MARINE NEWS.

Port of New Orleans, Feb. 16, 1850.

Cleared Yesterday.

Ship George Green, Nelson, for New York.
Ship Hudson, White, for New York.
Ship Mersha, French, for Havre.
Ship Lady Pashkind, Smith, for Liverpool.
Bark Sophia McKenzie, McKenzie, for Liverpool.
Bark Mary Adelia, Spaulding, for London.
Bark Emeline, Hallett, for Boston.
Bark Brenda, Young, for Boston.
Brig Bermudian, Gustenhaven, for Kingston (Ja) or a market.
Brig Major Bastiani, Pennington for Cienfuegos.
Brig Queen Virginia, McKinney, for Matanzas.
Brig Marcia, Smith, for Charleston.
Schr Elma Phillips, Thomas, for Grand Caillou.
Schr Marin, Miller, for Lavacca.
Schr Pauquemine, Madley, for Apalachicola.

E G Tagers & co
Master

Steamer J Morrison, Dunn, for Montgomery.

Master

Arrived Saturday.

Ship Unicorn, Pollard, 16 days fm Boston, master—30 my.
Fr brig Jean Albert, Barnard, 13 days fm Guadaloupe, in ballast, master—26 my.
Schr Mary Pilkins, Harris, 6 days fm Brazos, in ballast, master—Point.
Sloop Wakefield, Saunders, 4 days fm Bayou Sallie, master—1st my.

—STEAMBOATS—

Fashion, Martin, fm Coast.
Des Vernes, Sharpe, fm Point-a-la-Hache.
John Hancock, Nash, fm Cairo.
Pride of the West, Hunt, fm St Louis.
Crescent, Cosbie, fm St Louis.
Princess, Fairch ld fm Bayou Sara.
Old Hickory, Northern, fm Nashville.
Ancient, Cosbie, fm St Louis.
Monterey, Withersbury, fm Fort Cadeo,
Anna, Hinchley, fm Bayou Rouge.
Cent, Keene, fm Baton Rouge.
Gen Worth, Hendricks, fm Skipwith's Landing.

—TOWBOATS—

Persian, Andrews, fm the Passes.
Star, Brown, fm the Passes.
Conqueror, Heaton, fm the Passes.

Arrived Yesterday.

Steamship Globe, Boehmer fm Brazos Santiago 16th
Feb, Harris & Morgan—36 my.
Ship St Charles, Hillard, 16 days fm New York. J W Nimmo & co—32 my.
Bark Princeton, returned, in distress, having been run into by the steamship Portland, hence for Brazos Santiago—Point.
Brig Water Witch, Brown, fm Vera Cruz 8th inst, H E Spearing—1st my.

—STEAMBOATS—

Montgomery, Estes, fm Princeton.
Gen Taylor, Power, fm Donaldsonville.
Western World, Norton, fm Cincinnati.
Embassy, McClure, fm Wheeling.
Magnolia, Thompson, fm Vicksburg.
J T Doswell, Kimball, fm Grand Ecore.
Albatross, Dugas, fm Lafourche.

—TOWBOATS—

Panther, Pinegar, fm the Passes
Defiance, McPherson, fm the Passes.

Towboat Register.

The Persian, from the Passes—Towed down and to sea 10th inst, ships Radius and Josefa, and brig Forster—brought up shop Wakefield.

The Star from the Passes—Towed down and to sea 10th inst, ships Adams and R C Winthrop, and schr Tims—came up light.

The Conqueror, from the Passes—Towed down and to sea 16th inst, ships Lehigh and Champlain—brought up ship Unicorn, brig Jean Albert and schr Mary Pilkins.

The Panther, from the Passes—Towed down and to sea 12th inst, ship Euphemia, bark Ohio and brig Perry—brought up bark Princeton, and brig Water Witch.

The Defiance, from the Passes—towed down and to sea 13th inst, ships Marion and Elenseat and brig Emeline—brought up ship St Charles.

Memorandа.

The steamer Gen Walker, from Mobile, arrived at Vera Cruz on the 27th January, and was to leave on the 30th inst.

The bark Rosina, Capt Wilson, was at Vera Cruz for New York, to sail in a few days.

Below Coming Up.

One ship, one bark and two brigs unknown.

Passengers.

Per ship St Charles, from New York—Mr Ash and lady and 12 steerage.

Per steamship Globe, from Brazos Santiago—Mr Bentley and lady, Miss Perez, Captain O'Donnell, Meraez, Cherchy, Harper, Rhea, Mesdames Rhea, Bushner, and two on deck. From the Balize—Mr. McGuiness.

TRADE & COMMERCE

Exports.

NEW YORK—Per ship Hudson—369 bales cotton 1650 bbls pork 1200 bbls flour 856 tcs 8 hhds lard 60 bbls 256 tcs hams 100 bbls shoulders 54 bbls tierces 18 do rope cuttings 60 do ozens 6 do skins 37 bbls cancy oil 37 pkgs mdze.

