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The New Orleans Bee.

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☞ Advertisements inserted at intervals will be charged one dollar for every TEN lines for both first and each subsequent insertion.
☞ The privilege of Annual Advertisements is limited to advertisements strictly within the line of their business, and to extent to one square every other day.

NEW ORLEANS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 17, 1855.

[Vol. XVI.—NEW SERIES.] [Vol. XXVIII.—Whole No. 7649.]

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Wednesday Morning, Jan. 17th, 1855.

☞ THE NORTHERN MAIL came through yesterday with the latest dates.

MR. SOULE AND THE ADMINISTRATION.

Our community were somewhat taken by surprise yesterday morning at the telegraphic despatch announcing the resignation of PIERRE SOULE, and the appointment of his successor. Not that any rational individual speculated for an instant the expediency of this step, or imagined that Mr. SOULE could by any possibility advance the interests of the United States by a longer official sojourn at Madrid. But, as the proverb touching office-holders, that few die and none resign, is fully applicable to the holder of foreign missions, it was naturally concluded that Mr. SOULE would cling to his office, until the close of the present administration, or until Mr. PIERCE should think proper to recall him. A spontaneous surrender of his functions was entirely unexpected, and sets politicians all agog to know the why and wherefore of this sudden change.

Now it is a very curious fact, that while we here had not the slightest intimation that Mr. SOULE contemplated resigning, the N. Y. *Herald* of the 10th actually announces authoritively that Mr. SOULE has resigned his position, and will speedily return to the United States. Consequently the *Herald* knew and published the fact a full week before it unexpired at head quarters, and quite probably before it reached Washington. This is certainly one instance of the *Herald's* facilities for obtaining information in advance of its cotemporaries, and proves that that journal's assumption of oracular infallibility is not altogether a pretence.

Touching the motives which have induced Mr. SOULE to throw up his credentials, there is a very general belief that he has become disgusted with the temporization and vacillation of the President in regard to the Cuban question. Mr. SOULE accepted the post of Minister to Spain with the distinct understanding that his energies were to be directed to the acquisition of Cuba. With this object in view, he proceeded to Madrid and took a high and somewhat imperious tone in his communications with the Spanish Government. It will be recollected that his demand of a heavy pecuniary indemnity was declined by Spain. Thereupon, Mr. SOULE closed the negotiation, and reported the facts to the United States Government. According to the *Herald*, in doing so, he took occasion to give his views at length as to the condition of affairs in Spain, and to express his conviction that if the United States adopted a vigorous and decided policy, Cuba in less than six months would be ours. But as he did not desire that his more *spe Kind* should be taken, he suggested a conference might be held with Mr. BUCHANAN and MARCY, who would fully explain his views, and a joint report could be forwarded here of the result. This proposition was favorably entertained, and the Ostend Conference was held. At that meeting our relations with Spain was the leading subject of discussion. Messrs. BUCHANAN, MARCY and SOULE united in recommending that the government of the United States should declare, in effect, that it was useless to prolong negotiations further—that so long as Cuba remained a dependence of the Spanish crown it would continue to be a source of annoyance and injury to us, and that both our honor and interest required we should either purchase or take Cuba at once. They further expressed the opinion that England and France would offer but little if any opposition to the transfer by purchase of the island to the United States.

