THE DAILY BEE.

The New Orleans Bee.

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THE DAILY BEE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 21.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

It was stated yesterday in the telegraphic summary of the foreign news, that the Private Secretary of the Emperor NAPOLEON had published an authoritative statement declaring that the Emperor had no other than peaceable intentions towards England. Although this is the latest exposition of the Imperial sentiments touching the delicate subject of the relations of France towards the British Empire, it is by no means the only one. Repeatedly during the last six months LOUIS NAPOLEON has taken occasion, either directly or indirectly, to tranquillize the apprehensions of the English public, which had been excited to the strongest and highest pitch by the panic-mongers of the London *Times*. Less than a month ago the French Minister of the Interior addressed a confidential communication to all the prefects in France, directing them to exert their authority to modify the tone of the articles in the public journals relative to England. The following is an extract from that official document:

> The Minister expresses his regret that such exaggerated language should be used when speaking of the English people, as well by reason of the disquietude which it must excite among them as that it tends to destroy the confidence and embitter the feelings of those whose opinions the English press is the channel. The prefects are, therefore, instructed to request the journals in question to be more circumspect; and, while they are at liberty to refute errors and protest against injustice and calumny, and to defend energetically the rights of the country, they might easily avoid offending the susceptibilities of a great people, and rather promote friendly relations between the two countries. By pursuing this line of conduct the Minister is of opinion that the dignity of the Imperial policy may be reconciled with the interests of the subjects of France and the maintenance of peace, and with this view the prefects are invited to turn their influence with the press and with public opinion.

If, as the London correspondent of the *National Intelligencer* properly remarks, these instructions mean any thing, they certainly tend to indicate an opinion that LOUIS NAPOLEON desires to preserve the good relations which exist at present between the two nations, to reconcile the interests of France with those of her allies, and to maintain peace. Sensible and rational as this deduction appears to be, it has little force upon the public mind of great Britain. Just as long as the London *Times* continues to fright the feast and school isle from its propriety, by sounding the alarm and intimating its fears of an approaching invasion, and just as long as the *News* and the *Morning Chronicle* follow suit, while the provincial journals of Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham and Edinburgh echo far and wide the outcry of the London Leviathan, so long will the efforts of the discreet and sagacious prince who occupies the French throne, to reassure England and convince her that her disquietude and mistrust are unfounded, prove vain and nugatory.

Meanwhile, one excellent effect has followed these periodical panics. England is arming. She has become thoroughly convinced that in these troublous times the most effectual method of preserving peace is to prepare for war. Although the alliance between Great Britain and France has never been dissolved; although the two empires have sent out a joint fleet to retaliate upon the Chinese the defeat at Peiho; although the Emperor NAPOLEON avails himself of every possible opportunity to assure his neighbor on the other side of the channel of his pacific intentions, yet we learn from reliable authority that the arming of the people of England progresses with astonishing activity. The young and active men of every city, town and hamlet are enrolling themselves as defenders of their native land. The stirring invocation of TENNYSON, "Form, Riflemen, form," has been literally obeyed, and at the present time nearly half a million of Englishmen, supplied with the rifle in its most improved shape, are organizing into volunteer companies. We are not sorry to see England trusting to the brave hearts and stout arms of her yeomanry. Any country possessing institutions which wear the semblance of freedom, should be willing to confide her destinies to her own sons. Leave standing armies for the protection of despots whose thrones would be insecure if left unguarded by glittering steel. We presume no State in ancient or modern times could be more safe from occupation by a foreign foe than our own republic, and yet the regular army of the United States would constitute little more than a brigade of the military strength of France, Austria or Russia. But we have a certain and inexhaustible resource in our militia, trained from their youth to military habits and discipline—every man a marksman, and almost every man a hunter; familiar with that accurate and deadly weapon, the rifle—and therefore prepared at any time to assume the habits of a regular army, to carry their knapsacks, endure fatiguing marches, meet the foe in battle, without flinching, and comport themselves in all respects like veterans. Let England cherish her militia, and when her wooden walls are broken down, she will be enabled to fall back upon a defense which never fails.

