THE REGISTER.

SAM'L BARD, Editor.

MONROE, (PARISH OF OUACHITA, LA.)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1859.

To our Subscribers.

We have come to the deliberate and unalterable opinion that it is high time for hundreds of our subscribers to pay up.

Many now owe us for FOUR and FIVE years SUBSCRIPTION, which we consider no particular favor or compliment. This sort of policy may be fun for the *subscriber*, but unfortunately it is DEATH TO US. Pay up.

Fannie McGill, by Col. Sparks, will appear in our next.

The gentlemanly clerk of the McRae has our thanks for files of city papers.

J. F. Wyche & Co., Commission Merchants of New Orleans, have our thanks for a late Price-current.

We call especial attention to the card of Burton & Work, as published in another column.

These gentlemen deal on the square, and we most earnestly commend them to our readers as every way worthy of public confidence and patronage.

TAYLOR & BYNUM.—These sterling Democrats and accomplished gentlemen will come before the Legislature as candidates for the State Printing. The Advocate has always done good and square work, and we know of no earthly reason why its proprietors should not be re-elected to their present position. We bespeak for them a warm support from the regular Democracy of this portion of the State, and from our heart wish them an abundance of success.

WEATHER.—The weather during the past week has been rather agreeable than otherwise. Some ten days ago rain, snow, ice, thunder and lightning were the special order of the times. A little touch of old Greenland still lingers about.

The river is rising and bids fair to continue up during the entire season. Boats are plenty, trade encouraging and the health very generally good.

VICKSBURG, SHREVEPORT AND TEXAS RAILROAD.—On our way to Mobile we passed over the finished portion of this road, and pronounce it equal, if not superior, to any road in the South.

The road now extends thirty odd miles West of Vicksburg, and we are informed by Doctor Young that it will reach this point in less than eighteen months. We both need and deserve the road, and sincerely hope our North Louisiana friends will do all in their power to aid in its speedy completion.

READ IT.—In another column we publish a letter from Hon. John M. Sandidge. It is in reply to a Dr. Hart and others, representing themselves as delegates of the settlers on the "Houmas Claim." The Colonel states facts in a clear light, and we look upon his arguments and deductions as unanswerable. This letter would have appeared in our columns subsequent to this, had the editor not been absent. In conclusion, we call upon our readers to give the letter a careful perusal, as a bit of history well worth knowing. The Colonel states the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. When was he ever known to do otherwise?

CAN'T DO IT.—We have been kindly solicited to take sides on the Senatorial controversy between the friends of Messrs. Brigham and Stevens, which we most respectfully decline doing. We are personally friendly to both gentlemen, and will be happy to publish communications on either side; at the same time, we beg leave to decline any expression of opinion as to who should be Senator. We propose referring the whole matter to the Senate, where it can be disposed of in a cool, dignified and proper manner. The Constitution positively declares that there shall be but THIRTY-TWO Senators. This being the case, somebody must be ruled out. Who that somebody is, we have yet to see.

LECTURE TO YOUNG MEN.—On Thursday evening last the Rev. Dr. Bard, editor of the Ouachita Register, delivered an address to the young men of Mobile, in the Fourth Presbyterian Church in that city. We have no doubt the Doctor's effort reflected credit upon himself and his profession.—*N. O. Crescent.*

Well, well! the Doctor is a good trump, certain. Just think of it! a North Louisiana editor lecturing in Mobile. Sensible in some degree of the responsibility that rested upon our neighbor upon the occasion above mentioned, we repeat that to go through so admirably the Doctor *must be* a good trump!—*Southern Times.*

It must not be forgotten that our young friend is a candidate for the Secretaryship of the Senate, and if elected will make a most efficient officer.

It is thought by many that Mc., coming from NORTH LOUISIANA, necessarily holds the ACE OF TRUMPS, and can but succeed in his game.

The Peerless and McRae.

In another column will be found the respective schedules of these splendid, fast and safe packets.

The several officers of this line are favorites of the people. Capts. Moore and Tobin are too well known to require praise at our hands.

Mr. Belknap, clerk of the Peerless, is one of the most agreeable, accommodating and polished gentlemen of our acquaintance, and Mr. Florer, clerk of the McRae, is a gentleman framed after the same elegant model.

It ought not to be forgotten that Tobin and Moore lost money during the summer season, simply to accommodate their Ouachita customers. As long as they possibly could, they run to different points on our river at heavy expenses, with little or no profit. Such facts as these should not be overlooked or lightly treated by our planters, merchants and traveling public. For safety speed and comfort this line has no superiors, and we trust an ACCOMMODATED public will not forget to be grateful at a time when they have it in their power to pay back with good interest. The Peerless and McRae are our boats, and as such, we should give them our business—for he that provideth not [illegible] own family is worse than an infidel.

