THE COURIER.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING BY

JOEL R. SANDOZ.

Opelousas :

SATURDAY, MAY 15th, 1858.

☞ Mr. P. L. E. Guillaumin, of Ville Plate, has been appointed by the Governor, a Notary Public for this Parish, in place of Mr. M. Daire, resigned.

This nomination will give general satisfaction in Ville Plate and the surrounding country, as Mr. Guillaumin is known to be a man well fit for the office and universally esteemed in that community.

ANOTHER AUCTIONEER.—Mr. Robert Benguerel has been commissioned Auctioneer in and for the Parish of St. Landry. Bob's reputation is to well established to need any comment.

CONCERT.—From a communication addressed to us, we learn with much pleasure that Mr. Herman Brown, the celebrated violoncelist, who has been giving recently in the city of New Orleans very brilliant and charming concerts, intends paying the citizens of Opelousas a visit during the present session of the District Court, on which occasion he purposes giving a musical concert. From this communication we are pleased to understand that, in all probability, Mr. Edgar Voorhies, whose well earned reputation among us has been long since established, will, on this occasion, tender his services to Mr. Brown, as an assistant. If so, the entertainment cannot but prove one fraught with much pleasure and brilliancy.

SACRILEGE.—A few nights since some audacious scoundrel entered the church in this town and robbed the *church-box* of its contents, between thirty and forty dollars.

Is it possible that justice cannot lay its stern hands upon *one* of the villians that infest our town.—*St. Martin Democrat.*

From the New Orleans Crescent, of the 7th.

Editors :—We have just returned from the parish of St. Charles, right bank, and had full opportunity of witnessing the new disaster which has befallen our sugar-growing section of the country.

About 2 o'clock last night the levee below the residence of Mrs. Widow J. B. Labranche, nearly opposite the Red Church, (25 miles above the city,) gave way, and by 11 o'clock this morning the gap was full 70 feet, with a fall of about 9 feet. The rush of water is tremendous, and the want of proper direction and the necessary materials—such as timber and pile drivers—gave the destructive element a full sway. The splendid surrounding cane-fields are already a vast sheet of water and unless assistance be at once sent up, that rich region will be fully inundated and an immense loss entailed upon its population.

The effects of the crevasse will be direfully felt by the sufferers of the Bell crevasse for its waters, after having filled up the basin between the river and the ridge on which runs the N. O. and Opelousas Railroad, will flow direct into the Bayous des Allemands, and then, backing up around Mayronne, or Magnolia Ridge, will again reach the cypress swamps and prairies between Jefferson and the lower line of St. Charles. the waters of the two crevasses will then meet and sweep down Orleans and Plaquemine with such violence as will complete the work of destruction already commenced.

But this is not all. Unless this new crevasse be stopped (and we doubt it,) the tributaries of the Bayou and Lake des Allemands, running down from the rear lands of Lafourche parish will be swelled up and their waters thrown up towards the banks of the bayou, where the richest plantations exist.

What or who can arrest such calamities, and how long shall our country be left to seek protection in the uncombined and too often unintelligent efforts of isolated planters, whilst every year hundreds of thousands of dollars of the swamp land fund are wasted away upon insignificant bayous and lands, which, even if reclaimed, would not add one farthing to the public wealth, commercial importance, and necessarily the political influence of Louisiana? H. S. P.

Monday, May 3d, 1858.

ANOTHER CREVASSE.—We learn from the officers of the steamer Belfast that a breach occurred in the levee at the plantation next above Bringier's, directly opposite Donaldsonville last night. When the Belfast passed the water was rushing in with tremendous fury. The neighboring plantations had all their forces at work to stop the break, but apparently with little hopes of early success.

(*N. O. Picayune 11th inst.*)

SUFFERINGS FROM INUNDATION.—We learn from the Lafourche *Union* of the 29th ult., that in consequence of the great crevasse above Lockport on the Lafourche, some fifteen or twenty families have been greatly injured, some of them losing all their crops and suffered other evils, being left destitute of the means of existence. The *Union* learns that a subscription list has been opened for their relief.

STATE SEMINARY OF LEARNING.—From Mr. FREBET, the Architect now superintending the work upon the State Seminary in our Parish, we learn that the building is steadily progressing towards completion. That portion of the brick work which was deemed defective, as well as that which had been proven to be so, has been replaced by firm and substantial masonary, and the walls and towers are now altogether complete and sound. The roof is slated, the floors laid and much of the framing and other wood-work underway. Mr. F. deems the appropriation of the last Legislature ample for the completion of the buildings and assures us that this will be effected during the present year.—*Louisiana Democrat.*

MATRICIDE.—A terrible crime has been committed at Trieste. A young workman, who maintained himself and his mother by his daily labor, gained so little that they lived most wretchedly. By dint of privations he, however, saved up sufficient to purchase a ticket in a lottery. The drawing took place a few days ago, and his ticket gained a prize of 16,000 florins. Wild with joy the young man hurried to his mother, informed her of his good fortune, and asked for the ticket. "Alas, my, son," said she, "I sold it some time back" Without a word, the young man drew his knife and stabbed her until she fell dead at his feet. He was arrested the same day.

