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The New Orleans Bee.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE STATE :::: NEW ORLEANS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 21, 1852.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.
One dollar for every TEN lines, in each language, on the first insertion, and HALF that price for each subsequent insertion. [illegible]
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THE DAILY BEE.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE STATE, GENERAL COUNCIL, FIRST MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL AND BOARD OF LIQUIDATORS.

Wednesday Morning, Jan. 21, 1852.

☞ The Northern Mail failed yesterday beyond Mobile.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

We are indebted to the polite attention of Mr. [illegible], private Secretary to the Governor, for a copy, in English, of His Excellency's message to the Legislature, which was no doubt delivered yesterday. The space which it occupies and the crowded state of our columns, preclude the possibility of extended comments to-day.— The message is chiefly devoted to the consideration of State affairs, very many of which it treats [illegible] and treats but few in detail. The condition of our finances is gratifying, and there is considerable surplus in the Treasury. We are glad to perceive that the Governor refers favorably to the suggestions of our worthy Mayor, respecting the justice and expediency of indemnifying the city of New Orleans for the expenses incurred by her in stopping the Sauve Crevasse.

The message speaks on the subject of Rail roads and Internal Improvements in an approving [illegible]. It indicates a cautious approbation of Free Banking, in the general shape in which the Constitution can alone sanction it. It takes decided ground against the proposition to call a Convention to form a new Constitution. This is almost the only part of the message in which the Governor expresses himself clearly and positively. His arguments against the project are these: First, that the present Constitution is eminently republican and liberal; second, that its errors may be corrected by amendments carried into effect in the manner indicated by that instrument; third, that a Convention would be burthensome to the Treasury of the State. We have noticed and answered these arguments over and over again. They are the hackneyed [illegible] of the opponents of reform, and have no weight whatever. It may be expedient, however, to revert to the subject once more, and we shall do so at a fitting season. In the mean while, we can only say that Gov. Walker's opposition does not surprise us. He was one of the fathers of the present Constitution. He was President of the Convention which framed it.— He is naturally attached to the instrument that was measurably the work of his hands, and he can see no deformities in [illegible] bantling which every body else pronounces a ricketty abortion.

The Governor does not believe that public opinion is in favor of the proposed reform. For our part, we scarcely know of any adversaries it has encountered. Among the journals of Louisiana, we can recall but one which opposes it. The expression of sentiment throughout the State seems to us almost universal in behalf of a new Constitution. The existing organic law is considered so radically defective, that no amount of patching and mending can better it.— A new one must be substituted.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Both branches of the Legislature were fully organized, by the election of Whig officers, on Monday last. In the Senate, J. B. Walton was chosen Secretary, by a vote of 14 to 13 for [illegible] Davis, and Jules Cassard was elected assistant Secretary. Messrs. Lanoue and Fust[illegible] were chosen Translating Clerks, and Messrs. Clark, [illegible], Donnet and Hamilton, Enrolling Clerks. Mr. Lemaitre was unanimously elected Sergeant at arms, and M. [illegible] Doorkeeper.

In the House, John E. King, of Opelousas, was elected Speaker, by a vote of 49 to 35 for Mr. Williamson, of De Soto. Mr. John F. [illegible] was unanimously elected Chief Clerk; Mr. [illegible], Assistant Clerk; Mr. [illegible], Sergeant at arms, and Mr. [illegible], Doorkeeper.

No business was transacted.

The Weather—Navigation Closed.—This startling announcement will surprise many of our readers, but nevertheless such is the fact—Navigation is closed by ice—not in the Mississippi River—but in the Carondelet Canal and Bayou St. John. This is altogether a novelty, for even the oldest inhabitants has any recollection of such an event. The cold on Monday night was exceedingly severe, the thermometer having descended to 18°, and yesterday morning the Bayou St. John was completely frozen over. Ice was formed along the Lake shore to a distance of half a mile, and if the present temperature continues, we should not be surprised to see skating parties made up for Mandeville. Altogether this is by far the most extraordinary winter that has ever been experienced in New Orleans.

Concert at Armory Hall.—This evening [illegible] of the Orleans Theatre and a number of other benevolent musicians and vocalists, for the benefit of Mr. Kuthner, at the Armory Hall. Our readers will remember that Mr. Kuthner lost his arm some time since, by the accidental discharge of a pistol, and has thus been deprived of the means of gaining a livelihood. We trust that the public will appropriately second the kind efforts of the artists [illegible] to alleviate in some measure this misfortune.

☞ Our latest papers by the Empire City state that the Indian disturbances were over, but a letter [illegible] to the Delta, mentions that they had broken out afresh in a more formidable shape than ever [illegible] than 10,000 Indians had [illegible]

THE CALIFORNIA NEWS.

By the Empire City we have received our San Francisco papers to the 16th ult. and [illegible] been anticipated by telegraph. We take the following [illegible] from the Alta California, of the 15th [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] from three to one more intelligence a month later [illegible] The Indians were quiet [illegible] are attracting but little attention.

The Indian disturbances in the neighborhood of San Diego are at an end. The Alta California says the intelligence has been received [illegible] the Governor will immediately disband the San Francisco volunteers.

Judge J. M. Jones, formerly of New Orleans, who was appointed U. S. District Judge, for the southern district of California, died at San Jose in the early part of December. He was only 28 years of age.

Unfortunate Occurrence.—A man whose name is unknown, was instantly killed yesterday morning, in Clay street, near the corner of Montgomery. [illegible] The body was conveyed to the Monumental Engine House, where an inquest was held.—California Courier, 15th December.

Mining Intelligence.—The Calaveras Chronicle [illegible] laden with intelligence of an important gold discovery at Chilean Gulch, near Mokelumne Hill. The editor is very sanguine on the effect of the [illegible] so much so that we transfer the account to our columns:

Astonishing Discoveries.—Some of the most astounding discoveries of gold we ever heard of have, during the past week, been made within a mile of this place, in an easterly direction. [illegible]

The editor of the Sonora Herald has [illegible] description of affairs at [illegible] Creek and vicinity, where many parties of miners are congregated. He expresses the opinion that the general success in that quarter has been and is very good. He says:

"At Tuttletown, Jackson's Flat, head of Mormon Gulch, and head of Jackass Gulch, there are scattered encampments of miners, who are just about commencing operations. [illegible]"

We find the following additional mining items in the San Joaquin Republican:

Around Columbia the miners were actively engaged in preparation for washing, fixing their drains, &c., during the last week's rain. There was not sufficient water, however, to effect any good. [illegible]

On Wood's Creek miners are still doing well. [illegible]

Review of the Markets.—The San Francisco Courier of the 15th, has the following:

"During the last fortnight trade has been excessively dull [illegible]"

From the Sandwich Islands.

The only intelligence from Honolulu relates to the arrival and reception of the party from San Francisco, concerning whose designs and objects much mystery exists. We find the following correspondence in the Alta California:

HONOLULU, 10th November, 1851.

Gents:—I avail myself of this hurried opportunity to advise you of our arrival at the port. [illegible]

Yours, &c., P. P.

[Extract from a letter dated Honolulu, Nov. 1st.]

[illegible]

[Extract from a letter dated Honolulu, Nov. 17, 1851.]

"The Vandalia is here, the only man-of-war of any nation in port. The King is absent on a visit to one of the leeward Islands. His return is anxiously looked for. Nothing is heard but the song and whistling of "Yankee Doodle," and the "Star Spangled Banner," and they are at this day with the natives as they are with our own people."

LATER FROM MEXICO.

By an arrival from Vera Cruz, we have received files of papers from the City of Mexico to the 27th December. They contain nothing of material importance.

The members of the new Congress were gradually arriving at the capital, and it was thought that the session would commence on the 2d January. In the Senate, Mr. Ramirez had been chosen President, and in the House, Mr. Puente.

Mr. Anaya, Postmaster General, recommends the establishment of an express, for the more speedy transportation to and from the capital, of journals, pamphlets and other literary matter.

A slight shock of an earthquake was felt at Oajaca on the 9th ult.

It is stated that the Government has issued orders to permit Senor Rafael y Rafael, the exiled editor of the *Universal*, to re-enter the Republic.

A bull fight took place at Mexico on the 21st ult., which was the scene of a regular row. A party of Spanish *toreadores* were to engage the bull, but the Mexicans would not allow the programme to be carried out, and the Spaniards, after sundry failures to accomplish their work, were forced to withdraw. The Mexican *toreadores* then entered and dispatched the bulls in approved style. President Arista assisted at the performance, and was foremost in hooting the Spaniards and applauding the Mexicans.

Mendicity has been prohibited within the federal district. The destitute are to be provided with sustenance by the Government.

The papers contain, as usual, numerous recitals of murder and robbery.

