

grants for Texas. A few cases of fever had been landed from the steamboats from this city—every thing portended an epidemic—when an unusual rise of the Red River transferred the head of navigation to Natchitoches, and for a time the danger was escaped. About the beginning of September, the river subsided; Alexandria became again the head of navigation; cases of yellow fever were landed from steamboats; the disease communicated to the town; became epidemic about the 20th of September, and before a frost occurred, 105 of the inhabitants were carried off by the disease. A number from the country, who imprudently visited the town during the sickness, contracted the disease and died.

Natchitoches.—The cases at this place were comparatively few, and were confined to those who arrived from New Orleans with the infections in their systems. These occurred during the month of August, while the rise in Red River, above referred to, continued. Natchitoches has never been visited by an epidemic of yellow fever, owing, it is believed, to the rapids near Alexandria, which serve as an excellent natural quarantine during epidemics here.

Thibodauxville.—The first few cases which appeared at this place were in persons recently from New Orleans. During the months of September and October, about twenty-five cases appeared, of which fifteen died.

Franklin.—A number of fugitives from the fever in New Orleans arrived at this place about the 1st of September, in the steamer Tomichichi. The disease was subsequently developed in the persons of several of these passengers, who communicated it to the inhabitants. Several persons belonging to Franklin, having visited the boat, were afterwards taken sick and died. Among these were the Clerk of the Court and Mr. Henry Thompson. During the sickness of the latter, he was attended by the family of a Mr. Birdsell. They were all taken ill, and several of them died. The neighbors, too, who visited Mr. Birdsell's family were all taken sick, and the disease throughout could be traced by infection from one case to another. The fever was considered epidemic after the 15th of September, and did not cease till checked by the frost, early in November. The number of cases was about 45—of deaths, 25.

New Iberia.—A young physician of this place having died of yellow fever at Plaquemine, his remains were brought to New Iberia for interment by his friends. The body was placed in the village church, where it remained, surrounded by the inhabitants of the village, while the services of the dead according to the usages of the Catholic religion, were celebrating. Many of those who witnessed the ceremony were soon after taken sick with yellow fever and they communicated the disease to others. About twenty of the inhabitants of this place died of the malady.

St. Martinville.—Several cases were introduced from New Orleans.

Opelousas.—This place is remote from any navigable stream, and the nearest steamboat landing is six miles distant. It was visited, during the summer and fall of 1839, by a number of people from New Orleans, however. Some of these were taken sick after their arrival, and at length the disease spread among the inhabitants. During the epidemic at this place forty-seven died, of whom seventeen were natives of the place.

The fever was introduced from this city on that occasion into Biloxi, Bay of St. Louis, St. Joseph's, Tampa Bay, and Galveston, and from thence to Houston.

[To be continued.]

PLANTERS' BANNER.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY,
BY THOMAS F. JOHNSON
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS.—This paper will be furnished to subscribers at \$3 per annum, in advance; \$4 if paid at the expiration of six months, or \$5 at the expiration of the year.
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Y. B. Palmer, the American Newspaper Agent, is the only authorized agent for this paper in the cities of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and is duly empowered to take advertisements and subscriptions at the rates as required by us. His receipts will be regarded as payments. His offices are—BOSTON, Scollay's Building; NEW YORK, Tribune Buildings; PHILADELPHIA, N. W. corner Third and Chestnut streets.

WHIG TICKET.

FOR AUDITOR,
JOHN E. KING, of St. Landry.

FOR SUPERINTENDENT,
A. H. LAMON, of West Baton Rouge.

FOR CONGRESS—Second District,
T. G. HUNT, of New Orleans.

FRANKLIN, THURSDAY, SEPT. 29.

At the urgent solicitation of many friends MR. N. L. PROVOST has consented to become a candidate for the office of Parish Assessor, and having no time to canvass the parish, he adopts this method of informing voters of the same.

BREWICK'S BAY, SEPT. 24, 1833.

Mr. Johnson—I notice a call upon me in one of your recent papers, to become a candidate for the Legislature. Thanking the friends whose partial estimate has placed my name in relation to so honorable a position, I am compelled to decline the candidacy, both by a regard for my private interests and the desire to harmonize the action of the whigs as to who shall be the candidates among the many available.

