THE COURIER.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING BY
JOEL H. SANDOZ & ANDREW MEYNIER.

Opelousas :

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22d., 1855.

OUR AGENTS.

The following gentlemen are authorized to collect and receive subscriptions and advertisements for the *Opelousas Courier*, in their respective towns:

AUGUSTE MARAIST,	St. Martinsville, (La.)
ARTHUR BULLIARD.	Beaux's Bridge, (La.)
A. MILLSPAUGH,	Washington, (La.)

☞ We are authorized to announce that Mr. CHARLES CLOSE has become a candidate for a seat in the Police Jury of this Parish, from the 3rd Ward, comprising Gros Chevreuil, Grand Coteau and Coulée Croche, at the election which will take place on the second Monday of May next.
Opelousas, Nov. 17th, 1855.

☞ We are authorized to announce Mr. AUG. M. PERRAULT as a candidate for Town Constable of the town of Opelousas, at the election which will take place on the first Monday of April next.
Opelousas, 24th November 1855.

OUR LAND OFFICE.—Dr. James Ray, of our town, who has lately been appointed Receiver of Public Monies at our Land Office, has fulfilled all the formalities required by law in regard to the different bonds to be given, and has been installed in office on Monday last.

Therefore, this office is now open for all transactions in lands.

THE DEMOCRATIC CREED.—The following admirable enunciation and condensation of the Democratic creed is going the rounds of the Democratic press. Every true Democrat recognizes in it his own political faith:

"No. 1. Equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political.

"No. 2. Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations; entangling alliances with none.

"No. 3. The rights of States and Territories to administer their own domestic affairs.

"No. 4. Freedom, equality, the sovereignty of the people, and the right of the majority to rule when their will is constitutionally expressed.

"No. 5. Economy in the public expenditures, and a sacred preservation of public faith.

"No. 6. Freedom of religion, freedom of the press, and general diffusion of information.

"No. 7. Opposition to all secret political organizations, and to all corruptions in politics.

"No. 8. A sacred preservation of the federal constitution, and no religious tests for office.

"No. 9. No bigotry, or pride of caste or distinction of birth among American citizens.

"No. 10. Respect and protection for the rights of all.

"No. 11. The preservation of the naturalization laws, and the right of all the public domain, and the protection of the American government.

"No. 12. Opposition to all chartered monopolies.

"No. 13. Common brotherhood and good will to all, especially to those of the household of faith."

☞ The commerce between the United States and Africa is increasing yearly, at the rate of 50 per cent. Recently a lot of seventy-five casks of palm oil arrived at Salem, Mass., destined for Louisville, Kentucky. This oil is probably wanted there for the manufacture of sterine candles, for which purpose it is extensively used in this country.

BEAUTIFUL AND TRUE.—In a late article in Frazer's Magazine, this brief but beautiful passage occurs: "Education does not commence with the alphabet. It begins with a mother's look—with a father's smile of approbation or a sign of reproof—with a sister's gentle pressure of the hand, or a brother's noble act of forbearance—with handsfull of flowers in green and daisy meadows—with bird's nests admired but not touched—with creeping ants, and almost imperceptible emmets—with humming bees and glass beehives—with pleasant walks in shady lanes, and with thoughts directed in sweet and kindly tones, and words to mature to acts of benevolence, to deeds of virtue, and to the source of all good, to God himself."

The printing done for the last Congress, including all the expenses of paper, engraving, &c., amounted, it is stated, to the large sum of a million and a half of dollars for its work alone, in addition to half a million of dollars for the work of the Executive Departments.

OLD BULL OUTDONE.—Mr. Benjamin Adams, a genuine son of Connecticut, thus writes to the editor of the New York Tribune:

I wish to prove we have a Yankee born citizen who is superior on the violin to any that have come on the stage. I can do it. I can play four parts at one time on the violin. I can play whole pieces of music on one string; also, I can play whole pieces on one string with one finger only, and with rapidness, and many curious executions I can perform; also, my music will be wholly original, and beholden to no foreign composer. I commenced playing at seven years of age; have practiced for 29 years, more or less; never went to a music school in my life; am, therefore, self-taught—a regular Yankee genius in music as some would term it. I could give you quite a history of my life and manner and style of playing, together with the success in going the point of playing the instrument, as I consider to the nicety of it. I can play it with my arms laced with a cord to my body, as well as to have them at liberty.

TRAGEDY AT DONALDSONVILLE.—We clip the following from the *Baton-Rouge Advocate* of the 15th. inst:

"We have been shown a letter giving particulars of a fatal shooting affair in that town, on the 13th. A barber named Lacroix approached a gentleman by the name of Larrouque, and insulted him, which the latter did not resent, telling the barber he wished to have no difficulty with him; whereupon Lacroix drew a revolver and shot him through the heart. Lacroix attempted to make his escape, but was arrested and committed to jail for trial at the next Court—no bail being allowed. Mr. Larrouque is said to have been a peaceable and hard working man."