MADAME ORSINI.—Madame Orsini has left Paris to return to the Italian village where she has long been established as schoolmistress. Friends of Italian liberty helped to administer all the comfort that lay in their power by subscribing handsomely, to the widow and fatherless, and a sum of 2,500 francs was placed in Madame Orsini's hands at the moment of departure, to which the principal subscribers are Englishmen.—*Court Journal.*

THE SLAVE TRADE—INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE.

Among the official documents recently transmitted to the Senate by the President of the United States is a mass of correspondence which has taken place within the last two years on the subject of the African slave trade. Some of these letters are both important and interesting, especially a communication from J. Y. MASON, Minister to France, to Secretary CASS, relative to the effort of the French government to supply its colonies with African labor, and an elaborate letter from Mr. CASS to Lord NAPIER in reply to certain representations made by the latter of the laxity of zeal displayed by the United States in suppressing the slave trade. These documents merit consideration,

Mr. MASON states that he asked Count WALEWSKI for information respecting the precise character of the measure adopted by the Emperor for securing a supply of African negroes for the French colonies. Count W. replied frankly to the following effect:

"That the French colonies, particularly in the West Indies, were languishing for want of labor; that negro labor alone was adapted to tropical productions; that the French government had devised a system for the introduction from Africa of laborers under guards which were intended to protect them as free emigrants; that to supply these laborers they looked mainly to prisoners taken by the tribes in their intestine wars, who would, if not so disposed of according to the barbarous customs of the country, be put to death; that the arrangements in Africa, prior to the embarkation, and for the disposition of the emigrants during the voyage and after their arrival in the colonies, were entirely under the management of commissioners of the French government; the obligations were taken by them from the planters who received the emigrants into service to bind them to provide for the negroes during their term of service, and secure to them the means of returning to Africa if they shall choose to do so after its expiration."

Count WALEWSKI explained further that the British government would not object to the scheme, and defended it as conducive to the progress of humanity and civilization. Count WALEWSKI furnished Mr. MASON with a written memorandum embracing these views at some length. Mr. MASON concludes his letter by expressing the confident belief that in future the fanatical denunciation of American slavery will be greatly moderated, if not silenced, in France, and perhaps in England.

The communication of Gen. Cass to Lord NAPIER bears date April 10, 1858. It is extremely voluminous, but written in his best style, generally gravely argumentative, but at times decidedly sarcastic. After stating that the United States government has faithfully complied with the provisions of the treaty for the suppression of the slave trade, he refers to the difficulty of effecting the object, in consequence of the existence of slave marts in the island of Cuba. To shut these is to close the ports of Africa to the departure of slaves, and this can be accomplished by the co-operation of the Spanish government. Were Great Britain and France to employ their well-known influence with Spain, Cuba would cease to be the resort of slavers, and the trade would decline and disappear.

General Cass alludes to the change of public opinion in Europe, to the efforts of France to replenish her colonies with imported Africans, and of England to supply Cooly labor to the West Indies as obstacles to the suppression of the slave trade, and as incitements to its vigorous prosecution. In all this portion of his letter there is a tone of quiet irony which Lord NAPIER must have keenly felt. Diverging from this topic, Secretary Cass takes up the other vexed question of the right of search, and demolishes British theories, upon legal and international grounds, showing that the right of search as practiced by British cruisers has been denounced by the highest legal authorities in England, that it is contrary to every principle of international comity, that its exercise has been an unceasing cause of irritation and complaint, that it has led to acts of injustice and oppression, and finally that its continuance will tend to sever the ties of friendship which now unite Great Britain and America. The argument is strongly framed, well put, and seems to be irresistible, nor does it lose any of its force from the dignity and courtesy with which it is urged.

Gen. Cass proceeds to examine the charge that American vessels are engaged in the slave trade. He proves that in a vast majority of cases these vessels were simply built to order in America for the parties who have employed them in that traffic. He suggests that English-built vessels have been engaged in the same pursuits, and cites a case or two in evidence of the fact. He declares that the United States will continue faithfully to observe the treaty so long as it may continue in force, "but," he adds, "The President trusts that such instructions will be issued by your government to the British naval officers employed upon this service as will prevent all interference with American merchant vessels, and thus prevent the recurrence of those causes of complaint which during almost twenty years have been often the subject of remonstrance upon the part of this government." He affirms that the legitimate trade of our country with Africa has been greatly impeded by these vexatious interruptions, and will be completely annihilated should they continue. He points out various abuses in the conduct of British naval officers on the coast of Africa which should be enquired into by their government, and terminated as speedily as possible. In fact, throughout the letter Gen. Cass is rather aggressive than defensive in his remarks to lord NAPIER and while vindicating the American government, seems but too happy to discover well founded causes of complaint against that of Great Britain. The letter will no doubt provoke much comment, and possibly some display of angry feeling when it reaches England, but Gen. Cass, conscious of right, and entrenched in his invincible dislike of British arrogance and pretension, rejoices at the opportunity of giving our transatlantic cousins a sharp rebuke, albeit couched beneath the smoothness of diplomatic amenity. This letter is the best production that has emanated from Mr. BUCHANAN'S Cabinet. It evinces a manliness of sentiment which does honor to Gen. Cass, and which goes far to disprove the allegation that "he is a superannuated old fogy."—*N. O. Bee.*

