

PLANTERS' BANNER.

D. DENNETT, EDITOR.

FRANKLIN, La., THURSDAY, FEB. 1, 1849.

THE STEAMER BANNER.—This steamer, formerly commanded by Capt. Fuller, by a new arrangement is to be commanded in future by Capt. Wm. S. Johnson. One half of her has lately been chartered by Mr. Thomas Bein. This boat will be recaptured as built at Lake Chicot last year, and is a substantial, safe boat well adapted to the trade. Being built in the country, she is emphatically "The Banner of Attakapas."

CARRIAGES MADE IN FRANKLIN.—We wish to call the attention of the public to Mr. Satterthwait's Advertisement in another part of the paper. We have examined his carriages, and have been happily surprised that our village can produce so high an order of workmanship. The form, finish and stability of the work are as nearly faultless as anything of the kind we have seen in the country. Mr. Satterthwait warrants all of his work and intends to furnish carriages at such prices that the public may find it more to their interest to patronize him than to send to the north for such work. He intends, as soon as possible, to furnish carts for plantation and other uses, of excellent quality, and on the best of terms. He has his iron work furnished by one of the best workmen in the state. We would say to all who feel an interest in the matter, call at his shop and see for yourselves. It is near Messrs. Hare & Bird-sall's store. Encourage home industry, and let southern mechanics be sustained.

DR. WELD'S DEATH.—We received, a few days since, an obituary notice of the decease of this gentleman, but it has, we regret to say, been misplaced, and cannot be found. So far as we recollect, the substance of the notice was as follows:

Dr. Weld died of Asiatic cholera, at New Iberia, about the 20th ult., at the age of 45 years. He was a native of the State of Maine, but had resided several years in Louisiana. He was a worthy citizen, and was much respected.

CALIFORNIA OF THE RISE.—The gold of Ophir was a scarce article compared to the gold of California, and the ships of Solomon were never laden so deep with the treasures of the wise Israelite, as the ships of New York and Boston will be with the treasures of the Sacramento. Golden accounts are brought in by every mail,—new fortunes, new treasures, new inducements to emigrate thither, new glories on the shores of the Pacific, are spoken of in all latest accounts from that glittering region. Many have amassed fifteen barrels of mint drops, others have fortunes accumulated in a few months, others have found hundreds of dollars worth of gold in a cicle of six feet, the Mormons have made themselves rich, \$2,000,000 worth of mining stock was ready for shipment to the United States as soon as a government vessel was sent. It is also said that one of the richest mines in the world is to be found in Upper California, and that government dares not reveal the whole truth in relation to the discoveries in those regions for fear that the United States will be depopulated. A discreet government, that has no doubts that the governments of Europe, and Asia and South America, and Africa, will adopt the same measures. Should they do so, every place on the face of the globe, except California, will be depopulated, and the valley of the Sacramento will be filled a hundred fathoms deep with gold diggers and gold hunters. Every branch of industry in the known world will be suspended until everybody gets rich and stops not along without work, and in the end we shall have to transport laborers from the moon, or some neighboring planet, to supply us with the necessities of life.

But perhaps the New Jerusalem spoken of in Scripture is to be built on the Sacramento, and the gold which is to pave her streets may come from those rich "diggings," and the precious stones which are to form her lofty walls may be yet found in the Rocky Mountains. As Jews are proverbially fond of gold, it is not improbable that all who love gold well enough to seek it in California will be christened Israelites, and Palestine and the promised land may be found on the shore of the Pacific Ocean, and in that country which but one year since was the "sacred soil of Mexico."