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☞ The "dead letter" bureau of the general post office department continues to increase in difficulty and importance. During the quarter of the year which commenced on Monday, October 1st, 1854, letters, which contained money, were opened by the agents and handed over to the parties entitled to the money, to the amount of $13,798—and about seven-eighths of the amount contained in the sealed envelopes, received and acknowledged by the parties to the letters. Of the balance of $1,800 in money, the most of the sum contained in the sealed envelopes, received and acknowledged by the parties to the letters. Of the balance of $1,800 in money, he took occasion to give his views at length as to the condition of affairs in Spain, and to express his conviction that if the United States adopted a vigorous and decided policy, Cuba in less than six months would be ours. But as he did not desire that his more *spe Kind* should be taken, he suggested a conference might be held with Mr. BUCHANAN and MARCY, who would fully explain his views, and a joint report could be forwarded here of the result. This proposition was favorably entertained, and the Ostend Conference was held. At that meeting our relations with Spain was the leading subject of discussion. Messrs. BUCHANAN, MARCY and SOULE united in recommending that the government of the United States should declare, in effect, that it was useless to prolong negotiations further—that so long as Cuba remained a dependence of the Spanish crown it would continue to be a source of annoyance and injury to us, and that both our honor and interest required we should either purchase or take Cuba at once. They further expressed the opinion that England and France would offer but little if any opposition to the transfer by purchase of the island to the United States.

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BY TELEGRAPH.

Transmitted to the Bee from Orleans Bee.

[By the National Line.]

State Legislature.

BATON ROUGE, Jan. 16.—SENATE—The Senate transacted no business today.

HOUSE.—In the House this day was occupied in the election of officers. W. H. Hirsins was chosen Chief Clerk, D. Mitchell, Minute Clerk, and J. M. Perrilat, Sergeant-at-Arms, all members of the Democratic caucus.

Honor to Commodore Perry.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 16.—The Chamber of Commerce held a meeting this afternoon, for the purpose of taking measures to mark the sense of the community of the service rendered the country by Commodore Perry, as Commander of the Japan Expedition. A Committee of twenty five distinguished merchants was appointed to take such measures as they shall deem necessary.

River Intelligence.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 16.—Evening—The river still remains stationary, and there is no change of moment in our market.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 16.—The river is rising, and there are now six feet six inches water in the Canal. The steamers Mattie Wayne, Golden Gate, L. M. Kennett, and Grand Turk, have arrived from, and the Rainbow and California departed for New Orleans.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 16.—The river here is stationary. Sales of Flour were made today at $7 60@$7 70 per barrel. Whiskey is quoted at 25½ cents. Three thousand hogs were sold to day at $5 30@$5 50 per hundred pounds. Lard is selling at 8½ cents, and there is a better feeling in provisions.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 16.—There are now but seven feet seven inches water in the river at this point, and is still falling.

VICKSBURG, Jan. 16.—The steamer New Lucy passed down at 3 and the Australia at 5 o'clock this evening, both bound for New Orleans.

New York Markets.

NEW YORK Jan. 16.—Cotton is still dull in this market, 500 bales on the spot, and 2000 in transit were sold to-day. We now quote Orleans Middling at 8¾c.

Sales of Ohio Flour were made at $8 87½@$8 50 ⅌ bbl.

Sales of 64 000 bushels of Corn were effected at $1 03 for Western mixed.

Pork is dull, and Lard firm, at 10 3-10c@ ⅌ bbl.

Another Strike in New York.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—A strike has occurred among the laborers employed in loading and unloading vessels, and the shipping of produce and merchandise is almost entirely suspended.

☞ Gen. Almonte, Mexican Minister, has received instructions from Santa Anna to commence a civil suit against Don Francisco de Arrangoiz, late Mexican Consul General, for the recovery of the sixty-eight thousand dollars which he appropriated as his private commission for receiving the Gadsden treaty money in behalf of Mexico. Bets are offered at Washington of ten to one that the Dictator will never get the money.

TEXAS.

By the arrival of the steamship *Mexico*, we have received files of Texas papers to Sunday last. They are almost wholly destitute of interest.

At the municipal election in Lavaca, the American party were successful.

According to the Brownsville Flag, experiments have been made upon the Rio Grande which prove that sugar can be successfully made. The results of the experiment made by Mr. John Young, is fifty hogsheads of sugar, the usual amount of molasses and a large quantity of *pelonciau*, an article of brown sugar peculiar to the Mexican market. Corn and cotton also are said to be particularly suited to the soil and climate, and many varieties of vegetables are said to flourish throughout the entire year.

