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No. 69 Commercial-Street.

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The New-Orleans Bee.

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE STATE ..... NEW-ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 2, 1851.

No. 1509. Vol. X.—NEW SERIES.
Vol. XXIX—Whole No. 6550.

The New-Orleans Daily Bee.

Official Journal of the State, General Council, First Municipality and Board of Liquidators.

Monday Morning June 2, 1851.

NOTICE.

IN order to facilitate the transaction of my business, I have given a general power of attorney to Mr. EUGENE DUVERGER, my Cashier, under date of the 5th February last. Mr. Duverger is consequently fully empowered to pay all debts, collect all dues and receipt all bills or accounts, either for or in the name of the Bee. G. P. WEISSE.

New Orleans, May 1st, 1851.

THE NORTHERN MAIL came through yesterday with the latest dates.

THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

We publish very cheerfully the annexed note addressed by Col. STILLE to the editor of the *Bulletin*:

Mr. Editor: In your paper of this morning there is an editorial article headed "Customs-house Officers," in which allusion is made to my action, in relation to the dismissal of one of the Deputy Surveyors in this port.

Although I do not recognize any authority, save one, to call upon me for any explanation, yet as there is an attempt made to get up a clamor and cry upon the subject, I will thank you to publish the subjoined note to Col. Walton, which speaks for itself.

We shall call upon by the only legitimate authority which I can recognize—and that is the Secretary of the Treasury—I will give such a reason for my decision. For the present you must suffice.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,
May 31-1-51. ROBT B. STILLE.

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE,
New Orleans, May 29th, 1851.

SIR: On the 24th inst. I received an order from the Treasury Department, dated the 16th instant, requiring me to dispense with the services of one Deputy Surveyor at the Custom House in New Orleans after the close of the present month.

This order has placed me in a most embarrassing situation, and one which I would have gladly avoided were it possible.

In accordance with the dictates of the order, I have selected the one that in the interest of the Government, as well as to my own interests, to retain Dr. Rayborn in his present position.

You are therefore respectfully notified that your services as a Deputy Surveyor of the Port of New Orleans, will cease after the close of the present month.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,
ROBT B. STILLE, Surveyor.

J. B. WALTON, Esq., D'y Surveyor.

As the proper pendant to this highly satisfactory and most conclusive explanation, we insert the subjoined comments and counter statement of the *Bulletin*:

On the other hand, we have been furnished by a gentleman of unimpeachable veracity with a statement or version of the conversation that occurred between Mr. Walton and the gentleman introduced, and a note in which a version from the instigator of the conversation is given, which, if correct, would seem to be a substantial refutation of the charge of "Custom-house Cliques." The friend who furnished that Col. Stille was sensible of the enormity of his position, having to choose between two parties, who, if he dismissed one, would be sure to complain that he knew Col. Walton was a candidate for the support of him (Stille) and that if he dismissed Rayborn, he would be placed in such a position, in case of the charges existing now in the Customs House should be brought before the Senate (of the United States) to involve his removal. The majority of that body being democrats, and Dr. Rayborn's friends would urge his retention, on the ground of his (Rs) behalf; that he must be a democrat, that he had nothing to do with the Whigs, and that he deserved his place because he could not, as he stated, support by his resignation the retention of a democrat in a place given to the whig party. Colonel Walton, therefore, positively refused to resign, and in consequence was the transmission to him by the Surveyor, of the subjoined letter.

Here is the history of the affair, and here we presume its investigation will terminate. We think it would have been better for Colonel Stille to have suppressed his letter to the *Bulletin*, since it proves no thing whatever; it does not bear on, or in the matter in dispute; does not even mention the reason for the discharge of Colonel Walton and the retention of Mr. Rayborn, and yet we feel that the Surveyor is determined to act as he pleases, without reference to the opinions or the wishes of his political associates. This letter will not satisfy the Whig party. The Surveyor declares that he does not recognize any authority, save one, to call on him for an explanation. This is true, in an official sense. We are perfectly well aware that the Secretary of the Treasury can alone authoritatively remove the Surveyor on account of his politics. But there is another authority to which, in a government like ours, every public officer must be in some measure responsible. We allude to public opinion—to the feelings and wishes of the party by whose efforts and representations a political office holder attains to power, and is enabled to retain his place—a power not to be despised in a republic—a power that has made and unmade higher dignitaries than the Surveyor of the New Orleans Custom House. It is in this influence that we referred when we called upon Col. STILLE to make known the reasons for the dismissal of a Whig and the retention of a Loco Foco deputy. He has not thought proper to recognize such an authority, and we have to note to the *Bulletin* clearly establishes his indifference to the opinions of his friends. It remains to be seen whether such indifference will be maintained with impunity.

