THE COURIER.

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

Opelousas :

SATURDAY, MARCH 21st, 1857.

BURNING OF THE STEAMBOAT ALICE W. GLAZE.—On Saturday last, we forgot to mention the terrible accident that happened to this favorite steamboat of our community.

On Sunday the 7th of March instant, the Glaze Capt. Louaillier left Washington at 10 o'clock for New Orleans, well laden with cotton, sugar, molasses, etc., and about forty passengers. On Monday at 2 o'clock P. M., having reached the Mississippi in the Parish of Pointe Coupée, opposite the plantation of Mr. McCullum, the boat was discovered to be on fire, and the Captain seeing that he could not master the element, made for the shore, and upon reaching the bank, gave the alarm. As may well be imagined, confusion then took place, every passenger running to and fro, and the captain and crew throwing or leading the passengers ashore.

Happily, no lives were lost, but on the other hand no particle of the cargo could be saved, and even very few of the trunks and baggage of the passengers were saved, for, a few minutes after the alarm was given the boat was entirely the pray of the flames, and no human being could remain on board. Two hours after the boat was sinking beneath the waters.

The boat was insured for $8000, about one half of her real value. As for the cargo, it was insured to its full value as we have learned.

In this painful circumstance Mr. McCullum showed himself to be a hospitable and loyal gentleman to whom many thanks are due on the part of the passengers and crew of the Glaze.

We regret not to be able to say alike of the Captain of the steamboat *Delaware* from St. Louis, who picked the passengers of the Glaze at 4 o'clock, took them to New Orleans, and charged them $5 each, when most had lost every thing they had.

☞ Wm. Cotterell has been appointed Notary Public for this Parish. He will keep his office at Mermento River.

Pliny D. Hardy, Esq., of our town has been appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, District Attorney for our Judicial District, (15th) to fill the unexpired term of Wm. Mouton Esq., who resigned.

No doubt this nomination will be generally received with approbation.

THE OPELOUSAS RAILROAD.

The Fifth Annual Report of the New Orleans, Opelousas, and Great Western Railroad shows that Company to be in a promising condition and affords every ground to hope for the ultimate completion of that important enterprise. The road, besides being nearly finished from Algiers to Berwick's Bay, a distance of eighty miles, has, also, eleven miles of side-track, six depots, lands at Gretna, swamp lands for all the timber needed, and $19,000 worth of rails and other materials and stock not required for immediate purposes. The road has cost about $24,000 per mile. The work already done, however, has nearly exhausted the realized means of the Company.

The city bonds held by the Company on the 24th of December last amounted to $886,000, of which they had pledged for loans $616,072, leaving an excess of par value over loans of $269,928. The State bonds due were $14,000; cash, $6507; bills receivable and coupons, $13,300. The amount of reliable city and parish subscription due was $225,000; reliable individual subscription due, $72,000; State contingent subscription, $74,000; Gretna property over loan, 25,000; rails, chairs and spikes on hand, $13,800; making the total of $713,000; against which the Company's liabilities are only $11,000. The amount required to finish the road to the Bay was estimated at $35,000.

The market value of the stock is represented as being very low, though much above the rate to which it had fallen two years ago.

The progress made upon the road since last report consists of the finishing of the track from Tigerville to Berwick's Bay, and in putting the whole line in perfect order.

In compliance with the justly entertained expectations and wishes of the inhabitants of the Western parishes, the Directors desired to commence the construction of the road towards Opelousas and to St. Martinsville, from New Iberia. But finding their means utterly inadequate to enable them to carry that out, they concluded that it would be more for the immediate benefit of the road and for the ultimate advantage of all concerned to finish the line to Berwick's Bay, build the necessary wharves and make arrangements for through communication by the road and a line of steamships, from New Orleans to Texas. The result, it was considered, must be to divert the whole travel, and a portion of the freight, now conveyed by steamships alone, to this route. This would at once make the road begin to pay interest on the cost of its construction, raise the value of the stock and, therefore, put the Company in a position in which they might confidently expect to be able to proceed with the rest of the road. This is what has accordingly been done; and the correctness of the judgment of the Directors in the premises, will now in a very short time, begin to undergo the test of practical experiment. We have no doubt whatever that it will fully answer the expectations formed of it.

The 1st of this month is named as the day on which the steamships to be placed on this line were to be ready. That the opening of the route has not taken place precisely at the period indicated has doubtless been the effect of some cause which will not long operate. Indeed, the engineer's report dates the period at which trains might be expected to reach the Bay, as only some time in the month of March. The management of the road is in most energetic hands, and every confidence, we feel assured, may be indulged in the expectation that the delay will be but very short. The advantages of the route have been so frequently pointed out and expatiated upon that they are already universally understood, and need not be dwelt upon on this occasion.

With respect to the continuance of the road, the Directors have resolved, as soon as the financial circumstances of the Company will permit, to commence, from New Iberia, the construction of the line to the Sabine River. The course of this will be from New Iberia to Opelousas, a distance of about 40½ miles, thence northwest for about 25 miles to Chicotville, and nearly west from this point 67½ miles to Thompson's Bluff, on the river named about 4¼ miles south of the parallel of 31 degrees north latitude.

From a point on the line about 30 miles east of the Sabine and near the Whisky Chitto, the Directors have also resolved on constructing a line to Shreveport. It will be carried along the Sabine and Calcasieu, to a point about 1¼ miles west of Fort Jessup; thence to a point about 2 miles west of Mansfield, and thence to Shreveport.

