The New-Orleans Bee.

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF GENERAL COUNCIL. ..... NEW-ORLEANS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 19, 1849.

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TERMS OF THE BEE.

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☞ The coverage of Annual Advertisers is limited to the merchants of the city within the line of their business, and in extent to one square every other day.

The New-Orleans Daily Bee.

Wednesday Morning, Dec. 19, 1849.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

Our friend DENNETT, of the Franklin *Banner*, has taken into serious consideration the project of a rail road from Franklin to New Orleans; and in the last number of his paper devotes a large space to an exposition of the practicability of the enterprise and an enumeration of the advantages that would be secured by its completion. The subject, it seems, has for some time occupied the attention of various gentlemen of intelligence and experience in the parish of St. Mary. Our Editor proposes for the route to proceed from Franklin down the river bank of the Teche, through Centreville, Patterson'ville, to the point of Bernick's Bay, thence across the Atchafalaya to Gibbon's Point, thence to the eastern bank of Bayou Long, thence to the bank one of Kittredge & Dwight's plantation on the Lafourche, thence to the Lafourche, thence down the western bank of the Lafourche to Thibodaux, thence over high lands diagonally through townships 13 and 14, range 17, to the nearest line of Valeour Aime's plantation on the Mississippi, thence down the western bank of the Mississippi to a point opposite New Orleans. The route would embrace a distance of 128 miles.

The *Banner* says that the country through which it lies would pass is rich, and nearly the entire line is bordered with timber and valuable plantations, whose value would add hundreds of thousands of dollars to a rail road. The saw mills scattered through which it would pass consume immense quantities of excellent cypress belonging to the State, and from these sawmills an abundance of timber could be obtained for the use of the road the entire route. These mills belong to the State, and doubtless would be donated to a company for the benefit of the road. A tax could also be put through the sawmills assessed, was it deemed the honest thing. A bonus in cash or money could be easily made, and there could be furnished and put down the ties, sleepers and all little expense. The Atchafalaya could be passed with unimpeded navigation. Branches could be strung from this road at different points, that would completely regenerate large and fertile tracts of country. The business which the road would do would be immense. Steamboats would not compete with it for a moment, and it would absorb all the entire business, freight, travel, and everything of the kind along the whole line, and for considerable distance on either side of it. Travel and business would increase immensely by such facilities being afforded between the Atchafalaya and the city. Indeed, we would consider a road twice as long worth the city, which would be equivalent to taking the whole country, swamps, and placing it upon the brink of the Mississippi twenty miles above New Orleans. Nothing of the sort is accomplished, a road from Franklin to Opelousas would be of no benefit to New Orleans, and would be of no advantage to Franklin. Make a rail road from Franklin to New Orleans, place steamboats on Teche or Bayou Sara, and on the very edge of the rail road, could hardly be purchased for cotton, and yet such facts were. These are no imaginary ideas. The article by Mr. Dennett is the history of railroads, at the North, and they are in the respects exactly as we have stated.

We hope the *Banner* will persevere in its excellent endeavor to awaken public spirit in behalf of so noble and useful undertaking. Our New Orleans friends need only the requisite energy of will, determination and *active purpose*, to carry them on to speedy and successful execution. Stir them up, friend *Banner*, and you will accomplish more than the city press has yet been enabled to effect.

THE WEATHER—SUGAR CROPS.—For some days past, says the St. Francisville *Chronicle* of the 15th, the weather has been extremely cold and inclement. The sugar planters of our parish took the precautionary steps necessary to save their cane from the late freeze. The sugar crop on the high lands has been remarkably good, although the yield has not been as abundant as it would have been had the weather been cooler in the earlier part of the season, the saccharine matter not being as sweet as it would otherwise have been.

OPENING OF THE LYCEUM.—Last evening the Lyceum, situated in the new Municipality Hall was thrown open. The appearance of this fine room lighted up with brilliant gas was most beautiful. The concourse of persons present was very large, and the attendance of ladies particular, exceedingly numerous. Judge Watkins delivered the opening address, but owing to the dense crowd of people, we were unable to obtain an entrance, and were thus deprived from listening doubtless to a most able lecture.

TWO NEW PAPERS are about to be started in the parish of Catahoula—one to be called the *Banner*, by Mr. Craig, the other, the *Herald*, by Mr. Blackburn.

☞ Among the claimants to a part of the immense Jennings estate in England, is the Editor of the Memphis *Inquirer*.

THE RIVER AND THE LEVEES—*Action of the Mayor.*—We beg to direct the attention of our readers to the message of the Mayor, transmitted to the members of the Second Municipality Council last evening. It will be perceived that the Chief Magistrate of the city recommends that immediate measures be adopted for the protection of the community from the evils of another overflow. We most cordially concur in the sentiments uttered by the Mayor, and heartily trust that the action which he asks in the premises may no longer be delayed. Mr. Crossman well deserve the thanks of the people if he succeeds in impressing upon the Councils the absolute necessity of prompt and immediate action.

