

**THE COURIER.**  
Official Journal of the Parish of St. Landry  
PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY BY  
JOEL H. SANDOZ & ANDREW MEYNIER.  
Opelousas:  
SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1854.

—We are authorized to announce to the voters of the Town of Opelousas, that **FRANÇOIS SENSAT**, is a candidate for the office of Town Constable, at the election which will take place on the 3rd of April next.

—We are authorized to announce to the voters of the Town of Opelousas, that **EUGENE BERCIER**, is a candidate for the office of Town Constable.

Election 3d April 1854.

**SALES OF NEXT WEEK.**—The following sales will take place between this and Saturday next:

To-day, at Washington, by Auctioneer Allis, a horse and lot, cooper's tools &c. belonging to the Estate of Nelson G. King and wife.

To-day, near our Town, by Auctioneer Dejean, a fine little plantation, horned cattle, horses, &c. belonging to Mrs. C. Jewell.

On the 21st inst, on Bayou Petite Prairie, by the Administrator, a lot of horned cattle, hogs, sheep, &c. belonging to the Estate of Jas. R. McBride.

—For particulars, see advertisements.

**ELECTION.**—An election to elect a member to the Police Jury of this Parish, to represent the First Ward, in place of Mr. Jonathan Harris, will take place next Saturday, 25th inst, at the Court House of this town.

—We propose in the Baton Rouge Advocate of the 10th March instant, that Mr. A. M. Perrault of our Town, has been appointed by the Governor, Notary Public, in place of B. A. Martel Esq., who has resigned.

—We have been requested to state that the Steamer Red River, Capt. G. E. Louailier, will positively leave Washington on the following days at the hour of 9 o'clock A. M., viz: Tuesday 21st March, Monday 27th March, Sunday 2nd April and Saturday 8th April, and will continue to leave regularly every Saturday after.

—The following gentlemen have been elected on Monday last, 6th inst, members of the Town Council of the town of St. Martinville, viz: Charles Guerrière Bienville, Emile Landry, Pierre Gary, Don Louis Broussard and Pierre Duthil.

**THE FRANKLIN COLLEGE.**—We see it stated in one of our exchanges that the Legislature has passed a law ordering the sale of this Institution, in our Town.

**FIRE.**—On Thursday evening, at about 8 o'clock, the store of Mr. P. Normand, at Bordino, was destroyed by fire with all its contents. A negro woman has been incarcerated on suspicion. —*Villager 2d March.*

—We regret to have to announce the commission of another of those crimes, which are becoming of such frequent occurrence in our midst, as to alarm the public mind, and force upon us the conviction, that the law which are enacted, as a safeguard to protect society, are but lightly estimated. On the 5th of the present month, Mr. Valen Deroussal, as it appears from the evidence adduced upon the examination before the committing magistrate, without cause or provocation whatsoever, deliberately shot Joseph T. Babineau, making use of a double barreled shot gun, loaded with buckshot. The evidence shows the wound to have been inflicted in the left side & death to have resulted instantly. The accused was removed to prison to await his trial at the District Court which opens on Monday of the present month. —*Atchafalpa Gazette.*

(Correspondence of the Picayune.)

**HIGH-MANDED OUTRAGE.**—THE STEAMER BLACK WARRIOR SEIZED AT HAVANA.—INTERESTING EXCITEMENT.

Key West, March 3, 1854.  
The U. S. steamer Corwin, Lieut. T. H. Craven, commanding, arrived here from Havana yesterday morning, and immediately proceeded to Charleston with dispatches from the American Consul at Havana, relative to a high-manded outrage committed there in the seizure of the steamship Black Warrior, while in the harbor.

From an officer of the artillery, who accompanied Lieut. Craven to Havana, witnessed the whole affair, and heard all the details from Capt. Bulloch, the officer in command of the Black Warrior, concerning the seizure of his ship, we have gathered the following particulars:

The Black Warrior arrived in Havana early on the morning of the 1st. She was from Mobile with the mails, passengers and 1,000 bales of cotton on freight New York. She was entered and cleared by her agent, Mr. Charles Tysing, before her arrival, as has always been customary, and to enable her to meet with greater despatch. On anchoring she was boarded as usual by the officers of the revenue, and her manifest sent to the custom-house. The Havana manifest was filed out in full, "the New York manifest" not being mentioned. This has been the custom heretofore, and has been allowed by the collector on all previous trips of not only this, but all other U. S. Mail steamers touching at Havana, when loaded with freight not destined for the Havana market. No tonnage duty has ever been demanded, in having been overlooked or concealed by custom to allow steamships with freight in transit to enter and clear in ballast. Were this executed—this tonnage duty—the effect would be to drive the steamers from the harbor. To allow them to enter and clear with cargo destined for New Orleans, Mobile or New York, arrangement has been made either verbal or written. It matters not which, and has been authorized by all former collectors by which these steamers could report themselves in ballast, and so avoid the payment of the tonnage duties. So Capt. Bulloch construed the law and strictly followed the custom.

