"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,.....APRIL 6, 1859.

The river is falling slowly opposite this port. Since our last the B. L. Hodge, Sallie Robinson, W. A. Andrew, Yazoo Belle, Lecomte, D. R. Carroll, Judah Touro and Comet have arrived from New Orleans, and several boats from Jefferson.

Thanks to the officers of the B. L. Hodge, Lecomte, D. R. Carroll and Judah Touro for their attention.

FOR NEW ORLEANS.—The fine passenger packet Judah Touro, captain Charles W. Ewing, will leave to-morrow evening on the arrival of the stages. The favorite packet R. W. Powell, captain Joseph D. Clark, will leave on Saturday evening at 5 o'clock.

We learn that there is quite a number of counterfeit ten dollar bills on the Citizens' Bank in circulation; they are well executed.

THEATRE.—A large number of our citizens have tendered Miss Susan Denin a complimentary benefit, which takes place this evening. A fine bill is offered for the occasion—the Eton Boy and Jack Shepherd, together with dancing and singing.

We are requested to state that the proceedings of the Shreveport bar, relative to the memory of the lamented captain CRAIN, would have been published long before this time if the gentleman who was appointed to prepare them for the press, had not been taken sick.

ORGANISATION OF THE WHIG PARTY.—We publish to-day, in another column, an address to the people of Louisiana, signed by Messrs. P. Chew, Fergus Gardere, E. Lecoul, F. A. Lumsden, Charles D. Dreux, P. O. Broussard, A. Landry, L. A. Tregre, B. L. Hodge, C. T. Bemiss, Moses Eastman, Richard Wade, A. S. Fox, and J. E. Trudeau, recommending the reörganisation of the old whig party, by holding a convention in New Orleans on the second Wednesday in June next. They recommend that every parish in the State be represented. We think we can safely vouch for Caddo.

The Savannah Republican learns that 89 miles of the Florida and Cuba telegraph work is already completed. The same paper notices the arrival in that city of 180 yards of the submarine cable designed for the Satilla river in Georgia. It has three conducting wires and weighs about six tons to the mile.

Senator Seward, it is said, invited a large number of black republicans to dine with him in Baltimore immediately after the adjournment of congress; and it is understood to be a presidential movement.

According to the New York Courier and Enquirer, the exports from that city for the last eight months of the present fiscal year, exclusive of specie, were $35,000,000, while the imports for the same period were $129,000,000; an excess of $94,000,000 at one port in eight months! At this rate, the country must be entirely overstocked with goods.

One of the last acts of congress was to vote to Mr. Chapman, the unsuccessful contestant for the seat in the house as delegate from Nebraska, the sum of $6000 as mileage! Who could not afford to contest the seat of a delegate or representative to congress at this rate? But is it "retrenchment?" Mr. Chapman is a "noisy" democrat, and must be well paid for his party "gassing."

Latest advices from Washington say that Venezuela has agreed to the payment of the American claims arising out of the guano controversy, amounting to three hundred thousand dollars, thus removing all cause of dispute between the two governments.

A writer in the Bardstown (Ky.) Gazette, alluding to the celebration of Washington's birthday, says, Mr. Roysdon (of Shreveport) spoke on the subject of "glory," and from the florid style in which he portrayed, and the impassioned tones in which he declaimed his subject, one would be led to infer that, young as he is, he had already wedded himself to the pursuit of fame.

During the last five years the manufacturing interests of the country has been much depressed, and the condition of the Maryland factories are not excepted. In 1857, owing to the high price of cotton, and the unremunerating price of manufactured goods, many mills were obliged to work short time, and otherwise curtail their expenditures, and some, from necessity, had to stop their machinery entirely. All her mills are again, however, at work, though not to their full capacity, except the Savage, Oakland, Powhatan and Pocahontas factories, whose machinery is still idle.

JUDICIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.—Since the act relative to the advertising of judicial sales was made, there has been considerable difficulty and objection made, to be compelled to charge by the hundred words. That part of the law is now rescinded, and all such advertisements are allowed to be charged by the square, as all other transient advertisements. So says the Sugar Planter:

"The fraternity throughout the State will be pleased to learn that by an act passed by the recent session of the legislature, the restriction as to pay for judicial advertising has been removed. Under the old law, the printer was allowed one dollar for every hundred words first insertion, and fifty cents for every subsequent insertion. Now, we can charge the same as for any transient advertising.

A despatch from Detroit, bearing date of 22d ult., states that a terrible accident occurred to the Great Western railway, near Hamilton. Twenty-five passengers were killed, and thirteen wounded, as far as ascertained. The whole train, with the exception of the last car, plunged into a chasm made by the rains. The chasm made by the rush of waters was fifty feet deep.

The late legislature appears to have been generally deprecated in the country no less than in New Orleans, if we may judge by the tone of the press. The Point Coupée Echo, a staunch democratic paper, is a fair sample. It says, in glancing over the reports of the proceedings of the legislature, we have more than once been unfavorbly impressed by the great amount of senseless, useless and unnecessary legislation to the exclusion of so many and so much more important matter.