We have said, we do claim the right of the Whig party, and with reference to political objects alone, to call upon the Surveyor or other public officers. We speak as the organ of a political party, and with reference to political objects alone.

☞ The *Delta* has sun with our leanness. We plead guilty to the indictment. We are not of the fat, sleek and full panniched individuals whose ample charms serve to lard the lean earth we walk. But we deny the hostile inference drawn by our friend nature which the *Delta* seeks to draw. We will wager an ounce of our mucilaginous carcass against twenty pounds of Daniel Lambert's superfluous fat of flesh, that a more cheerful, good humored, jolly soul than ours does not inhabit a vivacious carcass between Laf yette and the Lower Cotton Press. We republicans feel a resemblance between ourself and Cassius, and I hope the *Delta* will not again do so much violence to our sensibilities as to compare our genial hilariousness to the attributions and sinister conspirator of Rome.

The *Delta* says that it hobnobs and drinks with twenty Whigs to the Bee editor's one. Not a doubt of it neighbor! We freely concede the fact. We are not given to drinking or rendering tact. We are not given to drinking or hobnobbing with either Whigs or Democrats. Our jovialness shows itself in a different way—We can relish, for instance, the *Delta's* fun, and we can relish very heartily at its humorous hits even when they are directed at us. Let it joke as much as it pleases, but spare our spareness, else we will poke our fun at the ferocious, Fillibuster in character which shades the upper part of the jocular editor of that paper.

DISPATCHES—The steamer *Ophelia* arrived yesterday, 1st instant, from the Parish of St. Landry, had on board ninety-one delegates to the Baptist Convention, to be held in New Orleans.

SHOOTING.—Yesterday morning Mr. Theard, one of the editors of the *Courier*, called at the office of the Union in order to demand some explanation concerning an article which appeared a few days since in the latter paper. After some altercation Mr. Aleman made use of abusive language, which induced Mr. Theard who was descending the stairs to turn round and give a cigar at him. Mr. Aleman thereupon drew forth a loaded pistol and fired at Mr. Theard, the ball of which passed within an inch of the latter's shoulder and lodged in the wall. Mr. Theard with made a deposition of the facts before acting Recorder Fabre, and a warrant was issued for the arrest of Mr. Aleman.

AUCTION NOTICE.—We call the attention of purchasers to the sale at auction, THIS DAY, by Baker, Hyde & Co. at their sales room, No. 51 Magazine-street of 170 packages of Dry Goods, slightly damaged, and will be sold for account of whom it may concern. See advertisement under auction head.

BOSTON, Friday, May 23.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE, &c. — Our Legislature to day has transacted a large amount of business. The Anti-Slavery resolves which passed the Senate were laid on the table in the House, by yeas 167 to nays 164. The new and very stringent Bill against selling fugitives bounds which passed the House on Wednesday, was laid on the table in the Senate by 22 yeas to 13 nays. The Legislature will adjourn to morrow.

Michael Norton, a returned Californian, was found dead in his bed this A. M. at the New England House. He was 40 years old, and belonged to Gardiner, Me.

THE WEBB AND WILLIS AFFAIR.—The last publication in reference to this curious controversy is made by Col. WEBB in his paper of the 23d May, he declares his purpose to close his columns against further allusion to the matter. He says:

We decline publishing the strictures of any of our correspondents in relation to this matter, and consider it disposed of forever, so far as our columns are concerned. Indeed, we resolved long since never to notice the assault which led to this controversy; and regret that a republication in London of the *personal* libels upon us should have induced a departure from what we deem a wise determination. In future nothing short of a charge of *murder* will ever induce us to trouble our readers with matters of a merely personal character; and we shall rely upon our past life to rebut any new slanders which malignity may devise.

We doubt not but it would have been wise if we had long since acted upon this determination; but we profess not to have the patience of a Job, and could not readily learn the Christian virtue of submission. Be this as it may, all purely personal matters shall be excluded from our columns in future; and we give our opponents a *carte blanche* to libel us at their discretion.

