NEW-ORLEANS BEE.

BY BULLITT, BULLEN & MAGNE.

At No. 83, Chartres street.

"TRUTH IS OMNIPOTENT AND PUBLIC JUSTICE CERTAIN."

NEW-ORLEANS:
THURSDAY MORNING, JAN. 24, 1839.

FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
HENRY CLAY,
OF KENTUCKY.

Subject to the decision of a National Convention.

☞ Every variety of LOTTER PRINTING, such as PAMPHLETS, COMMERCIAL BLANKS, STEAMBOAT BILLS, INSURANCE POLICIES, HANDBILLS, BILLS OF LADING, BUSINESS CARDS, &c. &c., executed with neatness and despatch at the office of the Bee.

The steam ship New-York, captain Wright, from New-York, via. Havana, arrived at this port last night about 11 o'clock. We have received by her Havana papers to the 18th. They do not, however, contain much of interest. The latest notice of the markets will be found under the commercial head.

The U. S. sloop of war Boston, was at Havana, on the 18th. Captain Babbage was endeavoring to procure the liberation of the American sailors who were imprisoned there some time since, and put into the chain gang.

A French brig from the fleet at Vera Cruz, arrived at Havana, on the 17th. Nothing of importance had transpired at the former place. The steamer of war Veloce, two frigates and three brigs, all belonging to the French squadron, were still lying at Havana.

The Noticioso of the 18th, states that they are assured that the commanders of the French and English fleets had had a conference at Jalapa, and were acting with perfectly good understanding.

The steam ship New-York, we understand, is intended for the Texas trade. She is represented as a very fine sea vessel, and her master as an intelligent and obliging commander.

STEAM NAVIGATION.—DIRECT TRADE.

Amongst the bills introduced in the legislature, we notice one by Mr. Winn, of the senate, "to facilitate communications between Europe and this country by means of steam vessels." That some active and efficient steps have not been taken by the citizens of New Orleans to reap the great advantages of a direct trade with Europe, can alone be attributed to the prevailing mercantile distress. The safe and expeditious voyages of the Great Western, Sirius, Royal William, &c. have awakened the zeal and stimulated the enterprise of citizens interested in the success of this novel mode of navigating the ocean, than New Orleans. Almost every town upon the seaboard is perfecting some plan by which to avail itself of this mode of intercommunication with Europe, and some of the interior cities have turned their attention to the subject with an earnestness that signifies, at least, a trial of the experiment. Upon the introduction of any improvement in the means of transportation, every community interested in commerce should avail themselves of that improvement as soon as possible. However settled the trade of a country may be, if a neighboring city can contrive any mode of transportation, which, either for cheapness, expedition, or safety, offers greater inducements than those before employed, that trade must in a great degree be diverted. Trade may be said to be in a state of transition whenever the ordinary means of conducting it are changed. Artificial modes of communication have frequently withdrawn commerce from places having great natural advantages, and it behooves every city, however favorable her position, to keep pace with the improvements of the age, if she wish to retain her commercial importance. The introduction of railroads gave such an impulse to commercial enterprise, as to form an era in the history of the world. Cities which before had enjoyed trade, free from the apprehension of successful competition, were compelled to adopt them, or lose their eminence. Rival cities grew up in sterile places, and by means of railroads diverted much trade, whilst larger communities slept in the security of their natural advantages. Nor is the introduction of steam upon the ocean of less moment than that of railroads upon land. It is a complete revolution in the modes of communication, and is as much superior to the tardy and doubtful agency of the winds, as is the rapid certainty of the railroad to the slow tediousness of the ancient waggon.

That steam navigation will become generally adopted is almost certain. Expedition is the prevailing characteristic of the age; it is epidemic, and it would be as rational to suppose that steamboats will disappear from our rivers, and give place to the small paced barge and keelboat, as to imagine that the successful application of steam to sea vessels will not be followed up by universal practice. In the gulf of Mexico steam is especially needed. As an agent so powerful and so controllable is particularly applicable to a navigation so perilous to the ordinary sail vessels. The use of steam would avert the many disasters that occur annually upon these waters, and render a voyage safe and desirable which is now undertaken with fear and trembling.