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On the 24th ult., a man named Henry Mayo, at Pine Creek Mills, in Powhatan county, Virginia, was accidently caught by the saw, which cut one of his legs entirely off, throwing it a distance of ten feet. His injuries were so serious that he died in the course of two hours thereafter. He left a large family of children.

"Mr. Scowl, why do you wear that bad hat?" "Because, my dear sir, Mrs. Scowl vows she will not go out of the house with me until I get a new one."

THE DARKENING CLOUDS.

We are somewhat curious to see the comments of the French press on the acquittal by an English jury of SIMON BERNARD, accused of being an accessory in the plot to murder LOUIS NAPOLEON. Of the particulars of the trial we as yet know nothing, but there cannot be the smallest doubt of its absolute fairness and impartiality. English judges are proverbially men of the highest reputation for integrity as well as legal learning and English juries are almost invariably composed of intelligent citizens. The release of BERNARD is, therefore in all probability, the result of insufficient evidence.

To us in America, who are disinterested in the matter, and who understand tolerably well the nature of State prosecutions in Great Britain, the acquittal of BERNARD simply establishes his innocence of the charge, or shows that conclusive proofs of his guilt were not attainable. Not thus is the trial likely to be viewed by the French nation. In the first place, the system of legal proceedings in France is entirely different from that of England, and seems designed rather to prejudge the guilt of the accused than to ensure a fair and equitable trial. The man who in France is brought before a court on a charge of conspiring against the life of the Emperor, must be able to make his innocence as palpable as the sun at noon-day, if he expects to escape conviction. Under the torturing process of repeated judical interrogatories, and the extreme latitude allowed to the Attorney-General, it is excessively difficult for the accused to avoid committing himself fatally, and equally difficult for the jury to maintain their judgment in fitting equipoise. To the mass of Frenchmen, who are accustomed to this mode of criminal procedure, the wise and temperate course of English judicature, resting upon the merciful maxim that every man is presumed innocent until his guilt is proved, would appear a mere mockery of justice.

When, however, we take into consideration the delicate relations existing between France and England, the undercurrent of hostile feeling prevailing in France, in consequence of the refusal of the British Parliament essentially to modify the laws of the realm touching political refugees; when we bear in mind the manifold causes of estrangement between the two countries growing out of the Orsini conspiracy, and the popular belief that it was hatched in England, and that every plot against LOUIS NAPOLEON originates there, we can readily anticipate the sensation, which the acquittal of BERNARD will create in France. Every Paris journal will consider it an indisputable sign of the enmity of the British government, and will treat it as the evidence of a determination by Great Britain to dissolve the *entente cordiale*. The angry feelings previously harbored in the breasts of thousands of Frenchmen will be greatly aggravated by this unexpected and unwelcome denouement, and unless the prudence of the Emperor should prompt him to check outward manifestations of national indignation, we may expect to see the leading sheets of the empire teem with invective against the perfidy and punic faith of England.

It would really appear as if uncontrollable circumstances are compelling two great nations to drift into a war that can only entail misery, suffering and disaster on both. A series of events has occurred calculated to irritate the pride and wound the self esteem of both countries. First we had the Orsini affair then the violent abuses of England by the officers of the French army; then the effort to browbeat England into the passage of laws wholly opposed to her traditional usage and policy; then PALMERSTON'S servile and sycophantic attempt to carry into effect the will of the Emperor; then his overthrow and resignations, the correspondence between the English and French ministers, the tardy and ungracious apology tendered by France, the newly soldered friendship again shaken by the Perim controversy, and finally the acquittal of BERNARD. How can harmoney and good feeling, far, less friendly alliance and fraternal co-operation be maintained between nations subjected to so many successive elements of disturbance and disrord! It will be a political miracle if France and England contrive to avoid a collision.—Meanwhile the lowering prospect is so clearly discerned on both sides of the British Channel that England is quitely increasing her coast defenses, and France is busily employed in placing her army and navy in the highest state of efficiency.—*N. O. Bee.*

MR. RAREY, THE AMERICAN HORSE-TAMER.