There have been sundry revolutionary movements in various parts of Mexico—one at San Nicholas de los Ranchos, which was easily suppressed; another at Jalapa, under one Rebollede and a troop of one hundred men, who demanded the abrogation of the law establishing the *derecho de consumo*. After a skirmish with the guard, in which one or two persons were killed, the insurgents entered the city. The next day, however, they fell back, upon hearing of the approach of a large force to attack them, and at the last accounts they were pretty much dispersed.

On the [illegible] of Tehuantepec having learned that [illegible] the bay of Ventosa, and fearing that a party of adventurers would land and take possession of the Isthmus, [illegible] to defend the port. Mariano Ortez and Alexandro Lopez, profiting by the departure of the troops, attacked the barracks at the head of a number of brigands, but were repulsed. Lopez was made prisoner [illegible]

BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

THE ASIA'S NEWS.

New York, Jan. 17.

The following are the particulars of the business in the Liverpool market during the week ending on Saturday the 4th instant, the day of departure of the Cunard steamer Asia:

Liverpool, Jan. 4.

The demand in the cotton market has been moderate since the departure of the Cambria, and the sales of the week are limited to 40,000 bales, mostly at a decline of 1/8d per lb.

The quotations are as follows:—Fair Orleans [illegible]; Middling Orleans, [illegible]; Fair Uplands, [illegible]; and Middling Uplands [illegible].

The stock, of all descriptions of cotton, on hand on the 1st instant, is 425,000 bales, of which are American 325,000; [illegible]

Flour has been in good request, and prices have advanced one shilling per bbl. Western [illegible] is now quoted at 21s 6d.

Corn has also been in demand at 30 shillings for yellow.

The rate of interest in the London money market is lower.

Paris, and the country generally, are quiet, though there are occasional reports of [illegible] disturbances.

The majority of Louis Napoleon [illegible] reaches seven millions of votes.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Assembled for the second time under the provisions of the present Constitution, to perform the responsible duty of legislating for the public good, I must congratulate you upon the happy auspices under which you have convened. It is to me a source of the most profound satisfaction to witness the steadily increasing advance of our State in population and wealth, and the general happiness of our citizens, flowing from the beneficence of the Supreme Ruler of the Universe. The evils recently felt when your predecessors dedicated this noble building to the purposes for which it was constructed, no longer exist: the gloomy traces of the fearful pestilence have been obliterated; the harvest has been bountiful; and the husbandmen who suffered so severely by inundation from the Mississippi and its tributaries, have gathered their rich products without loss from that grave visitation, than which nothing can be more devastating in its effects upon the agricultural interests of the State.

The aspect of national affairs is cheering to the patriot. At peace with foreign powers, the domestic divisions of opinion which at one period appeared to contemplate the dismemberment of the Union, have, it is believed, ceased to exist. The measures of adjustment passed by Congress after most mature deliberation, have been acquiesced in by the states of this confederacy, with, perhaps, a single exception, and we may now look forward with reasonable confidence to an uninterrupted continuance of [illegible] of the republican [illegible].

My own views touching what I conceived to be the duty of the Southern States before the passage of these measures of adjustment, were fully and frankly communicated to your predecessors in my Inaugural Address. The further discussion of the subject would seem at this time unnecessary, and I will dismiss it with the single remark, that, whilst the South might have obtained more advantageous terms in the compromise of sections, we are bound by every consideration that should have weight with us, to acquiesce cheerfully in the federal award, which has now the solemn form of law. The aggressions of which we justly complained had their origin in the most unfortunate concessions made by the South when Missouri came into the Union; and the final surrender at that time of a principle that should have been held inviolate, paved the way for the insidious usurpations of power and criminal interference with our rights, which impelled the passage of the adjustment measures; [illegible] I cannot see in these laws any aggravation of the original wrong [illegible] for the parties who yielded [illegible] rights at the outset, to dissolve at the present time the confederacy of States, fraught as such dissolution would inevitably be with consequences the most momentous, if not wholly disastrous, in their probable operation upon the Southern division of the Republic.

All these measures, with perhaps the exception of the Fugitive Slave Bill, are believed to be beyond the reach of future federal legislation; they are self-operative, and cannot be annulled without a distinct infraction of State sovereignty. The bill named is directly connected with Southern interests and rights, and it is one in the prompt and faithful execution of which, we must feel the deepest solicitude. Should our just expectations in this regard be disappointed, or should an effort be made to repeal or modify it, I will not fail to communicate to you the measures that may in my judgment be deemed necessary to meet such a crisis in national affairs.

Since the adjournment of the last Legislature, the nation has been called upon to mourn the loss of its Chief Magistrate, Gen. Zachary Taylor, who was taken from us by the inscrutable decree of an all wise Providence. The honors due an Executive Officer of the first rank, and a Soldier, whose illustrious deeds will live in history with the noble achievements of the great Captains of the Republic, were observed at the time of, and immediately after, his decease, by a number of sister communities [illegible] and believing I [illegible] the sentiments of the people of a State which the deceased in life claimed as his home, and yielding to the promptings of my own feelings, I appointed a committee of citizens to receive his remains from the Federal City, and procure [illegible] interment at a point within our limits, acceptable to his surviving relatives. My designs were not accomplished, the wish of the relatives of the deceased being that his ashes should repose in the old family burying-ground within the limits of the Commonwealth that gave him birth. But I must believe you would have participated with me in the pleasure I would have felt at the favorable result of an undertaking which aimed solely at the placing upon our own soil of a tomb over which a monument to departed worth might in time have been placed, most useful in [illegible] the minds of our youth and giving proper direction to natural impulse and ambition.

In connection with this subject, I feel it my duty to remind you, that the efforts made by some of our patriotic fellow citizens to procure the erection of a proper monument to Andrew Jackson, have been but partially successful. It may be argued that money for such laudable purpose should not under a strict construction of legislative action, be drawn from the common treasure, but should be the spontaneous gift of a people grateful for the eminent services rendered our State and the Union by the Hero of New Orleans. While I freely admit that in this manner it would be most acceptable, it is quite clear to me you should not hesitate to comply with the request of the association [illegible] which will address you upon this subject, and thus perform a duty that should ere this have been executed by the citizens of this State. The fame of Jackson does not demand marble to perpetuate it, but it would be a reproach to a State that has been saved from the horrors of [illegible] to fall short of the action of other States, in which lasting testimonials evince the hold his great deeds have upon the affections of his countrymen.

Provision has been made for obtaining a statue of Washington. My predecessor mentioned in his last message, what had been done toward the accomplishment of that object, in a contract with the great American sculptor, Hiram Powers.

No communication has been received in relation to the subject since the transmission, by the Secretary of State of a copy of the act of the last Legislature, increasing the appropriation from five to ten thousand dollars, for the completion and delivery of the statue in New Orleans. It is for you to determine what further steps may be required [illegible] the appropriation for the next two years.

Accompanying this communication is a letter from the Mayor of New Orleans, marked A, on the subject of Levees. I most earnestly recommend [illegible] city. I suggest the justice of indemnifying her, at least in part, for past expenditures for her own protection.

The importance of educating the youth of the State will [illegible] The Report of the School Superintendent will exhibit the working of the present system, thus far, and from it you may gather information valuable in correcting such errors as may be discovered in its operation. That it has defects, I am well convinced; its efficiency, though considerable, and increasing, [illegible] short of that obtained elsewhere [illegible]. While this is a source of regret, it should not be permitted to run into despondency or distrust. We should remember that in the older States the Free School System has acquired maturity, with advantages the most simple, dense populations, [illegible] and other facilities of the most beneficial character. The great extent of our territory, and the sparseness of the population of a large portion of it, added to the imperfect estimate placed by many upon the value of education, are so many drawbacks upon the progress of this most necessary reform; but these and kindred hindrances will disappear in time, and the [illegible] of a general system of education, extended to every cottage, and every palace, in the State, will repay us a hundred fold for the heavy expense [illegible]. The imperative command of the Constitution urges us onward in this pre-eminently exalted undertaking; and when we reflect that those who must fill the places we now occupy will represent the aggregate intelligence of our State, its character for morality and honesty, the duty assigned us assumes a solemnity most impressive. It may well be questioned whether human ingenuity could compass the natural and artificial disadvantages that militate against the operations of the system within our limits, but we have most cheering results to offset these, and in the details of the present laws, alterations or modifications may be made which will render their execution more prompt, and the expense of diffusing their benefits proportionably less than under their present operation.

In connection with this subject I submit for your consideration a report from the President of "Centenary College," at Jackson, La.