The idea of benefiting the State and serving their constituents faithfully and disinterestedly, seems never once to have entered the brains of our representatives, whose every step, every word, every action, aye every thought seems prompted only by some sinister motive, some plan for personal interest and self-aggrandisement. Absorbed in themselves and by themselves, they are utterly incapable of legislating for any one but themselves. Actuated, then, by such motives, how is it possible for any sound, judicious and sensible legislation to characterise the efforts of such a body? Is not the truthfulness of our remarks a self-evident fact? aye, the most obtuse will readily admit it. The boldness and audacity of this class has carried them to such lengths, that it is now a difficult matter to bridle their ambition, which soon will overleap itself. Casting aside all delicacy and modest sense of restraint, they proclaim, in nearly so many words, by their actions, their purposes, and boldly avow their intentions to carry them out at all hazards.

With the last session of the legislature, the term of office of a large portion of the members expires, and hence the reason for legislalating in such a manner as will best suit the respective pretensions and wishes of the members. They devoted their whole attention and used every exertion to make sure of their own interest, but in so doing, they have disclosed their secret designs so that now they are as palpable as the nose on a man's face.

We have witnessed the proceedings of many legislative bodies, but we recall none, which, in the length of time, have accomplished so little and caused so general dissatisfaction, as the Louisiana legislature lately adjourned; and our prayer is, for the credit and honor of our fair State, that we may never again see such another collection of men authorised to make laws, too large a number of whom would prove fit subjects for primary schools.

The Democratic party in Virginia, in the nomination of John Letcher for governor of that State have committed an act which every sensible man must regard as an entering wedge to the institution and overthrow of slavery in that State, and its final overthrow in the entire south.

In 1847, Mr. Letcher signed a petition requesting the rev. Dr. Henry Ruffner to have published his "Address on Slavery." He not only signed it, but endorsed every word which it contained. Dr. Ruffner is as vile and uncompromising abolitionist as either Hale, Giddings or Seward, and the democratic party of Virginia have had the impudence to present the name of his co-laborer and right-hand man, John Letcher, for the high, honorable and responsible office of governor of that State—one of the leading pro-slavery States of the south.

To show our readers that we can prove what we say, we copy a few paragraphs of that famous speech. Here is the first one of which we shall notice:

"Let all western Virginia, on due consideration, conclude that slavery is a pernicious institution, and must be removed."

Then follows this beautiful extract:

"Though defeated for the time, the friends of gradual emancipation were not in despair. There was a general acknowledgement of the evils of slavery, and strong hopes were entertained that in a few years a decided majority of the legislature would be for ridding the country of this deleterious institution."

The pamphlet then goes on to say, that:

"Slavery paralyzes our energies disperses our population, and keeps us few and poor, in spite of the bountiful gifts of nature with which benign providence has endowed our country."

Which is as grand a falsehood as was ever uttered by man.

Here is the last paragraph which we intend noticing. Read it, and remember that John Letcher, the democratic nominee for governor of Virginia, endorses every word of it. Here it is:

"The people of the slave States are not, and cannot be, half as well accommodated with schools as the free States; and slavery inflicts on multitudes of them the curse of ignorance and mental degradation through life!"

Now, what southern man would be fool enough to vote for John Letcher against the conservative and true southern man, hon. W. L. Goggin? We shall see.

True, Virginia politics are no business of ours, but we merely refer to them to show what the democracy of Virginia intend doing in that good old slave State. Wouldn't the mis-called democracy fairly shout if the American party of that State stood on such ground as Mr. Letcher does? We look to the election in Virginia with considerable interest.

An interesting fact, says the Philadelphia Press, was developed at the late meeting of the United States Agricultural society. Dr. Elwyn called the attention of the members to the fact that the wheat crops of this country were fast diminishing, so far as the number of bushels raised to the acre was concerned. He stated that in Ohio, a State but little over 50 years old, the crop had fallen off from forty bushels to the acre to about sixteen, while in the best portions of New York, where thirty bushels used to be considered a fair crop, only twelve bushels are now raised. The falling off in other States had been equally marked; but while this was the fact with the wheat crops, he was glad to know that the amount of corn produced to the acre had largely increased, and was still increasing enormously.

The Norfolk (Va.) Herald learns, from good authority, that the Galway steam-line company have determined to make that city one of the ports to run to. The agency is to be in the hands of Norris, Montgomery & Co. there. This line is already established on a firm basis, with a subsidy from the British government of £70,000 per annum. Three new steamers for it are now being built.

The Oswego (N. Y.) Commercial Times's annual statement of trade and commerce, published on the 11th, shows, reducing flour to wheat, that the total movement of grain over Lake Ontario in 1858 was 21,800,000 bushels in 1857. The total shipments from the lake regions by various routes eastward, in 1858, were 59,400,000 bushels, against 45,400,000 in 1857.

