# THE COURIER.

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

**Opelousas :**

SATURDAY, APRIL 4th, 1857.


## TO OUR PATRONS.

The delays to which we are subject in the settlement of claims due our office compel us to remind our debtors that the paying season is at hand, and that towards the 15th April next we will place our accounts in collection.

We wish our patrons to understand that in order to comply strictly with our pecuniary engagements, we are forced into this measure. We would have much preferred to save to ourselves the unavoidable 10 per cent. and to our friends the unpleasant circumstance of being dunned by a Collector.

SANDOZ & MEYNIER.

Opelousas 28th March 1357.

☞ A subscriber from Ville Plate writes us on the 30th that our paper had not reached this Post-office as usual. We inquired from our Post Master, who told us that that bundle had been mailed on Friday last as usual. What says the Washington Post Master, the only intermediate office between here and Ville Plate?

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.—A Democratic State Convention, for the nomination of State officers, will be held in Baton Rouge, on the 18th of May next.

FRUIT TREES, FLOWERS &c.—Those who would wish to provide themselves with young fruit trees of rare species, flowers, shrubs &c. imported from France, England and other countries, will do well to avail themselves of the opportunity now offered them.

At half past 1 o'clock, to-day, Messrs. Pellorce & Co. Horticulturists, will sell at auction, at their depot, on Main st., a splendid assortment of about 500 plants comprising pears, aples, apricots, prunes &c, of a superior quality, as also beautiful flowers, shrubs and garden seeds, which will be sold in small lots to suit purchasers.

These plants look full of life and vigor, and we have no doubt whatsoever that they can be saved with very little care.

☞ See our advertising columns for a number of Sheriff's sales which will take place to-day. There are 15 or 20 slaves to be disposed of.

(*Communicated.*)

### CONVENTION.

A Convention held on this the 21st of March, 1857, at Mr. Joseph Landrenaux, in Petite Prairie Mamoth, Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana.

On motion, Mr. Charles Teale was appointed President of the Convention, and Mr. F. Courtney Secretary. The President after taking the chair, was on motion requested to explain the object of the Convention: when it was unanimously resolved that a committee of four be appointed to draft resolutions, and select a proper person to represent this part of the parish in the next Legislature. The chair appointed Messrs. Joseph Landrenaux, Joachin Landrenaux, Elisha Whittington, and on motion of Mr. Whittington, Mr. Teale, the President, was added to the Committee. The Committee having retired, the following resolutions were drafted, and formed a part of the minutes of the Convention. After it was read and explained to them, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

1st. *Resolved*, That we, the people of the North-Western portion of the Parish of St. Landry, deem it a propitious time to meet in Convention at Mr. Joseph Landrenaux, in Petit Prairie Mamoth, on the 21st of March, 1857, in the Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana.

2d. *Resolved*, In as much as we believe we are one third of the Electors, and the occupants of more than one third of the territory of the Parish of St. Landry, we deem it our just privilege, and self-respect demands it that we should meet in Convention, to deliberate on such measures, as most deeply concerns our immediate interests.

3d. *Resolved*, In pursuance of this Convention, we deeply deplore and repudiate the mal-administration of our Parochial affairs: the officers in whose hands are the financial disbursements, are not governed by wisdom, nor actuated to economy.

4th. *Resolved*, Charity begins at home: necessity forces herself upon the conviction of this Convention, that self preservation is the first law of nature; therefore believing as we do, there is great need, and ample room for a reformation in view of the disbursements of our public funds.

5th. *Resolved*, That we will support no candidate for any office of trust, honor, or emolument, who is not a regular nominee of the Democratic party, for our general election to be held in November next.

6th. *Resolved*, We invite all honest Democrats throughout the Parish to co-operate with us.

7th. *Resolved*, We unanimously pledge ourselves to support Mr. F. Courtney, who is the regular Democratic nominee of this Convention as a candidate for the Legislature at our next general election.

8th. *Resolved*, That when the electors of the residue of the Parish, shall meet in Convention, and extend the hand of fellowship towards us, in receiving our nominee on their ticket; we will cordially co-operate with them, and thereby form a complete whole Democratic ticket.

9th. *Resolved*, In our present Sheriff, Mr. L. V. Chachere, we see honesty united with his office, for the best reason, that he is the only Sheriff within our knowledge, who has, or will pay every dollar, and therefore he has our united recommendation for a re-nomination, and we will give him our undivided support for a re-election.

10th. *Resolved*, On motion, it was unanimously resolved, that the proceeding of this Convention be published as news matter, in the *Opelousas Courier*.

On motion, the Convention adjourned.

CHARLES TEALE, President.

F. COURTNEY, Secretary.

[COMMUNICATED.]