AN INVITING TOWN.—In a long panegyric on the huge importance of the huge inland city of Tiffin, Ohio, the Advertiser winds up with the following:

"As a place of residence—for fun, politics and trade—this city is unrivalled. We pity everybody who don't live in Tiffin."

In the next column of the same paper, the editor gives some of the fruits of this blessed state of things in the subjoining paragraph:

"During the past year we have published about fifteen petitions for divorces in our paper, and the Lord only knows how many runaway wives.

(Extract from the N. O. True Delta, of Dec. 8th.)

THE STATE ELECTION.

Most persons having made up their minds to be satisfied or dissatisfied with the late State election, care very little about enquiring into the causes which contributed to the result, or the political combinations which eventuated in the election of the Democratic State ticket. Others, however, there are, who will regard it as of sufficient moment for investigations, that we revert to the subject.

The late election presented many strange features both in city and country, among others the extinction of one political party and the thorough disorganization of an other. The first was the old Whig, the second the Democratic party. The former, out of the Creole Catholic parishes, generally attached itself to the Know-Nothing organization, which succeeded in thoroughly deranging the ranks of the Democracy also. In this parish of Orleans the Democratic party was completely demoralized, in numerous precincts a Democrat of native birth being difficult to find to act as an inspector of election, while as challengers, unless at a very few precincts, none was to be seen.

Had, therefore, the result in the city depended upon the Democratic vote, strictly so called, that party would have been in a minority of at least about twelve hundred votes. It was, then, not the loyal adhesion of the Democracy to their ancient creed, not their devotion to their time-honored principles which secured their success, but the disintegration of the Whig party and the religious apprehensions of many of its Catholic members. In fact, it was the Catholic Whig vote of the Second Congressional District which settled the election in the State, for it is not difficult to show that at least twenty-five hundred votes of this character were cast for the Democratic ticket.

It was this unexpectedly large vote which rendered abortive all the efforts and calculations of the Know Nothing leaders, and which, although compelled to go for a ticket personally most distasteful individually, determined the issue.

To catch the Creole Catholic vote the Know Nothings of Louisiana repudiated the national organization of their party, denounced those who adhered to it with unmeasured vituperation, and proclaimed their opposition to the religious test. As proof of their sincerity they put Derbigny and Duralde upon their State ticket in the fallacious expectation of winning Catholic support. The device failed, and the disaster which befel them before the people is solely and exclusively a scribable to the attempt, for had they adhered to the proscriptive features of the Philadelphia platform and presented an American Protestant ticket to the electors, very few of the Catholics who supported the candidates of the Order would have withdrawn, while in the American parishes the vote would have been almost unanimous in their favor.

When the national platform men came out through their Secretary, Mr. Hardy, in opposition to the mixed ticket, we were then satisfied that the Order would be completely overthrown at the ballot boxes, for we well knew that the arguments used by our Know Nothing cotemporaries to secure Southern Louisiana, would lose them Northern Louisiana beyond the possibility of salvation.

The result has fully indicated the correctness of our views, expressed before the election, when we stated that Mr. Wickliffe's majority would be from three to five thousand; three thousand in the event of obstructions and intimidations in the city; five thousand if the election were peaceable and orderly in New Orleans. This calculation was based upon an intimate knowledge of the state of opinion in the Creole parishes of the second Congressional District, and in St. Landry and two or three other parishes out of the District, as well as our familiarity with the sentiments of the people of Northern Louisiana, which we were sure would incline very decidedly to protestant Wickliffe rather than Catholic Derbigny.

A statement of these facts is absolutely essential to a right understanding of the recent election in this State, and the grounds upon which it was determined. The triumph was not in any sense a party triumph, for the successful candidates owe their elevation entirely to the suffrages of citizens who neither sympathised with their past political careers or cared for them individually. Issues wholly unconnected with old party divisions decided the contest, and the victory was achieved by auxiliaries who disliked both parties but had to choose a bitter alternative.

The [illegible] and substance of all this is to satisfy us that, had the Know Nothings adhered to the National Platform, and presented an anti-Catholic ticket to the electors, they would have carried the State by several thousand majority, just as they carried Maryland.

It may appear strange, in this enlightened age of the world, that religion should be permitted to mix itself up with the political affairs of mankind; and still more surprising that, in these free States, and under their constitution, a religious test for political office should be exacted; but, however strange or incomprehensible such things may appear to the philosophic mind, they are, nevertheless, true; and, as faithful journalists, it is our duty to state them fairly, and leave to those who are more immediately concerned in the consequences to determine for themselves what is best to be done in so singular and unexpected a condition of political affairs.

EUROPE.—By the steamer *St. Louis*, at New York, from Havre, one or two items of interest have been received.