HAVRE—Per ship Metoka—2949 bales cotton 24 bbls pork 25 do 107 kegs lard 25700 staves and sundries.

LONDON—Per bark Mary Adelia—1594 bales cotton 170 bbls 28 chs pork 90 bbls lard 3240 staves and sundries.

BOSTON—Per ship Geo Green—9700 bales cotton 1119 bbls pork 241 bags peanuts.

NEW YORK—Per bark Rhoda Standish—66 bales cotton 401 bbls pork 565 hhds sugar 222 bbls molasses 319 tcs lard 71 do hams.

BOSTON—Per bark Brenda—369 bales cotton 1770 bbls 4 hhds 134 bbls do tcs hams 296 tcs 119 bbls 6 do kegs lard 95 bags peanuts 16 hhds tobacco 94 kgs wool 30 bales moss 6 do rope cuttings 8 do 1 box leather.

KINGSTON—Per brig Bermudian—600 bbls pork 100 do flour.

ST VINCENT—Per brig Queen Victoria— 530 bbls pork 21 do 20 hf do beef 102 kegs lard 47 do butter 90 bbls cheese 250 bbls flour 666 do meal 200 bags corn 3 chs hams 5 bbls tobacco.

CHARLESTON—Per brig Marcia—155 hhds 90 tcs 27 bbls sugar 150 do whiskey 100 do pork 235 do molasses 17 tcs bacon.

LAVACA—Per schr Maria—900 bbls coal.

APALACHICOLA—Per schr Pauquemine—47 hhds sugar 42 bbls molasses 165 do whiskey 75 do flour 20 do pork 156 ck rope 50 pcs bagging.

LIVERPOOL—Per ship Lady Pashkind—1264 bales cotton 1040 bbls 119 tcs 240 bbls oil cake 1950 staves.

COBE—Per bark Sophia McKenzie—10781 sacks corn 6370 staves.

MONTGOMERY—Per steamer J Morrisett—30 shs cotton.

Imports.

BOSTON—Per ship Unicorn—189 tons ice J L Warner & co—sundries. Per bark Brenda—do Fosdick & Hendricken—do Bates & co—do Kennedy & Foster—do S E & H J Vose—do W & G B Neagle—do Hyde & Oglesby—do D L Shearer—do S J Beals—do Martin, Dwyer & Co—order.

BAYOU SALLE—Per schr Wakefield—44 hhds sugar order.

NEW YORK—Per ship St Charles—Assorted indse.

VERA CRUZ—Per brig Water Witch—54 bags coffee 284 hides Brugiere Bro.

Consignees.

Per steamship Globe, from Brazos Santiago—Space to J W Arthur & co—Zavalla & co—G Valentine—P D Bieuvenu—P F Corse—Gulbernister & Brander—J Burnside & co—J Brutley—T C Penguen & co—Converse & co—T F White—J O'Donnell—A Davis. Cargo—Rose & co—Gaither & Bro—H L Stone—order.

Receipts from the Interior.

PRINCETON—Per steamer Montgomery—157 bls cotton Fellowes & co—86 Buckner & Stanton—Hill, McLean & co—70 Hutchinson, Carroll & co—Conway & Hawkins & Morgan—Wilson & co—13 G M Pinshard &co—17 H Greenwood &co—11 Thornhill & Hollingsworth—11 J H Moore—7 J G Cocke & co—1 J C Bell & co—1 Payne & Mayo—1 Mrs Hatchinder, Wilmouth &c—30 G Connolly—94 McDowell & Pach—19 J Wimberly—7 Pickett, Partlow & co—5 G Burke & co—total, 572 bales cotton.

DONALDSONVILLE—Per steamer Gen Taylor—60 bbls sugar 100 hhds do Harrison—30 do Bell & Cootz—gathman—30 G Urquhart—13 Elder & Dearing—5 Castilian—16 do 7 bbls molasses J & J Tarbox—50 J H Shepperd—29 Clark & Mosby—11 B O'Connor—8 Mansoni & Trasenster—1 W B Hayden—total, 163 hhds sugar 117 bbls molasses.

WHEELING—Per steamer Embassy—1018 bbls pork 76 do lard J Dowsing—1000 do flour 27 do mdze Sturgus, Adams & co—78 pkgs shawware Sykes, Hyde & co—42 J F Cowles—13 J Bowman—20 Bell, Henderson & Gaines—1 J G Dunlap—267 Lee & Ritchie—2 J Gaschen—60 D H Southwick—16 C Carriere—15 bbls eggs Schaefer.