We have been waiting dates up to the 23d December, but find nothing of particular interest from that frontier, or from Mexico. The Flag says that many of the insurgents there are taking advantage of the pardon offered them by Santa Anna, and are returning to their homes.

The storm of Mr. Hedrick, of Rio Grande City was entered at night, about the 15th of December, and robbed of nine thousand dollars in goods, which he had purchased in Mexico—the thieves were of course of that nation.

Sam Stewart, the Sheriff of Star county, went to serve a writ on Charles Gallasher. For a violation of the licence of the tavern—Gallasher drew a derringer on Stewart—the Sheriff saw that and went five better. He fired at Gallasher, who in his shoot and stretch from the saloon men. The wound, it is supposed, will prove mortal.

☞ The Washington correspondent of the Courier and Enquirer says that when Mr. Sollers, in his Know Nothing speech a few days ago, declared with emphasis his devotion to the Union and affirmed that the Know Nothings were pledged to no sectional agitation, the House resounded with applause, and among those most conspicuous in thumping his desk as a testimony of his feelings, was Mr. Benton.

IOWA.—We learn by a despatch from Chicago, that JAMES HARLAN, who has been elected United States Senator from Iowa

☞ Mayor Volz, the citizens' candidate was re-elected in Pittsburg, on the 9th, by a majority of one hundred and seventy three over Morgan, the Know-Nothing candidate.

In Allegheny City, also, Adams, the citizens' candidate, was re-elected Mayor over the Know-Nothing candidate.

☞ The disgraceful Erie riots have again commenced. On the 8th inst., the tracks of the Lake Shore Railroad was torn up by order of the Commissioners of Highways, and at the moment the despatch was sent the mob were engaged in tearing down a bridge over one of the streets. The Sheriff attempted to make arrests, but was pelted and driven from the ground.

LOUISIANA ITEMS.

The Natchitoches *Chronicle* of the 6th says:

We are able to inform our readers, at home and abroad, that the Jail of the Parish of Natchitoches is without a tenant.

For the first time in the history of the Parish, there is not a prisoner within its walls, and we ardently hope that this state of things may continue for the future.

The Alexandria *Democrat* publishes an advertisement offering a reward of $250 for the apprehension of John Lee, the murderer of G. A. Robert.

We are informed, says the Madison *Journal*, that Mr. W. T. Oliver's Gin-house was consumed on the night of the 26th ult., by fire. It contained the whole of Mr. J. P. Lowry's crop of cotton, which was likewise consumed. There was no insurance on it, and consequently a total loss of between 3 and $4,000 to Messrs. Oliver & Lowry. From the circumstances and reports we believe it to be the act of an incendiary.

NEW JERSEY.—The Legislature organized on the 9th, by electing the Hon. W. C. Alexander, democrat, President, and Mr. Throckmorton, democrat, Secretary of the Senate.

Mr. Parry, an Anti Monopoly whig, was elected Speaker of the House, and Mr. Vroom, democrat, Clerk to the same.

Prior to organization there was much excitement, and a number of warm speeches delivered. Harmony does not seem to characterize the members.

CONGRESS.

In the SENATE on the 9th, Mr. Shields presented the petition of the soldiers of the war of 1812, praying the Senate to pass the Bounty Land bill now before them. Laid on the table.

Mr. Cooper presented the memorial of the Academy of Sciences in behalf of Dr. Kane—Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Clayton, I have been requested by Commodore Stewart and other officers of the United States frigate Constitution, to ask for remuneration for loss occurring to them from the recapture of the Cagliari on the 10th of March, 1815, at Port Praya, by a British squadron.—Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Douglas presented a bill in favor of the construction of a Pacific Railroad and collateral magnetic telegraph. Read and referred.

Mr. Shields, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back, with amendments, the bill for the re-organization of the army, and moved that it be printed. Agreed to.

The Judiciary Reform bill was taken up and discussed till the adjournment.

