NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, NOV. 22.

Banking and Bankruptcy.

A useful thing in these times, is the principle of Mutualism. Everybody should believe in it, for its advantages are tangible. It supplies a first rate article for a cheap price. It makes the product of labor go further, increases the earnings of the thrifty, and renders common among men of small means, what was before confined to men of large. Mutual Insurance Companies, for instance, afford insurance to their members at the mere cost of it. The consequence is, that thousands of people insure their property who would never have done it at the heavy premiums demanded at the offices of the old corporations. This is a vast benefit to the entire community, and triumphantly demonstrates the virtue of the principle.

It requires no great stretch of sound sense to conceive that what is so valuable in one branch of business may be equally so in others. If Mutualism is good in one use, it will undoubtedly be found good in more. One of the most important of the new applications to which it may be put is argued for in a recent number of the *Merchant's Magazine*, with a cogent appeal to facts by a writer evidently possessed of extensive business experience and a mind as fertile as it is practical.—He begins by stating the notorious fact that in this country by far the greater number of business men become bankrupts; in Boston, he says, that of every hundred who commence business, at least ninety-five die poor; in New-York not two ultimately become wealthy, while all pass through the process of bankruptcy, and in Philadelphia the proportion of the successful is still smaller. He then adduces some interesting statistics from the records under the late General Bankruptcy Law, and says:

"These things being so, our system of trade should be characterized, not as a system of exchange, but as a system of bankruptcy, tending to the ruin of all who engage in it, the exceptions being only numerous enough to prove the rule. The exchange of products, which is meant by "trade," is a necessary and perfectly legitimate operation, and those who undertake it should, all will allow, receive a proper support, and a just remuneration for their time and labor. When a long life has been passed in a meritorious pursuit, and the result to the individual is not competence, but poverty, it is evident that there must be some great and fundamental error at the basis of the system, which it behoves those who are interested to ascertain and remedy, or counteract. I know that plentiful reasons for bankruptcy, such as accusations of extravagance, imprudence, speculation, &c. are always adduced in individual cases, but the effect being general, not individual, the cause must also be general, and adequate to produce the effect.

"There is such a cause constantly, though silently, at work, draining the life-blood of trade, but manifesting its general and wide-spread operations only at those periods which are known as crises in the money market.

"*This cause is the too high rate of interest.*

But there are other reasons which show with greater force that the rate of interest is excessive: these reasons are stated at length by that clear thinker and impressive writer Mr. Kellogg, whose tables prove, that at the legal rates, to say nothing of those actually paid, the aggregate interest on existing public and other debts in this country, exceed many times the total net produce of our industry. In other words, the amount which our people are bound to pay as interest on their debts, is many times more than their whole earnings. Such a fact can have but one consequence, and that is bankruptcy, not of the accidental and temporary kind, but chronic and steady. There is no escape from this so long as the present rates of interest are not reduced. Hence the universal uncertainty, and the perpetual and fatal fluctuation of business which prevail in the United States more than in other countries. The commercial class are naturally the first and most frequent victims of our vicious system, though the evil cuts into the substance of all classes, and all are directly and deeply interested in its reform. It is however the merchants who should be the first to move in the application of the remedy, the example once set by them, will be sure of a general and speedy imitation.

But what is the remedy? It is simply the organization of a system of Mutual Banking. Such a banking system can be established just as easily as the system of Mutual Insurance, and will be found vastly more beneficial in practice. Indeed, under our General Banking Law there could be no serious difficulty whatever in putting the idea into execution. We copy the leading features of the plan given by the writer in the Merchant's Magazine:

"In order to secure the object desired, I would propose the formation of a mutual bank of discount and deposit, with a sufficient guarantee capital invested in interest bearing securities, which should receive deposits, and discount approved paper, based on actual business transactions; should issue no bills, but use current funds, the customers agreeing to receive such funds in payment of all liabilities of the bank; a dividend of the profits of each financial year, payable two-thirds in cash, and one-third in scrip, at three years' date, bearing interest, should be made to the customers, in proportion to their average daily balance of deposits, and the amount of interest received from each, in the shape of discount or otherwise.—The directors should be paid, in compensation for their services, a per centage on the profits of the yearly business, and there should be a board of unpaid supervisors, to watch over the interests of the bank.

"Such a bank originated by the right men and placed under a direction which would secure the confidence of the public must be successful. The mutual principle embodied in it would attract deposits by giving to them a certain interest, and would diminish the rate of discount by that of a dividend. The amount of reserved profits represented by scrip would after three years equal the average net annual income of the three previous years, and at the close of five years at most, would be sufficient to warrant the return of the guarantee capital to the subscribers, who during that term would have received the interest borne by the securities. As the bank extended its operations it would ultimately embrace among its customers the majority of the business men of the City, and all settlements of their mutual transactions could be made upon its books as has long been the case at the Bank of Hamburg. As corresponding banks were formed in other cities this advantage would be extended to external transactions.