These routes have been selected after most careful examination and survey of the country through which they run, and preferred to others for conclusive reasons. The maximum grade on the road from Lafourche to Sabine, a distance of two hundred and five miles, is only ten feet per mile. The branch to Shreveport, one hundred and twenty-five miles long, is stated to be, though in places quite broken, favorable for the construction of a Railroad. The terminus on the Sabine is so located as to be calculated to tap every road which is or ever will be made in Texas. The directors expect the line very soon to be met on the Sabine by a road to be constructed from San Antonio, via Austin and Huntsville, and which will intersect the Gulf Coast to the interior. The central position of the Shreveport branch, passing as it does through good lands, must secure for it the whole of a most important amount of traffic. On both routes the advantages with respect to the lands to be acquired by the Company under the Congressional grants are greatly preponderant over what they would be on any other of the routes which have been examined. From New Iberia to the Sabine, it is estimated that the line can be built for $15,000 per mile.

With respect to lands for the purpose of this continuing the road to completion, the Company [illegible] up as soon as the portion already constructed be[illegible]gins to pay interest. This being done, the conditional subscription of the State would be paid, amounting to about $500,000. Besides which the Congressional grants of six sections of land per mile would become available. On the strength of these resources, by far the larger porportion of which will increase in value just in the ratio of the delay in efforts to realize them, it is proposed to issue bonds based on a mortgage of the already completed portion of the route. The scheme is judicious, and will no doubt be adopted, to fulfillment of the aims of the Directors and the great advantage of the Company.

These are the features of the report of general interest. There are many other details corroborative and explanatory of what we have given in our sketch, but into which it does not appear to us at all necessary here to enter. What we have given ought to be sufficient to satisfy our readers that the prospects of the road are promising; and if it is so, we hope the road will have their most cordial countenance and aid. It is an enterprise of the highest importance to the State, and to this commercial emporium of the South. Serious efforts are being made, quietly, with skill, judgment and energy, to divert from New Orleans the very traffic which the Opelousas railroad alone can secure to her, in spite of those efforts; and we put it to our fellow citizens, as a duty, to allow no jealousies, no envies, no lukewarmness, no avarice, to induce them to refuse to aid in counteracting them, by giving their heartiest support to the undertaking.

(*Louisiana Courier.*)

THE INAUGURATION CEREMONIES.

The National Intelligencer, of the 5th inst., received this morning, furnishes the following account of the ceremonies at the inauguration of President Buchanan :

No public pageant was ever favored with a more propitious sky than that which yesterday signalized the inauguration of James Buchanan, fifteenth President of the United States. Two or three preceding days had been boisterous and cold, but both of these qualities abated during the night of the 3d, and the 4th came in mild and balmy, with an atmosphre calm and hazy, very like that which distinguished Indian summer.

The city was astir at an earlier hour than usual; at least the hum was more apparent, and the reveille gave an agreeable token of the coming duties and scenes of the day.

By 9 o'clock all the avenues and streets leading to and from the city were alive with vehicles, horsemen, and pedestrains tending to a common center, the streams increasing as the day advanced.

The fine area in front of the City Hall was timely occupied with the score of military companies of our own and distant cities, which, with patriotic and gallant spirit, were present to lend their effective aid to the splendor of this great national quadrennial ceremony.

At 11 o'oclock the military received orders to march. Passing round by D and Seventh streets to Pennsylvania avenue, they proceeded westwardly, halting at Willard's Hotel, where President Pierce and the President Elect were to join them. Here they entered a barouche, accompanied by the Committee from the Senate, Mr. Bigler, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Foot of Vermont. Immediately surrounding the carriage was a cloud of mounted gentlemen, all arrayed in the scarfs of marshals and assistant marshals, under the general charge of the marshal-in-chief.

When fully organiznd and in motion, the procession advanced in the following order:

Full Company K of 1st U. S. Light Artillery, with four guns; the President's Mounted Guard; U. S. Marines, from the Navy Yard; Washington Light Infantry; Washington National Greys; Washington Montgomery Guards; Washington National Guard; Washington Highlanders; Washington Union Guards; Washington German Yagers; Washington Boone Rifles; Washington American Rifles; Albany (N. Y.) Burgesse Corps; Auburn N. Y. Willard Guards; Charleston (Mass.) City Guards; Young Guard of Richmond (Va); Montgomery Guard, Richmond (Va.); Lancaster Fencibles; Mount Vernon Guards, (Alex.); Alexandria Riflemen; Baltimore Law Greys; Cumberland Alleghany Guards; Cumberland Continentals; Soldiers of the war of 1812, presented by a war-worn flag of 1776, belonging to the Morgan Rifles; Liberty Pole, rising from a four square pedestal, drawn by six horses; Marshal and Mounted Assistants; the President and President Elect; in a barouche; full-rigged ship from the Navy Yard, with ten hands on board and in the tops; Sixth Ward (Baltimore) Democratic Assoication; Jackson Democratic Association; Georgetown Democratic Association; other District Political Clubs with banners; Twelfth Ward Philadelphia Democratic Association; Eighth Ward Democratic Association of Baltimore; California Delegation; Washington Northern Liberties Fire Company; Howard Company No 34, of New York, with their beautiful engine; Washington Western Hose Company; Citizens and carriages.

When the procession arrived at the north end of the Capitol, the President and President Elect, preceded by the Marshal and party, left the carriage and passed through a covered way built for the purpose from the street to the north entrance of the Capitol, by which they reached the Senate chamber.

There were here assembled the Justices of the Supreme Court, the Diplomatic Corps, the Heads of Departments, Members of Congress elect ex-members, and officers of the army and navy, and other privileged persons.