S[illegible].—The Washington correspondent of the Delta writes Nov. 25th.

One of your own [illegible] Senators has arrived and is ready for [illegible] in the nation, perhaps, enjoys [illegible] ty in Washington circles than the popular [illegible] Slidell. Long may he live. [illegible]

James Buchanan.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The following resolutions were passed unanimously at a meeting of the Democracy of Nash, N. C.:

Resolved, That the thanks of the people of every section of the United States are eminently due to JAMES BUCHANAN, the present Chief Executive of the Nation, for his able and patriotic Administration of the affairs of the Government; and that his manly and patriotic course in relation to the recent outrage at Harper's Ferry justly entitles him to the especial gratitude of the Southern people.

Resolved, That the Democratic party, being the only National party in existence, is the only one under whose banner the patriot can rally with any prospect of success against sectionalism and treason in the next Presidential election, and that all attempts to divide the South, or to weaken the Democratic party, holding as it does the Constitution in one hand and the Union in the other, are calculated to encourage the enemies of the South, and to give "aid and comfort" to the black republican party.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING IN YANCEY.—At a recent meeting of the Democracy of Yancey, N. C., the National Administration was endorsed as follows:

Resolved, That the Democracy of Yancey heartily approve the Administration of our distinguished Chief Magistrate, JAMES BUCHANAN.

Some time since we expressed a wish that the "CHARLESTON CONVENTION" would select "OLD BUCK" as the standard-bearer of the Democracy in the great NATIONAL struggle now pressing hard upon us.

We here reiterate the wish; for our confidence in the patriotism and integrity of JAMES BUCHANAN is undiminished, and we unhesitatingly affirm that he is in every respect the man for the times. Personally, we would much prefer SLIDELL or HUNTER; but if the candidate must come from the North, we say let it be OLD BUCK, for it can but prove suicidal for the South to give up old friends for new ones. Then here's to "OLD BUCK," THE GIANT OF STATESMEN, THE PILOT WHO *HAS* and *CAN* STILL GUIDE THE SHIP OF STATE SAFELY THROUGH EVERY STORM.

But as we are a strict advocate of the Convention system, we pledge our support, small as it may be, to the "NOMINEE" of the "CHARLESTON CONVENTION," let the mantle rest on whom it may. As a NATIONAL DEMOCRAT of the Jeffersonian school, we entertain an abiding confidence in the united action of the Democracy, the only great NATIONAL PARTY now in existence.

For fifty odd years the Democracy have directed the Ship of State in a manner altogether satisfactory to a great people, and we shall have the most unlimited confidence in the standard-bearer she may select from the material presented at the

CHARLESTON CONVENTION.

Hon. C. H. Morrison and the Speakership.

The newspaper press of the State has been rife of late with the name of the worthy and talented gentleman whose name heads this column, in connection with the office of Speaker of the House of Representatives at the ensuing session. We took occasion during the late canvass to give a brief sketch of the professional and political career of our esteemed townsman, who has grown up in this community and is identified by social and political position and fortune emphatically with the interests of the country.

Of enlarged and liberal views on political questions, although identified with the Democracy from his earliest manhood, he possesses in an eminent degree those qualifications of mind and habits of practical industry and close attention to business, that are indispensable to the proper exercise of duties as laborious and unceasing as those which appertain to the presidency over a legislative assembly. At the same time, our favorite candidate is by no means deficient in that patient courtesy and amenity of manners which go so far to allay the bitterness of party spirit, that sometimes unfortunately characterizes the debates of legislative bodies in times of political excitement.

In the office of the Sheriff, as District Attorney, Receiver of the Public Monies at the Land Office, and as State Representative, he has discharged his public duties to the satisfaction of the Government and the community.

His popularity at home is best established by the fact, that his majorities always exceed largely the vote of his party.

We are no fulsome panegyrists of public men or worshippers of the rising sun, but our simple advocacy of the claims of C. H. Morrison, Esq. to the distinguished position referred to, is based upon the knowledge we have of the man—that he has been always found equal to the occasion, and that he has by a life of devotion to his duty towards his constituents earned a reputation above reproach.

At this time, the services of such men whose independence of character united with extensive capacity and unquestioned moral worth are combined, are needed by the State. We should select the best men without regard to locality, it is true, but we submit to our brethren of the democratic party throughout the State, that the selection we approve (though originating in the most influential presses of the State) would, we feel well grounded in saying, effect much towards a thorough union of our party on all the great questions that at present agitate our State and are likely to be objects of debate in the next Legislature.

It ought not to be forgotten, that, perhaps there is no man North of Red River better acquainted with the local wants of this part of the State. On questions affecting the great agricultural wants and interests of North Louisiana, the people will find in our candidate, not only a zealous friend of their rights, but one completely cognizant of the best and most practical modes of forwarding and securing those interests.