Yours,
R. B. BRASHEAR.

What were the guards posted at our lower line about last evening? How is it that a person direct from attendance on a sick bed below was allowed among our citizens? A more rigid observance of our health regulations is absolutely necessary if we wish to preserve in this town our present good health.

In consequence of the sickness prevailing at Pattersonville, the Rev. R. H. Read will not preach there on Sunday next. The present regulations of our Board of Health and Town Council would conflict with his immediate return. This is a prudent measure. A contrary course would be productive of no good, and might do much harm. In lieu thereof there will be preaching next Sabbath at the Methodist Church in this place.

The Convention.

We had written an article on this subject for publication this week; but in consequence of the unsettled state of the public mind, growing out of the probability that a portion of our parish has been visited by the prevailing scourge of our State, we concluded not to publish it, but to let affairs work out their own end as best they might. Yesterday morning, however, we received by mail the following, a notice of which is at least called for by common courtesy, if nothing more:

TWELFTH WARD, SEPT. 26, 1833.
Mr. Editor—The suggestion in one of your numbers of holding a Convention in Franklin to determine the candidates of the whig party in the approaching election in November, meets the hearty concurrence of the whigs hereabouts, in manner and form as therein suggested.

We shall choose our delegates to the Convention on Saturday next, on the proposed basis of representation, and beg you to insert in your next paper the election returns, that there may be no mistake in the number of delegates chosen.

Should the Franklin quarantine regulations interfere with the meeting of the Convention, it might be held at Centreville on the proposed second Saturday of October, or at some deferred date in Franklin.

WHIGS OF THE TWELFTH.

In compliance with the above request we give the vote cast for Judge Moore at the last Congressional election, assuming that to comprise as near as possible the whig vote of the parish. The last column gives the number of delegates each ward will be entitled to, taking as the basis one delegate for every ten votes in the ward, and one for every fraction over five:

Wards.	Votes.	Delegates.
1	21	2
2	75	7
3	52	5
4	36	4
5	35	3
6	8	1
7	93	9
8	—	—
9	10	1
10	50	5
11	89	9
12	18	2
13	—	—

We do not think, however, that at the present time it would be either prudent or useful to hold any public meeting, political or otherwise. Should a frost intervene between now and the election, in sufficient time to achieve any good result, our citizens will be found at their posts—at present, the epidemic engrosses all other subjects. We admire the patriotism evinced by our political friends of the 12th ward, who in the midst of sickness and death could thus bestow a thought on their country's welfare.

Effects of the Epidemic.

Since our last publication much uneasiness has been manifested by our citizens, growing out of the appearance at Pattersonville, and along the Atchafalaya, of a very fatal disease, much resembling yellow fever, but whether it is or is not, is a matter of much doubt and uncertainty, even with the medical profession. Several persons, however, have died of it; and these facts coming to the knowledge of our citizens, have created quite a stampede among the people of our town, many of whom have left, and others are preparing to follow. We have never before known anything to create so much excitement and alarm here—it is the common topic of conversation, to the utter exclusion of those usually fertile subjects, the crops, politics, &c. All is now merged into yellow fever, and the sad reminiscences of 1839 are revived in the minds of the old inhabitants. Our town wears now quite a deserted appearance—not from the numbers who have left, but from the absence of those who live in the neighborhood, many of whom are accustomed to spend a considerable portion of their time among us; our principal schools are closed, some of the teachers having gone in quest of what they deem safer quarters—and yet not a single case of yellow fever (if that be the disease below) has visited Franklin so far this season! We can therefore only attribute this excessive caution to the recollection of the past; for those who have left are among the oldest inhabitants, who having been scorched by it once, fear it more than those who have not yet felt its sting. So far we are free from all disease in our town, and if the exertions and regulations of the Board of Health and Town Council can be of any avail in warding off this die disease, we bid fair to hold it at bay until the arrival of frost, should it even besiege us more closely. Our streets are now barricaded immediately outside the lower line of our corporate limits, so as to prevent the ingress of persons from the neighborhood of Pattersonville, and even from Centreville, where one death had occurred, said to be from the same disease, a day or two since.