"It would seem very difficult for one bank to do all the business required in a city like New-York, but there could be no inducement to establish others, and thus increase the expenses. The labor devolving upon the directors could be much lightened by each branch of trade establishing a committee of confidence, under whose scrutiny all paper of that branch should pass, before being offered at the bank; while the directors should receive such a compensation as would induce them to devote their whole time and energy, dependant, at the same time, upon the success of the yearly business.

"Whenever the business of the bank should have become thus extended, it would be in the power of the customers to reduce the rate of discount to such limit as might be found just and desirable, and the customary interest must be governed accordingly."

Nowhere, as it appears to us, is one simple working plan by which a reform may be effected, whose necessity and importance to the whole community cannot be exaggerated. By means of such a system interest can be reduced, trade rendered safer, and a healthy expansion given to every branch of labor. Without it, commerce, manufactures and agriculture must remain the victims of usury, for, as we have seen, legal and illegal rates of interest are both usurious, and neither prudence nor economy can assure success in life any more than in any other game of chance. Legislative enactments are notoriously ineffectual. At usury laws and penalties Wall-st. snaps its fingers. We must have a system which will take hold of the practical end of things, and put usury laws and the necessity for them alike out of vogue.

Louisiana Election.

In the 32 parishes heard from, Declouet's (Whig) majority for Governor over Walker (Loco) is 780, leaving 15 yet to hear from, which, in 1845, gave Johnson a majority of 1,356. The *Sun* of the 13th inst. thinks that Walker's majority will be less than 300, and is confident of the election of Kenner and Bordelon, the Whig candidates for Lieutenant Governor and Auditor. The Senate is supposed to be Loco-Foco, and the House Whig, leaving it still in doubt which party has a majority on joint ballot. The *Sun* adds: "As evidence of the probable election of these gentlemen, we may state that in 14 parishes, the official returns of which have been received by the Secretary of State, and where Walker has 28 majority, Kenner has 283, and Bordelon 330. Except in St. Martin, and perhaps one or two other parishes, they almost invariably run from 10 to 30 votes better than Declouet. In the entire State, this will probably make difference enough to elect both."

☞ Hon. Wm. Hay of Saratoga Springs, has accepted a Professorship in the Law School in this village. Mr. Fowler is indeed fortunate in securing the services of such a man as Judge Hay; as it is well known, he is one of the ablest jurists in the Union.—With such men as Hon. Willis Hall and Judge Hay and others at the head of the Institution, it will compare with any in the country. [Balston Journal.

'The Cholera's Lessons.'

Such is the title of a very forcible article from the *London Times* which we find circulating in the journals of this country. We cut from it the following paragraph:

"Doubtless the Cholera, like other phenomena, either of the corporeal or the mundane system, follows certain definite and ascertainable laws. So does typhus fever, so do hurricanes, so do water-spouts, so do thunder-storms, so do earthquakes. But the laws of which we speak are but a convenient phrase to express the will of the great Lawgiver. He who made can abate, modify, suspend, or warp them. He who can bid a plague rise in the East may direct its virulent course so as to baffle the observations of the most sagacious, and the deductions of the most intelligent. After all, when we have ascertained the law, we are nearly as helpless as we were before. We may foresee a certain number of cases and mitigate a certain number; but the highest degree of knowledge which we attain to at the present time will be about these and our utmost skill is baffled by contingencies which defy its explanation. One fact ever appears prominent above the rest,—that we are in the hands of a higher power."

—We fear the currency given to such paragraphs is calculated, if unquestioned, to do great mischief. The Cholera has been to very many of us a fearful visitation, and thousands of loving hearts bleed with wounds by it inflicted which Time can never heal. Yet this must not blind us to the truth that this pestilence is just as truly a result of Divine benignity and mercy as the summer sun or rain. God is too good to permit us to live on amid the reeking steam of butchers offal, fetid gutters, slimy pools, festering grave-yards, the fumes of bone-boiling, the stench of hog sties and all manner of putridity. It is not best for us—whether in view of Time or of Eternity, that we should be allowed to go on in this way; and hence the Cholera. It is sent expressly to quicken us to cleanliness and the related virtues; to teach us that every one's well-being is every one's concern; and that so long as any are gluttonous, intemperate, debased, filthy, famished or defrauded, none can be securely happy. It comes to bid us replace the rookeries and cellars in which Poverty now huddles by dwellings for the Poor not incompatible with health, comfort or decency; to bid us bury our dead far away from crowded p[illegible] and deep in the earth; to send away our butcheries, pig sties, bone boiling, &c. &c. into the open country, where the unobstructed breezes may dissipate the malaria they, thus widely scattered, may engender; and to rigidly repress and prohibit such vocations and practices as tend to impair and endanger the general health. Now if, instead of rightly heeding these solemn though friendly warnings, we fall to talking of 'the will of the Lawgiver, 'contingencies,' 'a Higher power,' &c. in the fashion above quoted, we shall surely darken counsel and distract attention from the imperative duty of each and all. There are no 'contingencies,' nothing to 'baffle the observations of the most sagacious,' so far as our own duty is concerned—and it is mainly with that that we have to do. Let us first of all do what is incumbent upon us as individuals and as members of the State, and not expect, while we live in daily, flagrant and general violation of God's physical laws, to escape their penalty by fasting and prayer. These are very well if they conduce to obedience, very ill if relied on as a substitute for obedience. Bring me no vain oblations, saith the Universal Father.

