The New-Orleans Daily Bee.

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF GENERAL COUNCIL.——NEW-ORLEANS, THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 4, 1848.

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New-Orleans, Morning, May 4, 1848.

☞ We are requested to call public attention to the sale of Sugar Lands, situated on Bayou La Fourche, and of a valuable Sugar Plantation in full operation, which will take place THIS DAY, at the St. Louis Exchange at 12 o'clock, through the ministry of N. Vignie, Auctioneer. Said Lands formed part of the succession of the late N. Girod, and are located in what is considered the most productive sugar region. The terms are very liberal. Immediately after, will be sold, two new and elegant brick dwelling Houses, on St. Claude street, near Esplanade street.

The Beginning of the End.

The march of events in Europe towards the overthrow of her ancient institutions is so rapid as to outstrip calculation. Scarcely does the news chronicle one revolution, ere another bursts forth, hardly have we time to contemplate the spectacle of one fallen dynasty, ere we are called upon to record another. France, Lombardy, Sicily, Savoy, Venice, Austria, Prussia and Poland, have all reeled beneath the shock of revolution, and now, in the progress of time, Great Britain is beginning to writhe under its smoung influence. Ireland rattles her chains with desperate fury, and the millions of hewers of wood and drawers of water, whose thriftless toil has for ages pampered the aristocracy of England, seem at length to have awakened to the perception of their wrongs, and are resolved to claim a portion of that inheritance of Freedom, "to which the laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them."

What an ominous cloud is now darkening the horizon of European despotism! There is not a Monarch of the old world, except, perhaps, the potentate who weighs the destinies of all the Russias, that does not tremble at the insecurity of his throne. The divinity that hedged a King" three centuries ago, is now proved to be nothing but a painted puppet, worshipped in days of national credulity and ignorance, but despised now that the strength and the knowledge that mark the manhood of a people teach the worthlessness and impotence of the idol.

We are yet only at the dawn of this august era of revolutions. Dimly and vaguely are the nations of Europe catching the first faint rays of light that with us has already burst forth in coudless and meridian splendor. Their eyes have so longewaffered in a doubtful twilight, that they cannot at once bear the full radiance of day. But every hour adds to the clearness of their vision—motes and specks are disappearing by degrees, and soon the once benighted people of the trans-atlantic world will walk forth in the broad sunlight of freedom, undazzled by its most brilliant rays. We have no fears for the future destiny of Europe. Those who have once tasted of the sweets of liberty, are not to be again entrapped, and enchained.—The lessons they are now acquiring will prove profitable hereafter; the good will be winnowed from the evil. The nations will learn to avoid the chaff of disorder and disorganization from the wholesome ingredients with which they are mixed. They will in due season appreciate the blessings of law-regulated freedom, and learn, like us, to enjoy them unalloyed by the curse of popular ferment and lawless license. These is "a good time" coming.

THE AMERICA is the next steamer expected from Liverpool. She left on the 15th, and arrived at New York probably, between Saturday and Monday last. She has the reputation of being a very swift sailer.

GOVERNMENT EXPRESS.—The *Acadia's* mail was brought to New York on Monday, the 24th ult., by Government Express; the letters and newspapers were distributed by 12 o'clock, and at the hour of meeting on 'change, the news was in every body's hands.

REPORTED ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA.—It was currently rumored in the streets, yesterday, that the news by the Steamship *America*, was known; that cotton had suffered a further decline, and that collisions followed by bloodshed, had taken place between the British soldiery and the people of Dublin. How much credit is attach to these reports, we know not, but will probably learn something about it this morning.

SPECIE.—The *Acadia* brought over $250 000 in specie—the first wave of the reflux.

FAILURE OF LARNE & PALMER.—The *Commercial Advertiser* says:—We regret to learn that the old and respectable firm of Larne & Palmer, of Havre, have been obliged to suspend payments, although their engagements were only about one million of francs, against assets of three and a half millions. It is said their creditors cannot possibly lose very largely even under the most unfavorable circumstances."

