The New-Orleans Bee.

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE STATE ..... NEW-ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 3, 1851.

C. F. WEISSE, Proprietor. 90, 92 CHARTRES STREET.

TERMS OF THE BEE.

DAILY PAPER, (one year in advance) $12 00
COUNTRY PAPER, semi-weekly, (one year in advance,) 5 00

In all cases the subscriber must have one week's notice in writing, before he can be allowed to discontinue.

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☞ The privilege of Annual Advertisers is limited to their advertising strictly within the line of their business, and in extent to one square every other day.

The New-Orleans Daily Bee.

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

Monday Morning Feb. 3, 1851.

☞ The Northern Mail failed yesterday from beyond Mobile.

JENNY LIND.

The anticipated presence of JENNY, the divine, the enchantress, the nightingale, the angel, already begins to exert its wonted influence over the press and the people. The first is getting into preliminary ecstacies, devoting leaders and paragraphs to the fame of the renowned songstress, chaunting her praises in advance, and copying every thing that tends to render her peculiarities of voice, style and execution intelligible to the humblest capacity. The second are speculating on the prices of seats, the extent of accommodation, the number of concerts which JENNY will give, &c. Critics are nibbing their pens, and cramming for the occasion. Musical dictionaries are in great request, and the technology of the science is being diligently conned by every would-be connoisseur, and pretentious dilettante. We are likely to be overwhelmed with the jargon of art, and bewildered by a running accompaniment of Italian musical phraseology. When an artist like JENNY LIND makes her appearance amongst us, the public are apt to think that not to be critical argues neither taste nor judgment; and that common folks only admire what they cannot understand. Hence it is that every critic-monger fancies that he gives proof of profound musical study and minute acquaintance with the science, when he prates of soprano and soprano; of trills and tremolos, of B-flat, C-sharp, D. in alt., and E. below the line; of dominants and sub-dominants and harmonics; of rythm and melody; of chromatics and diatonics; and of majors and minors—just as if persons who never explored and mastered the mechanical difficulties of music, must necessarily be insensible to the concords of sweet sound; or as if, on the other hand, it would inevitably follow that he alone is capable of judging the merits of a vocalist who has thrummed a piano, or bellowed through an opera-cycle, or scraped a violin for one half his natural life.

Both these propositions are essentially fallacious. It is true, other things being equal, that a knowledge of music, as a science, matures the judgment and improves the taste, but it secures neither. It is likewise true, that the most delicate ear and most exquisite sensibility are oftentimes associated with persons who cannot read a note, and are ignorant of the difference between bass and tenor. Let not, therefore, the genuine amateur, the man or woman, whom an inborn love of music attracts to the concerts of JENNY LIND, be discouraged by the sneers and cant of shallow pretension. Let not pure and simple taste bow in undeserved reverence before the oracular outgivings of those who have gleaned the principles of the art, conceive themselves qualified to pass an irreversible judgment on all aspirants for public favor. As a general rule, indeed, we reck little of the opinions of mere artists—their decisions are cramped by the canons of the Conservatory—they have no appreciation of that genius which overleaps the restraints of the school and the letters of its laws. They cannot forgive the slightest deviation from the effects which they have been accustomed impiously to obey. Every musical phrase is interpreted by them according to certain fixed precepts they long since acquired. These critics make no allowance for enthusiasm and inspiration. Art is with them the sole criterion—the one infallible and eternal touchstone of merit.

We say thus much as an avant souseur of the noble hearted and doubtless delicious singer—JENNY LIND. We think we perceive amongst the gens de l'art certain telegraphic signals, portentous shakes of the head, and significant winks, that would seem to indicate a predetermination to run Miss LIND by the narrow standard of grace, taste and execution; if she fail to comply with every such test, against all such ungenerous designs we enter a formal protest. We claim for JENNY a fair hearing and an impartial judgment, and so far as our feeble influence extends we mean to give her both. Our city, fortunately, possesses a large amount of real musical talent and refined and cultivated taste. Quacks and Coteries like those which disgraced Havana, have no power here, either to clip genius of its wings, or to raise mediocrity above its natural level. The thing has been tried more than once and has failed. The public of Orleans invariably award justice to every claimant. A five hundred horse power of puffing cannot persuade them to tolerate what is essentially bad; nor can all the shrugs and nods and winking with faint praise of the critics induce them to neglect what is essentially good.

ELECTIONS IN THE SECOND MUNICIPALITY.