The State of Louisiana has been to an extent almost munificent, the beneficiary of the Government of the United States; and the proper developement of the resources thus placed in her hands, opens a glorious future for the agricultural developement of our noble State. Elevate those men to high places, who know their duty, and knowing have the ability and honesty to perform it.

The Rev. B. M. Palmer, D. D., of New Orleans, has laid us under obligations for a copy of his discourse upon Female Excellence, delivered before the Fayette Female Academy, at its first commencement. The discourse combines all that's elegant, eloquent and able.

MOBILE.

Our recent visit to this growing and prosperous city was attended with satisfaction and the most exquisite pleasure. The Synod convened according to appointment, and closed its labors in a manner satisfactory and agreeable to all.

Without exception we put Mobile down as among the most delightful and desirable of Southern cities. With everything calculated to render one comfortable, contented and happy she is amply provided. In all our travels we have never met with a people who treat strangers more elegantly than do the citizens of Mobile. To Messrs. McLean, Armstrong, Brothers and Dr. Nott we are under lasting obligations for personal attentions, too numerous to enumerate in this brief paragraph. To the Mobile *Register* and *Tribune* we also owe a debt of gratitude we hope some day to be able to pay back with ample interest.—To come directly to the point, we pronounce Mobile the centre of Athenian elegance and intellectual refinement, and wish its gallant citizens all the prosperity and happiness a kind and beneficent Providence can possibly bestow upon them. We are in love with Mobile, and point to her as a grand model after which all Southern cities should take pattern.

Hon. J. N. T. Richardson.

From an article in another column, taken from the Opelousas *Courier*, it will be seen that Judge Richardson is not alone in his defeat as a candidate for the State Senate. Defection and treachery has brought about the defeat of some of the best regular Democrats in the State, a circumstance deeply to be regretted by all genuine and faithful Democrats. When such men as Emile LaSere, Richardson and others of like calibre are defeated, we feel like putting up a fervent prayer that God would deliver us from the professions of some who pretend to worship at our altars. The defeat of these gentlemen is now the subject of regret by the genuine Democratic press throughout the State.

Don't forget to read the article referred to. It is headed

"THE LATE ELECTION IN ST. LANDRY."

and is not a very bad picture for this quarter.

BEN BLOOMFIELD.—Who does not know Ben., of the great stationery establishment of Bloomfield & Steel, Camp street, New Orleans? Ben, the prince of good fellows, the high-toned, honorable gentleman, the enterprising and talented merchant, has been spending a few days with his friends here, much to their gratification and appreciation. To our friends throughout the State, and the heads of schools, colleges and incorporated companies generally, whose stationery and blank books, standard school books, and literary works of every nature, are important items of expense, we would recommend the house of Bloomfield & Steel.—As a matter of curiosity, visitors to New Orleans ought to walk through the establishment and see what it takes to constitute a business in paper and books. Persons who wish to purchase should call and inspect the material and prices by all means; if they can't agree on a bargain, they will have the luck to make Ben's acquaintance, which item of itself will render the visit an agreeable if not a profitable one. —*Baton Rouge Advocate.*

Letter from Hon. J. M. Sandidge.

Messrs. Editors of the Delta—Some one having sent me the printed "Exposition of the Houmas Land Claim, and of the Second Section of the Missouri Land Bill, approved June 2, 1858," by Frederick Weber Hart and Romania Tillotson, representing themselves as "delegates of the settles on the Houmas Claim." I notice a reference to myself, so wholly unnecessary for the ostensible purpose of their "exposition"—so unwarrantable and so untrue in part, that I deem it not unbecoming in me to reply to it through the columns of your paper.

On the 29th of April last, Messrs. Hart and Tilletson addressed to me very much such a letter of inquiry as the one sent to the Hon. T. C. Davidson, and which is published, with the response thereto, in their "exposition." To this letter, on the 16th of May, I replied as follows:

Messrs. Hart and Tillotson—In your communication of the 29th ult., just received, you state that 'it was proposed by the citizens of Iberville and Ascension to propound the following interrogatories to all the Representatives of Louisiana in the last Congress: Did you know during the previous stages of the Missouri bill, before it became a law, that the second section of that bill comprehended, or legislated on the rights of the settlers on the Houmas lands, or in any wise comprehended or legislated (on) the interests of any part of the State of Louisiana? To which you respectfully require an answer.'

"Presuming that you refer to the act of Congress approved 2d June, 1858, 'for the location of certain confirmed Private Land Claims in the State of Missouri, and for other purposes,' I have to say that I did *not* know the Houmas lands were included in the bill until some months after it became a law; but I *did* know the fact that reference was made in the bill to a report from certain Land Commissioners upon a large number of private land claims in Louisiana. The report of the Commissioners embraced near two thousand cases, and in acknowledging my ignorance that the Houmas grant—in, perhaps, some other name—was included, I may be accused of a greater amount of inattention than is charged upon one of my colleagues—Mr. Taylor.'

