"FOREVER FLOAT THAT STANDARD SHEET."

The South-Western.

BY L. DILLARD & CO.

Office---Corner of Texas and Market Streets,
IN WATSON'S BUILDING—UP STAIRS.

SHREVEPORT:

WEDNESDAY.....OCTOBER 24, 1866.

Thos. McIntyre, of New Orleans, is our only duly authorized agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements in that city.

Col. S. D. Wood, of Marshall, Texas, is duly authorized to receipt for subscriptions.

Mr. John C. Love, Minden, La., is duly authorized to receipt for subscriptions.

For the receipts and shipment of cotton see "commercial," in another column. It will be seen that our receipts for the past week have doubled—and the end is not yet.

The New Orleans Commercial Bulletin.—We unintentionally neglected to mention last week the reappearance of that old and stirling sheet, the New Orleans Commercial Bulletin, after a Rip Vanwinkle sleep of four years. It looks now as near like it did before Butler suppressed it, as two peas in a pod, and that is all its revivers could ask. Messrs. Seymour & Jewell are at the head of it. May it live to a ripe old age, and never hear or see another beast.

Business.—During the past week our jobbing houses have had no reason to complain for the want of customers. In fact, some of them complain that they come too fast, and the consequence is they have to wait their turns, like a bag of corn at a grist mill. In our certain knowledge, one of our houses paid the expenses of three wagons and teams for three days, before they could find time to fill the owners' bills. Most of our jobbing houses are doing a heavy business, though at a small profit. The retail trade is not brisk—or rather, it is dull. All of our merchants have large stocks.

Jefferson, Texas.—The Jimplecute, of the 19th, gives gratifying accounts of the improvement in business at that place. That is what we like to hear. "Give utterance," Mr. Jimplecute, to all such good news.

One of the Causes of Impeachment.—The Lynchburg News says the conduct of the president in regard to the New Orleans riots, it is said, will be one of the articles of impeachment which the radicals are supposed to be preparing in their contemplated arraignment and deposition of Mr. Johnson.—The Washington Chronicle hints as much. General Butler, in a late speech in Ohio, formally proposed the impeachment, and detailed a list of what he called "Executive usurpations," to justify this extreme measure. The clouds thicken.

Our Sheriffs to be Relieved.—A New Orleans dispatch of the 13th to the Mobile Tribune, says it is rumored and credited here that Gov. Wells has secretly issued, or is about publicly issuing, a proclamation, removing all the sheriffs elected last spring, and appointing others in their places. There is a decision of his own supreme court, (that with Howell not on the bench) that he cannot remove them.

When the War Ended.—A Washington dispatch of the 15th says the attorney general and second controller concur in the opinion that the 20th of August, 1866, the date of the president's proclamation declaring the insurrection to be at end, should be taken as the date of the termination of the war.

Hit Him Again.—An exchange says it seems very strange that Butler will not let the south rest for a while. He could not make anything out of a new war, if he should succeed in stirring one up. It will take several years of prosperity for our country to be worth his while to plunder again.

Cotton—*The Largest Load of the Season*—The New Orleans Times, of the 18th, says the steamer General Quitman, Capt. White, from Greenville, arrived the evening before with 2289 bales of cotton—the largest cargo of the season.

The Evening Star Disaster.—The New York Herald, speaking of the causes of the disaster to the Evening Star, says that one of the oldest and most experienced sea captains of that city is of the opinion that the storm was what may be called a screw hurricane; that the moment it catches the ship it twists her round with dreadful and fatal violence, as if in a whirlpool, that the most scientific build could not stand it, that it would wrench the strongest masts from their positions, and that once a victim to its fury, the hull has but poor, very poor chance actually of escaping being literally torn to pieces.

Further from the Evening Star.—A Savannah dispatch, of the 15th, says a private letter from Mayport Mills, Fla., says that Goulsby, the second mate of the Evening Star, has arrived there, having left the steamer with a boat load of ladies. All but two were lost before getting near shore. In landing the latter were lost. One was named Annie ——, from Rhode Island; the other, Rosa Howard, of New York. Both became insane from want and starvation. Their bodies were washed ashore. That of the latter was nearly devoured by sharks. The mate is barely alive.

Indian Raids in Texas.—It will be seen by the following communication from Gen. Sheridan to the governor of Texas, that a sufficient force of United States troops will be sent at once to the frontier of Texas to break up the Indian raids which have been so destructive to life and property of late. We find it in the Galveston papers:

I have the pleasure to inform you that additional troops have been ordered to the State, and that an inspector will be sent at once to the northern frontier of Texas, and that as much protection as we possibly can give to the frontier will be cheerfully given, and that by early spring frontier posts will be established.

P. H. Sheridan.

In the meantime the legislature have adopted a joint resolution:

That the governor of this State be authorised and required to appoint a special agent to proceed to Washington and lay before the president and secretary of war such facts relative to our frontier, and urge the acceptance of the troops to be raised by the State.