The interest the State has in that institution [illegible] Board of Trustees. I am gratified to learn that judicious selections were made, and that the young gentlemen thus selected, by correct deportment and scholastic attainments, [illegible] reflect honor upon their native State. From this source the State may reasonably entertain the hope, that the corps of educated Southern teachers will be greatly strengthened [illegible]

I beg leave to call your attention to the accompanying Report of the Administrators of the Insane Asylum, marked B.

From all that I can learn the Asylum is well and usefully conducted; but there can be no question, that in order to give the relief desired [illegible] additional buildings. [illegible]

Allow me to call your attention again to an important subject, which was brought to your notice by my predecessor in his last message—the necessity of a change in the time of holding the Congressional elections in this State. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] to remove for misfeasance or malfeasance in office.

The shameful conduct of the late Register of the Land Office in absenting himself for months from the State, to the injury of the public service, and to the great inconvenience of all persons who had business to transact with that office, and my own mortification and disappointment at not having the authority to redress the evil, induces me to call your attention to this subject. The Constitution imposes the duty upon the Executive to see that the laws are faithfully executed, and he finds himself powerless from the want of Legislative enactment. For this there should be some remedy.

The commissioners appointed to superintend the public building at this place, found themselves on the eve of its completion without funds to effect that desirable object, in consequence of the exhaustion of the fund appropriated for that purpose by the last Legislature. In this condition, their great desire to complete the State House for the reception of the General Assembly, as well as from a sense of economy, they were induced to negotiate a loan of $15,000 from the Louisiana State Bank upon their own responsibility. It must be obvious that had the progress of the building been arrested in this unexpected manner, and the workmen discharged until after the adjournment of your body, the State would have suffered losses, by building materials, [illegible] the inconvenience of holding sessions in an unfinished building.

At their request I addressed a note to the President and Directors of the Bank, stating that I would recommend the loan to your favorable consideration, and that I believed the Legislature would not refuse to make the necessary provision for re-imbursement.

The commissioners on the provision of the "act to provide for the disposition of certain public property in the City of New Orleans, approved March 18th, 1850," [illegible] the remainder of the old State House Square, to be laid out by the Surveyor General of the State, Louis Brinier, Esq., into lots of proper form, and sold by auction by Col. W. W. [illegible], Auctioneer, [illegible] The property being sold on credit and payable at such periods as would meet the bonds of the State issued for the purchase of said property, requiring a certain proportion of each purchase in cash to meet all necessary expenses of sales, and to enable the State to pay the first [illegible] interest falling due immediately after the sale of such property. The sum over and above the amount [illegible] interest, was thought proper to require in cash, proportioned to the different purchasers, which was placed in the treasury.

The lots having sold for a larger sum than the law contemplated, in obedience to the provisions of the second section of the aforesaid act, I proceeded in due form of law, to transfer the [illegible] of ground designated in said second section to the New Orleans Mechanics' Society. The cash received after deducting all expenses, was placed in the treasury, and the bonds, with coupons of interest amounting [illegible] were delivered to the Auditor of Public Accounts.

I herewith transmit to you a letter from the Mayor of New Orleans, marked [E.] with documents accompanying, upon the subject of a Naval Depot and Navy Yard. It would seem from these, to be an object worthy of the consideration of the General and State Governments, and meriting at your hands such cooperation as you may be able to give.

Shortly after the close of the last session of the General Assembly, a number of our enterprising citizens became interested in an extensive grant, made by the Mexican Government, with a view to establish a more expeditious communication between the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific, across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec; and prepared to form a joint stock company for the construction of a railroad for that purpose. This work was one that promised to be of unequalled commercial importance, and particularly advantageous to the commerce of New Orleans. In taking the preliminary steps, it was found our existing laws would not authorize the organization of a company, with power to employ so large a capital as would necessarily be required to carry on and complete a work of such magnitude. An application, supported by petitions numerously signed was then made, that I should exercise the extraordinary power vested in me by the Constitution of calling the Legislature together in extra session.

Resolutions were adopted at various public meetings, urging upon me the propriety, and absolute necessity of this measure.

It is at all times unpleasant for me to differ from my fellow citizens who are possessed of greater facilities than myself for information upon subjects of general interest to the community, and who have equally the public good at heart, particularly was this the case in the present instance, as many of the principal applicants were citizens distinguished for their [illegible], energy and public enterprise. I could not, however, view the matter in the same light that they did, and as it has ever been my uniform rule, in the discharge of my public duties to do nothing that requires [illegible] I was constrained to decline the application.

A portion of the five per cent fund has been retained by the General Government to cover a balance of [illegible] expenses during the war with Mexico. That in our zeal we may have paid for objects not strictly authorized by law, is not improbable, and such payments would be a fair, though not a liberal charge against the State.

But it may well be questioned, whether the accounting officers at Washington would be competent to divert this fund from its legitimate purposes. It is even doubtful if Congress or the State Legislature could exercise that power.

Some legislation seems to be required, relative to the Inspection Laws of the State. Under the voluntary system, they have become a dead letter [illegible]

The important duties performed by notaries, would seem to demand some specific legislation. It has been suggested that a close examination into the qualifications, before one or more of the District Judges, would give assurance of their proper qualification. A limitation of their terms of office, and security for the faithful performance of the responsible trusts and duties confided to them, may be requisite.

In the proceedings arising out of the will of the late John McDonogh, the Attorney General deemed it advisable to institute suit in behalf of the State, and to call to his aid, able counsel, for whose services, I recommend suitable compensation to be appropriated.

This subject, together with the proceedings in the case of the New Orleans Navigation Company will be properly set forth by reference to the letter of the Attorney General, marked [F.]

Immediately after the adjournment of the last Legislature the Secretary of the Interior was informed that the necessary appropriation had been made, by the State, to defray the expense of selecting the swamp and overflowed lands granted to Louisiana by act of Congress, approved March 2d, 1849.

The principles to be observed in making the selections, were promptly determined upon, by the appropriate officers of the General Government, and forwarded to the Surveyor General of Louisiana and myself, that the business might be immediately commenced. Their construction of the law was in a liberal spirit, and calculated to facilitate the transfer of the lands to the State; but I conceive not more liberal than was fully justified by the spirit and intent of the law. I appointed A. D. Wooldridge, Esq., State Engineer, principal Agent to represent the State, under the law of the last session of the Legislature, approved March 21st, 1850. This gentleman, from his extensive acquaintance with the alluvial portions of the State, the connection of his office with kindred duties, and his prompt attention to business, appeared to me the person through whose agency I could have this interest attended to in the most beneficial manner, and with least expense to the State. The duties imposed upon him have been discharged in a way to meet my approbation, and I herewith submit his Report, which contains the full history and result of his agency.

I am happy to inform the Legislature, that the serious difficulty, mentioned in the report, with regard to the refunding of money received by the United States for overflowed lands, since the passage of the law making the grant, and obtaining our patents for lands already selected, has been obviated, and we are assured by the proper authorities, that the amounts will be refunded, and the patents forthwith issued.

The suggestions of the agent are entitled to your respectful consideration, though some of his views may be of doubtful policy. The necessity of protecting the swamp lands from depredation, is very apparent, and an active and faithful agent, might, by uniting this with other duties suggested, be very serviceable to the State.

Although large portions of the lands granted by Congress, are chiefly valuable for the timber, and are unsuited, at present, for cultivation, and it might be advisable, in relation thereto, to adopt the views of the agent with regard to denying pre-emption to settlers, but as there are other portions which cannot now be settled, it is questionable, whether these should not be disposed of by pre-emption, when desired. The views of the agent show that the subject is not without its difficulties, but it seems to me that the usual policy of the State should not be hastily abandoned, and pre-emptions denied to actual settlers, although many of the lands selected, are doubtless, for the present, of little value; enough of them, however, are now valuable, or will be readily made so, by the progressive improvements of the State, to show that the grant is one of great importance. Whether the lands should be at once disposed of, or withheld from sale by the State, until their value is augmented, by our public improvements, are questions about which there is [illegible] difference of opinion. In the present state of our finances, however, it would seem to be desirable to avail ourselves of some fund, for the prosecution of our internal improvements, from this source, if practicable, and of its practicability I have no doubt. I am informed that many persons are already anxious to purchase portions of these lands, and by not refusing to dispose of them, we shall not only deprive ourselves of [illegible], but, to some extent, interfere with the settlement and development of the country.

By exposing all our swamp lands to sale, we should only be able to dispose of those of greatest present value, and by using the means thus derived, in judicious improvements, [illegible]

[illegible]

and for which he should receive payment, in part or whole, from the fund thus created, or by the lands set aside for the purposes for which it was designed, and would be of great benefit to all; as it would increase the quantity of arable land; render that now cultivated, more secure; and, by increasing the aggregate taxable property of the State, diminish our present burthen.