But laying aside these speculations, let us carefully examine the question whether this California gold will not prove drops to our country? Sudden accumulations of wealth—opportunities for great speculations, sudden inflations of the currency of the country, like that which occurred under Jackson, resulting from his system of "pet banks," all these produce a speculative fever, a morbid craving among all classes of citizens for fortunes quickly made. The thousands of accounts which are related of fortunes quickly accumulated dazzle and blind every body. Merchants, mechanics, professional men, all become uneasy, and dissatisfied with accumulating property slowly, and a speculative, gambling, reckless spirit is engendered everywhere. The healthful energy with which the different branches of industry are usually carried on becomes paralyzed by bright dreams which are never realized. We have samples, at the present time, through the whole length and breadth of our country, in the effects of the accounts which we have received from California. Companies are everywhere organizing, numerous vessels are daily fitting out, to visit the gold regions; and from accounts, there are more than a hundred thousand persons at the north, who would embark immediately, if they had the means to pay their passage to this precious country. Mechanics and laborers generally, and all persons acquiring property slowly become tired of their business when such pleasing accounts of abundant treasures greet their ears. The industry of the country is thus convulsed and paralyzed, and the fountain from which all of the true wealth of the nation flows is less productive. If such accounts as we have lately been receiving from the gold region continue to be received, the emigration to California will be immense, and that emigration, together with the restlessness which it will create here at home, will seriously affect the prosperity and business of country. If immense quantities of gold are brought back and put into circula-

tion, it will produce precisely the same effect as an inflated paper currency, so far as the latter goes to generate a speculative and gambling spirit, and we are therefore unable to discover that any benefit will result to our country from these ultra-montane treasures.

Those who seek these treasures will seek them through a rough and thorny path—privations and dangers are before them, they are rushing headlong with eyes closed into a distant country destitute of the common comforts of life—without homes, food, shelter, raiment—trusting to luck and Providence to take care of the morrow. The multitudes which will be congregated in the golden valley will need immense supplies, and should vessels containing supplies be detained on their voyage for a week or a month by accident or adverse winds, intense suffering must be the result. Such a gathering of unorganized thousands, each on his own hook, with no general arrangement for supplies, is unparalleled by any accounts of modern or ancient colonies, and as it is a sort of disconcerted experiment, we fear that it may prove severe and even fatal to thousands who join in it. The fevers and agues, and other diseases of August and September, in a valley in that latitude, among such multitudes, living so irregularly, and exposed as they necessarily must be, will doubtless be severe. The dark side of the California picture has not been seen. Those who go there are so filled with blind enthusiasm that they do not wish to see it; but we fear that many of them will see it when they are beyond the reach of sympathetic friends, and will see their hopes blighted on a soil where they expected to reap a golden harvest.

THE WHIG PARTY AND THE CRISIS.—The movements now operating at the seat of government, the workings of the mass of mind at the north and the south at the present moment, the deliberate and resolute action about to take place upon a great question upon which the two great sections of our country have long been skirmishing, the adjusting and settling together of the true elements of the two great parties preparatory to a final action, are weighty matters for the consideration of American citizens. In this crisis, so important to the whole country, we are proud to believe and free to declare that the Whig party throughout the union are for peace, and are willing to unite with the south in the support of every constitutional right which she can lay claim. There is a commendable spirit of compromise and reconciliation to be everywhere found among northern Whigs. The election of Gen. Taylor and Millard Fillmore will place the north and the south on a better and more friendly footing than they have enjoyed for many years. Neither John C. Calhoun nor Martin Van Buren has explosive power enough to blow up our government. Let them fire away, their peculiar ambition will meet with its merited rebuke, and our country and its institutions will go on their way rejoicing.

Let us see what has been said, and what may now be said in relation to "Northern Allies"—let us see where, and upon what grounds the two great parties at the north stand. Senator Butler, of South Carolina, predicted in his speech made at Charleston, on his return from Washington, "that whichever party might be defeated in the Presidential election, the northern section of that party would go over to the Barnburners." Isaiah never uttered a more unerring prophecy. Northern Democratic papers have been filled with "free soil" and wrath against the south ever since the election. The New York Globe says:

"Free Soil will now become an established creed of the Democratic party. All parties at the north will hereafter adopt the free territory principle. The Democracy of the north are now completely emancipated from the control of the slave power. Whatever differences may hereafter exist between Barnburners and Hunglers, opposition to the extension of slavery will form no part of them."