Southern Enterprise.—The Eastern Star, published at Enterprise, Miss., says that it has lately had a conversation with an intelligent gentleman from Georgia, who informs it that there are seventy-two mills for the manufacture of cotton and woolen goods in course of construction in that State, and some of these mills will manufacture calicos.

Sensible Observation.—The Mobile Tribune says if there is anything of a more dreary sameness than politics, just now, it is cotton crop items. We think the season for them is over, and the "receipts" may now be relied on to tell the story.

Southern Emigration to the North.—We find the following telegram in the St. Louis (radical) Democrat:

Washington, Oct. 4.—A considerable number of families of wealth, formerly slave owners, have lately arrived in the city from the south with the intention of taking up permanent residences north of the Potomac. They represent that the change in the labor system, and the unsettled state of society at the south since the war, promises to make that section an undesirable place to live for some years to come, and that great numbers of the class to which they belong are selling or leasing their plantations and moving away. The emigration from the south is now almost wholly confined to the good class of the ante-war period.

The New York Herald correspondent in Mobile furnishes that paper the by-laws of the order of the Knights of Arabia, an association established by John O. Braine, of Chesapeake notoriety, who is now under arrest in New York. The objects of the society are to occupy and possess a country not named, and cultivate the soil as the property of the participants in its invasion. Cuba is undoubtedly the country in question.

The Problem.

If our representatives are admitted into congress, will the south raise a hill more of corn or a pound more of cotton? Was not the late war the last act of a long-pending political controversy? And were we not essentially "played out" in that contest?

What is our remedy? More politics? Shall we, a minority of the States, renew the political contest under every disadvantage? Should we not rather seek to reacquire wealth and commercial importance first? Can any people, indeed, maintain an independent or integral importance without widely disseminated wealth and commercial prosperity? We think not.

What, then, is the solution of our problem? In our opinion it is commercial, not political. Let the following propositions be carried out, and we shall live to see the sun of prosperity again shine in the south:

1st. Let agriculturalists do all the work they can themselves.

2d. Employ no freedmen except *at Christmas*, and then for the year.

3d. Procure and execute stringent vagrant acts against blacks and whites.

4th. Raise everything that is requisite to the farmer, and make everything you can that you need.

5th. Raise no more cotton than can be manufactured *in the south*.

Reflection can scarcely fail to convince every man of the importance of these propositions. The labor system is changed, and the planter must gradually school himself to the new state of things. What he formerly entrusted to others he must now do himself or personally see done. By employing freedmen only at Christmas, and insisting upon the universality of the rule, the laborers will be forced to perform their contracts; or, if they run off and lounge round, a stringent vagrant act will reach them. Let the act, too, extend to worthless white men, whose example is corrupting even to negroes. The want of diversification of the crops of the south has been one of our greatest misfortunes. Raise somewhat of everything—corn, wheat, sorghum, cotton, root crops, etc. *Buy nothing your own ground will or can produce!* Cotton is no longer "king." Let the princes of corn, etc., rule in his stead. But the crowning consideration is, to raise no more cotton than can be manufactured *at the south*. Spin, weave, buy hand-looms, and make everything that can be made at home. Let the resi due of the general crops be so small that the fast increasing cotton factories at the south can consume it all. This policy will awaken New England to a sense of her folly; and, if the lesson comes too late, it will serve as good a purpose as the sinner's final correction. When New England cotton lords are forced to India for cotton—when cotton is dearer than wool—then we shall see what we shall see. We shall see a radical change in radicals, and a liberalising of fanatics. Let the south be true to themselves; let the people, not the politicians, rule, and the sun of *our* prosperity will dawn over decaying cotton mills in New England.

The Confederate Call Loan.—We find the following in a late number of the London News:

Sept. 28.—On the part of the committee, I beg leave to say that they have the greatest confidence in the rebel promises to pay, provided they were permitted to do so, and they base their confidence not only on the information they receive from the south, but likewise on the testimony given by Gen. Robert E. Lee before the reconstruction committee appointed by congress.

I trust, sir, your sense of justice and fair play will induce you to publish this testimony; I may further add that no such political blunder was ever committed by any statesman who had the restoration of the Union at heart, as compelling the south to repudiate their debt, and especially this paltry foreign debt of £2,400,000, for which cotton was hypothecated. The result has been to retard the return of prosperity to the south, and to annihilate their credit in Europe.—They required and still require money for the cultivation of their estates, to enable them to grow more cotton, tobacco, sugar, and repair their railways. They offered any terms but that fatal word repudiation, although forced on them, has been the stumbling block to their obtaining a shilling. The committee believe that the fatal word, so far as the cotton loan is concerned, is destined shortly to be blotted out, and then the money markets of Europe will be again for promotion of southern enterprise, and a renewed era of prosperity will dawn.

On behalf of the committee.

Wm. M. Morgan.