THE RIVER.—The Bayou Sara *Chronicle* of the 29th ult., says: "From present appearances our sister town of Bayou Sara will soon be under water. We have been informed that the river above the Cut off has been falling for a week past, while it continues to rise below very rapidly. Persons residing on the East side of the river, are becoming alarmed at the possible consequences which may result from this work."

☞ The Raccoon Cut-off, says the Bayou Sara *Chronicle*, is now navigated by all classes of steamers. The Belle Creole passed through on her last trip in 6 minutes. It takes three hours to go round the bend.

FROM THE RIO GRANDE.—By the arrival of the steamship *Fashion*, Capt. Morgan, from Brazos Santiago, we have received files of Matamoros papers to the 29th ult. They do not contain much intelligence of interest.

A new Tariff, it is said, is about being enacted by the Mexican authorities of Matamoros. Business in that city is exceedingly dull. Robberies and burglaries are frequent.

From Monterey also, we have been received to the 22d April, but there is no news.

The *Flag*, of the 26th, contains the following:

Miller and *Soule*, the two burglars sent from here in irons some days ago, on their way to New Orleans, effected their escape at the mouth of the river, and are now at large. Miller is said to have been in this city yesterday.

"*Sally Bob*," a well known character all along the line of the Rio Grande, (thrilling bad of him did ever we know, and we have casually known him long) has been arrested, and is now in prison in this city, as we understand, under very serious charges. These charges, we hope, may prove unfounded.

☞ The U. S. Transport Steamship *Fashion*, Capt. Morgan, arrived last evening from Brazos Santiago, bringing as passengers, Mr. Collins, bearer of despatches from Col. Price's command—Capts. Payne, Donaldson and Sebastian—Lieuts. Webster, White, Nash, Shelton, Wilson, and 64 discharged soldiers and teamsters.

GEORGIA MANUFACTURES.—The Savannah *Republican* of the 25th ult., says:—We are gratified that the U. S. Government has made a contract with the Milledgeville factory for the delivery of 300,000 yards of Cotton Osnaburgs. This contract was made after a comparison by a government agent in New York, of the Milledgeville manufactories. This is not only a high compliment to the work done in Milledgeville, but affords unquestionable proof of the remark so frequently made, that for obvious reasons, manufacturing cotton can be done cheaper in Georgia than in the Northern States."

NEW YORK.—The vacancy occasioned by the decision of the House of Representatives in the contested seat of Mr. Jackson, county, in the 1st of New York, be filled until next November at the regular State election.

☞ BOUTWOOD STRAMER.—The Charleston *Evening News* of the 27th ult., contains an enthusiastic recommendation recommending Mr. Calhoun for President, and full of enthusiastic encomiums on that distinguished Statesman.

A FIRE broke out at Rockport, Ill., on the 27th ult., which destroyed a large building used as a warehouse, with its contents, which about $15,000. No insurance.

The Foreign News.

The papers by the *Acadia* came through yesterday and full details of the important intelligence which she brings have been received. They add very little to the clear and concise accounts previously transmitted by Telegraph. In place, therefore, of lumbering our columns with a catalogue of minute occurrences already, to a great extent familiar to the public, we prefer placing before our readers a succinct and graphic description of the state of Europe from the pen of the London Correspondent of the New York *Commercial Advertiser*. The writer interlards his statement with reflections, in many of which, we by no means concur, but rather than break the unity of the narrative, we have concluded to insert it with little essential alteration. The language and sentiments of the correspondent prove him to be an Englishman, and while we copy his letter on account of the accuracy with which he states facts, we must warn the reader to receive, with the due proportion of scepticism, the occasional comments in which he indulges.

LONDON, April 7, 1848.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

First with regard to France. The provisional Government will hold their place, but the evidence that they do so only at the pleasure of the mob, becomes every day more apparent. Their chief work since I wrote appears to have consisted in receiving deputations, which will hence hour by hour to the Hotel de Ville, and they have abolished from that profuse issue of absolute decrees which characterized the first four weeks of their administration. One of a very important nature has however been put forth, postponing the elections from the 9th of April to Sunday, the 23d of April, and the meeting of the National Assembly from the 20th of April to the 4th of May, the object being to gain time to act upon the masses and to preclude the possibility of the return of an anti-republican majority. At present no doubt is entertained that the Chamber will be composed of the most ardent Democrats, the calculation of some parties being that it will include about 200 Communists, and from 300 to 500 who, although not going the length of Communism, will be uncompromising Republicans.