From the upper portion of the parish we hear of no sickness. It appears to be confined to the banks of the Atchafalaya, (the neighborhood of which is more or less sickly at this season) except the death at Centreville above noticed, which some of our physicians insist was not produced by yellow fever, but by a very severe attack of bilious fever. However that may be, none of those in attendance have contracted the disease so far, we are told.

Although, as we before remarked, it is perfectly healthy here at present, yet we would earnestly advise all our absent citizens to postpone their return until after the appearance of frost, as the idea is generally held that such persons are more subject to the disease than those who have remained through the summer, and we know not but it may visit us as a thief in the night—when least expected.

In Opelousas the panic is worse than here, but there is greater reason for it, as they are in close proximity with Washington, where the yellow fever as an epidemic undoubtedly exists, and the two places we believe are in constant communication, as we notice the demise of persons in Opelousas who contracted the disease in Washington. The Courier states that more than three-fourths of the houses in the former town are abandoned; that nearly all the stores are closed; that the neighboring planters have forbidden their slaves, who used to supply vegetables, milk, &c., to enter the town on any pretence whatever; and that out of four regular bakers, but one furnishes the community with bread! This is truly an awful state of things—yet we are assured by the editors of the Courier that no case of the disease has yet originated in that town. Among the recent deaths at Washington that of Dr. E. J. Heard is announced. On the French side of the Courier is the following, which we translate for the benefit of our readers:

"An attentive observer endeavored to count the number of persons who, on Sunday last, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, might show themselves on the principal street of our village. The unfortunate individual, after the vain attempt, and despairing of beholding a human being, entered the only coffee-house that was open, (that of Mr. Quatrevaux) which he found solely occupied by the barkeeper, with whom he took a friendly drink. He has promised that he will not again undertake the task."

Since writing the above we have been placed in possession of a family letter, through the polite attention of a friend. This letter is from a most reliable source.—Capt. Hinkley, an old steamboat captain who is well known to many of our readers. It is dated Washington, Sept. 25, commences by announcing the death of three members of his family, and the mother of the person to whom it is addressed—all from yellow fever. It gives a deplorable account of the situation of the sufferers in that town. Much of it is taken up with family matters, the relation of which is heart-rending. We extract such portions of the letter as we are enabled to do without invading the family circle:

"I can give you but a very faint idea, indeed, of the sufferings we have endured for the last

three weeks. We have buried 20, and I know of 70 sick in their beds. Some of the dead are Ruddy, Ray, Mrs. James Neyland, Jasper, and her infant child, Dr. Heard, Bellau and wife, and their two sons, and nine of the Lamelle family; also, Preston, Watkins, Martin, Mrs. Kaufman, Young, St. Gaudan, Benjamin Carrantine, and a host of others whom I cannot now recollect. Everybody has run off that could get away, and there is not enough to take care of the sick! There is no market, no baker, and all the stores have been shut up for two weeks—no business doing but coffin-making and grave-digging, and hard work to get men to do that. We can muster but eleven well men in the whole town! God only knows where this will end. Our only hope is in an early frost."

A private letter also received last evening gives an awful account of the ravages of the yellow fever in Vermilionville, parish of Lafayette. It states that over one-fourth of the entire population have already fallen victims to the disease, and the greatest alarm prevails. All who can possibly get away are leaving that vicinity as fast as they can.