The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* is entirely sanguine of the ultimate election of a Republican Speaker. In this he may peradventure be right. We ourselves have all along believed that the Black Republicans would triumph. HASKIN and HICKMAN, anti-Lecomptonites, after a feeble fluttering in the ranks of the Independents, have taken their final leave with the Republicans. CLARKE, of New York, and SCHWARTZ, of Pennsylvania, have voted once or twice on the same side, and will doubtless in the end remain where their native instincts are leading them. Two or three more anti-Lecompton votes are alone wanting to secure the victory to the Republicans, and they will doubtless be found in due season, for they will be well paid for their treachery.

The same correspondent says that nothing but fear of misapprehension prevents the Southern Opposition from openly affiliating with the Republicans. This is a palpable slander. There is not a member of the Southern Opposition—not even H. WINTER DAVIS, whose hatred to Democracy might possibly induce the suspicion that in order to compass its defeat, he would be ready to coalesce with any party—who has shown signs of flinching during the protracted and exciting struggle for Speaker of the House. Whatever may be the result, we are morally certain the Southern Opposition will do nothing for which their constituents can justly reproach them. The Democratic party have no right to count upon their support, though we believe they would receive it, could they demonstrate the certainty of success by the aid of the Southern Opposition vote. But as for the South Americans sustaining SHERMAN, or any other signer or recommender of HELPER's abolition book, we scout the idea as preposterous. The Opposition at the South have little love to waste upon Democracy, by which they have ever been vilified and maligned; but they entertain so unmitigated a detestation of Black Republican principles, as for ever to prevent them from giving the slightest countenance to those who represent the foul and traitorous doctrines.

GARDNER'S NEW ORLEANS DIRECTORY FOR 1860.—We have received from Mr. CHARLES GARDNER a copy of his Directory for 1860; and after looking carefully through it we are decidedly of opinion that it is the most accurate and complete Directory ever published in our city. It contains a thousand perfectly correct colored map of New Orleans, a full city record, a street guide, a general directory of the citizens, a business directory, and an appendix containing a vast amount of useful information. We recommend this practical and useful work to the community in general. Every merchant at least should have a copy.

GIFTS, GIFTS.—At No. 9 Camp Street, EVANS keeps his bookstore, and remember that the purchaser of every book is entitled to a gift, which may be worth a hundred dollars. The publications are all of a standard character and are sold at the usual trade prices. Now is the time to court Fortune, and obtain perhaps her choicest favors.

GOOD THINGS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—Just take a look at the advertisement of J. W. FIN, No. 99 Camp Street, and see what a lot of nice things for the holidays he offers. His stock of champagne alone is worthy the attention of amateurs, comprising as it does some of the very choicest brands. Those who want fine groceries are sure to be satisfactorily supplied by calling at FIN'S.

CHENEY SALE—SEASONABLE DRY GOODS, LACES, &c. We call the attention of our readers to the sale of dry goods, ladies' cloaks and mantillas, to take place THIS DAY, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at Sandos & Lonsmont's auction room, No. 77 Chartres street. Terms at sale.

Look out for imitations of Lea & Perrins' Worcestershire Sauce. See advertisement of John Duncan & Sons.

Government Reports.

The following summaries of the business, during the last fiscal year, of several of the bureaus of the Government have found their way to the public in advance of the official reports to Congress:

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

	Acres.
The total amount of cash land sales for the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, and the quarter ending the 30th September, were	4,970,496
Amount received $2,107,476 17	
Located same period, in bounty land warrants	2,017,440
Approved, same period, under swamp grant acts of 1849-50	1,712,060
Certified, same period, to certain States for railroad grants	6,318,303
Total quantity disposed of during five quarters in cash, for the satisfaction of bounty land claims, swamp grants, and the construction of railroads	16,018,183

The cash receipts were less than last year but more acres were disposed of, owing to the operation of the graduation act of 1854.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The amount applicable during the fiscal year for fulfilling Indian treaties is	$4,857,407 94
Amount drawn from the Treasury, and paid, expended, or remitted	3,402,014 52
Amount of appropriations submitted for the present fiscal year was	2,575,271 94
Amount actually appropriated	2,484,271 94
Making applicable to expenditures during the year, including unexpended balance of previous year, $202,002 89, on trust funds in stocks	4,136,667 65
Amount estimated for the next fiscal year, including treaties ratified by last Congress	2,505,996 38

Of these twelve treaties ten are with different tribes and bands in Washington Territory and Oregon, embracing about 1900 Indians, by which their tribes are extinguished to some 59,000,000 acres of land, at a cost of about five and three-fifths cents per acre.