In the HOUSE the bill to graduate and reduce the price of the public lands was debated until the expiration of the morning hour.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Pacific railroad bill, when Mr. Latham, of California, spoke in favor of the bill.

SUPREME COURT UNITED STATES—Tuesday, January 9, 1855.

Warren Tilton, Esq., of Massachusetts, was admitted as attorney and counsellor of this Court.

No. 19. Alexander M Lawrence, et al., claimants of the ship Hornet, vs. Charles Minturn.—Appeal from the District Court of the United States for North Carolina. Mr. Justice Curtis delivered the opinion of this Court, reversing the decree of the said District Court and remanding the cause, with directions to dismiss the libel, with costs.

No. 13. The United States vs. Jules Lovoie, claimant, &c.

No. 16. The United States vs. Paul Trioen, claimant, &c.

No. 17. The United States vs. Lion, Pissard & Co., claimants, &c.

No. 18. The United States vs. Lion, Pissard & Co., claimants, &c. Errors to the Circuit Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Mr. Justice Nelson delivered separate opinions in each of these cases, reversing the judgment of the Circuit Court and remanding the cause for further proceedings, in accordance with the opinions delivered.

No. 101. Hayden D. Stewart vs. the United States. Error to the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia. Mr. Justice Daniel delivered the opinion of this Court, affirming the judgment of the said Circuit Court in this cause.

No. 102. Alfred Savignac vs. Abraham Corrigan. Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of this Court, overruling the motions to dismiss the writs of error.

No. 3. (Original docket.) The State of Florida, complainant, vs. the State of Georgia. The argument of the counsel for Georgia in this cause in behalf of the United States was continued by Mr. Berrien, of counsel for the respondent, in opposition thereto, and concluded by Mr. Attorney General Cushing in support of the motion.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

Message of Gov. Hebert.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Since my last annual message to you, the State has been called to deplore the loss of two of her most eminent citizens. The Hon. S. W. Downs, at the time of his decease, was filling a high administrative trust under the Federal Government. He had been nearly twenty years in the service of the State or of the United States, in various capacities. He had devoted his talents and his energies to the public interests during the prime of his life, and he enjoyed the rewards of his zeal and sacrifices in the confidence and affection of his fellow-citizens. His ardent temperament and indomitable perseverance had endeared him in a more especial manner to the people of the northern part of the State, whose characteristics he often represented, and whose interests he always defended with spirit and ability. Although he was still in the mid-day vigor of life when he was summoned from the field of his labor, the account of his useful one was such as to leave to his friends and the State no other cause of regret than that he was not permitted to enjoy the recompense of his toils. Whatever may be the opinions of others, I do not hesitate to say that the State has lost a citizen of high public spirit and patriotism, in the full prime of his manhood, and which can be prevented only by the most strict adherence to those principles which distinguished his public career.

You will find in the report of the Engineer of the State a circumstantial history of the operations of his department, and his knowledge of the wants of the State have prompted him to make. His views are so fully set forth and enforced, that I can do no more than commend them to your consideration. In connection with this subject, I must call your attention to the necessity, which is apparent from the reports of the Auditor and Treasurer, of providing a revenue for this department from some other source than the sale of internal improvement lands.

The report of the Superintendent of Public Education is far from exhibiting a satisfactory condition of our educational system. Indeed, the scheme may be considered almost a failure. This was predicted several years since by men who had made the subject of public education the study of their lives. But their warnings were unheeded. A plan was adopted at the session of the Legislature, and essentially modified at the next. The head was first deprived of some of its legislative power, and of the means of enforcing its behests; the functions of the body were then transferred to some other agent, the limbs were afterwards curtailed of their proportions, and left to move and act without any superior direction. If anything could be composed with these strange ingredients, it would present no disparaging embodiment of the image produced in the mind by a critical analysis of what is now called our System of Public Education. It is not a system—it is the bewildering confusion of chaos.