The Gas Business.

To the Editors of The Tribune.

Your recent attacks on the N. Y. Gas Light Company have excited considerable attention, and caused some of us to inquire why, if the Company is so exceedingly high as you represent, we do not have larger dividends, which have not for many years exceeded 4 per cent, which, for a manufacturing stock, liable to be rendered useless by new discoveries, or worthless by the exercise of popular violence or caprice, is a very small compensation for the use of capital invested in stock confessedly very hazardous. As the price you pay for the Gas is the test of value to you, so the dividends we receive is the evidence of value to us, and I think you and the public will not object to our receiving a profit of two per cent upon our investment, over and above legal interest considering the hazardous nature of the business, and the vast amount of capital now decaying under the surface of the earth, and in the buildings we hold for the accommodation of those who prefer lighting the City. To the inquiry why our price is higher than our neighboring manufacturers, I can only say that we are not aware that it is so. If it is, and the Companies pay reasonable dividends, it follows that they must have better management in making it than we do.

STOCKHOLDER.

☞ With regard to the profits of the Company, "Stockholder" can hardly obtain much satisfaction by appealing to us or to the public. Because he gets small dividends, must the whole City pay double price for its gas? We imagine that people in general will hardly carry their sympathy so far, and suggest that if anybody is to be overhauled it should be the management of a concern which works so poorly both for its owners and its customers. What the public want is to have gas as cheap as it can be made, or at least as cheap as it is furnished elsewhere. The profits "Stockholder" must look out for on his own book.

[*Eds. Trib.*

Cheap Postage to be Recommended to the President's Message—Flourishing state of the Department—Great Business in the Franking Way.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Nov. 20.

The subject of cheap postage will constitute a prominent feature in the Message of the President, as well as in the report of the Postmaster General, and the prosperous condition of that important Department of the Government will justify Congress in carrying out the suggestions that will be made in support of a reduced and uniform system of postage. At the end of this fiscal year the surplus of Post Office revenue on hand will not fall short of half a million of dollars, and may amount to six hundred thousand dollars. The rate of postage recommended will be five cents on all letters without regard to the distance of transportation, and if we had a silver coin of the denomination of three cents, which they have in other countries, it might with safety be reduced to even this standard. There could be no doubt in regard to the matter if some of the most flagrant abuses of the franking privilege by Members of Congress were corrected. The amount of mail matter transmitted during the past Congress reached nearly the enormous weight of *nine hundred thousand pounds*, excluding all that was sent through committees and otherwise. Not only had this large bulk in weight to be transported by the Government free of charge, but the United States had virtually to pay to Postmasters SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS for the delivery of this free mail matter after reaching their various points of destination. I am personally knowing to the fact that during the last Winter a Senator who was a candidate for reelection, sent a large book by mail *free* to every member of the Legislature of the State who was about to settle the controversy between him and his rival competitors. These books embraced annuals, the new work on the Constitution of the United States, and everything else he could buy that he thought would gratify the cupidity or the pride of the Members of the State Legislature to whom they were directed. Here was an abuse of the franking privilege of an enormous character, and yet it is but one of many that take place at every Session of Congress. And if such abuses are remedied, and the mail service confined to its legitimate functions, there would be no difficulty whatever in making the uniform rate of postage all over the United States but three cents for a letter. The Postmaster General will not, I learn, recommend the discontinuance of the franking privilege to members of Congress, but will content himself with simply pointing out facts connected with the abuse of the privilege, leaving Congress to take such action as in their judgment will most conduce to the public interests. ALPHA.

HORRIBLE ACCIDENT.—At an early hour yesterday morning, a colored bound girl, aged about fourteen years, in the family of Mrs. Mary Field, in Second-st, above John, Southwark, was burned in a horrible manner, in consequence of her clothes accidentally taking fire from a lamp in the kitchen, where she was making preparations for the day's work. In her fright and agony she ran first into the yard, for the hydrant, which she was unable to find, and then back into the kitchen, and afterward up stairs. Her frantic shrieks, which were so loud as to alarm the neighbors, aroused the family, and Mrs. Field and her son, Mr. Charles Field, hastened to the relief of the poor creature—the latter burning his hands severely in tearing off the girl's blazing clothes. The sufferer received prompt medical attendance, and was afterward conveyed to the Pennsylvania Hospital. Her injuries are of too serious a character to admit any hope of recovery. [Philad. North Amer. Nov. 21.