LOOK TO YOUR LEVEES.—The Plaquemine *Sentinel* of the 12th, says—"The river is again rising at this point in a manner similar to last season. The Raccourci Cut off went into operation last year, by which circumstance a space of 25 miles of water more than formerly, was merged in the bed of the Mississippi between that point and the mouth, of course making the river higher than usual whenever it occurs.

TERMINATION OF THE GREAT ST. LOUIS TRIAL—ACQUITTAL OF MR. CHILES.—This trial which has so long occupied the attention of the Criminal Court of St. Louis, was brought to a termination on Saturday evening, the 8th inst. The *Republican* says—Mr. GRAVE closed a masterly argument about half past 5 o'clock, the case was given to the jury, and the Court took a recess for half an hour. Soon after this time had elapsed, the jury came into Court with a verdict of *acquittal*, the accused was discharged, and the Court adjourned. This trial lasted for five weeks, and has excited an engrossing interest in the public mind, not only in this city, but throughout the State.

A faithful and minute report of the case is to be published in pamphlet form.

LATE FRUITS.—We have before noticed the extraordinary character of this season in the production of a second growth of several varieties of fruit, and the Madison (Ga.) Visitor of the 8th instant furnishes the following additional evidence:

"We were presented, on Thursday last, a specimen of ripe mingil plums, grown in the garden of Judge Allen. It was fully ripe, though not quite as rich in flavor as the earlier growth.

"We were also shown a large ripe apple, of the gilded pippin, taken from a tree in the orchard of Milton G. Davis, Esq. Not only the sunshine, but the flowers and fruits of spring are with us in all their freshness and beauty. We have not, for one night frost, the trees and shrubbs, have not hurt them again."

☞ Our thanks are due Harper & Brothers, through J. C. MORGAN, of Santa Fe, for a copy of this new work. Those who have read Mr. Kennedy's work will be informed that Shirley is from the same author, and that it possesses the extraordinary power

BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE N. O. BEE]

ARRIVAL OF THE HIBERNIA.

SEVEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

State of the Markets.

Decline in Cotton. Bellicose Aspect of Prussia and Austria. Fresh Difficulties in Turkey. Tranquillity in France, &c.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 18.

The HIBERNIA has arrived at New York. She reached Halifax on the 15th.

THE MARKETS.

Cotton has again suffered a decline of ¾d. The sales of the week amount to nineteen thousand bales. The Committee quote Fair Upland and Mobile at 6¾d., and Fair Orleans at 6¾d. The market was dull.

The Produce Market remains steady, but is inactive. Western Canal Flour commands from 32s. to 34s. Indian Corn is in fair request. White ranges from 29s. to 29s. 6d.; Yellow from 29s. 3d. to 37s.

Political Intelligence.

Angry notes have passed between Austria and Prussia relative to the German Confederacy, and it is thought probable that war will ensue. Austria requires Prussia to forbid the assembling of the German Parliament, and Prussia declines interfering.

Fresh difficulties are said to have arisen between Turkey and Russia, relative to the interference by the French and English in the controversy touching the fate of the Hungarian refugees. Turkey has rejected the demand of Russia, that the Hungarians shall be driven out of her dominions, and their leaders imprisoned.

A movement has been made in the French Assembly to take the election of President from the people, and give to the Assembly.

New York Markets.

The Cotton market in New York presents no novel feature. The article continues dull.

SECOND DISPATCH.

Further by the Hibernia.

BALTIMORE, December 18th.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

Dec. 1st.—Of the week's transactions in Cotton, speculators took 4,500 bales of American, and exporters 5,000 bales of Surats.

MONETARY.

Consols for money and time have been done at 93½ to 95⅝; the present quotation is 95⅝ @ 95¾. Bank Stock, 199 to 200.

Russia and Turkey.

The Russian Minister at Constantinople has refused to enter into any negotiations with the Sultan, until the English fleet leaves the Dardanelles. The Porte proposes to send the Hungarian refugees to Bagdad.

NEW YORK MARKET.

At New York to-day, Mess. Pope was sold at 32 75 to $13 00, with a firm market.

CONGRESS.

The last ballot to day for Speaker resulted as follows: Winthrop 97, Boyd 53, rest scattering.

The difficulty between Mead and Durr has been settled by a mutual retraction of the offensive language.

LATER FROM THE PLAINS.

Americans Murdered by the Apaches

The Independence (Mo.) *Commonwealth* of the 3d instant, says that intelligence had been received there of the murder of eight Americans by the Apache Indians. The news was brought by J. W. H. Patton, who had just arrived from Santa Fe. Mr. Patton says that he "and other gentlemen who accompanied him met some buffalo hunters a short distance this side of Vegas, who informed them that a company from Independence had been murdered near the Point-of-Rocks by the Apaches.