PENSIONS.

During the year one hundred and ninety-six pensioners have been added to the rolls and the stipends of thirty-eight others have been increased.

Whole number of invalids on the rolls	4,861
Who receive annually	$625,155 93
Entire number on the rolls June 30, eighty having died during the year	165
Yearly sum required to pay survivors	$9,903 63

One revolutionary soldier was added to the rolls under the act of June, 1832, at $20 annually. Under the acts providing for the widows of Revolutionary officers and soldiers, one hundred and twenty-five original cases have been admitted and seven others increased.

Whole number on rolls at close of year	3,714
Requiring per annum	$291,668 78
Two hundred and twenty five original claims were allowed under the act granting five and a half years' half pay pensions to widows and orphans of deceased officers and soldiers of the army, requiring annually $15,751.	
Under the act of 1850, renewing and continuing this class of pensioners, 1328 claims were allowed, requiring annually	$97,136 60
Whole number half-pay pensioners on the rolls 1927, requiring annually	156,218 76
Whole number army pensioners on the rolls 30th June 10,667, requiring	982,456 55
Twenty navy pensioners were inscribed during the year, and thirty two claims were allowed widows and orphans of others, requiring annually	7,363 50
Number of navy pensioners under all acts 918, requiring annually	132,477 00
The aggregate paid for army and navy pensioners during the year is	1,183,140 89

Six thousand eight hundred and one bounty land warrants were issued, requiring 1,080,800 acres; which, added to the previous issues, gives a total of 65,770,220 acres granted for military purposes.

CONTESTS FOR SPEAKER.—Twice within the ten past years have there been prolonged contests for the office of Speaker of the House of Representatives. The first occurred in the thirty-first Congress, and after ineffectual ballotings, extending through several weeks, the plurality rule was adopted, which resulted in the election of Howell Cobb, by two votes, over Mr. Winthrop. Four years ago the contest for Speaker lasted from the first Monday in December to Saturday, the fourth of February. After one hundred and thirty-two ballots the plurality rule was adopted, by a vote of 113 to 104, and Mr. Banks was elected by 113 votes; Mr. Aiken, of South Carolina, had 105 votes. The President's message was sent to Congress December 31st—more than a month before the organization of the House.

From Charlestown.

CHARLESTOWN, December 14.—The town is rapidly filling up with strangers, to witness the approaching execution of Cook, for exciting citizens, adopted on the occasion of Captain Brown's execution, is not to be repeated.

Mr. Willard, of Indiana, accompanied by Mrs. Crawley, of New York, the sister of Cook, and the Hon. D. H. Voorhies, Attorney General of Indiana, arrived here yesterday and visited Cook. The interview with his sister was most affecting. Later in the day Dr. Staunton and his wife, of Indiana, and Miss Hughes arrived. Mrs. Staunton is a sister of Cook, and Miss Hughes a cousin. They also visited the prisoner, presenting a scene of grief and anguish scarcely to be described.

They all promised to see him again, but through the advice of Gov. Willard, they each wrote him a few farewell lines, and all the ladies have left for their homes, the male relatives designing to remain with him to the last.

Arrangements have been made to have the body of Cook taken to Iowa for interment. Some of Coppie's relatives are expected to arrive here to-day. His body will be sent to his mother at Springfield, Iowa.

The bodies of Green and Copeland, it is thought, will not be claimed, and will be decently interred near the gallows.

The prisoners this morning were cheerful, and making religious preparations for death. Cook was much cast down after the parting with his sisters, but is now calm and collected, awaiting his doom.