Our fellow-citizens of the Second Municipality will have a busy time of it to-day, since they are to elect a Surveyor, a member of the General Council, and two Aldermen, one from the Fourth and one from the Fifth Ward. The polls are opened in the office of Surveyor will probably be sufficient to call forth a pretty good vote, unless the weather prove excessively inclement. Candidates are thick as blackberries, and as all of them are gentlemen of attainments and character, who number hosts of friends, there is no knowing who will be elected. Our advice is to vote for the best man, without pausing to ask what are his politics, or to enquire into the opinions on the merits of the school questions.

NEW BOOKS.—Our thanks are due APPLETON & Co., publishers, through J. B. STEEL, No. 14 Camp street, for the following new publications:

Letters from the Continent, by M., the Arkansas correspondent of the Louisville Journal. This volume comprises a series of very clever and pleasing letters, descriptive of manners, customs, and persons in Europe, Asia, and Africa. They were greatly admired at the time, and have now been grouped together and published in a convenient form.

Practical Mercantile Correspondence.—This is a collection of modern forms of business, with brief, critical and explanatory, an analytical index and an appendix containing *pro forma* promissory notes, account sales, bills of lading and bills of exchange; also, an explanation of the German chain rule as applicable to the calculation of exchanges. By Mr. ANDERSON. This is an excellent, practical, and highly useful work.

The Incidents of the Bible. By George Gilfillan. This is a compilation on the poetry of the Sacred Books, and an analysis of the poetical genius of the inspired bards of the bible. It is full of eloquence, and is marked by the highly-lit and imaginative style that distinguishes Mr. G. in his writings.

PUBLICITY.—The Massachusetts House has passed the publicity bill to a third reading. The bill provides for the election of Representatives in Congress and of Electors of President, by a majority vote, after the first trial.

☞ Lord Brougham, the distinguished orator of England, the Richmond Enquirer makes out, is nearly related to the descendants of Patrick Henry, the great orator of Virginia. Patrick Henry's mother was Sarah Winston. His father was John Henry, of Aberdeen, Scotland; John Henry's mother was Jane Robertson, sister to Dr. Wm. Robertson, the historian, and Brougham is descended from the same stock.

☞ We are requested to call the attention of builders, hardware men, country merchants and others to the sale of Steamboat stock, at No. 180, Levee street. The sale is to take place at noon and will go on Monday at 10 o'clock, a. m., and will continue every day, until the whole stock is disposed of. Catalogues can be had of N. VEGA, Auctioneer.

CONGRESS.

In the SENATE, on the 23d inst, various petitions against the fugitive slave law were laid on the table.

After some unimportant business the Senate took up the French Spoliation bill, and after some debate, the bill was ordered to be engrossed by a vote of 30 to 26.

The Senate then went into Executive session and soon after adjourned.

In the HOUSE, the bill to encourage agriculture, commerce and manufactures, by granting to every head of a family a lot of land, to the extent of one hundred and sixty acres, was read a first and second time.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Tennessee, spoke in favor of the bill, and contended that while bounty lands were being given to soldiers, and was appropriated for the benefit of corporations, colleges, schools, lunatic asylums and various other purposes, those men who would receive lands and cultivate them, and become useful and efficient citizens, had hitherto been neglected.

Mr. HILLIARD, of Alabama, followed on the same side, who expressed himself in favor of giving the public lands to the people, in the largest sense of the term.

Mr. CAREY, of Pennsylvania, opposed the measure contemplated in the bill; and thought the proper course to be pursued, would be to dispose of the public lands, and place the proceeds in the United States Treasury; with a view to aid in extending public improvements and in the discharge of the national debt. He did not, however, pledge himself to vote against the bill; but he wished before he made up his mind, to hear it fully discussed. His opinion was, that in the first place a portion shall be expended, as he had before said, in public improvements, and diffusing the blessings of education.

Mr. BROWN, of Mississippi, was not then prepared to discuss the question fully, but said he intended to move an amendment to the bill; which the Speaker stated would not be in order at its present stage.

Mr. GREEN, of Missouri, then addressed the House, and the debate took quite a discursive range, involving the claims of the Old States to the public lands, which it was now proposed to give away—political differences; and other subjects quite foreign to that, contained in the bill.

The morning hour having expired; which it was agreed to appropriate to the consideration of business on the Speaker's table, Mr. BAYLY of Virginia moved that the House resolve itself into committee of the whole on the state of the Union, when the Deficiency bill again came up for discussion.

Mr. HAYMOND, of Virginia, took the floor, and entered upon a defence of the conduct of the Secretary of the Interior, and the head of the Pension office and its clerks. Considerable time was occupied in this way, and by repeated attacks on the Pension office, which were made in the shape of explanations, by which the speech was interrupted.