It is time serious inquiry was made by the masses of the people, whether the State has a constitution. Mere politicians and the parties to which they belong are not interested in this inquiry, because any restraint on the action of such as find their way to the legislature, would of course operate prejudicially to their interest as a class, and could not be popular with them. If on the voyage of discovery, any thing bearing resemblance to a constitution be found, let it be published in the newspapers and printed in the school books; let it be writen on stone and engraved on brass, that runners may read it and learn its plain letter. Another suggestion could be profitably acted upon relative to the constitution, viz.: such aspirants to office as have read the document, should tell the people—who either cannot or will not read—all they know about it, when they take the stump to deliver themselves. An interesting and profitable discourse would that be to any audience in Louisiana, to define the relative position of the seperate bodies of magistracy to the constitution of the State; ascertain its latitude and longitude and let us know where it stands as authority. Is it subservient to the legislature, as authority from the people, or is it not rather their supreme will, before which the legislative, executive and judiciary should bow with respect and acknowledged allegiance? If this is not so, why require members of the legislature to swear on it, and to support it? Is it a mere form in obedience to custom? Does a solemn oath to support the constitution of the United States and the State of Louisiana mean nothing at all? It would seem so, since overt acts of treason against each are common. Little is ventured when the assertion is made that one-half of the pipe-laying demagogues who come to the legislature and swear to support the constitution, know nothing of it—have never even read it. Instead of having an *inutile* and unprofitable prayer in the legislature every morning, it would be a better idea to employ some minister in an ante-room, to read in the presence of holy water, with bell, book and candle, the constitution under which they have been elected, and under which it is expected they shall act. If the document is so complex and intricate as not to be intelligible to common sense, such as the people are presumed to have; why then let it be narrowed down to a few simple and safe provisions which the people should maintain to preserve the semblance of a republican form. How often, may we ask, has the legislature of the State, in general assembly convened, violated the clear provisions of the constitution, and each member thereof his own oath of allegiance to the same? There has not been a session since the adoption of that instrument. The tyrannical assumptions of the legislature of 1856 relative to New Orleans; the sanction of an appointed board of swamp land commissioners in place of an elective board of public works, specially provided for in the constitution, may be referred to in passing notice.

What does the following very simple and clear article of the constitution signify?

ART. 122. No person shall hold or exercise at the same time, more than one civil office of emolument, except that of justice of the peace.

In contravention of this law, the secretary of state and the state treasurer are each salaried officers, as members of the board of currency. It is true that their salaries ($1200 each) is paid by the banks, but the law organizing the board, fixes the amount and directs the manner in which it shall be paid. In addition to this, the legislature, before adjourning, passed an act which has been signed by the governor, and bears at this writing the aspect of law, giving the treasurer an additional salary of $2000 as receiver of public monies. The question is an interesting one. "How many offices of emolument may one person hold at a time under a constitution which says 'No person shall hold or exercise at the same time more than one civil office of emolument?'" Will some Philistine learned in the law—with a smattering knowledge of the king's English—please answer this question?

While the prudent, conservative men of the south, are quiescently resting upon their oars, and crying out as each note of warning falls upon their ears, "a little more sleep, a little more slumber, a little more folding of the arms to sleep," their freesoil enemies of the north are working perseveringly, systematically, skillful, and with an energy that knows not slumber or weariness, to ensure the success of their candidate—who will be Seward or a worse man—in 1860. We have frequently predicted that they would succeed; and we deeply regret, although years have elapsed since we first ventured the prediction, that nothing has occurred to weaken the impressions entertained at the beginning. On the contrary, succeeding events, as they pressed upon each other, have only served to strengthened those melancholy convictions.

The last and most important move in this direction we find chronicled in the New York Tribune of the 16th ult., It comes in the shape of a proposition to publish an edition of one hundred thousand copies of H. R. Helper's vile abolition work entitled "Impending Crisis of the South," at the rate of sixteen cents per copy, so that it may be scattered broadcast all over the free States; and, to use the language of the Tribune, "especially in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Indiana, Delaware, Maryland, and the other border slave States." And continues the Tribune, "it is confidently believed that such circulation will be a signal and seasonable preparation for a republican triumph in 1860, and for a speedy extinction of slavery, at least throughout the present border slave States."

Quite logical and conclusive; but we will remark, en passant, that there is another reason in favor of its argument which the Tribune has failed to quote. It is this: The high prices which negroes now command in the cotton region are rapidly draining the border slave States of their colored population; and this simple fact exercises a thousand fold more potency than would the circulation of a million copies of Helper's work. Yet the movement referred to is none the less entitled to serious consideration.

The work of Helper is unqualifiedly endorsed by sixty-six members of the house of representatives from the north; and the sum of $3,177 has already been subscribed by prominent merchants and citizens of New York. No doubt seems to be entertained but that the whole sum needed, sixteen thousand dollars, will be raised with very little delay. The one hundred thousand copies will then be published forthwith.