Three magazines belonging to the French artillery were blown up near Inkermann, killing seventy soldiers and two officers, and wounding one hundred soldiers and ten officers.

The magazines contained thirty thousand kilogrammes of powder, 600,000 cartridges, and 300 charged shells, all of which exploded.

A large quantity of Russian grain had been destroyed on the Grieskeinam coast.

A terrific fire had occurred at Paris. The government bakery, and 28,000 quintals of corn, and an equal quantity of flour and biscuits were burnt.

The steamer *Africa* arrived out on the 18th.

The ship *America*, wrecked near Cabrito, had been sold by the underwriters and gotten off by her purchasers. The destruction of Russian grain, previously mentioned, was effected by the Allied flotilla sent for that purpose. The grain was intended for the Crimean army, and was packed in six tiers which extended two miles along the coast.

The Czar has dismissed Prince Menschikoff as chief of the staff, and appointed General Adlenburg in his stead.

Advices from Kars state that Gen. Mouravieff, overcome by his defeat before Kars, has become insane, and Gen. Bubuzoff has been summoned to assume the command.

Turkey.—Several of the Tunisian mutineers have been condemned to death, and the rest of them will be sent to Batoum and Souchum Kale.

The number of French killed in the recent riot was more considerable than at first reported.

Peace Rumors.—The Court of Berlin is making their greatest efforts to induce the Czar to consent to such terms as will really lead to a pacific result.—As the Prussian Cabinet is sufficiently well acquainted with the firm resolution of the Allied Powers, the continuation of the negotiation affords some ground for hoping that there is at least a chance of peace.

Miscellaneous war news.—The London *Times* publishes elaborate editorial calculations, showing that the total available strength of Russia is 83 per thousand souls; and that she has used 58, which allows only ten months more at the present ratio, to exhaust her last man—her last cash rouble being already expended. A general armament of the Russian empire is talked of.

The maritime administration at Nicolaief is placed under the orders of Gen. Luders, to whom, in this respect, Gortschakoff is to be subordinate.

It is believed the congress of Russian diplomats that was to take place at Warsaw will be held at St. Petersburg soon.

Great Britain.—A petition is circulating in Liverpool for the re-establishment of the Kingdom of Poland.

Gen. Markham is dead. He returned to England in bad health after the fall of Sebastopol.

Belgium.—The estimates of revenue show a deficit of eight millions of francs, caused by the vote of twelve and a half millions for the defense of the country and relief of distress.

The Feeling in Berlin.—Berlin, Nov. 24, 1855.—The political circles here, especially the "Krew Zeitung," a Russian party, are triumphant. While the Western people dread German treason, they are loudly declaring for peace, or an adhesion with Russia as the alternative.

TRIAL OF BAKER.

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—The trial of Lewis Baker, for the murder of William Poole, has been one of the most absorbing incidents of life in our city during the week. The room in which the trial takes place is filled from its opening to its close, and every face appears full of interest in the proceedings. The trial of an ordinary murderer here excites little interest, but this calls up a feeling of nationality. Poole, it was supposed, became a martyr to Americanism; Baker was considered the champion of the foreigners, and is now supposed, by the lower grades, to be suffering in their cause. The defense are endeavoring to prove that Poole was the aggressor, and that Baker acted simply on the defensive at the time the tragedy was enacted. If this plea is established, he will, of course, be acquitted, and his liberation will be likely to create much ill-feeling. If he obtains his enlargement, the best thing the city can do is to recharter the *Grapeshot*, and leave him, once more, at the Canary Islands.—*Corres. of the Bee.*

UP SALT RIVER SAMMY MUST GO.

AIR—"*Rosin the Bow.*"

Sam's travelled this Union all over,
And now he must travel once more:
The people all join in this verdict—
"Up Salt River Sammy must go!"

Sam wanted to rule Old Virginia,
But the Wise men loudly "no!"
'Twas the voice of the Ancient Dominion,
"Up Salt River Sammy must go!"

In Tennessee Sam raised his banner,
But there it was quickly laid low,
And Know Nothings sighed as they saw it,
"Up Salt River Sammy must go!"

In the North State Sam built his wigwams,
From Tennessee to the sea-shore,
But gallant "Old Rip" spoke in thunder,
"Up Salt River Sammy must go!"

Alabama, Texas and Georgia—
The sugar and cotton States too,—
Unite in the loud sounding chorus,
"Up Salt River Sammy must go!"

Arkansas to do her whole duty,
In fifty-six will not be slow,
Her true-blue children proclaim it,
"Up Salt River Sammy must go!"

His grips, oaths and pass-words won't save him,
His fate it is easy to know:—
He'll march away mournfully singing,
"Up Salt River, Sammy must go!"

And when he commences his journey,
The Fed'ralists all in a row,—
With tears in their eyes will be chaunting,
"Up Salt River Sammy must go!"

