THE PRAIRIE NEWS.

JOHN RICHARDSON, EDITOR.
R. M. TINDALL, ASSISTANT EDITOR.

OKOLONA, MISS:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1858.

HALF SHEET.—The printing office was on a frolic last week, during the Fair—consequence, half sheet this week.

FIRE.—Last Sunday night a fire broke out in the large frame house occupied by Mr. Crow, and in a short time the whole building was in flames and soon burned to the ground. There are conflicting statements as to the origin of the fire.

☞ W. H. Wheeler offers his land for sale. Advertisement, and a more extended notice next week.

SOME STIR—Was caused in Aberdeen last week by some one finding an abolition document signed H. V. Russell. It was taken up and threatened with a lynching, but, after considerable palaver, was turned loose and ordered to leave, which he did in double quick time.

☞ Hon. Joel M. Acker has been re-elected Judge of the 9th District over Col. W. D. Bradford by a majority of about 3750 votes. Russell O. Beene, Esq. is re-elected District Attorney over J. M. thompson by six or seven hundred majority.

INCIDENTS OF THE FAIR.

Several occurred—

SLOPED.—Half a dozen hearts jumped aboard the train of Love, drawn by the locomotive of youthful Indiscretion, and were off like a shot. Cruel 'parients' will, doubtless, be on hand, at the depot of Happiness, to switch them off.

STOLEN.—A dozen or two sly peeps at pretty feet and ankles. Five cents reward is offered to anyone daring enough to repeat the offence. Good lick—count us in!

NEW PAPER.—We have received the first number of a new paper called the *Cross City*, published at Corinth Miss. It is a neat and handsome sheet.

Awful Accident.—A little lad, of about six years old, was shockingly crushed on the railroad just above the depot yesterday, a car passing over his legs just above the knees. His own account is that another little boy shoved him and he fell under the car which was being switched off from one track to another. He is not expected to survive. We are informed that he is the son of Mrs. Skinner, residing on Dauphin street.—*Mercury.*

"Gab."—A Mr. Hubbell, of Philadelphia, has replied to a circular from his Alma Mater at New Haven, asking money for a society or club instituted to train young men to premeditated or extemporaneous speaking or discussion, declining to contribute. He says:

Gab is the fatal epidemic of republics. What distracted Greece? Gab! What factionized Rome? Gab! What anarchized France? Gab! What will dismember this Union? Gab! This eternal propensity of gabbling, upon all occasions and at all times, is the curse of our country.

EDITORS ELECTED.

At the last election editors played a high hand. Quite a number have been elected to various offices—mostly military. McCardle of the Vicksburg Southron is elected Major General of 2nd Division M. M.; Partridge of the Vicksburg Whig, Colonel of Warren County Reg.; Purdom of the Jackson Eagle, Colonel of Hinds County Reg.; Thompson of the Livingston Advocate, Lieut. Colonel of Holmes County Reg.; and last, though not least, our friend Ferris of the Macon Beacon, has been elevated to the distinguished post of *Coroner* of Noxubee County!

To Stop a Railroad Train.—A correspondent of the Washington (D. C.) Intelligencer proposes to "stop a train of railroad cars, whatever may be its running speed," by having an oil vessel placed in front of the driving wheels, and immediately over the rails on each side of the track, with a communicating string leading to the engineer's stand; almost immediately a constant stream of oil could be poured on the rails, and the forward motion of the train would entirely cease when, or soon after, the last car of the train reached the oiled portion of the rails. By having another fixture, not differing materially from the first, in the rear of the hindmost car, immediately overhanging the rails on each side of the track, a stream of sand could be poured on the rails, thus preventing another train from being stopped by the same cause.

☞ See Notice of guardian sale.

Cost of War.—The cost of a thirteen inch shell, as it flies through the air, is from $10 to $12. The estimated cost of firing a thirty-six inch bomb is nearly $150. These figures afford some idea of the "shelling out" which is necessitated by war.

AGRICULTURAL FAIR.

The Fourth Annual Exhibition of the Okolona Agricultural Society, commenced on Thursday, the 14th Oct., and continued Friday and Saturday following.—The attendance, though very good, was not so large as expected. The week of the Fair is always one of gayety, and those who do not enjoy the fun, have themselves only to blame.