As the Law granting the swamp lands to the State, has been interpreted as taking effect from the date of its passage, a conflict of titles may arise between the State and those who, in the mean time, have entered in the United States Land Office, land, which has been thus determined, as already belonging to the State; and as these entries were made in good faith, I would recommend, that the State should not interfere with their titles, but grant them a quit claim, on condition that they transfer to her their right to receive from the United States, the sums they received by her through error, which will of course be refunded.

In dismissing this subject, I would say to your honorable body, that from my own knowledge, as well as the information derived from the State agent, I am convinced great labor has been thrown upon the United States Officers, [illegible] in transferring the swamp lands to the State, [illegible] for which the State owes them a debt of gratitude.

Portions of the State have suffered the calamities of overflow during the last two years, and the increasing danger of the recurrence of such disasters, calls loudly for the interposition of some effective measure of protection. The attention of the Legislature, was directed at the last session to this important subject, but it is believed that nothing tangible or valuable grew out of the measures then adopted. The great and rapid extending of the levees above, must necessarily place the lower portion of the State in much peril. How this impending danger may be obviated by a better and more effectual system of levees, and how far the swamp lands ceded to the State by the General Government may be rendered tributary to that purpose, or what other means should be adopted, merits your consideration and mature deliberation.

I have been charged by our distinguished fellow citizen, General Persifor F. Smith, with the pleasing duty of presenting a chair for the use of each of your presiding officers, in relation to which I beg leave to refer to his letter [illegible] marked [G.]

The trophies won by our arms in the Mexican War form to the Nation an inconsiderable portion of national glory, and this beautiful gift has associations that impart to it a value of more than ordinary kind, enhanced, if possible, by the courteous and feeling letter of the donor, who was, himself, a conspicuous actor in those [illegible]

In compliance with a request made by the Central Authority Committee at Washington, I appointed a committee of citizens, of which Maunsel White, Esq., was chairman, to select such articles of agriculture or art as might be deemed worthy of exhibition at the great London Fair. No report of the success of the enterprise has come to my hand, which I deem necessary for your consideration.

The reports of the Directors of the Penitentiary for the two years ending first instant, will be found in accompanying documents, marked [H.]

The condition of the Institution is as good as could be expected, and I have no hesitation in recommending that the present leasing system should be continued, it being, as experience has shown, more advantageous to the State [illegible]. From the Reports you will perceive there has unfortunately been a considerable increase in crime since your predecessors assembled, and immediate steps [illegible] by the directors, for an enlargement of the present limits for the reception and safe-keeping of criminals. You will perceive there has been a considerable falling off, the present year, in the profits of the institution, [illegible] the institution was a drawback on the treasury.

There are at present eight deaf and dumb boys and girls, from this State at the Danville (Ky.) Institute.

I continue to receive flattering accounts of their health, morals and education; allow me to suggest that the appropriation of three hundred dollars is barely sufficient to maintain and educate each one; and if it is not increased, other petitions for the charity under the law must be refused. I would recommend that the amount for this laudable purpose be fixed at two thousand dollars, [illegible] future wants in this regard will require.

I would recommend a careful revision of the Militia Laws of the State, to render them more effective and especially the act passed at the last session of the Legislature, entitled "An Act To amend an Act entitled [illegible] organization and discipline of the Militia of the State of Louisiana' approved nineteenth March 1840, and approved March 6, 1850." The object and purpose of the last named act has been defeated in consequence of the careless wording of the law. [illegible] Volunteer companies throughout the State, and as such companies are generally composed of [illegible] their ordinary occupations, [illegible] by the Legislature that this very desirable object could be best attained by levying a commutation tax upon all persons required to do militia duty, and affording the [illegible] the alternative of attending the regular musters or [illegible] paying a small sum for exemption from this duty. This view of the subject was no doubt correct. My experience in such matters has brought my mind to the conviction that a proper organization of the Volunteer Militia under the present state of public feeling is the best, and I [illegible] recommend the encouragement of the formation of volunteer companies, or a class of citizen soldiery whose services would be more prompt and beneficial when demanded by any cause. But for the reasons given, the want of perspicuity, and the general opposition to the law, your attention may be called to its revision or repeal, as wisdom may suggest.

The report of the Brigadier General will exhibit the quantity and state of arms now on hand. It is considered that we have quite sufficient of small arms [illegible] at the present time, but there are frequent applications for cannon, from a number of companies now fully organized, and equipped with that exception—One company, the Baton Rouge Artillery, has received a few pieces from the quota due by the United States, but there are three or four [illegible] which have been condemned. I would recommend an appropriation for meeting the same.

The custom prevails in other States of an interchange of statutes enacted, judicial reports, and other [illegible] documents of a public character. [illegible] I draw your attention to this omission on our part in the confident hope that [illegible]. Provision has already been made by law for the distribution of the annual decisions of the Supreme Court, and the duty of doing this is entrusted to the Treasurer. The Secretary of State would undoubtedly be the most proper officer to perform this task, and I would, respectfully suggest that in passing a law having in view the interchange suggested, you would give the Secretary the control of the business.

In another place I have alluded to the sale of the public property in New Orleans. The sale fully realized the most sanguine expectations, yielding a sum more than necessary to pay the bonds of the State given for the whole square.— In compliance with law, as before stated, I transferred a portion of it to the Mechanics' Society of that city, and I am gratified to inform you that this Association is now erecting a building upon it which will be an ornament to the city.

The Register of the Land Office will submit a report showing the condition of that office, and the criminal action of the late Register, Richard [illegible], Esq. to which I would ask your special attention. Proper measures have been taken to bring the delinquent officer to a strict accountability, and I entertain hopes that they will be successful.

I feel highly gratified in announcing to you the receipt of a message from the Governor of New Hampshire, enclosing a resolution passed by that State favoring strongly the late Compromise measures passed by Congress, and another resolution favoring the establishment of a Bureau of Agriculture in the Department of the Interior at Washington. Whilst I am deeply impressed with a sense of the vital importance of Agriculture, I conceive that the functions of the Federal Government are already sufficiently multifarious and complex, and that this subject should be left to the fostering care of the State Governments, which must be fully alive to the necessity of promoting it in every legitimate manner.

The new constitution introduces the system of biennial sessions of the Legislature, an exception being made in favor of the first session. Neither the attention of that body, nor of the former Executives, was attracted to the fact that the terms of a number of offices then existing terminated at that time, and thus the incumbents necessarily held over, though the period fixed by law for the retaining office had expired. There is now no mode by which successors can be appointed. The article in the constitution applies to the cases of vacancies occurring during the continuance of a term, and does not authorize the Executive to appoint when the term expires, and when the appointment is to be made by and with the consent of the Senate. In such cases he cannot act until the arrival of the term for holding the regular session of the Legislature, when joint action can be had. There have been a number of instances of this kind, in which incumbents have held over for many months. This is true as to the Bank President [illegible] the Board of Liquidation of the Citizens' Bank, the Directors of the Penitentiary, the Administrators of the Charity Hospital, the State Engineer, &c. It would be proper to make provision by law for such novel circumstances, providing that all terms of office shall expire at a period when appointments can be made in accordance with law.

An unfortunate riot in New Orleans during the highly excited state of public feeling [illegible], has, as you are aware, been made a matter of grave national correspondence between our Government and the accredited Minister of Her Catholic Majesty. I take pleasure in assuring you that none of the officers of the State were derelict in the performance of their duty, [illegible] Riots are almost unknown in New Orleans, the sense of her worthy citizens being directly opposed to such [illegible] manifestations; and it would be manifestly unjust to hold them [illegible]

It becomes my duty to inform you that I received a communication from W. W. King, [illegible]

[illegible]

Accompanying the Treasurer's Report, herewith submitted you have a letter addressed by that officer to the Attorney General, with his answer in relation to the failure of the Second Municipality to pay the interest on the bonds issued by the State in her favor, and the difficulty which the accounting officer of the Treasury felt in paying it, as seems to have been contemplated by the act. In consequence of there being no appropriation, you will no doubt see the importance of relieving the State from this present [illegible] by immediate action, and of guarding her credit, by distinct provisional appropriation against a similar occurrence from the same cause.

By the Treasurer's report, you will perceive that the receipts and disbursements of that Department for the last two years have been as follows:

Balance transferred to the present Treasurer on the 20th February 1850,	$666,[illegible] 56
Total receipts from the above date to 31st Dec. 1850.	1,607,175 [illegible]
	$2,274,071 [illegible]
Total disbursements during same period.	[illegible] 00
Leaving a balance on the 31st December, 1850, of	325,498 [illegible]
The receipts for the year 1851 amount to the sum of	[illegible] 44
	$1,161,879 [illegible]
Disbursements during same period,	852,[illegible] 54
Balance in the Treasury on the 31st December, 1851,	$308,[illegible] 37
Composed as follows:	
General Fund,	$ 76,668 00
Mill Tax Fund,	154,071 54
Poll Tax Fund,	19,919 [illegible]
Internal Improvement Fund,	51,1[illegible]
Road and Levee Fund,	6,[illegible]
	$308,[illegible] 37

From this report, and the report of the Auditor of Public Accounts, you may be able to arrive at a correct understanding in regard to the financial condition of the State.