Some hours after his arrival he was asked by the Collector of the Port if the manifest was correct. Surprised at the question, after the vessel had entered and cleared, and every preparation made for sailing early the following morning, he suspected that a plan was laid to seize his ship for an infringement of the revenue duties—he replied that he had 1,000 bales of cotton for New York, and that he would make another manifest in ballast, "the New York manifest" not being mentioned. This has been the custom heretofore, and has been allowed by the collector on all previous trips of not only this, but all other U. S. Mail steamers touching at Havana, when loaded with freight not destined for the Havana market. No tonnage duty has ever been demanded, in having been overlooked or concealed by custom to allow steamships with freight in transit to enter and clear in ballast. Were this executed—this tonnage duty—the effect would be to drive the steamers from the harbor. To allow them to enter and clear with cargo destined for New Orleans, Mobile or New York, arrangement has been made either verbal or written. It matters not which, and has been authorized by all former collectors by which these steamers could report themselves in ballast, and so avoid the payment of the tonnage duties. So Capt. Bulloch construed the law and strictly followed the custom.

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**THE ARTESIAN WELL.**

Mr. Rred, the superintendent of the Artesian Well now in process of excavation on Canal street, is pushing forward his work with commendable activity. Nearly one hundred feet has been bored under the latter operation being at times excessively arduous, and requiring both ingenuity and fact. The various formations thus far encountered become progressively denser and more tenacious and indicate, the opinion of Mr. Rred, the presence of a rocky structure at a much more moderate depth than is generally supposed. The last formation consists of a very tenacious greenish clay, mixed with fragments of lime. The one immediately above was a very fine sand, abundantly interspersed with white shells, of which many were beautiful and highly polished. It may be well to remark that when a geological structure is reached, hard enough to preclude all apprehension of entering, the extensive operation of boring will cease to be necessary, and the auger and drill will alone be employed. Whether water be procured or not, we regard the experiment as instructing in a scientific point of view. It is the first object worthy of a piercing beyond the alluvial crust of the Mississippi, and ascertaining what is beneath, and geologically considered will probably lead to scientific discoveries of value and importance. It will moreover indicate whether the spring water can be found within the usual depth to which artesian wells are sunk, and will thus either enable others to dig with a certainty of success, or satisfy them of the utility of incurring the labor and outlay attendant upon the enterprise. [N. O. Bee.]

**THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH ALLIANCE.**—The New York Sun is quite positive that the alliance with France so industriously courted by England, has for its object a more permanent result than the adjustment of the Russo-Turkish dispute. It believes that, when the two Powers have settled the Eastern question, they will undertake the settlement of the Western question, that is, of Cuba, Santo Domingo, &c. The editor quotes in evidence the following remarkable passage, extracted from the speech of Lord Clarendon, the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, made the first night of the present session of Parliament. Speaking of the alliance with France, he said: "I will further add that the union between the two Governments has not been confined to the Eastern question. The happy accord and good understanding between France and England, which has extended beyond Eastern policy, affecting all parts of the world, and I am heartily rejoiced to say that there is no portion of the two hemispheres with regard to which the policy of the two countries, however heretofore antagonistic, is not now in entire harmony."

**"THE EDITOR."**—The Richmond Mail throws off the following capital illustration. They have a steamboat in the western waters by the name of "The Editor." This is the best name ever yet given to a steamboat, and more especially to a Mississippi steamboat. We are surprised it has never been thought of before. The editor is a working engine, whose fires are kindled by the truth, and he sails against the tide, and now with it, going along at a dashing rate until suddenly he comes up, all standing, against some hidden snag, which nearly shivers his timbers to pieces. Whenever he moves he puts the waters in agitation for a time, and leaves a wake of troubled waves behind him, which lasts about five minutes. He serves every body but himself, carries freight and passengers in any quantity, and goes puff-puffing down the stream of life. Often his powers are overtaxed, and the boiler bursts, but fortunately it kills no one but himself, and who cares for an Editor!

**RUSSIAN FINANCES.**—To meet the financial exigencies of his position, the Czar has issued a ukase for an additional issue of \$38,000,000 of paper currency. This intended depreciation of the Russian currency is already producing an unfavorable effect on the rates of exchange at St. Petersburg, and is the first step towards a new construction of the national credit. Fifteen years since Russia forced the holders of her paper money to accept a compromise of 50 per cent, and that event has not been forgotten.