*Messrs. Editors*:—I saw in your paper this morning an article which interested me much. You say "a small piece of resin, dipped in water which is placed in a vessel on the stove, will add a peculiar property to the atmosphere." I will give you my experience, in confirmation of what you say.—Some years since my lungs were in a very bad state, and I had occasion during the time of my illness to attend to the bottling and sealing of a large quantity of wine. We used the resinous matter for sealing, such as is in common use. After breathing the atmosphere of the room for two or more hours, I found my breathing easier, and I attributed it to the fumes from the hot resinous matter that was used for sealing the bottles. I continued to inhale these same fumes for an hour or two every day after, and in a few weeks was much improved in health, and eventually entirely recovered.

Yours, X.

A NEW CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.—The Norfolk Argus communicates the following: A gentleman in Louisiana bought some consumptive negroes from a dealer in Norfolk, and placed them on his sugar plantation. They ate plentifully of the cane, but more especially of the young shoots. The slaves, who had been thin, weak and sickly, soon became strong, robust and hearty, and in a short time all traces of the disease with which they had been affected entirely disappeared. The Argus learns that this planter has a standing order at Norfolk for negroes who have the symptoms of the disease, and of course expects to get them at a reduced price.

☞ The emperor Napoleon has now in his stables sixty very fine American horses. The two horses he drives, himself, in his phaeton, are American, and in France, are considered superior trotters. M. Charles Astor Bristed, ("Carl Benson,") who has already brought a good many fast trotting horses to France from the united States, has just arrived from New York, with eight magnificent trotters. Some of those in the emperor's stables were brought over by Mr. Bristed.

### THE DEMOCRACY IN CONGRESS.

The Washington Union in its issues of " 14th inst., has an article combatting the im ssion which generally prevails, that Democracy already has command of a majority in the next Congressional House of Representatives, and calling on the party so to comport itself in coming elections, as shall really secure for it that preponderance there, which is essential to the untrammeled administration of government, on the principles which President Buchanan has to maintain. To show the real state of parties in the House, the Union publishes the following two tables, the first classifying the members elect politically, and the second stating the relative strength of the democrats and their opponents in the delegations as they were returned to the last Congress:

*Members of the Thirty-fifth Congress already elected.*

| | Democrats, | Opposition. |
|---|---|---|
| Maine. | | 6 |
| New Hampshire. | | 3 |
| Vermont. | | 3 |
| Massachusetts. | | 11 |
| New York. | 12 | 21 |
| New Jersey. | 3 | 2 |
| Pennsylvania. | 15 | 19 |
| Delaware. | 1 | |
| South Carolina. | 6 | |
| Ohio. | 8 | 13 |
| Indiana. | 6 | 5 |
| Illinois. | 5 | 6 |
| Missouri | 3 | 3 |
| Arkansas. | 2 | |
| Michigan. | | 4 |
| Florida. | 1 | |
| Iowa. | | 2 |
| Wisconsin. | | 3 |
| California. | 2 | |
| | 64 | 90 |

One vacancy, caused by the resignation of James S. Green, subsequently elected to the Senate. Francis P. Blair, who was elected as a Democrat, is generally classed with the opposition, because of his well-known views on the slavery question.

*Political Complexion of the Delegations of States in the Thirty-fourth Congress, in which elections are yet to be held.*

| | Democrats, | Opposition. |
|---|---|---|
| Rhode Island. | | 2 |
| Connecticut. | | 4 |
| Maryland. | 2 | 6 |
| Virginia. | 12 | 1 |
| North Carolina. | 5 | 3 |
| Georgia. | 6 | 2 |
| Alabama. | 5 | 3 |
| Mississippi. | 4 | 1 |
| Louisiana. | 3 | 1 |
| Kentucky. | 4 | 6 |
| Tennessee. | 5 | 5 |
| Texas. | 1 | 1 |
| Missouri. | | 1 |
| | 47 | 33 |
| Members elect. | 64 | 90 |
| Members of 34th Con. | 47 | 33 |
| | 111 | 123 |
| | | 111 |
| Whole number. | | 234 |

At present, then, the opposition has in fact a majority of twelve; and to turn the majority in favor of Democracy, seven of those twelve must be won over from the opposition, in the elections which have to take place previously to the organization of the thirty-fifth Congress. This is equivalent to nearly one-fifth of their present strength in the States in which the elections will have to be held. So large a gain as this will not be effected without serious efforts, and it is by way of exhorting the Democracy to make them that the appeal is made. Early organization, unity of aim, and energetic zeal in action, must be indispensable if the object is to be attained. With them nothing can prevent it.