Within a brief period there has been some discussion as to the practicability of calling a Convention to frame a new Constitution for our State. This discussion, so far as my knowledge extends, has not been general in its nature, nor have I been put in possession of any proof warranting the presumption that the people of the State desire the abandonment of the present, and the formation of a new organic law.

The present Constitution is the result of a compromise of long cherished opinions, [illegible] prejudices, and different, perhaps more liberal views suggested by the progress of events in this as in other members of the confederacy. [illegible] The last [illegible] of an earlier period in our history [illegible] what then appeared sound policy, [illegible] a fundamental law [illegible] perhaps, as free from objection as any instrument made in this State at a similar time, and under like circumstances, could have been held. But it was not to be supposed that the spirit of progress and enlightened innovation, every where visible, would fail to exert its influence in our State; and in due course of time a call that could not be resisted, coming as it did from the mass of the people of the State, demanded a second Constitution, [illegible] free from the restrictions in the first instrument and other features deemed objectionable. Free suffrage was called for by the republican spirit of the day, the monarchical tenure of office was repudiated by all classes; [illegible] the greatest weight with those who desired a change of government, was the abolishment of bank monopoly, a power, the despotic tendency of which was too well [illegible] to admit of cavil, or any great division of public sentiment.

The assembling of a Convention was a sequence of this expressed will of the people through the ballot box; [illegible] The past, with its fruitful, instructive lessons, was before that impartial body, the alarms and distress following the almost complete bank ruin [illegible] Their work had been chalked out by almost universal public sentiment, and it seemed [illegible] impossible that they could wander [illegible]. And it is with no ordinary emotion [illegible] that we may refer to the composition of that Convention: its members appeared to have been selected with direct reference to their intellectual capacity, their long familiarity with our laws, [illegible] and their [illegible] habits of research and investigation.

The present Constitution is the offspring of their labors, and when we consider the immense labor bestowed upon its formation, the difficulties [illegible] to completion, [illegible] we should at least pause before we throw it away as a worthless thing, [illegible] to provide for its amendment, alteration, or even distinct change of form and substance on points [illegible] sound discretion, might require. Such changes, it is further provided, cannot be made without the direct approval of the people. [illegible] The people who ordered it to be made, are alone competent to its revision or to require it in part or in whole.

It would be difficult to conceive how any instrument of the kind could partake more of the purely republican character of our institutions, and be less objectionable to the government.— [illegible]

[illegible] that a number of amendments to the Constitution are now in process of being made, in the manner pointed out by the instrument, and these, it is believed, cover the whole ground of objections urged against it. These amendments are thirteen in number, providing for the election by the people of all judicial officers, high and subordinate, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, [illegible]. The law in regard to suffrage has been amended as to terms of residence, and if carried out, as I doubt not you will pass a second time these amendments, in a comparatively short space of time they will be incorporated in the fundamental law, and make it resemble more closely the form [illegible] who consulted the liberal spirit of the times and the apparent wants of the State.

I am not without strong objections [illegible] to a form of government, [illegible] of fundamental law should be corrected with reference alone to the wants of the people. But in this, as in all other matters of public policy, there is a middle ground [illegible] extremes, upon which we may [illegible] stand. The principle enunciated by Mr. Jefferson, that forms of government should not be changed for light, trivial causes, has always appeared to me to be correct. Nothing contributes more to a sound condition of things than stable laws, faithfully executed, [illegible]. It will be admitted that there [illegible] such alterations of organic law as is contemplated, or such attempt, at least, for it might be found upon trial that a new convention would not be meeting every expectation of the people of the State [illegible] constitution. It should be set forth that the instrument does not provide for its revision and amendment, or that the time given for making such amendments is too remote to be of practical benefit, [illegible] for the public good. It is believed objections of this nature cannot be urged against the present constitution. The time given for making amendments, is in my opinion, not greater in length than sound policy would dictate. Such amendments would necessarily affect the people of the State: and is it proper that they should not only approve or reject them, after the most mature deliberation; but should have an opportunity of revising their verdict, if deemed proper, before such final change should be made in the organic law.

These are my views, and in giving them, as the exercise of what I conceive to be my duty, I have not alluded to the great expense of holding a Convention for the purpose named, in the present crippled condition of our finances, and when there is in the public mind a deeply rooted conviction of the necessity of a reduction, instead of an increase of taxation. Great care should be taken to guard against expenditures not absolutely required to promote the public good. Some idea of the extraordinary cost of legislation may be gathered from the fact that the last session of the Legislature, covering a period of sixty days, cost the State a sum little short of one hundred thousand dollars. This large sum was actually spent for conducting the simple business of the session, independent of appropriations, and while the exhibit will be admitted to be startling, it should impress you with the duty of considering most fully the necessity of making such drains upon a treasury barely sufficient to meet the current expenses of government, and the interest falling due on State obligations, without reference to any [illegible] of the principal, for which provision must be made.

It is with diffidence and fear that I may not have arrived at a proper conclusion as to public sentiment upon this interesting point, that I submit these remarks. Coming as you do fresh from the people, you may have information in this regard not possessed by myself, and may deem it advisable to take the first step in the contemplated change, [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] brokers or foreign capitalists.

These thoughts are general, but will apply with their force to our own State. Rich in resources, with a soil of unrivalled fertility, our citizens are embarrassed in their business transactions, not, perhaps, from a dearth of capital, but the very high rates of interest demanded by those who control domestic exchange.

This evil is believed to be beyond the reach of legislation, arising, in the opinion of many, from our peculiar jurisprudence, but it may in your opinion, be deemed advisable to pass some Free Banking Law, of a general nature giving to those citizens who require it, the power to bank to the extent of their individual means. The only object requiring your especial attention in framing such a law, would be to provide most effectually for the security of the circulation of such individual or company banks; and in doing this, the experience of other States would be valuable to you.

The first attempts at Free Banking were made upon a mixed basis of State stock and real estate, but this was abandoned, proof being adduced that the valuations of such estate were [illegible] too high, if not fraudulent; and the security to note holders not ample. United States stock and State stock always at or near par value, form now the security for circulation in States where the free system seems most prosperous, express provision being made, that the issues shall not exceed in amount the securities placed in the hands of high ministerial officers, for the redemption of such obligations.— The stringency of these checks appears to have been dictated by high considerations of duty, and will, doubtless, have influence with you in your deliberations upon this subject, delicate and difficult as it appears, in the present [illegible] condition of our State and her credit.

The public mind has for some time past been engaged in most anxious enquiry upon the subject of Railroads, and the propriety of securing to our State a portion of the advantages enjoyed elsewhere by this improved system of internal communication. Within a comparatively brief period these roads have absorbed a very considerable attention, and a vast amount of the surplus capital of the country, and their general extension is a [illegible] beyond speculation or doubt. There is no one feature of the age in which we live more strikingly illustrative of its progress than this accelerated mode of travel and transportation, and it is with no ordinary satisfaction that our countrymen may point to their achievements in this valuable department, [illegible]

Our [illegible] experience in railroads have not been satisfactory; large sums of money were expended upon the construction of the few miles of rails within our limits, without adequate returns; and in one instance the State sustained loss by being a party to such improvements [illegible] individual enterprise and energy. But these unsound [illegible] should not operate unfavorably upon present efforts [illegible]. We have learned much that may be useful to us in future operations. [illegible]

The law taxing capital was intended by its framers to operate more particularly upon the heavy operations of foreigners, [illegible]

In concluding permit me to express a hope that your labors may be productive of good to the common interests of our State, and those you represent; and assure you I will be at all times [illegible] to co-operate with you in the furtherance of the ends for which you have assembled in an official capacity.

JOSEPH WALKER.

[A.]

Mayoralty of New Orleans,
20th December, 1851.

Sir:—It affords me much pleasure to respond to the verbal request made by your Excellency, in which you expressed a desire to learn some of my views in reference to matters and measures concerning the welfare of the city of New Orleans, and I avail myself of this occasion, to present to your Excellency a few observations, which I hope will commend themselves to your attention and earnest solicitude. The citizens of New Orleans consider that they possess some claims on the Executive, [illegible] since it is the good fortune of your Excellency to be personally known to almost every inhabitant of the city.