THE WRECK OF THE OHIO.—The bow of the Ohio was partially raised on the 23d ult. by the cranks placed beneath her guards, but her stern still remained aground. A piece of her stern, cut completely off by the collision, has been found near Gloucester. The remains of Mr Findley have not yet been found.

HON. A. BURT.—This gentlemen, says the S. C. *Patriot*, who has represented so long, and with so much credit to himself and his constituents, the Districts of Abbeville, Edgefield, Newberry and Lexington, in the Congress of the U. States, has recently addressed his constituents in a long and able article against separate State secession. He says that secession would place us in a worse situation than we now occupy, that our conduct would not be justified by any one State, that the President would execute the laws, that if we secede we must prepare to lay down life and fortune, and that we need not expect to be caressed and coaxed by kindness and concessions to return to the Union. He says, by secession, we should not be able to carry our negroes out of South Carolina, and beg "Heaven to preserve us from such insanity."

A COMPLIMENT TO GENERAL CASS FROM E. DERAIN.—We owe it to the politeness of Messrs. Derain and Wise that we have had the opportunity of inspecting a magnificent specimen of California marine production and California once ancient handiwork. We allude to a massive golden ring, large enough for the forefinger of the Belgic giant, which was made in Eldorado, out of the shining staple of that State, as a present to the Hon. Lewis Cass, from some of his friends there. It is certainly a great curiosity, and as ingenious as it is curious. It weighs some six ounces, and I swear I cannot be far from three or four hundred dollars. On the exterior it is inlaid with the name of the gallant Cass, and on my word I do not remember, giving the effect of chased work. On the inside is a fine specimen of the quartz containing gold, over and combining over which is a rough ground, made of small particles of the precious metal, as picked up among the rocks and sands, are the words, in raised letters, also formed of gold, "Lewis Cass." This top forms a lid, which opens with a spring, and discovers four glazed compartments, containing as many specimens of the native gold dust, as gathered from four different rivers, and over them are the words, neatly cut, on a tablet of the brightest gold: "Gold Bluff," "Yuba River," "Mariposa," and "Feather River." On the inside of a lid is the inscription:

"PRESENTED TO LEWIS CASS BY HIS FRIENDS IN CALIFORNIA.

Joseph R. Hoffman,	John S. Hager,
Gabriel B. Post,	John H. Scranton,
J. R. Hardesbe,	J. A. Hart Hart,
Charles T. Gilbert,	Wm. M. Eddy,
Daniel Henrie,	Fred. D. Kohler,
O. ver Charlick,	Geo. H. Blake.

Feb 22, 1851.

This beautiful gift is soon to be presented formally by one of the donors, to the distinguished Senator for whom it was designed. It is really a superb present. It may be seen for a few days at the jewelry store of Hall, Jones & Black, in Broadway.—*N. Y. Express.*

CHARLES SUMNER'S LATEST MANIFESTO.—The newly elected Abolition Senator from Massachusetts writes as follows, in reply to an invitation to speak during the present canvass in that State:

BOSTON, May 20, 1851.

My Dear Sir—I am sorry to be obliged to decline your invitation. It is not in my power to mingle actively in the canvass which now impresses so warmly all the friends of freedom; but though my voice may not be heard, my heart will be with you.

I trust no pains will be spared to secure the election of Mr Palfrey, the very able, honest and valuable candidate of our party. He combines the advantages of a long and ability, should command their votes also. No person familiar with the public sentiment amongst us, out of certain streets in Boston, can doubt that we may return better votes on politicians, but well known opinions on the vital questions of the day find a response in the bosoms of an overwhelming majority of good people of this Commonwealth.

His triumph, with that of Mr Rantoul, in the adjoining district, will go far to consolidate the opinion in Massachusetts against the existing Whig National Administration.

Sincerely, while asserting the Union loyally, and in the spirit of their fathers, will never forget the true principles of the constitution, according to which freedom, and not slavery, is national, while slavery, and not freedom, is sectional.

Ever faithfully yours,
CHARLES SUMNER.

To Dr. Estes Howe, Chairman of the Free Soil District Committee, Cambridge.