The London *Times*, of April 9, has the following remarkable instance of Mr. Rarey's success in the practice of his art:

The following letters from Lord Dorchester, the owner of Cruiser, certify the effect of Mr. Rarey's method upon that hitherto untamed animal. We can add our own testimony to that of the owner, having witnessed the complete subjugation of the horse, which had been conversed in the course of a few days from a savage state of ferocity to the ordinary condition of a thorough-bred stallion:

"GREYWELL, April 3.—Cruiser, by Venison, dam by Little Red Rover, was bred by me in 1852, and I consider him to have been vicious from a foal; he was always troublesome to handle, and showed temper on every opportunity. On his road here from Danebury he went on his knees, and tore the ground up with his teeth. I have seen him lean against the wall of his box, and kick and scream for ten minutes together. In 1855, the Rawcliffe Stud Company and myself entered into an agreement respecting him, by which they were enable to purchase the half of him on reasonable terms, provided they liked his stock; but, notwithstanding the latter were much admired, I was requested to remove him after the second season, his savage propensities rendering the care of him too dangerous an office for any man in their employ. I was assured by the manager of the Rawcliffe Stud that for days he would allow no one to enter his box, and on one occasion tore an iron bar, one inch thick, in two with his teeth. If Mr. Rarey can tame him, I feel certain that no horse can withstand his art. DORCHESTER."

"GREYWELL, April 7.—Having received instructions from Mr. Rarey in horse-taming, I have much pleasure in adding my testimony to that of others respecting the marvellous facility with which he subdues a horse of any age or temper, broken or not, and without the slightest injury to the animal, or risk to man or horse. Mr. Rarey, when here, first subjugated a two-year old filly, perfectly unbroken. This he accomplished under half an hour, riding on her, opening an umbrella, beating a drum upon her, &c. He then took Cruiser in hand, and in three hours Mr. Rarey and myself mounted him. He had not been ridden for nearly three years, and was so vicious that it was impossible even to dress him, and it was necessary to keep him muzzled constantly. The following morning Mr. Rarey led him behind an open carriage, on his road to London. This horse was returned to me by the Rawcliffe Stud Company on account of his vice, it being considered as much as a man's life was worth to attend to him. When it is taken into consideration what this animal was, and what he now is, it must be apparent to all proprietors of horses that they should obtain the knowledge that enables them to obtain the mastery over any horse in half an hour, and without danger to either party. "DORCHESTER."

A GREEN OLD AGE.—The "Stuyvesant Pear Tree," which stands on the corner of Third avenue an Thirteenth street, New York, is again in bud. It was planted in 1547, three hundred and eleven years ago.

☞ A fellow out West gets off the following definition of a widow: "One who knows what's what, and is desirous of further information on the same subject."

AN HONEST CONFESSION.

In the New Orleans "Bee," which has been regarded as one of the leading journals of the American party, in Louisiana, we find the following sentence:

"The time has been when the inevitable preponderance of the free State would have left our whithers unwrung, but that was before Abolitionism reared "its miscreated front," and stalked through the North, creating issues based on geographical instead of political questions, and pouring into the credulous ears of the multitude countless slanders upon the South. Now every election is a slavery test, and every Northern victory over the Democratic party is rapturously hailed as an anti-slavery triumph."

This is candid and fair, and we trust that the patriotism of the Bee will induce it to go farther and condemn the action of the so called American members of Congress, who have allied themselves with the Black Republicans of the North, and whose votes are found recorded with the vile slanderers of the South, against the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton constitution. We give the names of the Senators and Representatives, who deserted the South in her hour of trial:

SENATORS.—Crittenden, of Kentucky; Bell, of Tennessee.

REPRESENTATIVES.—Davis, Ricaud, and Harris, of Maryland; Underwood, and Marshall, of Kentucky; Gilmer, of North Carolina.

The idea advanced by the sentence we quote, from the Bee amounts in substance to an acknowledgment of the conservatism of the Democratic party at the North and a concession that other political organizations are ultra in their Abolition fanaticism. This is substantiated by the action of the opponents of the Democratic party in the South. While the entire Democracy of the South sustain the Administration in its Kansas policy, we find the prominent members of the American party from the South acting in conjunction with the Abolitionists of the North—Seward and Crittenden shoulder to shoulder, Bell and Sumner cheek by joal, in their warfare upon the Constitutional rights of the people of this portion of the Republic. It may perhaps be urged that a fraction of the Democracy of the North have proved recreant to the principles of the party, but the proportion is small in comparison with those who have stood up to the South and the Constitution. Nine Northern Senators are with us in the Senate, against three who have abandoned their principles, and in the House a large majority of Northern Democratic Representatives have throughout the whole, acted with the Administration, enough, had Southern Know Nothings proved true to their own section of the Union, to have admitted Kansas with the Lecompton Constitution.

