NEW-ORLEANS BEE.

OFFICIAL STATE PAPER.

BY BULLITT, MAGNE & CO.

At No. 81 Chartres street.

CITY PAPER, PUBLISHED DAILY, PER ANNUM, in advance, $10
COUNTRY PAPER, PUBLISHED TRI-WEEKLY, $10

"Truth is omnipotent, and Public Justice certain."

WHIG

NOMINATION OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

FOR PRESIDENT,

WILLIAM H. HARRISON,

OF OHIO.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

JOHN TYLER,

OF VIRGINIA.

NEW-ORLEANS:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB'Y. 12, 1840.

WHIG MEETING.

The WHIGS of New Orleans are requested to assemble in the spacious DINING ROOM of the ST. CHARLES HOTEL, on Thursday evening, at 7 o'clock.

The meeting will be addressed by Gen'l LESLIE COMBS, an officer in the revolutionary army during the last war, under GENERAL HARRISON, a warm friend of HENRY CLAY, and a distinguished member of the National Convention from Kentucky. General COMBS will refute from personal knowledge the slanders which have been put forth by one CASSADY and the locofoco press in reference to General HARRISON, and will convince the most sceptical of the eminent military and civil qualifications of the illustrious hero of North Bend.

An opportunity for a rich treat will not be lost by the party, and we anticipate an overwhelming gathering of the friends of constitutional liberty and reform.

The attendance of assistant engineers and officers who have sales to make, is called for at the following resolution, adopted by the board of directors of the Improvement Bank, at the sitting of yesterday:

IMPROVEMENT BANK,
New Orleans, Feb 11, 1840.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, that one of the stores in Chartres street being to let or to be sold, the same is hereby appropriated to the use of auctioneers and other officers who may have public sales to make, until the sale of the lots shall be effected for the purpose. By order

L. BERNARD, Cashier.

CALAMITOUS FIRE.

That magnificent structure, the St. Louis Exchange—the pride and ornament of our city—built less than two years ago, at a cost of nearly a million of dollars, is now a smouldering heap of ruins, with nothing remaining but the naked and fractured walls, which have been deeply scathed by the consuming element.

The fire occurred between the hours of three and four o'clock, yesterday morning. It was first discovered in a room in the fourth story in the rear of the building. Its origin is supposed to be accidental. Hopes were entertained from the limited sphere of its influence, that it would be speedily extinguished; but after the arrival of the engines and hose companies, the flames had made such progress as to render every effort to subdue them unavailing. The fire ran aloft from room to room, both above and below, raging with unabated fury, and consuming every thing in its course. For four or five hours, human skill and exertion were impotent, and it was only when the interior of the establishment had been completely destroyed—when the gorgeous ball room, the elegant saloon, the tasteful and spacious rotunda, and the large and beautiful bar room were reduced to ashes—leaving scarcely further material for the destructive energy of the flames, that they were successfully controlled.

The firemen displayed their usual promptitude, zeal and intrepidity. We regret to add that one of them had both his legs broken by the fall of a heavy beam, while others were severely bruised.

Very little of the furniture was saved, and the greater portion of that was much damaged by the fire and water. Most of the inmates of the establishment lost all their personal effects.

A planter from Rapides, that is planter from the coast, laboring under indisposition, was unable to leave his room and perished in the flames. We trust that this is but one of those exaggerated reports so apt to spring up in the season of unexcited calamity.

The destruction of this splendid establishment—involving, as it does, the loss of at least six hundred thousand dollars—is the most disastrous conflagration which we have ever had to record in New Orleans. It has thrown the community, and especially the municipality, into a complete gloom and consternation. The St. Louis Exchange was the pride and the boast of the ancient population of our city, and it is difficult to conceive the sensation into which this disaster has plunged them all. The loss is estimated at between six hundred and eight hundred thousand dollars, of which $250,000 only are covered by insurance.

Heavily as this calamity has fallen on our citizens, such is the powerful feeling existing on the subject, that subscription lists for rebuilding the exchange were circulated yesterday, a very considerable amount has already been subscribed at the Citizens' Bank, at the Merchants' Association, and at Messrs. Rogers and Hawthorne's.

