The Daily Picayune.

The New Orleans Bee.

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THE DAILY BEE.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 2, 1856.

Subscription for the Week.

The carriers of the Bee are authorized to receive subscriptions by the week, at the rate of 25 cents.

THE MAIL failed north yesterday from beyond Augusta. Several of the boats might come through.

THE SUPREME COURT rests.

We publish this morning the Mayor and Budget presented by the Finance Committee at the sitting of the Council, on Tuesday evening last, and take great pleasure in directing public attention to that luminous and satisfactory exposé. It will be perceived that the current expenses of the city and her floating liabilities have largely decreased, and that the budget for the year presents a considerable reduction of the tax levied on real estate. This marked financial improvement has been attained by a system of rigid economy, and by a close adherence to the principle of withholding money not obtained for all general improvements for which the knowledge of the city might have been enhanced.

The estimated expenditures for the year 1856 are $1,372,220 00, and the estimated receipts from sources other than taxation are $1,063,576 44, which will leave a deficit of $138,654 16. To meet this deficit the committee propose a rate of taxes on real estate and slaves at the three-tenths of one per cent, or thirty cents on one hundred dollars, which will produce on the amount inscribed on the assessment rolls, $821,800, the excess over the sum required to be applied to cover a deficiency in the consolidated Loan Fund occasioned by its application by former Councils to the current expenses of the city.

The valuation of property in the several municipal districts exhibits an aggregate of $70,430,000. The committee then point out the material reduction in the rate of taxation for this, compared with last year, and we cannot do better than quote their own facts and figures:

> For the demand of the city government, say Consolidated tax, 1st Dist. 97 cts.; 2d, 1 50; 3d, 73; Railroad tax, 50, 50, 50, 50; City tax, 100, 100, 100, 100. 1 61 1 40 2 14 1 77
>
> Comparing this estimate with that of the year 1855, it will be perceived a material reduction in the result, viz:
>
> 1855 ASSESSMENT FOR $1?68.
>
> Consolidated tax, 97, 85, 1 50, 73; Railroad tax, 50, 50, 50, 50; City tax, 100, 100, 100, 100. 2 47 2 35 3 23 2 23
>
> The reduction from last year is seventy per cent. in the city tax, thirty two per cent. in the railroad tax, and a slight increase in the consolidated tax, say with a fraction of eight per cent. in the Third District, and a decrease of two and three-fourths for the Fourth District, and no change in the Second and First Districts.

This clear and cogent statement is the best answer to the vague and reckless charges of extravagance urged against the Council, and the most convincing evidence that its efforts have been steadily and successfully directed to the diminution of the burdens of taxation under which our community is suffering. We congratulate the Council upon this auspicious result, although it has been reached by painful sacrifices. Yet far better is it that improvements should be temporarily suspended than that they should be maintained at a ruinous cost to the property holders of New Orleans. Let this lesson be remembered, and steadfastly pursued until taxation has been lowered to a rate at which no good citizen can reasonably complain.

The farming of the wharves has proved a highly judicious measure, ensuring a gain to the city of one hundred and fifty-nine thousand dollars per annum for three years, instead of, as previously, resulting in nothing or scarcely any gain whatever, or in a positive loss, as in 1853, when the expense of keeping the wharves and landings in repair exceeded the revenue from that source by over three thousand dollars. In view of the manifest improvement which has followed the farming system, the committee express the opinion that a similar disposition of other sources of revenue will be productive of like results, by the abolishment of many offices, and the prevention of much corruption.

The reorganization of the Fire Department will, it is believed, relieve the Treasury of a yearly increasing expenditure, and will save the city a large amount.

On the 1st January, 1855, there was a deficit in the Treasury of $566,886 41. Thanks to the prudent administration of our municipal affairs, the undeviating observance of economy, and the sagacity and judgment of the Council every dollar of this debt has been redeemed, with the exception of about $10,000 which has never been presented for payment.