Before the Senate had closed its business for the session, the oath of office was administered by the Hon. James M. Mason, President of the Senate *pro tempore*, to the Hon. John C. Breckenridge, Vice President elect, who made his acknowledgements in a brief and appropriate speech.

Upon the arrival of the President of the United States and the President Elect they were formerly conducted to the seats appointed for them by the Committee of Arrangements.

After a short pause the President and President Elect, preceded by the Marshal of the District of Columbia, the Justices of the Supreme Court, and other functionaries, and followed by the Vice President and Secretary of the Senate, the Senators, the Diplomatic Corps, Heads of Departments, and other official persons, proceeded to the platform erected on the eastern portico of the Capitol, and were seated. Here they were welcomed by enthusiastic shouts from the people.

The President elect then stepped forward to the center of the platform, and commenced his Inaugural Address, which he read in a clear, distinct, and forcible manner, so as to be heard over a considerable area of the vast assemblage gathered before and around him. The address was frequently cheered as the sentiments which suited the feeling and judgment of his auditors reached their ears.

At the conclusion of his address the President elect bowed to the people, who saluted him with hearty cheers. He turned towards the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who administered the oath of office, the President reverently kissing the book. He was immediately congratulated by the numerous official and other gentlemen surrounding him.

These impressive ceremonies being ended, the President and other functionaries returned to the Senate Chamber, and, after remaining there about half an hour, passed out by the same covered way to the carriage, which was now assigned to the President, the Vice President and the Ex-President. The procession then moved to the Presidential Mansion in nearly the same order as that observed on its approach to the Capitol.

After the President had reached his official residence, the doors were thrown open to the vast multitudes of people of both sexes who were in attendance, and the President exchanged friendly greetings with all who presented themselves for introduction.

The day itself was not more peculiarly auspicious than the proceedings by which it has become memorable. Everything passed off pleasantly, the thousands in attendance being agreeably impressed with the dignity and gracefulness with which, under free institutions, the reins of government can be peacefully transferred from one set of administrators to another.

From the same paper we copy the Inaugural address, delivered by President Buchanan, as follows:

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Fellow Citizens.—I appear before you this day to take the solemn oath "that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

In entering upon this great office I must humbly invoke the God of our fathers for wisdom and firmness to execute its high and responsible duties in such a manner as to restore harmony and ancient friendship among the people of the several States, and to preserve our free institutions throughout many generations. Convinced that I owe my election to the inherent love for the constitution and the Union which still animates the hearts of the American People, let me earnestly ask their powerful support in sustaining all just measures calculated to perpetuate these the richest political blessings which heaven has ever bestowed upon any nation. Having determined not to become a candidate for reelection, I shall have no motive to influence my conduct in administering the Government except the desire [illegible] to serve my country and to live [illegible] of my countrymen.

We have recently passed through a Presidential contest in which the passions of our fellow citizens were excited to the highest degree by questions of deep and vital importance; but when the people proclaimed their will the tempest at once subsided, and all was calm. The voice of the majority, speaking in the manner prescribed by the constitution, was heard, and instant submission followed. Our own country could alone have exhibited so grand and stricking a spectacle of the capacity of man for self-government.

What a happy conception, then, was it for Congress to apply this simple rule—that the will of the majority shall govern—to the settlement of the question of domestic slavery in the Territories! Congress is neither "to legislate slavery into any Territory or State nor to exclude it therefrom; but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States." As a natural consequence, Congress has also prescribed that when the Territory of Kansas shall be admitted as a State, "It shall be received into the Union with or without slavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission."

A difference of opinion has arisen in regard to the point of time when the people of a Territory shall decide this question for themselves.

This is, happily, a matter of but little practical importance. Besides, it is a judicial question which legitimately belongs to the Supreme Court of the United States, before whom it is now pending, and will, it is understood, be speedily and finally settled. To their decision, in common with all good citizens, I shall cheerfully submit, whatever this may be, though it has ever been my individual opinion that under the Nebraska-Kansas act the appropriate period will be when the number of actual residents in the Territory shall justify the formation of a constitution with a view to its admission as a State. But, be this as it may, it is the imperative and indispensable duty of the Government of the United States to secure to every resident inhabitant the free and independent expression of his vote. This sacred right of each individual must be preserved. That being accomplished, nothing can be fairer that to leave the people of a Territory from all foreign interference to decide their own destiny for themselves, subject only to the constitution of the United States.

The whole Territorial question being thus settled upon the principle of popular sovereignty—a principle as ancient as free government itself—every thing of a practical nature has been decided. No other question remains for adjustment; because all agree that under the constitution slavery in the States is beyond the reach of any human power except that of the respective States themselves wherein it exists. May we not, then, hope that the long agitation on this subject is approaching its end, and that the geographical parties to which it has given birth, so much dreaded by the Father of his country, will speedily become extinct? Most happy will be for the country when the public mind shall be diverted from this question to others of more pressing and practical importance. Throughout the whole progress of this agitation, which has scarcely known any intermission for more than twenty years, while it has been productive of no positive good to any human being, it has been the prolific source of great evils to the matter, to the slave, and to the whole country. It has alienated and estranged the people of the sister States from each other, and has even seriously endangered the very existence of the Union. Nor has the danger yet entirely ceased. Under our system there is a remedy for all mere political evils in the sound sense and sober judgment of the people. Time is a great corrective. Political subjects which but a few years ago excited and exasperated the public mind have passed away and are now nearly forgotten. But this question of domestic slavery is of far graver importance than any more political question, because, should the agitation continue, it may eventually endanger the personal safety of a large portion of our countrymen where the institution exists. In that event no form of Government, however admirable in itself, and however productive of material benefits, can compensate for the loss of peace and domestic security around the family altar. Let every Union-loving man, therefore, exert his best influence to suppress this agitation, which, since the recent legislation of Congress, is without any legitimate object.