OUR LANE—*Its length and Breadth*—The following "Grand Totals," showing the estimated surface of the territories of the U. States, North and West, must satisfy any one that Uncle Sam is a large landholder:

Total area of old territory East of the Rocky Mountains, in square miles,	994,135
Total in acres,	636,426,400
Total of New territories West of the Rocky Mountains in square Miles,	667,741
Total in acres,	555,226,240
Texas in square miles,	325,520
Texas in acres,	208,332,800
Grand total of Territories and Texas, in square miles,	2,187,496
Grand total in acres,	1,399,987,440
Total north of 36°30', in square miles,	1,642,764
Total in acres,	1,051,369,760
Total south of 36°30', in square miles,	544,732
Total in acres,	348,515,085

Length of U. S. Sea Coast. *Miles.*

Atlantic Coast,	1,00
Gulf do	1,600
Pacific do	1,620
Total,	5 120
Total length of "Shore line."	33,651

THE WEST.—Thirty years ago Buffalo was a mere hamlet, and the vast region of country lying west of Lake Michigan and north of St. Louis was an uninhabited solitude, save here and there a trapper and hunter, with a few voyageurs who are always a little in advance of civilization. We have seen Chicago and Milwaukie rise from their infancy to cities each of 20,000 inhabitants, and have often stood on the shore of the lake and watched the gentle ripple and the boisterous wave approach and recede from the pebbly beach, with nothing upon the broad surface save the canoe of the red man, or the different water fowls that sport in its crystal beauty. Will do we remember making a tour from the west shore of Lake Michigan, ten years ago, into the interior of Wisconsin, when the entire middle frontier of the then territory was uninhabited, not even a log cabin in which the traveller could find protection from the storm. Now all is changed; the West, the West, the mighty boundless West, the happy abode of millions of freemen, the large and small prairies, alike the grove and the heavy wood, have been reclaimed from the native state, and every avenue of commerce is now employed in carrying to the Atlantic and foreign markets their rich produce.

We shall soon see projected and in successful operation different lines of railway connecting the east with the west, the west with the east, the north with the sunny south, equally engaged in promoting and advancing their own and the best interest of the whole, until the Atlantic, on the east, and the Pacific, on the west, shall be made tributaries to the great father of waters. Hence we conclude (judging the future by the past) that but a brief period must elapse before the valley of the Mississippi will more than balance the eastern States; and her commerce will control the commerce of the Union: and upon either bank of this great arm of the sea, where the untaught savage so recently had full control, will most inevitably arise cities in comparison second to none.—*Keokuk (Iowa) Dispatch.*

FIRE IN THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—What if this vast collection was destroyed by fire? Many cities might be burnt to the ground without causing such a sensation as that would. Yet to that risk the Crystal Palace was exposed forty moments on Thursday morning.

The flue attached to the gas stove in one of the contractors became heated, and ignited a piece of wood with burning which rested upon or touched it. A piece of the burning wood fell into a small open cask of Indian corn, which stood, as the Irish say, "convenient."

All this mischief was brewing in secret in the southern part of the colonial collection in the east side. The drapery of the counter concealed what had happened, and it was only when the smoke began to break forth that an alarm was raised. Fortunately such casualties have been foreseen and amply provided for.

There are not less than a dozen large fire engines within the building, besides an ample supply of water easily obtainable, and a thoroughly organised force ready to act at a moment's notice.

CAPITAL LEAVING SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Greenville South Carolina *Patriot* publishes the following facts as evidence of the effects on the property of S. Carolina occasioned by her access on movements:

We understand that a gentleman of this place has recently carried ten thousand dollars, in money, to invest in Georgia or Alabama, or place there at interest, in consequence of our taxation and civil commotion. This gentleman, too, is a member of the Southern Rights Association. We were likewise informed that application was made to another large capitalist, in this District, for the loan of a few hundred dollars, and he informed the applicant that it was not his purpose to lend out any more money in South Carolina. We have also heard it suggested, that the business men in our community, having large demands owing to them, would commence a general collection, in time for secession. The Bills of South Carolina Banks are already beginning to return from Georgia and Alabama, under the suspicion that their credit will be affected by our civil commotions. In one instance, but a few days since, a gentleman drew from the Bank, in Charleston, for the upper country, five thousand dollars in specie, preferring to have his money in gold and silver to bank bills. There can be no suspension of specie payments in that case, where the money is wanted. We were consulted the other day by a gentleman who wished to make a purchase of some real estate, whether we thought the State would secede—If so, he did not intend to purchase. A gentleman just from Charleston, and a delegate to the late Convention there, informs us that if it was certain the State would secede in six months, real estate in the city would not sell at half price. In preparation for secession, a merchant of this place has already ordered his shipments to Savannah instead of Charleston—Another one of our citizens, who has spent perhaps, a hundred thousand dollars in Greenville, drawn from his estate in Georgia, is about to leave the "sinking ship," and cast his habitation where he may be quiet and live in peace. Thus it is, *the anticipations of* secession are proving disastrous to the State. What will the reality be? It is a fearful question to answer. May the Almighty, in his mercy, avert so awful a calamity, should be the prayer of every true hearted and patriotic Carolinian.

