, of Illinois, is to have one of them. The other appointments will be made next week.

The hunters of California have presented to the president, to day, a chair formed entirely of beaver-horns. Humorous speeches from both sides greeted the occasion.

May 26.—Advices have been received here of the death of one of the U. S. senators of New Hampshire. Jonathan S. Jencks, U. S. consul at Navigation Point, N. H., died at his residence in New York, immediately after an interview with Mr. Appleton, the assistant secretary of state. The charge arose from his seizure, by force of arms, property belonging to the citizens of the United States, including the cargo of the ship Adora, seized in Asia harbor.

The post-master general has allowed the claim of Buckman & Kelley for \$15,000, which was intended to be paid to the citizens of Florida, and was intended to be paid to the troops in Florida.

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