"The bill 'To provide for the location of certain Private Land Claims in Missouri, and for other purposes,' which was reported to the Senate in February, 1857, if passed by that body, was never taken up by the House, for reference to Committee, or for consideration in any other way.

"On the 5th of January, 1858—first session of the last Congress, Mr. Polk, of Missouri, introduced into the Senate—as I gather from the journals, 'A bill for the relief of Manuel Leisa, Joachim Leisa, and others, and to provide for the location of certain confirmed private land claims,' which, having been referred to their Committee on Private Land Claims, was on the 12th of March following, reported back with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause, and inserting that which finally became a law on the 2d June, with amended title."

Now, had Messrs. H. & T. acted towards me as with Mr. Davidson, and confined themselves to what properly belonged to the case in which they are interested, I should have been spared the necessity of this communication, and the settlers on the Houmas claim, the mortification of knowing such unwarrantable statements as are made with reference to myself, might well induce suspicion as to the apochryphal character of other matters contained in the "Exposition." Indeed, so *unnecessary* was such reference, that I can only account for it on the score of an anxiety to effect *other purposes* than the protection of settlers on the Houmas claim.

They say, on the 17th page of their pamphlet, "Mr. Sandidge, without doubt, was entrapped. His devotion to his party, and other means to the world unaccountable, caused him to sacrifice North Louisiana to the interests of John Slidell, in the election of Judah P. Benjamin to the United States Senate. This, of course, killed him politically in North Louisiana, and now that they cannot use him, they abuse him. He declared to us last winter, in the Hall of Representatives that he did not know that the interests of any part of Louisiana were comprehended or legislated on in that Missouri bill."

That I was deceived—I will not say "entrapped"—as to the true character of the bill, may be true, and that devotion to my party and its principles was and is paramount to any personal aggrandizement, is also true. But that I "sacrificed North Louisiana to the interests of John Slidell, in the election of Judah P. Benjamin to the United States Senate," is *false*.

I sought—and so did my friends—to beat Mr. Benjamin by all *fair* means—opposed his nomination to the last, and would have defeated him, but for the declination of gentlemen, over whom I could not be supposed to have the least influence to act longer in the nominating caucus of the party.

The "other means to the world unaccountable" could, I suppose, by drawing still farther upon fancy, have been enumerated by Messrs. H. and T. with equal fidelity with their other sketches; the field was open, and their imaginations seem vivid. I have not the slightest ambition to test, for anybody's gratification, whether or not I am "dead politically in North Louisiana," and hardly think it necessary to say a word as to the "use" or "abuse" which is charged. It may go for what it is worth.

I did *not* declare to Messrs. H. and T. last winter, or at any time, that "I did not know that the interests of any part of Louisiana were comprehended or legislated on in that Missouri bill." I stated to them, in substance, precisely what I did in answer to their letter, as given above; and which, for reasons of their own, they did not publish, or even allude to. I expressed to them my sincere regret that such a bill should have gone through a committee of which I was a member, and become a law; that it would have been defeated, had I known its proper character, if my opposition could have effected it. In the efforts which Messrs. H. and T. made in Washington last winter, I was, perhaps, of some use to them; and, having the *truthful* statement of everything I knew, in connection with the bill, am the more surprised that they should, in seeking justice for others, render so little to myself.

Thus much, Messrs. Editors, that silence may not be construed into acquiescence, have I considered it my duty to say.

JOHN M. SANDIDGE.

Collinsburg, La., Nov. 5, 1859.

The Late Election in St. Landry.

The returns from the various precincts in this Parish present a strange political anomaly, which must prove entirely incomprehensible to our friends abroad.

We deem it our duty to throw what light we can upon the matter, that the Democratic party may, hereafter, call to a strict account, self-styled Democrats, who when personal ends are to be subserved, call to their assistance the powerful aid of party organization; but who, at the promptings of the same selfishness, hesitate not to tamper with our bitterest political enemies in the hour of our utmost need.

St. Landry is largely Democratic. At the election on the 7th instant the State Ticket got a majority of from 600 to 800 votes; and yet, some of the nominees of the party for District offices fell far behind the ticket, and some good Democrats were defeated!

This result was brought about by the conduct of a set of men, who have hitherto claimed to be Democrats, and enjoyed the confidence of the Democracy, not only in St. Landry, but throughout the whole State. Let them henceforward bear in mind that defection and treachery in our own parochial ranks at the election of 1857, deterred us from making parish nominations in 1859, and now, gentlemen capable, honest and loyally proclaiming their adhesion to the principles and time-honored usages of the glorious old Democratic party, have been defeated by the unholy machinations of men to whom the mistaken partiality of that same party had given not only political existence but even social position in our community.