"This intelligence induced them to return to Vegas, but they subsequently proceeded on their journey, and when they had arrived at a point between Wheatone and Point-of-Rocks, they discovered that what had been told them was too true—they found the bodies of several persons whom they recognized; among the rest those of James M. White, William Callaway and Ben Bausman (colored barber) of this city.

"It is supposed that Mrs. White and child were taken prisoners. There were eight killed in all.

THE ST. LOUIS *Republican* of the 10th contains a letter from Independence, communicating further particulars of this deplorable affair. It appears that a party long looked for arrived at Independence, from the Plains, on the 3d inst. A portion of the company left Santa Fe in August, but when they were at Los Vegas they understood from some buffalo hunters that a party of Americans had been murdered by the Indians, which deterred them from coming any further until they were strengthened in numbers. In September they again started, and upon their arrival at the Point of Rocks, they found the report they had heard to be, lamentably too true. The party of murdered ones, they found to be that of Mr. James M. White, formerly a merchant at Independence, who had, with eight others in company, (nine in all) started on in advance of his wagons. Seven of the number, Mr. Jas. M. White, Mr. Calaway, Ben. Bausman, (known by the name of Ben. the barber,) a colored woman, and some Germans from St. Louis, were cruelly murdered and scalped, and it is supposed that Mrs. White and an interesting daughter were carried off captives by this party of Apache Indian, who surprised them and dealt thus hardly with them.

Upon the arrival of Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Spencer, who had remained with the wagons at Santa Fe, the Governor sent out some Pueblo Indians, to ascertain whether or not the Indians held Mrs. White and daughter as captives; if so, they were authorized to purchase them at any price.

These atrocious murders were committed at a place within seven or eight days travel of Santa Fe, and has excited much indignation among the population of that town. The St. Louis papers call loudly on the Government to station an adequate force of troops along the frontier for the protection of the citizens journeying in that direction.

A letter from Fort Laramie, dated the 30th September, informs the St. Louis *Republican* that Thompson, and, it is believed, Picard—mail carriers—have been murdered by the Pawnee Indians. Thompson's body was found.

PUNCH ON FOGS.—The discoveries of science present an astounding spectacle at all times; but science has just presented to the world an astounding pair of spectacles in the shape of a new invention, called fog glasses, the wearer of which, it is said, is enabled to penetrate the darkness of the thickest London November atmosphere.

We should like to test the alleged power of these glasses, by putting them on and plunging our head into a tureen of cold pea soup, when, if we could read an inscription pasted on to the bottom of the inside of the tureen, we should be very happy to furnish the inventor with a testimonial to the efficacy of his fog glasses. He cannot have chosen a better period of the year for bringing forward his discovery; and if the experiment succeeds, we shall be glad to give it a good word by expressing an opinion in the usual 'evening paper' phraseology, that 'The fog glass ought to be on the bridge of every gentleman's nose, on the eye of every omnibus horse, and on the figure-head of all the Thames tars, among whom it is a very poor look-out in foggy weather.'

We have not heard whether the newly invented fog glass is adapted to the political as well as the natural atmosphere; but if such is the case, we should strongly advise the exportation of a few specimens of the article to France, where even the most far-seeing are at a loss to discern anything that may be only a few steps in advance in the mist of obscurity that darkens the way which the country is going.

Omnibus men are not the only persons who do not appear to see their way, but even those who hold the reins of power are often sadly in want of some means or other for giving clearness to their views, and enabling them to perceive what they are really driving at.

SCRAPS FROM PUNCH.—*Sorrow for Sale.*—We saw the other day advertised in a newspaper "A Genuine Concern to be Disposed of." We should advise speculators to look suspiciously at such an advertisement, for depend upon it, the man who has "a genuine concern" must have lost money.

The Hair Presumptive to the French Throne.—We are some young lady advertises a golden ointment, which shall produce within a week, "whiskers, moustaches, or imperials." We advise Louis Napoleon to lay this flattering ointment to his soul, as he is evidently trying very hard to cultivate an *Imperial*.

Fashions of Despotisms.—A Turin paper announces that the Duke of Parma has given the galley slaves a new costume, and a hat exactly resembling that adopted by the Liberal party. We dare say the new costume for the galley slaves consists of something in the way of stripe for their jackets; and as to the hat, we presume from its resemblance to the *chapeau* of the Liberals, that it is intended to bestow a topper for luck on both parties.

SNOW IN LOUISIANA.—Snow fell to the depth of two inches at Shreveport on the 10th inst.

TAKING IN A STRANGER.—A man named Adolphe Baker, was arrested yesterday in the First Municipality, on the charge of having robbed Ludwig Muller, a manager of about $200 in money and a silver watch. He first managed to get the poor fellow intoxicated, and then robbed him of his entire means. Recorder Genois committed the accused for trial before the First District Court.