FIRE AT GETTYSBURG (Pa.)—We learn from the *Gettysburg (Pa.) Sentinel* that the mill of George Trostle, three miles from Gettysburg, was entirely destroyed on Friday last, with 3,000 bushels of Wheat, mostly the property of neighboring farmers. Insurance on the mill $2500; whole loss about $10,000.

Michigan Election.

We have the following majorities in this State, official and unofficial. The Counties of Mackinaw and Chippewa remaining to be heard from. The number of Representatives supposed elected are also given:

Counties	Governor Letchers.	Governor Barry	1849. Whig and F. S.	Rare Lecc
Allegan		100		
Barry*		147		
Berrien		400		3
Branch		252		3
Calhoun	250			3
Chippewa (prob)	10			1
Clinton		50		3
Cass		250		3
Eaton	40			3
Genesee*	151			2
Hillsdale		80		1
Ingham* (the capital)		2		1
Ionia	90			2
Jackson*	27			3
Kalamazoo*		24		1
Kent and Ottawa		175		1
Lapeer		100		1
Livingston		400		3
Lenawee		100		3
Mackinaw (prob)		50		
Macomb*		419		3
Monroe		500		3
Oakland*		505		3
Saginaw		75		
St. Clair*		213		2
St. Joseph*		168		2
Shiawassee		101		1
Van Buren*		104		1
Washtenaw*	124			3
Wayne*		632		
Total	712	4170	24	42

Barry's maj. 4,258. Ransom's (Loco) maj. in 1847, upward of 5,000.

* Official. † Independent from the Whigs and Free Soilers.

A letter from Barry Co. informs us that the vote was very light in that County, and not more than four-fifths of the vote of the County was polled.—In fact, the Whig and Free Soil papers very generally complain of the apathy which prevailed at the polls and the decreased vote cast. Two Free Soil Union Representatives from St. Clair, and one from Branch, are chosen from Counties which gave clear majorities for Cass over Taylor and Van Buren. Union among the friends of Freedom would have secured a brilliant victory. As it is, it appears from the following in the *Detroit Free Soiler Freeman* (Free Soil) our friends have done much better than we expected.

The following is a list of the Senators elected: A. Harris, J. T. Copeland, M. Shoemaker, I. P. Christiancy, A. French, H. H. Riley, I. P. Brodhead, N. Beach, J. Bourne, Col. Dickey, N. G. Isbell. Of these, two, Isbell and Dickey, are elected by the union of the Whigs and Free Soil votes, and one (Mr. Christiancy) by all three parties. Of the Members holding over, 8 were Loco-Focos and three Whigs. This Fall the Loco-Focos elect 8, the Whigs and Free Soilers 3. The Legislature, therefore, stands thus:

	Locos.	Whigs & F. Soil.
Senate	19	6
House	42	24
Total	57	30

Loco-Foco majority on joint ballot, 25.

Upon all questions save that of Slavery, Mr. Christiancy will act with the Loco-Foco party.

It is highly probable that even this Legislature will instruct Gen. Cass to vote for the Wilmot Proviso. Indeed we cannot see where the Members are to come from that *will* not vote for such instructions.

We have good authority for saying that Gov. Barry, previous to the late election, wrote a letter to a gentleman in this city expressly and distinctly repudiating the doctrines of Gen. Cass as set forth in his Nicholson letter, and placing himself upon the Wilmot proviso platform. And further, that the fact of the existence of this letter was circulated among the Loco-Focos of the Southern portion of the State, and one of them was authorized to call upon the gentleman to whom it was written, for the letter, that he did call upon him for it and that he refused in a "huffish" tone, to let it be seen. This letter assisted materially in swelling Barry's vote in that section of the State, and the espousal of similar doctrines, also, contributed to the election of Cass men to the Legislature, both in the South and in other portions of the State. Under these circumstances, dare the Legislature attempt to repeal its instructions to our Senators in Congress to vote for the Wilmot proviso? We do not think it will, though some of our Whig cotemporaries appear to think differently.

Among the representatives elected on the Union ticket we notice Messrs. George Sedgwick, Grove Spencer, and John Renwick of Washtenaw Co., Edward L. Jones and Townsend E. Gidley of Jackson, Philotus Hayden of Van Buren; Delamore Duncan of Kalamazoo, Addison J. Comstock and Noah K. Green of Lenawee, James Fowler of Hillsdale, Hovey K. Clarke, Nathan Pierce and Erastus Hussey of Calhoun, De Witt C. Leach and J. K. Abbott of Genesee, Harmon Chamberlin and George S. Lester of St. Clair, Dr. Oliver P. Strowbridge of Lapeer; and, probably, Judge Ashmun, of Chippewa.