The weather, for the last ten days, has been extremely cool and windy. Severe frosts has fallen and stunned vegetation.

ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA.—Fellow citizens: Existing circumstances in our political affairs, render it necessary, in the opinion of the undersigned members of the general assembly, to address you on the subject—giving you frankly our sentiments in the matter, and inviting a free expression of your opinion.

We lay this down as a fundamental proposition: that, among a free people, different parties, in a political sense, must exist, or else general stagnation, fatal to our interests, would ensue; or worse still, a discreditable squabble for the spoils of office, and hence a lower standard of public virtue. Assuming this to be true, we ask, under what form, and what banner, shall we enlist for the future?—This was the subject of frequent consultation among us, and the prevailing opinion was, that we would revive, and assume the honored name of the WHIG PARTY.

If we look at the condition of the national democratic party, (if indeed such an organisation can pe said to exist,) what do we see? Is there any unity of sentiment amongst them, on the leading questions of the day? What are the sentiments of a great majority of northern democrats on the subject of slavery?—adverse to the institution, and opposed to its extension. There is no unity of sentiment among them, on any leading question of the time: on the tariff question—on that of internal improvement—on the acquisition of Cuba—on the Pacific railroad—on States' rights—and lastly, on the African slave trade, in one form or other, every shade of opinion has its exponents in the bosom of the democratic party.

The proof of the disbanded state of its forces is found in the recent abortive session of congress, where, with a majority in both branches of that body, it was found impossible to harmonise its discordant elements, obstructing thereby the most necessary legislation, and rendering an extra session, highly probable, if not certain.

What is the state of the case in respect to this party in our own State? We see around us the dissevered fragments of a once harmonious party; dissention has invaded its ranks, and the trident of power may soon be snatched from its grasp. We profess to know nothing of the merits of this schism, nor whether it arose from a contest about men or principles—nor who is in the right or who in the wrong—or whether it is likely to endure, or to be healed; but we were eye and ear witnesses to the authoritative annunciation, that the schism existed, in a *dignified* debate, in the senate of the State. It suffices to say that we cannot act with either wing of the democratic party in the State, neither reflecting our views or principles, and therefore consider the time propitious to re-organise the glorious old WHIG PARTY, and call upon all conservative men amongst us, to rally to our standard, and let us embody the conservative opinions of *our people*, in one loud, clear, emphatic utterance of the sentiment, "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseperable."

Action, action must be our watchword; and we exhort you to send delegates, good men and true, to meet in convention in New Orleans on the *second Wednesday in June* next, to assist in organising the movement, and nominating a ticket for the approaching State elections. We hope to see every parish in the State represented in that convention, by able and intelligent men, and expect to prove to our political adversaries that the WHIG PARTY, though quiet for some years, is not extinct.

The WHIG PARTY has slumbered—it has not died: the wisdom of its policy, the conservatism of its principles, the unrivaled endowments of its gallant leader, Clay, who, for so long and eventful a period bore its honored banner in the thickest of the fight, all betokened its indestructibility; and the effort we now make to unfurl its flag, once more, to the battle and the breeze, farther evidences its vitality, and gives token of our devotion to the organisation of our choice, gemmed as is its escutcheon with the most brilliant portions of our political history. Lives there a whig with emotions so torpid as not to feel his bosom heave with patriotic pride, as he reviews the past of our history, studded, as every page of that history is, in characters of electric brilliancy, with the proud names of Clay and Webster. Their genius impressed itself with ineffaceable durability on the policy of the country, whilst their profound statesmanship comprehending the diversified interests of this great nation, subordinated them all to the solution of the highest problem of political economy, in a republican government, the greatest good of the greatest number; and the wisdow of their policy is proved by this that it has inextricably interwoven itself with the succeeding affairs of our federal government, and like a golden thread, re-appears in the current history of our national affairs, alone redeeming them from the just reprobation of a disappointed and suffering people. All honor to the old WHIG PARTY, for the past of its history is at least secure.

In conclusion, we exhort you, in the burning eloquence of the gallant Harry of the West, "Arise, arise, shake off the dew drops that glitter on your garments, and once more march to battle and to victory."

P. CHEW,	L. A. TREGRE,
FERGUS GARDERE,	B. L. HODGE,
E. LOCOUL,	C. T. BEMISS,
F. A. LUMSDEN,	MOSES EASTMAN,
CHARLES D. DREUX,	RICHARD WADE,
P. O. BROUSSARD,	A. S. FOX,
A. LANDRY,	J. E. TRUDEAU.