But, independently of these considerations, it has almost become a matter of self preservation to the south to engage in this undertaking. The bold enterprise of the north is already obstructing a large portion of the produce which should naturally find a market here. By means of canals and railroads the products of Ohio and Kentucky are flowing into New York, and upon the completion of the improvements now under contract in Illinois and Indiana, much more of our trade will be diverted. In every direction in the north creating facilities to western trade, by the lakes, by railroads over the mountains, and by canals connecting the Ohio with the Delaware and Hudson rivers. The convenience of these channels of communication have induced many traders to purchase their groceries at the north as well as their dry goods. And it is not humbling too much to say, that unless some measures are adopted whereby a direct trade will be established between Europe and New Orleans, the northern cities will, ere long, transact both the grocery and the dry goods business of the west. There is no reason why New Orleans should not import for the west. The products of the valley of the Mississippi will always come here, unless they are snatched from us by the superior inducements which the enterprise of the north may offer them, by affording artificial means of access to market. And nothing but the most culpable supineness of New Orleans can loose her the advantages of her position to any hurtful extent. Is it not natural to suppose that the south-west would make their purchases at the point where they sell their products, if proper means were employed to import the goods for them? The double operation of buying and selling would thus be done, as it were, in one transaction. We would not then see a merchant from the west and south-west selling his pork, and flour, and cotton in New Orleans, and then going to New York to buy goods with the proceeds, as is now the case. This is the course of trade, notwithstanding a large portion of the goods purchased at New York, has to be shipped to this place, and here re-shipped to their ultimate destination. Could the same goods be purchased here, the expense of freight, and insurance from New York to New Orleans would be avoided, and at the same time a more convenient and certain market afforded to the trader. Can it be doubted that this city could compete successfully with New York for the whole trade of the states bordering the Mississippi and its tributaries, if her advantages were improved? Besides the charges enumerated that would be avoided, the commission fees for re-shipment here, as well as the profit on the expense bills of the New York merchant would be deducted from the cost of goods. So apparent are the inducements for a direct trade to Europe, that it is to be wondered at, that it has not been before established. If there has been any impediment to its establishment, growing out of the difficult navigation of the gulf, that impediment can be removed by steam, and the freight by steam vessels can certainly be brought within the extra charges of a circuitous trade.

Besides, the city of Charleston is making a tremendous effort for the western trade. The state of South Carolina has given her the use of her credit to procure means to complete the railroad to the Ohio river, and her merchants are about to engage in the importation of dry goods for that market. By means of this railroad and steam navigation she hopes to concentrate the whole import and export trade upon her. With such vigorous competitors in the field, it will not do for New Orleans to be idle. Such immense enterprises are not begun for pastime, they are intended to be pushed to completion. When South Carolina undertook the struggle for western commerce, she resolved to spend her resources to exhaustion in accomplishing her purpose, and few are the obstacles which such resolution may not overcome.

We, therefore, rejoice that this subject has been brought before the legislature. With the exact provisions of Mr. Winn's bill we are not acquainted, but the agitation of the matter, whether in the legislature or elsewhere, cannot fail to be productive of beneficial results. It must necessarily awaken inquiry upon a subject which is engaging the consideration of every commercial community, and about which the city of New Orleans should feel a deep solicitude. The magnitude of the interests to be promoted should in vote for the bill the special attention of the legislature, and if that body should deem its provisions to be more appropriately the objects of individual enterprise than of state patronage, the discussion will at least bring them fully before the public where they will doubtless receive the thorough investigation their importance demands.

THE BANK BILL.

The bill legalizing the suspension of specie payments will be taken up to day, and we hope decided. The peculiar condition of the times, the vast importance of the measure, and the consequent anxiety concerning its fate, appeal to the legislature for immediate action upon the subject. The long continued suspension of the navigation of the upper rivers, withholding the usual supplies of commerce, have already depressed that interest beyond precedent, and if our banks are to labor under a protracted suspicion of forthcoming, consequences the most disastrous may follow. We trust that the friends of this bill will rally to its support, and by its adoption relieve the community from a suspense as painful as it is intense.

The Rev. Alex. Campbell will deliver a second lecture upon the christian system this evening at Mr. Clapp's church, Camp street.

☞ A most spirited and faithful caricature of the currency system, and the progress of public dishonesty, may be found at McKean's book store, and at Mr. Casey's, Camp street. It is exceedingly clever, and full of humor and graphic delineation. We recommend the publisher to send a few copies to England or the special benefit of such peregrinating pacolators as Price Swartwout & Co.

MISS ELLEN TREE'S BENEFIT.

The charming actress presents this evening the claims of a beneficiary. Her admirers—that is, the play going population—who have contributed so perseveringly to render her engagement profitable to the manager, are now called upon to display equal determination in remunerating the *artiste* herself. May the spacious area of the "temple" be crowded to overflowing, and may this admirable actress have reason to boast that although no portion of the union has been insensible to her attractions, none has appreciated her efforts more justly, and rewarded them more munificently than the city of New Orleans.

VALUABLE PROPERTY.