It is an evil omen of the times that men have undertaken to calculate the mere material value of the Union. Reasoned estimates have been presented of the pecuniary profits and local advantages which would result to different States and sections from its dissolution, and of the comparative injuries which such an event would inflict on other States and sections. Even descending to this low and narrow view of the mighty question, all such calculations are at fault. The bare reference to a single consideration will be conclusive on this point. We at present enjoy a free trade throughout our extensive and expanding country such as the world has never witnessed. This trade is conducted on railroads and canals, on noble rivers and arms of the sea, which bind together the North and the South, the East and the West of our Confederacy. Annihilate this trade, arrest its free progress by the geographical lines of jealous and hostile States, and you destroy the prosperity and onward march of the whole and every part, and involve all in one common ruin. But such considerations, important as they are in themselves, sink into insignificance when we reflect on the terrific evils which would result from disunion to every portion of the Confederacy—to the North not more than to the South, to the East not more than to the West. These I shall not attempt to portray, because I feel an humble confidence that the kind Providence which inspired our fathers with wisdom to frame the most perfect form of government and union ever devised by man will not suffer it to perish until it shall have been peacefully instrumental, by its example, in the extension of civil and religious liberty throughout the world.

Next in the importance to the maintenance of the constitution and the Union, is the duty of preserving the Government free from the taint or even the suspicion of corruption. Public virtue is the vital spirit of republics; and history proves that when this has decayed, and the love of money has usurped its place, although the forms of free government may remain for a season, the substance has departed forever.

Our present financial condition is without a parallel in history. No nation has ever before been embarrassed from too large a surplus in its treasury. This almost necessarily gives birth to extravagant legislation. It produces wild schemes of expenditure, and begets a race of speculators and jobbers, whose ingenuity is exerted in contriving and promoting expedients to obtain public money. The purity of official agents, whether rightfully or wrongfully, is suspected, and the character of the Government suffers in the estimation of the people. This is in itself a very great evil.

The natural mode of relief from this embarrassment is to appropriate the surplus in the Treasury to great national objects for which a clear warrant can be found in the constitution. Among these I might mention the extinguishment of the public debt; a reasonable increase of the navy, which is at present inadequate to the protection of our vast tonnage afloat, now greater than that of any other nation, as well as to the defence of our extended seacoast.

It is beyond all question the true principle that no more revenue ought to be collected from the people than the amount necessary to defray the expenses of a wise, economical and efficient administration of the Government. To reach this point, it was necessary to resort to a modification of the tariff; and this has, I trust, been accomplished in such a manner as to do as little injury as may have been practicable to our domestic manufactures, especially those necessary for the defence of the country. Any discrimination against a particular branch, for the purpose of benefiting favored corporations, individual or interests, would have been unjust to the rest of the community, and inconsistent with that spirit of fairness and equality which ought to govern in the adjutstment of a revenue tariff.

But the squandering of the public money sinks into comparative insignificance as a temptation to corruption when compared with the squandering of the public lands. No nation in the tide of time has ever been blessed with so rich and noble inheritance as we enjoy in the public lands. In administering this important trust, whilst it may be wise to grant portions of them for the improvement of the remainder, yet we should never forget that it is our cardinal policy to reserve these lands as much as may be for actual settlers, and this at moderate prices. We shall thus not only best promote the prosperity of the new States and Territories by furnishing them a hardy and independent race of honest and industrious citizens, but shall secure homes for our children and our children's children, as well as for those exiles from foreign shores who may seek in this country to improve their condition and to enjoy the blessings of civil and religious liberty. Such emigrants have done much to promote the growth and prosperity of the country. They have proved faithful both in peace and in war. After becoming citizens, they are entitled, under the constitution and laws, to be placed on a perfect equality with native born citizens, and in this character they should ever be kindly recognized.

The Federal constitution is a grant from the States to Congress of certain specific powers; and the question whether this grant should be [illegible] strictly construed has more or less divided political parties from the beginning. [illegible] I desire to state at the commencement of my administration, that long experience and [illegible] have convinced me that a strict construction of the powers of the Government is the only true, as well as the only safe, theory of the constitution. Whenever, in our past history, doubtful powers have been exercised by Congress, these have never failed to produce injurious and unhappy consequences. Many such instances might be adduced if this were the proper occasion. Neither is it necessary for the public service to strain the language of the constitution; because all the great and useful powers required for a successful administration of the Government, both in peace and in war, have been granted, either in express terms, or by the plainest implication.