CINCINNATI—Per steamer Western World—186 bbls lard 3 hds books Beecomb & Voorhies—57 bbls lard 30 boxes cheese 60 bags butter C F Pearson—1 bbl; 67 boxes do & Possmister—85 bbls do Fox & Donaldson—14 kegs do 3 bbls lard M Martin—4 bbls tobacco West & Saunders—1497 shs corn T C Twitchell & co—48 Sorrell, Sanders & co—84 bbls apples J C Bonner—16 hf do & 75 bags butter Beecomb & Voorhees—186 do do 16 hf bbls do 99 do potatoes 85 bbls free A Gibbs—1 bbl bale paper H E Sterling—2 do do Bushner, and two on deck. From the Balize—Mr. McGuiness.

TRADE & COMMERCE

Exports.

NEW YORK—Per ship Hudson—369 bales cotton 1650 bbls pork 1200 bbls flour 856 tcs 8 hhds lard 60 bbls 256 tcs hams 100 bbls shoulders 54 bbls tierces 18 do rope cuttings 60 do ozens 6 do skins 37 bbls cancy oil 37 pkgs mdze.

HAVRE—Per ship Metoka—2949 bales cotton 24 bbls pork 25 do 107 kegs lard 25700 staves and sundries.

LONDON—Per bark Mary Adelia—1594 bales cotton 170 bbls 28 chs pork 90 bbls lard 3240 staves and sundries.

BOSTON—Per ship Geo Green—9700 bales cotton 1119 bbls pork 241 bags peanuts.

NEW YORK—Per bark Rhoda Standish—66 bales cotton 401 bbls pork 565 hhds sugar 222 bbls molasses 319 tcs lard 71 do hams.

BOSTON—Per bark Brenda—369 bales cotton 1770 bbls 4 hhds 134 bbls do tcs hams 296 tcs 119 bbls 6 do kegs lard 95 bags peanuts 16 hhds tobacco 94 kgs wool 30 bales moss 6 do rope cuttings 8 do 1 box leather.

KINGSTON—Per brig Bermudian—600 bbls pork 100 do flour.

ST VINCENT—Per brig Queen Victoria— 530 bbls pork 21 do 20 hf do beef 102 kegs lard 47 do butter 90 bbls cheese 250 bbls flour 666 do meal 200 bags corn 3 chs hams 5 bbls tobacco.

CHARLESTON—Per brig Marcia—155 hhds 90 tcs 27 bbls sugar 150 do whiskey 100 do pork 235 do molasses 17 tcs bacon.

LAVACA—Per schr Maria—900 bbls coal.

APALACHICOLA—Per schr Pauquemine—47 hhds sugar 42 bbls molasses 165 do whiskey 75 do flour 20 do pork 156 ck rope 50 pcs bagging.

LIVERPOOL—Per ship Lady Pashkind—1264 bales cotton 1040 bbls 119 tcs 240 bbls oil cake 1950 staves.

COBE—Per bark Sophia McKenzie—10781 sacks corn 6370 staves.

MONTGOMERY—Per steamer J Morrisett—30 shs cotton.

Imports.

BOSTON—Per ship Unicorn—189 tons ice J L Warner & co—sundries. Per bark Brenda—do Fosdick & Hendricken—do Bates & co—do Kennedy & Foster—do S E & H J Vose—do W & G B Neagle—do Hyde & Oglesby—do D L Shearer—do S J Beals—do Martin, Dwyer & Co—order.

BAYOU SALLE—Per schr Wakefield—44 hhds sugar order.

NEW YORK—Per ship St Charles—Assorted indse.

VERA CRUZ—Per brig Water Witch—54 bags coffee 284 hides Brugiere Bro.

Consignees.

Per steamship Globe, from Brazos Santiago—Space to J W Arthur & co—Zavalla & co—G Valentine—P D Bieuvenu—P F Corse—Gulbernister & Brander—J Burnside & co—J Brutley—T C Penguen & co—Converse & co—T F White—J O'Donnell—A Davis. Cargo—Rose & co—Gaither & Bro—H L Stone—order.

Receipts from the Interior.

PRINCETON—Per steamer Montgomery—157 bls cotton Fellowes & co—86 Buckner & Stanton—Hill, McLean & co—70 Hutchinson, Carroll & co—Conway & Hawkins & Morgan—Wilson & co—13 G M Pinshard &co—17 H Greenwood &co—11 Thornhill & Hollingsworth—11 J H Moore—7 J G Cocke & co—1 J C Bell & co—1 Payne & Mayo—1 Mrs Hatchinder, Wilmouth &c—30 G Connolly—94 McDowell & Pach—19 J Wimberly—7 Pickett, Partlow & co—5 G Burke & co—total, 572 bales cotton.

DONALDSONVILLE—Per steamer Gen Taylor—60 bbls sugar 100 hhds do Harrison—30 do Bell & Cootz—gathman—30 G Urquhart—13 Elder & Dearing—5 Castilian—16 do 7 bbls molasses J & J Tarbox—50 J H Shepperd—29 Clark & Mosby—11 B O'Connor—8 Mansoni & Trasenster—1 W B Hayden—total, 163 hhds sugar 117 bbls molasses.