The Cotton Tax Unconstitutional.—A New York exchange says, since the death of Daniel Webster, it is pretty generally conceded that Reverdy Johnson, of Maryland, is the soundest constitutional lawyer in America. Being so regarded, the following letter from him possesses more than ordinary interest at the present juncture. It is in reply to a letter of Hon. Charles I. Scott, of Alacama, containing these interrogatories:

"In your opinion, is the act of congress imposing a 3 cents tax on cotton constitutional? And would the supreme court of the United States so decide in the event the question was carried before it for adjudication?"

REPLY.

"New York, Sept. 20, 1866.

"*Dear Sir*—Your note of the 3d is received here. The question you have put to me I have heretofore considered. My opinion is that the tax of 3 cents, imposed by the act of congress you refer to, is unconstitutional, and I believe the court will so decide.

"Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"Reverdy Johnson."

We learn from the Wilcox (Camden) Times that the cotton planters of that county are concerting measures to have the question tested in the supreme court.

Sensational Dispatches.—The following from the New York Tribune is a specimen of the sensational dispatches sent north.

New Orleans, Thursday, Oct. 4, 1866.—Some important disclosures will soon be officially made public in reference to secret rebel societies, which permeate the entire south. These organizations have branch circles in New York city and the west. That in New York is said to number 50,000, principally composed of men who served in the rebel army. Each circle has a different name. Some are known as "The True Sons of the South," others as "The Knights of Arabia," and all are well armed with the most improved weapons, and ready at a moment's notice, should a favorable opportunity arise, to renew the struggle for the lost cause. One of the chief members of this organisation, now in prison, is said to have made important disclosures. Gen. Sheridan is concentrating troops in this city for important purposes, which will soon be made apparent.

Nine cases of whipping of negroes have been recently officially reported in the parish of Bienville.—One old woman, seventy years of age, received 400 lashes.

Reduction of the Public Debt.—The New York World makes some judicious remarks upon the reduction of the public debt, which, during the months of August and September, was diminished by about sixty millions of dollars. If this rate of diminution could be maintained, the whole debt would be paid in less than seven years—even without considering the accelerated reduction that would take place, as the debt diminishes, on account of the reduced interest that would have to be paid.

The World, after giving due credit to the secretary of the treasury for his agency in bringing about this effect, goes on to say:

That the expenses of the government have been so diminished that the revenue of the government largely overlaps them, is entirely due to the president, and due to that very policy for which he is so industriously decried and maligned by the radicals. Had he yielded to their notions, every dollar of the revenue would be absorbed in maintaining great armies to stand guard over the south. His policy, alike sagacious and magnanimous, was a policy of confidence. Instead of believing as the radicals have insisted, that the spirit of the south was as rebellious as ever, he trusted, without hesitation, their professions of loyalty, and proceeded at once to make large reductions of the army. Crediting the sincerity of southern submission, and acting as if he feared no further trouble, he caused our military hosts to be disbanded and sent to their homes to swell the productive labor of the country. By thus narrowing the channels of expenditure and feeding the sources of revenue by swelling the volume of production, president Johnson has enabled the treasury to make the gratifying exhibits which delight and astonish the country, and tend to raise the public credit to the highest estimation.

The Memphis Election.—The following is the result of the late election in Memphis, which we copy from the Bulletin:

Representatives—Dan. Able and W. W. Coleman.
Circuit Court Clerk—Fred. L. Warner.
Mayor—Wm. O. Lofland.
City Tax Collector—John H. Bowen.
Tax Collector on Privileges—Jas. D. Davis.
Wharfmaster—Steve Wilkins.
Alderman—First Ward—J. J. Powers and John Glaney.
Second Ward—M. E. Cochran and G. D. Johnson.
Third Ward—Lewis Amis and E. W. Wickersham.
Fourth Ward—H. J. Lynn and R. P. Bolling.
Fifth Ward—H. Holst and T. W. O'Donnell.
Sixth Ward—D. R. Townsend and C. T. Shaw.
Seventh Ward—Shos. O. Smith and H. Lemon.
Eighth Ward—Henry T. Hurlburt and W. M. Passmore.

McCulloch Supports the President.

There are probably few men in the country at the present day who rank higher than secretary McCulloch, and strange to say, he commands the respect of the supporters of all shades of politicians. His past record as a supporter of the government has been consistent and patriotic. The radicals knowing his influence at the north, are endeavoring to make the people believe that he does not fully endorse the president's policy of reconstruction. The following letter from him, to a friend in his own State, sets this thing at rest:

Washington, D. C., Sept. 28, 1866.

Gentlemen: I have delayed acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst., in the hope that I might be able to so arrange my business as to be absent for a few days from Washington.

I regret now to be under the necessity of saying that my official engagements are of such a nature that it will be out of my power to accept your invitation to address my fellow-citizens of Lafayette, Peru and Fort Wayne, as requested by you, prior to the October elections, upon the momentous questions that are now engrossing the attention of the people of the United States. I regret that this is the case, as it would afford me great satisfaction to have a fair, frank talk with my old friends and acquaintanees in Indiana with whom I acted politically in times past, especially during the late civil war.