Whilst deeply convinced of these truths, I yet consider it clear that, under the war-making power, Congress may appropriate money towards the construction of a military road, when this is absolutely necessary for the defence of any State or Territory of the Union against foreign invasion. Under the constitution, Congress has power "to declare war," "to raise and support armies," "to provide and maintain a navy," and to call forth the militia to "repel invasion." Thus endowed, in an ample manner, with the war-making power, the corresponding duty is required that "the United States shall protect each of them (the States) against invasion." Now, how is it possible to afford this protection to California and our Pacific possessions, except by means of a military road through the Territories of the United States, over which men and munitions of war may be speedily transported from the Atlantic States to meet and repel the invader? In the event of a war with a naval power much stronger than our own, we should then have no other available access to the Pacific coast; because such a power would instantly close the route across the isthmus of Central America. It is impossible to conceive that, whilst the constitution has expressly required Congress to defend all the States, it should yet deny to them, by any fair construction, the only possible means by which one of these States can be defended. Besides, the Government, ever since its origin, has been in the constant practice of constructing military roads. It might also be wise to consider whether the love for the Union which now animates our fellow-citizens on the Pacific coast, may not be impaired by our neglect or refusal to provide for them, in their remote and isolated condition, the only means by which the power of the States, on this side of the Rocky Mountains, can teach them in sufficient time to "protect" them "against invasion." I forbear for the present from expressing an opinion as to the wisest and most economical mode to which the Government can lend its aid in accomplishing this great and necessary work. I believe that many of the difficulties in the way which now appear formidable, will, in a great degree, vanish as soon as the nearest and best route shall have been satisfactorily ascertained.

It may be proper that, on this occasion, I should make some brief remarks in regard to our rights and duties as a member of the great family of nations. In our intercourse with them there are some plain principles, approved by our own experience, from which we should never depart. We ought to cultivate peace, commerce and friendship with all nations, and this not merely as the best means of promoting our own material interests, but in a spirit of Christian benevolence towards our fellow men, wherever their lot may be cast. Our diplomacy should be direct and frank, neither seeking to obtain more nor accepting less than is our due. We ought to cherish a sacred regard for the independence of all nations, and never attempt to interfere in the domestic concerns of any, unless this shall be imperatively required by the great law of self-preservation. To avoid entangling alliances has been a maxim of our policy ever since the days of Washington, and its wisdom no one will attempt to dispute. In short, we ought to do justice in a kindly spirit to all nations, and require justice from them in return.

It is our glory that, whilst other nations have extended their dominions by the sword, we have never acquired any territory except by fair purchase, or, as in the case of Texas, by the voluntary determination of a brave, kindered and independent people to blend their destinies with our own. Even our acquisitions from Mexico form no exception. Unwilling to take advantage of the fortune of war against a sister Republic, we purchased these possessions, under the treaty of peace, for a sum which was considered at the time a fair equivalent. Our past history forbids that we shall in the future acquire territory unless this be sanctioned by the laws of justice and honor. Acting on this priuciple, no nation will have a right to interfere or to complain if, in the progress of events, we shall still further extend our possessions. Hitherto, in all our acquisitions, the people, under the protection of the American flag, have enjoyed civil and religious liberty, as well as equal and just laws, and have been contented, prosperous and happy. Their trade with the rest of the world has rapidly increased; and thus every commercial nation has shared largely in their successful progress.

I shall now proceed to take the oath prescribed by the Constitution, whilst humbly invoking the blessing of Divine Providence on this great people.

THE NATIONAL DEMOCRACY.

The Mobile Register truthfully remarks that in a government like ours it is impossible to accomplish anything without associated action. Parties necessarily spring from the very nature of republican institutions; and from the infinitely varied diversities of opinion existing among men, a general concurrence of sentiment and purpose, without too nice exaction about details, must from the basis of union among them, whatever be the character of the Convention proposed—religious, political, social or commercial. Absolute unanimity, even among the disciples of the same political school, cannot be expected in a country with such vast territorial extent as the United States, where antagonisms of interest, real or apparent, constantly arise and always induce slight differences of opinion—perhaps it would not be desirable even if possible. The harmonious adoption of great leading principles, agreement on the natre and character of the government, and the cardinal policy of its administration, is indispensable to concerted action; and without it no party can long exist are accomplish anything for the country.

Now we boldly declare that the National Democracy and the Southern Rights party, upon all fundamental doctines, occupy precisely the same position. In the Cincinnati platform, which is the creed of the Democracy, the equality of all the States is not only declared, but the rights of the Southern members of the Contederacy are especially enumerated and guaranteed. The South is not warring on the North. She seeks nothing to which she is not entitled under the Constitution. She desires only an equitable and impartial administration of the Federal Government. This is pledged to her by the National Democracy in the most solemn form which it could adopt to give security and sanction to its promise. The protection of the South is as essential and inseparable a part of the Democratic confession of faith as "free trade" or "strict construction."

There can be, therefore, no objection on the ground of principles or policy (*as these are promulged to the world*) by Southern men to the National Democracy. Whence, then comes the restlessness and discontent which many earnest but impatient Southern Democrats exhibit?

We heartily applaud the sleepless vigilance which watches with jealous apprehension every indication of approaching danger, and did we share the alarm of some, we would speak it trumpet-tongued to our people? but is not the anticipation of evil at this time rather the result of past treachery and disappointment than of any present portent? It is true Black Republican party, smarting under recent defeat, have betrayed a recklessness and daring neves shown before, but have they gained any actual strengh? Is not triumph over *our* enemies if true to itself? If *it* should prove false, then its Southern wing, without changing a single principle or adopting any new organization, "will have but one voice and one purpose, *dissolution of the Union!!* A voice and a purpose only postponed by the election of James Buchanan and the defeat of Fremont." But common justice requires that we should give the coming administration an opportunity of developing its policy and fulfilling its pledges, before we seek by open attack or secret indirection to disorganize and destroy a party which in our days of prosperity has "rejoiced with us," and in the darkest hour of desertion and peril nobly wedded our cause and blazoned our mottos on its proudest banners—which linked its destiny with our rights and triumphed only with our vindication.