Let the work be commenced immediately. Let the Exchange, and in this praiseworthy enterprise that institution will not only be sustained by the community, but will be aided by the liberal conduct of the Consolidated Association and Citizens' Bank, both of which have placed sums varying from $50,000 to $150,000, at the disposal of the Improvement Bank. The proffer of the Citizens' Bank especially, has been most generous, inasmuch as her directors have offered $150,000 to the bank without interest. We have every reason to believe that many months will not elapse before we shall have another Exchange erected on the site of the one now in ruins.

MEETING FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE CITY EXCHANGE.

A large concourse of citizens assembled last night, in Orleans Ball Room, in consequence of a public notice,

Mr. Bernard Marigny was called to the chair.

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Albert Hart,	Robert Layton,
Denis Prieur,	John G. Lewis,
M. Lavergne,	Felix Garcia,
Wm D. Boyd,	Samuel J. Peters,
John Sidell,	Pierre Soulé,
Chs Cavelier,	Joshua Baldwin,
E A Canon,	Paul Bruslé,
Wm D Boyd,	Jos de Ferriet,
Joseph Genois,	James Hopkins,
Paul Bruslé,	Thomas Urquhart,
Joshua Baldwin,	Adolphe Mazureau,
Anthony Rasch,	John Hewlett,
F P Prieur.	Wm Brand,
	Alexander Phillips,
	M V Labarre,
	William Fisher,
	B Whitney,
	Philippe D'Avignon,
	George Ogden,
	R D Parker,
	Sidwell,
	C Paulding,
	Jno de la Rosa,
	Wm Mure,
	James H Caldwell,
	Joseph Miranda,
	Manuel Blanco,
	Frederick Frey,
	Dr Luzenberg,
	Frederick.

SECRETARIES:

Joseph Genois,	J A Brand,
Chs Boudequin é.	H B Cenas.

Mr. B. Marigny explained in strong and powerful words that the object of the meeting was to contribute towards rebuilding the St. Louis Exchange, reduced to ashes by the fire of last night.

A committee was appointed to frame resolutions, consisting of the following gentlemen:

C Derbigny,	C Roselius,
Ed J Forstall,	W V Labarre,
W C C Claiborne,	P B Conrad,
J K Kennedy,	Peter Morcau.

Messrs P Soulé, C W. Conrad, A. Hennen and Roselius, addressed the meeting and elicited loud and frequent applause. Their generous sentiments found an echo in the feelings of the audience.

The following resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, public monuments of architecture are justly considered as stores of pride and admiration in the country to which they belong, and that they contribute to exercise the mind, and to enhance the patriotism of the citizens that country.

Resolved, That the St. Louis Exchange, as one of these monuments, reared by the enterprise, the patriotism and the united means of the citizens of New Orleans, was considered by the assembly as a subject to provoke in our state, and of ornament and usefulness to our city, and that its destruction by the late conflagration, deeply lamented by the assembly, and considered by them as one of the severest calamities with which this city could have been visited.

Resolved, That it is the duty of all Louisianians who have the good of the city at heart, and who are capable of patriotism, to use all their efforts to promote the restoration of that splendid edifice, and that we and each of us will do so.

Resolved, That this of subscription should be opened forthwith at all the public places of resort in the city, and that the president of this assembly be and is hereby authorized to appoint a committee of one in each of the wards in the city, whose duty it shall be to receive subscriptions, and such other persons as they may deem proper to assist them in receiving subscriptions, and to collect subscriptions already made.

GENERAL COMMITTEE OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Pierre Soulé,	Louis T Caire,
Felix Garcia,	D Gueston,
A Peri Hon,	H Lavergne,
Robert Layton,	F Labatut,
J J Peters,	M Marigny,
J F Freret,	C M Conrad,
Chas Cavelier,	Charles Levy,
E A Canon,	T B Prevaut,
Wm D Boyd,	B Levy,
Joseph Genois,	J L Florence,
Paul Bruslé,	Peter Rapp,
Joshua Baldwin,	Jos de Ferriet,
Anthony Rasch,	James Hopkins,
J Bob L Lewis,	Thomas Urquhart,
A A Beard,	Adolphe Mazureau,
Daniel Montegut,	John Hewlett,
Chas F Grivall,	Wm Brand,
Ed J Forstall,	Alexander Phillips,
Charles Genois,	M V Labarre,
Charles Derbigny,	William Fisher,
Thomas Duplessis,	B Whitney,
Eugene Crusat,	Philippe D'Avignon,
Louis Hermann,	George Ogden,
Charles Bayon,	R D Parker,
Peter Darrive,	Sidwell,
Louis LeBeau,	C Paulding,
A C C Claiborne,	Jno de la Rosa,
H B Cenas,	Wm Mure,
Michel Musson,	James H Caldwell,
Felix Lebreve,	Joseph Miranda,
Bernard Marigny,	Manuel Blanco,
D Prieur,	Frederick Frey,
Theodore Seghers,	Dr Luzenberg,
J C De St. Romes,	Frederick.