"Political parsons" and "sore backs"
Much tender emotion will show,
Crying "Adieu, dear loaves and fishes"—
"Up Salt River Sammy must go!"

Not fearing the Pope and the Irish
So much as Sam's blood-shedding crew,
The people still join in this verdict,
"Up Salt River Sammy must go!"

FROM WASHINGTON.

Washington, Dec. 6.—A despatch has been received from Mr. Buchanan to the purport that England positively declines giving any explanation in answer to our demands concerning alleged violations of the neutrality laws. All the Central American governments have protested, through their diplomatic agents, against our recognition, by Wheeler, of the present Nicaraguan government. These governments state the opinion that the present government of Nicaragua will not long continue, and declare their intention to exterminate all foreign adventurers who invade their soil for revolutionary purposes.

KNOW-NOTHINGISM IN WISCONSIN.—In Wisconsin the Know-Nothings and Abolitionists supported the same ticket, as they did in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, and other places. The following article from the Milwaukie Daily American, the Know-Nothing organ of Wisconsin, proves the continued identity between the two fanaticisms in that State:

"The American party of this State was formed for one purpose, has but one object in view, and that is to aid in purifying and cleansing the government, both State and national, from long-witnessed corruption and wasting demagogueism. As yet the organization in Wisconsin is young, but daily increasing in size and power, and having in its grasp the 'balance of any power', or, as it might be termed, the control of single political issues. It at first contemplated to nominate a State ticket of its own, to be placed in the contest at the approaching election; but after the nominations made by the republican party were made public and were found to consist of men mostly Americans in sentiment and in principle, as well as in name, but little cause remained for the selection of a new ticket. The opposition waged by the democratic party against the republican organization is founded upon a desire of the former to put down all opposition to the spread of the curse of African slavery; while it opposes the American party, in order that it may retain its great mainstay, the Catholic vote. If the Catholic influence should, through the agency of Satan, or the inscrutable providence of a just God, ever obtain the ruling power in America, then would slavery be permitted to run its length without check or stint. The American organization is not oblivious to this truth, nor desires to chase a single enemy at the risk of being overtaken by a greater.

"Let the American party concentrate their united strength upon the republican ticket, or upon such men who compose it as they believe are good and true, and for whom they can consistently vote, and the republican ticket of 1855 will be victorious."

THE LOVE OF A TRUE WOMAN.

Oh! the priceless value of the love of a true woman! Gold cannot purchase a gem so precious! Titles and honors confer upon the heart no such serene happiness. In our darkest moments, when disappointment and ingratitude with corroding care gather around, and even the gaunt form of poverty menaces with skeleton finger, it gleams with an angel's smile. Time cannot mark its brilliancy, distance but strengthens its influence; bolts and bars cannot limit its progress, it follows the prisoner into his dark cell and sweetens the homely and degraded morsel that appeases his hunger, and in the silence of midnight it plays around his heart and in his dreams he folds to his bosom the form of her who loves on still, though the world has turned coldly upon him. The couch made by the hand of a loved one, is soft to the weary limbs of the sick sufferer and the potion administered by the hand of a loved one, loses half of the bitterness. The pillow carefully adjusted by her, bring repose to the fevered brain, and her words of encouragement revives the sinking spirit. It would almost seem that God, compassionating woman's frailty had planted this jewel in her breast, whose heaven like influence should cast into forgetfulness man's remembrance of the Fall, by building up in her heart another Eden, where perennial flowers forever bloom, and crystal waters gush from exhaustless fountains.

THE WIFE.—The leading features in the character of a good woman are mildness, complaisance and equanimity of temper. The man if he be a worthy and provident husband, is immersed in a thousand cares. His mind is agitated, his memory loaded and his body fatigued. He retires from the bustle of the world, chagrined perhaps by disappointment, angry at insolent and perfidious people, and terrified lest his unavoidable connections with such people should make him appear perfidious himself. Is this the time for the wife of his bosom, his dearest and most intimate friend, to add to his vexations, to increase the fever of an overburdened mind, by a contentious tongue or a discontented brow? Business, in its most prosperous state, is full of anxiety and turmoil. Oh, how dear to the memory of man is the wife who clothes her face in smiles, who uses gentle expressions, and who makes her lap soft to receive and hush his cares to rest. There is not in nature so fascinating an object as a faithful, tender and affectionate wife.