Well may the Globe say that the "northern Democracy are now emancipated from the control of the slave power, for they have bowed their necks to that power, and have seconded every nod of the south ever since the formation of our government. The northern Whigs never did, and never will accept of the friendship of the south on terms dishonorable to either party.—The friendly alliance into which they are now entering with the south is based upon justice, and harmonizes with the true spirit of the constitution. It is a friendship to which time will add new ties and greater strength. Here is a fact which shows the tendency of the two parties: At the Presidential election, the vote of the city of Boston stood, Whig, 7,900; Democratic, 3,000;—one week after, at the election for Governor, the vote stood, Whig, 7,748; free soil, 2,308; Democratic 1,186. Two-thirds of the Democrats went over to the Free Soil party after Gen. Cass' defeat, while the Whigs stood firm in the support of Governor Briggs, the open and devoted friend of General Taylor, the old planter and slave holder of Louisiana.—Martin Van Buren is a true and living type of Northern Democracy—he served the south, not from principle, for he never had any, but because the south supported him and his party. It was a sort of business friendship, used as an article of trade and traffic. When the South would not bid high enough for it, it was withheld from them and passed to the highest bidder and "Free Soil" took it.

We find, according to late accounts, that the Whigs of New York are heading an important movement. The Herald, of the 11th inst. remarks: "For the first time for a quarter of a century the Whig party, now possessing the chief power in this state, and which is about to assume the supreme rule over the Union, begin to adopt a more conciliating position, and a more compromising platform on the slavery question than they have been in the habit of doing for many years past. The Whig party of this state are beginning to adopt a course of action upon the slavery question in accordance with their new position—and of such a character as may enable them to conciliate the northern and the southern states, and lay the foundation for the stability of their party, which, if successful, may be the means of retaining power in their hands for a quarter of a century to come."

compromising. But being now in the position of assuming the governing power in the Union, and the state, and having a fair prospect of keeping it for the next twenty years, under the shelter of the mantle of Gen. Taylor, they have considered it advisable to be more circumspect in the course they are to pursue in the future."

We are happy to believe that this same spirit evinced by the Whigs in the legislature of New York is prevailing and increasing throughout all of the northern states. The Whigs are determined that the south shall have her constitutional rights—the Democrats, full of resentment against the south on account of the defeat of Cass, are determined to show her no quarters. The south must look to northern Whigs for justice—upon them alone can she with safety rely. Let their friendship be secured on honorable terms, and the true interests of the south and the country will be better protected than they have been heretofore. We should not be moved by the bluster of political alarmists—let them cry disunion! nullification! or abolition! as much as they please—we can stand all such stuff without a wink or a dodge. Our country will not be rent asunder, no state will ever nullify the acts of government, slavery will not be abolished until the south call for its abolition. Let mad caps talk, scribble, lecture, rant, petition and protest as much as they please, and with a sound whig policy, a government administered by honest men, and with a gradual increase of intelligence, our country and its institutions are safe, and will stand firm while other governments totter and fall.

We will conclude our remarks, and introduce at their close an extract from a speech delivered by John M. Clayton previous to the last presidential election. The events which have transpired since the election prove his language to have been prophetic.

"We are on the eve of a revolution in the politics of this country. A new and mighty party is rearing its gigantic form before the world.—It is not merely the Whig party, nor the Democratic party—not the native party, nor the slave party;—it is the great TAYLOR REPUBLICAN PARTY, of which the distinguishing characteristic is identical with that which brought the old—the real, the genuine—Democratic party into power in 1801. The shibboleth of that party is the right of the majority to govern. It is utterly opposed to kingly power, under a republican name. It will tolerate no monarchy—no monarchy—no aristocracy—no torism. No disguise, under falsely assumed names, will be permitted to gull or deceive it. Republican it is and will remain, and it will gather and grow as long as our constitution and country shall endure."

NEW LAWS, In relation to Persons, Trades, Professions and Occupations, subject to Taxation.—The following laws, enacted at the recent session of our Legislature, will doubtless be perused with some interest by most of our readers. They not only show what persons, trades &c, are subject to taxation, and the amount imposed on each of them, but they also show that the collectors of the several parishes are bound to enforce these laws with the utmost promptness. This makes it necessary that all to whom they refer should be prepared to come up to their requirements in due season.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted &c., that there shall be levied and collected an annual tax.

First—From each free white male inhabitant of the State over the age of twenty-one years, not attached to the army or navy of the United States, the sum of one dollar, which shall be appropriated exclusively for the support of free public schools, in the parishes in which the sum is paid.