THE MAISON ROUGE CLAIM.—The Washington Star of the 10th inst. says there is an appeal pending before the Secretary of the Interior of much importance, from a decision of the Commissioner of Public Lands, concerning the lands in the Northern part of this State, known as the "Maison Rouge grant," which was made by Spain in 1797. It covered more than 200,000 acres. Under the treaty of the United States, the general government conceived these lands to be public lands, and sold and donated a few small lots within its limits. The holders of the grant, the limits of which have never been fully defined, brought an action of ejectment—a "petitory" action—against the parties thus claiming from the United States. The Courts of Louisiana sustained the Spanish grantees; whereupon, the United States, at the request of the agents of the grantees themselves, (who hoped thus to establish a valid title,) appealed to the Supreme Court. There, the decision of the State Court was reversed. Subsequently, the grantees, fancying that the laws of Congress of 1824 and 1844 authorizing claimants in their condition to file a petition and try title, would avail them, again commenced suit in Louisiana. This case went before the Supreme Court, where the decision was a second time against the grantees. Pending the appeal in the second case, Congress passed "an act to grant the right of pre-emption to certain purchasers and settlers on the Maison Rouge grant, in the event of the final adjudication of the title in favor of the United States." Under this act, the title having been so adjudicated, the Commissioner of the Land Office prepared to grant the proper pre-emptions, and to make the usual surveys there. A third suit, however, resting on a portion of the original Maison Rouge title, is, and has been, long pending. The grantees ask the land office bureau to suspend their operations under the law of 1831, until this also shall have been adjudicated. But the Commissioner, believing that law to oblige him to regard the late ruling of the Supreme Court as obligatory on his bureau, declined to suspend operations in that quarter. Whereupon, the grantees have appealed to the Secretary of the Interior to direct him to comply with the request.

AT HIM AGAIN!—Some of the "soft-shell" branch of the New York democracy are firing their small arms at Collector Bronson, because he has the audacity to retain in office some few whigs whom he finds serviceable!—Hear how they talk:

Will our worthy Collector ever get rid of the army of old whig office holders who yet surround him, and who contrive to deceive him into the belief that their services are indispensable? Six months have elapsed since the great national democratic victory. Half the first year of the new administration has rolled away, and still there are at least 300 of our political enemies holding on, in the New York Custom House, to places and emoluments that long ago should have been given to men in our ranks more worthy of public confidence.

The Herald, in quoting the above, calls upon him to put the axe in motion before the whigs eat up the supplies! "To the victors belong the spoils!"—that is, the Treasury pay, pillaged from the people!—so we ask no favors.

A Smart Old Lady.—On the 15th of August, on the occasion of the fete at Paris in honor of Louis Napoleon, there were some startling performances at the Paris Hippodrome. Among others, a Madame Sachi, 75 years old, walked up a rope 600 feet long, and elevated at its middle by a wooden trussel 100 feet high. The ascent as well as the descent on the other side of the trussel were equal, and seemed to be about an angle of 35 degrees. She not only ascended and descended with ease, and even with agility, but performed various feats on the rope which frightened all the beholders. She would fall down on the rope suddenly, stretch out on her back, and then with the arms extended, raise to her feet again. This was done several times at a distance of 75 feet above the ground. She continued to shout with her shrill old voice, "Vive l'Empereur!" the whole time, and seemed to mock the fears of the spectators. The Emperor was sitting in his carriage in the midst of the crowd, waiting to compliment her when she descended. This is the same woman who walked a small rope suspended between the high tower of Notre Dame, in the presence of the first Emperor and Josephine, nearly 50 years ago.

Clippings from our Exchanges.

Gen. John Wilson, residing at present in San Francisco, has written to Governor Foote, of Mississippi, about a group of islands in the Pacific known as the Navigator's Islands. With the letter, Gen. Wilson sends some pickings of cotton taken from one of the cotton trees which grow on those islands. This tree attains the extraordinary height of thirty feet, with a diameter of one foot, and branches spreading thirty feet. The ball is about the size of a goose egg. When the cotton tree is in full bloom it presents a superb appearance, looking like an immense snowball tree, of the kind that adorns so many Southern gardens.

English papers state the Marquis of Tweeddale has succeeded perfectly in working ploughs by steam power. The distinguished English agriculturist, Mr. Meche, in a late article, says, "there can be no doubt but that very shortly every agriculturist must use steam power if he is to stand his ground in the race of agricultural competition. The want of it is already felt, if not seen, by those who have not the means or the inclination to use it. The time is approaching when a steam engine on a farm will be as common as the drill or threshing machine, although like them it has to pass through the ordeal of disbelief, doubt and prejudice. A committee of the Royal Agricultural Society gave the most extraordinary accounts of the rapid introduction of farm locomotive engines during the past three years.

At Chicago you can buy a house in all its parts, framing timber, shingles, doors, window sashes, shutter, flooring, all planned, tongued, grooved, and ready to be put up upon the prairies to which the many railroads will convey it, so that the farmer from those wide extended plains may come in one day, buy a house complete, and take it out next and with the assistance of his neighbors put it up in a week.