The first and most important consideration in connection with the interests and prosperity of New Orleans, is to secure for the city an exemption from overflow, and a repetition of the disastrous consequences resulting from the Sauve Crevasse in 1849. It will doubtless greatly surprise your Excellency to learn that the city of New Orleans has expended about $600,000, first, in the endeavor to close the breach, and subsequently in the erection of guard levees to prevent the recurrence of a like disaster. [illegible] and it is a matter of still greater astonishment that in a calamity which might well awaken the sympathies of the mere stranger, the city of New Orleans, which contributes one third of the Revenues to the public coffers, [illegible] without any assistance whatever from the State.

There can be no question as to the propriety of the State coming to the assistance of the city, [illegible] The city of New Orleans, which is ever ready to lend a helping hand to the cause of distress and suffering humanity, had not been in the habit of making appeals either to the charity of her neighbors, or to the generosity of the State Government, and it must needs be confessed that in this, only instance where she found it necessary to make the appeal, her just, and reasonable demands were, notwithstanding the recommendation of your worthy predecessor in office, allowed to remain unnoticed and neglected. The prosperity of the city is moreover so intimately interwoven with that of the country, that the mere abstract questions of interest, ought to dictate a liberal course of policy on the part of the interior, and the more so when it is remembered that, under the present organic law of the State, our representation in one branch of the General Assembly is not in proportion to the extent of our population.

Closely connected with the subject under reference is the necessity for extending the Levee [illegible] from overflow, which can only be accomplished by constant and unceasing watchfulness over the feeble barriers which [illegible] and fertile lowlands from the mighty current of the Mississippi. [illegible] each Parish, [illegible] be made responsible for the sound condition of their Levees. As it is now, the [illegible] of New Orleans are continually called upon to [illegible] the adjoining Parish of Jefferson, [illegible] the Police Jury instead of defending [illegible] their own resources, forthwith send to New Orleans for assistance, and the city instead of [illegible] is expected to pay the whole.

I shall offer no excuse to your Excellency for speaking thus plainly on a subject concerning so vitally the interests of New Orleans.

Neither as a citizen nor as her Chief Magistrate can I be insensible to the great injury which the community sustained by the disastrous inundation of 1849, and I confidently hope that the General Assembly, in reviewing the matter as I trust it will, whilst adopting wise measures for our future protection, also feel disposed to indemnify the city in part, at least, for the great pecuniary loss which she has suffered.

I would embrace this occasion to observe to Your Excellency that the Asylum for the Insane at Jackson does not in my opinion afford sufficient accommodation for the reception of this unfortunate class of persons throughout the State. In a populous city, like New Orleans, this lack of adequate provision is more especially felt, since it is here where the indigent insane are most likely to gather. The formalities under the present statute, requisite to obtaining admission into the State Asylum for one of this class, are moreover so provokingly tedious, that a long time frequently elapses before the destitute lunatic can obtain the advantage of this noble institution, [illegible] the Charity Hospital, although expressly exempt by law from receiving these persons, is compelled from motives of humanity to grant them a temporary Asylum. Others again, still more unfortunate, are allowed to remain confined [illegible] in the Prisons or in our Work Houses, [illegible] them to Jackson, it may so turn out that the Institution is too crowded to receive them. Under this condition of things it might be advisable, perhaps, to have a State Asylum for the insane in this city, at all events, it is a measure which commends itself on the score of humanity as well as of necessity.

The State of Louisiana, unlike most of her sister States, has no establishment either for the reception of the Blind, or of the Deaf and Dumb. [illegible] Charity Hospital there are [illegible] persons suffering from disease of the eye, some partially blind, and others wholly so. Your Excellency will at once perceive that the Hospital is not the proper place [illegible] for those afflicted with blindness, and that it would be more befitting the dignity of Louisiana [illegible]

[illegible]

is in my opinion demand the attention of the General Assembly, and have the honor to be

With great respect,
Your obedient servant,
A. D. CROSSMAN, Mayor.

To His Excellency Joseph Walker,
Gov. of the State of Louisiana.

BUREAU OF TOPOGRAPHICAL ENG'RS,
Washington, Dec. 17th, 1851.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 5th instant.

Two reports have been received in reference to the inundations of the Mississippi, one from Lieut. [illegible], and one from Mr. Ellet. A Resolution of the United States Senate of the 6th instant, called for copies of these reports, and we are now engaged in making the copies to answer the Resolution. The Senate will, I have no doubt, in conformity with long established usage, direct these reports to be printed, and when printed, I shall be able to furnish your Excellency with several copies, and in less time than it would be in my power to furnish written copies of the reports.

Under these circumstances, I hope you will pardon me, if a compliance with the request of your letter should be delayed, until the reports are printed.

Respectfully, sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. J. ABERT,
Col. Corps T. Eng'rs.

His Excellency Joseph Walker,
Gov. of Louisiana, B. Rouge.

[D.]

JACKSON, LA., Dec. 23d, 1851.

Hon. Joseph Walker, Gov. of the State of Louisiana.

Sir: I am directed by the Board of Administrators, of the Insane Asylum of Louisiana, to respectfully request, that in your Message to the next Legislature you will be pleased to call the attention of that Body, to the pressing wants of the Institution now under their charge.

The Asylum has now been in operation about three years, during that time, we have received 204 insane patients, in all the various forms of insanity, from the furious maniac, to the harmless imbecile. Of this number [illegible] have been discharged perfectly restored to sound mind; and many others have been discharged, much improved. [illegible] and considering our very limited amount of accommodations, we feel gratified to know that the institution has afforded incalculable relief to many of our afflicted citizens and their families, and of the numerous persons that have visited the Asylum, during the last two years, all, as far as we have heard, have united in their approbation of the order, quiet, and [illegible] that prevail throughout the establishment.

But, we are sadly in want of more house room. During the last two years we have constantly had from 75 to 85 patients in the Asylum, and when it is known that a majority of these unfortunate creatures, require a separate room for each, it may be easily imagined the space necessary to accommodate them, and their nurses, attendants, &c. The house has been constantly filled to its utmost capacity, and we have been compelled during the last two years to refuse about seventy applications for admission. This was a necessity, and always painful to us, and has been the cause of much complaint, among the friends of the insane, and the community generally.

The appropriations heretofore made by the Legislature, for the support of the institution, has been liberal, and amply sufficient for that purpose, but the insane in this State, have now reached such a number, that it will require the completion of the whole plan of Buildings adopted by the Board for their accommodation.

We would therefore most respectfully request, that in calling the attention of the Legislature to this State Institution, Your Excellency will please point out to that Body, the great disadvantages under which we labor, and the pressing necessity of an appropriation to complete the buildings, thereby allowing [illegible] relief to a large class of our citizens, who are now laboring under the greatest of human infirmities.

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
T. F. NOONE,
Secretary to the Board, &c.

[F.]

NEW ORLEANS, 10th January, 1852.

His Excellency Governor Joseph Walker:

Sir:—I have the honor to inform you that the Case of the State of Louisiana vs. the Orleans Navigation Company is assigned for argument in the Supreme Court on Monday the 19th inst., and I sincerely hope that no obstacle will again [illegible]. As some time has already been lost by the forgetfulness of the Clerk to assign the case for argument on a former occasion when so requested. In the District Court the judgment was in favor of the State, [illegible] absolute forfeiture. On the appeal by the defendants I have prayed the Court so to amend that judgment as to decree a forfeiture of the Orleans Navigation Company in direct terms, and I have no reason to doubt of success, except on the single ground of the [illegible] of the law. I will however add that the constitutionality of the law by which the Attorney General is directed to institute this suit, is attacked on the ground that it embraces more than one object, and is therefore in conflict with article 116 of the constitution. When the Court decides, I will particularly inform your Excellency, in order that you may make my communication the burden of a special message to the Legislature.

I am engaged in preparing a communication to Your Excellency in relation to the case of the State vs. the Exrs. of John McDonogh, which when completed I shall transmit to Your Excellency with a request that it may be laid before the Legislature by special message from Your Excellency. In the meantime I shall be ready [illegible] to have a personal interview with Your Excellency touching the observations with which you may think proper to accompany this message.

I would be exceedingly pleased to be present at the Seat of Government at the opening of the session of the Legislature, but on the day of opening my duty obliges me to watch for the decision of the Court in the Navigation Company case, and to try some criminal cases which will be assigned for trial in the third week of this month. On the fourth Monday of this month cases are returnable to the Supreme Court from the Parishes of St. James, Ascension, Assumption, La Fourche Interior, Terrebonne, Iberville, West Baton Rouge, and Point Coupee, when and where it is the duty of the Attorney General to be present to represent the State in all appeals in which the State may be a party. On the second Monday of February the law expects me to be similarly situated in regard to appeals from Carroll, Madison, Tensas and Concordia, and on the 4th Monday of February appeals are returnable from the parishes of East and West Feliciana, East Baton Rouge, St. Tammany, St. Helena, and Washington. [illegible] Your Excellency will see the embarrassment of my position. [illegible] I would be pleased to hear from you.