On motion of the committee, the president appointed Mr. J. C. De St. Romes, treasurer.

On motion, Resolved, That all the papers of the city are invited to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

We regret to state, on the authority of well informed persons, that the Commercial bank and the bank of Louisiana refused, yesterday, to take on deposit the notes of the Improvement Banking Company. We cannot but think the measure was adopted under the unnecessary apprehension caused by the disastrous calamity which threatened the ruin of this institution.

HOUSE BURNING IN MOBILE.—The watch and jewelry store of Mr. F. Knapp, on Dauphin street was broken open on Saturday, and property to the amount of $9,000 carried off.

It is supposed there is a gang of desperadoes in Mobile, who are concerned in the recent incendiary attempts.

☞ The locofoco meeting of Monday evening, swelled as were its numbers by a corps of office holders, was the most decided failure in the way of a political gathering that we have noticed for some time. About two hundred persons were present, among whom were noted a considerable proportion of staunch whigs, attracted thither by curiosity to witness the dying throes of locofoco-ism, and a desire to hear John R. Grymes, Esq. deliver its funeral oration. Some of our friends inform us that the whigs mustered nearly strong enough to defeat every proposition, had they felt inclined to throw the assembly into disorder. Gen. HARMON, of course, received an ample share of the usual compound of slang and invective with which he is assailed. We left the meeting in the midst of an oratorical flourish, about "democracy," with the decided impression that the locofocos of this city are very effectually used up.

The office of the Improvement bank has been temporarily transferred to the establishment of the Citizens' bank.

TEXAS.

The steam ship Columbia arrived yesterday morning from Galveston in 40 hours. We have received the Houston Morning Star up to the 7th instant and the *Civilian and Galveston Gazette* of the 8th, from which we copy the following items of news.

Judge Lipscomb has been appointed secretary of state.

The Cherokee land bill has been adopted. Also the act to incorporate the Trinity coal and mining company; an act to increase the minimum value of lands from fifty cents to one dollar per acre, and to make the tax one dollar instead of fifty cents on the hundred dollars; a new act to suppress gambling and duelling, and the act to establish a lighthouse on the East end of Galveston island.

Congress will probably adjourn during the present week.

TARIFF.—A bill, modifying the present rate of duties on imports, and reducing them to the uniform ad valorem tax of 10 per cent., has passed both houses of congress. The present high duties on distilled spirits are not reduced or materially varied. Another bill has been passed, which abolishes the bonding and warehousing system for storage on all goods introduced without prompt payment in cash of the duties due on them, and for their detention till such payment be made.

The steamboat Emblem struck a snag and went down in Buffalo Bayou, fifteen miles east of Houston on Wednesday. No lives were lost, and we presume she had no cargo of consequence, as she was coming down. She will, it is thought, be raised without much difficulty.

The Columbia passed the Texas brig of war *Colorado*, commodore Moore, going into Galveston on the evening of the 8th instant.

We are indebted to the politeness of the captain of the schooner EXPORT, from Key West, for a copy of the SOUTH FLORIDIAN, of the 1st February, from which we copy the following shipwreck of one of our merchantships:

LOSS OF THE SHIP STAR.—The ship STAR, J. Mollet, master, sailed from New York for New Orleans, on the 26th ultimo, with an assorted cargo of liquors, dry goods, rice, passing stones, etc., and got ashore off Black Ceasar's Creek, on Carysfort reef, on the 31st ultimo, at one o'clock, P. M. The vessel was light, and the greatest was attributable only to the strength of the current. Every effort was immediately made to relieve the ship, but the dangers working with the current rendered all attempts unavailing, and on the following tide she went to pieces. Fifteen pumps the same at that time.