THE PLATTE RIVER.—The Plattsmouth (Nebraska) Sentinel, of the 10th inst., gives a more favorable account of the navigation of the Platte than has before been published. The steamer Florida made, a trial trip, with the following result:

She expected, according to report, to find that stream impracticable for the passage of steamboats, but was pleasantly disappointed at the great depth of the water and feasibility of the channel. It is the opinion of her officers that the Platte is not only capable of carrying small steamers, but that it will soon become one of the foremost streams on the continent for all ordinary uses of navigation. The greatest difficulty, they say, is the rapidity of the current—faster even than the Missouri, and necessarily causing slow upward progress with boats of small motive power. But this objection can and will be overcome, by strong machinery in boats running on the river. Its waters are comparatively clear, and in this respect greatly superior to the Missouri and lower Mississippi rivers. We venture the opinion that two years hence, the Platte river will bear upon its bosom a trade nearly or quite equal to that of the Missouri, above this place.

Judge Marvin, of the U. S. district court at Key West, estimates the value of the ships and cargoes that pass into and out of the gulf of Florida, by the southern coast of Florida, at between three and four hundred millions of dollars annually. During the ten years from 1848 to 1857 inclusive, the judge says, four hundred and ninety-nine vessels, wrecked, or in distress, have been carried into Key West, valued at $16,266,427; their expenses, including salvage, wharfage, storage, duties, repairs, refitting and all other charges computed at $2,125,334, the salvage amounting to $1,153,919.

The judge quotes with much emphasis the opinion of Mr. McCulloch, that nearly half the losses at sea may be ascribed to the ignorance incapacity and carelessness of the masters and crews. Add to these, says judge Marvin, the frauds of masters and ship owners, and it is probable that half the shipwrecks that occur in different parts of the world may fairly be ascribed to causes, other than the perils of the sea. The existing system of marine insurance, undoubtedly, conduces to the production of many voluntary shipwrecks. Whether the interests of commerce would not be promoted by the enactment of a law prohibiting and making void all insurance upon vessels and freights exceeding half their value, is a question worthy of the serious consideration of legislators.

General Intelligence.

HALIFAX, March 23th.—The steamship Niagara arrived at this port yesterday. She left Liverpool on the 12th inst. The steamship Alps also arrived at this port, bound for New York. She left Liverpool on the same day with the Niagara.

LIVERPOOL, March 12th.—The total sales of cotton during the week ending Friday evening, amounted to 71,200 bales. The sales on speculation during the same period amounted to 16,000 bales, and the sales for exportation were 7500 bales. All qualities have advanced from ⅛ to ¼d. per pound. The sales today, amounted to 10,000 bales.

The advices from Manchester continued to be of a favorable character. There was an increased demand from the continent and greater activity prevailed in consequence.

HAVRE, March 12.—The Havre cotton market for the past week, closed firm and quiet. All qualities have slightly advanced. The sales of the week amount to 13,000 bales.

The British parliament have been mostly occupied in discussing the government reform bill. The question of reform is the engrossing topic of the press, and seems to be uppermost in the public mind of England. Lord John Russell has given notice in parliament of his intention to offer an amendment to the bill which threatens to upset the present ministry.

The trials of members of the Phœnix club, and others, who were arrested on the charge of treason, is progressing slowly in Ireland.

Lord Cowley's peace mission to Austria is thought to have been unsuccessful.

The French funds at Paris have declined 1 per cent, owing to the prospect of war.

The Sardinian government still continued its preparations for war.

The Paris correspondent of the London Herald, says the hopes of the continuance of peace are daily melting away under the influence of wararticles in the semi-official journals of Paris. The extensive military preparations of France are progressing with unabated vigor.

The Paris Constitutional says the effective force of Austria in Italy has been increased from 50,000 men to 180,000 men.

Large quantities of ammunition and cannon have arrived at Pavia and Venice, provided with carriages as if for a state siege.

The Turin correspondent of the London Herald says every thing appears more warlike than ever. He represents that the king of Sardinia and his ministry are anxious for war at any price.

The Echo d'Italia of March 10th, learns on good authority, that the Hungarian patriot Kossuth, passed through France, with the consent and connivance of the French government, and arrived incognito at Genoa. It is supposed that he will place himself at the head of the Hungarian soldiers now in Lombardy. It is a well known fact that during the last ten years, Kossuth has been studying military science.

Later advices had been received in England from China. The Yang Tse Kiang river, in which the British men of war had been nearly all grounded, has risen and floated out the brigs Furious and Cruiser.—Further operations against Canton were expected.

NEW YORK, March 30th.—The steamship Persia reached her dock at 10 o'clock this morning. She left Liverpool on the 19th of March, seven days after the departure of the Niagara and Alps, which arrived at Halifax.

LIVERPOOL, March 19.—Of the 42,000 bales of cotton sold during the week, 7500 were taken by speculators and 4000 taken for exportation. Prices steady at previous quotations.

A liberal subscription was made in Liverpool and London for the Neapolitan exiles who recently landed at Queenstown, Ireland, rather than let them proceed to the United States.

Up to Friday night, the 18th, the apprehensions of approaching war had increased on account of the silence of the French government and press in regard to lord Cowley's mission to Vienna.

