The New Orleans Bee.

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THE DAILY BEE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 18.

ANNIVERSARY MEETINGS.

Anniversary week in New York is usually a period of considerable excitement. Various societies of a moral or religious character assemble every year early in May, to settle their accounts, encourage their members to renewed activity and exertion, discuss the ends to be accomplished, and listen to addresses which are sometimes instructive and eloquent, and sometimes wearisome and silly. Most of these societies are not simply unobjectionable, but highly praiseworthy. A few are little better than public nuisances.

The most violent, vindictive, ultra and ridiculous of all of them is the Anti-Slavery Society. Annually its members are convoked to hear GARRISON and WENDELL PHILLIPS, and other shining lights of Abolitionism indulge in protracted and ferocious onslaughts on the South. These relentless adversaries of slavery are no whit discouraged by the negative results of their boisterous eloquence. They continue year after year to thunder away, denouncing the Constitution, anathematizing the Union, blaspheming the Bible, and foaming with rage at their inability to effect a stupendous overthrow of them all. This year they seem to have swept away the ordinary limits to their madness. They rave, rant and abuse many of their warmest friends; they treat Dr. CUMMYNG as the Fifth Monarchy men did the Nullifidians, and look upon HENRY WARD BEECHER as a feeble and backsliding brother. They condemn and repudiate every society and every individual who does not live up their arbitrary standard of orthodoxy. It is not sufficient to hate slavery, and slander and traduce the South. The Abolitionist of the Garrisonian school must be satisfied with nothing short of the unconditional and immediate abolition of every slave, or in default thereof, the dismemberment of the Union. At least these fanatics are honest, and they really are far less mischievous than the canting and hypocritical Black Republicans, who profess the utmost reverence for the Constitution while laboring industriously to subvert it. The regular Abolitionists do but little harm, for the manner regard with indifference their furious intolerance, and view them as little better than monomaniacs. The Black Republicans, on the contrary, are the crafty and malignant spirits who preach with studied mildness a false philanthropy, and mislead thousands of honest men into their ranks.

Another society which merits passing notice is the American Tract Society—an association hitherto exclusively confined to the duties implied in its title. This is a numerous and wealthy body, dispensing an annual revenue of several hundred thousand dollars. For the first time since its organization an effort was made at the annual meeting on the 11th to spring the negro question upon it. The direction it assumed was a resolution, offered by Dr. PATTON, requiring the society to prepare publishing a tract or tracts calculated to arouse and concentrate the religious sentiment of the country against the slave trade. The subject was discussed with great warmth. Every speaker freely acknowledged his rooted hostility to the African slave trade, but while some contended that the society was bound to express its views on the subject, others maintained that the question of the slave trade had nothing whatever in common with the objects of the society. After an animated debate, the motion and resolutions appertaining to the slave trade were laid upon the table. In this the American Tract Society displayed commendable good sense and prudence; for although the Southern members are generally as much opposed to the importation of slaves from Africa as the Northern ones, they regard the topic as wholly beyond the pale of the objects aimed at by the association; and the passage of Dr. PATTON's resolution would have been regarded as an insult to the South. A split would have probably ensued, and the same deplorable spectacle would have been exhibited in the American Tract Society which disgraces and divides almost all the religious denominations in America. Whether the motives of the majority in voting down the resolution were disinterested or not, it is quite certain that their action was decidedly judicious and expedient. The New York *Herald*, however, thinks that nothing has been gained save a little delay, and that the firebrand having been introduced into the society, an explosion sooner or later is inevitable.

FAREWELL BENEFIT OF MLLE. BOURGOIS.—To-morrow evening this charming artist and favorite singer will take her farewell benefit at the Orleans Theatre, on which occasion will be represented, for the last time, MAILLART's beautiful opera, "*Les Drugons de l'Empire*," and the fourth act of "Charles VI." There will no doubt be a goodly reunion of the friends of the fair beneficiary.

A TORNADO AT MEMPHIS.

MEMPHIS, May 17.—A severe tornado passed over this city last night, accompanied by rain and hail.

A number of houses were unroofed, and considerable damage done otherwise.

STATE OF THE RIVERS.

ST. LOUIS, May 17.—The Mississippi at this point is rising very slowly.

The upper streams are swelling. The Missouri river at Kansas is rapidly rising at the rate of six inches an hour, and is now higher than it has been at any time before this season, and heavy rise is coming down from the mountains.

MEMPHIS, May 17.—The river at this point has fallen four inches during the past forty-eight hours, and will have plenty of occupants before the plains of Piedmont are reached.

But there is, on the other hand, a more favorable picture. The French have the command of the seas. It may be said with confidence that if France could only reach Italy across the Alps, the Austrians might seize the country and crush each division as it emerged from the passes. But the town and harbor of Genoa, almost impregnable, are in the hands of the Sardinians; we may say, indeed, in the hands of the French. French troops are arriving daily, and in a few days these will constitute an army which, in conjunction with the Sardinians at Alessandria, will be too formidable to be left in the rear of an invading force. There is but one thing which especially shows the military genius of the French, it is their transport of troops by sea.