The object of the bill, it may be as well here to state, is to appropriate certain sums "to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the service for the year ending the 30th June, 1851, out of moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated."

The discussion of the bill took the shape it did, upon the section providing for nineteen temporary clerks in the office of the Commissioner of Pensions required in consequence of the resolutions of the Senate of the 16th September last; and the act of the 20th of the same month, allowing each clerk three dollars per diem from October last to the 30th June next; the contemplated amount being $14,568 45.

The main point at issue was, whether any additional force would be necessary in the Pension office, if that which was there was properly directed and efficiently and judiciously employed, an opinion being very prevalent in the House that such is not the case; although it was admitted, that there was no want of despatch on the part of the subordinates to perform the respective duties, and that their demeanor was unexceptionable.

Mr. MCCLERNAND, of Illinois submitted a bill, as an amendment to that before the committee, for reorganizing the Department of State, providing for the appointment of an assistant Secretary of State, and four principal clerks, and defining the duties of these as well as the more subordinate clerks. The last clause of the bill further provides for the suspension and forfeiture of the salary of agents abroad, during their voluntary absence from their posts. He said estimates to the amount of $11,000 are at present before Congress to defray the expenses of subordinate agents, who discharged the duties of the principals during their absence on their own private affairs; showing that the object of the bill is retrenchment as well as of reorganization.

He reviewed the duties of the Department from the time when it was established in 1789, when the population of the United States did not exceed four millions, and which duties had since been annually increased. He then traced the increase of the clerical force which has taken place, and which had neither kept pace with the increase of business or that which had occurred in other Departments.

After some further desultory discussion, the committee rose and the House adjourned.

☞ The Legislature of Virginia, at its last session, voted a massive gold medal to Gen. Winfield Scott, for his services during the late Mexican war. The medal has just been completed, and the Governor of Virginia has appointed a committee from the members of the present Legislature, to make the presentation. The beautiful memento of Virginia's munificent gratitude to her favorite son, which is represented as being one of the most exquisite specimens of American art ever manufactured, is thus described. The medal is three and a half inches in diameter, five-sixteenths of an inch thick, and is of course very massive and rich. On one side is an admirable life-like bust of the General, with the words "WINFIELD SCOTT" in capitals above. The bust stands upon an oblong pedestal—flanked by two noble eagles, sprigs of laurel and oak touching their wings—a number of flags, (two Mexican banners among them,) guns, pikes, mortar and field pieces forming an appropriate back ground.—On the pedestal is the following inscription: "The commonwealth of Virginia presents this medal to Major General Winfield Scott, as a memorial of their admiration for the great and distinguished services of her son, whilst commander-in-chief of the American Armies in the war with Mexico." On the reverse side in the centre stands a beautiful fluted column, with "1812" on the base and "1848" on the capital. A spread eagle, holding an olive branch in its mouth, is on its top—and the column is entwined in leaves of laurel, with the words "Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Contreras, Churubusco, Del Rey, Chapultepec, Mexico." Above the column are the words "Fecit Quod Cogitavit," below "From Virginia," and an escutcheon with the coat of arms of the State. In the back ground are the principal buildings in or near the city of Mexico, the Castle of San Juan (as we take it,) with the peculiar and strikingly peaked mountains, batteries at work, &c.—the whole encircled with a very rich wreath of laurels and oak entwined. The medal is one of great beauty and magnificence, and does great credit to the exquisite skill and taste of Mr. C. C. Wright, an old soldier under Gen. Scott, and now of New York.

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THE CALIFORNIA TRADE is calling into use some of the most magnificent ships which ever sailed the ocean. Several of these have been advertised in the Empress of late, and others are getting ready for a start. The Eclipse and Stag Hound are among these fine crafts. These new vessels are not of a large tonnage, and are built for fleetness. They seem, like the Oriental on her recent voyage from China to London, to move across the waters with a winged speed. Others of our clipper ships have done as well as the Oriental, we believe, and one we hear made a voyage from New York to San Francisco in the almost incredible space of eighty-five days. We heard last week that one of these winged birds, which cost her owners only $90,000, sailed with freight worth almost $70,000, thus nearly paying for herself in her first voyage out. These vessels go laden with articles requiring a rapid transit, or commanding a high freight. They make quick and certain voyages, and hence command extra prices, as the Oriental in London has commanded £7 7s. a ton to bring a cargo of tea to London, when slow ships could have been secured for £5. The is only a specimen, and we predict for scores of appropriate ships profitable voyages between the city of New York and the flourishing metropolis of that new and most wonderful State of California.