The Union, calculating from the vote given at the late Presidential Election, expresses confidence that the Democracy will gain two members in Kentucky and one in Virginia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas and Missouri, making eight; and besides these it contends there ought to be gained four others, namely: two in North Carolina, and one each in Georgia and Tennessee: which would make a total gain of twelve; and it adds that some expect that it might be made thirteen, by a gain of one in Connecticut.

Against this the Union suggests a loss of but one, which will be in Maryland; and that, it expresses a hope of one in a second district of the State.

This is a flattering prospect, and one which every true Democrat must devoutly wish may be realized. But all know how very unreliable such calculations must ever be, even with the best possible data; while in the present case there are so many disturbing elements that they must be even far more so than usual. The less interest felt in the election of a member of Congress than in that of a President must always be taken into consideration; the less importance attached to the rigid maintenance of democratic interests in the former than in the latter will also always have its influence; but beyond this, it must not be forgotten that exertions far beyond those of ordinary previous occasions were made to elect Mr. Buchanan, and that therefore the contrast is likely to be so much the greater in this case, that much support was gained for Mr. Buchanan, which would undoubtedly have been given to his opponents were not for the extreme odiousness of principles to which the latter were pledged, and that fully conscious of this, the opposition will in all future contests leave no craft untried that may promise so to cover or color these objectionable features as not only to regain that loss, but to deceive others into their support.

Abundant, then, are the reasons for the earnest call which we join the Union in making upon the Democracy everywhere, to prepare itself for the coming struggles, which are to decide whether the great principles of the party shall be carried out by Mr. Buchanan, without the chance of their being overthrown, on some important—perhaps vital—point. Questions of internal and external policy are looming up portentously even now, to leave which to the chances of defeat, or even of serious obstruction, would be a heavy defection from duty. Whatever may be thought of the probabilities of the action of the opposition, in consequence of the late decision of the Supreme Court, of the proximility of war between Spain and Mexico and its consequences, of the course of events in New Granada and Central America, the possibilities cannot be overlooked; and he will not be true to Democracy, who does not use his utmost efforts to see that the Administration be placed in a position to meet them on the fairest construction of the Cincinnati platform.

With the Union, we have every hope in the South for the realization of the desirable result; but we feel equally sure of the necessity for all the exertions that Democracy can make in order to endeve it; and we desire to impress it on the party with the utmost earnestness.

Louisiana, it will be seen, is not looked to in the calculation above given from the Union, as likely to contribute her share towards the desired gain but we hope, notwithstanding the reign of Shuggery in a portion of the district represented by her only opposition member now in Congress, that she may yet see herself truly and legitimately represented, with none but democrats to speak her actual views and feelings at the National Capitol. This certainly will not be done without all the exertion, all the unity, all the faithfulness, that the democracy of the district can command; and we appeal to them to set about preparing themselves for to the task, without delay, and with zeal and resolution.

THE NEW CUSTOMHOUSE.—Slowly heavenward does this mountain of brick, granite, iron, marble and mortar ascend, and though many men are constantly employed about it, the advance of a day, a week, or even of a month is almost as nothing. Indeed a great deal of the work which was in a comparative state of forwardness a year ago, had to be undone because of the sinking of the large brick arches intended for the support of the main floor of the great central room, and the iron beams and girders which are to take the place of these arches have not yet been cast. As there is but one establishment within the limits of the United States with sufficient foundry accommodations for the formation of these immense castings, and as that establishment is furnishing native castings for about seventy Government buildings, of course the of New Orleans must bide our time. When all other places are supplied our time will come. In the mean time, we notice that artists are at work on the *bas relievo* statuary which is to ornament the central hall, and that Bienville, the founder, and Jackson, the defender of New Orleans, are slowly taking from beneath the sculptor's chisel.—*Picayune.*

*A Scotchman is a Frenchman!*—It is said that by an existing law of France every native born Scotchman is a French citizen; the law to that effect, made by Francis I., when husband of Mary Queen of Scots, being still unrepealed. Scotchman are also citizens of Dantzic, in consequence of a statute made in honor of a party of Scotch exiles, who valorously defended the city from an attack by the King of Poland.

(*From the New Orleans Courier of the 31st.*)

### FROM NICARAGUA.

By the steamship Empire City we have intelligence from Nicaragua. It is no later, as we have already said, than what has already been received here. We have conversed with one of those who came thence on the Empire city, a very intelligent person, who states that he left Rivas on the 28th, ult., that Walker had about 400 available men there; that there was the greatest difficulty in procuring supplies, the Costa Ricans having driven off all cattle, and preventing the natives from carrying in provisions; that it was impossible to send out foraging parties without their being cut off or deserting; that the Costa Ricans were in great strength at San Jorge and were marching up a large force to take possession of San Juan del Sur. The latest paragraph in the papers appears to be the following, in the Panama Star and Herald of the 19th inst:

The steamship Sierra Nevada, Capt, Huntington, arrived here on the 10th, at 5 o'clock, A. M., from San Francisco, via San Juan del Sur, having left the latter port on the afternoon of the 7th. The U. S. sloop of war St. Marys was at San Juan.

