

**Distress.**—Notwithstanding people appear to be getting along well considering the unusual hard times which have befallen all classes of people, there are many cases of distress in families truly appalling, which never reach the public. False pride prevents thousands from making known their situation to those who might render them relief. We have heard of one man who, with his family, a few weeks since, left this city for the west, in hopes of bettering his condition, who confessed that for three months he had not tasted coffee or tea, and but seldom bread. It is a true saying that "one half the world does not know how the other half lives."

The New York Sun, in noticing the attempt of some of the politicians of this State to revive the exploded anticommunist humbug, says, "By the way, a correspondent writes to us that he has recently received several letters from the victimized Morgans; and that the Masonic majority will soon reappear among us 'large as life and twice as natural.' The Pennsylvanians had better defer their meeting till he arrives. He would be a highly available candidate for them—say for Governor, State Treasurer, or something of that sort."

Another pretty (of course she is pretty) seagirl in New Orleans, has eloped or sloped to parts unknown.

The friends of Calhoun in Michigan are going to have a State Convention.

The report of the health of Com Porter is contradicted.

Several shocks of an earthquake were felt at New Orleans on the night of the 15th inst. There was another at Nashville on the 16th, at 11 P. M.

The Whigs will reassure their wrongs—they will lay up wrath against the day of wrath.—[New Bedford Mercury.]

They had better lay up a little money and pay Major Innes.

A learned attorney of New Orleans has taken for his motto the Latin words—*non equivoque*, which he renders in English—*Surely I am not*.

**U. S. SUPREME COURT—IMPORTANT DECISION AGAINST SPAM LAWS.**  
The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the U. S. has given the opinion of the Court in relation to the stay and valuation laws which have been adopted in several of the states. This decision settles the law in favor of the creditor, as against creditors who had the state. The decision of the Court is stated in the following extract of a letter from Washington:

Chief Justice Taft delivered the opinion of the Court this morning. (Thursday) upon a case involving living validity of the stay and valuation laws, the enforcement of which is so frequently resorted to at the South and West, as an expedient to get rid of debts without the payment of them. The case (Boussard and Knapp) comes from the Circuit Court in Illinois, where the judges could not agree.

The following are the points decided: 1. That the decree in this case should direct the premises to be sold at public auction, to the highest bidder, without regard to the tax at the date of the stay and valuation law, which gives the right of redemption to the mortgagee for twelve months, and to the judgment creditor for six months. 2. That the decree should direct the sale of the mortgaged premises to be held by three householders, and without requiring two thirds of the amount of the said valuation to be paid according to the law of Feb. 27, 1931.

The Court elaborately reasons also, on the question of the constitutionality of these laws, and pronounces them unconstitutional. In this conclusion, five of the six sitting members of the Court concur, and Mr. Justice Brandeis, who has lately left, has likewise expressed his agreement with the others. The case came before the Court on a written argument from counsel on both sides.

Judge McLean does not agree with his brethren, either as to the matter of the necessity of examining the constitutional question in this case, or especially in the absence of oral arguments of counsel, nor in the decision against the constitutionality.

**RIVER NEWS.**  
Arrivals and Departures since our last report.  
**ARRIVALS.**  
North Creek, New Orleans, DEPARTURES.  
Montgomery, Gregg, Cincinnati, Princeton, Kings, do  
The Steam boat Amazon, Capt. Morrison, had a hole knocked in her side at No. 1 Landing, but was sufficiently repaired in a few hours to proceed on her trip.

The Queen of the South is sunk opposite Shawneetown.

The Yazoo is at a tolerably high stage and still rising. We should not be at all surprised at an extensive overflow this spring.

**DEDICATION.**  
The Temperance Ark in Allegheny city, will be opened for Divine Worship on next Sabbath, preaching at 10 A. M., 3 P. M. and 6 P. M. The Rev. E. Smith will preach the opening sermon. The public are invited to attend. By order of the Board of Trustees of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. J. McLEOD, Secy.

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY.**  
The Committee of Arrangements for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day at the Washington Hotel met on the 2nd inst. in pursuance of notice. On motion the following Committees were appointed: Committee of Invitation, Hon. W. Porter, Geo. Jackson, Thos. Hamilton, E. D. Gorman, W. Tracy, J. E. Moorhead, Samuel Keller.

Committee on Toasts, Samuel W. Black, John Taylor, John T. Connolly, B. Hogan.

The Committee of Invitation will meet at the Washington Hotel, on Saturday the 4th inst. at 7 o'clock P. M.

**BOOK AND JOB PRINTING OFFICE.**  
N. W. Corner of Wood & Fifth Sts.

The proprietors of the Morning Post and Mercury and Manufacturers respectfully inform their friends and the proprietors of these papers, that they have a large and well chosen assortment of

**LETTER PRESS PRINTING.**  
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.  
Books, Pamphlets, Bill Heads, Circulars, Cards, Handbills, Stationery, etc.

**All kinds of Blanks.**  
Stage, Steamboat, and Canal Boat Bills, with appropriate Cuts.  
Printed on the shortest notice and most reasonable terms.

An Ordinance Supplementary to an Ordinance in reference to the Night Police.

**WHEREAS**, A debt has been created by the exercise of the powers of the Night Police which was established under an Ordinance of the City of Pittsburgh, passed the 9th day of May, A. D. 1842; therefore

**Be it ordained**, That all bills collected by the Night Police, in and about the City of Pittsburgh, in reference to the Ordinance of the 9th day of May, 1842, so far as they are applicable, be and the same are hereby continued, and the same shall be collected and paid in accordance with the Ordinance of the 9th day of May, 1842.

**Be it further ordained**, That from and after the passage of this Ordinance, the Night Police shall be paid in accordance with the Ordinance of the 9th day of May, 1842, and the same shall be collected and paid in accordance with the Ordinance of the 9th day of May, 1842.

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**BANK NOTE AND EXCHANGE LIST.**  
CORRECTED DAILY, BY ALLEN BRANDE, EXCHANGE BROKER.

Bank of Northern Indiana	100	100
Commercial Bk. of Pa.	100	100
Far. & Mch. Bk. of Phila.	100	100
Kenosha City	100	100
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