We are relieved to see, from the Peninsular Freeman, Kalamazoo News, Jackson Citizen, Cassopolis Advocate, Marshall Statesman, Niles Intelligencer, Centreville Advertiser, and other influential Whig papers, that the union in Michigan of the friends of freedom is to be preserved. Michigan ought to present a unanimous front on the side of freedom. New-Mexico, Deseret and California have not yet been admitted into the Union, and Michigan should be rightly represented in Congress in the forthcoming struggle.

A Hastings (Barry Co.) correspondent of *The Tribune* furnishes us with the following returns from that county. Barry Co. gave Cass a majority of 45 over both Taylor and Van Buren:

	Whig and Free Soil.		Locos.
Governor	Littlejohn	331	Barry 456
Lieut. Gov.	Coe	322	Fenton 444
Senator	Longyear	329	Bowen 456
Representative	Roberts	247	Barlow 300
State Printer	Dunckloe	333	Ingals 440

Of the result in Kalamazoo Co. the *News* says:

Barry in this county has 24 majority, while the balance of the State and Senate ticket is Whig largely.—The majorities in this (Kalamazoo) County range as follows:

Coe, whig	156	Dickey, do (Senate)	181
Dunckloe, do	167		

Each party has elected one Representative.

The California Convention.

We find in the Monterey correspondence of the *N. O. Crescent*, the following description of the Members of the Convention recently in session at Monterey to form a State Constitution for California:

From San Diego—Major Henry Hill, of the U. S. A., a native of Virginia, on duty at San Diego; Don Miguel Pedrorena, a native of Spain, officer of customs of San Diego.

Los Angeles—Dr. S. C. Foster, a native of Maine, who has been for several years a resident of California; J. A. Carrillo, a native farmer, who was a strong opponent of our government during the war; M. Domingues, a native farmer; A. Stearns, a Massachusetts merchant, who has been for twenty years a resident on this coast; Hugh Reid, a Scotch farmer, who has been sixteen years a resident of California.

San Luis Obispo—P. De La Guerra, a native farmer; J. M. Covarrubias, a native farmer; Jacinto Rodrigues, a native farmer.

San Luis Obispo—H. A. Tefft, a native of New-York, recently from Wisconsin, a lawyer by profession.

Monterey—Capt. H. W. Halleck, a native of New-York, an officer of the regular army, and now acting Secretary of State in this territory; T. O. Larkin, our former Consul at Monterey, a native of Massachusetts; Louis Dent, a native of St. Louis, Mo., lawyer by profession, and now Supreme Judge of the San Joaquin District; P. Ord, a native of Maryland, a lawyer by profession, late of New-Orleans and now Supreme Judge of the District of Monterey; C. T. Botts, a native of Virginia, a lawyer by profession, now military store-keeper at Monterey, and a son of J. Minor Botts of Virginia, the man who "headed John Tyler."

San Jose—J. Aram, farmer, a native of Ontario County, New-York; Dimmick, native of New-York, formerly Captain in the New-York regiment, a lawyer by profession; J. D. Hoppe, merchant, a native of Maryland, and recently from St. Louis, Mo.; Antonio M. Pico, a native farmer, brother of the celebrated "Andreas Pico" who attacked Gen. Kearny at San Pasqual; E. Brown, farmer, native of Hewatmer County, New-York, late of Missouri.

At San Francisco—E. Gilbert, printer, editor and proprietor of the *Alta California*, and a native of New-York. Mr. G. came out here as First Lieut. in the New-York Regiment; M. Moriee, a native Swede, a lawyer by profession; Dr. W. M. Gwin, a native of Tennessee, recently from Louisiana; J. Hobson, native of Maryland, merchant; F. J. Lippett, a native of New-York and lawyer by profession; H. A. Ellis, merchant, a native of New-York; R. Price, Purser in the Navy, a native of New-York, recent from home, New-Jersey.

Sonoma—J. Walker, farmer, a native of Missouri; Dr. S. Semple, native of Kentucky, and recently from Alton, Ill.; Gen. M. G. Vallejo, a distinguished native soldier; L. W. Boggs, formerly Governor of Missouri, was elected, but failed to attend.

Sacramento—J. I. Snyder, surveyor, a native of Philadelphia, Pa.; W. E. Shannon, a native of Ireland, lawyer by profession, and came to California as captain of a company in the New-York Regiment; W. S. Sherwood, a lawyer, native of New-York; Capt. J. A. Sutter, Swiss farmer, the original settler of the New Helvetia; L. W. Hastings, a native of Ohio, lawyer by profession, well known as the author of a work on this country, and the discoverer of a new route called "Hastings's Cutoff"; Gen. M. McCarver, a native of Kentucky, a farmer by profession; J. McDougall, native of Ohio, and merchant by profession; E. O. Crosby, lawyer, a native of New-York.