Execution of the Manningas.

[From the London Times]

Yesterday this metropolis witnessed the most awful act which the necessities of justice or of self-preservation can impose on a sovereign State. We performed an act of judicial slaughter. Dreadful as the circumstances of capital punishment always must be, revolting as are its details, and beyond all former example the horrors both of the crime and the closing scene in this instance, yet they are all tolerable compared with the thoughts suggested by too curious scrutiny. Through the constituted organs the whole people yesterday cut short the visible being and the moral course of two miserable creatures, born with immortal souls, doubtless once innocent and loving, with the hidden germs of the highest virtue and the loftiest attainments, yet both cast out, as it were, on the dunghill, and the "particle of divinity" within them sent we know not where, quivering and fleeting on its unknown journey to the presence of Him that gave it. Our may almost take refuge in the odious spectacle from the overwhelming responsibility of the act, and consult peace of mind by a blind faith in the Executive, and its sacred vocation. The most morbid conscience, however, will derive some consolation from the unfrequency of these scenes. It is not thirty years since one might walk out any Monday morning before breakfast and see half a dozen human beings dying the death of dogs for petty thefts committed in hunger, or trifling injuries done in a drunken affray. Capital punishment is no longer the normal award for a legal crime, not even for ordinary murder, but the mark, by which we designate what is portentious and horrible.—When deeds have been committed that would seem to pollute the earth, then we purge the land, and hang up the guilty authors before the Sun in the sight of God and the people.

While every circumstance of horror and atrocity is accumulated in this crime, it seems to silence all doubt as to his punishment by the examples to which it naturally directs us. In the almost sacred antiquities of our own national annals, as we read them in the inspired pages of our great dramatist, there is just such an instance. Had Maria Manning been possessed with the insane thought of following Lady Macbeth in her insatiable cupidity and ambition, in atrocious conceptions, her undaunted soul and her unflinching nerve; in her dominion over a sottish and a cowardly husband, in her treachery to her guest, in the complacency with which she could behold her victim, in the vigor with which she could smite him "as an ox in the shambles," and perhaps also in the steadiness with which she could encounter her doom, she could not have played her part with truer feeling of its character. The revelations of this case, especially if we may trust the confessions of him who was the "weaker vessel" of the two, add probability to the tradition, and prove how truly Shakspeare could describe, and how little he exaggerated. Maria Manning drugged both her victim and her lord for weeks together. The grave was dug a month before, and shown with a port of secret triumph to its future occupant. All that time she daily counted the gains of the speculation. That no happy characteristic or timely adornment might be wanting to the deed, the scrip and shares of familiar railway lines are mixed with the transaction; brokers are brought into the witness box, who testify in the last breath to the signature of the accused and the depreciation of shares.

Mrs. Manning made haste to slay her man, and realize, for the market was filling. Herself intriguing and gay, she plays the vanity and the desultory passions of a female flirt by promising him a meeting with a fair young stranger at her table. With the usual succedaneum of some unscrupulous wickedness, she made a lodger, who was all but a stranger, write falsehoods at her ready dictation. Such is Lady Macbeth on the Bermondsey stage. As for the thing who was her husband, but not a man, one hardly ventures to speak of him, lest we should make him out too base even for pitiishment; but no reality or fiction can equal what he tells us of himself. He found O'Connor morning upon his grave, whereupon he had fallen. "I never liked him well, and I battered in his skull with a ripping chisel." So for a wife whom he did not love he battered in the skull of a poor moaning wretch whom he did not like well. No wonder he could not sleep in the house when his wife had gone.

Yet he could arise and take possession—Shakspeare's is not the only page illustrated from the inexhaustible horror of a little grave in the lowest of our suburbs. It is Ahab and Jezebel to the life;—Jezebel the daring intriguer, the profane unbeliever, as Maria Manning now seems to have been; the ready arguer, the greedy aggravator, the forger, the intriguer, the resolute, the painted and attired, even on its death. When we think of that tremendous chapter in the inspired history of Providence we may confide in the unavoidable pre-eminence in a Christian people, and a ruler that bears the sword, not in vain, to make this wretched pair walk over their own graves to their doom, even as they had done by their own victim.