In the unfortunate controversy that has arisen between the president and congress, I stand with the former. In doing so I am not conscious of abandoning any principle or becoming a convert to any new doctrine. In common with the great mass of the Union party, I have always held that the States whose citizens rebelled against the federal government never ceased to be States in the Union, and when the rebellion had been overcome I felt it my duty to cooperate with the president in carrying into effect the plan of restoration which had been approved by his lamented predecessor. To that plan I regarded the party of which I was a member as virtually committed by the action of its conventions and the resolutions of congress, before Mr. Johnson attempted to carry it into effect. To that plan I am still committed by the dictates of my best judgment. It is, in my opinion, wise, liberal and statesmanlike; the only plan yet presented which properly regards both the rights of the central government and the rights of the States; which can be adopted with safety by the conquerors and accepted without sacrifice of honor and manhood by the conquered, and which leads directly to conciliation and peace.

I have no time to write you at length, but I cannot close this note without remarking that the charges made against Mr. Johnson of abandoning his principles or of desiring to bring the present enemies of the country into power are like the reports in regard to his habits of personal indulgence—utterly destitute of foundation—slanders of which the authors will themselves be ashamed when the heat of party passion shall have subsided. In his unpremeditated remarks he may have indulged in a plainness and directness of speech unusual in the chief magistrate of the nation, and offensive to some critical and fastidious people; but everybody admits that his messages and other official communications (and by these he must be judged) are models of ability and good taste. Men may differ with him in regard to his manner of dealing with the States recently in rebellion, but no fair man could have been with him, as I have been, during the trying eighteen months of his administration, without being impressed with his love of country and his devotion to duty, with the unselfishness and uprightness of his character and the honesty of his purposes. That the principles which he advocates and represents will be vindicated at the approaching elections I hope and believe. Of their ultimate vindication I am as fully persuaded as I am of the perpetuity of our republican institutions. I have the honor to be, very truly, your obedient servant,

Hugh McCulloch.

W. H. Talbott, Esq., and others.

The New Steamer Robert E. Lee.—The Louisville Courier thus describes this magnificent boat:

The Robert E. Lee was built expressly for the passenger and carrying trade between New Orleans, Vicksburg and the Beads, a distance of upwards of 500 miles to make weekly trips, equal to traveling 1000 miles every week, including her time in port, and attending to way business, receiving and discharging cargo. She was constructed at a cost exceeding $200,000, and is the largest, and will, we think, prove the fastest boat ever in the trade. Her outfit is undoubtedly the most costly and magnificent that has ever yet been placed upon a western steamer, the owners being determined that for the honor of the trade, as well as the name, that she shall stand *sans peur et sans reproche*, and without an equal or a rival in her career. The capacity of the boat is equal to the burthen of 700 bales of cotton, or 1750 tons, and it is expected that she can carry 6000 bales with her guards clear of the water, and not a tier above the second deck. In former times a "3000 bale" boat was a rarity, and a "5000 bale" boat the wonder of the age; yet the Lee can carry 6000 bales, with her guards clear of the water, and make railroad time.

The cabin and outfit of this great southern steamer surpasses that has ever yet graced the trade, and her accommodations are on the same scale of grandeur and magnificence. She has sixty-one extra state-rooms in the texas for passengers, a nursery for servants and children, and a cabin for colored people adjoining the nursery, in which are state-rooms for fifty passengers. This gives her accommodations for 220 persons in rooms, and take her all in all she is the most commodious and complete packet that has ever been built, and a very great improvement in all respects upon any boat that has preceded her, but whether her equal can ever come after remains to be seen. The cabin carpet is in a single piece, some 17½ feet wide and upwards of 225 feet in length, a royal Wilton velvet, purchased of A. T. Stewart, of New York, and made to order. The furniture was also made to order, all of the modern style and costly material, being in fact solid rosewood, the chairs, sofas, sociables &c., most artistically and elaborately carved. The cushions of all the seats are heavy crimson satin, and the style of the furniture is of new and original designs, all made in this city, at the manufactory of John Sisum. She has twenty extension dining-tables in the main cabin, each to accommodate twelve guests; thus seating 240 for dinner, with plenty of room for extra side tables.

The dimensions are as follows: Length of hull, 300 feet; beam, 46 feet; hold, 9½ feet; extreme width, 86 feet, or five feet wider than the new canal locks. The guards are 18 feet wide, her decks very high, and with her great depth of hold, she can stow 6000 bales of Mississippi or Louisiana cotton without at all encroaching upon the cabin or upper guards. When fully laden her capacity is equal to 1800 tons.

How the President Received the Result of the Elections.—A Washington dispatch of the 10th, to the Chicago Times, says:

All of the Washington newspapers declare to-day that the elections have resulted as was fully anticipated here, with the exception of Pennsylvania, where the majority against the administration is not one-fourth of what was expected by the over-sanguine. Large sums of money changed hands on estimated majorities in that State. The result was not fully known to the president until this morning, and he conversed very cheerfully over it with those who obtained interview with him during the day. The secretary of the treasury and the attorney general, however, occupied a portion of the president's time.