The committee remark in conclusion, that the policy respecting appropriations and expenditures, which was recommended in their report of the 29th May, is adhered to. We conceive this determination eminently wise and equitable in the existing state of our finances. We are glad to learn that the interest on the consolidated debt of the city will be promptly paid, at the time and place of payment, when due; and we may close this epitome by saying that the report in our columns is by far the ablest and most satisfactory of any that has emanated from the Council for several years.

THE CHARITY HOSPITAL.

We have only room to-day briefly to advert to the able report of JOHN PRESCOTT, Vice President of the Board of Administrators of the Charity Hospital. From this lucid document we learn that the income of the Hospital for the past year was $65,380 71, which added to the balance on hand constituted a total amount of $67,141 20; expenses, $77,533 14—leaving a balance of $19,589 15. During the year there were admitted 12,192 patients. Of this number 1288 were born in the United States, and 10,861 in foreign countries—Ireland contributing 4,786, Germany 2,866, and France 1,156. Of the total admissions, 9,466 were males, and 2,726 females; 9,701 were discharged, and 2,391 died.

The report complains of the inefficiency of the law regulating the passengers' tax. Compared with the year 1854, the income of last year, through that channel, has diminished nearly one-half. The amendment proposed by the report is, that the same due to the Hospital in commutation of the bonds required to be given by immigrants, shall in all cases be levied upon the ship or vessel in which those immigrants are imported.

The several departments of the Hospital have been conducted in an entirely satisfactory manner, and the Sisters of Charity have, as heretofore, evinced unrelaxed devotion and zeal in their philanthropic mission.

THE ASSEMBLY OF MESSRS. BURKE, BURTHES AND MICHEL.—Our columns are so crowded this morning, that we can do little more than invite the serious attention of every citizen to the perspicuous, cogent, and, we believe, unanswerable address of Messrs. GARRET BURKE, L. BURTHE and J. J. MICHEL to the people of New Orleans, stating forth the act of flagrant tyranny by which a ruthless partisan majority of the Senate of Louisiana deprived them of the seats to which they were legally chosen at the November election, and placed the three defeated candidates in their stead. We are much mistaken if this exposition of facts does not commence every true-hearted citizen that the rights and immunities of the electors of New Orleans have been ruthlessly invaded, and lawlessly disregarded and violated.

RICH.—A. TITUS, 75 Old Levee street, has just received a lot of oscabaut rice, which he offers for sale. Let our Creole families try it.

SHIP BOMBAY AT SEA.—Capt. Leverett, of the ship *St. Petersburg*, from Havre, reports: On Thursday, 12th December, at 7 o'clock, P. M., when in lat. 47 degs. 00 mins. North, long. 12 degs. 36 mins. West, saw a large ship (apparently American) on fire, hove down to her, made signal light, and lay near her for some time; could discover nothing of her crew. Same day saw several sail of vessels, one of which, it is to be hoped, rescued the crew. When first seen the ship was a mass of flames fore and aft.

OCAGNITA RIVER.—The officers of the steamboat *J. M. Hall*, which arrived yesterday from Trenton, reports, having left that port on the 26th inst., the bayous St. Antoine and Bartholomew rising fast; the river at Trenton had risen several feet, and was rising from Bartholomew down; weather clear and moderating; many mules had perished in the lower Ocagnita, and its tributaries. On the 24th, met steamer *W. W. Turner* at Carter's Landing; 30th, the *Wm. C. Tuley* in Cold river. The *J. M. Hall* towed the steamer *R. L. Cobb* (bound for Greenleaf) from up the coast to this city, she having had some of her wheels shaft on her trip up.

THE FIRE-TRUCK.—The Rhode Island *Farmer* says that the late cold weather has been very destructive to the trees. Great numbers of orchards, gardens, and others have been killed. Peaches, cherries, and other fruits have been frozen to the ground. The same is reported to be the case in England and France. In Maryland and Virginia, we presume, corn must needs have been killed and protended through the present Christian winter.

By Telegraph.

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ONE WEEK LATER FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the Steamer Arabia, at Halifax.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

HALIFAX, Jan. 31.—The Royal mail steamship *Arabia*, with Liverpool dates to the 19th ult., arrived at this port, en route for Boston, at half-past nine o'clock this evening.