CHARLESTOWN, December 15—The hotels and private houses are all crowded. A strict surveillance is kept on strangers, though those who come from curiosity, and are well vouched for on the question of our peculiar institution, are allowed to remain.

Three gentlemen, friends of Coppie, visited him yesterday. He lived with them in Ohio during his boyhood, and they speak of him as having been a quiet and inoffensive youth. They will remain with him until after the execution, and take his body to his mother.

Gov. Willard's interview with Cook, last evening, for the purpose of delivering a message to the prisoner from his sister, Mrs. Willard, was very affecting. Gov. Willard is much attached to Cook, and wept over him as if he was his own son. His lamentations could be heard throughout the building.

The prisoners are all calm and resigned today. They have been engaged in spiritual exercises, under the direction of Rev. H. G. North, with much apparent devotion.

The gallows was erected this evening.

The negroes will be hung between 11 and 12 o'clock, and the whites between 12 and 1 o'clock tomorrow.

NEW YORK, December 16.—Goldsmith's percussion cap factory, at Brooklyn, exploded to-day, killing Ernest Hyler, at the time he was mixing fulminating powder.

Washington Items.

WASHINGTON, December 15.—Minister Yancey, on his return from South America, was made the bearer of a magnificent gold snuff box studded with diamonds, and valued at five thousand dollars, from General Urquiza, President of the Argentine Confederation, as a mark of his personal regard to ex-Commissioner Bowlin, who is not yet aware of the present.

Senator Hamlin's chamber was entered at an early hour this morning, and two gold watches and some cash were stolen, without awakening him.

The Senate in executive session yesterday confirmed the nomination of John Hart as Superintendent of Public Printing, and Amasa J. Parker as Attorney for the Southern District of New York, in place of Sedgwick, deceased. Other nominations were not definitely acted upon.

Mr. Stallworth, Democratic Congressman of the Mobile District, is still prostrate at home from the effect of his recent attack.

The Charleston *Courier* says it is reported that Senator Hammond has expressed his intention to resign his seat at the close of the present session. He has been prevented from attending at Washington by indisposition.

The Secretary of the Treasury has invited proposals to be received till the 27th instant, for the lease of any portion or the whole of the three millions of dollars, in Treasury notes, in exchange for gold, under the authority of the act of Congress of December, 1847, and March, 1853.

In the South Carolina Legislature, on the 13th, Mr. Whaley, a member from Charleston, submitted to the House of Representatives the following preamble and resolutes to be adopted:

> Wherens, Fraternal relations are dissolved between the North and South, the slaveholding States demanding the dissolution of the Union be consummated; and this state of affairs will probably render a recent to arms necessary; therefore, be it
>
> Resolved, That the sum of $200,000 be placed at the disposal of the Governor, to be used at his discretion, according to the exigency of the times.

LATEST FROM PIKE'S PEAK.—A dispatch from Atchison, Missouri, says:

> The express from Denver City arrived here this morning, bringing dates to the 6th instant, and ten thousand dollars in dust.
>
> The snowbound reports the mercury down to 47 degrees below zero.
>
> On Friday, the 9th instant, several men on their return were frozen to death, and a number badly frozen from the extreme cold.
>
> Mining operations have ceased for the winter.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

Further European Intelligence.

ARRIVAL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

European Congress—Affairs in Italy.

NEW YORK, December 20.—The steamship City of Washington, of the Liverpool, New York and Philadelphia steamship line, has arrived at this port.

She left Liverpool on the 7th, and Cork on the 8th, bringing some additional items of interest not previously telegraphed, although her dates are no later than those by the North American at Portland.

GENERAL AND POLITICAL NEWS.

LONDON, December 6.—A dispatch from Paris states that France is opposed to the appointment of Count Cavour as the representative of Piedmont in the Congress which is about to assemble at Paris.

A dispatch from Berlin states that France and England are consulting upon the course of policy they shall adopt in the approaching Congress with regard to the arrangement of the Italian question.

It is believed that the policy of France and England will not be satisfactory to Austria.