These annual meetings of the people of the country and the town, are admirable, beneficial and agreeable. The Fair brings to one place the greatest variety of animals, of products and of agricultural implements. The farmer learns more by inspecting them and by conversing with his brother farmers, of the progress of his noble vocation and the improvements in the machinery for his use, than he will learn in ten years staying at home. It is a grand occasion of meeting of people from all sections—of interchanging opinions—brightening ideas—improving plans—stimulating energies—and extending social relations. The people come with glowing feelings of anticipation—they enjoy the most agreeable excitement during their sojourn—and when they go home they have something to talk about for a year to come. These are benefits of a solid character and gratifications at once salutary and unalloyed.

THE FIRST DAY—Was beautiful—clear, cool, and calm. At an early hour the Grounds were thronged with a crowd of persons, including a tolerable sprinkling of the fairer portion of creation.—This day was set apart for the exhibition of field and garden products, domestic manufactures, and fine arts. The day's doings wagged on, nothing occurring to disturb the harmony of any. Late in the evening the multitude dispersed, to meet again

THE SECOND DAY—Which was set apart for the exhibition of stallions, brood mares, colts, saddle and harness horses, &c. Some took premiums, others didn't. In the evening Mr. J. J. Williams, editor Miss., Planter and Mechanic, delivered a very appropriate address. Vesey, of the Conservative was up to day, looking as well as ever. The next was

THE THIRD DAY—The grand and gala day of all; and for why? Because all the Don Quixotes, and John Gilpins of our town and country were to ride for a premium. That is, they, and the rest of us, were to see whose horse could jump the farthest, leap the highest, and run the fastest. And also, who could sit the saddle most gracefully, easily, and firmly. After a spirited contest of an hour or so, into which a denizen of Iuka Wamma entered with a *rim* worthy of his hailing place, the blue ribbon was given to Mr. Rub. Saunders, of Monroe County. The ladies dubbed a gentleman from Pontotoc the handsomest man in the ring, and donated a shuck collar. This, though a deserved tribute to his appearance, was exhilarating, and the last we saw of him he was heading for home, insisting the while, that he "was a hoss!"

Is the Fair really over? We pause to think, and as we pause we reflect upon the many new faces we've seen; the charming beauty and the homespun ugliness, which have again been visitants to Okolona. Truly, the conglomerated mass of human beings, which composed

THE CROWD—Would have proved a delightful study for enthusiastic admirers of the beauties and deformities of the human face. We have no desire or intention to provoke a quarrel with any of the male bipeds who were lately so plentiful on our Fair Grounds, but a candid nature and a regard for veracity, compel us to say, some of them were the best specimens of unmitigated, ungodly ugliness, mortal eyes ever beheld. Of the ladies, a few were beautiful a few pretty, and a few not so good looking as you might suppose. Some beautiful as a cloudless morning in Spring, distilling happiness and gayety all around—others forcibly bringing up an image of Tam O'Shanter's wife, as she sat in the chimney corner waiting Tam's return, and

"Nursing her wrath to keep it warm."

Some of the men looking as if made when material was scarce—some of the women when it was too plentiful. However, in regard to the latter we may be mistaken, as modern fashions prevail.—In short, every species of angelic beauty, every type of redemptionless ugliness, had its representative, and if you wish to see the winning face of an houri, or the horrid phiz of an ogre; the 'witching form of a Venus, or the lubberly corporosity of a Falstaff; the dainty foot of a fairy, or the ponderous club of the man who has to put his pants on over his head—all you have to do is to come to an Okolona Fair.

Dueling—Eligibility to Office.—Attorney General Wharton has decided that connection with a duel, either as principal or second, is no bar to eligibility to office, in Mississippi, except upon *indictment* and *conviction*. The decision is made in the case of Judge Hancock, of the 8th Circuit.

[For the Prairie News.]