We call the attention of capitalists to the sale of the splendid property of Mr. P. Soulé, to be made this day by Mr. Barnett, auctioneer, at the City Exchange, St. Louis street.

☞ Mr. Pierre Jean Roger, who is deaf and dumb, and a teacher of those who are unfortunately deprived, like himself, of the faculties of hearing and speech, purposes to establish a school for the instruction of the Deaf and Dumb. There are probably a few such in our city, and they will do well to profit by the opportunity. Mr. Roger resides in New Orleans, until the adjournment of the legislature.

THE EXPRESS MAIL arrived late yesterday afternoon, bringing us *two* slips from Charleston. Heaven's benison be upon the ingenuity of Amos!

[REPORTED FOR THE BEE.]

STATE LEGISLATURE.

Wednesday, Jan. 23.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—On motion of Mr. Lewis, it was ordered that the treasurer's report be printed in the state Gazette.

Mr. Lewis, in behalf of the committee on claims reported a new bill for the relief of H. D. Williams, authorizing the treasurer to pay him $6000 out of the public funds, for his services in locating lands under the order of the governor.

Mr. Lewis, in behalf of the committee on elections, made a report upon the subject of the contested election in the parish of Jefferson. The report is a document of considerable length, and purports to have examined the evidence on the case in question, and concludes with a resolution declaring Mr. I. T. Preston, the member at present representing the parish of Jefferson in the house, to be duly elected by a majority of legal votes. The resolution was ordered to be printed and laid on the table, subject to the call of the house.

The member from St. Marys, in behalf of the committee on internal improvements, to whom was referred the bill to incorporate the Jefferson and Lake Pontchartrain rail road company, reported the same with amendments. Also, a bill authorising J. M. Smith to keep a ferry across the Atchafalaya, above Iaylon Aux Glaize.

Mr. Lewis, in behalf of the judiciary committee, to whom was referred the proposition of D. Fisher, to obtain a decree from a judge of the state, asked leave from further consideration of the same. 23.

Read the first time, the bill to incorporate the Independant Fire company, No. 11, in New Orleans.

Mr. Lockett, from the committee to whom was referred the bill from the senate, relative to the power of the mayor of New Orleans, stated that there was a difference in opinion with the committee upon the two first sections of the bill, but that they were unanimous in favor of the third section. On motion of Mr. Lockett, the report and bill were ordered to be printed and laid on the table, subject to the call of the house.

Mr. Gaiennie introduced a bill entitled "an act amending an act, authorising the governor to purchase arms for the use of the state.

Read the third time and passed, an act amending the act to incorporate the Covington Female Academy in the Parish of St. Tammy. And to incorporate the Springfield institute in the Parish of Livingston.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

The bill for amending the constitution of the state, having been made the special order the day for this day.

Mr. Kenner thought there was a useless loss of time, if spent in discussing the merits of the bill now, as he understood that the bill was under consideration in the senate at present and when they had passed it, he thought there would be sufficient time for the house to act upon it.

Mr. Ratcliff was opposed to the appointment of this, session and action in the bill. He had not anticipated the action of the senate on the bill. The bill he knew was one of the highest importance, it was to submit to the people of the state a question to assert the constitution. Here if he was in order would go on with his remarks and state his views of the proposed amendments. But the vote being called for on the motion to lay the bill on the table subject to the call of house, was carried by 39 ayes to 34 noes.

Read, an act to amend the act creating a new parish in the Parish of Natchitoches, called the Parish of Claiborne.

Third Reading.

The act to improve the public road from Vidalia in the Parish of Concordia to Harrisburgh.

On motion of Mr. Phelps was laid upon the table subject to the call of the house.

An act to create additional notaries public in the Parishes of Carroll, Ouachita and Claiborne, amended by inserting two in each pub. for the Parishes of West Feliciana and passed.

And the house adjourned.

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE.—It seems that the legislature of our sister state has not yet fixed a day for the election of U. S. senator. In the house of representatives a resolution had been adopted, fixing upon the 22d. as the day for the election, but when sent to the senate, it was amended by postponing the election till the next term, and this amendment in its turn was rejected by the house. It is not improbable that no election will take place during the present session, in which case, says the Natchez Courier, the locofoco majority in the senate will have to bear the odium.

The state of parties in the legislature is highly uncertain and it is extremely doubtful which party has the majority on joint ballot. The general belief is that the vote at present on joint ballot would be whigs 60, locos 59, several being absent. But changes in the opinions of some of the members of both parties are anticipated. The banks appear to be there, as elsewhere, the prevailing subject of discussion,—though much is said and little accomplished. The main for long speeches pervades the Mississippi legislature, and days are consumed in the investigations that require but a few hours for their discussion.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.—The following is the condition of parties in this body, as given by the Madisonian, viz:—

Senate.—10 whigs—18 locofocos—4 conservatives.