**A Bird-Trap.**—A gentleman in Ohio, given to speculation in the structures of legs and feathers, commonly known as Shanghai chickens, was much annoyed by the rats. Determined to endure it no longer, he constructed a large box trap, which he baited with a liberal supply of grease, corn and other articles for which rats are supposed to have a penchant. The next morning the boys ran in to inform him of a capture, announcing the fact of a tremendous "bobbery" being kicked up in the trap, which, of course, proceeded from a captured rat. In a few moments the box was carefully lifted, and suddenly plunged into the water-butt, where it was kept submerged until long after the commotion had subsided. Then the trap was triumphantly lifted, disclosing to the astonished bystander the swollen body of his favorite fifteen-day-old Shanghai rooster. —*Kaiserhooker.*

**THE ONLY CHILD.**—From the bottom of our heart do we pity the only child. We care not how large the fortune that awaits that only son or daughter, we do not envy their position. When we behold one, who will soon be the sole heir to all a parent's wealth, we do not have any envious feelings arise within our bosoms towards that favored one, but we pity, that they have no kind brother or sister, to love, to cherish their wealth and affections. They may be the idol of idolizing parents, but they know not the value of a brother's love, or the priceless wealth of a fond sister's affection. We would not exchange a sister's love for all the untold wealth of Golconda's mines. Oh do we take a retrospective glance down the dim and shadowy valley of the past, and mingle in happy scenes, with the loved ones at home. There was no easy there in our happy home circle. Oft as we have gazed around the festive board, have we thanked God that there were others, near and dear, to be shared that mother's love, and father's guardian care.

**An institution to be established in New-York,** similar to that under the direction of the Societe des Creoles in Paris. The Creoles of Paris are benevolent institutions where poor women who work out of doors, may deposit their children in the morning and return for them at night after the labors of the day are over.

**The Turkish Service.**—The New York Evening Post publishes the following extract from a letter dated Constantinople, Jan. 15: "As yet the Porte appears disposed not to employ Polish or Hungarian officers on its Danubian frontier, out of regard for Austria, which, as you are aware, claims to be neutral. There are many English half-pay officers here, who will probably be engaged, and some French, but I do not believe that any of the Poles or Hungarians will be allowed to enter the army of Roumelia, until Austria fails in her neutrality. Surgeons and physicians in abundance are here from Italy, some of whom get employment, but many not."

**FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT AT NIAGARA.**—A dispatch states that another frightful accident occurred at Niagara Falls on the 24th ult. Several persons, it appears, were at work at the suspension bridge, when the scaffolding on which they were standing gave way, precipitating two of them from a height of 240 feet. They were of course instantly killed. Two others saved themselves, by catching hold of the cables, to which they clung until rescued.

**A Dark Day.**—There will be an extraordinary eclipse of the sun on the 28th of May, such a one as none but the oldest inhabitants have witnessed in this vicinity. It will be similar to the great eclipse of 1806, since which there has been none resembling it nearer than that of 1850, when eleven-twelfths of the sun, was obscured. —*Es. paper.*

**LECTURE TO YOUNG MEN.**

The Milton (Fla.) Courier delivers the following lecture to young men. It is too good to be cast aside, and therefore we copy it for the benefit of whom it may concern. Young men, do you suppose the physical frame is made of iron, or gutta serena, or india rubber, or some other tough substance, that you knock and tumble it around in such an unbecomingly manner, as to deprive it of rest, sooth it in your weary, and indigestible food? Do you suppose it is going to last 30 and 40 years, if you use it thus badly? You allow it no time to recuperate its exhausted energies; you make it work so hard doing nothing that it has no more chance than a bob-tail cat in a fly time. You are foolish, for you are young, but be foolish—and a little exercise, the young life-blood, vigorous and fresh, is coursing through your veins with mill-stream power, and your being overflowing with the poetry of motion, adventure, excitement; small space to retrograde, and your activities, you fasten on hope and catching that comet by the tail, it snakes you through immensity, till it scoops your fingers, and you drop into the mire of sober reality, and draw in your horns like a garden-snail in a snow storm. Our young men are too fond of being with the young men, for when they gather, the Old Scratch is in their midst as certain as it was a democratic caucus, and there's more devilry concocted in a half hour than in a full day's subscription to the Ashmun Monument Fund, or a face a yard long at a distracted meeting, would alone for. The experiences of our youth strengthen the impression that there's more real enjoyment in one quiet evening with nine yards of calico, than in three activities, you fasten on hope and catching that comet by the tail, it snakes you through immensity, till it scoops your fingers, and you drop into the mire of sober reality, and draw in your horns like a garden-snail in a snow storm. Our young men are too fond of being with the young men, for when they gather, the Old Scratch is in their midst as certain as it was a democratic caucus, and there's more devilry concocted in a half hour than in a full day's subscription to the Ashmun Monument Fund, or a face a yard long at a distracted meeting, would alone for. 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