A great novelist, whose knowledge of the human heart and its workings under the infinite varieties and accidents of modern life, needs not our praise, has sent us a letter describing his impression on witnessing the execution.—His language excites our admiration, but not our surprise. The scene is doubtless the most horrid, and apparently the most hardening that can be imagined. We are not prepared, however, to follow Mr. Dickens to his conclusion. It appears to us a matter of necessity that so tremendous an act as a national homicide should be publicly as well as solemnly done. Popular jealousy demands it. Were it otherwise, the mass of the people would never be sure that great offenders were really executed in greater numbers than the State chose to confess. The mystery of the prison walls would be intolerable, for, besides mere curiosity, popular indignation would ask to see or learn the details of the punishment, the fact of its ignominious character and the bearing of the criminals.—Nor do we think it altogether fair to infer the real feelings, much less the abiding impression of the spectators from the horrid, hysterical mirth produced by a night's exposure, an immense crowd, and a long suspended expectation. Few of us ever choose to confess our condition, and men often hide the deepest feelings with the wildest excesses of manner and of language. They who would bury themselves under the earth if they could, when they can not escape the public eye will sometimes belie their mental struggles by the most frantic exaggerations. Hamlet was never so mad as over the grave of Ophelia, when the scene recalled all his natural melancholy, all the murder of his life, and the horrors of his preternatural mission. In the rude multitude yesterday congregated before Horsemonger-lane Gaol there might be no nearer approach to Hamlet than Mr. Dickens himself, yet what we say is true of the great majority of minds, and not less true of the most undisciplined.

THE MOUNTAINS OF ASIA.—The mountains of Asia take precedence of all others in altitude and length of range. The mean height of the Himalaya is stupendous. Capt. Gerard and his brother estimated that it could not be less than 16,000 to 20,000 feet; but from the average elevation of the passes over these mountains, Baron Humboldt thinks it must be under 15,700. Col. Sabine estimates it to be only 11,510 feet, though the peaks exceeding that elevation are not to be numbered, especially at the sources of the Sutlej. Indeed, from that river to the Kalee, the Gaut exhibits an endless succession of the loftiest mountains on earth; forty of them surpass the heights of Chimborazo, one of the highest of the Andes, and several reach the height of 25,000 feet at least. The valleys are crevices so deep and narrow, and the mountains that hang over them in menacing cliffs are so lofty, that these abysses are shrouded in perpetual gloom, except where the sun at noon can penetrate their depths. From the steepness of the descent the river shoot down with the swiftness of an arrow, filling the caverns with foam and the air with mist. Most of the passes over the Himalaya are but little lower than the top of Mount Blanc; many are higher, especially near the Sutlej; where they are from 18,000 to 19,000 feet high; and that north-east of Khoonawur is 20,000 feet above the level of the sea, the highest that has been attempted. All are terrific, and the fatigue and suffering from the rarity of the air in the last 500 feet, is not to be described. Animals are as much distressed as human beings, and many of them die; thousands of birds perish from the violence of the winds; the drifting snow is often fatal to travellers, and violent thunder storms add to the horror of the journey. The Nit Pass by which Mr. Moorcroft ascended to the sacred lake of Manasa, in Thibet, is tremendous; he and his guide had not only to walk barefooted, from the risk of slipping, but they were obliged to creep along the more frightful chasms, holding by twigs and tufts of grass, and sometimes they crossed deep and awful crevices on a branch of a tree, or on loose stones thrown across. Yet these are the thoroughfares for commerce in the Himalayas, never repaired, nor susceptible of improvement, from frequent landslips and torrents. The loftiest peaks, being bare of snow, give great variety of color and beauty to the scenery, which in these passes is at all times magnificent. During the day, the stupendous size of the mountains, their interminable extent, the variety and sharpness of their forms, and, above all, the tender clearness of their distant outline melting into the pale blue sky, contrasted with the deep azure above, is described as a scene of wild and wonderful beauty. At midnight, when myriads of stars sparkle in the black sky, and the pale blue of the mountains look deeper still below the pale white gleam of the earth and snowlight, the effect is of unparalleled sublimity; and no language can describe the splendor of the sunbeams of daybreak streaming between the high peaks, and throwing their gigantic shadows on the mountains below. There, far above the habitation of man, no living thing exists, no sound is heard; the very echo of the traveller's footsteps startles him in the awful solitude and silence that reign in these august dwellings of the everlasting snow.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

City & Intelligence.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT.—*Judge McHenry.*—The Grand Jury have been out yesterday, and found a true bill against James McCauley, indicted for rape. Also a true bill against Wm. Buston, indicted for maiming.

George Hughes, indicted for robbery, John Marin for larceny, Pat. Timmins and James Timmins, for entering a house with felonious intent, were tried and acquitted.... Antonio de Aquino and James Gallagher were tried on a charge of larceny and found guilty.... A *nolle prosequi* was yesterday, in the case of Mary Rorbacher, charged with larceny.

CHARGE OF SWINDLING.—An affidavit was made yesterday, before Recorder Baudin, by Joseph Fowlers, charging G. E. Bertram with having obtained him out of a service from youth (?) A warrant was issued for his arrest.

THEFT.—Juan Baptista was arrested yesterday, for rifling the pockets of Francisco Miro, of $20, and two gold buttons, while the latter was asleep in a Coffee House at the corner of Main and Levee sts. The buttons were found in his possession and he was arrested. He is in jail awaiting an examination.