De Rechberg, the Prime Minister of Austria, is to represent Austria at the opening of the Congress, to be replaced, however, by another plenipotentiary after the preliminaries of the Congress have been settled.

AFFAIRS IN ITALY.

The *Turin Monitor* says that Central Italy is now better armed than at the close of the late war, and will persevere in defending a strong Italian kingdom.

Demarbeche has been appointed Ambassador to France from Piedmont.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, December 20.—In the Senate to-day Mr. Thompson introduced the Homestead bill, which was read twice.

Senator Pugh's resolution that a committee on Territories be requested to inquire into the expediency of repealing the clause in the act of organization of the Territories of Utah and New Mexico which requires their territorial laws to be submitted to Congress for approval or rejection, was taken up. An amendment was sent round by Mr. Harlan, who wished to inquire into the propriety of authorizing the New Mexicans to elect their own territorial officers. Mr. Green then rose up and said that, being unwell, and wishing to speak upon the subject, he would like to postpone it.

Mr. Wade said he was in the Senate, during the discussion upon Mr. Pugh's territorial resolution, Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, said that no United States Senator had ever been elected President of the United States, and he attributed the fact to the habit Senators had of introducing such resolutions, and making filibustering speeches, which rose up like a ghost before them the moment their names were mentioned in connection with the Presidency.

The further consideration of the subject was postponed until Monday.

In the House, Mr. Holman quoted Pinkney, Patrick Henry, Jackson, and others against the right of a State to secede from the Union.

He enlogized Indiana as a conservative Union loving State.

Mr. Cochrane was highly complimentary to those who got up the Union meetings North; said the Union was in danger, and censured the inflammatory course of the abolitionists and Republicans.

He said that whatever the feelings of the South were, the North, as a whole, would protect and support her in every right guaranteed by the Constitution; that the democracy of the North have stood and will stand firm by their fellow Democrats throughout the Union.

The House then proceeded to the fourteenth ballot, with the following result: Sherman 111; John A. McClernand, of Georgia, 51; Boteler 39; Barksdale 15; scattering 34.

FIFTEENTH BALLOT.—Sherman 110; Boteler 43; McClernand 25; Barksdale 10; scattering 34.

SIXTEENTH BALLOT.—Sherman 109; Boteler 38; McClernand 28; scattering 48.

The House then adjourned.

DESERTION OF NORTHERN COLLEGES.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20.—A meeting of Southern medical students took place in this city last night, and a large number resolved to leave the schools of this city. The Jefferson College loses two hundred students, and the Pennsylvania University one hundred. A large number of them go to the Richmond Medical College. The three hundred leave to-morrow by a special train for the South.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

PHILADELPHIA, December 20.—It appears that over four hundred students are about to leave some. It is said that some of the Southern medical colleges have induced them to leave and come in their schools.

GEN. SCOTT FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

NEW YORK, December 20.—An immense Union meeting assembled at the Academy of Music last night. Not less than 20,000 persons were present during the evening, inside and out.

Resolutions were adopted, nominating Gen. Scott for the Presidency in 1860.

THE UNION MEETING AT NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 20.—The Union meeting held last night at the Academy of Music nominated General Houston, of Texas, Vice-President. Several resolutions were passed—one censuring the punishing of the Harper's Ferry insurgents; another agreeing to stand by the Constitution, and deploring the mixing up of the slavery question with politics—also agreeing to respect the laws, treaties and judicial decisions in reference to slavery.

FIRE IN MEDINA, OHIO.

MEDINA, OHIO, December 20.—The extensive grain mill of Messrs. Hill, Whalen & Co., of New Orleans, was destroyed by fire last night, with $50,000 worth of grain which was stored in the building. The total loss is estimated at $45,000. The property was insured for $37,000.

LATER FROM HAVANA AND SOUTH AMERICA.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER DE SOTO.

NEW YORK, December 20.—The steamer De Soto, from New Orleans via Havana, has arrived at this port, with advices from Havana to the 16th inst.

The bark Rosa Blanca, from Santa Martha (New Granada) reports that a battle was expected between General Nictoe, at the head of the Liberal forces, and General Posado, of Barranquilla. The latter was holding that place on the 25th of November. Business was everywhere entirely suspended.