With profound respect and esteem, your most
Obedient Servant, ISAAC JOHNSON,
Attorney General.

[G.]

SONOMA, California, October 25th, 1850.

To his Excellency Jos. Walker, Gov. of the State of Louisiana.

GOVERNOR:—The brilliant military successes of the army that invaded Mexico have in some measure withdrawn public attention from many events that had but little less influence on [illegible]

The patriotism, the zeal and unshrinking energy displayed by Louisiana at the first news of a Conflict on the Rio Grande inspired the whole nation with a spirit of honorable rivalry, that brought forth its entire force and spirit into the conflict.

In less than two weeks she raised, organized and equipped six full regiments of infantry, some of the companies of which were at sea in twelve days, [illegible] three hundred miles from the port of embarkation.

She is entitled to some trophy to perpetuate the memory of her efforts and the national success.

Permit one of her adopted sons to offer this memorial.

But the most important event of the war was the [illegible] of the Castle of San Juan de Ulua, [illegible] wood of one of the platforms of a battery [illegible] I have had constructed two chairs which I hope may seem suitable seats for the President of the Senate and speaker of the House of Representatives of the State.

May I ask of you to offer these chairs to those bodies, respectfully, begging their acceptance [illegible] their often obliged and grateful fellow-citizen,

PERSIFOR F. SMITH,
Brevet Major General,
U. S. Army.

To his Excellency, Joseph Walker, Governor of the State of Louisiana.

By virtue of a contract existing between the State and Centenary College, it becomes my duty to present to you the following report:

There are five professors in the College, teaching the following departments of education: 1st. The department of Moral and Mental science, embracing Rhetoric and Criticism, with practical exercises in Elocution and composition, Logic, Moral Philosophy, Mental Philosophy, Political Economy, Evidences of Christianity and International Law.

2nd. The department of Pure and Mixed Mathematics. In this Department are included Practical Surveying and Engineering, together with all that is taught in our Colleges in the United States, from Algebra to the Calculus.

3d. The department of Ancient Languages.

4th. The department of Modern Languages.

5th. The department of Natural Science, embracing Chemistry, Physiology, Geology and Mineralogy.—There is in connection with the College, a Preparatory School, in which two teachers are employed. The College was never in so flourishing a condition, and it is giving instruction annually to more than two hundred students.

There is no Theological department in connection with the College, nor are any religious dogmas taught. The Catholic and Protestant are found laboring in the Faculty for the advancement of a common cause.

The building which was consumed by fire has been re-built, and is now in better condition than it ever was. Considerable additions have been made to the library and apparatus during the last two years. [illegible] by the Governor have been in attendance without charge. Seven are in attendance at this time, and the College is ready to give education to three others. [illegible]

Hoping that the above brief report may be satisfactory to you, and that it may enable you to satisfy the Legislature, that the Trustees of the College are determined to observe faithfully the existing contract.

I remain your obedient friend,
A. M. RIVERS.
Centenary College of La., Dec. 15, 1851.

MARRIED.

[illegible]

City Intelligence.

Placide's Varieties.—The entertainments to-night commence with the comedy of "Moral Engagements," after which the [illegible] ballet of "The Sailor Boy's Return," and to conclude for the first time this season with the comedy of "Platonic Attachment."

First District Court.—The only case of importance tried yesterday was that of Jas. Dyson, charged with inveigling a slave several months since. He was found guilty.

Charge of Larceny.—Henry Millington, was charged yesterday before Recorder Genois with having [illegible] some $3,000 worth of goods [illegible] belonging to Ambrose Bayol, [illegible] to the Parish of Plaquemines. The goods in question were employed in saving wrecked merchandise from the ship Gertrude, and the accused stands charged with having taken away articles to the amount above specified. The case has not yet been completed.

Passing Spurious Coin.—A slave was charged yesterday before Recorder Genois with having passed off a spurious piece of coin for $5. F. Fastrier, a butcher in Treme market was the complainant.

COMMERCIAL.

The Markets.

TUESDAY EVENING Jan. 20, 1852.

The sales of Cotton to-day amounted to 4,000 bales, at yesterday's prices.

There is no change in Sugar; sales 300 hhds. Of Molasses, 1,200 bbls. were sold at 20@21c ℔ gallon.

The Flour market is dull, and we only hear of the sale of small lots, at [illegible] for Ohio, and [illegible] for [illegible] brands. There is but little Corn on sale, and limited parcels from store command 52@53c ℔ bushel.

Provisions have advanced. Mess Pork is [illegible] at $16 25, and a lot of 200 bbls. was sold at $15. Bacon Sides [illegible]. Nothing of consequence has been done in Lard.

Whiskey is firmer, with small sales at 17½c ℔ gallon for rectified.

Exchange in fair request, at former rates. Sterling [illegible]. Francs, [illegible]. Bills on New York at 60 days, [illegible] ℔ ct dis. Checks, [illegible] ℔ cent discount.

There is nothing in Freights.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Orleans Fire Company No. 21.—The officers and members of this Company are notified that a Quarterly Meeting will be held THIS EVENING, Wednesday, 21st January, at 7 o'clock, precisely. By order. LOUIS [illegible], Sec'y. ja21 1t

NOTICE.—Office of the Collector of Taxes on Coffee Houses, Groceries, Restaurants, Billiards, [illegible] of the First Municipality.—The owners of the above establishments are required to take their Licenses without delay. All establishments opened without License will be strictly proceeded against. VICTOR LABATUT, Collector. ja6 1m

[illegible] New Orleans Drainage [illegible], New Orleans, 8th January, 1852.—The annual election of six Directors by the stockholders, to serve during one year will take place on MONDAY, 26th January, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M., at the office of the Company, No 20 Bourbon street. H. A. HOFFMEYER, Secretary.

ORLEANS NAVIGATION COMPANY, New Orleans, Jan. 12th, 1852.—The Stockholders of this Company are hereby notified that the annual election for [illegible] Directors to serve for one year, will be held at the office of the Company, on Monday, February, 2nd, 1852, from 10 o'clock A. M. to 2 o'clock P. M. Office corner Toulouse and Franklin sts. HENRY GUYOL, Sec'y.

UNION BANK OF LOUISIANA, New Orleans, January 8, 1852.—An election by the Stockholders for six Directors will take place at the banking house, [illegible], on MONDAY, the 2d day of February next, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M. GEO. A. FREBET, Cashier.

BANK OF LOUISIANA, New Orleans, January 6th, 1852.—The Stockholders of this institution are hereby notified that the annual election for Directors will be held at the Banking House, on MONDAY 26th instant, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. R. M. DAVIS, Cashier.

CONSOLIDATED ASSOCIATION OF THE PLANTERS OF LOUISIANA, New Orleans, 31st December, 1851.—The annual election of three Directors, by the Stockholders, to serve during one year, will take place on MONDAY, 2d February next, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. By order of the Board. D. F. GUEX, Cashier.

CITIZENS BANK OF LOUISIANA, New Orleans, Dec 31, 1851.—An annual election of three Directors by the Stockholders of this institution, will be held at the office on MONDAY, the 23 February next. By order, EUG. ROUSSEAU, Cashier.

ADVANCES.—The undersigned will make Cash Advances on consignments to [illegible]. DELVAILLE & MORENO, 24 Old Levee.

WE will make CASH ADVANCES on consignments to [illegible], New York, or to our friends in London, Liverpool, Glasgow or Bristol. McDOWELL, MILLS & CO.

To Steamboat Agents.
THE undersigned has always on hand [illegible] BLOWER, in first rate order, and for sale at a moderate price. Apply to JOS. MITCHEL, 26 Poydras st.

Removal.
L. MAJESTE, Commission Merchant, informs the public that he has removed his store from [illegible] Tchoupitoulas street, to No. 110 Chartres street, between St. Louis and Conti sts.

Dissolution of Partnership.
THE partnership [illegible] under the title of West [illegible] and Baker, 73 Front Levee, 2d Municipality has been dissolved by mutual consent from this date. [illegible] New Orleans, January 15, 1852. J. WEST.

THE undersigned have formed a co-partnership under the style of AVET BROTHERS, for the transaction of a general commission business, as per act passed before A. Chiapella, a notary public, in this city. FRED. AVET, J. B. AVET, [illegible] J. AVET.

NOTICE.—Mr. Fran. E. Gaspar becomes a member of our firm from this date, [illegible] & VOORHIES.