San Joaquin—Lieut. J. McHenry Hollingsworth, native of Maryland, formerly an officer in the New-York Regiment; B. F. Lippincott, merchant, a native of New-York, recent residence, New-Jersey; B. F. Moore, a Texan Ranger, native of Florida; J. M. Jones, lawyer, a native of Kentucky; Dr. O. M. Wozencraft, a native of Ohio, and late of New-Orleans.

On the first organization of the Convention, Mr. Dimmick of Sonoma, was chosen Chairman, pro tem. and H. A. Tefft of San Luis Obispo, Secretary. After an organization of the House, Dr. Semple was selected by a flattering vote as President of the Convention, and Gen. Vallejo and Capt. Sutter were appointed a Committee to conduct him to his seat. It was flattering also to the Doctor to be thus flanked on his passage to this honor; for when he first came to California he had worked as a carpenter in Capt. Sutter's fort, and when the "bear flag" of rebellion was raised in this country, he was one of a small party who captured the town of Sonoma, and took the gentleman on his right, Gen. Vallejo, a prisoner. The General and the Doctor are now neighbors and warm friends.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

The Dreadful Steamboat Disaster at New-Orleans—Further Particulars.

BATON ROUGE, La. Tuesday, Nov. 20.

The boilers of the steamer Louisiana, Capt. J. W. Cannon, exploded on the 18th inst. at 5 o'clock P.M. nearly opposite Gratier st. spreading death and destruction in nearly every direction. At the time we write it is impossible to ascertain the number of lives lost. The reports range from 40 to 130, though we hope this will prove to be exaggerated. One of the officers of the boat stated to us that there were about 50 cabin passengers on board, but as all the cabin aft of the wheelhouse was undamaged, we hope many of them were saved. One gentleman informed us that he assisted some ten or twelve, mostly ladies, from the wreck.

Accounts differ as to the number of persons on the boiler-deck and forecastle at the time of the explosion.

The boat was about starting for St. Louis, and had rung her last bell, but was to haul alongside of an emigrant vessel for the purpose of taking on board 200 deck passengers who providentially escaped being involved in the dreadful calamity.

The steamer Boston had her upper works greatly shattered, and Capt. Dustin, her commander, was severely injured, it is feared will not recover.

The steamer Storm, which was lying on the lower side of the Louisiana, was more injured than the Boston. She had just arrived and had not made her lines fast when the explosion occurred. Several persons on board the Storm were killed. Fortunately, there were no passengers on board.

The force of the explosion was appalling; the glass on the front of the levee was shattered at the distance of one thousand feet from the boat, and the shock was sensibly felt at the farthest extremities of the city.

The forecastle of the Louisiana sunk in the mud, but the stern being in deep water, caused the bow to slide off with it.

The persons who were saved on board the Louisiana, and were relieving the sufferers, had to desist in order to save their own lives. They were some twenty or thirty who were obliged to swim for their lives, and the whole wreck slipped into deep water and disappeared.

WOUNDED—H. W. Buchanan, Marcus Milner, Samuel S. Smith, Arthur A. Slave, Thomas Merriweather, and Samuel Conley, all from Kentucky; Joseph S. Wigger, of Ia.; Isaac Miller, of Ohio; Mr. Wolfe, of Memphis; W. Tucker, J. Tucker, John F. Barber, Thomas Hamson, and L. O. Read, all from Mississippi; Capt. Hopkins, of the Steamer Storm; Capt. Dustin and Robert Price, of the Boston, and John Mason.

KILLED—The following bodies have been found: Mr. Knox, Andrew Bell, Levi Prescott and Benedict Buckner of Memphis, Mrs. Moody, wife of the clerk of the steamer Storm, and R. McMeekin.

MISSING—J. W. King of St. Louis, Mr. Elliott and J. Merring of Cincinnati. Many other names of killed, wounded and missing are given, but most of them belong to New Orleans and foreign countries.

The Cherokee at Savannah.

SAVANNAH, Sunday, Nov. 18.

The steamer Cherokee, from New-York, arrived here yesterday, in 48 hours from wharf to wharf, being six hours better time than that made by the Ohio.

The Osage Indians, &c.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Nov. 21—2 P.M.

The Osage Indians have had an interview with Commissioner Brown, stating that they wanted certain cannon and flags, which were refused. Some military clothes and presents were given them in their place.

John Addison, a clerk in the Department of the Interior, has been transferred to the Patent Office and Robt. Bowie, of Md. appointed in his place.

Sailing of the Alabama for Chagres.

BALTIMORE, Wednesday, Nov. 21—6 P.M.