MAN CUT INTO MINCE MEAT.—The train on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, which arrived here at 1 o'clock, P. M., on Monday, run over an unknown man, about four and a half miles below this city. He was lying upon the track in a state of intoxication, and before the cars could be stopped the train was upon him, absolutely cutting him into fragments. His heart and liver were lying upon one side of the track, his arms on the other side, and his legs in another place. The spectacle was shocking to behold. He had a whisky bottle in his pocket at the time of his death.—*Pittsburg Post.*

"Well, Pat," said a doctor to a polite [illegible] man, whose wife he had been attending, "how [illegible]" "[illegible] one is dead, I thank you, doctor."

(*Communicated.*)

A DROWSY LOVER.

This is dedicated to one of our "*drowsy friends*" by those who take a lively interest in his welfare, and we hope that it may prove a benefit to him, during his next visit, to the object of his choice:

I must hasten and bid you good-night, love,
And hie me to downy repose,
For I fear if I don't, that next day, love,
I shall want most sadly a doze.

'Tis sweet to sit by your side, love,
'Till eleven or twelve in the night,
And whisper soft words in your ear, love,
With naught but your eyes for a light.

But by midnight my eyes get so dull, love,
I feel more like sleeping than wooing,
I hardly can keep from a gape, love,
So I think I had better be going.

I've talked full four hours to night, love,
And really I've nothing to say,
And I feel we will both get to sleep, love,
If longer you urge me to stay.

Grand Coteau, La., March 13th, 1857.

(*Communicated.*)

THE JUDICIAL ELECTION.

It appears to be an evil inseparable from our institutions that, however elevated, however pure, however patriotic one may be, when placed before the people for an important public trust, he will find the envious, the malicious, the selfish combined to drag him down. The wild hunt after office, which a party in the country, not long ago anathematized, has raised up a set of stipendiaries who, like paid mercenaries, lend themselves to any man, for any cause. They are not like the soldier who attacks in the open field, but rather like the assassin who stabs in the dark. To stab the reputation, to slay with cowardly insinuation and inuendo, to use the assassins weapon of invented lie and deliberately concocted falsehood,—these are the arts and practices by which they render themselves most valuable to their employers. With such, Messrs. Editors, we have to deal now. On the eve of an important election, we find the whole pack, Tray, Blanche and sweetheart out in the full cry. They find the quarry to their taste. The natural enemies of every thing that is elevated or honorable, besides the desire to earn their hire, they have sweet gratification which the hound feels in dragging down the noblest of the chase.

The *Calcasieu Press*, a flimsy sheet published in a community which repudiates its proprietor for the office to which he now aspires, established there to operate upon public sentiment here, returns to us week by week laden with calumnious matter against the Hon. John H. Overton. It has a candidate in opposition, whose name it keeps plying at the head of its columns, but it has never once presented a single reason why we should give him our support. A writer of great note has said: "Learning and wisdom are nowhere so necessary, and in no place so accompanied with dignity and honor, and productive of so vast and constant benefit and profit to the commonwealth, as upon the judicial seat; and ignorance, cunning, bigotry and a mean and contracted littleness are nowhere so disgraceful, or work so great and ruinous an injury, as when covered and attempted to be disguised by the judicial robes." And further, he says of the Law, that it is "a vast and comprehensive system that requires a scholar, a philosopher and a statesman, all in one, to understand its spirit and to gain an insight into its profound wisdom." If the candidate of the *Press* has the qualifications described, why does it not tell us so? Why does it not present him to the people and argue his fitness for the great trust? Does it, while professing to be Democratic, have so mean an opinion of the intelligence of the people as to suppose that they will be so blinded as not to see, that the calumnious detraction of one candidate does not, and cannot elevate the other? You, Messrs. Editors, have published in your last issue, the last emanation from the *Calcasieu Press*, and your readers have had an opportunity of seeing a specimen of its thimble-rigging, in torturing "virtues into vices," "public services into public crimes."

The Hon. John H. Overton was called on to become a candidate for Judge of this District, by a large and respectable portion of the Bar, *without distinction of party*, and numbering among them the present able incumbent of the office, the Hon. L. J. Dupré. He did not seek the distinction. A long and honorable service upon the Bench, where, in the judgment of his contemporaries, he had few equals and no superiors, recommended him. On the Bench he has always been "*sans peur et sans reproche*," unimpeached and unimpeachable. The smallest of the pack has not *dared* to attack him *there*. They now seek less known fields, and as Judge Overton has filled the office of President to the New-Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Rail Road Company, where varied and conflicting interests were at work, where two policies were struggling for the mastery, where the interests of St. Landry and Lafayette and western Louisiana entire, conflicted with the interests of New-Orleans, and where furthering with the utmost of his ability the interests of his own home in the country,—they adopt the argument of the city to destroy the friend of the country.

If the policy advocated by Judge Overton, while connected with the Rail Road Company, was the wrong policy, which the writer of this does not believe, it certainly had the merit of adapting itself to the interests of this District, —and the worst that can be said of him in this connection, is "that he loved his country not wisely, but too well."

Wen the history of this great enterprise is written, as one day it will be written, when these Parishes shall have received, as one day they will receive, that benefit which is to be derived from a daily communication with the third if not the second commercial mart in the world, then will I venture to predict, that among the advocates of this great work, Judge Overton will rank as one of the first and greatest benefactors Western Louisiana has ever had. ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

—The Day Book is guilty of the following arithmetical piece of wickedness :—

'If twenty-seven inches of snow gives three inches of water, how much milk will a cow give when fed on rutabaga turnips?'

'Multiply the flakes of snow by the hairs of the cow's tail; then divide the product by a turnip; add a pound of Sugar and the sum will be complete.