The cause of its short comings is said to be the apathy of the population. The influence of this cause cannot be denied, but it should not be exaggerated. The examples of the new States, with which we compare ourselves, which, in their infancy, possess efficient systems of public education, show that the root of the evil is elsewhere. They, too, have a population scattered over a large tract of country, but they succeeded in overcoming the difficulty, not by weakening and dislocating the machinery of the system, but by a more compact and vigorous organization. Besides, the effect of sparseness of population could be felt only in the comparatively short period of the establishment of the schools. How can it produce neglectful directors and incompetent teachers? How can it affect the administration of the funds of the school districts, which are paid over to them, which are daily complained of by the citizens, and yearly marshaled in grim array in the reports of the Superintendent? The Legislature is responsible for these results have been extorted from the present state of things, are entitled to the highest praise, but they cannot be expected to bring to their zeal and to their enlightened appreciation of the advantages of education.

I come to the suggestions of the Superintendent, hesitating as I are to depart from the path in the right direction and leading to reorganization. I must, however, except the recommendation to establish a normal school, which, so long as the population is scattered continues, will only entail useless expense. The High Schools of New Orleans are great nurseries already established for the purpose of furnishing teachers to the State as soon as judicious reform shall promise efficiency and dignity to their labors and profit to their service.

Unlike other Governments, the citizen soldier must ever be the chief reliance of the State in sudden emergencies. It must be so to an especial manner in our country, where the militiaism of the City Charter, accompanied by an ordinance passed by the Legislature, was the necessity of a well organized militia has accordingly been proclaimed to the authorities of all the Parishes, but the most strenuous efforts to obtain it have been attended with partial success in the formation of uniformed corps in towns and villages. Whatever may be the reason of this anomaly, the fact is certain—too general to be ascribed to partial or local causes, too inveterate to be remedied. I have, fellow-citizens, thought it my duty to stimulate and develop the dormant martial spirit by the inhabitants of villages, towns and cities by extending to them the encouragement which has heretofore been confined to Donaldsonville and New Orleans. The fine uniformed companies of those cities attest the effect of a little and judiciously given encouragement. I have no doubt, would be the same in other localities where the same assistance would be rendered. A competent salary to the Adjutant General would, in my opinion, insure, from time to time, these different corps, to an periodical or annually their instruction, and even to collect together the elite of the upper ten thousand, to be separated by two wide distances. These suggestions, if carried out, would, in time, afford a strong nucleus for a large force, when ever occasion, which I hope may never arise, should call upon the State to defend herself. It would seem as if all these difficulties had been thrown in the way of the friends of railroads, to test their courage and their faith. But I am convinced that much the most formidable obstacle to entire success, has arisen from the distrust excited in the minds of capitalists at home and abroad, by the ingredient, simultaneous undertaking of a system of works requiring a vast outlay of capital, at a time when the credit of the State had scarcely recovered from the depressing effect of repeated protests.—While, therefore, I would cheerfully concur in any constitutional measure, having in view the completion of the roads already commenced, I would with reluctance yield my assent to new undertakings, resting either in whole or in part, upon the public credit. The preserving and steady prosecution of the improvements now in progress will inspire confidence in our will and wisdom and render available the means which the Government in the hands of the different corporation.

Notwithstanding all the obstacles which I have enumerated, fifty miles of the Opelousas Railroad from New Orleans to Lafourche, have been completed and are now open for travel and transportation. The business of the Company from its commencement to this month, although small, exhibits a gratifying increase. The receipts have been

From Passenger, Freight, Mail	
From Oct to 30th, Nov. 63,340 98	65,871 53
Dec. 4,977 98	11,069 76
Total receipts	$69,318 96
Deduct Expenses	11,625 94
Leaving a balance	$57,771 93

Only a portion remain to be constructed to connect New Orleans, by the line, with Berwick's Bay. Four miles of this portion will be completed by the month of March, when the road for her already been cleared and graded and will soon be put under contract. The company will hold $1,200,000 subscribed by the city of