FOR SALE.—A Brick [illegible] store doing good business, situated at the corner of Columbus and Villere streets. Apply on the premises.

[illegible] Sale on account of Departure.
THE undersigned, [illegible] Wines, Cordials, [illegible] and a fine grocery establishment, [illegible] streets. These establishments offer numerous advantages, [illegible]. J. E. LORFILME, [illegible]

Superior American Westphalia Hams.
The subscribers will receive a regular supply of [illegible] American Westphalia Hams, which will be furnished to the trade on accommodating terms. The well established character of these Hams, renders them peculiarly adapted to the wants of the city dealers. MARTIN, OWEN & CO., 112 Magazine st.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

Notice.
THE undersigned, lately arrived from Havre, begs leave to inform the public and his clients that he has dissolved his partnership with M. H. VALETON, on the 4th September last, and that he is the only owner of the establishment known for many years, under the title of Lorette & Co., corner Royal and Customhouse sts. J. P. LOREDHE.

NOTICE.—The partnership heretofore existing under the style of B. Maspereau & Co., is by mutual consent, dissolved since January 1st, 1852. The new firm of B. Sautre & Co., is charged with the settlement of the affairs of the late concern. S. MASPEREAU, B. GUERIN, B. SAUTRE.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—The undersigned, successors to B. Maspereau & Co., have by act passed before Joseph Lisbony, Notary, on the 14th January, 1852, entered into a partnership under the style of B. Sautre & Co., to commence on the 1st of January, 1852, and solicit a continuance of the patronage lately bestowed on the firm of their predecessors, at their stand No. 25 Fonde street. B. SAUTRE, A. J. CABRERGUT, B. MASPEREAU, B. GUERIN.

THE undersigned having formed a Co-Partnership under the title of LANATA, GANDOLFO & CO., for the term of three years from the 1st instant, as per act passed before Felix Percy, Notary Public, inform their friends and the public in general, that they will devote their time to the sale and purchase of Goods. They will always keep on hand Wines, Cordials, &c. of direct importation. DOMINIQUE LANATA, FOR. GANDOLFO, J. VIOSCA, Jr. New Orleans, 1st January, 1852.

BROUGHT to the Pound of the First Municipality, [illegible] A Bay Mare, with a white spot on one side, one hind foot white, and a mark on her neck; no other mark visible. If from the present date, to the 31st January, said animal is not reclaimed, she will be sold at this pound [illegible]. MICHEL DUREL, Keeper of the Pound.

Cancer Cured.
BY a newly discovered treatment, persons afflicted with cancer, for any length of time will be cured to the entire satisfaction of the patients [illegible] in a few weeks. [illegible] For particulars, apply by letter [illegible] Post office, New Orleans.

[illegible] PAPER for Mexican [illegible] FDO. AS FUENTES & CO.

FOR SALE—[illegible] FDO. AS FUENTES & CO.

MANZANILLA, SHERRY WINE & SWEET MALAGA [illegible] 22 Old Levee.

SARDINES [illegible] FDO. AS FUENTES & CO.

SUGAR [illegible] LOISON & SILVESTRE.

HAVANA [illegible] FDO. AS FUENTES & CO., 22 Old Levee.

BORDEAUX CLARET [illegible] FDO. AS FUENTES & CO., 22 Old Levee.

[illegible] E. J. HART & CO., [illegible] Tchoupitoulas.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

Placide's Varieties.
☞ First night of a new comedietta, never before acted in this city, entitled PLATONIC ATTACHMENT.
Wednesday Evening, Jan. 21st, Will be acted the comedy of MORAL ENGAGEMENTS. [illegible] After which the national ballet of THE SAILOR'S RETURN. To conclude with the new comedietta PLATONIC ATTACHMENT. [illegible]
☞ To-morrow, THURSDAY, a great bill for the benefit of Mons. Montplaisir.
Prices of Admission—Boxes and Parquette, 75c; Upper Boxes, 75c; Gallery, 25c.
☞ Doors open at half-past 6, performance to commence at 7.

GRAND VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT, AT THE ARMORY HALL, Wednesday, 21st January, 1852, for the benefit of Mr. G. KUTHNER, ex-member of the Orchestra of the Orleans Theatre.

Programme—Part 1st.
1. Overture d'Oberon, with the full orchestra, C. M. de Weber.
2. Grand Air of the Muette de Portici, sung by Mme. [illegible]
3. Solo on the Clarionet, executed by M. [illegible]
4. The Orphan Child, sung by M. [illegible]
5. Le Reve du Page, sung by Mr. [illegible]
6. Grand Fantasia on the Violin, executed by M. [illegible]

Part 2nd.
7. Overture, Preciosa, with full Orchestra.
8. Rondo by Mrs. [illegible]
9. Grand Fantasia on the Piano, by M. [illegible]
10. Grand Air of Otello, by M. [illegible]
11. Variations on the [illegible]
12. Grand Air of Charles [illegible]
ADMITTANCE $1.
☞ Doors will be opened at 6 [illegible]

ORLEANS BALL ROOM, [illegible] ST. CLAUDE [illegible]
MASQUERADE BALLS.
THIS splendid Room is now open [illegible]
A [illegible] Band of Music, under the direction of a good leader, will execute the most favorite Waltzes, Polkas, and Contre Dances.
Five Police Officers, appointed by the Recorder, will preserve order. No person will be admitted into the Hall with arms [illegible]. R. VIOSCA, Proprietor.

The American and Spanish Cockpit, WILL be open on CHRISTMAS DAY, [illegible] December, and the 1st January, and every SUNDAY during the season, [illegible] Fights to begin at eleven o'clock.

METAIRIE—LOUISIANA COURSE.
WEDNESDAY, January 21st, 1852.
First Race. Purse $100, [illegible]
1. John Clark enters (Robert Bowie's) ch. c. [illegible], by Thornhill, dam Quaker Girl, by Leviathan, 3 years old.
2. C. T. S. Nichols enters ch. f. Jenny Owens, by Traveler, dam Mary Queen of Scots, 4 years old.
3. D. Barnes enters ch. h. Reuben Butler by Thornhill, dam by Wild Bill, 3 years old.
4. [illegible] enters ch. f. [illegible] Green, by Ambassador, [illegible] 4 years old.

SECOND RACE.
PURSE, $150—A SINGLE DASH OF TWO MILES.
1. John Clark enters (W. Cottrell's) ch. f. Julia Dean, by Imp. Albion, [illegible] 4 years old.
2. T. B. Goldsby enters ch. f. by Traveler, dam Ann Barrow, [illegible] 4 years old.
3. A. L. Bingaman enters ch. f. Nancy Perkins, by Glencoe, dam Martha Washington, 3 years old.
Thursday, Jan. 22, [illegible] Two Mile Heats.
Friday, [illegible] Mile Heats.
Saturday, [illegible] Three Mile Heats.

Way Mail for New York, via Mobile.
WILL be kept in future at the desk of [illegible]

Freight, Trunks, Parcels, etc.
FORWARDED BY ADAMS & CO'S
New York and New Orleans EXPRESS.
OFFICES.
16 and 19 Wall street, New York.
[illegible] Main street, Hartford, Ct.
[illegible] State street, New Haven, Ct.
116 Chesnut street, Philadelphia.
[illegible] Baltimore street, Baltimore.
Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington.
7 Fourteenth street, Richmond, Virginia.
[illegible] Washington street, Boston.
ADAMS & CO., 77 Camp st.

DOLBEAR'S WRITING AND BOOK-KEEPING ACADEMY, [illegible]

WRITING ACADEMY, No. 10 Camp street. [illegible] J. W. DOLBEAR.

Clearing out Sale of an elegant Stock of Dry Goods, [illegible] P. & E. REILLY & CO., corner Canal and [illegible]

Direct Importation of French and English [illegible] NORTH BLOTHE & CO.

SUNDRIES.—[illegible] Wine, Brandy, [illegible] B. TALAMON [illegible] Levee.

LANDING [illegible] GIRAUD [illegible] Old Levee.

F. FABRE & CO. [illegible]

LINEN GOODS [illegible] McDOWELL, MILLS & CO.

Index to Laws and Treaties. [illegible] ALEXANDER LEVY & CO.

WINES.—[illegible] F. AS FUENTES & CO., 22 Old Levee.

FRENCH PAPER [illegible] FDO. AS FUENTES & CO.

EMPTY BOTTLES.—[illegible] FDO. AS FUENTES & CO., 22 Old Levee.

BRANDY FRUITS [illegible] FDO. AS FUENTES & CO.

[illegible] FDO. AS FUENTES & CO., 22 Old Levee.

[illegible] DELVAILLE & MORENO, 24 Old Levee.