In Paris the question put to most of the candidates for commission in the National Guard gives a clear view of the sort of liberty of which the Chamber is to be the embodiment. "Will you pose the National Assembly," it is asked, "were to declare against a republic, would you take part with it, or would you turn your arms against it and support the republic?"—and it is only those who reply that they would unhesitatingly march against the Assembly that appear to have a chance of being chosen.

With regard to the immediate disposition of the populace, the signs become every day more ugly. The old cries of *a bas les aristocrats*, and *a bas les riches* are alarmingly frequent, and the communist theories of leaders of workmen, have only been checked by a manifesto issued by Cauxidiere, the prefect of police, exhorting them to reserve themselves until the Republic shall be attacked, when they shall have an opportunity to act by torch-light, as well as by day-light. Meanwhile all sorts of arbitrary acts are performed, and those who are possessed of property resign themselves to despair. At Passy, the Republican Society has lately demanded a tax on certain wealthy Frenchmen who are deserting their country; at St. Malo, a riot has been successfully raised to prevent the exportation of animals, and at Lyons, M. Emanuel Arago, the commissary of the Government, has, by his own simple command, doubled the tax on property, and ordered also that no one shall leave the town with more than one hundred dollars. At this last place, all is anarchy.

The progress of bankruptcy is universal, and a decree has been issued suspending for three months the filing of legal proceedings against debtors. The Provisional Government have also demanded and obtained a loan from the Bank of France, equal to ten millions of dollars—an amount which will soon be squandered.

By way of relaxation from the angry discussions of the clubs, the populace have rushed upon the crotchet of planting trees of liberty (that is to say, bare and unsightly poles stening all over Paris. In all the spots most celebrated for architectural taste one of these unsightly poles is now to be seen, and in fact not only one, but in any position especially classic a number of them is considered necessary. These absurd proceedings are now carried on with far more industry than would be required in the productive work shop of the mechanic, and, to add to the waste, nightly illuminations are demanded in every quarter where one of these useless masts may happen to have been put up during the day. Of course processions, and music and dancing attend each ceremony, and the blessing of a priest in full canonicals, attended by all his assistants is indispensable. On one occasion, the people were much delighted by a figure of speech, to the effect that the first tree of liberty was the cross of Jesus Christ.

Another rage among the people consists in making voluntary offerings to the Republic—Occupantly bands of workmen proceed to the Hotel de Ville, and after long patriotic speeches deposit some 15 or 20 dollars—the aggregate amount of a day's wages—as a gift for the Republic, in the hands of the Provisional Government, which at the very same moment is squandering millions in a false attempt to provide these identical workmen with permanent public occupations, having easy hours and high pay for its conditions. The moment, however, has a very obvious end, since it serves the Provisional Government as an excuse for attacking the rich by compounding their selfish terror with the spurious benevolence of the poor.

On the Paris Bourse all is consternation. The three per cents, which previous to the revolution were at 75, have fallen to 33. A direct tax upon the funds and a tax upon mortgages (the first step toward confiscation) is spoken of, while as regards the railway companies, in a majority of which unfortunately the English public are largely interested, the fact of speculation is no longer in doubt. The Paris and Orleans shares already seem ruined by the Government, and it is understood the shareholders are to be compensated by an equitable amount of 5 percent rentes at par, the actual market price of which is not more than 50, and of which even at that earlier, any extensive sale would be wholly impracticable. The other lines will doubtless be treated in the same manner and on the same terms. Another disagreeable point is a proposed issue of assignats secured by the property of Louis Philippe.

FRANCE AND HER NEIGHBORS.