A woman is always at the bottom of trouble. You remember the story of the Shah of Persia. When he was told that a workman had fallen from a ladder, he called out "Who is she? who is she?" Please [illegible] Majesty, 'tis a he." "Nonsense," [illegible] Shaw, "there's never an accident [illegible] woman; who is she!" [illegible] the man had fallen fro[illegible] he was looking [illegible] opposite. Man[illegible]

ABOLITIONISTS TAKE NOTICE.—About eight months ago an intelligent and valuable negro man ran away from his owner, a lady residing in this city. On Saturday last, we learn, she received a letter from him dated at Toronto, Canada, in which he respectfully asks permission to return, and promises to be a faithful servant to her for the remainder of his life. He says that there is more in the *name* of freedom than in the *reality*, and for his part he is completely tired of being free, and is now anxious to return to his former occupation, where he enjoyed more real freedom than he has ever done since he left it.—*Norfolk Herald.*

Grand Coteau, March 12th, 1857.
To the President of the St. Landry Wigwam.
Please accept my withdrawal from the Order over which you preside.
Yours, JOS. BROWN.

Married.—At Bellevue, in this Parish, on the 19th instant, by the Rev. Mr. F. Raymond, Dr. DORSINO DEBLANC, of St. Martin, to Miss PALMIRE CHACHERÉ, of this Parish.

——In Opelousas, on the 19th instant, by the Rev. Mr. G. Raymond, Mr. JOHN WARTELLE to Miss MATHILDE KENNISON, both of this Parish.

——In this Parish, on the 19th instant, by the Rev. Mr. Raymond, Mr. RÉNÉ RAULIN to Miss CORA COMEAU, both of this Parish.

OUR AGENTS.

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

AUGUSTE MARAIST,	St. Martinsville, (La.)
ARTHUR BULLIARD,	Breaux's Bridge, (La.)
A. MILLSPAUGH,	Washington, (La.)
E. E. COCHRANE,	Marksville, (La.)
MICHEL EMONET.	Leonville, (P. O.)

CANDIDATES.

Messrs. Sandoz & Meynier.

Be so good as to announce in your paper that, yielding to the solicitations of his friends, Honorable JOHN H. OVERTON has consented to become a candidate for the office of Judge of the 15th Judicial District, comprising the Parishes of St. Landry, Lafayette and Calcasieu, at the election which will take place in April next. P.

☞ We are authorized to announce that B. A. MARTEL Esq., is a candidate for Judge of the District Court of the 15th Judicial District, at the next election.

☞ We are authorized to announce that Mr. J. BAPTISTE COMEAU is a candidate for the office of Sheriff of the Parish of St. Landry, at the election which will take place in November next.
Opelousas, February 14th, 1857.

☞ We are authorized to announce to the voters of the town of Opelousas, that Mr. ARTHUR PERRAULT has become a candidate for Town Constable, at the election which will take place on the first Monday in April next.
January 3d, 1857.

☞ We are authorized to announce Mr. CHARLES BOURQUE as an Anti-Know-Nothing candidate for Assessor, at the next election.
Opelousas, August 30th, 1856.

H. M. SMITH'S
GREAT AMERICAN

CIRCUS.

EQUIPPED AND DESIGNED FOR THE
Leading Exhibition of 1857.

In order to gratify the Public Taste in this elegant style of Amusement, the Proprietor has incurred great expenses, both the variety of the Performances and in the splendor of the Accompaniments. Most of the Feats given by this troupe are entirely new, a representation of which may be seen in the elegant wood cut engravings with which the Pictorial Bills are embellished. The performances will be given with the utmost grandeur and peculiarity of effect, embodying at the same time, the most Artistic Scenes in the Circle, Acrobatic Exercises and Gymnastics of manly agility and skill, superb Horsemanship, Comic Burlettas etc., accompanied by a Superb Military

BRASS AND STRING BAND.

☞ *The Great American Circus will exhibit at Opelousas on Tuesday & Wednesday next, 24th and 25th March inst.*

Admission: 75 cents. Children and servants 25 cents. Doors open at 2 and 7 o'clock P. M.—Performance to commence half an hour afterwards.

☞ Will also exhibit at Washington on the 26th inst.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

THE good and safe steamer WM. C. YOUNG, G. E. LOUAILLIER, Master, has resumed her regular trips between Opelousas and New Orleans, leaving Washington every SUNDAY at 10 A. M., and New Orleans every WEDNESDAY at 5 P. M., during the season. For freight or passage, apply on borad or to A. LOUAILLIER, Washington.

N. B.—Shippers and consignees of freight will take *particular notice* that no freight will be delivered from the ware-house until the freight bill is paid, or receipted back to the shippers for payment. All persons having freight will always find their bills with Mr. Alfred Louaillier, at Washington, who is authorized to collect and receipt for the same.
G. E LOUAILLIER.
Washington, March 21st, 1857.

NOTICE.

ALL those indebted to the undersigned individually, to the Estate of Onezime A. Boudreau, or to all other persons or estates, for whom he is Agent or Attorney, are informed that Messrs. Valin & Godefroy, are alone authorized to collect for him, and that all accounts or notes paid to other collectors, from this date, will be considered by him as of no value. T. S. ROBIN.
Opelousas, March 21st, 1857.

State of Louisiana.

DISTRICT COURT, Parish of St. Landry. } No. 8084.

Estate of Edward W. Taylor.

C. H. BEAUCHAMP, of the Parish of St. Landry, Administrator of the Estate of E. W. Taylor, [illegible] late of said Parish, [illegible] Court, dated 17th March 1857.