The Will of the late Bianca Robbins.—The New Orleans Crescent has the following in relation to this celebrated character:

Among those who were swallowed by the waves and went into an ocean grave from the Evening Star, "to mingle with the pale nations of the dead," was a woman, who kept a fashionable bagnio in this city, and who was known as Bianca Robbins. Mongers, such as she was, find in northern marts, the goods they want, and she was returning, with an invoice of attractions for her establishment, when the hurricane overtook the ship and consigned all on her, the virtuous and the depraved, to a vain struggle with an angered ocean.

Already the estate of Bianca Robbins has been administered upon and her succession opened in the second district court. She had, it appears, in the course of her pitiful life, accumulated in money and property, about a hundred thousand dollars. She had made several wills, the last of which was opened and probated yesterday. By this testament she bequeaths all her worldly possessions to two children, now at school in Bardstown, Kentucky, and directs that Dr. A. Follin be appointed under-tutor of the inheritors of her wealth. This under-tutor yesterday deposited in court, to the credit of the succession, several thousands of dollars in gold, which the deceased had intrusted to him for safe keeping or investment, and of his possession of which there was no evidence but his own acknowledgement. As is usual with women of her class, she bore an assumed name. Her real one now becomes known. It was Bridget Molloy, the patronymic of which she claims to have obtained by marriage, and gives to her heirs as legitimate children.

Trade of New York.—The New York correspondent of the Mobile Advertiser, in his letter of October 1, writes:

The trade at this port since the 1st of January shows a large increase as compared with that of the same period last year. The gold value of imports to September 29 is $234,572,872, against $146,976,641 to the same date in 1865, an increase of over $87,000,000. The currency value of exports since January 1, $147,204,900, against $110,373,540 in 1865, an increase of nearly $37,000,000. We have exported fifty-four millions of gold and silver, an increase of thirty-one millions as compared with the returns of 1865; and have received from California over thirty-one millions, an increase of nearly eighteen millions on last year's receipts. The customs receipts at New York to September 29, amount to $101,696,636, against $73,213,010 to the same date last year. These returns show that the commercial prosperity of New York has not yet been affected by the politically disturbed condition of the country.

Gold in New York on the 22d inst. was quoted 145¾.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[Special to the South-Western.]

New York, October 22, noon.—Gold 145¼. Cotton firmer.

Washington, October 22.—The president has recognised as vice-consuls for Sweeden and Norway Wm. H. Pickens at New Orleans, and S. H. Patton at Austin, Texas.

The president visited Baltimore to-day, on invitation of the Young Catholic Friends' association, to be present at the closing of the plenary council.

Foreign papers, and also the Herald's Paris correspondent, say the empress of Mexico has become insane. She had had an interview with the pope to secure the sanction of his holiness for everything done by Maximilian in Mexico. It was positively refused, but she remained all day, making further efforts. The result is not known. It is reported the empress told the pope she would not leave the vatican until her request was granted.

[FROM OUR EXTRAS.]

New York, October 16, evening (via Jackson 17.—Gold 148¾. Cotton dull at 41@43c.; sales 800 bales.

The steamship Scotia, from Liverpool, via Queenstown the 7th, has arrived. An Athens dispatch, dated September 29, says the French minister has warned the Greek government that France would break off diplomatic relations with Greece if the strictest neutrality was not observed during the present insurrection. The Cretan national assembly had called upon the Greek nation to take part in the insurrection. The English and French consuls in Candia are opposed to the movement.

Hon. John Van Buren died on board the Scotia on her passage. His body has arrived here.

Minister Adams, under date of the 25th ult., says there was then no case before that legation of a proved American citizen being in custody in England for Fenianism.

Liverpool, October 16.—Cotton market quite active; sales to-day 20,000 bales; middling uplands 15½d. Consols 89¾; U. S. 5-20's 68¼. Weather still unfavorable for crops.

New Orleans, October 16, evening.—Cotton steadier; low middling 38@39c.; sales 3200 bales; receipts for four days 7300 bales; exports 5234 bales. Gold 147½.

A circular from the State department advises the governor that schemes are on foot to induce freedmen to emigrate to foreign countries, especially to Peru; and suggests that every legal and moral means be used towards preventing the freedmen from being imposed upon.

New York, October 17, noon.—Gold 148¾. Cotton firmer; quotations nominal.

Three large stores on Washington street burned last night. One contained cotton. Loss $300,000.

Washington, October 17.—There seems to be no doubt that secretary Stanton will soon retire from the department, and be succeeded by Lieut. Gen. Sherman, for a time at least, as acting secretary of war.

There is no probability whatever that the president will change his policy, as to restoration, as has been intimated in some papers.

Omaha City, October 16.—Nearly complete returns for the territory show a republican majority of over six hundred. The Legislature is two-thirds republican.