Second—From each Attorney and Counsellor at law, physician, surgeon, dentist, apothecary or druggist, notary public practising or pursuing their respective professions, the sum of seven dollars.

Third—That the tax on hotels, taverns or boarding houses, shall be graduated *pro rata* to the number of borders that they are prepared to accommodate therein at the rate of fifty cents per annum for each lodger; Provided that no hotel, tavern or boarding house shall pay less than seven nor more than sixty-seven dollars per annum; From each and every keeper of restaurant twenty dollars; of a coffee house, bar-room or grog shop the sum of sixty-seven dollars; and of a brewery or beer shop, where no spirituous liquor is sold, seven dollars.

Fourth—From each proprietor or keeper of a billiard table not kept exclusively for the use of a play of the owner and his family, fifty dollars for each table; and of a nine or ten pin, or bowling alley, ten dollars for each alley.

Fifth—From the manager or lessee of every theatre two hundred dollars; and of each circus, amphitheatre or menagerie or cock pit, one hundred dollars, or race course fifty dollars.

Sixth—From each and every person who brings and introduces or causes to be brought into this State slaves for sale, hire or exchange or who shall keep slaves for sale, or the agent of any such persons, three hundred dollars.

Seventh—From each peddler or hawk who peddles or carries goods, wares, merchandise or groceries for sale through this State, in a boat or other water craft, sixty-seven dollars; on horseback ten dollars; on foot seven dollars; and from any peddler or hawk who sells the same on stalls, either in the streets, market or on the levee, seventeen dollars or on board of any flatboat, barge, steamboat ship or other vessel at the wharf, or in the port of an city, town or village, or at any other landing, sixty-seven dollars.

Eighth—From each and every wholesale merchant or trader, twenty dollars; and from each retail merchant or trader, ten dollars. Persons who sell both by wholesale and retail shall pay the tax of a wholesale merchant; and every member of a commercial firm, whether he resides permanently or temporarily out of this state, shall pay the same tax as the resident partner.

Ninth—From each and every keeper of a storage warehouse, furniture store, livery stable carriage warehouse, ten dollars.

Tenth—From every person engaged in re-pressing cotton for shipment, twenty dollars.

Eleventh—From each and every broker acting as agent between buyer and seller, for a per centage or other consideration, in the sale of real estate, slaves, stocks, promissory notes, drafts, checks, &c seven cents; and from drafts, checks, &c seventeen cents; and from each produce broker, merchantize broker, and freight broker, seventeen dollars; and from each and every pawnbroker and lender of money on deposit, sixty-seven dollars.

Twelfth—From each and every factor and commission merchant or agent twenty dollars; from each and every exchange dealer, money broker, sixty-seven dollars.

Thirteenth—From each and every insurance company incorporated by the laws of the state and transacting an insurance business therein, three hundred and thirty-four dollars, provided that they have not paid a bonus to the state.

Fourteenth—From each and every foreign insurer or insurance company, not chartered by this state, and transacting an insurance business herein or the agent thereof, from each and every foreign banker, or the agent thereof, seven hundred dollars.

We wish to call the particular attention of the public to the following amended acts, as they subject both Tax payers and collectors to much inconvenience. It is necessary, in order that the motives of our collectors may not be misconstrued, that the facts in relation to the passing of this law be understood by all who pay taxes in the state.

It will be noticed, in connection with the Governor's signature, that this law was approved as late as December 20th. 1848. It was published in the Courier, the Official Paper of the State, on the 15th of January 1849. There are some collectors, in the parishes most remote from New Orleans; that would not have received these laws until the latter part of January. Taking them thus on surprise, what can they do in one month towards collecting all the taxes due in their several parishes, after giving all the tax payers suitable notice of the requirements of the law in regard to these fore-drawn payments. Still, if the collectors do not toe the mark, make their collections, and make their final payments into the Treasury, at New Orleans, by the first of March, they must be prosecuted as defaulters, lose their commissions, forfeit two per cent a month on the amount of taxes unpaid, and their property seized and sold. Our collector did not receive these laws till quite lately, and we presume the same negligence has been shown in other cases. Nothing but the utmost energy on his part, and the greatest punctuality on the part of the people who pay taxes, can save him from being a defaulter, and incurring a sacrifice which to him will be very serious. This law may answer well enough for next year, but it certainly will this year make many defaulters throughout the state.