WHEELING—Per steamer Embassy—1018 bbls pork 76 do lard J Dowsing—1000 do flour 27 do mdze Sturgus, Adams & co—78 pkgs shawware Sykes, Hyde & co—42 J F Cowles—13 J Bowman—20 Bell, Henderson & Gaines—1 J G Dunlap—267 Lee & Ritchie—2 J Gaschen—60 D H Southwick—16 C Carriere—15 bbls eggs Schaefer.

CINCINNATI—Per steamer Western World—186 bbls lard 3 hds books Beecomb & Voorhies—57 bbls lard 30 boxes cheese 60 bags butter C F Pearson—1 bbl; 67 boxes do & Possmister—85 bbls do Fox & Donaldson—14 kegs do 3 bbls lard M Martin—4 bbls tobacco West & Saunders—1497 shs corn T C Twitchell & co—48 Sorrell, Sanders & co—84 bbls apples J C Bonner—16 hf do & 75 bags butter Beecomb & Voorhees—186 do do 16 hf bbls do 99 do potatoes 85 bbls free A Gibbs—1 bbl bale paper H E Sterling—2 do do Bushner, and two on deck. From the Balize—Mr. McGuiness.

OFFICIAL

[illegible]

In the House.

On motion, the senate was informed that the House was ready to proceed to the business of the day.

Mr. Hingle and Jonathan Martin, [illegible]

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Finance and Corporations.

Mr. Bartlett—Petition in the name of [illegible] praying for relief.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Stringfellow—Petition from James S. Tibbles and others, asking for the creation of a new Parish.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Parochial Affairs.

Mr. Larue—Petition of the Commissioners of the General Sinking Fund, praying for the passage of an act creating a special tax.

On motion, the same was referred to a Special Committee of nine, to be composed of three from each Municipality of the city.

The Speaker appointed on the above Committee Messrs. Larue, Parker, Stanton, Lambden, St. Martin, Laville, Wilder, Ougatte and Canonge.

Mr. Parker—Petition from the Board of Education, praying for relief.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Public Education.

Mr. Walker—Petition from D. O'Bryan, for relief.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. George—Petition from Alfred Flouney and others, praying for the appointment of an additional Justice of the Peace for the Parish of Caddo.

On motion, the same was referred to a Special Committee of three.

The Speaker appointed on said Committee Messrs. George, Elam and Richardson.

Mr. Griffin—Petition from W. H. Baptist, praying that an act may be passed forbidding the Police Jury of the Parish of Avoyelles from levering Mill Bayou.

On motion, the above petition and counter petition was referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Winder—Petitions from R. A. Upton and others, of the Parishes of Ascension and Iberville, praying for relief.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Public Education.

Mr. Caldwell—Joint Resolution instructing the State Engineer to repair to the Bonnet Carre C'evasse.

The same underwent a first reading.

On motion, the rules were dispensed with, the same was read a second and third time, and passed.

Mr. Connolly—Joint Resolution appointing Wednesday, 30th instant, at 12 o'clock, for the purpose of electing State Treasurer.

The same underwent a first reading.

On motion, the rules were dispensed with, the same was read a second and third time, and passed.

Mr. Le Roy offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the usual number of the Memorial of the Administrators of the University of Louisiana be printed for the use of this House.

Mr. Rivers offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That a radical and thorough reform in the administration of the State Officers is imperatively demanded, by which the current expenses of the State Government will be reduced, and the people relieved from the onerous burthen of taxation which has for years oppressed them.

Resolved, That the number of Judicial Officers can be lessened without injury to the public service, and that the salaries of all other officers ought to be greatly reduced.

Resolved, That we desire to see a change in our Constitution by which the appointment of Judges shall be taken from the Governor and Senate, and confided to the people.

Resolved, That while we are, and hope ever to remain, devoted advocates of a liberal free school system, that we consider, that now in operation in this State insufficient, unequal and oppressive in many respects, and that we desire to see it materially reduced.

Resolved, That the respective Committees on Finance, Public Education, the Judiciary and Amendments to the Constitution, be instructed to inquire into and report such relief in the premises as they think the necessity and urgency of the case demand.

Mr. Herring—Joint resolution to appoint a committee to visit the lower part of Bayou Lafourche.

Mr. Calvert—Resolution instructing the State Engineer to complete the work on Little River.

The same underwent its first reading and was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Gardner—Petition from J. G. Gruiby and others, protesting against a new line between the parishes of St. Landry and Lafayette.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Parochial Affairs.

Petition from Marcel Richard and others praying for relief.

On motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Elam offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be instructed to inform this House, what compensation is received by the Chief Clerk, the Minute Clerk and the Enrolling Clerks, and other officers of this House; and how it is paid, whether by a fixed salary during the session of each Legislature, by the year, by the day or otherwise; and how long any or all of said officers have held the rules of this House, to hold their offices; and that said Committee report immediately, and that Mr. Heard, the Warrant Clerk, be furnished with a copy of said report.

