This case will be tried as to the validity of the ordinance, at the present term of the Criminal Court. A fine has been imposed by Justice Houlton upon B. McKee, for violating ordinance in not taking out license for a wagon which carries the U. S. Mail. This case has been appealed, to test the liability of the appellant to pay under the circumstances of the case.

A large number of cases have been tried for violations of ordinances, but inasmuch as no important or novel question was involved in any of them, I do not deem it necessary to enumerate them.

SUPREME COURT

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

No. 48.—December Term, 1853.

The Executors of JOHN McDONOGH, deceased, et al., app'ts, *vs.* MARY MURDOCK, et al., heirs of John McDonogh, deceased.	*Appeals from the Circuit Court of the United States, for the Eastern District of Louisiana.*

Mr. Justice Campbell delivered the opinion of the Court:

The appellees are the heirs-at-law of John McDonogh, a native of the State of Maryland, who died at McDonogh, near New Orleans, in the State of Louisiana, in 1850, leaving there a very large succession. In 1839 the decedent executed at New Orleans an olographic will for the disposal of the estate he might have at his death. This will is in a legal form, and has been admitted to probate in the District Court of New Orleans. It contains two particular legacies which are not contested, and a single legacy under a universal title. In this bequest the testator declares, "that for the more general diffusion of knowledge, and consequent well-being of mankind," and