Two officers of Boston, in the endeavor to break up a counterfeiting gang, assumed the r6le, and succeeded in getting possession of considerable counterfeit money, when the rogues "smelt rat," got the officers imprisoned, and before explanations could be made the scoundrels escaped.

An important discovery it is stated has recently been made in the manufacture of iron. It is a mode of puddling iron by which the common gull Alleghany iron is made equal to the best Juniata. It is stated by iron workers who have tested it that the strength of the iron, when pulled in the direction of its length, is sixty thousand nine hundred pounds per square inch, and Mr. Finch the discoverer, is confident that he can make an advance on this, of four thousand pounds to the square inch. His process, as it is attested by persons acquainted with the business, is applicable to all kinds of iron, with the same advance in strength—making that metal entirely safe and fully strong enough for all purposes for which it is needed. The process, it is said, is equally successful in increasing the strength of cast iron.

The Cincinnati Times mentions that an old lady in that city who makes her living by her needle, has taken the trouble to count the stitches in a pair of pants, for which she gets 30 cents. Whole number of stitches 4 832, being 402 to the hour, allowing twelve hours to make a pair, including all fixing, pressing, &c., and 181 stitches for one cent.

An English paper states that at the village of Witherly, England, a gooseberry tree with a stalk as thick as a stout man's thumb, and the bush from four to five feet in diameter may be seen springing out of the joint in the stone wall of the church tower, at a height of 84 feet from the ground. It has grown there for a century or more, thriving greatly in moist seasons, and dwindling during the drought.

Mr. Elliott, a teacher in one of the public schools at Columbus, who found it necessary to "spare not the rod," in disciplining the son of Mr. Taft, a merchant of that city, was on Friday evening, assaulted in the school-room by the lad's father, and somewhat roughly handled. The female teachers of the house came to the relief of Elliott, and got his assailant away. The Mayor fined Taft \$10.

An organized band of thieves has been detected on the line of the Northern Railroad, between Concord and Canaan, N. H. Their business has mainly been to rob the freight trains on the road—getting upon the trains at the stopping places, or when the trains go slow up grades—and throwing out such articles, as are at hand, chests of tea boxes of shoes and raisins, tubs of butter, &c. The Northern railroad has paid many hundreds of dollars for goods lost from the trains, which was no doubt stolen by this gang. Two of the gang have been arrested, and prompt measures are in progress for the arrest of every one concerned.

In Buffalo, a few days since, a runaway horse dashed through the front door of a house and ran into the parlor, where it smashed a large mirror, but "backed out" without doing further damage. A child lay on the floor and was twice beneath the horse, but escaped.

At one of the largest wholesale warehouses in Boston, the head corresponding clerk is a young woman, who writes a beautiful, rapid hand, and fulfills all the duties of the situation to the complete satisfaction of her employer.

The surface of Lake Huron is 594 feet above the surface of the St. Lawrence at Montreal. The distance is 760 miles. The fall in the St. Lawrence between Kingston and Montreal, 176 miles, is 221 feet.

The Mayor of Mobile has received a despatch from the Mayor of Selma, Ala., informing him that boats will not be allowed to land passengers at that place, till examined by a physician—penalty, \$500.

At last dates Gen. Shields was lying dangerously ill at the house of Major Barber, near Sparta, Ill. He was at times deranged, and his situation was regarded as extremely critical.

Wm. Spriggs, a fugitive slave, claimed by Dr. John Whitridge, of Baltimore, was arrested at Philadelphia on the 15th, by a young man, son of Geo. F. Albert. He had a hearing before Commissioner Ingraham, acknowledged himself a slave, and refused to have counsel. He was remanded to his master and left this afternoon. There was no excitement and no negroes present at the hearing.

The whigs of Wisconsin have nominated Henry Bird as their candidate for Governor.

Col. S. L. Hussey has been nominated by the Democratic party for the office of State Treasurer in Mississippi.

Gen. James J. McKay, ex-Congressman from North Carolina, died suddenly at Wilmington, in that State.

