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All communications and letters relative to publication, or writing before 9 o'clock P.M., will receive attention.

The New Orleans Bee.

NEW ORLEANS, THURSDAY, MORNING, FEBRUARY 28, 1856.

OFFICE, 83 CHARTRES ST.

THE DAILY BEE.

THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 28.

Subscriptions for the Weekly

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

THE NORTHERN MAIL failed yesterday from beyond Augusta.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

The Spring elections are just about one month off, and thus far we perceive no indications of political activity on either side. The Democratic party, which usually takes the initiative on such occasions, preserves a remarkable tranquility, while its opponents seem disposed to act with commendable caution and foresight. We do not imagine this tion and foresight. We do not imagine this quiet demonstration to be the result of apathy, previous to the conduct of the Legislature, while it may have diffused exultation among the Democrats, encouraging them to hope for future triumphs, has created a sentiment of indignation among the Americans, which will probably animate them to the most energetic exertions. The approaching municipal elections will, in our opinion, be very sharply contested, and though the campaign will be short, it will not lack interest and vigor.

The true reason for the delay which is manifested in the movements of both parties is to be found in the extreme importance, and decided difficulty of selecting competent gentlemen from office. It is conceded on all sides that, whether the city charter be amended or not, we need a capable municipal government—one that will inspire confidence in the community, and will furnish guarantees in the character of its component parts, of integrity, administrative capacity and impartiality. Party leaders and conventions have a terribly arduous task before them. Men of brains there undoubtedly are in New Orleans, but are they men of popularity? We are not even destitute of available gentlemen who have intellect and experience enough for any municipal function, but will they agree to take office? With the exception of the salaried places in a municipal government, there are none which present any inducements to honorable and intelligent citizens. A member of the Common Council, for instance, ought to be of probity beyond suspicion, of comprehensive and enlarged views, of ripe experience, of sagacious and acute understanding, of habitual industry, and entirely willing to devote a large portion of his time to the performance of the duties entrusted to him. How many citizens are there who combine within themselves these numerous qualifications? Of those who are thus gifted, how many can be persuaded to buckle themselves to the ungrateful labor? This is one of the chief impediments encountered in the attempt to select candidates for municipal office, especially at a somewhat critical period, like the present.

With respect to the Mayoralty, the difficulty is extreme. There can be very little doubt that the Legislature will, at all events, so modify our Charter as materially to increase the power now vested in the Executive of New Orleans, and while enlarging his authority, will augment his responsibility. Under such circumstances, it is of the highest necessity that the Mayor should possess a fair amount of talent, marked determination of character, and unbending integrity. These are not the times for holiday officials, whose sole recommendations are the courtesy of their manners, and their unruffled amiability. It is to be hoped that the opposing parties—howsoever they may disagree on political questions—will scrutinize searchingly the merits of the several aspirants, and place in nomination none save those whom the people respect, and whose success will furnish the assurance of a just and capable administration.

The duty of selecting efficient and trustworthy gentlemen as candidates for Recorders is equally obvious. These functionaries are magistrates. They should at least possess some smattering of the criminal law, and some experience and discrimination. They should stand without reproach, and should be alike distinguished for firmness, fairness and moderation. In the Recorder of the First District, GEORGE Y. BRIGHT, we are happy to recognize the existence of all these qualities, and if that honored and respected citizen should consent to serve another term, we are persuaded his course of conduct will gratefully meet the hearty suffrages in his behalf.

The members of the Common Council have important parts assigned to them in the task of regulating the complicated machinery of a vast municipal corporation, and it is needless to remark that upon their efficiency, knowledge and fidelity will in a great measure depend the proper and satisfactory management of the concerns. We hope, therefore, that particular care will be taken to select no drones for office; to choose none others than those who are equally willing and able to work, and that fitting efforts will be made to engage the services of those members of the community whose intelligence, aptitude for business, and unblemished character would seem to designate them as peculiarly adapted to the performance of these duties. That all this cannot be accomplished without much deliberation, and infinite trouble is manifest, and hence we should evince no undue impatience. If the nominations are completed one week before the election, it will be time enough.

THE CLAY MONUMENT.

The members of the Executive Committee appointed on Tuesday evening, are actively engaged in the good work of collecting subscriptions for the erection of a monument to the memory of HENRY CLAY. We gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity to invite the generosity and patriotism of our citizens in behalf of this noble object. Let us, if possible, set an example too forgetful or neglectful country—to his own Kentucky, who is strangely tardy in commemorating her mighty son, and to his own Virginia, who seems to have forgotten that she is honored in having given birth to CLAY. Let us show the whole Union that Louisiana, foremost in appreciating the inestimable services of the illustrious commoner, and that we are determined to rear a structure which to all future time shall testify to his greatness and our gratitude.

We rejoice to learn that the efforts of the energetic gentlemen who have charge of the subscription list, have, so far, been cheering, and we trust that there will be no lagging in the field, but that every man will contribute something to the Clay Monument.