It is reported that the Lyons railway had been ordered to keep in readiness a sufficient number of railway carriages to transport 70,000 soldiers (the number asked for by Sardinia) at a moment's notice.

Private letters from Paris says that prince Napoleon is shortly to be appointed viceroy of Algiers.

The Austrian journals are very bellicose in their tone towards France.

The Austrian army engineers have commenced laying mines for blowing up the bridge over the river Tiebo at Buffalo.

Letters from Paris gives the particulars of the triumph of Paul Morphy in the matches at chess recently played by him, with Mongredien, a noted German player. Morphy won seven games, and one was drawn.

HAVRE, March 18.—The Havre cotton market closed steady. Orleans has is quoted at 99 francs, which was the closing price last week.

NEW YORK, March 30.—The steamships Northern Light and Illinois have arrived at this port from Aspinwall, bringing two weeks later news from South America, and important news from Nicaragua.

The attempted revolution in Valparaiso has been frustrated after a severe battle of four hours' duration.

The Northern Light brings later intelligence from Nicaragua. A company of French filibusters had entered Nicaragua and seized the lake boats.

The Marshall Eagle of the 18th inst. says: We had another white frost in Marshall on Wednesday night last. It left its mark upon the tender vegetation, but the fruit is not thought to be injured. Quite an unwelcome visitor, and certainly an unseasonable one when we consider that many of our neighbors have green peas. As great anxiety is doubtless felt everywhere, to know the result of the suit of the State against the railroad company, we give it briefly with the reasons of the judge. His honor held first that the demurrer must be sustained, because it did not appear by what authority the suit had been instituted, and then stated that it could not be brought except by authority of the legislature. Next, that from the petition it did not appear that the purchasers of the road and its franchises, were insolvent—that from the pleadings it appeared that the purchasers were one of the parties defendant to the suit—that by the act of 1857, the franchises to the purchasers with the road, and that the act was a waiver as to them, of all causes of forfeiture against the sold out company.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—The Washington Union newspaper establishment was sold to-day. General Bowman, the superintendent of public printing was the purchaser.

The frigate Lancaster, now under construction at the Philadelphia navy yard, will be ready for her trial trip in a week. She will probably be the flag ship of the Pacific squadron. The sloops of war at the same yard are making slow progress.

LOUISVILLE, March 29.—The Ohio river at this point is falling fast, with fourteen feet of water in the canal and ten on the falls.

CINCINNATI, March 29th.—The steamboat Nat Holmes, bound from Pittsburg for St. Louis, with one hundred and forty-five passengers on board, mostly Pike's Peake emigrants, came in collision with the steamer David Gibson, bound from New Orleans to Cincinnati with a cargo of sugar and molasses, and both steamers sunk in a few minutes. The collision occurred nearly opposite Aurora, Indiana, last night. The cabins of the steamers floated off. Fifteen or twenty lives are supposed to have been lost from among the Nat Holmes' passengers. One account says that only about one hundred passengers were saved. The steamer Gibson had but few passengers, all of whom are supposed to have been saved. Two or three of the crew are among the missing.

MEMPHIS, March 28.—The overland California mail of the 4th inst., has arrived here. The dates are anticipated by other arrivals.

VICKSBURG, March 28.—No efforts are being made to close the crevasse at White's plantation, and the water is rushing in rapidly. The water in the bayou Macon is rising fast. The river at this point is half an inch above the highest mark of last year, and is rising at the rate of three-fourths of an inch in twenty-four hours. The water is on a stand from Memphis down to Helena, and rising down from Helena to this point. The crevasse at Col. White's plantation, about six miles above this city, is hourly widening, and the water is pouring through with increased volume and velocity, carrying destruction and desolation to many a helpless planter below. The plantation where the break occurred will probably be irrevocably ruined. The plantation of Col. George W. Groves, is already almost entirely inundated, while about half of that of R. W. Burney, esq., is also submerged. We hear no efforts being made to stop the crevasse, nor do we believe that any efforts could now check the advancing tide of the maddened waters. Where the damage is to stop no one can foretell, but we fear that it will be most disastrous.

The Memphis papers, of the 26th, concur in the statement that the Mississippi is again rising at that point. The Avalanche says:

The swell in the twenty-four hours ending at six o'clock last evening having been three-fourth of an inch, the water at that hour was within 12 1-4 inches of high water mark.

The Ohio was falling slowly at Louisville yesterday, and the Mississippi still on the rise at St. Louis and above.

The Mississippi is rising all the way down, and great distress was prevailing among the inhabitants along shore, from Cairo to within a few miles of this city, nearly every one having suffered severely from the effects of the overflow, which is almost universal. Many are moving off permanently, to other sections, in the belief that their houses near the river will never be tenable again during an entire year. The danger caused by the flood the present, bids fair to equal, if not exceed, that of last year.