A SAD OCCURRENCE.—On the last evening of the Encampment at Camden, (Friday) a most lamentable occurrence took place, and is followed in the death of Dr. Charles Shannon, of Camden. On Friday morning, owing to the intense heat of the weather, Mr. Fletcher, an officer in Camp, was sun struck, and was placed in the hands of the surgeon. At night he was delirious, and during some firing and confusion in the Camp, he started up, seized his musket and rushed from his tent, thrusting with his bayonet at the persons who came to reach. He was not secured until he had inflicted severe wounds upon five persons, and among them Dr. Shannon, who is not expected to recover—the bayonet having penetrated one of his lungs. We shall probably receive definite information this evening.—*Columbia South Carolinian, 26th ult.*

ANOTHER.—As D. R. Miller, Esq., and family were riding beyond the limits of town on Kentucky avenue, the horse took fright and ran away, and became entirely unmanageable from the breaking of the reins. With considerable presence of mind he lowered his child over the wheel and told him to jump and he was not done at the moment, and shortly after the vehicle struck a stump or tree, when both kept from their seats, Mr. Miller being collar bone broken in the fall. The child was not hurt.—*Ibid.*

EXTRAORDINARY PRESERVATION.—We learn that on Wednesday evening last, three young boys, one of them a son of ex-Sheriff Hollenbeck, a son of John I. Morrison and another named Ed., all residing in the town of Greenport, had procured a small skiff, and went out upon the river a short distance above Catskill, for the purpose of catching eels. It appears that they were crossing the river to get to the Catskill dock, when the scarehoat Troy came down, and it being dark, run over the skiff. On hearing the cries of the boys in the water, the boat was stopped, when Hollenbeck and Ed were picked up and placed in another small boat and brought to their homes. Search was made for the Morrison boy some time, but he could not be found, and he was given up for lost, and the boat proceeded on her course.

On Thursday a number of neighbors and friends of the boy were out fishing and dragging the river for his body, but without success, and the family mourned him as dead, when to their unspeakable joy and surprise, about breakfast time on Friday morning he bounded into the house alive and in perfect health. It appears from the boy's account that when the Troy was about moving off after the accident, he managed to get hold of one of the braces under the guards of the boat, to which he clung, his feet all the time dragging in the water, until the boat had gone some four miles, when he succeeded in attracting the attention of the engineers in the cabin, when at their solicitation the captain again stopped the boat. The whereabouts of the boy having been ascertained, he was relieved from his perilous situation, and taken to New York, and the next night sent up on board the Columbia. The feelings of his family at his return, may, in the language of the time quotation, be much better imagined than described.—*Hudson Rep'n Nacon.*

SINGULAR TEST OF INSANITY.—The Philadelphia papers contain an account of a trial held in that city to test the sanity of one Warder Cresson, a large property-holder. In the course of the trial, Mr. Browne, counsel for Cresson, submitted a new and curious mode of determining mental alienation. He said:

That from a careful and extended examination of many thousand specimens of the hair of the head, for some of the last years, he was able to point out a remarkable peculiarity which was always manifest in the hair of the head of an insane person. On pulling out (said Mr. Browne) a hair by the root from the head—the bulbous at the end of the root, as it is generally termed, will be observed, under the microscope, to be white in color, transparent, often translucent, and in a shape regular and pestle formed. In the insane, these characteristics are in all respects different; the bulbous is dark in color, neither transparent nor translucent, and distorted, bent and irregular in shape and form. This change in the room of the hair Mr. Browne accounted for thus: that it is produced by bodily disease, which has this effect on the hair; that insanity of every kind is a bodily disease, and that this change in the hair is caused more generally by insanity than any other disease; that a person might not be insane whose hair pre-sented these peculiarities, but suffering probably from some bodily ailment, yet if the hair manifested no change, but presented the white, transparent and pestle shaped appearance, and the bulbous, the person was not only free from insanity, but from all other diseases having the effect. Such was the appearance of Mr. Cresson's hair under the microscope, and Mr. Browne declared on oath that this test was confirmatory of his opinion in favor of his sanity.