These men were in league with the uncompromizing foes of the Democratic party, the men who fought against us a Whigs, Know-Nothings, and are now rallying under the motley banner of "Opposition" to defeat every measure of the Democracy.

To prove this, let facts be submitted to an impartial and candid public. At L. D. Verret's precinct, the Democratic State Ticket got almost a unanimous vote down to the candidate for Swamp Land Commissioner, but there the effects of a corrupt bargain show themselves, and but *one man* upon the ticket, from Swamp Land Commissioner down, gets a decent vote! The same phenomena appears on the Atchafalaya, at Mermento, and indeed, at all the precincts where a certain clique still holds sway. The men who accomplished this work are well known, and they should be held to a strict account for their actions.

At all these precincts the tail of both the Democratic and opposition tickets are identically the same, proving incontrovertibly that there was a bargain, a base coalition between the Bob Tail Independent squad of the Democracy and the forlorn hope of the opposition for their own personal aggrandizement. This tail, unfolded, is a frightful one! But what excuse can these disorganizers of our party render to the Democracy of the State of Louisiana for their traitorous conduct?—*Opelousas Courier.*

Married,

On Thursday evening the 1st instant, by the Rev. J. A. Maguire, Mr. HENRY G. DOBSON to Miss EMILY C. MORRIS, all of this parish.

The young couple have our thanks for a piece of the Bride's cake. May their future be as was the Garden of Eden before the entrance of the tempter.

On Thursday 1st Dec., 1859, by Rev. Jno. C. Ardis, at the residence of the Bride's mother in Caldwell parish, Mr. WM. J. ROWLES, of Eldorado, Ark., to Miss ALICE J. TATUM, of Caldwell parish.

The cake was duly shipped by steamer to this office, but was devoured, we presume, by a cake-hungry crew—it not having reported itself at our desk, as such cakes generally do.

Sunday Column.

A Difficulty Considered.

A gentleman, on being expostulated with, on his own neglect to seek earnestly the salvation of his soul, excused himself on the very common, but insufficient plea, "That the Christian world was divided into so many sects that he should be at a loss to decide with which one to unite."

The reply he received was substantially as follows: "You greatly deceive yourself if you regard this as a satisfactory excuse for an irreligious life. You make that a primary which is only a secondary question. There are various sects which have distinguishing peculiarities, but there is a great foundation—'repentance toward God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ'—on which they are agreed. Now, your first consideration should be to get a safe standing on that foundation, and then you will be able, without danger, more deliberately to determine with which sect to unite. You may lose all, even the precious life of your soul, if you wait in your present perilous situation to settle this really secondary question. Look at that vessel trembling under the power of the gale, her sails rent, her seams opening, her rudder lost, and she driven helplessly toward the rocky shore! Of what are her crew thinking? Is it not the main and absorbing object with every one to secure a safe footing on shore? Suppose one of them, with death staring him in the face, should refuse to make an exertion for his safety, because he had not determined whether he should be entertained at this house or that which he descries on the land. This is your case. Get to shore first, set your foot firmly on that rock, then you may safely take time to decide to which house you may repair."

An Affecting Incident.

When Dr. Hutton was Bishop of Durham, (as we are told by his biographer), and as he was travelling over Cam, Wensleydale and Ingleton, he suddenly dismounted; and, having delivered his horse to a servant, walked to a particular place, at some distance from the highway, where he kneeled down, and continued some time in prayer. On his return, one of his attendants took the liberty of inquiring what was his master's motive for so singular an act; in answer to which the Bishop informed him that, when he was a poor boy, without shoes or stockings, traversing this cold and bleak mountain on a frosty day, he remembered that he had disturbed a red cow, then lying on that identical place, in order to warm his feet and legs on the spot.

The above anecdote, which so beautifully and touchingly illustrates the character of the worthy Bishop, is taken from Whittaker's "History of Richmondshire."

Does it not teach us two things? First: That we ought never to be ashamed of poor parents, and the mean and lowly circumstances of our early days. It is a much greater honor to any man to have raised himself by his knowledge, his industry, and his goodness to the highest position in society, than if he had inherited such position merely by the accident of his birth or fortune.

Secondly: That when any little incident occurs to remind us of the lowliness or privations of our former life, we ought to make use of it as an outlet of our gratitude to God, and as a motive, for renewed devotedness to His will and service, who "raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifted up the beggar from the dunghill," that He may "set them among the princes of His people."

Family Prayer.