Assembly.—73 whigs—38 locofocos—23 conservatives. Aggregate of whigs and conservatives in both houses—whigs and conservatives 170—locofocos 56.—Majority of whigs and conservatives on joint ballot 54. This is on the supposition that the conservatives will vote with the whigs in the choice of a U. S. senator. If Mr. Rives be taken up by the whigs, his election is perfectly certain. If all the conservatives were to vote with the locofocos, parties would stand 83 to 83. But this is very unlikely, as several of the former are known to coincide much more closely with the whigs, in their sentiments, than with the locofocos.

Gov. CAMPBELL'S message is a sensible and manly document. He touches upon the subjects of education and internal improvements, and invokes the attention of the legislature to the subject of the public domain. A considerable portion of the message is devoted to an examination of the financial system proposed by the administration, which he condemns and denounces in the strongest terms. Gov. Campbell, be it remembered, was elected as a friend to the present administration. His rebuke of the sub-treasury now identifies him with the conservative party of Virginia, and when we reflect that his talents, unswerving patriotism, high moral worth and integrity make him justly popular in the old dominion, the influence of his opinions on those of the state may in some measure be appreciated. This is another proof among many, that Virginia is lost to the Van Buren faction.

FLORIDA.—The legislature of this territory convened on the 8th inst. Mr. Duval was appointed speaker of the house. In the senate there was not a quorum present.

The convention has closed its labors after a stormy session. The constitution has been ordered when framed to be submitted to the people for their approval or disapproval. The bank question was the engrossing topic of interest, and the subject of vested rights was specially a theme of animated debate. After a week's discussion the conflicting parties met on the 14th section which reads as follows:

"The general assembly, shall at its first session, have power to regulate, restrain, and control all associations claiming to exercise corporate privileges in the state, so as to guard, protect, and secure the interests of the people of the state; *not violating vested rights or impairing the obligations of contracts.*"

The vote on the adoption of this section was 63 to 10. Even democratic Florida respects vested rights.

NORTH CAROLINA SENATORS.

We noticed a few days since the passage of resolutions denouncing the sub-treasury, by both branches of the legislature of North Carolina, and that Messrs. Brown and Strange, in consequence of their containing no *positive* instructions to them to vote against the bill of the committee of ways and means, addressed a note to the legislature, asking what they meant, and requesting an explanation of their purpose. Upon the reception of the letter of the honorable senators, the legislature passed the following resolution, which it is hoped will explain itself:—

"*Resolved*, That the resolutions passed by this general assembly and transmitted to our senators in congress are sufficiently plain and intelligible to be comprehended by any one desirous of understanding them, that we believe this communication, anticipating the reception of said resolutions, and making enquiry as to their meaning, is not in good faith; and that it would be inconsistent with the self-respect of this general assembly to make any reply to it."

WILLIAM NORRIS, a distinguished manufacturer of locomotive steam engines in Philadelphia, has received an order from England, for ten of his locomotives. The order is from the Birmingham and Gloucester rail road company. The engines are for the use of that company.

MR. NILES.—Of this indefatigable pioneer and dauntless servant of the administration, the Baltimore Chronicle observes; "It has here before been useful for the senate to pay no attention to Mr. Niles' remarks, but, departing from their custom on the last occasion when he attempted to reply to Mr. Rives, they became so moved by it, that it was impossible for them to keep their seats—and they therefore left the chamber."

BANK OF ARKANSAS.—This institution now redeems in specie all its past notes without distinction of date.

COL. H. SEVIR of Arkansas, has signified his intention to resign his seat in the United States Senate at the termination of the present congress.

THE UNITED STATES HOTEL, New York, has been recently purchased by E. B. Yale, who has fitted it up with great taste for the reception of visitors. The New York papers speak of him as an attentive and experienced landlord, and recommend his establishment to the lovers of comfortable quarters and good fare.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Mr. Editor:—In the Bulletin of the 1st inst. I read an editorial article, headed "real estate, which I considered surprized me much. The tendency of the piece is not to effect a good in the community, but directly the reverse. The opinions and sentiments it contains, are not formed upon data and bring back to reason and reflection, (and especially to the habits of industry, economy and perseverance in well doing,) the over excited imaginations of men, who have been wandering for the last three or four years in the regions of fancy and illusion. That gentlemen, the author of that paper, who set so fair an example in his own lives of the virtues of industry, economy, and perseverance, should recommend in their writings the opposite vices, is to me, of all things the most wonderful. Those gentlemen will perhaps say, that they have not made such recommendations. If they have not directly they certainly have, and in the strongest terms. Indirectly. What, pray Mr. editor, does that man do, who, to a virtuous and industrious community, sets forth in the fairest and most enticing colors the golden prospects of gambling, (for speculating, as it is politely termed, beyond our means we pay, is gambling, and nothing else but the deepest gambling.) In a country like ours, rise of property in Hamburg, Carolina, in the last seven years, they observe, "no doubt similar instances of the rapid and immense augmentation in the price of real estate, could be cited in our own city during the seven years past, and will be repeated in the seven years to come." Is there no indirect recommendation in this.