MESSRS. EDITORS: As in a very short time the railroad will reach Okolona, it becomes a matter of vital importance to cast an eye to the roads which lead to this place. The roads leading from Pontotoc and Houston, our neighboring sister towns, should command our earliest attention. Both of these roads pass for the greater distance over a high, broken country, over which but little labor and expense will be required to place them in good travelling condition, but each has to cross bottoms almost impassible. These bottoms are not of very great width—none of them exceeding a mile. We would direct puublic attention to the following article extracted from a work on roads and railroads, by W. M. Gillespie, A. M. C. E. Professor of civil engineering, in Union College, page 229:

CHARCOAL ROADS.

A very good road has been lately made through a swampy forest, by felling and burning the timber, and covering the surface with the charcoal thus prepared.

"Timber from six to eighteen inches through is cut twenty four feet long, and piled up lengthwise in the centre of the road about five feet high, being nine feet wide at the bottom and two at the top, and then covered with straw and earth in the manner of coal-pits. The earth required to cover the pile, taken from either side, leaves two good-sized ditches, and the timber, although not split, is easily charred; and when charred, the earth is removed to the side of the ditches, the coal raked down, to a width of fifteen feet, leaving it two feet thick at the centre and one at the sides, and the road is completed."

A road thus made in Michigan cost $660 per mile, and is said to be very compact and free from mud or dust. At a season when the mud on the adjoining earth road was half axletree deep, "on the coal road, there was not the least standing, and the impress of the feet of a horse passing rapidly over it was like that made on hard washed sand, as the surf recedes, on the shore of the lake.—The water was not drained from the ditches, and yet there were no ruts or inequalities in the surface of the coal road, except what was produced by more compact packing on the line of travel.—It is probable that coal will fully compensate for the deficiency of limestone and gravel in many sections of the west, and, where a road is to be constructed through forest land, that coal may be used at a fourth of the expense of limestone."

Two such roads in Wisconsin were let by contract at $1.55 and $1.60 per rod, or $4095 and $8320 per mile.

The public can see from the above how easily and cheaply the road facilities can be procured, if a proper public spirit is enlisted, and carried out with energy.

H. & D.

Brewslow on Long Sermons.

Time was, when preaching, in many sections of our country, was once in two or four weeks, and then long sermons were tolerated. Now, preaching is within the reach of most persons every Sabbath, and even twice in the same day To sit now, and be *bored* for an hour and a half by any man, in the delivery of a single sermon, is preposterous, but to be thus bored by a man of ordinary talents, is enough to disgust good men, and force sinners to swear!— When a sermon reaches beyond 45 or 60 minutes, we regard the audience as justifiable in rising up and leaving the house, thereby expressing their opposition to the length of the sermon in a style so terse and epigramtic as not to be misunderstood! With us, a sermon has passed the Rubicon, when it exceeds *forty minutes*, unless the preacher be a man possessing rare powers of analysis, and remarkable force and beauty of language presenting his theme with an eloquence that charms, with that critical acumen that fascinates, and that richness of diction that captivates an audience! But our "one horse" preachers can't do this, and they are, in most instances, the men who preach these long, dogmatical, not to say preposterous sermons. The English language does not furnish adjectives sufficiently expressive, to describe our abhorrence of long sermons in this fast age of the world!

Major Richardson.—Every editor, so far as we can ascertain, in Mississippi has been running for a military office, except Ferris, who contented himself with the *coronership*. Of the Military aspirants the success has been various, but among the lucky ones we find our friend Richardson, of the Prairie News, the youngest editor in Mississippi—a *minor*, we have understood, but he is a Major now. We congratulate him upon his epaulets.

[*Mobile Mercury*

Congratulation graciously received, Mr. Mercury. Wish you belonged to our Battalion—would put you through 'cordin' to Hardee. Right about! File left! March!

☞ Mr. and Mrs. Brewer, of Wayne country, Kentuckey, have twenty-two children. Theirs is certainly one of the most extensive Breweries in the West.

The Oxford *Mercury* is responsible for the above. Give its Editor a mug of lager beer and charge it to us.