Mr. Rogers, Walker's Secretary of the Treasury, who left here about the 9th of January, in a five-ton boat, had arrived at San Juan in thirty-five days' passage.

The Sierra Nevada brought down a considerable quantity of provisions for Walker. When she left San Juan, Caycee, with his twenty-five to thirty men, was theer, and would attempt to get through to Rivas with the eighty recruits.

From the Aspinwall Courier, of the 17th, we extract the following:

The steamer Panama arrived at Panama on Sunday, March 15th, from Central America, which had 124 deserters from Walker's army, 24 for New York and 100 for New Orleans, at the expense of the Costa Rican Government.

Costa Rican papers, to March 7, contain no news, though they acknowledge receipts of correspondence from Gen. Canas, near Rivas, to Feb. 26.

From a more detailed account, we condense the following:

No battle had taken place at Rivas since our last accounts, nor had any engagement occurred between the belligerents. Walker remained in peaceable possession of Rivas, where he was busily engaged in manufacturing cannon balls and in strengthening his position. He had about 400 fighting men, but was losing many desertion. Walker's position in Rivas appeared perfectly secure against any attempt the allies may make to drive him out, and the only danger he has at present to fear is the shortness of provisions, his commisary department being in very poor order, and cattle are becoming very scarce through that section of the country. His men appear tolerably well contented and in good spirits. They are represented as being a most determined body.

The allies appear to be spending their time in issuing proclamations, instead of attacking their enemy. Their force have fallen off by desertion and otherwise from 3000 to 1200, and although they have had Walker shut up for two months, they are now no farther advanced than they were then. There appears no doubt that they might very easily have driven Walker out of the country by a little energy. Their men are represented as quite indifferent, giving way to the most entire indolence, and strongly contrasting with the resolute bearing of their opponents.

Walker received 80 men from San Francisco by the Sierra Nevada, and to that point he can alone look for assistance in the shape of provisions, so long as the river transit is closed by the allies.

It was next to impossible to get anything reliable from either passengers or officers of the Sierra Nevada, the former knowing little as to what had taken place the past month in Nicaragua, and, and the latter not being disposed to bear unfavorable news. They *report* that the Costa Rican forces attacked Walker in Rivas, from three points, on or about the 5th March: that Walker waited until the main force had got into the narrow streets, and then opened his cannon on them, causing immense slaughter. They say that the whole of the next day the filibuster forces were employed in piling up and burning the dead.

About the first of this month, Walker sent Colonel Caycee, with thirty men, down to San Juan del Sur, to guard over the wife and child of the late Major Duesenbury and the mail. On his return, Caycee was attacked on the transit road by 400 of the enemy, and after in vain attempting to cut his way through, and the loss of several men, he was forced to fall back to San Juan. Walker, hearing of this mishap, sent about 150 men under Brigadier-General Sanders, to relieve him. When this party reached the prairie ground of the Jocote ranch, they were attacked by a large force of the Costa Ricans, and fifty of Sander's men were killed. Some say he got back to Rivas with only fifty men.

One day (date not given) Walker attempted to move some gun-boxes, filled with sand, down to St. George, behind which to place his cannon, in order more effectually to attack the Costa Ricans on their quarters. The latter, however, made a sally upon the party, captured their boxes, and killed fifty of Walker's men.

Three men, who deserted, were taken and shot at San Juan Viejo, and a Frenchman, who was piloting them into Costa Rica, was taken to Rivas and shot.

(*From the Attakapas Register.*)

### SINGULAR INCIDENT.

Last Saturday, an extraordinary event took place in the environs of our small village: one of our most intreped hunters ventured out in search of game in those vast woods that lie in the rear of Mr. J. B. Murphy's plantation. Suddenly his attention was drawn towards a deer of dazling whiteness that passed him with the rapidity of lightning: to call to his dogs and set spurs to his horse, was the affair of a moment for our hunter; he rushed in pursuit of his prey, which, he soon saw in a turn of the road; without losing time he discharged his double barrel gun, and the poor animal fell upon the spot. The hunter then alighted, ran to the deer which he found struggling in the last agonies of death; as he was about to plunge his hunting knife into its throat, he was struck with astonishment at the sight of a gold collar that encircled its neck, and on which were engraved these words:—"Paul à Marie"—and beneath, were armorials bearing this date "ce 4 Août, 1795."