THE AMERICAN CHAPEL AT ROME.—A letter writer from Rome in the New York Post, dated December 23, 1850, says:

"Mr. CASS has had an interview with the Cardinals on the subject of the little American chapel, which has resulted in its being permitted to go on without molestation."

THE WORLD'S FAIR.—We saw yesterday, says the N. Y. *Courier*, one of the most beautiful articles which will be on exhibition at the monster fair, and which will challenge the admiration of all, who observe the rapidity and accuracy with which the instrument works. We refer to *Jackson's Annunciator* or Bell Telegraph, one of which, working about eighty numbers, has been prepared expressly for exhibition. The operation of the Annunciator, where it has been used, is so satisfactory, that demands for it are daily made to be used in places for which it was not originally designed, but for which it is found to answer admirably —such as large manufacturing establishments where the proprietors frequently have occasion to summon to their counting-room persons employed in a remote portion of the building. For hotels and steamships, it is now about as indispensable as a dining table; and in dwellings of the largest class it is also put in requisition for summoning servants, &c.

The operation of the instrument, which we have before explained, is exceedingly simple. It consists of a bell, which, by the action of a wire, receives a single stroke from a hammer; the same movement displaces a leaf, under which is the number corresponding with the number of the room from which the call was made. This leaf, or any number of them, may be at once restored to its position by turning a knob attached to the annunciator. The whole is compactly enclosed in a glass case, and thus preserved, may last a life-time without repair.

KEY WEST.—We extract the following from the Key West correspondence of the Savannah *Republican*:

The whole amount of cotton saved from the wrecked Swedish brig Sylphede, 371 bales, has been sold, bringing $13,978 46. It was all wet. We learn that one side of the brig is broken in, and the remainder of the cargo, 200 bales, is all lost. The process of sale is awaiting the decision of the claim for salvage in the Admiralty Court.

The schooner Virginia, Nelson, master, loaded with granite, from Rockland, Me., for the Government works at this place, arrived here on the 16th ult., 31 days out. She was struck by the gale on the 24th December, in which she lost both her topmasts and sprung her mainmast, besides other damage. She is unloaded and undergoing repairs. Consigned to P. J. Fontane.

Professor AGASSIZ, the great naturalist, arrived here on the steamer of the 17th. He is attached to the Coast Survey nominally we understand. His object is to make an examination of the Florida reefs and keys, a subject of great interest to the scientific and commercial world. These keys and reefs are continually increasing in number and size. The causes of their formation and destruction—the keys having as yet just emerged from the water, and the reefs being placed along the edge of the Gulf Stream for a great commercial highway to the Gulf of Mexico—are matters to awaken the attention both of the theoretical and practical inquirer—The high reputation of the professor leads to the expectation that his labors will give light and knowledge upon this comparatively untrod field of science.

Entrances and Clearances at the Custom House for the fourth quarter, ending Dec. 31, 1850.

	No.	Tonnage	Crew
American vessels entered,	9	1612.17	91
Foreign vessels entered,	7	804.41	52
Vessels in the coasting trade,	60	12926.00	624
Total entrances	76	15065.2	768
American vessels cleared,	8	996.10	44
Foreign vessels cleared,	1	151.00	6
Vessels in the coasting trade,	35	8 [illegible]	365
Total clearances	47	9353.96	415

The total value of exports during the fourth quarter of 1850, $6,661.

Passengers by the steamer Isabel of the 17th: Professor Agassiz and son, Count Portales, Drs. Jones and LeConte, Messrs. Mason and Adams of the Coast Survey, and Gen. Totten, U. S. A.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Jan. 21.

The extensive produce and forwarding warehouse of Messrs. Acheson, Rommell & Co., 367 Market st. was totally destroyed by fire last night. Total loss about $20,000. An alley ran along side of the burning building. About 9 o'clock portions of the wall fell across the alley and crushed the rear part of the old frame building, No. 395, occupied by E. Lye, Herb Doctor. The crashes were loud and fearful, and followed by myriads of flakes and sparks which, ascending in the air, descended upon the house tops for squares around. The roofs of the houses were fortunately wet by the storm of the preceding morning, or many of them must have taken fire. The sight was at once picturesque and brilliant.