Mr. Browne exhibited to the jury many hundred specimens of hair collected from five lunatic hospitals, and testified that every person in each had the characteristic of insanity. He further testified that from the investigations he had made, he had no doubt whatever of the theory he had advanced, and that it was based on actual experiment, and confirmed by every observation he made.

THE MOON.—Professor Mitchell, the great American astronomer, has been delivering a course of popular lectures in New York on his favorite science. From a report of these lectures in the New York Tribune, we select the following relating to the moon, which strikingly illustrates the harmony of the universe:

By a comparison of the accounts of eclipses by the ancients, particularly the Babylonians, with modern observations, it appeared that the moon moved swifter than she did three thousand years ago. The increase was small, to be sure—her place having advanced only three diameters in that time. But what was the cause—and what would be the result? The problem was solved by La Place. The earth's orbit round the sun, though eliptical, is minutely opening through the attraction of extraneous bodies. The orbit being thus enlarged and the sun's influence diminished, the earth's influence over the moon becomes proportionately greater, its orbit is diminished, and its speed increased. Though the whole disturbance is so slight, it has been accurately calculated. The earth's orbit will continue to increase through millions of centuries till it shall become a circle, and then will slowly return again to its present shape, swinging back and forth like a pendulum, striking the ebbing seconds of eternity itself.

But though some sixty or seventy different sources of disturbance have been discovered and calculated, still the moon will not get out of her place. It will not answer for the minute and hour hand of the world's time-piece to be wrong. If she hides a particular star to-day, we must know exactly when she will do so again. Manson, a most indefatigable German astronomer, has calculated several of the disturbing forces, and will probably conquer all difficulties remaining. One of those overcome is this. Venus, which moves more speedily than the earth, for one hundred and forty years tends to bend the earth's orbit one way, and then the same length of time counteracts the influence. The earth in turn affects the moon, so that it has advanced in 240 years 100th part of its diameter.

So perfect are the calculations at present, that her place can never be more than one or two thousandths of her diameter from that assigned her in tables. But it is important that the tables should be perfectly accurate, and this will probably be accomplished.

The gazetteer then described the physical appearance of the moon, as seen through a telescope, being brought within a range of 240 miles, and showing mountains, craters, plains, and abysses. He explained the fact that the moon's surface discourtesies than the other planets, presenting to us but one face to us, revolving on her axis in the same time which she occupies in her orbit. The fact that her revolution had never been accelerated was evidence that no comet or other body had ever disturbed the harmony of the system throughout the entire system.

WONDERFUL IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE ARMS.—A correspondent of the Washington *Union* describes as follows a self-loading gun invented by Col. P. W. Porter, of Tennessee:

The utility of any invention depends, in a great degree, upon its simplicity of construction; and though it would be difficult for one better versed in mechanism than myself to give any thing like a satisfactory detail of the construction and principle upon which it works, its simplicity is so evident to an observer as to be most easily comprehended.

The chief merit of this invention is the rapidity with which it fires being capable of discharging itself *forty times* in a minute, and its entire adaptation to all kinds of weather, being so constructed as to be entirely free from the effects of water, under all circumstances. Though great, there are by no means the only peculiar advantages of Colonel Porter's gun. The barrel is upon a principle different from any I have ever seen, though I will not undertake to say there are none others similarly constructed. Its construction is of such a nature as to oppose more than usual resistance to the expansion of the powder. Hence it shoots with an increased force, as I conceive, over any other gun yet patented. In fine, I conceive it to embrace all the advantages of the various precedent improvements, combined with those I have mentioned; and, as a necessary consequence, it must, as the public become familiar with it, supersede all the various firearms now in use.