RIVER INTELLIGENCE.

LOUISVILLE, December 20.—The Ohio at this point is still rising, with 4½ feet of water in the canal, and 6½ feet on the falls.

St. LOUIS, December 20.—The river here is stationary, with 5 feet of water in the channel to Cairo.

STEAMBOATS PASSING.

VICKSBURG, December 20.—The steamer Marengo passed down at 4, the Yorkburg and the Scotland at 10 o'clock last night, and the Choctaw at 2 o'clock this morning.

[From the Philadelphia Ledger.]

An Excellent Letter for Every One to Read.

The following letter was written by Daniel Webster nearly eight years ago. It originates in homely topics, and proceeds from those to others of more general import and interest—the duties of a patriot under the Constitution and the Union. The great political sense of the constitutional expounder is not more evident in the mode of illustration than it is in the patriotism which inspires every word and the true national sentiment which it seeks to inculcate. Mr. Webster had grown up with the Union; he had seen it daily giving strength and power to the nation. He appreciated and said that the liberties and security of the people and the prosperity of the country rest upon the solidarity of the Union. The Union, with the faithful observance of the obligations that each State owes to the other. Hence the earnestness with which he seeks to impress this fact in the familiar illustration which his letter contains. Nothing, probably, has been written upon our constitutional obligations which comes home so practically, so forcibly, and so strikingly. It is a valuable lesson, such as can come only from a patriot and statesman, and, as an illustration of political duty, is worth volumes of exposition. Its frankness, its generous sentiments, and conscientious sense of duty must commend it to every reader:

LETTER FROM DANIEL WEBSTER TO JOHN TAYLOR.

WASHINGTON, March 17, 1845.

JOHN TAYLOR: Go ahead. The heart of the winter is broken, and before the first day of April all your land may be ploughed. Buy the oxen of Gen. Mason, if you think the price fair. Pay for the hay. I send you a check for $160 for these two objects. Put the great oxen in a condition to be turned out to pasture. Get a good, large ox team, and I think, in addition to this, four oxes and a pair of four-year-old steers will do your work. If you think so, then dispose of the Barren ox, or myself them, and send them to pasture for beef. I know not when I shall see you, but I hope before planting. If you need any thing, such as guano, for instance, write to Joseph Brown, Esq., Boston, and he will send it to you.

Whatever ground you sow or plant, see that it is in good condition. We want no dung-spot crops. "A little farm well tilled" is to a farmer the next best thing to "a little wife well willed." Cultivate your garden. Use it to produce sufficient quantities of useful vegetables, and your family will eat his family from a good garden. Take care to keep my mother's garden in good order, for we all love it well. Pay the wages of a man to take care of it. I have sent you many garden seeds. Distribute them among your neighbors. Send them to the starved in the village, that every body may have a share of them without cost. I am glad that you have chosen Mr. Pike representative. He is a true man; he knows as well as any Hampshire man, persons who call themselves Whigs, are no whigs at all, and no better than disunionists. Any man who hesitates in practicing and securing to every part of the country its constitutional rights to an unmolested, free, and safe intercourse, is no sound Whig.

John Taylor! If one of your boys should say that he honors his father and mother, and loves his brothers and sisters, but still thinks that one of them should be driven out of the family, what would you say of him? Do tell him, that there is no real family love in him! You and I are farmers; we never talk politics; our talk is of crops; but remember this; that any man who attempts to produce part of the country against another is just as wicked as he would be who should attempt to cut up a cultivated bottom farm. Taylor and his neighbor, old Mr. John Webster, or his other neighbor, Captain Burbleigh. These are some intimate that live best in the fire; and there are some men who delight in heat, smoke, confusion, and even political conflagration. They do not relish the things which make for peace. They cry only controversy, contention, and strife. Have no communion with such persons, either as friends or politicians. You have no more right to say that slavery ought not to exist in Virginia than a Virginian has to say that slavery ought to exist in New Hampshire. This is a question left to every State to decide for itself; and if we mean to keep the States together, we must leave to every State this power of deciding for itself. I think I never wrote you a word before on politics. I shall not do it again. I only say, love your country, and your whole country; and when men attempt to persuade you to get into a quarrel with the rest of other States, tell them "that you want to mind your own business; and advise them to mind theirs. John Taylor, you are a free man; you possess good principles; you have a large family to rear and provide for by your labor. Be thankful to the Government which secures you against those, which does not bear you down by excessive taxation, but which holds out to you and to yours the hope of all the blessings which industry, industry, and industry may give. John Taylor, thank God morning and evening that you were born in such a country. John Taylor, never write me another word upon politics. Let the kindest remembrance to your wife and children; and when you look from your eastern window upon the graves of my family remember that he who is the author of this letter must soon follow them to another world. DANIEL WEBSTER.