Our young man not being romantic nor thoughtfullhy nature, eagerly unfastened the collar, put it into his pocket, threw the deer on his horse and returned home.

I was present on his return; I saw the animal which without doubt had been the company and favorite of some beautiful maiden lying before me inanimate and bleeding; every one was astonished and enraptured at its perfect whiteness; can it be that this animal belonged to some peculiar race? or is old age that blanched its hair as it does that of man? Some of our old planters have assured me that they have seen white deer.

My attention was soon attracted towards the collar, which the hunter put into my hands, and which conjured up in me a world of thought. As a pretext, I told him I wished to decipher the armorials, and begged my young friend to intrust it to my care, and I took it home. I spent a portion of the night contemplating that jewel, thinking of the many incidents through which it might have passed. I thought of that Marie, who must have been a sweet and lovely girl; the armorials indicated that she was of noble birth, the date, that she lived France during the revolution; it was, then, a noble emigrant who had placed that collar on her favorite's neck; in spite of myself, my hand sought on the cold gold for the spot where Marie's small hands must have rested. And Paul, who was he? The form of a tall and handsome youth, with large black eyes, arose in my imagination, and his amorous arms encircled the Nymph like waist of the blonde Marie. Was he her brother? My thoughts repulsed this supposition, I preferred to view Marie and Paul as two lovers.

"Le 4 Août," what could that date signify? Ah! it was perhaps on that day that Paul had returned from a long hunting excursion, and brought the deer to his beloved. Poor lovers, where are they now? Probably they died, as did their companion. Did they inhabit the solitudes of our Attakapas, or did the deer escape from some other State to come hither?—Here is what the armorials will perhaps explain, they consist of two eagles, bearing a flag on which is this motto: "*Toujours pret.*" A small chain passing from one eagle to the other supports a horse ready saddled. My small knowledge of armorial ensigns unables me to understand this one; let us hope that others may be fortunate and will know to what noble family belonged Paul and Marie.

The following day I returned the collar (with a sigh) to the young hunter, who told me it was his intention to sell it to a jeweler. Can this not be prevented? that collar which recalls so rich a past, fraught with so many souvenirs, will it not be bought by some of our antiquarians?

Franklin, March 18th, 1857.

☞ A Paris paper says that a duel lately took place between a barrister and a merchant, in the Bois de Vincennes. On the day appointed, the rain fell in torrents. Nevertheless, being men of spirits, the two combatants took off their coats, and fired twice at each other without hitting, when the matter was settled. In a fortnight afterward, they both died of inflammation of the chest. This was satisfaction with a vengeance.

### "LUCKY DICK, THE PRIZE DRAWER."

One of the negroes of our neighbor, Major McCann, who resides at No. 181 Gravier street, has recently won for himself the soubriquet of "Lucky Dick, the Prize Drawer," in consequence of his remarkable luck in winning prizes in the Havana Lottery. For years past, no drawing has taken place in which he has not been more or less interested, and at almost every drawing he comes in for either a prize, a portion of one, or an approximation.

The true name of Lucky Dick, according to the engraved inscription on his broad gold shirt buttons, his fancy cane, and his seal ring, is Richard Lee, and "Dick" is a mere familiar abbreviation, to which the prefix of "Lucky" has given emphasis and pomp. He rather likes the name of Lucky Dick, and is inclined to think that it has in it a sort of fiscal charm, the potency of which we would not for any consideration break. So Lucky Dick we call him.

Unlike many an unfortunate individual of the true Saxon blood, Dick can indulge in the luxury of a wife—as indeed can all the masculines of his caste—without any of those harrowing considerations of propriety and fears of poverty, which are ever present to the thoughtful poor of the master race. In sickness he is attended without a thought of future bills; his offsprings are provided for till they are of sufficient age to come under the provisions of that universal law, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread;" and in his last sickness, and the transfer of his "dust to dust," he is not a pensioner on his posterity.

Such, at least, are Lucky Dick's philosophisings on the comparative economy of white and colored domestic institutions, and for the truth thereof he appeals to "these twin jailors of the daring heart—low birth and iron fortune." Being content with that position which the chances of birth and color cast him, under a great law promulgated by a Creator's fist, he feels no disposition to barter the proceeds of his luck, for to him, a useless freedom, though he could, had he so determined, have bought himself a dozen times over within the last two or three years.

A quarter of a year has not yet elapsed since a lucky turn of the Havana wheel of fortune brought Dick a prize of five thousand dollars, and since that he has been specially elated, and, more than ever, confident that he was born under a lucky star. Indeed, he has an idea of getting a diamond star made to represent the Divinity of Luck.