Well may the Bee assert that every Northern victory over the Democracy is rapturously hailed as an anti-Slavery triumph inasmuch as the principles of our party are in direct antagonism with all fanaticisms of whatever character. Founded upon the eternal principles of Right and Justice, the Democratic party has perpetuated the Union, through all the ordeals of sectional strife, and threatened dissentions, and to-day, if the Know-Nothings of the South had but given up their own disgraceful jealousy of Democracy and sacrificed their selfish ambitions upon the altar of their country's good, Kansas would have been admitted, and peace and harmony restored to our National Councils. With bad grace can the South reproach the North and accuse her of injustice when her own Senators and Representatives are aiding and assisting in her disgrace. The Know Nothings or Americans, South, who do not condemn the action of their Senators and Representatives in Congress virtually acknowledge that the North has thus far acted in good faith towards the South; that the Kansas shrickers are right; that the policy of Seward, and Sumner, and Hale is correct, and that the equality of the South in the Union is improper and of right ought to be utterly disregarded.

In the action of the Southern "Americans" in Congress, we perceive unmistakable evidences of a coalition on their part, with the Free-Soil leaders of the North for the overthrow of the Democratic Party. The enmity of these life-long opponents of Democracy is evidently deeper rooted than their love of country, and they are willing to barter their birth-right for the gratification of a spirit of revenge against a party which has thwarted their ambition, and despite the opposition of three quarters of a century, still retains the confidence of the people of the Union. But we look for the judgment of their once deluded followers to be visited upon the devoted heads of these traitors to the South. Their treason and disgrace but exhibits in brighter and purer light the patriotism of those Democrats of the North, who, regardless of personal unpopularity at home have stood up manfully for their principles and for the rights of the South. Well may the victories of their opponents be hailed as anti Slavery triumph, for in every State of the Union, Democracy is the same, knowing no distinction or difference in the rights of any section of the country, but guarding sacredly the rights of each and every State under the Constitution.

The second sober thought of the people will consign such men as Bell, and Crittenden, and Marshall to their merited obscurity and infamy; the combined elements of Abolitionism, Know Nothingism and anti-Lecomptonism will be crushed beneath the simple truths and patriotism of Democracy, and our triumph shall yet be complete and perfect.—*Louisiana Democrat.*

THE KANSAS COMPROMISE.

The South seems uncertain whether to rejoice or grieve at the adoption of the bill relative to Kansas reported by the Joint Committee of Conference in Congress. Compromises have been sovereign remedies for the reconciliation of conflicting opinions almost since the foundation of our government. Cool-headed men of fixed convictions have usually opposed this species of settlement, on the ground that it is of the very nature of a compromise to involve a surrender of principle on both sides; that such concessions must be temporary; that the principle cannot be extinguished, and that it will continually revive in other forms and create new schisms and discords. There is a substratum of truth in these objections, but, nevertheless, compromises would appear to be the ultimate resort in all cases where the antagonism of opinion is so sharply defined as to preclude a more direct adjustment.

The only question to be determined in the Kansas settlement is whether the North or South has yielded most. We think that a cursory examination will prove that substantially the North has given up nearly every thing, and retained little beyond a barren and shadowy recognition of the doctrine insisted on by her representatives that the people of a new State should have an opportunity to sanction or reject their organic law. The position of the opposing parties is briefly this: the North refused to vote for the Lecompton Constitution on the plea that the electors of Kansas had been denied the opportunity of accepting or rejecting that instrument. The South contended that the Constitution of Kansas was before Congress—a Constitution legally framed, and invested with every formality required by law—that Congress could not go beyond this Constitution, but must adopt it as the expression of the will of the people of Kansas, through their delegates to the Convention which framed it. Upon this divergence of views there was an apparently hopeless split. The Senate approved the Lecompton Constitution; the House rejected it. After many efforts to produce concert of action between these bodies, the expedient of appointing a joint committee of conference was adopted. That committe reported a bill which has passed both Houses, and is probably ere this a law.

The quintessence of this bill is that it recognizes the Lecompton Constitution. Before that Constitution can go into effect the people of Kansas are required to express their sentiments at the polls—not on the Constitution itself. By no means. That Constitution, with its pro-slavery clause, is left untouched, and if Kansas comes into the Union, she will enter as a slaveholding State. What, then, is the condition precedent to her admission? Simply that the people shall approve the land ordinance to be submitted to them. This ordinance bestows upon Kansas certain rights relative to the public lands similar to those heretofore conferred on other States. It is a substitute for the extravagant and unjust claim advanced by Kansas in her Constitution, and is more equitable and moderate. Now, if Kansas accepts this ordinance, she at once becomes an integral part of the American confederacy. If she rejects it, then she is bound to remain in the territorial condition until the next census proves her to possess the population necessary to entitle her to a representative in Congress. Whenever this is ascertained, she is empowered to hold a Convention; make a Constitution, and reapply for admission into the Union.