The crew and passengers, with the exception of the captain, remained by the wreck until the 3d instant, when they were taken off by the schooner Export, and brought to this city. The captain remained by the wreck until the 4th instant, when he left in the wreckers' boat, and arrived in this city on the 5th instant. The vessel and cargo are entirely lost. The vessel was insured in this city for $20,000, and the cargo in New York for $40,000.

☞ Part of the passengers of the STAR came to this city by the schooner EXPORT.

CONGRESS.

From some unknown cause the letters of our Washington Correspondent have failed to reach us for the last four or five days. We, therefore, make a summary of the congressional proceedings on the 30th ult., from the Washington and Baltimore papers.

SENATE.—After the presentation of a number of memorials and petitions, Mr. Grundy reported on the subject of Mr. Benton's resolutions, concerning the assumption of state debts by the general government. The report was altogether in favor of Mr. Benton's views, and of course, entirely opposed to such a policy, and against any distribution among the states of a surplus revenue. Mr. Benton moved for the printing of 30,000 copies, which gave rise to an earnest and animated debate. On motion of Mr. King, the report was recommitted to the committee, with-out instructions, to be modified by them according to their views after this debate.

HOUSE.—A desultory and warm debate ensued on a motion of Mr. Davis of Indiana, to lay upon the table all the propositions relating to the public printing then pending. This motion, after much discussion on points of order, prevailed by a vote of 116 to 108. The house sat till a late hour, and was at length brought to a direct vote for public printer, whereupon Blair and Rives having received 110 out of 207 votes, were declared duly elected. The house then adjourned.

FROM ALBANY.

A letter from Albany, dated January 30th, to a gentleman in this city, says:

"Never has the whig party been so united as at the present moment in the state. The nomination at Harrisburg has united us thoroughly. It is a common saying here that Harrison and Tyler

Some very active politicians in the Van Buren party in this city have already declared their intention to unite with us at the election. In the last contest, I suppose me if we carried the state almost by acclamation."—*National Intelligencer.*

It is rumored that five of the Philadelphia banks viz: the "Philadelphia Bank," the "Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank," the "Commercial Bank," the "Bank of North America," and perhaps the "Mechanics' Bank," will soon resume.

A fire here broke out in New York on the evening of the 26th ult. in the four story building, No. 81 Pearl street. The building was entirely destroyed. The flames communicated on either side, and consumed a number of houses. The buildings destroyed were all four storied brick stores, valued with their contents at about one hundred and forty thousand dollars.

OHIO.—If the whig cause required any aid in Ohio the re-nomination of Gov. Shannon by the locofoco convention, in spite of the earnest opposition of the hard money men, would furnish it. The administration party in that state are divided and discordant, and the whigs will gain the victory with scarcely a struggle.

GOV. POSTER is in very delicate health.

CHARITY is drawing crowded houses in Washington.

The venerable Joseph Gales, father to the senior editor of the National Intelligencer, has been elected intendant of the city of Raleigh, N. C.

By an arrival at Charleston, New York papers of the 31st have been received. The British Queen had not arrived.

We learn from the Florida papers that general Leigh Reid is fast recovering from his wounds.

FINN's body has not been found. So says the New York *Star.*

There are 248 newspapers published in New England, viz: in Maine, 43; in New Hampshire, 25; in Connecticut, 36; R. Island, 15; Massachusetts, 108; Vermont, 26.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TUESDAY, February 11, 1840.

The house met pursuant to adjournment.

The journal of the house having been read, and the members having answered to the call, Mr. Claiborne rose and said that the city of New Orleans has been visited, during the last night, with one of the most distressing calamities that could have befallen it, an event which, he could not doubt, caused every member present to feel the deepest sympathy. An edifice that was the pride of our State, and a splendid establishment of architecture, has been destroyed by fire, and the smoke of its ruins is yet hanging over us. Many citizens of the city were already preparing to devise means for its restoration, and that some of us would wish to join those citizens. He looked upon this as a day of public calamity, and as a testimony of the sympathy which this house feels in the misfortunes of the citizens of New Orleans, he therefore moved the house should adjourn until to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

There being no objection, the house adjourned accordingly.

We are requested to announce that the sale of various stocks advertised by J. B. Labatie, auctioneer, for yesterday, in the City Exchange, St. Louis street, will in consequence of the injury done to that building by the fire of yesterday, take place THIS DAY, at one o'clock, in Banks' Arcade, Magazine street.