The *Arabia* brings one hundred and seven passengers.

The *Asia* arrived out at Liverpool on the 18th, and the *Baltic* on the 19th.

FROM THE CRIMEA.

We have no news of importance from the armies in the Crimea.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

The news brought by the *Arabia* is very important, as positively an early and favorable consummation of the peace negotiations.

The Vienna correspondent of the London *Times*, under date of Jan. 16, telegraphs that Russia accepts the propositions of the Allies unconditionally.

The above, being repeated as authentic news, caused an immense sensation, and funds rose three per cent., and cotton experienced an advance of one farthing. A panic ensued in the other markets.

The next day the Russian government published a despatch from Minister Seymour, at St. Petersburg, as follows:

"Russia agrees to accept the Allies propositions, provided the basis of negotiations is qualified."

This announcement curbed the excitement, and the alarmists begin to fear that Russia merely wants to gain time by deceptive negotiations, while the armament remains steady as previous to the above announcement.

The actual facts are that Count Nesselrode, upon being handed the Austrian Allied note, and informed by Esterhazy that he (Esterhazy) was not authorized to enter into discussion, but that if Russia did not quit Se. Petersburg, and that Austria would seek to obtain the armed co-operation of the German Diet.

The Vienna papers represent affairs as in a most serious and alarming state, and say that all persons connected with the Austrian Embassy have received orders to quit St. Petersburg, and that the Russian Embassy will leave Vienna during the week elapsing between Russia's firm and decisive reply.

Intense apprehension existed in Vienna on the 16th, but subsided on the announcement stating that Russia agrees to negotiate on the terms proposed.

Liverpool Markets.

COTTON.

The Cotton market was very active. The sales of the week amounted to 55,000 bales, of which exporters took 5,000 and speculators 8,000. The estimated sales of the 19th were 13,000 bales. The stock in port was 356,000 bales. Owing to the prospect of a speedy termination of the war, the market has declined one-eighth to one-quarter of a penny. Orleans fair, 6¼; middling, 5¾; Uplands fair, 5¾; middling 5⅝.

BREADSTUFFS.

Richardson, Spence & Co.'s circular quotes Breadstuffs as having experienced a decline, the market closing unsettled.

They quote Western Canal Flour, 40s; Ohio, 42s. Wheat declined—the latter dull, with a downward tendency.

Brown & Shipley quote Western Canal Flour, 40s to 41s; Ohio, 42s to 43s 6d; Corn as showing a decline of 1s, with a downward tendency. E. & S. quote white Wheat, 11s 9d; red, 10s 6d; white Corn, 44s 6d to 45s 6d; mixed, 41s 6d.

PROVISIONS.

Richardson, Spence & Co.'s circular shows a considerable decline in Provisions, though the market is pretty quiet.

Western Prime Mess, 84s 6d; Western Mess, 56s. a 58s.

Lard has declined and is quoted at 67s. a 68s.

Sugar has advanced 11c.

Rice has declined 6s.

MONEY MARKET—ADVANCE IN CONSOLS.

LONDON, 18.—Money is active and unchanged. Consols have advanced and are quoted at 89 a 89¾. All European Stocks have participated in the advance.

American Stocks are dull and unchanged.

Louisiana Legislature.

BATON ROUGE, Feb. 1st.—Both Houses adjourned until to-morrow after a very short session, and without transacting any business worth telegraphing.

RIVER INTELLIGENCE.

VICKSBURG, Feb. 1.—The *Anglo* passed down at 9, and the *H. R. W. Hill* at 10½ o'clock last night.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 1.—The new and unoccupied Main wing of the Louisville Hotel fell this morning, killing a laborer and a boy, and crushing so fatally four thirty rooms.

MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Evening.—Flour.—The *Arabia's* news caused a decline. State is quoted at 8@; Ohio, @8 75; Southern, @9 87—closing heavy. Sales 9,000 bbls. at former rates. Wheat 2c. Whisky, 22c.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 1.—Our market has been so unsettled by the late news, that we can give no quotations this evening.