By the southern mail this evening, we learn that the steamship Alabama left New-Orleans on the 14th inst. for Chagres with a goodly number of passengers, among whom was the Hon. Baylie Peyton, Minister to Chili.

Markets....BALTIMORE, Nov. 21—6 P.M.

There is a fair demand for FLOUR, but little doing in other articles. Sales 1,000 bbls Howard-st. at $5 94. GRAIN and PROVISIONS remain without change.

Markets....BUFFALO, Nov. 21—6 P.M.

Receipts since Yesterday—FLOUR, 4,000 bbls; WHEAT, 9,000 bush. CORN, 7,000 do. For FLOUR there is but a moderate demand, and prices are in favor of the buyer: sales 1,000 bbls Michigan at $4 18 @ $4 31, which is lower. The inquiry for WHEAT is fair, but the firmness of holders check operations: sales embrace 35,000 bush, including Ohio at 88c, and Wisconsin at 86c. The market for PROVISIONS is without change.

Markets....ALBANY, Nov. 21—6 P.M.

Receipts since Yesterday—FLOUR, 10,000 bbls. WHEAT, 2,000 bush. CORN, 15,000 do. BARLEY, 2,500 do. There is no change of importance to notice in FLOUR, and a fair demand prevailing for the trade. Quotations are nominally the same as yesterday and the sales are 2,000 bbls. Holders of WHEAT are firm, and do not press the market; the demand is fair, and sales reach 3,000 bush Genesee at 1 18 @ 1 19. CORN is not in active demand, and the sales do not exceed 4,000 bush at 61c for Western mixed and 62½c for round yellow. BARLEY is 60c for four-rowed, and 6,000 bush sold. OATS are firmer, about 2,000 bush sold at 41½c.

Passengers Sailed

In the Steamship Cambria from Boston for Liverpool—Messrs F. H. Ladd, G. T. Reed, P. Bahnsen, of Boston, H. Hoppin, Hemmings, Wilson, Hirschhead, J. W. Gerard, Jr. Bearer of Dispatches, J. F. Lowndes, W. F. A. Bertl, W. C. Corsen, Edward Sarmedes, J. Hair, R. Cumming, C. F. French, C. Hall, O. Mellus, of New-York; W. Parker of New-Hampshire, Peter Peters of Pennsylvania; Dr. Newsen, Georgia; C. Steiner, St. Louis; Mr. C. Sargent, lady and child, T. McCan, Quebec; Edward Howard, W. Forbes, F. Sawyer, Montreal; J. Epinto, J. Allen, J. Shaw, R. Lewis, W. Lowville, R. Hallatee, C. Yourson, T. Leete, England—18. For Halifax—Messrs John T. Smith, and Langman, of Boston; Miss Tremain of Halifax—3. Total 41.

Ship News.

BOSTON, Nov. 21—Cleared, steamer Cambria, Liverpool; ships Canton, Hong Kong; and Canton, Geneva, Cape Town; C. G. H. and J. Rae, Sydney; barks Mary Ann, Liverpool, via Savannah; Nashua, Philad; brig Pacific, Sierra Cape Verde; St. Peters, J. S. Lindsley, Elizabeth City; Vic. Hare, Fredericksburg; Edna C. Philadelphia; Arbell, Marietta, and John Q. Adams, New-York.

SALEM, 20th—Arr, schr Washington, Philad for Portsmouth; Roxana Rose, Bangor for New-York.

NEW-BEDFORD, 20th—Sld, ship Brandt, Indian Ocean; schr R. H. Adams, Baltimore.

PROVIDENCE, 20th—Sld, bark Rhodes, San Francisco; brigs Caroline, New-Orleans; Hynes, Philad; schr Mary Emily, Matanzas.

NEWPORT, 19th—Arr, schr Emeline, Sirlsom, 19th, off for Boston. Left, bark Massasoit, Portland, from Boston; arr 18, brigs Sarah Ann, Tucker, for Gloucester, Id; Julia A. Hall, Hall, for Portland; Pleiades, Cousins, for do; Nigger, Herrick, wrg cargo. At Cayenne, 12th ult, brig Granite, Upton, from Boston, arr 5th, to load for do, only Am.

BANGOR, 19th—Arr, schr Gazelle, N York. Cld, schr Geo Washington, Charleston.

BATH, 17th—Cld, bark Scotland, Savannah; brigs Corsica, Cuba, Mechanic, Havana; 16th, ship Silas Leonard, Charleston.

PORTLAND, 20th—Cld, brig Napoleon, Cuba.

NEWBURYPORT, 17th—Sld schr Mary C Ames, Porto Rico, Erie, New-York.

NEW-ORLEANS, 13th—Arr ship Indiana, New-York.