Mr. Perkins—Joint resolution ordering the State Engineer to make an examination of Mud Pass in the parish of Calcasieu.

The same underwent its first reading, and was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Hunbble—Joint resolution requesting the State Engineer to make a review and survey of the shoals on Ouachita and report the expense of making the improvements required.

The same underwent its first reading and was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Cormey—Petition from Walter Bradsher and others asking for an increase of tolls on the bridge over Bayou Rapides.

The same was referred to the Committee of Parochial Affairs.

Mr. Lewis presented a report from the Board of Administrators of the Insane Asylum.

The same was referred to theCommittee on Charitable Institutions.

Mr. Herron, from the joint committee appointed to procure a temporary place for the State Library, reported that they had engaged shelves to be put up in one of the rooms of the State House for that purpose.

The following gentlemen gave notice that they would on some future day, introduce the following bills:

Mr. Scarborough—An act to amend the charter of the town of Monroe.

An act to authorize the levee over the the Machoir de Lourse in the parish of Ouachita.

An act to abolish Parish Superintendents.

Mr. McCranie—An act to alter and amend the Police Jury Law of Jackson Parish.

An act to make the limitation of all open accounts without distinction expire at the same time.

An act confirming the location of the parish seat of the parish of Jackson.

Mr. Ramage—An act to alter the terms of the courts in the Eleventh District of this State.

Mr. Elam—An act to amend the road laws.

An act to exempt certain persons from road duty.

Mr. Perkins—Joint resolution asking for the removal of obstructions in the Cocodrie River.

Mr. Calvert—An act to incorporate the town of Trinity in the parish of Catahoula.

Mr. Watson—An act making an appropriation out of the five per cent fund accruing to the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the acts of public lands, for the purpose of constructing a road across the cut-off opposite the Island in the parish of Iberville.

Mr. Lewis—An act to amend an act entitled "An act in reference to the publication of judicial notice in the parishes of East Feliciana, Madison and Carroll."

An act for the relief of Patrick Keating.

Mr. Watts—An act for the relief of the securities on the bonds of administrators, executors and tutors.

An act authorizing the District Judges and Justices of the Peace to commit criminals to the jail of an adjoining parish.

An act prohibiting the Governor of the State to appoint a notary public in ward No. 8 of the parish of Carroll.

Mr. Rivers—An act making an appropriation to levee Kimball's Cross and Flanders's Bayous.

An act to repeal the 40th section of an act to provide a revenue for the support of the government of this State.

Mr. White—An act granting privileges to the Police Jury of the parish of Lafourche Interior.

Mr. Connelly—An act to give the Police Juries of the several parishes of the State the exclusive right of establishing ferries within their limits.

An act to incorporate the Catholic Congregation of St. Elie, in the parish of Terrebonne.

An act to fix and establish the boundary lines between the parishes of Lafourche Interior and Terrebonne.

Mr. Winder—An act to amend an act to incorporate the town of Donaldsonville.

A Joint Resolution instructing the State Engineer to remove the obstructions in Bayou Plaisance.

Mr. Blake—An act for the relief of J. L. Ford, sheriff of Iberville.

The following acts from the Senate were read a first time and referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements:

An act to amend an act entitled An act to incorporate the village of New Orleans. Approved March 8th, 1836.

Referred to Municipality Committee.

An act to provide for the election of certain municipal officers for the city of New Orleans.

Referred to a Special Committee of nine—three from each Municipality.

The Speaker appointed on the above Committee Messrs Wilder, Ougatte, Bartlett, Caldwell, Stark, Leeds, Sever, Deverges and St. Martin.

An Act to authorize Notaries Public to take depositions.

Referred to Judiciary Committee.

An Act making an appropriation for the support of the battalion of artillery.

Referred to Committee on Militia.

Resolution to amend the Constitution of the State so as to provide for the election of the Judges, &c. by the people.

Referred to Committee on Amendments to the Constitution.

Joint Resolution authorizing the Secretary of State to cause the Laws to be published in a newspaper in each of the three Municipalities.

On motion, the House rejected to the Methodist Church, to meet the members of the Senate for the purpose of inaugurating the Governor and Lieutenant Governor elect.

The members of the Legislature being now assembled,

The proceedings were opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Crenshaw.

The oath of office was then administered to Joseph Walker, Governor elect, and to J. B. Plauche, Lieut Governor elect, by the Hon. George Eustis, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of this State.

The Governor elect then took his seat and addressed the Legislature.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives.