☞ We are authorised by Mr. E. MONTEGUT to announce that he is a candidate for the office of Mayor, at the next election. 15

☞ We are authorized to state that FREDERICK BUISSON, esq., at the request of a large number of his fellow citizens, has consented to be a candidate for the office of Mayor, and that his will be generally supported. d27

Messrs. Editors:—Please announce in your valuable journal that Col. THAS. CUVELLIER, yielding to the publicly expressed wishes of a large number of his fellow citizens, has consented to become a candidate for mayor at the ensuing election.

f24-tf VOX POPULI.

☞ *Messrs. Editors:*—Please announce in your valuable paper that LOUIS U. GARNIER, esq., will be supported at the ensuing election, in April next, as mayor, and will receive the united votes of the 1st, 2d and 3d municipalities. a2

☞ We are authorized and requested to announce that JOSEPH M. KENNEDY is a candidate for mayor of the city at the ensuing election, and that he will be supported by

a11 MANY VOTERS.

☞ We are authorized to announce that, at the solicitation of a large number of the citizens of the third municipality, Mr. WILLIAM FRERET, has consented to the presentation of his name to his fellow citizens at the next ensuing election, as a candidate for the office of Mayor of the city of New-Orleans. o30

IMPROVEMENT BANK.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb 11, 1840.

Extract from the journal of the deliberations, at the sitting held this day:

On motion, Resolved, that the architects and build ers, who may feel disposed to rebuild the St. Louis Exchange, be requested to send in their plans and estimates for so doing, by the 1st March next. By order.

L. BERNARD, Cashier.

IMPROVEMENT BANK.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 11, 1840

The directors of this institution respectfully offer to the different fire and steam companies their sincere thanks for the zeal and activity displayed by them at the fire which occurred at the St. Louis Exchange.

BY THIS morning at 7 o'clock, the MERCHANTS TRANSCRIPT and *New-Orleans Latter-sheet Price Current*, will be published and ready for delivery at the Merchants' Exchange, Royal street, in the secretary's office, at the rate of $1 00 per annum.

EXCHANGE ON NEW YORK, for sale by
f8 P H GALLWEY, 6 Comm st

THE MARKETS.

NEW ORLEANS, FEB 12, 1840

REMARKS.—We have yet but little improvement to notice in the general business of our city, the weather since Saturday has been favorable to out-door transactions, and the Levee has been rendered rather more cheerful by the arrival of several large ele s from the Mississippi, Cumberland and Tennessee rivers, with full cargoes of cotton, tobacco, etc No further loss is, however, have come in from Louisville and other ports on the Ohio river, except on the Upper Mississippi, and the receipts of western produce have consequently been unusually light during the last three days. But ample supplies may confidently be looked for soon, when an active trade will grow out of the exchange of commodities.

Money remains extremely scarce, and the prices of most descriptions of merchandize continue to tend downward.

COTTON.—Arrived, since the 7th instant, of Red River and Mississippi 1327 bales; Tombigbee and North Alabama 300; Arkansas 167; together 1794 bales. Cleared in the same time for Liverpool 1145 bales; Havre 1841; Marseilles 670; Antwerp 930; New York 1331; Boston 18 9; together 17179 bales—making a reduction in stock of 135 bales, and leaving on hand, in addition of all on ship board, not cleared on the 11th instant, a stock of 111,678 bales.

STATEMENT OF COTTON.

1839. Oct. 1, stock on hand	1674
Received last three days	1794
previously	98144
	99618
Exports last three days	17479
previously	264599
	282078
Stock on hand	111638

The accounts from Europe, so far as we can learn, have not produced the least impression on our markets, the sales since Saturday, which are estimated at fully 1000 bales, were generally effected at rates not in the same as those before current. On Monday there was again a pretty fair inquiry, some 4 or 500 bales having changed hands, without any very perceptible alteration in the rates. The transactions of yesterday reached to about 1500 bales, at steady prices, and are consequently assume our previous quotations.

The sales on in the three days embrace upwards of 11,000 bales of which we give particulars as follows: Monday—Ship Cassandra, 400; Mississippi, 400; Ship Ann, 400; Ship Ann Eliza, 400; Ship Ann Eliza, 400; Ship Ann Eliza