HOLMES'S HOLE, 19th—Arr schrs Arcade, Philadelphia for Boston; Cygnet, Cherrystield for New-York; sld, bark Lucy Ellen, Mobile for Boston; Archibald Grade, Alexander for do; brig Mary Stanton, Baltimore for do; Homer, Isabella, and Peru, New-York for do; Isabella, do for Bangor; Gen. Foster, do for Portland; Susan, do for Nantucket; Pizarro, do for Hyannis; Myslic, do for Hingham. 20th—Schr Cygnet, 21st bark Ida; schrs Pioneer, Rubicon, Pizarro, and Susan.

New-York.

Complete Vote for State Senators.

Dist.	Whig.		Locos.
I.	Alexander Holden	2,[illegible]	Wm. H. Brown*
II.	John J. Gray*	[illegible]	Philip S. Crooke
III.	Richard S Williams*	[illegible]	Oliver Charlick
IV.	Clarkson Crolius*	[illegible]	Thomas N. Carr
V.	Jas. W. Beekman*	[illegible]	Daniel H. Taylor
VI.	Edwin D. Morgan*	[illegible]	James J. Roosevelt
VII.	Isaac Dederer	[illegible]	Benj. Brundreth*
VIII.	David Van Schaick	[illegible]	John Snyder
IX.	Joseph Davis	[illegible]	James C. Carter*
X.	M. Schoonmaker*	[illegible]	Reuben Deyo
XI.	S. H. Johnson*	[illegible]	John McEwen
XII.	Jonas C. Heartt	[illegible]	Thos. S. Carroll*
XIII.	James M. Cook*	[illegible]	Edw. F. Ballard
XIV.	Wm. A. McLean	[illegible]	Thomas Crook*
XV.	John S. Chipman	[illegible]	Wm. Kelly*
XVI.	Thomas Smith	[illegible]	George H. Fox*
XVII.	Thomas Smith	[illegible]	Sidney Tuttle*
XVIII.	William S. Sayre	[illegible]	John Noyes*
XIX.	Joseph Benedict	[illegible]	Charles A. Mann*
XX.	Ledyard Lincklaen	[illegible]	Asahel C. Stone*
XXI.	Augustus Ford	[illegible]	Alanson Skinner*
XXII.	George Geddes*	[illegible]	Cyrus H. Kingsley
XXIII.	Levi Dimmick*	[illegible]	Joseph Reynolds
XXIV.	William Beach*	[illegible]	Ira Merrill
XXV.	Wm. T. Lawrence	[illegible]	Henry S. Spencer*
XXVI.	Peter H. Tracy	[illegible]	Geo. S. Grossup*
XXVII.	Samuel Miller*	[illegible]	John S. Elwood
XXVIII.	Amasa J. Parker	[illegible]	S. L. Church
XXIX.	Charles Frost	[illegible]	Martin Lewis
XXX.	Chas D. Robinson*	[illegible]	James R. Doolittle
XXXI.	Geo. R. Babcock*	[illegible]	Wm. L. G. Smith
XXXII.	Robert Owen*	[illegible]	Samuel S. Wallace
Total		[illegible]	[illegible]
Whig Majority			5,135

* Elected Whigs, 17. Locos, 11.

THE WHEELING BRIDGE.—Considerable excitement has prevailed among the business men in Pittsburgh, for the last few days, in consequence of some of the boats on the river not being able to pass under the Wheeling bridge. On the 17th instant the steamers Messenger and Hibernia were prevented from passing, and the latter had to transfer her passengers to another boat, and has entered suit for damages on account of the detention.

The Wheeling Gazette, on the other hand, says the boat could easily have passed under the bridge, had she used the derricks for lowering her pipes, which had been erected for the purpose. Another cause was the high stage of water in the river, which, having fallen about three feet on Tuesday, the Hibernia passed under the bridge without trouble—thus proving that the bridge presented no real obstruction, except for a day or two in the highest water, to a few of the largest boats, with unnecessarily tall chimneys.

THE CRANBERRY MURDER.—William Petty, charged with the murder of James Applegate, at his distillery at Middlesex County, near Cranberry, and the Mercer line, was arrested yesterday in New-Brunswick, and committed to prison there. It appears that Applegate had forbidden put Petty—an habitual drunkard—out of the distillery on Saturday, and that he was heard to say he would have revenge. On Sunday afternoon he was seen lounging about the distillery, and on Monday morning Applegate's body was found in the building, with the head nearly cut from the trunk with an ax. Meantime Petty had disappeared, and is reasonably believed to be the murderer. [Newark Adv. 21st.

☞ President Taylor has officially recognized the appointment of Manuel Armendari as Consul of the Mexican Republic for the Territory of New-Mexico.

CITY ITEMS.

For various City Items, see Outside.

THE GREAT FAIR.—The Managers of the American Institute report the entire receipts at Castle Garden to October at $18,670. Including exhibitors and other free admissions, we presume a quarter of a million of persons visited the exhibition. The expenses were about $12,000, leaving $6,670 for profit, of which $