Section 62. Be it further enacted &c., That on or before the first day of March annually the several tax collectors shall make their final payments into the Treasury for the taxes due in said year, and if said collectors shall neglect so to do, they shall be considered defaulters, and shall be proceeded against as hereinafter provided.

Section 63. Be it further enacted &c., That if any collector shall fail or neglect to make his final settlement as provided for in the preceding section and pay the amt. due into the Treasury and obtain the treasurers receipt therefor, he shall forfeit the commission allowed to him by law and interest at the rate of two per cent per month on the sum withheld to be computed from the time the same ought to have been paid until actual payment, and the auditor of public accounts shall charge such delinquent accordingly, and immediately after such delinquency shall occur issue one or more writs of seizure and sale against the property of such delinquent and his securities directed to the Sheriff or Coroner as the case may require, of the parish where such delinquent may reside or where his securities may be found, or where property belonging to either may be found.

AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS AND YUCATAN INDIANS.—A battle has lately been fought between the American Volunteers and a large force of Yucatan Indians, the former numbering only 500, the latter, 10,000. The Indians were repulsed, with heavy loss—the Americans lost thirty eight in killed and wounded. It is said that an impression is gaining ground among the volunteers that the Indians are in the right in the controversy.

THE SOUTHERN CAUCUS.—Between 80 and ninety members met in the Southern caucus on the evening of the 15th inst. The meeting was not harmonious, the views of Mr. Calhoun meeting with strong opposition. The members from the states bordering on the free states were extremely lukewarm. Texas acted as an antidote to South Carolina, Gen. Rush standing out stiffly against Mr. Calhoun's movement, and Gen. Houston appearing very indifferent about the matter. Mr. Calhoun throws on fuel and punches the fire, but it seems that he is unable to raise steam. He will be obliged to give it up as a cholera case—the southern people have no notion of adopting pugna-cious measures.

THE PANAMA RAILROAD.—The importance of the immediate construction of this railroad has, of late been ably represented to Congress in the report of T. B. King, from the Committee on naval Affairs. It is proposed to grant \$250,000 a year for twenty years to Messrs. Aspinwall, Stephen G. Chauncey, for the purpose of enabling them to complete the work, on the condition stated in their memorial. The cost of the railroad and its appurtenances is estimated at about \$5,000,000. Mr. Aspinwall and associates have engaged competent engineers to make the survey for their contemplated railroad, and they state that they will make the road whether Government contract with them or not.

VESSELS AND PASSENGERS ON THEIR WAY TO CALIFORNIA.—Since the gold excitement commenced, up to the 11th inst. 36 vessels, containing 1,134 passengers, have sailed for California. Seventeen have sailed from New York, nine from Boston, one from Nantucket, two from Norfolk, three from Baltimore, two from Salem, one from New Bedford, two from Philadelphia. One Bark, two Brigs, and three steamers have left N. Orleans for the same Port. The number of passengers for Chagres is 530. On the 17th ult., 46 vessels were advertised at New York for San Francisco.

It now seems quite probable that Mr. Clay will again appear in the Senate at Washington. His friends at the east are urging his return, and he has said that if elected by the legislature of his state he should not feel at liberty to decline the honor of serving them.

The French Republic.

On Wednesday, the 20th Dec. the ceremony of the proclamation of the election of President took place in the National Assembly, and M. Marrast, in a loud voice, though somewhat broken by emotion, declared Louis Napoleon to be the President of the French Republic, "democratic, one and indivisible," from that day to the 2d Sunday in May, 1852, and invited the new President to come forward, and take the oath required by the constitution.