What the North gains by this settlement is not readily discerned. Kansas, to be sure, gets a chance of voting upon something, not upon the Lecompton Constitution, though she may by an indirect process, to wit: the rejection of the Land ordinance, repudiate that Constitution, coupled with the penalty of a resumption of her territorial condition for an indefinite period. Thus far, the North. What the South gains is positive and substantial. The Constitution of Lecompton is not to be submitted. This is an important concession. If Kansas enters the Union during the present Congress, she must come in as a slave State, under the Lecompton Constitution. This is a still greater triumph. The principle of non-intervention is not violated, for Congress does not presume to compel the people of Kansas to vote for the acceptance or rejection of a Constitution already ratified by them, but simply submits to them a law regulating the donation of the public lands within the State as a substitute for certain unjust and sweeping pretensions to proprietorship put forth by her Constitutional Convention. We do not wonder that the Black Republican press of the North foams with fury at the prospect of the passage of this bill, for it leaves them the slightest and slenderest advantage, and concedes nine-tenths of what the South has contended for.

If the people of Kansas are wise, they will unhesitatingly comply with the condition proffered them, and at once take rank with the sovereign States of the Union.—*N. O. Bee.*

THE WOMAN WHO LIVES WITHOUT EATING.

We have published several letters respecting this extraordinary case of suffering; they are important to scientific men, and painfully interesting to all. The following is written by Rev. S. P. Williams to the *Christian Advocate:*

Mrs. Hayes is not yet dead. I have seen her several times. And after reading all that has appeared in the *Advocate* in regard to her, venture to communicate a few thoughts upon her case. Before she passed into this peculiar and afflictive condition, her health was for some length of time extremely poor. She ate but little, and that little occasioned a considerable amount of suffering. Sometimes it threw her into spasm. For nearly a year before she ceased to take refreshments altogether, she lived wholly, or nearly so, upon the juice of dried raspberries, until that became a source of suffering. Then, for a time, she took occasionally a small quantity of cold water; and it is now nearly a year since she swallowed any liquid to the knowledge of any one. Indeed I have no doubt that a teaspoonfull of liquid put into her mouth would be the occasion of her death, unless the spasmodic action of her throat should expel it. Any person, to see her ten minutes, must be satisfied there is no deception in her case. Her head and shoulders, one or the other, are in perpetual motion. She is frequently thrown forward until she is nearly doubled together, and then the head thrown back, and her neck leterally doubled, and the body forced back, and the whole face, chin and all, entirely buried in the pillow. This is done several times successively in less time than I take in writing it.

The last time in the series the face will remain nearly buried in the pillow, and she does not breathe for ten or fifteen minutes without breathing. When this is over and the spasm passes of she struggles for breath, and her head is rolled from side to side almost with the velocity of lightning for a moment or two; the face becomes red with the rush of blood to the head and the skin quite moist with perspiration. Then the spasm subsides into a gentle motion of the jaw and shoulder, keeping time, as one would think, with the action of the heart. Her skin about the face, neck, chest and hands is delicate and healthy as the skin of an infant. The pulsations of her blood about the chest, neck, head and arms, though exceedingly delicate, are quite regular. Her hair does not grow, nor is it worn off the head, as one would naturally suppose, except a little just upon the crown. The action of the liver is entirely suspended, of course. The action and state of the lungs are perfectly healthy. They have been thoroughly examined by skilful physicians, with the aid of a stethoscope, and are supposed to be perfect. Her nourishment is wholly from the atmosphere. The last nutriment, indeed, the last swallow of water she was known to take, was in the last of June, 1857. The last time she was known to be concious was last December. When she comes out of these long spasms she seems to cry, for a moment, like an infant in distress. At such times her husband thinks she may be conscious. It is most distressing to hear it. She is not above the ordinary laws of disease. She has recently had a thorough case of the mumps, precisely as others have them. Her nails upon her fingers, like her hair, do not grow at all.

A ROMANTIC STORY.—A curious circumstance has come to light lately, which has caused the laugh to turn against the Academic. A *savant* member of that respected body has had in his employment for a long time past a young secretary, whose services he considered so valuable in the translations of the Oriental language and the collating of Oriental works, that only six months ago, he doubled his salary, on the threat of the secretary to leave for another *savant*. Last Monday the secretary came, all penitent and ashamed, to the *savant*, to declare that his approaching marriage would prevent a continuance of his engagement. The *savant* was incensed. "And who is the accomplice of your brainless folly?" exclaimed the *savant*, in a rage—being himself a confirmed old bachelor, and most averse to marriage.—"Monsieur H—," returned the secretary, with a titter, "to whom I am to be married on the 7th of this month!" The *savant* looked up in alarm, and beheld the blushing countenance and trembling eyes of his secretary. The truth flashed upon his mind at once—the secretary was a woman! And so it proves to be. One who, with the knowledge of Greek and Latin, with seven Eastern languages could find no employment as a "learned female," and who had been compelled to assume the dress of the other sex in order to obtain a livelihood. What makes the joke tell with even more severity against *savant*, is the face of Monsieur H—, the expectant bridegroom, being the very rival whose laurels have prevented his slumbers for these fifteen years.

(*Court Journal.*)

—A fashionable doctor lately informed his friends, in a large company, that he had been passing eight days in the country.