There is no change in the river above Louisville.

Mr. Soulé.

Mr. Soulé, the late minister of the United States at Madrid, has been in retirement since his return from his mission, engaged, it has been reported, in the composition of his work. But in Spain they have not forgotten the ex-minister. From a letter dated Madrid, December 19th, which we find in a late number of the Brussels *Independance Belge*, we translate the following paragraph:

"Lecompte of scandal will soon be fully satisfied. In the session of December 14th, it will be in that of December 24, on the occasion of the violent attacks of the Democrats on Bermudez de Castro. The orators will not spare Soulé himself from some allusions that had been addressed to him in regard to the unfortunate difficulties between the Spanish Democrats and Mr. Soulé, the envoy of that man who was at the *Salutaris* at the time of the revolution of July had falsified signatures and forged documents designed to make it appear that negotiations had been concluded between the late minister of the United States and the Spanish Democrats on the subject of the sale of the island of Cuba. M. de Lasen (the person accused of the forgeries by M. Orense) has resolved, in view of this public accusation, to publish a pamphlet which will reveal everything on this grave question, and to make known the names of all the principal Democrats who were pledged, in case they could get into power, to sell the island of Cuba to the United States."

These revelations of M. de Lasen will be interesting in the United States as well as in Cuba. It is to be hoped that the full history of this memorable mission to Spain will one day be published.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

Our Relations with England.

[From the Washington Union.]

MISCHIEVOUS MISREPRESENTATIONS.—It ought not to be expected that we should give a formal contradiction to the various rumors which are originated here and transmitted by telegraph, either with the view of affecting the currency or of preventing the pecuniary interests of the papers to which they relate. Occasionally, however, these rumors assume a character or are repeated with a degree of perseverance which renders a contradiction necessary. Of this kind are the late reports as to the withdrawal of Mr. Buchanan from England, and as to the intention of the President to send to the Senate a special message in regard to pending difficulties with that country. For example, a correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, under date of the 30th instant, that "the President will, as he stated yesterday, send a special message to the Senate in his message of December 31st, or next day, or some day soon, in relation to our controversy with Great Britain." And again, the same correspondent, on the next day, said: "The President has assured several Senators that he will, after mature deliberation, send the Cabinet, soon, to that body a message indicating that, considering the condition of our relations with England, the withdrawal of the Minister for the present is not considered compatible with dignity and consideration." The tone and spirit of the despatches of all rumors of this kind is to create apprehension not to a reasonable extent, but to a degree which is calculated to produce, if it avoid any such consequences, it is only necessary for us to say that the whole is based upon error, and will subside in the course of a few days, without foundation, and leaving no sort of impression from the results of the look-out of which they are the sport. They can only add to the excitement which has been unnecessarily and unfortunately created, and are calculated to affect the interests of commercial men, who are kept in a state of uneasiness by the repetition of these misdirected rumors.

Arrival of Specie.

The bark *Orbit*, which sailed for this port from Vera Cruz on the 19th inst., arrived at the Balize on Thursday morning, and came up to the city yesterday. She brings $100,000 in specie, consigned to Messrs. Hyde & Goddard, and $50,000 in specie, consigned to Messrs. Peyroux & Co.

The *Orbit* reports that the yellow fever was raging at Vera Cruz, and that the mortality was very great. The disease was also prevailing at Tampico, but not to the same extent as at Vera Cruz. The *Orbit* reports the loss of the steamer *Mississippi*, which was lost on the Alacran reef, on the 18th inst. The passengers and crew were saved, and were taken to Vera Cruz by the steamer *Isabel*.

The *Orbit* brings no news of importance.

Steamboat Disaster.

The steamboat *Ben Franklin*, Capt. Wm. Hall, left Memphis on the 24th ult., for Vicksburg, with a full freight and passenger list. She had proceeded about twenty miles down the river, when she struck a snag, which penetrated her hull, and she sank in about twenty minutes. Fortunately, the accident occurred near the shore, and all the passengers and crew were saved. The boat and cargo are a total loss.

Fire in Memphis