New York, October 17, evening.—Gold 148¾. Cotton heavy at 41@43c.; sales 900 bales.

The democratic conservative convention for the 14th district, which met at Albany, N. Y., to-day, nominated Hon. John V. L. Pruyn as their candidate for congress.

New Orleans, October 17.—Cotton unchanged; sales 3100 bales; receipts 933 bales. Gold 147½

The deaths from yellow fever average five to eight per day, which is a gradual increase.

Liverpool, October 17.—Cotton market firm and unchanged; middling uplands 15½d. Consols 89½; U. S. 5-20's 68¼.

New York, October 18, noon.—Gold 148¾.

The steamer Green, from Georgetown, D. C., reports having seen a large brig ashore; also the steamer Montello, the latter badly hogged, and cargo of turpentine strewn along the Jersey coast.

Washington, October 18.—A letter received here from Lieut. Gen. Sherman, discusses the political situation, and emphatically approves of the president's restoration policy.

The military quarantine established from Virginia to Texas, will be withdrawn on the 1st prox., at the suggestion of the surgeon general.

Secretary Stanton had a lenghty interview with the president this morning. His early retirement from the department is conceded.

St. Louis, October 18.—The steam boiler exploded in Burbreck's turning establishment, on Franklin avenue, this morning, demolishing the building. Twenty-two persons are known to be buried in the ruins.

New York, October 18, evening.—Gold 148¾. Cotton dull at 40@43c.; sales 400 bales.

New Orleans, October 18.—Cotton lower; low middling 37@38c.; middling 40c.; sales 700 bales; receipts 3564 bales.

Grand preparations are making for the mechanical and agricultural fair. On account of the insufficiency of house accommodations, it is proposed to erect tents.

New York, October 19, noon.—Gold 148¾. Cotton dull at 40@42c.

Havana dates to the 13th have been received. A terrific hurricane commenced in the Bahamas on the 30th, which lasted two days. About half the town of Nassau was demolished, Trinity church destroyed, a portion of the roof of the Government house was carried away, and the roof of the marine hospital entirely destroyed. The neighboring islands had suffered in like manner. A large number of vessels have been lost and damaged. The hurricane was the severest experienced since 1815.

Gen. Castleman had arrived at Havana, en route to Vera Cruz, to replace Gen. Bazaine.

Advices from Mexico state that a deputation of citizens from Matamoros had arrived in the city of Mexico, begging the imperial government to take possession of Matamoros, and stating that a large number of troops was not necessary, as the whole population would rise in favor of the imperialists.

New York, October 19, evening.—Gold 147¾. Cotton heavy; middling 40@42c.; sales, including government sale, 2500 bales.

New Orleans, October 19.—Cotton 2c. lower; quotations nominal; sales 500 bales; receipts for the week 16,500 bales; exports 6500. Gold 147½.

Gen. Sheridan has ordered the arrest of Terrence Toupees, charged with shooting a freedman in the parish of Lafayette, the civil authorities having neglected to bring the accused to trial.

Vera Cruz advices to the 14th say the French steamer Empress Eugenie arrived yesterday with Gen. Castlemen, who started last evening to meet marshal Bazaine at Puebla.

It is reported that about 1000 French troops and $14,000 in specie are being embarked for France.

Washington, October 19.—The State department having received information from the consul at Peru that a native Chilian, resident of Lima, has started for the United States with the object of contracting for two thousand negro families for that country, under color of free colonisation, but in fact to be sold like coolies for the term of eight years, the secretary has issued a circular to the governors of all the States, suggesting that all legal and moral means be used to prevent the consummation of such wrong.

Liverpool, October 19.—Cotton sales for the week 104,000 bales; sales to-day 10,000 bales; middling uplands 15½d.

Weather still unfavorable for crops, breadstuffs consequently advancing.

Consols 89½; U. S. 5-20's 68¾.

Florence, October 19.—The cession of Venetia was fully completed to-day.

Paris, October 19.—M. Thouvenel died to-day.

Berlin, October 19.—Rumors are afloat that the Prussian-Saxon military convention has agreed on a basis of common occupation of Saxony.

New York, October 20, noon.—Gold 146¾. Cotton declining; middling 39@42c.

The Herald's Ottowa special says a serious difficulty is reported in the Canadian cabinet, owing to the agitation of Mr. Galt and the confederating and financial embarrassments of the government.

Kingston, Jamaica, correspondence of the 6th says a commission has arrived to try the English officers for shooting negroes without trial. Contributions to the fund for the trial of Gov. Ayre continue.

Quebec, October 20.—It is understood threats have been made to burn the city offices, owing to religious and national animosities. The citizens are arranging night patrols for the protection of their property.

Baltimore, October 20.—The organisation of the "boys in blue" met last night, and resolved to stand by the police commissioners, and offered them their services. It is not known what response the commissioners will make to the summons of the governor.

Liverpool, October 20.—Cotton—Middling uplands 15½d.; sales to-day 13,000 bales. Consols 89.