The river is rising at the mouth of White and so far up as Helena, and falling slowly above this city, or was on Friday morning.

The most disastrous results are apprehended from the late break in the levee at Friar's point. The water is making through in such violence and with such force as to threaten the washing away of the houses in its course. Great damage has already been caused.

White river is falling to Des Arc, and rising from that point to the mouth.

A break has occurred in the levee at Indian Bay landing, on Whiter River, where the water is 6 inches above the flood line of last year. Several fine plantation are from twelve to fifteen inches under water, and hundreds of acres of early planted corn destroyed.

A correspondent of the Natchez Free Trader says that during the recent storm a hail stone measuring 22 inches by 17, fell near the residence of W. H. Forbes, esq., in Natchez.

The Montgomery Mail of the 26th learns that on the 18th instant nearly the whole of the town of Moulton, in Lawrence county Ala., was destroyed by fire on the 18th. Among the buildings destroyed were the court house and the office of the Moulton Democrat newspaper.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI.—The Bulletin (Memphis) has been informed that a fire broke out on the 26th ult., at an early hour in the morning, in the livery stable of Robert Cook, Oxford, Miss., which, being communicated to the adjoining buildings, speedily consumed said stable, the grocery and produce store of George Fee, the post office and the office of the Oxford Mercury. We learn that Mr. Cook lost about a dozen horses, besides several carriages and buggies.

A dispatch of the 23d ult., from Chicago says: The Jasper county (Iowa) Free Press, of the 17th ult., says that considerable excitement existed at Spirit lake arising from fear of the Indians, numbers of whom are reported to be lurking in the vicinity. Two who were arrested, but subsequently escaped, were recognised as belonging to Ink-pa-dutah's band; which was engaged in the massacre of eighteen months since. Since that time fourteen have been taken, including Ink-pa-du-tah's brother-in-law. A band numbering one hundred and fifty is reported lurking about Heron lake. Preparations are being made to send scouts to reconnoitre. Sentinels are stationed, and a strict watch is kept day and night.

The steamer Belfast took fire just as she was leaving the port of Memphis, on the 25th inst. The Bulletin adds: The Steamer J. G. Cline, in leaving port yesterday evening, communicated sparks to the cotton on the larboard side of the Belfast, which, becoming ignited, at one time threatened the entire destruction of the boat and her valuable cargo. A heavy wind was blowing shoreward at the time, and but for the early discovery of the flames and the prompt exertions of the officers and crew for their suppression, the most disastrous consequences must have ensued. Fortunately, however, only about forty bales of cotton were injured, thirty of which were thrown overboard, and afterwards recovered below.

Meeting of the Bar.

At a meeting of the members of the Shreveport bar held at the court house in the town of Shreveport, on Thursday, February 2d, 1859, to give expression to their respect for the memory of captain Lawrence P. Crain, who died in the city of New Orleans, January 28th, 1859, Hinton Smith, district attorney, was called to the chair, and G. A. Austin appointed secretary.

On Motion, Messrs. Winans, Parham, Marks, and G. A. Austin were appointed a committee to prepare and report resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. On motion, the chairman was added to this committee, whereupon said committee submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

That the bar of Shreveport have learned with profound regret the decease of captain Lawrence P. Crain—for nearly twenty years, one of its prominent and leading members, and conspicuous for his untiring industry, varied learning, and extensive practice in his profession—

Resolved, That the members of the bar, in testimony of their respect for the deceased, will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That hon. John M. Landrum, as one of the oldest colleagues of the deceased, be requested to present these resolutions to the district court and ask to have them spread upon the minutes.

Resolved, That the members of the bar and officers of the court, in a body, will attend his funeral this morning, at ten o'clock.

Resolved, That the South-Western and Caddo Gazette be furnished with copies of these resolutions, and requested to publish them.

HINTON SMITH, chairman.

G. A. AUSTIN, secretary.

On Tuesday, the 29th day of March, col. John M. Landrum, in pursuance with the foregoing resolutions, presented them to the court, and, on motion, they were spread upon the records of the court. Col. Landrum accompanied his motion with an elegant and feeling tribute to the memory of captain Lawrence P. Crain—an eulogium worthy of the distinguished orator and his melancholy theme; whereupon the court adjourned in testimony of respect for the memory of captain Crain and G. A. Austin, esq.

Proceedings of the Board of Trustees.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, March 28, 1859.

At a called meeting of the mayor and trustees of the town of Shreveport for the purpose of considering the subject of a change in the grade on Milam street, &c., present, his honor, Jonas Robeson, mayor, C. R. Griswold, Dr. T. P. Hotchkiss, Wm. Robson, R. A. Waller, and R. D. Sale, trustees.

On motion, the mayor called the meeting to order and R. D Sale was requested to act as clerk pro tem.

Dr. T. P. Hotchkiss offered a resolution to indefinitely postpone the subject of the change of grade on Milam street, which did not meet with a second.