The gun which the inventor exhibited on his passage through Washington was a beautifully wrought rifle; but the improvement is evidently applicable to every other class of arms.

As an instrument of destruction in time of war, it would certainly prove a more effectual weapon by far than anything of the kind now in use. As a means of safety in pioneer life, it will undoubtedly supersede all other guns. For sportsmen, its advantages are the same.

Colonel Porter informs me that he has made extensive arrangements for their manufacture, which will be commenced immediately upon the issuing of his patent, when the interested public will have an opportunity of testing the utility of his invention for themselves.

ICE MOUNTAIN.—A correspondent of the National Intelligencer, writing from Romney, Va., furnishes the following account of the remarkable natural curiosity existing in that region:

It lies in the vicinity of the North river, a mountain in Hampshire County, and is surrounded with hills of some eight hundred feet in height, while its own elevation is not over five hundred. It is a common-place affair to the casual observer, but on being inspected, it is found to be wholly composed of a mass of natural ice house built of sandstone. It is subject to the rays of the sun from nine o'clock in the morning until evening, and yet the oldest inhabitants can not remember the period in time when an abundance of the purest ice could not be obtained therefrom at all seasons of the year. The ice is embedded in the rock, and in some places it is found to be twenty feet in line when newly fallen, is often found even in the month of August. As might be expected, the waters flowing from the mountain are by several degrees colder than those in the glorious Allegheny. Accumulations of ice similar to this have been discovered in other sections of Hampshire county, but none so extensive. To account for this phenomenon upon scientific principles is out of my power, but I can see much plausibility in the following remarks from the pen of C. B Hayden, Esq., as published in Silliman's Journal in 1843:

"The peculiarity of the cave, is to be found in the large and unusual collection of rocks, which from their porous homogeneous texture, are extremely poor conductors of heat. One side of the mountain contains a cliff nearly, many hundred feet in thickness, and heaped up against this, as an abutment, is a mass of rocks containing several thousand rubic feet. As the mountain has a general direction from north east to southwest, the talus heap containing the ice has a northwest exposure. The cavernous nature of this heap would admit the free entrance of atmospheric waters, which during the winter would congeal in the interior of the mass. The ice thus situated would be protected from external heat by the surrounding rocks as ice in a refrigerator is isolated and protected from the external temperature by the non-conducting walls of the refrigerator. The ice mountain only requires for the explanation of this phenomenon the application of the familiar principle upon which is constructed the common refrigerator, which temporarily effects what the ice mountain permanently does—a temperature independent of external causes. The mountain is a huge sandstone refrigerator, whose necessary and unusual effects, beyond those of the ordinary refrigerator, are due to the increased collection of poor conducting materials which form its sides."

IN FOR IT.—While the immense throng were waiting the arrival of the May Flower at the foot of Main street yesterday afternoon, one man more ambitious than the rest, determined to see all that could be observed from the vantage ground of a slight elevation, so turning a barrel bottom side up, he got on it, and, to the end, he mounted it and made himself the observed of all observers. But pride must have a fall, and he had hardly planted himself upon the head of the barrel when it gave way, and beneath his feet, and let him up to the third bottom of his vest in the soft, half melted lard.—He extricated himself with all expedition possible from his novel and uncomfortable position, and it is understood he did not mind about starting to receive the President, but left his regret, and mizzled for home to rub it off when dry.

(*Buffalo Com.*

City Intelligence.

THE CONCERT TO NIGHT.—Mr. Leopold Carriere gives a grand Concert to-night at the Armory Hall, on which occasion he will be assisted by Madam Devries and Fleury Joly, Messrs. Genibrel, John Wyman, Grant, and many of the members of the excellent Orchestra of the Orleans Theatre. It promises to be a musical entertainment of the highest order.

CONTEMPT OF COURT.—Michael Castoul was sentenced on Saturday by Judge Large to pay a fine of $100 and to be imprisoned for ten days, for a gross contempt of Court.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT—Judge Large.—*Sentences.*—On Saturday, J. W. Davis, *alias* William Lee, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment at hard labor in the Penitentiary, for bringing into the State and having in his possession counterfeit bank notes of the denomination of seven year imprisonment at hard labor in the Penitentiary, for making and having in his possession plates derived for counterfeiting bank notes, with intent to use the same—the last term of imprisonment to commence at the expiration of the first. Frederick Meyer, convicted of assault and battery, was sentenced to four months imprisonment in the House of Correction, and having in his possession moulds for counterfeiting, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment at hard labor in the Penitentiary. John Williams, convicted of robbery, was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment at hard labor in the Penitentiary. William Smith, convicted of an attempt to commit a robbery, was sentenced to one years' imprisonment at hard labor in the House of Correction, for the charge of stealing a piece of linen, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment at hard labor in the Penitentiary.