Again they say "many large fortunes have been realized in this city, within the last ten years, and if the sources of their accumulation are investigated, they will be traced to the purchase of real estate." Now Mr. Editor, my opinion is, that not one large fortune has been made within the last ten years, by dealers in real estate in New Orleans, and were the deeds of those purchases paid, who have dealt therein, and who, in appearance, have made large fortunes, they would find little or nothing remaining in the bottoms of their purses.—The fortune left by the late Alexander Milne at his death, has been bandied fifty times over in the city papers, (by designing men, to keep up the excitement,) and then again, the real estate mania, that they may spell off, if possible, property purchased at ten, or twenty times its intrinsic value,) as proof, of what may be done, in the way of acquiring a fortune, by speculating in real estate. Since there has been here instituted, that virtuous men, and great public benefactor, and seven Hilling'ses take him as their model, I join hands with them as such, (if they will be honest, and stick to the model they have adopted,) for be it mine, I confess, and was, what all men should be who deal in real estate, or in any other estate. As they are somewhat surprized at the fortune of Mr. Milne, I will first set them right in that matter, and then state what he was, and his mode of operating in real estate. The fortune left by Mr. Milne although it is not quite three millions, nor two millions, as those writers state it "by calculations by inventory I am told, is between eight and nine hundred thousand dollars." But, the property once sold, the amount of his estate will be found to be, if I am not greatly mistaken, between five and six hundred thousand dollars. A little over half a million.

In speaking of Mr. Milne in the public prints, the gentleman writers, style him, "a speculator in real estate." Mr. Milne was no speculator; he never speculated, or gambled, (a synonimous term) in his life, he never purchased a piece of property except when he had the money to pay for it. When he had a little money, a hundred, or two hundred dollars, he invested it in real estate. He then cannot be termed a speculator. If all men would do this, and never purchase but when they had the money to pay, they might buy when and where they pleased—no fall in prices could then injure them. Mr. Milne in the latter part of saying that madam was a free man who was indebted to another, but was the slave of his creditor—in which he was right. He was remarkable for the virtues of industry, economy, prudence, perseverance, frugality and temperance, which qualities, added to intelligence, possessed by him in a high degree, will constitute the possessor, whoever he may be, to fortune. Mr. Milne had resided upwards of sixty years in Louisiana—previous to his arrival in New Orleans he had resided for some years at Natchez, then under the government of Spain, labouring at the trade of carpenter, which profession he followed for some years in New Orleans, and until he acquired a little money capital, when he established a small store, and traded in hardware. In those two occupations then, say that of a carpenter and of a dealer in hardware, did this worthy and virtuous man lay the foundation of his large fortune—taking occasionally as he could spare it from his current and most enticing colors the golden prospects of gambling, (for speculating, as it is politely termed, beyond our means we pay, is gambling, and nothing else but the deepest gambling.) In a country like ours, rise of property in Hamburg, Carolina, in the last seven years, they observe, "no doubt similar instances of the rapid and immense augmentation in the price of real estate, could be cited in our own city during the seven years past, and will be repeated in the seven years to come." Is there no indirect recommendation in this.

Again they say "many large fortunes have been realized in this city, within the last ten years, and if the sources of their accumulation are investigated, they will be traced to the purchase of real estate." Now Mr. Editor, my opinion is, that not one large fortune has been made within the last ten years, by dealers in real estate in New Orleans, and were the deeds of those purchases paid, who have dealt therein, and who, in appearance, have made large fortunes, they would find little or nothing remaining in the bottoms of their purses.—The fortune left by the late Alexander Milne at his death, has been bandied fifty times over in the city papers, (by designing men, to keep up the excitement,) and then again, the real estate mania, that they may spell off, if possible, property purchased at ten, or twenty times its intrinsic value,) as proof, of what may be done, in the way of acquiring a fortune, by speculating in real estate. Since there has been here instituted, that virtuous men, and great public benefactor, and seven Hillingl