At first it was hoped that no one was hurt by the falling wall, but this was soon found to be otherwise. A number of firemen were caught by the bricks and rubbish, and six or more of them partially buried. None of them, though, sustained any very serious or severe harm—Three citizens, however, were injured—one mortally. When he was all of the warehouse gave way, Mr. WM. HALE, a highly estimable citizen, 378 High st. Girard Stores, above Eleventh, who had kindly left his place of business, and come over to the fire to render any service he could, was in Mr. Lye's yard. He was overwhelmed by the huge mass of ruins, and when got out by the firemen, Police and citizens, was in a dying state. He was carried to the Diligent Engine House, corner of Tenth and Filbert streets, where every attention that humanity could dictate was paid to him. Mr. HALE was promptly attended by Dr. S. S. Brooks and other physicians, but no hope of aid was of no avail. He remained speechless, and continued to breathe with difficulty until about 11 o'clock, when he expired.

The injuries of Mr. HALE were internal. He was awfully crushed. At the moment the wall toppled over, Mr. Thomas Warner, dentist, 152 North-Tenth-st, near Vine, the son-in-law of Mr. Lye, was likewise in the yard. He was at the hydrant getting water, and was caught under a tumbling shed. The weight of the shed was held by the top of the hydrant, or he must have been killed. As it was he sustained a severe fracture of the leg. Mr. Warner was quickly rescued and was borne to his residence. This morning Mr. W. was doing as well as could be expected.

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THE COMPROMISES IN PENNSYLVANIA—In the Pennsylvania Senate on the 23d ult, Mr. Meulenberg read the joint resolution in favor of the the Coast Survey, and Gen. Totten, U. S. A. compromise acts passed by the last session of Congress. The resolutions declare that the conception and adoption of these great pacific measures reflect much credit upon the patriotism and good judgment of those who were instrumental in bringing them about. That the measures should be looked upon as a solemn contract between the northern and southern States, and that upon their proper observance of them depends the fate of the Union, and further, that no attempt to interfere with any portion of the compromise should be for a moment entertained by any true American citizen.

THE BATON ROUGE MURDER.—The Baton Rouge *Advocate* of Wednesday last says:

A very exciting topic of interest in our city at present is the preliminary examination going on in relation to the murder of Thomas J. Muse, at the Pirates, not long since. The court is composed of his Honor the Mayor, and P. A. Walker, Justice of the Peace. Not far from a hundred witnesses have been summoned to testify in the matter, and their presence, with that of others drawn by the curiosity which such a trial awakens, makes the town somewhat lively.—The District Attorney, Major R. G. Beale, is assisted by J. H. Muse, Esq., brother of the deceased, and Cyrus Battle, Esq. The counsel, R. F. Young and Y. T. Dixon, have retained Judge T. G. Morgan, Jr. D. Avery and James Elam, Esqs. The examination goes on very slowly, and is likely to continue perhaps two weeks. We are not aware that anything has as yet been decided to fasten the guilt on the accused.

A RASCAL AT LARGE.—Under this head, the Montgomery Advertiser exposes a fellow whose destiny, we think, is hanging. It were a boopless task to enumerate all the rascals at large," even if one could see into and get at them. This fellow, however, we are resolved to give a hit. His name is James R. Smart, alias Samuel B. Smart. The Advertiser says he is a mason, and has used his connection with that order to swindle his brethren in various ways. He pretends to be a pension agent, and to attend to other claims before the government; and that he is acquainted with all the great men of the country, exhibiting letters from them (written by himself) to corroborate his statements. He left his home in Union county, Ga., in July last, stating that he was going to South Carolina for a few weeks; went to Tennessee, and there obtained money by representing himself as a worthy mason in distress. He also pretended to be a very zealous Methodist, and reminded many of the brethren of that denomination. He left Tennessee, and is now thought to be in this state; he is said to have been sheriff of one of the counties in North Alabama for some years. His true name is said to be James Smart Reid; he was born and raised in North Carolina; has been connected with a gang of counterfeiters; was in jail in South Carolina for passing counterfeit money, and has also been in the penitentiary. He was sent for a number of years; turned up again in Knox county, Tenn., married there "an amiable young rich widow, by the name of Cobb"—squandered all her and her children's property, and then abandoned them; separated from all his children. "He was at one time," says the letter, "connected in negro-trading to Alabama with Thomas L. Upton, a Tennessean of high character." He swindled one man out of a new saddle, borrowed money of another, and has committed many of the basest, most finished scamps of the age. The letter describes him as being from 50 to 55 years of age, about 6 feet high, slender made, walk erect, grey eyes, and hair inclining to brown as well, makes a good impression on strangers. "He has seen much of the world, has an extended acquaintance, is fond of conversation—is willing to let you know that he has been about. He rides a white horse, and calls the Leviathan stock."

The information the Advertiser compiles from a letter written by Andrew Young, Secretary of the Alleghany Lodge, and dated "Blair-ville, Union county, Georgia," to accomplish, ed a scoundrel is worth looking after, and therefore, we trust every honest man will keep his eyes open for an "observation."