On various occasions when Lucky Dick has drawn a prize his friends have pestered him with persuasions to buy himself, or, in other words, invest a portion of his surplus funds in his own flesh and blood. But Dick applied his philosophy to the proposition, and the result of his deliberations has always been a very emphatic nay. "I'm as free as I want to be," quoth Lucky Dick; "I've a master who is kind and good to me; when I gets old, as I know I must soon, he'll take care of me without my botherin' my head about it, and when he dies, I'd just as soon die too. Besides," continued Lucky Dick, "I might lose my luck if I was to fool away my money in that way, for I own myself now just as much as I ever could, and more than any body else does. I think what I please, and enjoy eatin', and sleepin', and lovin', and all that, just as much as any body ever did, and twenty times more than a good-many poor white folks that I knows on, who are always gettin' turned out, because they can't pay their rent, and go beggin' about to keep themselves and their children from starvin'. I knows plenty of that kind—I does."

For these and other reasons equally potent, Lucky Dick refuses to negotiate either for the freedom of himself, his wife, or his son. Instead, however, he furnishes them with costly apparel and luxuries which appeal to the eye and appetite. In his vest pocket he wears a watch cost him $110, and for his wife he purchased a gold watch and chain, which stood him in $102; while the dresses of himself, his wife and son on Sundays are in the very height of fashion. Strong-minded people may call this vanity; but in what portion of the world may not such vanity be found? Fashion feeds it, and from the Empress Eugenie to the poor milliner with her "stich, stitch, stitch," it is the same emphatic weakness. Princes and philosophers have it, and the possession of it by Lucky Dick may be excused.—*Picayune.*

THREATENED INVASION OF CUBA.—The Spanish journals are discussing, at great length, the preparations making in Spain and Cuba, says the Paris Patria, in order to send to the Mexican coast a sufficient naval force, for the purpose of forcing from the Mexican government, compensations, claimed, for a long time in vain, for outrages, which it is alleged, subjects of the Spanish crown have been the victims of, in that ever agitated republic. On learning that the Spanish navy was going to adopt the offensive, when it was not thought strong enough to repulse an unfair aggression, the question has been agitated in the United-States, if the Spanish movement was anything else than a vain show, or, if Spain was, really, in a position to have her rights respected everywhere, they should be attacked, or overlooked. The question is certainly of the highest importance, in presence of the unceasing threats to which Cuba is subjected in the United States, and of the filibustero schemes which have never been entirely abandoned, either in New Orleans, or in New York. England and France would certainly never consent to the annexation of Cuba to the North American confederations. Cuba is, in fact the key of the gulf of Mexice, as Constantinople is the key of the black sea; and Europe can no more admit that the gulf of Mexico should ever become a Yankee lake, than allow the Black sea to become a Russian lake. But it will be understood that it is better that Spain should be in a position to enable her to protect her colonies in the West Indies, than to be at the necessity of imploring help from the great maritime powers, in order to have her property respected. Now, about this point we have no fear at all; Spain is not only capable of defending Cuba against the most direct aggression from the United States, but this colony can protect itself, alone, without needing an appeal to the arms of the mother country.

THE END OF THE WORLD.—While politics and many other ties agitate the European world at large, a new theme has been revived, very injurious to the nerves of timid folks, old ladies and young children generally. It has re-started in Paris and sounds very much like a scientific desire to see our world knocked into "pi."

Thus we find at present in Paris, the question is of quite other things than revolution on the abuses of the ancient regime. Many people are firmly convinced that the prophecy of Dr. Cumming is about to be realized. One knows that Dr. Cumming has irrevocably fixed the year 1857 for the end of the world. For two years this dark prophecy of the Scotch Dr. has been nearly forgotten, but the astronomers are making every effort to revive the closing terrors. They announce the journey of a giddy comet with great velocity, which is coming to dash its head or tail against our globe with the intention of reducing it to powder. It is on the 13th of June the shock is to take place, and this date, the 13th, does not contribute little in terrifying the imaginations of the weak. A learned member of the Institution, M. Babinet, who is familiar with all the heavenly bodies does not deny the vagabond course of the comet in question, he declares on the contrary that it is on its way, but the voyage will be made without accident. In case, he says, that the comet strikes the globe, the shock produced on the world we inhabit will be like a fillip on the back of an elephant. A learned German, who considers himself much Wiser than M. Babinet, pretends that he will see himself greatly deceived, that the comet is enormous, and of such force that it will precipitate our world into immensity, like a baloon falling from the moon. Which are we to believe, the learned German or the learned Frenchman?