No man should feel satisfied with simply silent prayer. The habit of expressing your feelings through the medium of words, not only makes them distinct and clear, but makes them strong. On the other hand, no man should pray so little as he would when he only prays by vocalization and utterance. There ought to be in every man's life, every day, appointed periods in which there should be utterance in prayer before God, in which a man should be accustomed to develop his feeling in actual language and words; and over and above that, and after that, there should be prayer and thought ejaculation—the uplifting of unexpressed feelings—both of them should go on together, working and co-working with each other. There are many persons who are deficient in prayer, because they never have cultivated themselves by expressing their prayerful feelings. There seems to be a difficulty in beginning. I suppose that it is always hard to speak in an unknown tongue, and to speak in a tongue we do not understand, before people we do not know, brings to every one some feelings of shame. Many Christians shrink from taking up the cross of family prayer, but most unwisely are they dealt with who are dealt with tenderly upon this subject. Any man who has a family round about him, whatever it may cost in the beginning, will do wisely to take up family prayer. As to reading it from a book, every man must have his own liberty; it is better to read than not to pray; but it is still better to read from your own religious experience than from any other volume. I am sure that a man who walks with crutches is better than a man who does not walk at all; but a man who walks well without a crutch is better than a man who walks with either a cane or crutch. The expressing of devout and thankful feelings before God in prayer is one of the most needful things for Christians.

The Poor.

We utterly repudiate, as unworthy, not of freemen only, but of men, the narrow notion that there is to be an education for the poor, as such. Has God provided for the poor a coarser earth, a paler sky? Does not the sun pour down his golden flood as cheerfully upon the poor man's hovel as upon the rich man's palace? Have not the cottager's children as keen a sense of all the freshness, verdure, fragrance, melody, and beauty of luxuriant nature, as the pale sons of Kings? Or is it on the mind that God has stamped the imprint of a baser birth, so that a poor man's child knows with an inborn certainty, that his lot is to crawl, not climb?

It is not so. God has not done it. Man cannot do it. Mind is immortal. Mind is imperial. It bears no mark of high or low, of rich or poor. It heeds no bounds of time or place, of rank or circumstances. It asks but freedom.—It requires but light. It is heaven-born, and it aspires to heaven. Lowliness does not enfeeble it. Poverty cannot repress it. Difficulties do not stimulate its vigor. The poor tallow chandler's son, that sits up all night to learn, shall stand treating with mighty kings, shall add new provinces to the domain of science, shall bind the lightning with a hempen cord, and bring it harmlessly from the skies. The common school is *common*, not as an inferior, not as the school for poor men's children, but as the light and air are common.—*Bishop Doane.*

THEY SHALL OBTAIN MERCY.—If you find a man disposed to complain of the coldness of the world, be sure you will find that he has never brought anything into the world to warm it, but is a personal lump of ice set in the midst of it. If you find a man who complains that the world is all base and hollow, tap him, and he will probably sound base and hollow. And so, in the other way, a kind man will probably find kindness everywhere about him. The merciful man, as a general thing, will obtain mercy. He who has always had a kind excuse for others, who has looked at the brightest side of the case; he who has rendered his pardon and his help whenever he could, who has never brought his fellow-man into any strait by reason of not helping him, will find that the mercy which he has bestowed, flows back upon him in a full and spontaneous spring. He will make a merciful world by the mercy he himself shows.

"OUR FATHER."—The little word "Father," saith Luther, lisped forth in prayer by a child of God, exceeds the eloquence of Demosthenes, Cicero, and all the other famed orators of the world. If a man be not interested in Christ, he may perish with "Our Father" in his mouth.—*Brooks.*

REPENTANCE.—You cannot repent too soon. There is no day like to-day. Yesterday is gone—to-morrow is God's, not your own. And, think how sad it will be to have your evidences to seek, when your cause is to be tried; to have your oil to buy, when you should have it to burn.

Congressional Proceedings.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Washington, Dec. 6.

In the Senate to-day, Mr. Mason's resolution was called up, and a long discussion ensued, in which several Senators took part on either side.

Mr. Trumbull, of Ill., favored the resolution, and wished the matter thoroughly investigated, but offered an amendment that the select committee so appointed should also enter into an investigation of a similar affair which occurred in 1855, at Liberty, Missouri. Mr. Trumbull urged his amendment in a characteristic speech, to which Mr. Mason replied that the object of the resolution was to obtain official information upon which to base Congressional action.

Mr. Mason made a lengthy speech in support of the resolution, in the course of which he called John Brown a vagabond, a ruffian, and a thief and robber.

John P. Hale, of N. H., occupied much of the attention of the Senate, making numerous speeches in his characteristic style, ridiculing the invasion of Brown as a crazy scheme, and reflecting upon the people of Virginia and their conduct, for which Hunter, of Va., rebuked him, saying that his (Hale's) attempt at wit was like the laugh of a drunken man at the bed of death.