New York, October 20, evening.—Gold 146¾. Cotton—Middling 39c.; sales to-day 1000 bales.

New Orleans, October 20.—Cotton—Low middling 36½c.; middling 38½c. Gold 146½.

Joseph Houston Wood, father of J. M. G. Wood, publisher of the Southwestern Magazine, died recently at Cordova, Mexico, aged 60 years. An obituary notice, in the New Orleans Picayune, says:

Mr. Wood was a native of Ohio, having been born in Uniontown, Belmont county, and in 1834 emigrated to Texas. Under Houston, he took an active part in the bloody but successful struggle for Texan independence. Retiring upon his well earned laurels, he engaged for many years in merchandise.

Upon the breaking out of the late civil war, Mr. Wood, having already fought through one war for independence, naturally espoused the cause of the south. Too old to bear arms himself, he sent his only son to the field. After the war he found himself a proscribed man upon the very soil he had fought to free. Scorning the efforts of pseudo friends, he abandoned country, home, everything, and in his old age, determined to rear for himself a home in a strange land, and in accordance with this determination, he, with numerous others of the same opinions, sought a home at Cordova, Mexico, where, while engaged in establishing a manufacturing enterprise, he was suddenly cut off.

Late dispatches report the empress of Mexico insane.

The Levee Commissioners and the Governor.

The following is the text of a resolution adopted by the board of levee commissioners in relation to convening the State legislature, and Gov. Wells' answer. It is thought that the reason why the governor refused to call the legislature together was, that the first act would be to impeach him:

Whereas, The present condition of the finances of the board does not warrant the belief that we shall be able to construct the levees necessary for the protection of the State from overflow, and

Whereas, It seems impossible to sell our bonds, or pass the State notes except at a discount; therefore

Resolved, That the board of levee commissioners do hereby earnestly request his excellency, the governor of the State of Louisiana, to convene the legislature at the earliest possible moment, that they may take immediate measures to relieve the State from the present condition of its finances, and the danger that awaits us, unless the levees can be rebuilt; that the secretary of the board be instructed to present a copy of this preamble and resolution to his excellency the governor.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

State of Louisiana, Executive Dep't.,
New Orleans, Aug. 25, 1866.

Gentlemen—I have received, at the hands of your secretary, a copy of resolutions adopted by you, setting forth the necessity of further appropriation of money by the State to rebuild the levees, and in order to provide for the same, you ask me to convene the legislature in extra session.

In the matter of protecting the State from overflow, I think my past acts show that I have and do appreciate the importance thereof. I took the responsibility last year of letting out contracts for the building of the most important levees, appointed your present board to direct and manage the same, trusting to the legislature to ratify my acts, and to provide the ways and means to pay for the work. For that purpose I called it together as early as November, that provisions might be made by them to meet the first payments due contractors. The legislature met, approved the levee contracts, and passed a bill authorizing the issue of one million of dollars in bonds for levee purposes, but the effect of an amendment introduced in the house, implying that the bonds were not to be sold under par, rendered the act wholly nugatory, so far as disposing of them by sale. However, the form of advertising was gone through with; thirty days was lost in waiting for bids, which it might have been foreseen would never come under the restriction referred to, and the consequence was, the first payments to contractors became due without one dollar in the hands of the board to meet them. I need not describe the condition of the contractors in failing to receive their money, and the serious delay to the work occasioned thereby.

The responsibility for this state of things does not rest with you, gentlemen, nor with me—it must be charged where it belongs.

To the failure on the part of the State to meet the first payments due contractors is, in my opinion, to be ascribed the non-completion of the levees in time to resist the high water, though I also believe the board committed an error in not adhering to the terms of my advertisement, which restricted contractors to one section of levees.

At the regular session of the legislature that body refused to adopt a permanent State levee system, as recommended by your board, and even further appropriations for the completion of the levees was obtained by great exertion, the measure encountering strenuous opposition from representatives from the high lands and a number of the city delegation.

In view of this opposition, and the failure of the board to prevent a general inundation of the best lands of the State, with two millions of dollars under their control, I have serious doubts if any further aid and assistance can be expected from the legislature towards reconstructing the levees. Their constituents will say that two millions of dollars have been spent, with no benefit to the country. So far as preventing the disastrous crevasses of the current year, this allegation is true; but at the same time I do not admit that the expenditures of the board have been useless. The levees built will be a permanent protection; and if the funds of the board are sufficient to complete the Grand, Morganza and China levees, I consider, with ordinary vigilance on the part of the local authorities, a general inundation of the country can be avoided at the next rise of the river.

Entertaining these views, I must, gentlemen, respectfully differ from you as regards the expediency of convening the legislature for the purposes you ask, and therefore decline acceding to your request.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. Madison Wells, Governor of Louisiana.