Now therefore, notice is hereby given to all interested, to make opposition, if any they [illegible]

[illegible] LASTRAPES, Clerk.
Opelousas, March [illegible]

State of Louisiana.

DISTRICT COURT, Parish of St. Landry } No. 8036.

Estate of Humbert Perrodin, dec'd.

CHARLES A. PERRODIN, of the Parish of St. Landry, Administrator of the Estate of Humbert Perrodin, deceased, late of the aforesaid Parish, having filed a Tableau of Classification of the debts of said Estate, accompanied by a petition praying for the homologation of the same ;—And whereas the prayer of said petition has been granted by an order of Court dated 19th March, 1857.

Therefore, notice is hereby given to all interested, to make opposition, if any they have, within thirty days from the date hereof, why said Tableau should not be homologated, and that the Administrator be authorized to pay according to said Tableau.
Ls. LASTRAPES, Clerk.
Opelousas, March 21st, 1857.

NOTICE.

ALL those having claims against the Estate of Alexandre Close, deceased, are requested to present them to the undersigned, at the office of Theodose S. Robin, Esq., in Opelousas on the 7th of April next, 1857 for settlement.
VALMONT STELLY,
Agent of the Administration.
Opelousas, March 21st, 1857.

LITERARY INSTITUTION OF OPELOUSAS.

Director—A. DE ST. CYR. D'ARTHUN.
T. H. THOMPSON, *Professor of English.*

Organization of the Institution from January 1st, 1857.

DAILY DIVISION OF THE CLASS
FROM 9 O'CLOCK A. M., TO 12 O'CLOCK, M.

Monday—English and French translation.
Tuesday—English and French Dictation and the Mathematics.
Wednesday—Latin, Spanish, French History.
Thursday—Latin, Spanish, Mathematics.
Friday—Repetition of the general work of the week. Preparatory Examination for the Semestrial Examination. Reading.
Class from 2 to 5 P. M.—An hour and a half for Inferior English Pupils. An hour and a half for Superior French Pupils.
Class from 2 to 5 P. M.—An hour and a half for Superior English Pupils. An hour and a half for Inferior French Pupils.
Voluntary Study from 7 to 8 o'clock P. M., without any extra charge, except the light and fire.
The scholastic year is of twelve months. Entire Religious and Political Tolerance.

CONDITIONS:

Instruction and Board per year,		$ 140 00
" day scholars, per year		40 00
[Quarters paid in advance.]		
" day scholars per month,		4 00
" Latin, "	(Extra),	2 00
" Spanish, "	"	2 00
Drawing per year,		30 00
Music, "		40 00
Bedstead, mattrass, pillow, per year,		4 00

Washing, $ 1 per month.—Doctors fees at the cost of parents.
The board and tuiton of Pupils of 16 years or upwards to be settled by agreement.
Opelousas, December 27th, 1856.

Public Sale.

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

THE public are hereby informed that there will be sold, at pulic sale, to the last and highest bidder, by the undersigned, Auctioneer, in and for the Parish of St. Landry, at the last residence of Joseph Bercier, deceased, in the Town of Opelousas, in said Parish, on

Thursday, 16th of April next, 1857,

the following described property, belonging to the Estate of the late Joseph Bercier, deceased, late of the Parish of St. Landry, to-wit:

4 LOTS OF GROUND,

situated in Lastrapes' addition to the Town of Opelousas, bounded North by Vine street, South by —— street, East by —— street and West by —— street, being lots Nos. 35, 36, 51 and 52 of the flat of said Town, together with all the

BUILDINGS
AND
IMPROVEMENTS
thereon erected.

A Mulatto-Woman,

named Marguerite, aged about 25 years, with her two children, one named Baptiste, aged about 6 years, and the other named Marie, aged about 6 months.

A lot of Household Furniture, &c,

Conditions :—The conditions are as follows: The furniture payable cash. The four lots of ground and improvements, as also the three slaves, payable upon a credit of one and two years, from the day of sale. Purchasers furnishing good and sufficient security, to the satisfaction of whom the right, and moreover, the property sold remaining specially mortgaged unto the Estate, until full and entire payment of the principal and interests, and all sums not punctually paid at maturity, to bear interest at eight per cent per annum, from time due until paid.
EVTE. DEBAILLON, Auctioneer.
Opelousas, March 14th, 1857.

NOTICE.

AFTER the first of April next, I will resume the practice of Law in partnership with Henry L. Garland. Our office will be the one now occupied by Mr. King.
LUCIUS J. DUPRE.
Opelousas, March 7th, 1857.

BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF OPELOUSAS.

THE members of said association are informed that a general and regular meeting will take place, on Monday, 6th of April next, 1857, at 6 o'clock, P. M., at the residence of Mr. A. De St. Cyr D'Arthun, in Opelousas, to transact important business.
By order of the Committee,
ANDRE MEYNIER, President.
Opelousas, March 7th, 1857.

For Sale.

A valuable cook, washer, ironer and house servant, about 30 years of age. She is fully guaranteed to possess the above qualifications. For particulars apply to the editors of the Courier.
Opelousas, March 14th, 1857.

HIDES! HIDES!!

THE undersigned will pay beef hides of four years and above from $3 to $3 50, smaller ones in proportion.
He has constantly on hand, at his Tan [illegible] in Washington, all kinds of leather for [illegible], saddlery, and carriage work, &c., which he offers for sale at reduced prices.
VICTOR TOUCHY.
Washington, La., March 14th, 1857.

A[illegible] either by note or account are respectfully requested to come forward and settle up without delay. JAMES RAY, M. D.
Opelousas, March 14th, 1857.