☞ We extract the following from a letter written some weeks since by the Secretary of the Agricultural Bureau:

The meeting at Okolona, Chickasaw county, was small, although they have there one of the largest and best organized Societies in the State. A religious excitement was going on at the Baptist Church, which monopolized public feelings to such an extent, that we could not get our appointment announced at the church lest it might distract the attention of the people. We endeavor to be not only deferential, but reverential to church meetings, and in no case have we attempted to speak anywhere that preaching from any denomination was going on, but the fortunes of the meeting, judging from the fact above stated, were governed by principles different from any that we have heretofore encountered. Not only elsewhere have our appointments been announced, but Preachers have attended, and in one case, made a much more pointed, eloquent appeal to the farmers than we did. To do as 'Rome does' implies that Rome has its own peculiarities, and of course, our Baptist brethren at Okolona have their own notions and singular, but for the life of us, where there would have been any importunity in announcing an agricultural meeting to come off in the *evening after* the preaching was over, our dull apprehensions cannot discover. We not only respect religion as an abstract principle, but to the best of our humble abilities, we endeavor to practice it, after the order of Baptists too; but this sort of exclusiveness looks like trying to smuggle people into the Kingdom.

From Okolona we made our way to Houston, where we found quite a number of farmers in waiting, who listened to our remarks with apparent interest.

Important from the Society Islands.—Annexation to the United States.—We have important news from the Society Island, dated at Raiatea and Tahaa, on the 9th of June, and at Tahiti on the 12th of July. The governors of the first named islands—who have the power of appointing or determing the king—had appears, taken the supreme power from Tamatoa V., son of Queen Pomare, of Tahiti, who was elected chief magistrate about a year ago. The ex-King then decided to return to the home of his mother, Pomare, and thus the islands were left without a ruler. In this emergency the governors offered Consul Owen, of the United States, to surrender the islands of Tahaa and Raiatea to our government, and handed him official letters to that effect for transmission to Washington. This movement gave great umbrage to the representatives of England and France, who incited a sort of revolution against the governors. In this state of affairs the French war ship Hydrographe arrived at Raiatea, and her commander took Mr Thomas Crook and Mr. Jordan American citizens, into custody, and conveyed them to Tahiti, on account of their annexation proclivities.

New, and, Interesting, and Sensible.—There is perhaps no more perplexing situation for a young man, and modest withal, than that in which he finds himself when unable to determine whether the "young roey maiden," who begins to appear to him in his dreams, is already engaged, or occupies neutral ground.—The ladies have resorted to various expedients, such as wearing a ring on a particular finger, &c., to make known to their friends and acquaintances the important fact that they are about to merge their individuality in that of some favored one of the sterner sex; but these expedients have not fully answered the purpose, and it was necessary to devise some new method. The world moves: Atlantic cables are laid; wonderful inventions crowd upon each other in starling rapidity; the power of the press is daily augmented, and its uses widely extended; progress is written on the hands of time, and the following advertisement appears in the St. Louis Republican:

Engaged.—Miss Anna Gould to John Cantell City Marshal, both of Leavenworth, Kansas Territory.

"From this time henceforth and forever, until Miss Anna Gould becomes a widow, all young gentlemen are requsted to withdraw their particular attentions."

Bloody Duel near Memphis.—A letter from Memphis, Tennessee, to the Lancaster, (Pa.,) Examiner, says that a duel was recently fought near that city by Mr. Waters, of Virginia, and Dr. J. E. Eagle, formerly of Pennsylvania. They fired two rounds with Derringer pistols, both being wounded at each fire. They then, by agreement, resorted to revolvers, and contined the fight. Mr. Watters was riddled at every shot, and it is said, died on Sunday night. Dr. Nagle was so badly injured that his recovery is thought impossible.

The Lost Aeronaut.—All hopes of the safety of the unfortunate Mr. Thurston who was carried away from *terra firma* in a balloon, have been abandoned.—Search was made throughout the country in the vicinity of the place of ascension, but no traces of the lost man found.—Mr. Bannister who has been searching for Mr. Thurston thinks now that the violent motion of the balloon, swaying to and fro in the air and its great elevation (three miles) caused the unfortunate man to resign his hold and drop to the earth, in which case he must have been dashed into such minute particles as to leave but few traces."

☞ It is not yet safe to visit Mobile or New Orleans. The Yellow Fever shows some decrease, but will not disappear until Frost.

THE VICTORIES OF PERSEVERANCE.

A LESSON FOR THE STRUGGLING BRAVE!