MARRIAGE OF COUSINS.—Gov. Magoffin, of Kentucky, recommends the Legislature of that State to prohibit by law, under severe penalties, the marriage of cousins. He says that the imbeciles, insane, deaf-mutes and blind in the different asylums in that State, who are the offspring of cousins, are from sixteen to twenty per cent., of the whole number; and he claims that it is the right and duty of the State to protect itself against the evil and expense by forbidding such unions, which nature plainly forbids by the penalty she so frequently inflicts.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.—At the regular meeting of this Board last evening, President Hixon occupied the chair.

Resolutions from the lower Board, for the cleaning out of the Canal street and Melpomene street canals, were concurred in.

A resolution to re-advertise the contract for collecting the revenues of the St. Bernard Market was also concurred in.

A resolution to re-advertise the contract for collecting the revenues of the Mayor, and J. B. Slawson & Co., was referred to a special committee.

The Streets and Landings Committee reported in favor of not concurring with the action of the lower Board in their rejection of the contracts given out by the Mayor for the building and pipes of the Levee Waterworks.

A resolution was then adopted approving of the contracts adjudicated by the Mayor. The Board then adjourned.

BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN.—Thirteen members of this Board answered to their names last evening, and President Munroe occupied the chair.

A message from the Mayor adviting an appropriation for the celebration of the 8th of January, was laid on the table, subject to call.

The Controller announced the adjudication of a contract to Jas. Jolin for $4400, for cleaning the streets of the 11th ward, Third District. Referred to the Streets and Landings Committee.

The Treasurer announced a balance on hand of $13,333.

A petition was read praying for the closing of the Louisiana Ball Room, at the corner of Elysian Fields and Victory streets, ordered by an ordinance passed last year, but never enforced.

An ordinance relative to the tax on real and professional property, for the purpose of building an iron courthouse, was offered by Alderman Leefe and referred.

Alderman Pettingill offered a resolution to sell the privilege of collecting taxes on non-resident agents and dealers in merchandise, &c., for the year 1860. Referred to the Finance Committee.

A resolution appropriating $2500 for a celebration on Sunday, the 8th of January, was referred to the Finance Committee.

A resolution was adopted providing for the purchase of 200,000 feet of yellow pine lumber for repairing the plank roads of the First and Fourth Districts.

An ordinance was passed imposing a fine of $6 per week on every person who allows the old street numbers to remain on their houses after having been notified by the Street Commissioner to remove them.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the Mayor to place up Turner's Hall, on Franklin street, as a nuisance.

An ordinance was passed providing a penalty of $20 for loading vehicles with more than the following weights: 10 bales cotton; 8 barrels beef, pork or lard; 20 barrels flour; 30 sacks coffee; 30 sacks corn; 36 kegs nails; 4 casks bacon; 16 sacks salt; 4 tierces rice; 20 bales hay; 30 boxes or tubs tobacco; 10 hogsheads or pipes brandy; 8 casks wine; 8 barrels liquor; 50 pigs lead; 2 hogsheads tobacco; 3 hogsheads sugar.

The Committee on Education reported at length adversely to the petition of numerous residents of Jefferson parish asking permission to send their children to our public schools. The Committee thought such permission would be detrimental to the interest of the tax-payers of New Orleans.