LARCENY.—A man named John Cuin was arrested on Monday evening by the First Municipality police, having been detected in the act of carrying off some lumber from a yard in Villere street. He has given bail for his appearance.

DISCHARGED.—N. Deville and J. Malhiota were brought up yesterday for examination before Recorder Genois, on the charge of having received stolen property. The evidence failed to sustain the charge, and both of the accused were discharged.

ASSAULT, &c.—A warrant was issued yesterday by Recorder Genois for the arrest of one Chas. Barnette, charged with having disturbed the peace at the Globe Ball Room on Monday night, and further with assaulting a police officer and drawing a pistol on him.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A man whose name is unknown, was run over by the Carrollton Cars, on Monday evening, two miles above the city, and was instantly killed.

ARRESTED.—Thomas Johnson, was arrested yesterday in the Second Municipality, on the charge of having stolen a hat offumber from the corner of Lafayette and Poucher sts.

COMMITTED.—Stephen White, for picking the pockets of Tom Williams, and James Conklin, charged with larceny, were committed yesterday, by Recorder Baldwin, for trial before the First District Court.

SECOND MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL.—This body held its regular weekly sitting last evening, Recorder Baldwin in the chair, and thirteen members present. The following message from the Mayor was read:

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS,
December 16, 1849.

To the Honorable President and Members of Council of Municipality No. Two:

The constant apprehension of inundation from the river, seriously affects the welfare and future prosperity of our city, and renders it incumbent upon the municipal authorities to devise suitable checks to guard against the repetition of the disastrous events of the dauze crevasses.

The Board of Commissioners appointed under the resolution of the Legislature of 16th March 1845, are performing their duties with assiduity and merit, and will, I am informed, submit to the Legislature at its next session the result of their labors; but I doubt whether any action can be taken in time to effect means for our protection this winter or next spring.

New Orleans has suffered by five different crevasses in the years 1780, '91, '93, 1816 and 1849, and but in one instance have they occurred in and about the same quarter, and but one has ever been stopped. The inhabitants of the city have invariably been the victims in the disastrous consequences which follow such a calamity. Experience has taught us, that we are to rely solely upon our own exertions and resources for safety and protection. Last May we were compelled to go out of our ordinary expenditures, without the participation in the labor or expenses by the corporations in our immediate neighborhood, who were directly interested in the result. It is not for me, however, to impugn or censure the motives by which they were actuated in refusing to contribute.

Our river has risen eight feet within the last few days, and is at present within 4 or 5 feet of high water mark. The levees are in imminent overflow hangs like an incubus over the prosperity of New Orleans; it dampens the spirit of enterprise and improvement, paralyzes the enterprise, and more particularly in that portion of our city unfortunately subjected to overflow. Who will not pause before he lays out his money in improvements every year to deterioration in value? We are not permitted by law to acquire property beyond our Corporate limits; the area of our municipalities is a tract of land in the Parish of Jefferson, for the purpose of taxation, on suites from the Mississippi River to Lake Pontchartrain, a distance of nearly nine miles in depth, and nearly half a century, have not innumerable plans and suggestions been made and proposed? Have not the people been urged to adopt some immediate practice which they have failed to adopt, from ignorance of sources? And allow me to ask up to the present time, what has been done? Have they not carried into execution when the expense would not have been as much by half, as at the present day? Have they not been importuned, and have made and the value of land increased four-fold on the spot, and the means which we will have to raise an embankment if we wish to guarantee our protection? Has not the question been discussed both in the Legislature and Municipal Councils, and unfortunately allowed to sink into oblivion, from the calamity they were proposing to avoid, had some action been taken?

For the present, it is my opinion that there is no time for procrastination. I consider it of immediate necessity that we should act promptly and with celerity. We have the remedy in our power—let us apply it at once, without delay. It will inspire confidence abroad, and save us from ruin and disaster.

A subject of such vital importance, imperiously demands the decisive and energetic action of prudence. How, body, of the corporation of the First and Third Municipalities there can be no doubt. To conclude, I do not hesitate in the assertion that you should proceed without the least possible delay to raise an upper limits such barriers as will protect us from inundation, which appears to be in the levee take place. As to our right of so doing, it is a concerted point.

If, however, the corporations above us intend acting in the premises, let it be done at once. We will be ready to cooperate with them, both in labor and expense, but let us not longer remain in this state of dread of an overflow. I may be considered prolix in this communication, but it is of serious import, and I feel confident I need not apologize for it, as I am a view for pressing the matter upon your consideration.

I enclose you herewith a copy of a letter received by me from Mr. B. Buisson, deputy surveyor of Municipality No. Two, who examined, at my request, Mr. Sauve's levees on Saturday last, and to which I would respectfully call your attention.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be,
Your obedient servant,

(Signed) A. D. CROSSMAN, Mayor.

The following is the accompanying document from Mr. Buisson, alluded to in the message.