SUPREME COURT.—*Officer Kehoe, of the First Municipality police, arrested on Saturday John Cresswell on the charge of having, about a week since, seriously stabbed and dangerously wounded John Cunningham, on the levee of the Third Municipality. The prisoner was handed over to the officers of the Third Municipality and was sent to prison to await a future examination. The wounded man has been confided to his bed ever since he received the cuts.*

General Council of the City of New Orleans.

SPECIAL SITTING OF FRIDAY, 30TH MAY, 1851.

The Council met this day, convoked by the Mayor.

Mr. Harris was called to the chair.

Members present:—

Aldermen Alpuente, Allen, Collens, Harris, Surgi, Tompkins and Waterman—7.

Absent—Aldermen Cucullu, De Feriet, Leeds, Luzenburg and Payne—3.

On motion of Mr. Allen, the Council proceeded by ballot to the election of a President.

Messrs Surgi and Waterman being appointed tellers, it appeared that of 7 votes.

Mr. Harris had obtained 6.

Blank 1.

Consequently Mr. Harris was elected President of the Council.

The reading of the journal of the last sitting was dispensed with.

Messrs. De Feriet and Luzenbuhl take their seats.

The following message from the Mayor was read:

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS,
30th May, 1851.

To the Honorable President and Members of the General Council of the City of New Orleans.

Gentlemen—I have caused you to be convoked this day for the purpose of laying before you the enclosed letter from your attorney, Cyprien Rodier, relative to the injunction sued out to arrest the sale of the commercial Bank Stock belonging to the city of New Orleans.

You will perceive that the suits have been decided in favor of the seizing creditors, and it will remain for your Honorable body to decide whether an appeal shall be taken to the Supreme Court.

I also beg to inform you that I have received from the Sheriff's office eleven notices of seizure of 5000 shares of Commercial Bank Stock, to satisfy writs amounting to $90,291 87. In connection with this I would suggest to your Honorable body the propriety of appointing a special committee jointly with the Attorney to confer with the parties to these suits, and to induce a stay of proceedings on their part until a decision has been had in the Supreme Court in the Bank of Louisiana case, which involves the right of the General Council to enjoin the sale of the Stock.

Enclosed I have the honor to transmit statements furnished to me by the respective treasurers of the three Municipalities, exhibiting the amount of revenue of each for the year 1850. These constitute the proper data upon which the quotas for the coming year are to be fixed.

I avail myself of the present opportunity to call the attention of your honorable body to a matter of vital importance, and which on frequent occasions I have recommended to the most serious consideration of your various predecessors. New Orleans, the great metropolis of the south, and second only to one other city in the Union in extent of commerce, is without those means of protection and defence which are enjoyed by several maritime cities of much importance on the Atlantic coast, we have neither a navy yard nor naval depot, and not even a national vessel is stationed here for the protection of interests involving no less than three fourths of the Gulf trade. I need not dwell on the peculiar advantages which New Orleans presents for the establishment of a great naval station, and the urgent considerations that should prompt government to place us on an equal footing with other cities. I will only add, in the good ordinance, I have to inform you that should prompt government to place us on an equal footing with other cities. I will only add, in the good ordinance, I have to inform you that I have recommended to you to memorialize the Secretary of the Navy on the subject at an early moment, and I trust that your Honorable body will be seen fully prepared to take the same, the last term of imprisonment to commence at the expiration of the first. Frederick Meyer, convicted of assault and battery, was sentenced to four months imprisonment in the House of Correction, and having in his possession moulds for counterfeiting, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment at hard labor in the Penitentiary. John Williams, convicted of robbery, was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment at hard labor in the Penitentiary. William Smith, convicted of an attempt to commit a robbery, was sentenced to one years' imprisonment at hard labor in the House of Correction, for the charge of stealing a piece of linen, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment at hard labor in the Penitentiary.

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