R. D. Sale offered the following resolution, viz:

Be it ordained, &c., That the street committee after a careful examination (being aided therein by the town surveyor) of the present grade on Milam street in Shreveport, known as the Rafferty grade, have the power to change or modify the same as in their judgment deemed necessary, and such change can be made so as not to injuriously affect the property on other streets, and if any change be made a profile of the same be made by the town surveyor and returned to this office.

The motion being seconded, the yeas and nays were called for, which were as follows: yeas, Sale, Waller, Griswold, Robson; nays, Hotchkiss.

On motion of Wm. Robson, the mayor was requested to appoint two other members of said committee.

Whereupon the mayor appointed C. R. Griswold and R. D. Sale. And on motion of T. P. Hotchkiss, the mayor and the two new members of the council, Waller and Clark, were also added.

Dr. T. P. Hotchkiss then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, &c., That the mayor be authorised and requested to have the profile of the "Rafferty" grade of Shreveport recorded or placed on record in the recorder's office of Caddo parish, and that he be authorised to draw on the town treasurer for payment of the same.

On motion, the board adjourned.

JONAS ROBESON, mayor.

R. D. SALE, cl'k pro tem.

For Mayor.

☞We are authorised to announce JONAS ROBESON (the present incumbent) as a candidate for mayor of Shreveport, at the election to be held on the 2d day of May. a6

Shreveport Price-Current.

[*This report embraces actual sales made yesterday.*]

COTTON—Middling, 7½@11¼c.
SUGAR—N. O. brown, 8@10c. ℔ lb.
MOLASSES—38@43 cts. ℔ gall.
FLOUR—Superfine, $7 00@7 25; St. Louis extra, $9 00@— ℔ bbl.
PORK—Mess, $22@— ℔ bbl.
BACON—Sides, clear, 13@13½c; ribbed, 11@—c. shoulders, 9@10c; sugar-cured hams, 17@18 ℔ lb.
LARD—16@18—c. ℔ lb.
COFFEE—Rio, 12½@13½c. ℔ lb.
WHISKEY—33@45c ℔ gall.
CANDLES—Star, 23@25c. ℔ lb.
CORN—Sack, $1 25@—. ℔ bush.
BAGGING—Ky. 16c@—; India, 17@—c.
ROPE—9@10c. ℔ lb.
NAILS—$5 00@5 50 ℔ keg. IRON—5@3c. ℔ lb.
HIDES—12@13c. ℔ lb. PELTRIES—12½@15c.
POTATOES—Irish, $2 50@3 00 ℔ bbl.
OIL—Lard, $1 35@1 50 ℔ gall.

New Orleans Market.

March 31—There is some enquiry for cotton, the sale to-day amounted only to a few bales.

Inferior,	6—@7½	Middling,	11¾@12—
Ordinary,	8—@10¾	Good "	12¼@12½
Low middling,	11—@11½	Mid'lingfair	12¾@13—

The receipts (including 30,374 bales on hand,) since the 1st September, have been 1,647,622 bales; Exported during same time, 1,233,720.

FLOUR—S'rfine, $5 75@6 25; extra, $6 75@8 00.
PORK—Mess $18 00@18 50 ℔ bbl.
BACON—Sides, 9¼@11¼c; shoulders, 7¼@7½c.
LARD—9½@11½c. ℔ lb.
CORN—85@90c ℔ bushel.
SUGAR—3½, 6@9½c. ℔ lb.
MOLASSES—28@32½c. ℔ gallon.
WHISKEY—Rectified, 21¼@26 raw, 27@28 ℔ gal.
HIDES—Dry country, 13½@16½c. ℔ lb
DEERSKINS—In hair, 12@16—c. ℔ lb.
HAY—$20 00@22 00 ℔ ton.
OATS—70@80c ℔ bushel.
COFFEE—Rio, 10¾@11½c. ℔ lb.
BAGGING&ROPE—Bagging 12@15c; rope 6¾@8½
SALT—Liverpool, fine, 95c.@$1 00; coarse, 70@75 cts. ℔ sack.

CATTLE MARKET, March 31.

BEEF—Western, fine, - - - - - - 9@11c ℔ lb net.
Texas and Lake, - - - - - $13@42 ℔ head.
Hogs, - - - - - - - - - - - - 8½@9—c
Sheep, - - - - - - - - - - $5 00@7 00 ℔ head.

Steamboat Register.

ARRIVED

Mar. 30—Joseph Holden, from Jefferson.
B. L. Hodge, from New Orleans.
Sallie Robinson, for New Orleans.
Rescue, from Upper Red River.
31—W. A. Andrew, from New Orleans.
Larkin Edwards, from Monterey.
April 1—Yazoo Belle, from New Orleans.
2—Lecomte, from New Orleans.
3—Sallie Robinson, from Jefferson.
4—D. R. Carroll, from New Orleans.
Lecomte, from the Bluffs.
Judah Touro, from New Orleans.