A usage, which dates from the foundation of our national government, requires that the person in whom the Executive power of the State has been vested by the suffrages of the people, should acquaint you, before entering on the discharge of his duties, with the views by him thus high trust, with the principles which he designs to be guided in fulfilling it, and give expression to the views entertained by him, on some of the questions that, in opinion, deserve and will be likely to receive, at the hands of your attention. It is well known to you that neither the pursuits of my early life nor the habits of my later years have fitted me to play the orator; but, after long, and, I hope, useful service both as the Constitution, in your presence, and in that of our assembled fellow-citizens, I shall, in conformity to that usage, only aim at mentioning with distinctness such subjects as seem, from their importance, to merit your particular and grave consideration.

Four years have now elapsed since the adoption of the present Constitution. That instrument made, as I conceive, no change in our old system of government. The Constitution which it superceded was framed upon the principle that, although all power resides in the people, it was expedient that it should be exercised by them immediately, only in those instances in which it was impracticable to delegate it to particular persons. There can be no such thing as a Republican Government, in the true sense of the term, unless the people themselves are the depositaries of the sovereign power in some one of its departments. In that Constitution this end was attained by leaving in their hands the choice of the persons entrusted with the exercise of the Legislative power. It is true they voted directly for the magistrate to whom was confided the supreme Executive power of the State; but their will was not the immediate result of a choice subject to be defeated by the decision of the two Houses of the General Assembly.

With these exceptions, the various officers, engaged in the administration of our affairs, were selected without the intervention of any part of the people. The judges of the different courts, justices of the peace, sheriffs, and a long list of other officers, employed in the discharge of functions connected with the multiplied operations of the business of the public or of individuals, were appointed by the Governor. And whilst none of those office holders were directly amenable to the people by periodical elections, them for a re-appointment, a large portion became, from the moment of their appointment, altogether independent, not only of the people, but of their agents to whom they were beholden for their places, because they held them for life.

The people, speaking through their delegates in the Convention which framed the existing Constitution, repudiated the principle recognized in the provisions of the old one relating to the exercise of the appointing power, and declared in effect, that it was expedient that they should, by themselves make choice, or effect it was practicable, of all public agents, and that by limiting in all instances the term of office, they should be more directly responsible for the manner in which they discharged their duties. The articles embodied in that instrument, which provide for the election of sheriffs, clerks of courts and justices of the peace, were the result of this determination of the people. Owing, however, to particular circumstances, and not from any distrust of its correctness, the new principle recognized by the people was not fully carried out by the Convension. The change made in our system by the articles alluded to was great; but the principle was not perhaps pushed quite far enough, and it was believed by many that it would be well that the people should become accustomed to the exercise of the power, which they took into their own hands for the first time with respect to those officers, before they were called on to make choice of others whose duties are of a higher order.

This reason no longer exists. At two elections the people have acted for themselves and made choices, within the limits of their respective parishes, of a great number of officers; and I am justified in saying that the experiment—if experiment that can be called, which rests on a great and true principle—has been eminently successful. It is admitted, I believe, on all hands, that the people have, in these two elections, chosen far better for themselves, than those who had been previously chosen for them.—Under these circumstances, I do not hesitate to say, that the time has arrived when the principle that "the people should, by themselves, make choice, when it is practicable, of all public agents," should be fully carried out, and that steps ought at once to be taken to amend the Constitution so that all Judges may be hereafter selected by them. Judges can be made elective only by a change in the Constitution; but the re are many offices now filled in a different manner, which may be made so by the mere action of the Legislature. It will be for you to decide upon the propriety of taking that action.

It is not my purpose—nor do I think it would be appropriate on such an occasion—to enumerate and speak of all the subjects deserving the attention of the Legislature during the present session. I shall merely call your attention briefly to certain that appear to me of the most favorable importance, and upon which, in my opinion, you may be able to give an additional impetus to the good work so happily begun.

In general, I should be unwilling to address you in relation to matters not within the ordinary scope of State action; but circumstances, which have recently transpired elsewhere, make it proper that I should do otherwise. The antagonism of interests in the Northern States, which had long been a source of irritation to the South, has, within the last two years, taken such a shape, that fears are entertained, by some, that the existence of the Union is in considerable danger. I must confess that I have never shared in those fears. There has been much said, it is true, in different States and in Congress, denunciatory of the South, which was calculated to aggravate the South, and must have been deplored by all lovers of our confederacy. But in every instance the recipients of the ill will and the supporters, on both party questions and in parties, have been such as to persuade me that the heat and fury of the moment were actuated and displayed by the designing, for the attainment of selfish purposes of the few, and not by the large proportion of the population of the North was influenced by feelings seriously hostile to the peculiar institutions of the South.

The present difficulty in Congress, as to the election of a Speaker of the House of Representatives, has not weakened my conviction on this subject. The loudest and most violent among the partisans, could have removed the cause of discord at any moment, by uniting on one of the great parties for a Southern man.—Why they did not do so, is best known to themselves. Whatever may have been the motive, I think we have a right to conclude that it had no real connection with the interests of the South, inasmuch as they are precisely the persons who, in the previous Congress, joined to defeat a fair and satisfactory compromise of the very question, which is now made the stalking horse of disunion.