ONE OF THE RUMORS DISPOSED OF.—In our comments upon the war news brought by the *Atlantic*, we expressed our entire disbelief of the story of a quarrel between MR. BUCHANAN and LORD CLARENDON. Our opinion is confirmed by later despatches, which state that this is absolutely groundless.

SCRIPS ASSORTMENT OF SPRING GOODS.—Readers are referred to the advertisement in another column of F. RIMAILHO & Co., No. 89 Chartres street, offering for sale a magnificent assortment of new goods for this spring. City and country merchants are particularly invited to inspect their stock before purchasing elsewhere.

SALE OF SLAVES AT THE ST. LOUIS HOTEL.—N. Vignie, Esq., will sell, THIS DAY, at 12 o'clock, in the Rotunda of the St. Louis Hotel, several house servants, cooks, washers, ironers, seamstress, male and female field hands, etc., a few valuable young boys and girls very convenient for cotton picking. The sale is positive.

LECTURES ON ASTRONOMY.—Our readers who were fortunate enough to hear Dr. Gould's opening lecture on Tuesday, in Lyceum Hall, will be glad to learn that he resumes the History of Astronomy this evening at half-past seven o'clock. The progress and gigantic strides of this science within the present century will, we feel assured, be explained and illustrated in the same scientific manner in which its early history and splendid triumphs during the last century were developed in the last lecture.

SOUTHERN CLOTHING MANUFACTORY.—By the announcement in our business columns it will be seen that Ed. DUROUSSEAU & Co., No. 134 Chartres street, have constantly on hand a complete assortment of ready made clothing, which they offer to the trade at the lowest market prices. Orders from merchants or planters will be attended to and executed with promptitude and despatch.

HALL OF THE HEBREW BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—The managers of the ball to be given on the 5th March—the eleventh anniversary of the Hebrew Benevolent Association—have courteously sent us a ticket of admission.

SUDDEN DEATH OF THE LATE MINISTER OF PERU.—The Saturday's *Intelligencer* has received a letter from Lima, Peru, dated January 9, 1856, giving the following account of the singular death of the late Minister of Peru to this country:

"The Archbishop of Lima, on receiving of the letter of the Minister of Peru to the Pope, refused to grant the Bull which confirmed the appointment of the latter, unless the gold medal which confirmed the Bull was first taken from the neck of the Minister, who was compelled to convert the medal into coin."

By Telegraph.

Communicated to the New Orleans Bee.

[By the National Line.]

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

BATON ROUGE, Feb. 27.—SENATE.—Nothing transpired in the Senate to-day worth telegraphing.

HOUSE.—The only business of importance was ah act to provide for an additional district attorney for New Orleans, whose duty is to conduct preliminary investigations in criminal trials before Recorders and committing magistrates, when the punishment does not exceed three years' imprisonment in the Penitentiary. The bill was amended by making said office elective. The bill was then laid on the table indefinitely.

[CORRECTION.—The despatches in Tuesday's paper relative to the publication of official documents should read "pamphlet," instead of "four sheet form."]—REP.

RIVER INTELLIGENCE.

VICKSBURG, Feb. 27.—The Mossa McClelland passed this port at 10, and the Grosenwood, at 11 this morning. The Natchez left at noon for New Orleans.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[By the Southern Line.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—In the Senate the Naval Committee reported in favor of the construction of ten sloops.

HOUSE.—The Speaker appointed a committee of thirteen on the Pacific Railway—Walker, of California, Chairman.

A resolution was received from the President, asking for appropriation of three millions of dollars for the manufacture of arms and other munitions of war.

It is stated on the authority of a passenger by the Asia, who has a personal interview with Mr. Buchanan, that the latter said that in all points of the difficulty between the two countries, there was a fair prospect of an adjustment.

MARKET.

NEW YORK, Feb 26.—Cotton firm—Flour unchanged.

Our New York Correspondence.

Steamer Pacific—Murder—Live Owl—Gough—Robbers—An Imitative Boy—Broadway—Picturesque Scenery.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19, 1856.

The surmises upon the non-arrival of the ocean steamer *Pacific* are so painfully suggestive of the doubts and hopes expressed upon the ill-fated *Arctic*, that, as in the case of the latter, it is feared she will never again enter our port. As there were two steam vessels sent out in search of her, it would not be long before data to unnecessarily alarm the public until they, at least, are heard from—hence the press is comparatively silent upon the subject; but the opinion is gaining strength among individuals that some fatal accident has befallen the vessel. It is consolatory, however, to think that there was not many passengers on board at the time of her departure from Liverpool. The steamer *Canada*, too, was several days over due, but not sufficiently so to cause alarm. Indeed there are some who took consolation out of the circumstance, as they supposed it possible that she had left Halifax in the *Pacific*, and laid by to render her assistance.

One of those brutal murders for which the region of our city known as the "five points" was formerly noted, took place on Saturday. An old man, who gained a scanty sustenance by mending the chairs and broken furniture of the poor people in that quarter, resided in all cellar in search of a job. Finding none, he quietly made his way out, but was followed by a man in the prime of life and strength, who, without any apparent provocation, but for the mere love of indulging in a fight, knocked the old man down with a powerful blow of his fist, and continued to batter him until forcibly torn away. The old man were borne insensibly into a house. In a short time he recovered sufficiently to clean up, or "wash his face," and immediately expired.