Thanksgiving Day—Proclamation by the President.—Washington, Oct. 8, 1866.—Almighty God our Heavenly Father has been pleased to vouchsafe to us as a people, another year of that national life, which is an indispensable condition of peace, security and progress, and that year, moreover, has been crowned with many peculiar blessings. The civil war that has so recently been among us, has not anywhere been reopened. Foreign intervention has ceased to excite alarm or apprehension; intrusive pestilence has been benignly mitigated, domestic tranquility has improved, sentiments of conciliation have largely prevailed, and the affection of loyalty and patriotism have been widely renewed. Our fields have yielded quite abundantly, our mining industry has been richly rewarded, and we have been allowed to extend our railroad system far into the interior recesses of the country, while our commerce has resumed its wonted activity in foreign seas. These national blessings demand a national acknowledgment.

Now, therefore, I, Andrew Johnson, president of the United States, do hereby recommend that Thursday, the 29th day of November next, be set apart and be observed everywhere in the several States and territories in the United States by the people thereof, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer to Almighty God, with due remembrance that in His temple doth every man speak of His honor.

I recommend, also, that on the same solemn occasion we do humbly and devotedly implore Him to grant to our national councils, and to our whole people, that divine wisdom which alone can lead any nation into the ways of all good. Offering these national thanksgivings, praises and supplications, we have the divine assurance that the Lord will reign a king forever over them; them that are weak shall be guided in judgment, and such as are gentle shall He learn His way; the Lord shall give strength to His people, and the Lord shall give to His people the blessings of peace.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, the eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and of the independence of the United States the ninety-first.

By the president: Andrew Johnson.

Wm. H. Seward, Secretary of State.

Important to Boot and Shoe Makers.—The commissioner of internal revenue has just made the following important decision respecting boot and shoe makers who manufacture custom work:

Treas'y. Dept., Office Internal Revenue.
Washington, Sept. 28, 1866.

Sir—Your letter of the 6th inst., inclosing a statement from your assistant, Weis, relative to custom boot and shoe makers, was duly received. In answer, I have to say that the recent law of congress exempts any boot or shoe maker making boots or shoes to order, as custom work only, whose work, exclusive of materials, does not exceed annually in value $1000.—You will perceive that this is a conditional exemption of boot and shoe makers from taxation. The conditions are two. First, they must manufacture custom work only; and, second, the work exclusive of the materials, must not exceed annually in value $1000. In order to determine the amount or value of work, exclusive of materials, the value or cost of materials is to be deducted from the sales' value of the boots or shoes manufactured. If the difference between these two sums is less than or only equal to $1000, the boot or shoe maker is exempt; but if it is more than $1000, he is taxable, and the extent of his liability is to be determined in the same manner as any other manufacturer, under the provisions of section ninety-three. A boot or shoe maker claiming exemption under this provision of law, as being engaged exclusively in the manufacture of custom work, must be required to make monthly returns of products, sales and value or cost of materials used or consumed, if, in the opinion of the assessor, there is a probability that he will exceed the limit of exception; but no assessment is to be made until the limit of $1000 has been reached, even should the monthly rate of work, exclusive of materials, exceed eighty-three and one-third. When the limit of $1000 has been passed, then an assessment on back returns is to be made, subject to the limitations and exemptions of section ninety-three.

E. A Rollins, Commissioner.

T. C. Moore, U. S. Assessor, Peoria, Ill.

Death of a Lady at the Age of 105 Years.—The Chambersburg (Pa.) Repository says:

Mrs. Mary Andrews died at Strasburg, this county, on the 22d ult., at the advanced age of 105 years.—With what respect and awe should poor humanity look upon such a duration of life! Born two years before the end of the French and Indian war, four years before the famous stamp act was passed, fifteen years before the declaration of independence, thirty-eight years before the death of Washington, fifty-one years before the war of 1812 and one hundred years old at the outbreak of the southern rebellion! What a long, long, weary pilgrimage!

Scene at a Radical Meeting.—The National Intelligencer has the following:

Gen. Cameron, in speaking at the late Harrisburg mass meeting, seeing Gen. Knipe in the crowd, said: "There's your postmaster, Joe Knipe. I made him a general," and no sooner had he uttered the words than there rang out, in a clear, silvery voice, from the audience, "You are a liar! I was made a general while fighting the battles of my country, while you were at home speculating in mule contracts." It was the gallant general Knipe, and of course there was a commotion. A rush was made by the roughs at Knipe, but he defied them and kept them off.

If a man has never changed his opinion, he must be unable or unwilling to think.

It gives us pleasure to see that McClure & Barrett, on the levee, are doing their share of the jobbing business. And well they might: their stock is very large and probably one of the best selected in this city, and their prices reasonable. The gentlemen connected with this firm are all old and experienced merchants. We plant on this house as one of the "leaders" among the jobbers.

Jones, Budlong & Co., on the levee, are in receipt of every description of agricultural implements direct from the manufacturers. They have now about sixty wagons, from 2 to 8 horse, as complete and strong as they can be made. Washing machines, cultivators, cider mills, mowers, reapers, corn mills, steam engines, etc., can be found at