AFRICAN GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERIES.—Discoveries of considerable magnitude have, according to the Cape Town Mail, been shed over the geography of the south of Africa.—The substance of it is that the great lake before reported discovered in South Africa, already receiving the waters of several rivers, has no outlet to the ocean. About seven days' journey to the north of the lake, a river of very high mountains crosses the continent, and beyond it is now "river system" commences, the streams all flowing to the north and ultimately to the ocean.

It is on one of these streams, says the account, that Mareleskatre and his tribe have make a temporary resting place. This Chief, some 25 years ago, was in subjection to a Zulu tyrant named Chaka, residing near the Eastern Coast, south of the latitude of 28 degrees. Escaping from the domination of his merciless master, he fled with a large body of adherents over the mountains to the northward, spreading devastation around him as he passed.

He was driven still further northward by the Boers, who, in their turn, were pushed forward by the advancing civilization of the English. Thus Mareleskatre, with his ferocious legions, have been retiring continually toward the Equator, leaving behind them a deserted country, sway of inhabitants by his destroying hatchet. He has now traversed at least a thousand miles from the point at which his wanderings commenced, at least a quarter of a century ago.

Still his indefatigable pursuers dog the steps of the retreating lion, and have already began to rout him from his latest lair in the centre of the continent. The Cape Town Mail hazards the prediction that before another quarter of a century shall have elapsed, the whole interior of South Africa to the Equator will be occupied by civilized communities of the European race, and probably under the dominion of Great Britain. Among the discoveries in the new land of promise are ivory in considerable quantities, and many other articles of commercial value.

Some travellers have arrived at the Cape of Good Hope from the Zulu country. A party came to the kraal of one of the principal Zulu chiefs, styled by the natives En Corzen. Corzen, the chief, rejoiced in the possession of 30 wives, all of whom were daily employed in the labors of the field, except one favorite dark beauty, who seemed exempt from this unfeminine occupation. She looked after the cattle, service he could, was in Mr. Lye's yard. He was overwhelmed by the huge mass of ruins, and when got out by the firemen, Police and citizens, was in a dying state. He was carried to the Diligent Engine House, corner of Tenth and Filbert streets, where every attention that humanity could dictate was paid to him. Mr. Hale was promptly attended by Dr. S. S. Brooks and other physicians, but no hope of aid was of no avail. He remained speechless, and continued to breathe with difficulty until about 11 o'clock, when he expired.

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☞ Senator Yulee of Florida, says the Vicksburg *Whig*, was mistaken the other day in saying that the Legislature of his State had or were about to instruct the Senators not to vote upon any question relative to the Fugitive slave law. The legislature merely instructed Senator Yulee not to vote on any question after March 4th; *they elected another man in his place.* The Senator was entirely too general in his remarks.

THE CALIFORNIA TRADE is calling into use some of the most magnificent ships which ever sailed the ocean. Several of these have been advertised in the Empress of late, and others are getting ready for a start. The Eclipse and Stag Hound are among these fine crafts. These new vessels are not of a large tonnage, and are built for fleetness. They seem, like the Oriental on her recent voyage from China to London, to move across the waters with a winged speed. Others of our clipper ships have done as well as the Oriental, we believe, and one we hear made a voyage from New York to San Francisco in the almost incredible space of eighty-five days. We heard last week that one of these winged birds, which cost her owners only $90,000, sailed with freight worth almost $70,000, thus nearly paying for herself in her first voyage out. These vessels go laden with articles requiring a rapid transit, or commanding a high freight. They make quick and certain voyages, and hence command extra prices, as the Oriental in London has commanded £7 7s. a ton to bring a cargo of tea to London, when slow ships could have been secured for £5. The is only a specimen, and we predict for scores of appropriate ships profitable voyages between the city of New York and the flourishing metropolis of that new and most wonderful State of California.

THE AMERICAN CHAPEL AT ROME.—A letter writer from Rome in the New York Post, dated December 23, 1850, says:

"Mr. CASS has had an interview with the Cardinals on the subject of the little American chapel, which has resulted in its being permitted to go on without molestation."

WISCONSIN.—The annual message of Governor Dewey represents the financial affairs of the State are in excellent condition.

The total receipts of the general fund, since the organization of the State government, were $160,218 53, and the expenditures $152,969 61, leaving a balance in the treasury of $7,248 92. The estimated receipts for 1851 are $104,698. and the expenditures $90,193 60. The school fund on the 1st inst. amounted to $538,094 46.

The improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers is going on as rapidly as the limited means arising from the sale of the lands granted by Congress for this object will admit. The Portage Canal and Locks, the Rapid Greche, the Rapids des Pierce, and the Rapids at Lake Winnebago, it is expected, will all be completed and ready for navigation at the commencement of the next season.

The attention of the Legislature is directed to the operations of the Wisconsin Marine and Fire Insurance Company as a banking institution. The Governor views this as an open violation of the legislation of the State, and recommends such action as will reach and correct the evil.

The subject of the compromise action is reviewed at some length. Though opposed to some of the details, the Governor deems it the duty of States and citizens to seek redress by resort to the remedies suggested by the Constitution.

THE BATON ROUGE MURDER.—The Baton Rouge *Advocate* of Wednesday last says:

A very exciting topic of interest in our city at present is the preliminary examination going on in relation to the murder of Thomas J. Muse, at the Pirates, not long since. The court is composed of his Honor the Mayor, and P. A. Walker, Justice of the Peace. Not far from a hundred witnesses have been summoned to testify in the matter, and their presence, with that of others drawn by the curiosity which such a trial awakens, makes the town somewhat lively.—The District Attorney, Major R. G. Beale, is assisted by J. H. Muse, Esq., brother of the deceased, and Cyrus Battle, Esq. The counsel, R. F. Young and Y. T. Dixon, have retained Judge T. G. Morgan, Jr. D. Avery and James Elam, Esqs. The examination goes on very slowly, and is likely to continue perhaps two weeks. We are not aware that anything has as yet been decided to fasten the guilt on the accused.

A RASCAL AT LARGE.—Under this head, the Montgomery Advertiser exposes a fellow whose destiny, we think, is hanging. It were a boopless task to enumerate all the rascals at large," even if one could see into and get at them. This fellow, however, we are resolved to give a hit. His name is James R. Smart, alias Samuel B. Smart. The Advertiser says he is a mason, and has used his connection with that order to swindle his brethren in various ways. He pretends to be a pension agent, and to attend to other claims before the government; and that he is acquainted with all the great men of the country, exhibiting letters from them (written by himself) to corroborate his statements. He left his home in Union county, Ga., in July last, stating that he was going to South Carolina for a few weeks; went to Tennessee, and there obtained money by representing himself as a worthy mason in distress. He also pretended to be a very zealous Methodist, and reminded many of the brethren of that denomination. He left Tennessee, and is now thought to be in this state; he is said to have been sheriff of one of the counties in North Alabama for some years. His true name is said to be James Smart Reid; he was born and raised in North Carolina; has been connected with a gang of counterfeiters; was in jail in South Carolina for passing counterfeit money, and has also been in the penitentiary. He was sent for a number of years; turned up again in Knox county, Tenn., married there "an amiable young rich widow, by the name of Cobb"—squandered all her and her children's property, and then abandoned them; separated from all his children. "He was at one time," says the letter, "connected in negro-trading to Alabama with Thomas L. Upton, a Tennessean of high character." He swindled one man out of a new saddle, borrowed money of another, and has committed many of the basest, most finished scamps of the age. The letter describes him as being from 50 to 55 years of age, about 6 feet high, slender made, walk erect, grey eyes, and hair inclining to brown as well, makes a good impression on strangers. "He has seen much of the world, has an extended acquaintance, is fond of conversation—is willing to let you know that he has been about. He rides a white horse, and calls the Leviathan stock."

The information the Advertiser compiles from a letter written by Andrew Young, Secretary of the Alleghany Lodge, and dated "Blairsville, Union county, Georgia," to accomplished a scoundrel is worth looking after, and therefore, we trust every honest man will keep his eyes open for an "observation."

AFRICAN GEOGRAPHICAL DISCOVERIES.—Discoveries of considerable magnitude have, according to the Cape Town Mail, been shed over the geography of the south of Africa.—The substance of it is that the great lake before reported discovered in South Africa, already receiving the waters of several rivers, has no outlet to the ocean. About seven days' journey to the north of the lake, a river of very high mountains crosses the continent, and beyond it is now "river system" commences, the streams all flowing to the north and ultimately to the ocean.

It is on one of these streams, says the account, that Mareleskatre and his tribe have make a temporary resting place. This Chief, some 25 years ago, was in subjection to a Zulu tyrant named Chaka, residing near the Eastern Coast, south of the latitude of 28 degrees. Escaping from the domination of his merciless master, he fled with a large body of adherents over the mountains to the northward, spreading devastation around him as he passed.