☞ The official aggregate of votes given at the late election in Mississippi, are thus stated:

	Democratic Ticket.		American Ticket.	
Governor	McRae,	32,781	Fontaine,	27,648
Sec. of State	Dilworth	32,915	Horne,	27,653
Auditor,	McAfee,	32,912	Swann,	27,584
Treasurer,	Hussey,	32,873	Stith,	27,553
Chan. Clerk	Simms,	32,731	Carpenter,	27,485
Congress,		32,731		27,631

MRS. SWISSHELM ON BABY SHOWS.—Mrs. Swisshelm, of the Pittsburg Saturday *Visitor*, having performed the "disagreeable duty" of attending Barnum's Baby Show at Pittsburg, calls it a "very stupid affair," and expresses her opinion of these exhibitions thus:

"The poor dupes of mothers are to be pitied, rather than blamed; some of them are decent, innocent women, who have no definite idea of the light in which they place themselves; and most are too nearly idiotic to be accountable. But it is not right that humanity should be degraded thus in these persons; nobody expects any respect for humanity from Barnum. The parties really to blame for these exhibitions are city authorities who grant licenses, and people of ordinary sense who go to see anything so totally devoid of attractions. Ugly, stupid women, and ordinary, vulgarly-dressed children are no great rarity in this great Republic; and any body who gives a quarter to see a lot of them, deserves a pair of donkey's ears. The exhibition is akin to the old model artist shows, and when Barnum and Wood visit a city to bring shame on the mothers of it by one of these shows, the sons of that city should see them safely past the suburbs on a pair of rails."

☞ It is said that if the English language be divided into one hundred parts, sixty would be Saxon, thirty would be Latin (including French,) five would be Greek, and the remaining five from the other languages of the world.

A MELANCHOLY STORY.—We find the following in the New York Times Police report:

Among the twelve who were punished for drunkenness was one—a female—whose history is truly melancholy, though by no means unusual. She is not yet old and was once pretty; courted and admired by all.

She was born in the South, of wealthy parents & her earlier years was blest with all the blessings of one in her station. Her education was thorough, and she early gained a good reputation as a writer. She soon evinced a passion for the stage—a passion so untrolable that despite the entreaties of parents and friends, she became an actress. In this sphere she was very successful, and after a time made her appearance on the boards, in this city where she created no little furor. Her appearance was always hailed with enthusiasm, but after a time her fame and fortune began to wane. She fell, as many of her profession had done before, victim to drink! Becoming finally worse, no manager would run the risk of engaging her. For a time she gave evidence of an intention to reform, but the terrible passion predominated; she again fell. The former lovely woman, talented authoress and fine actress sleeps to night a vagabond in the Tombs!

WAR.—The following remarks by Voltaire will apply very well to the present war in the Crimea.

A hundred thousand mad animals, whose heads are covered with hats, advance to kill or be killed by a like number of their fellow mortals covered with turbans. By this strange procedure, they want to know whether a tract of land, to which none of them has any claim, shall belong to a certain man whom they call Sultan, or to another whom they call Czar, neither of whom ever saw or ever will see the spot so furiously contended for, and very few of those creatures who thus mutually butcher each other beheld the animal for whom they cut each others' throats! From time immemorial this has been the way of mankind almost all over the earth. What an excess of madness this is! and how deservedly might the Supreme Being crush to atoms this earthly ball, the bloody nest of such ridiculous murderers.

☞ The following is the latest story we have seen illustrative of the sagacity of the feline race.

Mr. Tiedeman, the famous Saxon dentist, had a valuable tortoise shell cat, that for days did nothing but moan. Guessing the cause, he looked into its mouth, and seeing a decayed tooth, soon relieved it of its pain. The following day there was at least ten cats at his door—the day after, twenty; and they went on increasing at such a rate that he was obliged to keep a bulldog to drive them away. But nothing would help them. A cat who had the toothache would come any number of miles to him. It would come down the chimney, even, and not leave the room till he had taken its tooth out. It grew such a nuisance at last that he was never free from one of these feline patients. However, being one morning very nervous, he accidentally broke the jaw of an old tabbey. The news of this spread like wildfire. Not a single cat ever came to him afterwards.

A GRAND RAILWAY SCHEME.—A grand railway from New York to New Orleans is a project which has lately been mooted a good deal in some quarters. The project is to connect the links of roads already built, and form a great chain from New York city, *via* Easton, Harrisburg, Carlisle, Hagerstown, Winchester, Abingdon, Knoxville, Tuscaloosa, Mobile and New Orleans, and also branching from Knoxville to Charleston and Savannah, and from Hagerstown to Cincinnati and St. Louis. In favor of this route, it is urged that Cumberland Vally extends from the Delaware at Easton without a crossing ridge, through Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee, down into the level regions of South Alabama, presenting a direct and favorable route for a railroad from New Orleans to Philadelphia and New York.

"Young man do you believe in a future state?"

"In course I does and what's more, I intend to enter as soon as Betsey gets her wedding things ready?"

"You mistake me. Do you believe in a future state of rewards and punishments?"

"Most assuredly. If I should cut mugs with a red-headed woman, I should expect my hat intended by the first cistern pole she could lay her hands on."

"Go to, young man, you are incorrigible. Go to."

"Go two! If it wasn't the law again bigamy, darned if I wouldn't go a dozen. But who supposed, Deacon that a man of your years would give such advice to a person just starting, in life?"