Thus much with regard to internal affairs at Paris—The action of the Government and the people on the surrounding States calls next for remark, and this has not been satisfactory.—Deputations of the people of various countries, Poles, Germans, Belgians, Savoyards, and refugees of all kinds, resident in Paris, have each had their procession to the Hotel de Ville and a speech from M. Lamartine. In his mode of dealing with them the foreign minister has shown considerable adroitness, by an eloquent expression of sympathy which has always just stopped short of a direct declaration of war against their rulers, and which at the same time has intimated that help would be given to them if they would show first some ability to help themselves. There has been a sequel to these proceedings, namely, that the Government will admit of a variety of constructions. From the first day of the republic, when the clamor of the work people for high pay and little labor was raised, the presence of foreign nations was denounced, and you are already aware that in the case of the English a decree of expulsion was almost the first notice they received of the commencement of the reign of fraternity.

With respect to the people of other nations, however, the animosity was not so strong, although it was felt to be equally desirable to get rid of them. The course pursued, therefore, was to incite them to form themselves into republican legions, and to set out from France to overthrow and to revolutionize their own States. For this purpose free conveyance by railway was afforded them, and it is also questionable if they were not equipped by the same liberal means. A band of Poles, a band of Germans, and a band of Belgians, each many hundred strong, set out accordingly on their respective missions. Of one of these expeditions we have already received accounts, namely, the Belgian legion, which was formed of two divisions, both of which met a most ignominious fate. By what means this happened, whether by the connivance of the French Government or otherwise, it is impossible to tell, but it appears that the Belgian authorities had notice of the arrival of the third division, and accordingly when the railway train reached the station on the frontier, it was driven into a siding where a regiment of troops, which was waiting to receive it, immediately made the whole of the unfortunate patriots prisoners and marched them off to jail.—The doom of the second division was equally disastrous. They are represented to have crossed the border in a body of 1200, with drums beating and banners flying, when a collision at once ensued with 800 Belgian troops, who, with two pieces of cannon, cowed the whole of the invaders to take to their heels.

THE ITALIAN STATES.

From France we turn to Lombardy, which with its population of nearly 5,000,000 souls, has since the date of my last letter achieved its entire independence. Austria has no longer an army in Italy except a retreating one, which is in imminent danger of being cut to pieces. On the 18th of March a revolution broke out at Milan, immediately after the receipt of the news of the recent events at the Austrian capital, and although the movement was so entirely unprecedented that scarcely any of the people were armed, while the garrison under General Radetski 12,000 or 14,000 men, a contest of five days terminated in a midnight retreat of the entire army. The unanimity of the people from the highest to the lowest seems to have been without a parallel. No place seems actuated by the influence of one universal spirit of deadly hostility to their rulers, and the general cry, "We can do wrong who kills an American." Of all the persons of the south, Milan is the most Austrian. It is said that one lady, and two or three gentlemen were shot during the four days of the contest, and that the Austrians lost 1500 men, while the Milanese lost 1500 men. The Austrians, however, contrived to carry off the bodies of their dead, and to bury them in secret places, so that the number of their losses could not be ascertained. The Austrians, however, were without provisions, while the people had a fair supply, and this was probably one chief cause of the retreat. Radetski, it appears, lost all chance of maintaining his position by his irresolution in the first instance, caused, it is surmised, by his having received a reproof from Vienna for his uncompromising severity during a popular agitation in December last, which, coupled with his knowledge of the turn affairs had just taken in that city, and, of the flighty of Metternich, was well calculated to beget caution.—His old ferocity, however, appears to have returned on his way during his retreat, since he has put forward a manifesto declaring that all persons caught with arms shall be shot. It is said also, that previous to their evacuation of Milan the army committed the most frightful excesses. One account avers that a child was found nailed to the door of a house which had been closed against their entry, and that neither age nor sex was spared from outrage or mutilation. I have myself seen a private letter from a most respectable source, in which it is asserted that the Archbishop of Cremona was crucified and had his eyes torn out by the troops at the gate of a church, but this is too much for credence. Whatever may have been the excesses thus committed, it appears that they were not retaliated by the Milanese.

While these events were taking place at Milan, similar scenes were enacted at the other principal cities of Austrian Italy. Venice, by an equally sudden move, and with scarcely any struggle, (owing to the defection of some Italian regiments,) expelled her masters, and once more declared herself a republic. Mantua in like manner was understood to have risen, but this has scarcely been confirmed, although there can now be no question that it cannot hold out. Radetski's retreat must therefore be a most perilous one.