Alderman Guirnea gave notice of a resolution he intends introducing to change the hour of meeting of this Board from 6 until 8, so as to meet the change made in the upper Board.

The Board then adjourned.

FATAL AFFRAY BETWEEN GAMBLERS—*George Ross Shot and Killed by Edward L. Israel.*—A desperate fight took place at half-past 7 o'clock last night in the drug store of the St. Charles Hotel, between two well known gamblers of this city—George Ross and Edward L. Israel—which resulted in the death of the former.

Israel and Ross had been very drunk all afternoon, and had quarreled at 4 o'clock in McConnell's bar-room, in the alley near the Varieties Theatre, but had separated then without coming to blows. They met again at half past seven o'clock in the rotunda bar-room of the St. Charles Hotel, and immediately got into an altercation and a fight. Whether both drew out their pistols or not we do not know. Some say that Ross had his revolver drawn and clubbed in his right hand, and was beating Israel over the head with it, when the latter drew a revolver and fired four times, two of the balls taking fatal effect in the breast of Ross.

There was a great crowd in the bar-room at the time, but the excitement was so intense it was impossible to obtain the particulars of the fight. Officers Taylor and Ximoe ran in as soon as they heard the shots, and went after Israel, whom they found lying down in the passage from the rotunda, leading out into Common street. After he had shot Ross, Israel had stagered off through this passage, but fell down from drunkenness. After he was taken to the police station, the Chief of Police sent for a doctor to dress the wounds on his head and face, which were quite severe, while he also complained of an internal pain on the right side of the chest.

Officers Farrell and Izard went into the bar-room also when they heard the shots, and found Ross lying on the floor, bleeding profusely from a wound in the breast. They sent him to the Charity Hospital, where he died in half an hour.

Another statement of the affair is that Israel struck Ross over the head with his cane, when they first came together, and then drawing his revolver, fired four times, two of the balls taking effect upon all the time, and that Ross then wrenched the pistol out of Israel's hand and beat him over the head until he fell back exhausted from his exertions, when the Chief of Police came up, and one of Allen & Wheelock's five-barrelled, self-cocking revolvers. It was brought to the police office by officers Boylan and Howard, and one chamber was still loaded and capped.

SEVERAL FLEDGERS.—Robt. W. Wren had five women of dissolute character—Lina Schaefer, Mary Hudson, Elizabeth Stewart, Mary Schmidt and Catherine Lewis—detained yesterday on the charge of robbing him of $400 in a house of ill-fame on Dryades street. They will have to answer before Recorder Monroe on the 28th.

RECORDER WILDY'S COURT.—Frank Schrom was remanded to await an examination on the charge of stealing a note and $175 from Jean Sebecqulig, which he took, with other trifles, out of the latter's armoir. Some of these trifles were found in Schrom's possession, and he negotiated the note.

Peter Callaghan withdrew his charge against A. Bernard of assault and battery.

Manuel Smith and Juan Bolinario, whom Bernard claims to be possessing, had left four barrels of whisky by officers Spellier and Voeux we lately reported, were discharged. They said they had been employed by one Charles Bernard to carry the whisky from a Havana vessel, and no one has come forward to claim the liquor, they could not be held on the charge of having stolen goods in their possession.

DRAWING REVOLVER.—A Mississippian named Wm. A. Hayden was arrested yesterday on Rousseau, on St. Charles street, last evening, for drawing a revolver on Lawrence Kelly, a cab-driver, and threatening to shoot him. Hayden was intoxicated at the time, and while he had $600 carefully stowed away in a body belt, $1141 96 was lying in his pocket in gold and silver.

RECORDER WILDY AND DAVE KEENEY.—We had occasion yesterday in regard to the cause for which Recorder Wildy fined Dave Keeney $50 a long time since. Although Keeney had brutally beaten a caller in the Recorder's office, yesterday, he said he wanted to ship the next day, and declined making any affidavit. The Recorder then fined him $50 for what he had been arrested, yesterday, and he is now in jail for which he awaits his trial. The Recorder then fined Keeney $50 for what he had been arrested, yesterday, and he is now in jail for which he awaits his trial. The Recorder then fined him