This took the Deacon down.

TOO TRUE.—A child when asked why a certain tree grew crooked, replied "Somebody trod upon it, I suppose, when it was a little fellow."

How painfully suggestive is that answer! How many, with aching hearts can remember the days of their childhood, when they were the victims of indiscreet repression rather than the happy subjects of some kind direction and culture. The effects of such misguided discipline have been apparent in their history and character, and by no process of human devising can the wrong now be rectified. The grand error of their education consisted in a system of rigid restraints without corresponding efforts to develope and cultivate, and train in a right direction.

A MAN FRIGHTENED TO DEATH.—Lloyd's forthcoming Steamboat Directory gives a singular account of a man being frightened to death on board the steamer Jas. Robb, during her trip up the Mississippi River in 1852. The boat took fire in the night, and the cry of fire, fire, soon aroused the passengers, and the wildest excitement prevailed. Women were running to and fro in their night dresses, screaming at the top of their voices for assistance. One man, Mr. J. C. Dent, of New York, in his excitement, rushed to his state room, snatched up his trunk, which contained $12,000, carried it a few steps, and then fell dead in the cabin from excessive fright. The fire was subdued.

☞ Congress assembled on the first Monday of the present month. The Senate was easily organized, but the House has, as yet, failed in every attempt or become so.—The Democrats are united upon Richardson of Illinois, a sound Kansas Nebraska Democrat, for Speaker, the free soilers upon L. D. Campbell of Ohio, and the Know-Nothings upon Mr. Banks of Massachusetts.—Senator Benjamin, Jones, Toombs, and Pratt have come over to the Democratic party.

(*Bayou Sara's Ledger*)

☞ One night—midnight—last week a man was found drunk in one of the streets of Philadelphia. He was carried to a lock-up, where the large sum of $57,500 was found on his person. Some of the rogues lost a chance for a fine haul.

RECRUITING IN RUSSIA.—A letter from St. Petersburg says—"The new recruitment has thrown the country into great terror. It is doubled if 400,000 men capable of service can be found. The towns and districts furnishing the recruits will be obliged to provide them with fur cloaks, which is a heavy burden, owing to the present high price of furs."

A GOOD PROSPECT.—The elections for 1855 have all taken place, with the following glorious result. For the Democracy, eighteen States, entitled to 171 Presidential Electors; for all grades of the opposition, thirteen States, entitled to 125 Electors. Democratic majority 44! Let them crow who win.

N. H. Patriot.

READ THIS.—"I look forward to the day when there shall be a servile insurrection in the South, when the black man armed with British bayonets, and led on by British officers, shall assert his freedom, and wage a war against his master, When the torch of the incendiary shall light up the towns and cities of the South, and blot out the last vestige of slavery. And though I may not mock at their calamity nor laugh when their fear commeth, yet I will hail it as the dawn of a political millenium."—*J. R. Giddings, an Ohio "Republican."*

Comment on the above is unnecessary, for everybody knows that Giddings is a fair exponent of Black Republican principles, and that if he goes farther than some others of the same party, it is because he has the manliness to express his sentiments more openly.

There is not a leading member of that party in the United States who does not, at heart, wish the same thing.—*Indianapolis Sentinel.*

THE TEXAS STATE DEBT.—It is stated that if Texas accepts, as she probably will, the 7¾ millions of the Federal Government in discharge of all obligations, that large amount will be paid out of the sub-treasury during the coming winter. into the pockets of the Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers, Baltimorians and New Orleansoises. Pennsylvania gets of these 7¾ millions, about 4 millions; and New York 1¾ millions; Baltimore 1 million; and New Orleans 1 million. Ninety days after the acceptance of Texas, the Federal Government is to pay the money to the claimants. Seven and three-quarter millions thrown into circulation will make a livelier time in the money market.

DANIEL WEBSTER'S ESTATE.—The Boston *Transcript* learns that the executors of the estate of Daniel Webster have sent printed circulars to persons having claims against the same, in which it is stated that the nett amount of assets in their hands is $35,180 89, and the amount of claims is about $155,000. The executors are now making a distribution among the creditors. They divide twenty-one and three-quarters per centum, retaining in haud about one per centum to defray expenses and charges in the suit against the city of New Orleans for a claim of $25,000 for counsel fees in the Gaines' controversy.

WHAT LUCY SAID.—In a late speech, Lucy Stone said, "We know there is cotton in the ears of men. Let us look for hope in the bosom of women."—[*Exchange.*

She probably meant to say, "better look for hope in the eyes of men, for we know there is cotton in the bosoms of women."—*N. Y. Post.*

☞ Recently, in Detroit, when Romeo and Juliet was "in the bills," a scapegrace known as "Romeo" was in the pit "When Juliet exclaimed, "Romeo, where art thou?" we quote from memory and may not have the text, the youngest rose and said, "Here I am in the pit—I only had a quarter, and couldn't get into the boxes." Juliet fainted.