A letter from Goelong, published in the Australian papers, says that the miners suffer badly from the vast quantity of mice, and that fifty shillings, (about twelve dollars and a half) has been paid for a cat. A Mr. Hitchcock advertises that he will pay five dollars a head, for a cat, loud.

The Austrian Lieutenant who made himself so conspicuous in the Kosta affair at Smyrna, has been promoted by his government.

Later dates from China state that the failure of the Imperialists to regain Chung King Foo, was regarded as decisive of the fate of the Empire. The insurgent army had left Nankin for Peking, but was subsequently recalled. A revolution had broken out in the Island of Formosa.

Railroad Items.

The Mobile and Ohio Railroad which will reach from Mobile to Cairo, is 494 miles long. When completed, the distance between Doboque and Mobile can be travelled in 36 hours by way of the Illinois Central and the Mobile and Ohio roads. Both those roads will probably be completed within a year from this time.

The Ohio and Indiana Railroad was opened on Wednesday, August 31st, from Crestline to Bucyrus. A large party went out from Pittsburg in the mail train on Wednesday morning, and reached Bucyrus about 7 o'clock in the evening. The distance is 200 miles, and the train was run through without change of cars.

In 1838 the city of Louisville, Ky., had not a single railroad running into her limits. Since then she has subscribed to different roads the amount of \$3,000,000. The value of the property in Louisville in 1848, when she entered upon the grand scheme of railroad building, was a little over \$16,000,000; now, after five years only, it is a little less than \$30,000,000, and the city was never increasing more rapidly in population, and never exhibited more evidences of general prosperity.

About 7 o'clock, on Sunday evening the 4th inst., the engineer of the night train on the Trenton Railroad, fired up the locomotive at the Kensington depot, and then went to supper. While he was gone, the steam got up, and the valve being partially open, the engine started, at first slowly, but soon got under a pretty good headway. When it reached Frankford, the fire was low, and it was going slow. It was stopped by a gentleman who happened to be on the railroad, the engine reversed, the whistle blown, and started back.—When he had gone about half a mile, he met the engineer puffing and blowing, he having started in pursuit of his runaway iron-horse.

The receipts of the Hudson River Railroad for August are the largest gross result known in its history, amounting to \$130,627, against \$99,454 for the same month last season.

A collision occurred on the Hudson River Railroad on the afternoon of the 15th, between a single engine and the Poughkeepsie passenger train going South. A fireman and two brakemen on the passenger train were killed. Both engineer and fireman on the single engine were badly hurt. Engines entirely smashed.

Within the last eight months there have been 65 casualties, 176 deaths and 363 persons maimed by railroads.

The Latest Hoax.—On Friday evening (says the True Delta) we gave a despatch from Bolivar (Tenn.) announcing the discovery of a metallic substance in small particles resembling gold dust, at the depth of about 20 feet from the surface, in the public cistern now being dug in the Court House yard, which discovery, of course produced great excitement. The sequel to the story is thus told by the Memphis Eagle and Enquirer, of the 11th inst.:

The overwhelming excitement which pervaded the town of Bolivar on Thursday, was caused by the freak of a mischievous boy, an apprentice in a tin shop. Taking a few handfuls of brass filings, he cast them at night into an unfinished cistern upon which the workmen had left off work the previous evening. On their return to work next morning they perceived the ground filled with glittering particles of what they supposed to be the precious metal. The discovery was hurriedly communicated, and soon excited crowds were seen eagerly hurrying to the spot armed with spades, shovels, pick-axes and every other implement of gold digging within reach. As many as could get in went to work at casting up the dirt from the bottom of the cistern, which soon reached the depth required by the owner for its completion. About that time it became apparent that the sentimental fact which Shakespeare had proclaimed, to wit, "all that glitters is not gold," had lost none of its application in present times. When this discovery was made our reporter (who was on the ground in a few minutes after the discovery, "takin' notes," and had already completed a rough sketch of "the digging") concluded it was about time to leave, which he accordingly did, but promises "Further from the Gold Diggings" in his next.

"You are writing my bill on very rough paper," said a client to his attorney. "Never mind," said the lawyer, "it has to be filed before it comes into court."