DANGERS OF GENERAL WAR.

In thus recounting the liberation of Italy, however, we are compelled to recognize that the whole affair is pregnant with the elements of a European war. In fact, war may be said already to have commenced—Immediately upon the occurrence of the outbreak at Milan, the King of Sardinia, an ally of Austria, actually marched to the assistance of the insurgents, and a portion of his army is already in pursuit of Radetski. The Grand Duke of Tuscany has taken a similar course, and the Pope has also followed the example. This, of course, amounts to nothing more than a declaration of war against Austria, and it is surmised, that the Austrian Government has issued a manifesto against the "devastating plague of revolution and anarchy" which is now ravaging Europe. At the same time, the military Governor of Verona has ordered that all arms shall be given up, and that those concealing them shall be tried by Court Martial. All persons found in the streets after 11 at night, without lighted lanterns are also to be apprehended.

In Greece, a change of Ministry has taken place.—Holland also has undergone a similar event. The report of the abdication of the King of Bavaria in favor of his son has proved true, and he parted from his subjects in a farewell address to the effect that, a new state of things having arisen, it was his wish to retire—that he has acted according to the constitution, and that he feels he has done his duty." Hungary and Bohemia appear satisfied with the concessions promised by the Cabinet of Vienna. Germany is in the midst of discussions on the future basis of her federal union. Spain has had an attempt at revolution, a battle having been fought in the streets of Madrid, which lasted from 5 in the afternoon till 3 in the morning, and which, as I have already remarked, has presented the only instance of the people being defeated. There can be but little doubt, however, that the repression will prove but temporary.

ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

Having thus taken a review of foreign affairs and given you some idea of the gusts and eddies of the storm that seems as yet only in its commencement, I must devote my remaining space to a consideration of our own position. I grieve to say that, proud as that position appears at present, I look upon it with a heavy heart. The general movements of the time have of course, communicated themselves by a sympathetic sympathy to this country.

Intelligent minds cannot help recognizing that we have an ignorant populace, a brutal soldiery, and 800 millions sterling of debt, and that though the Anglo-Saxon character is essentially conservative, it is dangerous at such a moment as the present to have little to rely upon but this untaught instinct. What is desired is a government that should advance, and not wait to be driven. One that should take the lead by boldly announcing social and legal reforms such as equality of religious sects; abolition of the gross inequalities and injustice of the income tax, stamp, excise law and legacy-duty laws; the abolition of entails and of primogeniture; the substitution of a Christian in place of a revengeful code of criminal jurisprudence; abolition of game laws; a general reduction of expenditure; extension of the suffrage, and so forth, not in a revolutionary spirit with the distinct understanding that common sense and common sense and common honesty shall be applied to the amendment of these and all other portions of our laws and institutions, without regard to class interests and obsolete idols.

Such a course would be truly conservative, but it is alleged that the present Government meant to act in a revolutionary spirit opposite principle. They fear rousing the Tory mind, and they think by avoiding these topics, to get out of the scrape unscathed. To my apprehension this course seems the most fatal, and seeing as I do that throughout Europe the principle of the old, official, treat-of-kings style of government is dead and buried forever, and that our institutions I regard as the only means of the safety of the people, and of peace with the world, I am of opinion that the Government should at once, and in the most unequivocal manner, declare that the people are the source of all power, and that the Government are their servants, and that they will be dismissed if they do not do their duty. Instead of this, they have actually refused to receive the address of the Chartists, and have thrown the whole weight of their influence into the scale against the Chartist Petition. Of course, I do not mean to say that the Government are not sincerely desirous of the good of the people, but I mean to say that they are not sufficiently alive to the fact that the people are strong, and that they will be satisfied with nothing short of a complete and speedy reform. The Government seem to think that the people are strong in their ignorance, and that they may be easily deceived into a belief that they are being benefited, while their real interests are being sacrificed. This is a most dangerous error. The people are not ignorant, they are not easily deceived, and they are strong