"Yes," said one of the party, "it has been announced in one of the journals,"

"Ah,' said the doctor streching his neck very important. "pray, what terms?"

"In what terms! Why as well as I can remember, in nearly the following: "There was last week seventy-seven interments less than the week before."

The doctor's neck was suddenly seen to shrink down till his head nearly touched his shoulders; and shortly after he was missed from the saloon to the small diversion of the company.

☞ We have received several copies of Senator Benjamin's Speech on the Kansas Bill, delivered in the Senate of the United States on the 11th ultimo. It is an able effort, and the best vindication of the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott Case that we have read. He has proved very clearly, to any unprejudiced mind, that slavery was protected by the "Common law of the New World," and guarantied to us by the Constitution.

NEWSPAPERS A WIDOW'S RIGHT.—A Vermont Judge of Probate has incorporated it as a part of the law of his Court, that the administrator of an estate must allow the widow the cost of a newspaper, she making her own selection from the common fund. The common law of America now recognizes the newspaper as a family and individual necessity. It is classed with pigs and potatoes, cassimire and calico—a thing to be exempted; like the family Bible, never to be parted with in the direst poverty.

SPECIMEN OF BACKWOODS ELOQUENCE.

A man on his trial for murder, having been found guilty by the evidence, is supposed to have been successfully defended by his counsel in the following speech, which is quite as good a warrant for the verdict juries so often render, as the usual reasons by which juries attempt to justify their finding:

"Thou shalt not kill." Now if you hang my client, you transgress the command as slick as grease, and as a goose egg in a loafer's face. Gentlemen, murder is murder, whether committed by twelve jurymen or by an humble individual like my client. Gentlemen, I do not deny the fact of my client having killed a man. No such a thing, gentlemen. Ye may bring the prisoner in "guilty," the hangman may do his duty; but will that exonerate you? No such a thing. In that case you will be murderers. Who among you is prepared for the brand of Cain to be stamped upon his brow to-day? Who, freemen? Who, in this land of liberty and light? Gentlemen, I will pledge my word not one of you has a bowie-knife. No, gentlemen, your pockets are odoriferous with the fumes of cigar-cases and tobacco. You can smoke the tobacco of rectitude in the pipe of a peaceful conscience; but, hang my unfortunate client, and the scaly alligators of remorse will gallop through the internal principles of your animal viscera, until the spinal vertebræ of your anatomical construction is turned into a railroad for the grim and gory goblins of despair. Gentlemen, beware of committing murder! Beware, I say, of meddling with the eternal prerogatige! Gentlemen, I adjure you by the manumitted ghost of temporary sanctity, to do no murder! I adjure you, by the name of woman, the main spring of the ticking time piece of time's theoretical transmigration, to do no murder! I adjure you, by the love you have for the esculent and condimental gusto of our native pumpkin, to do no murder! I adjure you, by the American eagle that whipped the universal game cock of creation, and now is roosting on the magnetic telegraph of time's illustrious transmigration, to do no murder! And lastly, if you expect to wear store-made coats; if you ever expect free dogs not to bark at you; if you ever expect to wear boots made of the free hide of the Rocky Mountain buffalo, and, to sum up all, if you ever expect to be any thing but sneaking, low-flung, rascally, braided small ends of humanity, whittled down into indistinctability, acquit my client and save your country.

The prisoner was acquitted, of course.

DIED.—In New Orleans, on the 8th inst., at the age of 43 years, Mr. CHARLES N. OLIVIER, formerly of this Parish.

NEW-ORLEANS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PICAYUNE,
Monday Evening, May 10, 1858.

COTTON.—The Vanderbilt's advices have not improved the demand in our market, and only about 3500 bales have been disposed of to-day. Prices are without any material change and we repeat our previous quotations—

Inferior,	5 a 7¼	Middling,	11¼a11¼
Ordinary,	8¼a 9¼	Good Middling,	12¼a12¼
Good Ordinary,	10 a11¼	Middling Fair,	12¾a13
Low Middling,	11 a11¼	Fair,	—a—

SUGAR.—The market has been quiet with sales of some 200 hhds. at about previous rates. Fair to fully fair 6¼ a 7c per lb.

MOLASSES.—We have noticed sales of some 600 to 700 bbls at 28 a 29c. for fermenting, 30 a 31c. for prime to choice and 32c for a lot of fancy, and 100 half bbls prime at 33 a 34c per gallon.

FLOUR.—The market has been quiet and we hear of barely 2500 bbls sold, including 400 Indiana superfine at $4 20; 400 superfine in lots at $4 25; 431 at the same; 117 at $4 30; 200 Indiana extra at $4 75; 850 in three or four lots at $4 62½ a $4 75 and 150 Tennessee do. at $5 25 per bbl.

CORN.—The sales have been confined to some 2500 sacks of which 100 in several lots at 50 a 55c for ordinary to good mixed and white, and 1500 prime white in lots at 55 a 56c per bushel.