HON. A. D. CROSSMAN, Mayor.

Sir—Agreeably to your request, I made, on Saturday last, a careful examination of the embankment and levees in front of Mr. Sauve's plantation.

The crevasse is now closed with a new levee 60 feet long.

A new levee on a base of 46 feet, and about nine arpents in length, has been commenced on the lower part of the plantation. The banks are poor acting at that place, and not less than eight arpents of good levee are in a very precarious condition, about 400 feet of it in one place (tumbled down). Twelve fifth of that new levee is completed, the balance is not more than three feet above the ground.

The Mississippi, at the time I was called to my assistance, was at its highest, and I feel confident, when the rise takes place, the inundation employed in shutting the space left open by the falling down of the old levee, and to prevent the overflow of the ground inside of the new and new levees, where the earth is to be taken to finish the 12th arpent.

Mr. Sauve is using every exertion in his power to protect himself, his neighbors and the city. His whole gang of men, 65 in number, is constantly employed at the levees. Mr. Sauve has informed me on Monday last, to have 40 more men. They are expected every day, but had not yet arrived on Saturday.

Mr. Sauve declines to make any application for assistance, being confident that he will be able to finish his work with his own means.

If the river continues to rise fast and the weather to be unpropitious to work at the levees, he might be disappointed.

But admitting that the works in progress shall be finished in time, another point to be examined is, whether these works, on our supposed, would be in such a condition as to prevent the danger of another crevasse.

Experience has demonstrated the inefficiency of the bestlevee of Mr. Sauve, in stand a flood like that of 1849. The levee was in very good order at the point of the crevasse, and there was no damage from it, but it was protected by a large and firm bluff. The levee did not sink, but it was broken open by the lateral pressure of the water.

Now the lateral pressure of the river on its banks is directly as the height of the water, and inversely as the obliquity of the current and the *breadth of the river.*

The breadth of the river at Mr. Sauve's is much contracted; and on account of this there will be a permanent danger there. As the bottom of the opposite side increases annually, the river has a tendency to enlarge its breadth by encroaching on its left bank. But here it has been reanted, and wherever it has been necessary to make new levees, they have not been removed out to the proper distance, to give a sufficient breadth to the river.

For these reasons whenever the Mississippi will rise as it has done this year, there will be danger and probability of a crevasse at Mr. Sauve's. The levees in front of his plantation may prove a temporary protection to his crop, but cannot be much relied upon.

I am respectfully, &c.
BENJ. BUISSON,
Deputy Surveyor First Mun'y.

New Orleans, Dec. 15, 1849.

Mr. Benshaw stated that from conversation with the Surveyor, he was most positively assured, that the temporary levee erected last year could be sufficiently repaired in a few days, to guard the city from an overflow. The expense moreover would only be trifling. He did not see what more could be done at this moment. The message of the Mayor was on motion of Mr. Golding, referred to the committee on Streets and Landings.

The Treasurer's weekly report showed a balance on hand, of $7,034 68c. Various petitions were read and appropriately referred. A petition was presented complaining of the manner in which the contractor for cleaning the streets performed his duties.

Various reports from the standing committees were presented; none of them, however, of much importance. A report from the Fire Committee went to show that the various companies in this Municipality are badly accommodated, and the important changes as regards buildings, apparatus, hose, &c., are absolutely necessary. Mr. Peters was of the opinion that before adopting the report it would be necessary to know something of the estimates of the expenditure, which if substantially sanctioned would encender an outlay of probably $40,000. He thought it advisable, therefore, to temporize, by sanctioning such repairs as were absolutely necessary, instead of voting so large an amount to the present debt of the Municipality. At all events, he was not in favor of acting without members here what they were about. He would, therefore, recommend that the matter be laid over to the next meeting, by which time the Committee would be enabled to present appropriate estimates of the expenditure to be incurred by the change which they had urged.

Mr. Bell replied at length to the objections raised by Mr. Peters, but cheerfully consented to postpone further action on the subject until the next sitting.—The Council then adjourned.

Sale Without Reserve.

☞ The attention of Gentlemen who wish to buy Christmas presents, is called to a sale of artificiae for gifts, which takes place THIS DAY, in Toulouse street, opposite the Citizens' Bank, by Valeson & Barnett, Auctioneers. This sale is without reserve, and comprises a great variety of very articles. 419

WANTED.—About 20 NEW, to be employed on a plantation in Opelousas, to about 1st of January of this, 419 St. Louis st.

COMMERCIAL.

The Markets.

TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 18.

The Hibernia's accounts, as we expected, notice a decline of ¾d in the Liverpool Cotton market. This effect had been to create a dull state of things here, and only 3,000 bales have been sold.

In Sugar, the transactions amount to 600 hhds. Of Molasses, about 1,600 bls. were sold at 20½@ 20¾c @ gallon.