He was driven still further northward by the Boers, who, in their turn, were pushed forward by the advancing civilization of the English. Thus Mareleskatre, with his ferocious legions, have been retiring continually toward the Equator, leaving behind them a deserted country, sway of inhabitants by his destroying hatchet. He has now traversed at least a thousand miles from the point at which his wanderings commenced, at least a quarter of a century ago.

Still his indefatigable pursuers dog the steps of the retreating lion, and have already began to rout him from his latest lair in the centre of the continent. The Cape Town Mail hazards the prediction that before another quarter of a century shall have elapsed, the whole interior of South Africa to the Equator will be occupied by civilized communities of the European race, and probably under the dominion of Great Britain. Among the discoveries in the new land of promise are ivory in considerable quantities, and many other articles of commercial value.

Some travellers have arrived at the Cape of Good Hope from the Zulu country. A party came to the kraal of one of the principal Zulu chiefs, styled by the natives En Corzen. Corzen, the chief, rejoiced in the possession of 30 wives, all of whom were daily employed in the labors of the field, except one favorite dark beauty, who seemed exempt from this unfeminine occupation. She looked after the cattle, and herded the leviter board, reminding the traveller of Pharaoh and the kings of ancient times—a tall, stalwart native whose head was bound with a large blue shawl, in Oriental style.

The natives use handsome earthenware cups.—These cups were so beautifully glazed and of such curious workmanship, that the travellers were surprised to find that they were manufactured by the natives. The kraal or hut of the chief was surrounded for miles with those of his relatives. Large crops of mealies, sweet potatoes and Caffri corn were seen, as well as immense quantities of sugar cane.

THE WAY TO ESTABLISH PEACE AND HARMONY.—In a few remarks to the Senate, on the 15th, Mr. Clay, after referring to the subject of compensation, said:

"If we only give up those unhappy causes of agitation which have so long distracted the country; if the people of the North would only permit the people of the South to conduct their own affairs, and manage their own domestic institutions in their own way; if they would only remember that if slavery be the evil they represent it to be, that they only are responsible for it, and suffer from its evils, who have it in their midst; if these things were only properly considered and reflected upon, and all would unite in this grand scheme, and in this the only effectual mode of benefitting the African race in this country, how much good would result, and how much peace and harmony would follow."

Exactly. All the South asks is to be let alone, and Mr. Clay represents her truly when he says that she wishes to be considered solely responsible for her own institutions and believes herself entirely capable of maintaining them in the proper way. This is all the South has ever desired; but she has often submitted to disappointments—often indulged a forbearing spirit towards measures and agitations "*calculated*" to ruin her interests and to degrade her in the eyes of the world. She will do so no longer. That is a settled question, upon which there is no division in the South. The way, therefore, to establish "peace and harmony" is for the North to follow implicitly the spirit of Mr. Clay's advice as embodied in the above extract.—*Vicksburg Whig.*

City Intelligence.

THE HOMICIDE CASE.—After an examination extending over four days, the case of W. H. Evington charged with killing T. P. Byrd, was brought to a close on Saturday. Recorder Caldwell committed the accused for trial before the First District Court on a charge of murder. Wm. O. Littal was also committed as an accessory.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT.—*Judge Lorac.*—John Riesty, George Roberts, Donald D. Munroe, Eugene Roche, Patrick Connors, John Jones, James Cosgrove, Thomas Smith, Alexander Cummings, Mary White, John Connors, and Peter Hister, having been convicted of larceny, were each severally sentenced to one year at hard labor in the penitentiary.

P. Bostwick, convicted of having been found with instruments for counterfeiting coin, was sentenced to four years in the penitentiary at hard labor.

COMMITTED.—John Butler was committed yesterday by Recorder Caldwell for trial before the First District Court on the charge of having stolen a lady's gold watch.

STEALING OYSTERS.—John Johnson was arrested on Saturday in the Second Municipality on the charge of having stolen 5,000 oysters from on board of a vessel. He will be examined to-day.

GENERAL COUNCIL.—A special meeting of this body was convoked by His Honor the Mayor, on Saturday, but an hour after the time of assembling there was no quorum, and the Council accordingly adjourned.

CHARGE OF ARSON.—John Matyloff was brought up yesterday before Recorder Caldwell on the charge of having set fire to a building at the corner of Magazine and Robin streets. He will be examined to-morrow.

SWINDLING.—Jas. Rogers and J. McMillan were sent yesterday by Recorder Caldwell for trial before the First District Court on the charge of having swindled A. Gauthier out of $20.

COMMERCIAL.

The Markets.

SATURDAY EVENING, Feb. 1, 1851.

Dealers in cotton are waiting for later advices from Europe, and the sales to-day only amounted to 3,000 bales. We quote low middling to good