Messrs. Green, Hughes and Iverson addressed the Senate, favoring Mason's resolution, but opposing Trumbull's amendment.

Wilson and Clark advocated the amendment, as well as the resolution, but previous to any action being taken upon it, the Senate adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER.

REPUBLICANS REQUIRED TO FACE THE MUSIC.

In the House, Mr. Clark's resolution in regard to those members of the House who had endorsed Helper's book, was again under discussion, and consumed the entire session.

Mr. Leake, of Va., made an able speech and was for making the Republicans "face the music."

Mr. Millson, of Va., said that those who endorsed Helper's book were not fit to live, much less to be Speaker of the House.

Mr. Keitt, of S. C., in an able and temperate speech, showed that the present state of feeling between the North and South and the fate of John Brown and his deluded followers, was the legitimate fruit of the seed sown by Wm. H. Seward and other abolition agitators.

Sherman and Curtis made speeches in vindication of their position, and said that as Republicans they did not justify any interference by force between master and slave.

Mr. Gilmer offered a proposition reiterating the declaration of the Whig and Democratic platforms of 1852 to frown down any and all attempts to agitate the slavery question in or out of Congress.

The session was an exciting one, and a lively time is anticipated before a Speaker is elected. No vote was taken on the election of Speaker, and the House adjourned to 12 M. to-morrow.

SECOND BALLOT FOR SPEAKER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.

In the House of Representatives to-day (Wednesday) after an animated discussion upon Clarke's resolution, a second attempt was made to elect a Speaker, which resulted as follows: Sherman (Rep.) 107; Bocock (Dem.) 88; Gilmer 22; scattering 14.

In the Senate the discussion was continued upon Mason's resolution, without coming to any action on the subject.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.

In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Trumbull, in discussing Mr. Mason's resolution, was subjected to a lengthy cross examination by Southern Senators, which produced much excitement for a time.

In explaining the principles of the Republican party, Trumbull advocated the purchase of a territory contiguous to ours, for the purpose of transporting thither our free negroes, instead of sending them to Africa.

The Senate finally adjourned over till Monday.

The entire session of the House to-day was taken up with the discussion of the slavery question, Helper's Book, Harper's Ferry affair, &c., and not so much as an attempt was made to ballot for Speaker.

In the Senate, Mr. Slidell gave notice of a bill making an appropriation for the purpose of facilitating the acquisition of the Island of Cuba.

EXCITING TIMES IN THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8

In the House a rambling and general discussion was kept up during the day, upon Clark's resolution and other matters, with the object, as is supposed, of consuming time till parties can secure the attendance of members now absent.

At one time during the discussion, much excitement prevailed, owing to an altercation which took place between Mr. Kellogg, of Michigan, and Mr. Logan, of Illinois, which amounted almost to a quarrel, but they were prevented from coming to blows by the interference of members.

The difficulty arose from the former using offensive language towards Senator Douglas, in coupling Douglas with Greeley in an attempt to sell the votes of Illinois, last fall, to secure the election of Douglas.

THIRD BALLOT FOR SPEAKER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.

In the House to-day, after a rambling discussion which consumed nearly the entire session, a third ballot was taken, which resulted as follows: Sherman 110, Bocock 88, Gilmer 20, scattering 13. After which the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9, P. M.

Sherman's friends are boasting, this evening, that they are sure of votes enough to elect him Speaker on the next or succeeding ballot.

Senator Douglas and wife go South on Monday, on a trip to Florida, for their health.

DISTANCE OF ANOTHER STAR ASCERTAINED.—A late number of the *Astronomische Nachrichten* contains the result of Dr. Kruger's observation on the binary star, known as 70 Ophiuchus, with heliometer of the Bonn Observatory, for the purpose of ascertaining its distance from our globe.

This star is one of the brightest in the right shoulder of the constellation of Ophiuchus, and has long been regarded with interest by astronomers on account of its being one of the first class binary stars—the smaller revolving around the larger in about eighty years, and having nearly completed one revolution since its motion was first detected. The principal star is of the fourth magnitude, of a pale topaz color and plainly visible to the naked eye—the companion star is of the seventh, and of a violet color.

This star offered the same inducements to measure its distance as the other few stars whose distance has been determined. Dr. Kruger finds the mass of the binary system to be little less than three times that of our sun, and its distance from us to be above one million two hundred thousand times that of the earth's mean distance from the sun—a distance that would require light nineteen years to pass over, flying constantly at the rate of two hundred thousand miles in a second. Two other fixed stars, Alpha Centauri, the most brilliant star in the Southern heavens, and 61 Cygni, in the Northern heavens, are within this distance. Alpha Centauri is the nearest known star, and is so distant that it would require more than three years for light to pass over the interval between us. 61 Cygni is better known to us by being in view in our latitude. Its distance is so great as to require light nine and one-fourth years to fly from it to us. Of the millions of stars which crowd our firmament, the distance of these three only are known with any certainty.