The Flour market is dull, at former prices. Good shipping parcels of Corn have been sold at 43c @ bushel.

Provisions are unchanged, and the sales to-day were small.

Exchanges remain as before quoted.

Freights are steady at former rates.

A CARD.

Christmas Gift for the Orphans.

MESSRS. POMAREDE & COURTNEY, proprietors of the Original Panorama of the Mississippi and Museum of Indian Curiosities, now exhibiting at the Armory Hall, Camp street, having generously tendered an evening's exhibition for the benefit of the Chas. Orphans Asylum, the friends of the institution and of the Orphans, have selected THURSDAY EVENING, the 20th instant.

Any appeal to the public, beyond the mere announcement of the fact, is deemed unnecessary to enlist the sympathies of our citizens in so praiseworthy a cause.

☞ Tickets—50 cents; to be obtained at B. A. Tyler's, 3 Camp street; Fichter & Co., 40 Canal st.; Tros Delta Office, 103 Poydras street, and at the door of the Armory Hall, on the evening of the exhibition. 419 R

IN STORE—66 casks Bordeaux Claret, Barrigue, 19 do do Montferrand; 15 do do real Cantenac; 8 half casks do do do; 66 bbls White Wine, Barsac & Sauterne; 6 do White Wine Vinegar; 8 do Old Cognac, J & J Prom & Co; 27 do Cognac, La Rochelle, 185 do do, superior. For sale by
419 41 F do do FUENTES & CO., 22 Old Levee.

FRENCH PAPER—4 boxes French Record Paper, 4 bales Paper, for paper sugar manufacture, in store and for sale by
419 41 F do do FUENTES & CO., 22 Old Levee.

HAVANA CIGARS—185,000 Havana Cigars, comprising Regalia, Panetelas, Mildews, &c., of the most reputed Havana manufactories, in store and for sale by FIDO. DE FUENTES & CO.,
419 41 22 Old Levee.

HAVANA PRESERVES—8 of bbls Guava Preserves, in small boxes, just received and for sale by 419-41 FIDO. FUENTES & CO. 22 Old Levee.

HAVANA COFFEE—60 bags Havana Coffee, in store and for sale by FIDO. FUENTES & CO.
419-41 22 Old Levee.

CLARET—100 boxes Claret, in the Custom House store, entitled to drawback. For sale by
419-41 F do do FUENTES & CO., 26 Old Levee.

BEE WAX—5 bales White Havana Bees Wax, in store and for sale by
419 41 F DE FUENTES & CO., 22 Old Levee.

MANILLA CORDAGE—100 coils, landing ex ship Robert Hooper, from Boston, assorted from 1½ to 6½ inch, for sale by
419 PRESTLEY BEST, 29 and 31 Camp st.

PRINCIPE CIGARS of the Promotion Brand, for sale by J N RICULFI & CO.
419 17 Common st.

HAVANA CIGARS—500,000 of all prices and description, in store and for sale by
419 J N RICULFI & Co. 17 Common st.

CHOICE SPANISH WINES—Sherry and Amontillado, direct importation, for sale by
419 J. N. RICULFI & Co. 17 Common st.

BAYETAS AND CANTONES—18 bales, of the best quality, manufacture of Messrs John Fel Brothers, for sale by
419 R. D. BLANNAN, No. 12 Conti st.

KENTUCKY WOOL LINSEYS AND JEANS—20 bales of Linseys and Jeans, for sale by
419 J. H. PALMER, 36 Gravier st.

LOGWOOD—30 tons prime, landing and for sale by J Y. DE EGANA,
419 No. 47 Bienville st.

CEMENT—400 barrels Newark, Rosendale & Rosendale, fully detailed, landing and in store, for sale by BLOM & FORTIER,
419 91 Magazine st.

THOMASTON LIME AFLOAT—700 bbls. Thomaston Lime, for sale by landing and for sale by BLOM & FORTIER, 91 Magazine st.

ST. GENEVIEVE LIME—150 bbls St. Genevieve Lime, for sale by landing and for sale by BLOM & FORTIER, 91 Magazine st.

PLASTERING HAIR—300 bushels, for sale, in bbls, barrels, bins and bags, by BLOM & FORTIER, 91 Magazine st.

PLASTER OF PARIS—500 bbls fresh Calcined Plaster of Paris, for sale by landing and for sale by BLOM & FORTIER, 91 Magazine st.

FIRE BRICK—50,000 English and American fire Bricks. For sale by landing and for sale by BLOM & FORTIER, 91 Magazine st.

SARDINES IN OIL—4 cases boxes and half do of Sardines in Oil, from the well known brand of B. Guillouet, for sale by
419 AUG. MOLIER, 90 St. Louis st.

RED WINE IN CASES—45 cases Red Wine, St. Haut Talence and Haut Brion, on hand do do for sale by AUG. MOL