THE GARROTE COTILLION.—This is the name of a new cotillion which is being practiced in this city. the ladies swing corners. Having done this, the gentlemen place their arms around their necks and kiss them on the left cheek. Young ladies screech, and fall into young gentlemen's arms. Gentlemen seize young ladies around the waist and waltz to their seats. If we are not much mistaken, the garrote cotillion will become a very popular institution. The world moves.—*Albany Times.*

☞ A foppish fellow advised a friend not to marry a poor girl, as he would find matrimony with poverty, "up-hill work." "Good," said his friend, "I would rather go up hill than down hill any time."

ROMANCE IN REAL LIFE.—*Disappointment in Love, and Suicide.*—A young German woman, named Caroline Juelich, aged twenty-two years, committed suicide, in New York, on Friday last, in consequence of disappointed love. It appears she had been deserted some time since by her lover, whose name she refused to divulge. Subsequently she became acquainted with a young German named Edward Shuster, who proffered her his hand in marriage, but the recollection of her false lover was so firmly impressed upon her mind, that, although she received the attentions of Shuster, and signified a willingness to become his bride, still in secret she pined at the loss of the absent lover, and secretly contemplated self-destruction.

According to this young man's story, says the Herald, he has been in the United States but six months, and had scarcely known the deceased for three weeks. Being a machinist by occupation, he put an advertisement in one of the morning papers asking for a situation. The deceased answered it, and requested him to call upon her. He did so, when she stated that she had been deserted by her lover, who was a machinist also, and that thinking it was him who inserted the advertisement asking for the situation, she was impelled to answer it, with the vague hope of being restored to his arms once more. From that time an intimacy sprang up between the pair. Shuster declares he loved her at first sight, and ever after, up to the day of her death. Miss Jeulich professed to return his love, and led her ardent admirer to hope for a happy union.

The following touching episode, explanatory of her conduct, was found in the pocket of the deceased:

"I am broken-hearted and lonely. I feel myself forsaken when I find I cannot discover one to help me. No one but myself can tell my feelings, or can my pen describe my heartfelt misery. I trust to find an easy death. I feel I am lost forever. There is only one to whom I might hope for assistance, but I fear he is incapable. The Lord only knows what I have suffered the last few weeks. The cold world may, after my death, say bitter things about me, but this I do not mind, I wish all could see and read my heart; they might then find cause for my untimely fate. There is one who once was a true friend. I will not, however, mention his name. He would be but little astonished at this rash act. Could I but see him now, and tell him all, he might probably save me. I am going on a long journey, and trust I may reach heaven, where all my worldly troubles will be at an end. Good bye. Good bye."

☞ A critic, malignant enough to tell the truth, says the most awkward thing in nature is a woman trying to run. They can't do it. They are not a running institution—except with their tongues. If there are two arrangements that were never made for fleetness on the pedal, they are women and ducks.

'An old deacon in yankee land once told us a story. He was standing one day beside a frog pond—we have his own word for it—and saw a large garter snake make an attack upon an enormous bull frog. The snake then seized upon one of the frog's hind legs, and the frog, to be on a par with his snakeship, caught him by the tail, and both commenced swallowing one another, and continued this carnivorous operation until nothing was left of either of them.'

WALKER'S POSITION.—Walker's position is undoubtedly desperate. His troops refuse to leave Rivas to fight, but will defend the city if attacked. However, notwithstanding the gloomy aspect of affairs, Walker shows no signs of giving up.

### AN ACT.

To Prohibit the Emancipation of slaves.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened. That from and after the passage of this act, no slave shall be emancipated in this State.

(Signed) W. W. PUGH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
(Signed) W. F. GRIFFIN,
President pro. tem. of the Senate.

Approved March 6, 1857.
(Signed) ROBERT C. WICKLIFFE,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
ANDREW S. HERRON,
Secretary of State.

### 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. F. COURTNEY Esq., is a candidate to represent this Parish in the next Legislature, subject to the choice of the Democratic Convention.

April, 4th 1857.

☞ 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.


**GUILLOT SCHMIDT, Tailor,**

HAVING established himself permanently on Bellevue street, near the corner of Main, offers his services to the public of Opelousas and Parish of St. Landry. He has on hand a fine assortment of goods of the best quality and various tastes, suitable for coats, vests and pantaloons, which he will cut and make in the best style and at moderate prices for cash.

Opelousas, April 4th, 1857.—(1y.)

**NOTICE.**

ALL purchasers at the successional sale of the Estate of Zéphirin Lambert, deceased, are hereby notified that the first instalment is now due and payment thereof will be exacted by process of law, if not paid within two weeks from the present date, into the hands of Henry L. Garland Esq., at his office in Opelousas.

SOSTHENE LAMBERT.
*Administrator.*

Opelousas, April 4th, 1857.—3t.