New Advertisements.

Succession Sale.

IN pursuance with an order of the Hon. the 12th District Court of the Parish of Ouachita, I will sell at public auction, in the town of Monroe, on SATURDAY, the 24th day of December, 1859, all the personal effects of the Succession of John Wallace, dec'd', consisting of one bay Horse, sadle and bridle, 1 shot gun, 1 Colt's revolver and case, 1 silver watch, 1 pair saddle bags, 1 lot of books, 1 trunk and apparel.

Terms of sale—cash, not less than the appraisement.

JOSEPH H. MITCHELL, Curator.

Dec. 7, 1859. $3.

Judgment.

STATE OF LOUISIANA,
Parish of Ouachita,
12th District Court.

Cynthia Crenshaw, wife, *vs.* (3030) A. J. Crenshaw, husband.

IN this case by reason of the law and the evidence, being in favor of plaintiff. It is ordered, adjudged and decreed, that she have judgment of separation of property and dissolution of acquets and gains against her husband, the defendant. It is further decreed, that the following property be set apart, as her own separate property to wit: One hundred head of hogs, more or less; twenty head of cattle, more or less; and three horses; also the E. ½ of S. E. ¼ S. 31, and W. ½ of S. W. ¼ S. 32, T. 19, R. 5 E., containing 160 62-100 acres, and the improvements thereon. It is further decreed, that she have judgment against defendant, for the sum of one hundred and twenty-eight dollars, with 5 per cent. per annum interest from judicial demand, and that her tacit mortgage be recognized. Further decreed, that she shall hereafter have the sole administration of her own property; also, that she have judgment for costs of this suit.

Done and signed in open Court, this 12th Nov., 1859.

R. W. RICHARDSON,
Judge 12th Dist

A true copy.
Attest: W. H. BRADLEY, Clerk.
Dec. 15, 1859. 1f.

New Orleans, Trenton and Monroe Weekly Passenger Packets.

R. W. McRAE.

JOHN W. TOBIN, MASTER.

Leaves N. O. every Saturday at 5 o'clock, P. M.

STEAMER R. W. McRAE,

PASSES ASCENDING,

Trinity	Mondays,	6 o'clock,	A. M.	
Harrisonburg	do	—	—	—
Columbia	do	—	—	—
Castor Landing	do	—	—	—
Pine Bluff	do	—	—	—
Monroe	do	—	—	—

Arrives at Trenton Tuesday Morning.

LEAVES, COMING DOWN.

Trenton	Tuesday,	5	o'clock,	P. M.
Monroe	do	6	do	do
Pine Bluff	do	10	do	do
Castor Landing	do	11	do	do
Columbia	Wedn'y,	7	do	A. M.
Harrisonburg	do	3	do	P. M.
Trinity	do	5	do	do

Passing down Black River Wednesday night, arriving at New Orleans Friday morning.

PEERLESS.

LEN MOORE, Master.

Leaves N. O. every Tuesday, at 5 o'clock, P. M.

STEAMER PEERLESS,

PASSES ASCENDING,

Trinity	Thursdays,	6 o'clock,	A. M.	
Harrisonburg	do	—	—	—
Columbia	do	—	—	—
Castor Landing	do	—	—	—
Pine Bluff	do	—	—	—
Monroe	do	—	—	—
Trenton	do	—	—	—
Port Union	do	—	—	—

Arrives at Ouachita City Friday morning.

LEAVES, COMING DOWN,

Ouachita City	Friday,	6	o'clock,	A. M.
Port Union	do	7	do	do
Trenton	do	5	do	P. M.
Monroe	do	6	do	do
Pine Bluff	do	10	do	do
Castor Landing	do	11	do	do
Columbia	Saturday,	7	do	A. M.
Harrisonburg	do	3	do	P. M.
Trinity	do	5	do	do

Passing down Black River Saturday night, arriving at New Orleans Monday morning.

TO THE PUBLIC:

Allow us to call your attention to the fact that we have placed the Splendid Passenger Steamers R. W. McRae and Peerless, permanently in the New Orleans, Trenton and Monroe Trade.

By prompt attention to the wants of Shippers and the comfort of Passengers, we trust to merit a liberal share of patronage.

Your orders for Cotton and your up Freights are respectfully solicited.

N. B. Particular attention paid to all Way and Plantation business, entrusted to them on the route.

JOHN W. TOBIN,
LEN MOORE.

Dec. 8.

ROBERT RAY,
Attorney & Counsellor at Law,
MONROE....LA.