But whilst I believe that the Union is not, as yet, in imminent danger, I think the attitude, taken by some of our sister States, affords a proper occasion for our Northern brethren that it may be endangered by the continuance and extension of the agitation. The people of Louisiana yield to none in attachment to the Union. They like it from its name in which they glory, and they owe it, under heaven, the prosperity they now enjoy. But this attachment, great as it is, has its limits. It is the result of, and has no greater depth than the reference of feelings of mutual kindness between the various members of the confederacy, and it will not long survive their loss. Glorious as has been the career of the Union from its first foundation to its present pitch of greatness, it is in its whole progress so truly glorious as its origin. It was formed out of discordant elements, and cemented by sacrifices, mutual concessions, and compromises. Similar sacrifices were made in each of its numerous subsequent extensions. The same hand of Nature, for all its fickleness and rewards of cultivation; favored with a richness and diversity of soil, adapted to the various agricultural pursuits of the people; traversed by rivers and bayous, affording them every facility, and suggesting to them the idea of uniting in a plan; in the case of the Union, more advantageously than in Louisiana, could the precious wealth be applied to purely objects of internal improvement. Every dollar in every section of country and prosperity, to devote all disposable means to the drawing out of our vast resources, which age yet untouched the prosecution of works, necessary to their development. This necessarily, therefore, would seem to point to the propriety of revising our system of Internal Improvements, in such a way, as to concentrate the funds, appropriated for that purpose, and to apply them thrifily to those objects, deemed of first importance, until they shall have been accomplished.

This, it seems to me, obvious policy, dictated by prudence should control the energies of our system of improvements which should not be made inoperative by the great diffusion of means which, under the best aspects, are in no way adequate to our wants. The results obtained would then serve as starting points for gradual advances to other works, connected with the first, until, as far as practicable and to the extent of our means which must go on increasing with the pace of improvement, we will exert their influence over every portion of the State. Ever keeping in view a due regard for the amount of taxation, imposed on the people for the administration of every branch of their affairs, I shall be happy to co-operate with the General Assembly, in any proper and economical scheme of public works bearing upon those all important objects. The present is, perhaps, not the proper time to enlarge on this subject, the intelligence which must ever command itself to the enlightened solicitude of the General Assembly. Yet feeling that less, I could not say, in view of that very importance, I leave all suggestions of mine, on this head, for a future and fitter occasion, and for the present, refer the General Assembly to the able report of our present State Engineer.

In my view this is the most important mission you have to fulfil. The care of material interests and the prosecutions of schemes directed to the increase of the means of national individual wealth, has hitherto almost entirely monopolized the attention of the legislative power throughout the world. But there are other concerns of a more elevated character, and of a greater importance than those which affect society and to nations. The highest aim of the statesman should be to promote whatever is favorable to the growth of happiness and virtue. By none of you will it be denied that on the existence of feelings of mutual kindness between the various members of the confederacy, and it will not long survive their loss. Glorious as has been the career of the Union from its first foundation to its present pitch of greatness, it is in its whole progress so truly glorious as its origin. It was formed out of discordant elements, and cemented by sacrifices, mutual concessions, and compromises. Similar sacrifices were made in each of its numerous subsequent extensions. The same hand of Nature, for all its fickleness and rewards of cultivation; favored with a richness and diversity of soil, adapted to the various agricultural pursuits of the people; traversed by rivers and bayous, affording them every facility, and suggesting to them the idea of uniting in a plan; in the case of the Union, more advantageously than in Louisiana, could the precious wealth be applied to purely objects of internal improvement. Every dollar in every section of country and prosperity, to devote all disposable means to the drawing out of our vast resources, which age yet untouched the prosecution of works, necessary to their development. This necessarily, therefore, would seem to point to the propriety of revising our system of Internal Improvements, in such a way, as to concentrate the funds, appropriated for that purpose, and to apply them thrifily to those objects, deemed of first importance, until they shall have been accomplished.

This, it seems to me, obvious policy, dictated by prudence should control the energies of our system of improvements which should not be made inoperative by the great diffusion of means which, under the best aspects, are in no way adequate to our wants. The results obtained would then serve as starting points for gradual advances to other works, connected with the first, until, as far as practicable and to the extent of our means which must go on increasing with the pace of improvement, we will exert their influence over every portion of the State. Ever keeping in view a due regard for the amount of taxation, imposed on the people for the administration of every branch of their affairs, I shall be happy to co-operate with the General Assembly, in any proper and economical scheme of public works bearing upon those all important objects. The present is, perhaps, not the proper time to enlarge on this subject, the intelligence which must ever command itself to the enlightened solicitude of the General Assembly. Yet feeling that less, I could not say, in view of that very importance, I leave all suggestions of mine, on this head, for a future and fitter occasion, and for the present, refer the General Assembly to the able report of our present State Engineer.

