

A DARK PICTURE.

A correspondent of the Express, of the 1st of January last, commenced keeping a record of the murders and suicides chronicled in the newspapers which he was accustomed to read, and the result is as follows.

From that date to the first of April, there have been, 74 murders and 63 suicides. Of these, 19 died through intemperance; 12 by taking landanum, and other poisons, 7 by hanging themselves, 7 by cutting their throat; 8 by drowning, and 5 by shooting themselves.

Of the murders, 6 were in New York, 6 in Ohio, 4 in Georgia, 4 in New Orleans, 2 in Virginia, 2 in Vermont, 2 in New Jersey, 2 in Kentucky, 1 in Arkansas.

Of suicides, 32 were in New York, 8 in Pennsylvania, 7 in Massachusetts, 6 in New Orleans, 2 in Connecticut 1 in Maine, 1 in Kentucky, 1 in South Carolina, 1 in Wisconsin, 1 in Rhode Island, 3 in Virginia.

[It is remarked that this melancholy list is far from being complete.]

Dr. Wm. M. GWIN; we perceive by the last Mississippian, is announced as a candidate for Congress, and may, we presume, be considered as fairly before the people. He intends canvassing the State, and of course advocating the nonpayment of the bonds. Gen. Brown, who is in favor of the preservation of the public faith, has refused to run, and as a last resort, Dr. Gwin has been induced to take his place. The Doctor, we believe, once had aspirations which reached to the Senate of the United States, but he was received at that time as so decidedly ultra in his politics, as to be obnoxious to a large portion of the moderate and sensible of his own party, and consequently, was set aside to give way to Mr. Walker, who we are pleased to learn is also in favor of redeeming the honor of the State. We hardly think that the new question which has been "sprung," to give fresh impetus to the flagging pace of locofocoism, can avail this new candidate much, and when we take into the account the talent and patriotism to which he will be opposed in the person of A. L. Bingaman, it is an easy matter to predict his fate: it will be like that of his party throughout the Union at the last election, total and hopeless prostration.

It is calculated to excite feelings of surprise, that the Gwin family should ask and expect so much from the people of Mississippi. They have had all the lucrative offices which have enabled them to engage largely in land and other speculations, and to realize immense fortunes.—If we have not been misinformed, the present candidate has been deeply engaged in the land speculations in this State, which have occasioned so much loss and inconvenience to the poor men, who were compelled to submit to the enormous

The value of the poultry that strolled about the yards and enclosures was more than nine millions of dollars. The number of swine was upwards of twenty millions, and the number of sheep more than nineteen millions.

These people of the United States had the last year, more than three hundred and seventeen million bushels of Indian corn; more than ninety-nine million bushels of potatoes and upwards of thirteen million neat cattle, which furnishes them milk, butter and cheese, &c. to the value of more than thirteen millions dollars. They had at their command the labor and services of more than three millions of horses and mules, and upwards of an hundred and six million bushels of oats, and nine millions tons of hay, on which to feed these and their other cattle. To sweeten whatever seemed bitter or acid to the taste, they had more than two hundred and eighty million pounds of sugar. Their land yielded to them, for their indulgence, more than seven million pounds of tobacco, and upwards of two hundred and seventy thousand gallons of wine with which to cheer their hearts. Such is the income of her soil only.

IMPORTANT LETTER FROM SENATOR PRESTON.

The following is Mr. Preston's letter in reply to the Edisto Meeting, a body of men composed of political opponents. It is plain enough, and quite seasonable:

COLUMBIA, April 14, 1841.

Sir:—I have had the honor to receive your note inclosing the proceedings of a meeting of "the inhabitants of St. John's Colleton." That portion of the proceedings which purports to be founded on a rumor concerning my sentiments and position in the Senate of the United States, concludes with a categorical question, whether I intend to vote for a charter of a U. S. Bank.

The re-institution of a United States Bank presents a very complex question, both of principle and detail; and must in my judgment, depend upon a careful consideration of a vast variety of circumstances, existing at the moment it is proposed. Its very constitutionality must depend upon the actual condition of the country—and were even that conceded, the organization present so many important difficulties that it would be unsafe to venture on any conclusion, until a definite and complete project be presented.

The amount of capital—the mode of obtaining that capital—the place where the Bank is to be established—its management and control—and, above all, the financial emergencies of the country at the moment it is proposed—each and all of them extract a grave and cautious deliberation.

In advance therefore, I can answer the interrogatory propounded, only by announcing the general principle on which I stand

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION.

I have already expressed thoughts which all allow to be correct, that the purity for the duration of the free republic which bless our country depends on the habits of virtue and the prevalence of knowledge and of education. The feelings must be disciplined—the passions are to be restrained—true and trustworthy men are to be inspired—a profound religion is to be instilled, and pure morality is to be maintained under all circumstances. All that is prized in education. Mothers who are faithful in this great duty, will tell the world that neither in political nor in any other sphere of life, can man ever withdraw from the perpetual obligations of duty; that in every act whether in the public or private, he incurs a just responsibility and that in no condition is he trifling with important rights and duties. They will impress upon the children the truth, that the exercise of the elective franchise is a social duty of the nature as man can be called upon to perform; that a man may not innocently trifle with the vote; and every free elector is a trustee for others as for himself; and every man and every measure he votes for has an important bearing on the interests of others as well as his own. It is the education of high and pure morals that in a free Republic woman performs a sacred duty and fulfils her destiny. French as you know are remarkable for their fondness of sententiousness, which much meaning is condensed in a small space. I noticed lately, in a page of one of the books of popular literature in France, this motto: "Prohibition on the heads of the people, that baptism." And certainly there can be any duty which may be described in reference to the great institute of duty approaching it in importance next to it in obligation, it is that

DANIEL WEBSTER

CULTIVATION OF FLOWERS.
A thrifty woman never looks so beautiful as when her cheeks flush with her eyes sparkling cheerfully with her "cape bonnet" on, and a hoe in her hand, she is busily engaged in her garden. It is a healthy and exhibits, besides, evidence of good taste. To those who are desirous to treat our opinion on this matter, we would recommend the following extract from an American paper:

"What is the use of flowers? A thrifty housekeeper, meanwhile, is mending her fire-irons. What is the use of bright fire-irons, say we, in repairing fire-irons at all? Could not you have used some stones that would keep