The great successes of the world are seldom the results of chance, and still more rarely the exploits of an hour. We must lay a broad foundation when we would erect a lofty superstructure; we must have patience when we sow the seed, and not declaim against the tardy processes of nature. The man of genius very frequently fails to procure during his lifetime the due acknowledgement of his position; but where genius is united with perseverence and indomitable will, all obstacles disappear, and the recognition of these qualities is, both earnest and universal.

The most striking example, perhaps, that history affords of what the single handed perseverance of one great intellect is capable of accomplishing we find in Professor Holloway. Having ascertained the intrinsic unity of all diseases, and discovered in the vegetable kingdom what we may call the external and internal principles of health—the remedies which, made up in the shape of Pills and Ointment have proved themselves equivalent to the thorough and immediate cure of all external and internal ailments—he next resolved to make his marvellous discoveries available to every member of the human family; and, despite the gigantic social, pecuniary and geographical difficulties involved in the task we have before us the most abundant proofs of his complete success.

He was aware that his remedies, to be adopted and esteemed beyond all others, needed only to be known. Once used by any tribe or nation, however barbarous, however ignorant, the physical evidence of their incalculable curative power would insure their universal adoption. So satisfied of this was he, that, with enormous labor and at an outlay for which he could expect no adequate remuneration for years, he at once applied himself to the establishment of regular medical organs in all the countries and islands of the globe, and in all languages now used by men for the conveyance of their mutual ideas.

What perseverence was here displayed! How hopeless to any less determined man would such a task have seemed! But a deep sense of the responsibilities which attend the possession of superior knowledge, and a self reliant assurance that his remedies would be the instruments of rescuing multitudes from disease, sustained him through the long years of his yet continued struggle, and now crown him with glory in the hour of his hard fought and truly won success.

Taems our Sentiments.—Owing to the vociferation of the clocks and the smartness of the citizens of the United States, it is now the middle of next week in New York. The requiem in honor of the laying of the Atlantic cable has taken place, and we are enriched by submarine telegraph, to furnish a list of some of the toasts and sentiments most enthusiastically received on this auspicious occasion:

"*Suum cuique.*—To the United States citizens who planned, made and laid the Atlantic Telegraph, and to the British capitalists who subscribed a trifle towards it!"

"To the memory of the immortal Franklin, as discovered the lightning, and to Cyrus Field, as greased it."

"Christopher Columbus, whose discovery introduced possible the two great facts of the day—Shakspeare and the United States."

"The immortal Shakspeare, raised in the old country, but appreciated only in the new, and who had he lived in the present day, would certainly have been a free and enlightened American citizen."

"Hail to the American Eagle! may he poise the broad Atlantic with a wing apiece on England and Columbia, and his beak and tail pointing to States of the Union yet to be.'

"Success to the British Lion as long as he is couchant; but if ever he becomes rampant, may he be scourged by the star-spangled banner till he puts his tail between his legs and howls with anguish."—[Punch.

Marine Intelligence.—A Wahington paper contains the marriage of Martin Van Buren to a Schooner. Edward Bonaparte to Margret Scull, George Shipp to Phoebe Clifton.

What a fleet, to be sure. Half of it *manned* and all, we hope, *mated*. Among so many vessels there ought to be quite a number of *hearts*. We'll *sea* about it. In the meantime look for *squalls*.

[*Nashville News.*

Negroes at High Rates.—A few days ago at Newburn, N. C., five likely negroes brought $6.000 at a private sale, being an average of $1,200. Cash transaction. In Spotsylvania county, Va., last week, says the Fredericksburg *News*, a sale of eleven was made at the following extraordinary prices; a boy 12 years old for $1.010; a boy 13 years old for $1000; a boy 7 years old for $525; a boy 8 years old far $530; two others, 7 and 8 respectively, for $700 and $725; a woman about 45 years old, and one child for $875; a woman, same age, and two children, for $1.050; a man 60 years old, for $480. $6,955.

[*Richmond South.*

Negro Whipped to Death.—T Banks, better known as "Tom Banks whipped a negro to death in Oktibbeha a few days ago. Banks has been robed of a sum of money and finding $50 on the negro he whipped him most unmersifully in order to get him to confess the theft.