Louis Napoleon advanced to the tribune, and swore to remain faithful to the republic, and to forward its interests in all respects. He then read the following address to the Chamber, in a firm voice, and with good success:—

NAPOLEON'S ADDRESS.
CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVES.—The suffrage of the nation and the oath I have just taken, trace out for me my future conduct. I shall follow it as a man of honor. I shall regard as enemies of our country all those who shall attempt to change by illegal means what all France has established. Between you and me, citizen representatives, there cannot be any real difference of opinion. Our wishes, our desires are the same. I wish like you, to place society on its true basis; to strengthen democratic institutions, and to alleviate the miseries of that generous and intelligent people which has just given me a striking proof of their confidence. The majority which I have obtained, not only penetrates me with gratitude, but it will give to the new government that moral force, without which there is no authority. With peace and order, our country can again improve, can cure its wounds, bring back the men that have been misled and calm down passions. Animated by a sincere spirit of conciliation, I have called around me capable and patriotic men, who, in spite of the diversity of their political origin, are ready to devote themselves, with you, to the application of the constitution, the improvement of the laws and the glory of the republic. A government coming into power, owes a debt of thanks to its predecessors, when the deposits of its authority is handed over to it intact, and in particular I owe it to the Hon. Gen. Cavaignac to say, that his conduct is worthy of the generosity of his character, and that sentiment of duty which is the first quality of a statesman. [Hear, hear] We have, citizen representatives, a grand mission to fulfill—to found a republic in the interest of all and a just and firm government, which shall be animated by a sincere desire of progress, without being either reactionary or Utopian. Let us be the men of the country—not the men of a party—and by the aid of God we will at least do good, if we cannot achieve great things.

When the new President concluded his brief speech, he advanced towards General Cavaignac and tendered him his hand. This movement surprised Cavaignac, and delighted the Chamber.—After the pause of an instant, Cavaignac responded, and shook hands cordially with the President, amidst marks of the most unequivocal satisfaction from all sides.

M. Odilon Barrot was empowered to form the new Ministry. Their names are annexed. It will be seen that they are all men of capacity and character.

THE NEW FRENCH MINISTRY.
M. Odilon Barrot, Minister of Justice, charged with the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, in the absence of the President of the Republic; M. Drouyn de Lhuys, Minister of Foreign Affairs; M. Leon de Malleville, Minister of the Interior; M. Rhuillier, Minister of War; M. de Tracy, Minister of the Marine and Colonies; M. Falloux, Minister of the Public Instruction and Worship; M. Leon Foucher, Minister of Public Works; M. Hizio, Minister of Agriculture; M. Passy Pypoline, Minister of Finances.

ENGLAND.
The cholera still rages to some extent in London. In the provinces it has not made any very considerable progress, but in Scotland it rages with very alarming results.

ITALY.
The Provisional Government at Rome has made great efforts to induce the Pope to return to the Holy City. He refuses except on condition of dissolving the chamber, disbanding the National Guard, and suppressing the journals.

Austria.
The Emperor of Austria has abdicated the throne in favor of the Lord Archduke Francis Joseph.

SAXONY.
By a new law of Saxony the press is declared entirely free, and censorship forever abolished.

The Pope is expected shortly to arrive at Toulon, in France. Great preparations are made for his reception. The military, naval, civil and religious authorities will combine in the grand display which will take place at his arrival on the shores of France.

Deaths.
On Tuesday, the 30th ult., Mrs. Mary Jane, wife of Mr. William Kemper, of this parish.

All persons having claims against the estate of the late Robt. W. Stewart are requested to present them to
J. A. TESSIER,
Administrator.

Franklin, Jan. 31st 1849-5t.

Avis.
Toutes les personnes qui ont des réclamations contre la succession de feu Robt W Stewart sont invitées à les présenter à
J. A. TESSIER, administrateur.

Franklin, le 31 Janvier, 1849-5f.

Steamboat for Sale.
The subscriber offers for sale the steamboat Little Rock, now lying at the plantation of Mr. Euphrase Carlin. Said Boat is 150 feet in length, 27 feet beam, and 6 feet hole. Her machinery nearly new, being made in 1844. She has a Lever Engine of 100 horse power, and 3 Boilers, 30 feet long, and 40 inches in diameter.

Any person wishing to buy either the Boat or the engine can obtain it on the most favorable terms. For further particulars apply to Mr. George Armstrong, near the Franklin Exchange, in this place.
Franklin, Lou, Feb. 1 1849.
Wm C. HUSTON