In my view this is the most important mission you have to fulfil. The care of material interests and the prosecutions of schemes directed to the increase of the means of national individual wealth, has hitherto almost entirely monopolized the attention of the legislative power throughout the world. But there are other concerns of a more elevated character, and of a greater importance than those which affect society and to nations. The highest aim of the statesman should be to promote whatever is favorable to the growth of happiness and virtue. By none of you will it be denied that on the existence of feelings of mutual kindness between the various members of the confederacy, and it will not long survive their loss. Glorious as has been the career of the Union from its first foundation to its present pitch of greatness, it is in its whole progress so truly glorious as its origin. It was formed out of discordant elements, and cemented by sacrifices, mutual concessions, and compromises. Similar sacrifices were made in each of its numerous subsequent extensions. The same hand of Nature, for all its fickleness and rewards of cultivation; favored with a richness and diversity of soil, adapted to the various agricultural pursuits of the people; traversed by rivers and bayous, affording them every facility, and suggesting to them the idea of uniting in a plan; in the case of the Union, more advantageously than in Louisiana, could the precious wealth be applied to purely objects of internal improvement. Every dollar in every section of country and prosperity, to devote all disposable means to the drawing out of our vast resources, which age yet untouched the prosecution of works, necessary to their development. This necessarily, therefore, would seem to point to the propriety of revising our system of Internal Improvements, in such a way, as to concentrate the funds, appropriated for that purpose, and to apply them thrifily to those objects, deemed of first importance, until they shall have been accomplished.

This, it seems to me, obvious policy, dictated by prudence should control the energies of our system of improvements which should not be made inoperative by the great diffusion of means which, under the best aspects, are in no way adequate to our wants. The results obtained would then serve as starting points for gradual advances to other works, connected with the first, until, as far as practicable and to the extent of our means which must go on increasing with the pace of improvement, we will exert their influence over every portion of the State. Ever keeping in view a due regard for the amount of taxation, imposed on the people for the administration of every branch of their affairs, I shall be happy to co-operate with the General Assembly, in any proper and economical scheme of public works bearing upon those all important objects. The present is, perhaps, not the proper time to enlarge on this subject, the intelligence which must ever command itself to the enlightened solicitude of the General Assembly. Yet feeling that less, I could not say, in view of that very importance, I leave all suggestions of mine, on this head, for a future and fitter occasion, and for the present, refer the General Assembly to the able report of our present State Engineer.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives.

A usage, which dates from the foundation of our national government, requires that the person in whom the Executive power of the State has been vested by the suffrages of the people, should acquaint you, before entering on the discharge of his duties, with the views by him thus high trust, with the principles which he designs to be guided in fulfilling it, and give expression to the views entertained by him, on some of the questions that, in opinion, deserve and will be likely to receive, at the hands of your attention. It is well known to you that neither the pursuits of my early life nor the habits of my later years have fitted me to play the orator; but, after long, and, I hope, useful service both as the Constitution, in your presence, and in that of our assembled fellow-citizens, I shall, in conformity to that usage, only aim at mentioning with distinctness such subjects as seem, from their importance, to merit your particular and grave consideration.

Four years have now elapsed since the adoption of the present Constitution. That instrument made, as I conceive, no change in our old system of government. The Constitution which it superceded was framed upon the principle that, although all power resides in the people, it was expedient that it should be exercised by them immediately, only in those instances in which it was impracticable to delegate it to particular persons. There can be no such thing as a Republican Government, in the true sense of the term, unless the people themselves are the depositaries of the sovereign power in some one of its departments. In that Constitution this end was attained by leaving in their hands the choice of the persons entrusted with the exercise of the Legislative power. It is true they voted directly for the magistrate to whom was confided the supreme Executive power of the State; but their will was not the immediate result of a choice subject to be defeated by the decision of the two Houses of the General Assembly.

With these exceptions, the various officers, engaged in the administration of our affairs, were selected without the intervention of any part of the people. The judges of the different courts, justices of the peace, sheriffs, and a long list of other officers, employed in the discharge of functions connected with the multiplied operations of the business of the public or of individuals, were appointed by the Governor. And whilst none of those office holders were directly amenable to the people by periodical elections, them for a re-appointment, a large portion became, from the moment of their appointment, altogether independent, not only of the people, but of their agents to whom they were beholden for their places, because they held them for life.

The people, speaking through their delegates in the Convention which framed the existing Constitution, repudiated the principle recognized in the provisions of the old one relating to the exercise of the appointing power, and declared in effect, that it was expedient that they should, by themselves make choice, or effect it was practicable, of all public agents, and that by limiting in all instances the term of office, they should be more directly responsible for the manner in which they discharged their duties. The articles embodied in that instrument, which provide for the election of sheriffs, clerks of courts and justices of the peace, were the result of this determination of the people. Owing, however, to particular circumstances, and not from any distrust of its correctness, the new principle recognized by the people was not fully carried out by the Convension. The change made in our system by the articles alluded to was