George Law is a standing theme for the papers. Live Oak Clubs are the dominant, immense, and such enthusiasm is exhibited by young men for the success of "Live Oak," George's threat to expose any person who would ask him for any of the "filthy lucre," was only intended to save him from personal annoyance, and drive applicants to the regularly appointed financial committee. The political doctors, by whom he has been so faithfully attended, are in hopes that his nomination by the Philadelphia Convention will lead to a more prompt system of philebotomizing their plethoric patient.

An entertainment was given by the friends of temperance to Father Taylor, the celebrated temperance lecturer, at the Metropolitan Hotel. Some of our city celebrities were present and paid a high compliment to the man who replied in his usual forcible and pithy stile. Many ladies graced the board with their presence, and every one present seemed much pleased with the entertainment.

Any person who reads the New York papers must be struck by the daily record of robberies. The most ingenious tricks are resorted to by persons to obtain that which does not of right, belong to them. Men employ dressed as working mechanics, to regulate the gas meters, fix the water pipes, or do some repairs, and the moment they enter the dwelling house and decamp. Sometimes they watch express men who are about to deliver a package or trunk, and engage to take the door before the messenger, pay the charges, take possession of the property, and, when the express man has turned the corner, walk off with the booty. Not only are robberies confined to men. There is a crop of boys growing up who get their living entirely by what they can steal. Scarcely a day passes but what some are brought into one of the Ward Courts, by a policeman, all tied together by a strong cord, and with them a person who received and paid them for their stolen goods.

Among the young prisoners was one little fellow, who created much merriment and excitement in the Court by "blating" and "hooking" his fellows like a playful goat. The "bat" and antics were so like a circus, would have elicited "enthusiastic applause." Capt. McKee, in explanation of the boy's strange propensities, stated that his father was a Spanish Jew, and the boy had been taught by his elders to imitate the actions of the goats, which were to be seen in his neighborhood. Although the boy was but seven years old, he was said to be a perfect adept in these respects, and by some would be considered a prodigy. Whether the boy was trained with the purpose of making a display of his proficiency for their amusement, as has been my own older brother's habit upon him, and he is obliged, at all times, and under all circumstances, to give way to what may be called his passion for goat imitation.

With very few intermissions the weather has been very cold since Christmas day. Last week was favored with a couple of fine days, the snow melted rapidly, and, supposing that the spring thaw had set in, the street commissioner employed about fifteen hundred men to work in various parts of the city at cutting the ice out of the gutters, and throwing it into the middle of the streets. This labor has been partially performed when the weather turned cold again, and the rubbish thus thrown into the streets rendered them almost impassable. In consequence of these circumstances, to attach an extra horse to each omnibus, and then a ride up Broadway was as full of adventure and hair-breadth escapes as an overland journey to California. Bearing that travel on this thoroughfare would be wholly suspended, hundreds of laborers were employed, on Saturday night, almost along its entire length, in clearing an omnibus track. Their instruments of industry revealed to us that our principal street had a coating of solid ice from three to eight feet in depth. This taken from about eight feet on either side, and thrown into the centre, makes a ridge which almost hides from view the people on the opposite side of the street. As it would be out of the question to remove such a mass of waste matter, it will be allowed to remain, and will be left to melt away by rains. The appearance of such an army of laborers, working by night, in such various costumes, and to the picturesque that Frank Leslie and several artists stationed at various parts, to take a sketch of the scene for his illustrated newspaper.

L'HOMME.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The conversations with General Santa Anna, in his exile in New Grenada possess much interest. His remarks, as reported, afford evidence of much sagacity. He will hardly be surprised to find that his successor, ALVARES, had retired in disgust from the government, and that already the reactionary movement threatens a speedy restoration of the same plan of government which Santa Anna had re-established, that is, a central despotism, fulminated by the church and the army. We have just received advices that Haro y Tamires has obtained possession of the city of Puebla, and the next thing may be that Vera Cruz and Tampico have declared in his favor, by which event, he would be able to divert the current customs revenues from the government of Comonfort to his own use. That he may temporarily succeed is not improbable, but it is difficult to imagine that its can, with feeble resources, establish permanently a form of government which Santa Anna, when backed with an army of forty-thousand men, and with the church on his side, could not do. All will depend upon the question of war, and none to obey."

"All," he says, "wish to be pretty sovereigns."

It is plain that Mexico will not endorse a new experiment, and every attempt to form a Federal Union, with independent States, has failed. One of Santa Anna's remarks appears to us both sad and true, viz: "The United States is the friend of mankind and the Russia of modern days. They are the enemies of our country, religion and race, and the sentiment of our people is such that even if we had designed the Treaty of 1783, to the King of Spain, Carlos III. the signatious Minister would have overran the whole of America, and wrested it from the Spanish dominion. Events tend rapidly to confirm the correctness of this prophecy; worth the consideration of our country, and whether Walker himself be not a Mexican, and whether Walker himself be not a Mexican, and whether Walker himself be not a Mexican