**NOTICE.**

HENRY PROVENT, of the Parish of St. Landry, has applied by his petition for the appointment of Administrator of the Estate of Antoine Boisdoré and his wife Manette Boisdoré, both 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. Ls. LASTRAPES, Clerk.

Opelousas, April 4th, 1857.

**ST. CHARLES HOTEL,**
GRAND COTEAU
Kept by Mrs. M. Simmons, opposite the Village


## Public Sale,

Estate of André Ratel, deceased.

THE public are hereby informed that there will be sold, at public sale, to the last and highest bidder, by a duly commissioned auctioneer, at the last residence of André Ratel deceased, at Pointe des Manuels, in the Parish of St. Landrv, on

Tuesday, 5th of May next, 1857,

the following described property, belonging to the Estate of said André Ratel, deceased, to-wit:

A certoin Negro-woman, named MARIE, aged about 20 years, and her child, named TOUSSAINT, a boy aged about 18 months.

Six work horses, one mule, about 6 or 7 head of horse creatures, about 10 head of gentle horned cattle, one yoke of work oxen, a lot of hogs, one calash, one ox-cart, plantation implements, houschold furniture, kitchen utensils.

*Terms and Conditions*:—One half of the purchase money payable in all the months of April following, 1859, purchasers furnishing good and sufficient security, in solido to the satisfaction of whom the right, and all sums not punctually paid at maturity to bear interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from time due until paid. And moreover the slaves remaining specially mortgaged unto said Estate until full and entire payment of capital and interests. Payments to be made at the domicil of Dorsin Lafleur, Public auctioneer, in the Parish of St. Landry.

EUGENIE RATEL,
*Administratrix.*

Opelousas, April 4th, 1857.

## 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, to the last and highest bidder, by the undersigned Auctioneer, on the plantation hereinafter described, on

Thursday, 7th of May next, 1857,

the following described property, belonging to the succession of Adeline Savoie, deceased wife of Onézime Mayer, to-wit:

## A Plantation,

situated in Bois Mallet, in this Parish, measuring 2 arpents front by 40 arpents in depth (more or less), bounded North by James O. McClelland, South by Etienne Lejeune, East by William Chevis, f. m. c., and West by Gérard Préjean, together with the buildings and improvements thereon erected.

One creole horse and one mare, a lot of household furniture and kitchen utensils.

*Terms and Conditions*:—The moveable property payable cash, and the Plantation payable one half cash, and the balance in one and two years from the day of sale, with good security and mortgage reserved.

ALPH. DEBAILLON,
*Auctioneer.*

Opelousas, April 4th, 1857.


**For Sale.**

A fine residence, situated in the town of Opelousas, containing about four lots of ground, bounded North by ——— street, South by André Meynier's property, East by Court street, and West by Jonathan Harris' property. Said property is in perfect order, good enclosures, a fine house of residence, kitchen, stable, a fine garden, a corn field already planted, parterre, &c., &c.

For other particulars and the conditions, apply to André Meynier, in Opelousas.

Opelousas, April 4th, 1857.

H.·. C.·. L.·. No. 19, A.·. F.·. & A.·. M.·.

A regular meeting of this Lodge will be held on Saturday the 4th of April inst., at 4 o'clock P. M. All transcient brothers in good standing are invited to attend.

By order of the W. M.
JOHN F. MORROGH, *Sect'y.*

Opelousas, April 4th, 1857.

**THE RICH-BLOODED BAY HORSE GRAYFOOT,**

WILL stand the ensuing season at the Stable of Dr. Burr, near Opelousas. GRAYFOOT is a rich-blooded Bay, with black legs, mane and tail. He is five feet three inches high. His form is matchless for strength and speed. In fact, he is a perfect model, in which it is impossible to detect a single fault. He is now in the perfection of his beauty, and shows the high blood from which he derives his pedigree.

He was got by *George Martin*, who was the best horse on the Southern Race Course in his day. He beat *Reel, Miss Foote, Hannah Harris*, and all the best horses of his day. The dam of GRAYFOOT was imported *Queen Ann*, for whom Col. Josiah Chambers paid two thousand dollars when she was two years old, as will appear by reference to the May number of the Turf Register for the year 1842. It will be found at page 291. Her first race was over the Opelousas Course, in which she beat Judge Porter's *Bellissianna*, and Messrs. Wells's full brother to *Reel*. She was got by *Camel*, the best stallion in England at that day. Her dam was by *Langar*.

TERMS:—TEN DOLLARS for the Season. One Dollar to the Groom.

Opelousas, April 4th, 1857.

**NEW JEWELRY**
***And Watchmaker's Shop.***

THE undersigned has just opened, at the corner of Main and Bellevue streets, a splendid Jewelry and Watchmaker's Shop. He has now on hand an assortment of fine gold and silver Watches, also an