A JUDGE ELECTED BY SEVEN VOTES.—The office of Special County Judge in St. Lawrence county, N. Y. was vacant at the late election, but the fact was overlooked, and no provision made for it. A half dozen wide awake gentlemen in Canton discovered the omission, and on election day *seven votes* were cast for Wm. H. Sawyer, Esq. and the board of county canvassers have declared him elected. He is a "Hard Shell," add the success of a gentleman of that stripe in St. Lawrence is so near a miracle that the fact is deemed one of the wonders of the canvass.—*Albany Evening Journal.*

BAD LUCK.—I never knew, says a popular writer, an early rising, hard-working, prudent man, honest and careful of his earnings, who complained of bad luck. Good character, good habits, good industry, seems impregnable to the assaults of ill luck.

☞ The road to glory would cease to be arduous if it were trite and trodden; and great minds must be ready not only to take opportunities, but to make them.

☞ New York now produces as much iron as was manufactured in Great Britain thirty years ago, and of a quality that compares very favorably with it.

☞ Suspicious tailor to suspected customer:

Make you a coat, sir? Oh, yes, sir, with the greatest pleasure. There, just stand in that position, please, and look right upon that sign while I take your measure. Sign reads "Terms Cash."

☞ "Insults," says a modern philosopher, are like counterfeit money, we can't hinder their being offered, but we are not compelled to take them.

Madame Jenny Lind Goldsmidt, it is said, has been attacked with some terrible disease in the face.

THE FIRST CHURCH IN KANSAS.—It is said to be a settled matter that the first church in Kansas will be under the auspices of the Unitarians. The sum of $5000 has been raised in the denomination for the purpose, and the agent, Mr. E. P. Whitman, is now on his way to the Territory to superintend the work.

NAPOLEON'S hat once fell off at a review, when a young lieutenant stepped forward and picked it up, and returned it to him.

"Thank you, Captain," said the Emperor.

"In what regiment, Sire?" retorted the lieutenant, as quickly as possible.

Napoleon smiled and passed on and forthwith had the lucky youth promoted.

NOTICE.

ETIENNE VIDRINE, of the Parish of St. Landry, having applied by his petition, for the appointment of Administrator of the Estate of Victoire Soileau, widow of Etienne Vidrine, père, deceased, late of the Parish of St. Landry.

Therefore, any person intending to make opposition to said appointment, will file the same in writing, in my office, in the town of Opelousas, within ten days from the date of this notice.

AUG. DEJEAN, *Dep. Clerk.*
Opelousas, December 22d, 1855.

The Supreme Court of Indiana has decided the prohibitory liquor law unconstitutional.

Married—In this town, on tuesday last, 18th instant, by the Rev. Mr. Raymond, Mr. YVES D'AVY to Miss JULIE HOLLIER, both of this parish.

Catholic Church of Washington.

THE PEWS of the Catholic Church of Washington will be sold on Sunday, the 6th of January, at the end of mass, which on that day will be said at 10 o'clock. They will be sold *for cash*, as those at the Church of Opelousas. For the accommodation of such persons as live far from the Church, divine service will hereafter be generally kept at 10 o'clock, every other Sunday.

December 20th 1855. 3—2t.

H.·. C.·. L.·. No. 19,

A.·. F.·. & A.·. M.·.

A REGULAR meeting of this Lodge will be held on Thursday, the 27th December inst. at 4 o'clock, P. M.

All transcient brothers, in good standing, are invited to attend.

By order of the W.·. M.·.
P. LEONCE HEBRARD,
Secretary.

Opelousas, 22nd December, 1855.

A Runaway in Jail.

WAS committed into the Jail of the Parish of St. Landry, on the 15th of December instant, a grift boy calling himself GREEN, and saying he belongs to E. S. Gordon, residing on the Atchafalaya, in this Parish.

Green is aged about 21 years, 5 feet, 6 inches high, stout built, speaks english only.

The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take him away, otherwise he will be disposed of according to law, after the legal delay.

CHS. THOMPSON, *Jailor.*
Opelousas, December 22nd, 1855. 3

NEW ORLEANS, OPELOUSAS, WASHINGTON AND BAYOU BŒUF PACKET.

THE elegant and fast running steamer SYDONIA, GUSTAVE LOUAILLIER, Master. Having been thoroughly repaired, will, as soon as the water will permit it, ply as a regular packet between Opelousas, Washington, Bayou Bœuf and New-Orleans. This boat is safe, comfortable and fast runner, admirably built and is of light draft. The officers will use all their exertions to satisfy those who will encourage them. For further information apply on board.

☞ *Freight taken as low as any boat in the trade.*
December 15th, 1855.