PORK.—We notice only a few retail transactions mostly at $18 25 a 18 50 per bbl for Mess. Market very dull.

BACON.—Sales confined to a few retail lots at 7c for Shoulders and 9¼ a 9½c for ribbed Sides, and 26 casks clear Sides at 9¾c per lb.

PICKLED MEATS.—14 casks sold at 5½c for Shoulders and 6½c per lb for Hams.

LARD.—We notice sales of 175 tierces prime in three lots at 11½c per lb.

COFFEE.—725 bags sold at 11c per lb.

WHISKEY.—The sales include 50 bbls extra Rectified from store at 18½c and 61 Raw on the Levee at 17½c per gallon.

State of Louisiana.

District Court, Parish of St. Landry. } No. 8474.

Estate of Napoléon Frutel, dec'd.

FRANÇOIS A. PITRE, of the Parish of St Landry, Administrator of the Estate in community between the heirs and widow of Napoléon Frutel, deceased, late of the aforesaid Parish, having filed a Tableau of Distribution of said Estate, accompanied by his petition praying that the same may be homologated;—And whereas the prayer of said petition has been granted by an order of Court, dated the 8th May, 1858.

Therefore, notice is hereby given to all interested, to make opposition, if any they have, in writing in my office, within thirty days from the date hereof, why said Tableau should not be homologated and that the Administrator be discharged of all further responsabilities arising from said administration.

L. LASTRAPES, Clerk.

Opelousas, May 15th, 1858.

State of Louisiana.

DISTRICT COURT, Parish of St. Landry. } No. 8477.

Estate of Victoire Soileau, dec'd.

ETIENNE VIDRINE, of the Parish of St. Landry, Administrator of the Estate of Victoire Soileau, his deceased wife, late of the Parish of St. Landry, having filed a Final Tableau of Distribution 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 May 12th 1858.

Therefore, notice is hereby given to all interested, to make opposition, if any they have, in writing, in my office, within thirty days from the date hereof, why said Tableau should not be homologated, the Administrator be discharged of all further liabilities as such and his bond cancelled.

L. LASTRAPES, Clerk.

Opelousas, May 15th, 1858.

NOTICE.

ELEANOR A. HAMILTON, of the Parish of St. Landry, has applied for the appointment of Administratrix of the Estate of Thomas S. Hardy Sr., her deceased husband, late of said Parish.

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.

L. LASTRAPES, Clerk.

Opelousas, May 15th, 1858.

NOTIE.

FROM the 2d June, the undersigned will make two trips per week, (on Wednesday and Saturday) from Opelousas, to Bell-Cheney and Beaver Creek Springs, and will take passengers at $4 each, during the season.

Extra departures will be paid extra.

NOEL LARCADE,

Opelousas, May 15th, 1858.—3m.

MONITION.

District Court.—Parish of Calcasieu.

In the name of the State of Louisiana. To whom it may concern,.....Greeting:

KNOW YE, that WILLIAM H. KIRKMAN, of the Parish of Calcasieu and State of Louisiana, on the 1st day of May, 1858, at a sale made by David J. Read, Sheriff of the above Parish and State, and in virtue of an execution issued in favor of Ewell L. Cole vs. Samuel B. Nolley, from the Justice's Court, 3d Ward of the Parish aforesaid, and levied upon a certain house and lot, and improvements of said Defendant, at which sale the said William H. Kirkman became the last and highest bidder for the sum of four hundred dollars ($400) cash; and whereas the said Kirkman has applied to me, the undersigned, Clerk of the District Court in and for the aforesaid Parish, for a Monition in pursuance of an Act, entitled "An Act relative to Monitions, and mode of proceeding" approved March 15th, 1855.

Description of the Property.

A certain Lot or Tract of Land, being the same where the Defendant last resided, containing one acre, more or less, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon erected.

Now, all persons who can set up any right to the property, in consequence of informality in the order, decree and judgment of the Court, under which the sale was made, or any irregularity or illegality in the appraisement and advertisement, in time and manner of sale, or for any other defect whatsoever, are required to show cause within thirty days from the publication hereof, why the sale so made should not be confirmed and homologated.

L.S. Witness my hand and the Seal of the 15th Judicial District Court in and for the aforesaid Parish and State, at Lake Charles, this 11th day of May, 1858. J. V. MOSS, Clerk.

May 15th, 1858.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

STATE OF LOUISIANA.

Amréien Broussard, adm., vs. Evariste Préjean, } District Court, Parish of St. Landry, No. 8173.

BY virtue of a writ of fi. fa., issued in the above entitled suit, by the District Court, in and for the Parish of St. Landry, and to me directed, will be exposed at public sale, at the Court House of this Parish, on Saturday, the 5th day of June next, 1858, at twelve months credit, it being the second and last exposure. Purchaser giving bond with security, with interest at eight per cent, from the day of sale until paid, all the right, title, interest and demand of Evariste Préjean, in and to the following described property, seized to satisfy said writ, to wit