Banks has left for parts unknow, and the Sheriffs of Lowndes and Oktibbeha are scouring the country for him. The negro belonged to Mr. K. Chandler

[*West Point Locomotive.*

An Extraordinary Case.—The ha (Texas) *Independent* tells of which escaped from his owner in last, and was found *seven* weeks mile and a half from the house. about twenty feet of rope tied to when he got away, and this had f stened to a bush, and kept the all that time. The horse had twelve feet of the lariat to play He had bitten off elm saplings fou es in diameter, and eaten the stum the very ground, and also the trun limbs as far as his tether would re No rain had fallen during the per wet the ground, and in the las weeks it had not even sprinkled. horse was an "American" horse size, and was fat when he esca when found he was a perfect skele Great caution was observed in him water and food after he was and he rapidly recovered his flesh.

Mexican News.—There had b bloody battle between Vidaurri leader of the anti Zuloaga forces Miramon, the chief leader of the g ment. The latter was defeated, despair committed suicide.

There was great commotion a co, ceased by enforcing contributi Spanish and American citizens. Spanish Consul, with his family, from the city.

Important despatches have g Washington. An exciting time ing.

Singular Connexion.—The (Tenn.) Times publishes the marri Joseph Rogers, aged ninety-two ye Miss Nancy Chandler, aged twen years. By this marriage Mr. Roge comes brother inlaw to his grand his grandson having married his sister some fifteen or twenty years

This is reserving the order of the grandfather becoming the yo brother of his grandson by fifteen or ty years. Well this is a fast Young America becoming older tha grandfather.—Georgia Platform.

☞ F. B. Sheppard, Esq., the g man who lingured so prominently papers in connection with the assau on Judge Campbell and the Admin ion, growing out of the breaking General Walker's enterprise, h nominated by "many voters" as a date for Congress in the Mobile trict of Alabama.

An Editor's Anathema.—Some has killed the cat of the editor Cleveland Herald. The following manner in which he vents his sple the murderer.

We pour bitter curses upon the rauder. May his face be cons scratched by angry felines; may th of the neighborhood celebrate their fun of cats under his window fo and ever; should he ever "keep may "that cat again smash crockery and glass in the household which he eats sausages may he al find a cat's claw or a bunch of s cious looking fur in the last piece Last sausage. May he be scratche cats, eat cats, dream of cats, and be ried by cats in *sæcula in sæculorum* Amen.

How an Elective Judiciary W —The intelligent correspondent of *National Intelligencer* thus speaks workings of this infamous system: "evils of an elective judiciary are be ning to developed in various parts of country, and are attracting attenti to the best means of remedy. It is f that notorious election bullies, ri and ballot box stuffers are rarely bro to justice. What is commonly know "Straw bail" is taken, and criminal shielded from justice, either by de until the witnesses disappear, or if bail is forfeited, nothing is ever c ted.

This matter of electing judges by people so effectually paralyzes the a justice, by the dread of offending a leaders, that crime goes unpunished the officers of the law are scoffed at dodged. If the people of the State sh vote for a Convention to amend the stitution it is to be hoped that this ture of weakness and imbecility wil stricken out." *Sav. Republican.*

☞ There is a remarkable negro in Polk county, Texas. He has faces fixed on opposite part of the with mouth, nose and chin so perfect it is impossible to tell which is the view when the body is hid from vie He is about six years of age, hea and of very sound mind, and runs plays with other children with as sprightliness as could be expected one of his age.

Newspaper Property in New —It is stated that one-tenth of the York *Tribune* has change hands. price paid was $33,000, making the of the whole $336,600. The profit the paper for the last six months stated at $36,000, which amount, ever, has been devoted to improvem new presses, &c. No dividend has made for the past year, but previ the dividends were about 33 per cent the market value.

How he gets Them.—The statute lating the fees of printers, while it sp of the *number* of lines to the square silent as to their length hence the Hol ville *Independent* publishes all notices in lines *a little over an inch* This is quite rich as a joke and the of it is it pays too.

Cicero was of low birth; and Mete was the son of a licentious woman. tellus said to Cicero, "*Dare you* your farthers name? Cicero "*Can your mother tell yours!*"