PUBLIC SALE,

By the undersigned, a Public Auctioneer for the Parish of St. Landry.

THE public are hereby informed that there will be offered for sale at public sale, to the last and highest bidder, by the undersigned Auctioneer, at the last residence of the late Mrs. Félonise Thibodeau, deceased Widow of Maximilien Préjean, also deceased, situated at the point of Caraucro island, in said Parish of St. Landry,

On Friday, 28th December next,

the hereinafter described property belonging to the succession of said late Félonise Thibodeau, to-wit:

11 SLAVES,

of both sexes and different ages.

A lot of 20 or 25 head of horned cattle, 2 horses, 2 mares, 1 horse cart, Plantation implements, household furniture, &c., &c.

Terms and conditions.—One, two and three years credit. Purchasers furnishing their notes with good and sufficient security in solido, to the satisfaction of whom the right, and said notes bearing interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from maturity.—And moreover, the slaves remaining specially mortgaged until full and entire payment of capital and interest.

☞ Acts of sale at the cost of purchasers.
P. GUILBEAU, Jr. *Auctioneer.*
Opelousas December 15th, 1855.

$20 Reward.

Ranaway from the undersigned, in Pine Prairie, in this Parish, on the night of the 20th of November last, a mulatto man named CHARLES, aged about 30 years, about 5 feet, 9 or 10 inches high, having the first phalanx of the thumb on the right hand cut off. Charles speaks french and english, and is the same that the undersigned has purchased at the sale of the estate of the late Jacques Lastrapes.

A reward of $20 will be given to whoever shall bring back said boy to the undersigned, or fifteen dollars for his delivery to Mr. Cazeaux, in Ville Plate, or ten dollars if he is lodged in jail.

E. DARDEAU.
Pine Prairie, St. Landry, Dec. 15, 1855.

For sale at private sale.

THE undersigned offers for sale, at private sale and upon reasonable conditions, the following property, to-wit:

ONE LOT OF GROUND,

situated on Main street, in the town of Opelousas, together with the Buildings and Improvements, consisting of a Dwelling House, Store, and other buildings.

Another lot of ground upon which there is a small dwelling house, situated at the corner of Court and King streets.

☞ Any body wishing to purchase can apply to the office of the *Courier*, or for more informations, call on the undersigned, at the junction of Bayous Teche and Fuselier.

EDOUARD FAYOLE.
St. Landry, December 8th, 1855.

FOR SALE,

A NEGRO BOY about 20 years old, with full guarantee, for sale at private sale, or to be exchanged for a family of negroes, and the difference paid cash by the owner of the boy. For particulars, apply at this Office. Opelousas Sept 8. [tf.

J. H. Sandoz, Notary Public.

Office at the Court-House, Opelousas.

ALL KINDS OF

Blanks for Justices of the Peace,

Ready for delivery, and for sale cheap for cash. Apply at the office of the Courier

PUBLIC SALE.

Estate of Jacques Lastrapes, dec'.

THE public are hereby informed that there will be sold at public sale, to the last and highest bidder, by the undersigned Auctioneer, on the Plantation last residence of the late Jacques Lastrapes, deceased, on

Wednesday, 2d January next, 1856,

the following described property, belonging to the estate of said Jacques Lastrapes, dec'd, late of the Parish of St. Landry, to-wit:

A TRACT OF LAND,

situated in Prairie Plaisance, in the Parish of St. Landry, bounded South by property belonging to the minor children of said Jacques Lastrapes, and North by land formerly belonging to André Lastrapes, measuring two arpents and one-ninth front by forty arpents in depth.

Three Lots of Ground,

situated in Lastrapes' Addition to the Town of Opelousas, being the Lots Nos. Six, Sixty-five and Seventy-nine.

Three Slaves,

Harry, Eliza and Madeleine.

Conditions:—Cash.

A. DEJEAN, *Auctioneer.*
Opelousas 1st December 1855.

And on the same day and place,

By virtue of an order from the District Court in and for the Parish of St. Landry, there will also be sold, through the ministry of the same Auctioneer, the following described property, belonging to André, Fanelie, Corine and Léonce Lastrapes, minor children of Jacques Lastrapes and Félonise Poiret, his wife, both deceased, to-wit:

THE PLANTATION

upon which said Jacques Lastrapes last resided, situated in Prairie Plaisance, in the Parish of St. Landry, distant about nine miles from the Town of Opelousas, consisting of two tracts of land; one lying on the South side of Bayou formerly known as Teche, and now as Bayou Grand Louis, bounded on one side by lands of François Poiret and on the other by the land above described belonging to said Jacques Lastrapes, measuring twenty-three arpents front by the ordinary depth of forty arpents.—The other tract situated on the North side of said Bayou, opposite the first described tract, bounded above by lands of Thomas C. Quirk, and below by lands of said François Poiret, containing thirteen arpents front by about twenty arpents in depth, together