In the Russian war, while we had our Himalayas and Jasons, they had only their own little trading vessels, most of them engaged in the channel "cabotage." Yet, in every little brig, which probably had till within a few months before traded between St. Malo and Shoreham with eggs, the French managed to pack some 150 men and send them two thousand miles to Sebastopol. Their present means of transport are immense, and the distance from Toulon to Genoa is hardly eight hundred miles. We cannot doubt that in a few days 50,000 French will have joined the Sardinians at Alessandria, and then it is hardly likely that the Austrian commanders will risk a march on Turin. Without venturing to predict the course of events, we may say that unless there be news within forty-eight hours that the Austrians are before the Sardinian capital, we shall believe they have determined to limit themselves to that defensive warfare for which their position gives them so many advantages.

In Watertown, New York, on the 6th, a factory was destroyed by fire, under most painful circumstances. The *Reformer* says:

The fire originated in the "picker room," and an ineffectual effort was made to extinguish it with buckets of water. This was soon desisted from, and Mr. King at once gave the order to start in the flooding pump. This was at once done, and the wheel and pump worked well; but all was ineffectual. Mr. King then hesitated to alarm the operatives, of whom there were one hundred and thirty scattered through the five stories—the only means of egress from all above the second story being a flight of stairs. But the operatives heard the alarm and rushed down the stairway in safety. Some dozen, owing to the great confusion, were not so fortunate, and found themselves completely shut off from egress. These are all supposed to have thrown themselves from the different windows, and we append their names and the injuries received by each:

Miss Angeline Sloan, aged about twenty-one, jumped from the fourth story, was picked up insensible, and died in about half an hour. Mrs. Vincent White jumped from the third story, and cannot survive; her spine is broken. Miss Maria Greenwood, aged about eighteen, jumped from the fourth story, and was badly injured, but may recover; one limb broken and mashed and head severely contused. Miss Silvia Hodges jumped from the fourth story, and was so severely injured that her life is despaired of. John Shepherd was an object of excruciating suffering. He was deeply burnt on the face, arms, breast and neck. He may survive, but it will be a wonder. James M. Griffin escaped from the weavers' room down a ladder with his child seven years of age between his legs. He was badly burnt on his left arm. His child was saved, with a slight burn on her right leg. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall were both very badly burnt on the face, breast and neck. Both may recover. Thomas Farrar, badly burnt on the left arm, but probably not so bad as to lose its use. Thomas Osborn, badly burnt; but we were not able to learn the particulars. Mrs. Elizabeth French, aged about twenty-six, jumped from the fourth story; very badly burst and ribs broken; cannot survive. Mary Harris, perhaps safe; jumped from third story; is doing well. Mary A. Hemingway, about twenty-four, burnt very badly, but may recover.

One woman was seen to hang by her hands from a window on the west end as long as she was able and then fell to the ground. The man have been Mrs. Vincent White, mentioned above.

By Telegraph.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

Arrival of the Arago at New York.

Advance of the Austrian Army.

VOLUNTARY ENLISTMENT IN FRANCE.

French War Credit of 90,000,000 Francs.

RUSSO-FRENCH ALLIANCE OFFICIALLY DENIED.

OPERATIONS IN SARDINIA.

THE AUSTRIAN EMPEROR'S ARMY ORDER.

NEW YORK, May 17.—The steamship Arago, of the Southampton and Havre line, arrived at this port this evening.

She left Southampton on the evening of Wednesday, the 4th instant, some hours later than the Nova Scotian left Liverpool.

A brief summary of the Arago's advices were obtained by the Agent of the Associated Press, and telegraphed from St. Johns, Newfoundland, but we gather the following additional details from Liverpool report.

THE WAR IN ITALY.

LIVERPOOL, May 4.—The following telegraph dispatch has just been received from Vienna:

VIENNA, May 4.—The Austrian army, under General Gyulai, after crossing the Ticino, occupied several important towns on the frontier in the Sardinian territory, advanced without serious opposition to Camobro Casso and Tomelle, which places they occupied after some slight skirmishes.

No important engagement has yet taken place.

PARIS, May 4.—The enlistment of volunteers into the French army has been commenced and many are voluntarily joining the army. Their services are accepted for two years' service and great enthusiasm is manifested among the volunteers, who comprise many of the better class of young men.

A war credit of ninety millions of francs is soon to be opened.

The government loan of 500,000,000 is to be contracted by national subscription, and foreign capitalists will be excluded.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 3.—The official journals of this morning announce that they are authorized to declare most positively that no treaty of alliance offensive and defensive exists between Russia and France, or any other power.

Advices from Vienna state that Venice and Verona, as well as Trieste and the surrounding country, have been declared in a state of siege.

General Gyulai, the Austrian commander of the army which has crossed the Ticino, is imposing heavy contributions of provisions and forage upon the inhabitants of the Sardinian towns occupied by the Austrian troops in the province of Novara.

More reliable and fuller details of the passage of the Ticino by the Austrian troops has been received from Turin, from which it appears that the bridge of Buffalora was destroyed by the Sardinian troops, instead of by the Austrians, as at first reported.

The Sardinians, in retreating from the first encounter with the Austrian troops, destroyed the bridge to prevent the Austrians from crossing at that point.

Upon receipt of the dispatch, General Gyulai, the commander-in-chief of the Austrian army, issued a proclamation to the effect that those who shall disobey shall be treated with the greatest consideration.

The Emperor of Austria has addressed an inspiriting address to the troops under General Gyulai, the concluding passage of which is as follows:

"Soldiers of the second army: It is for you to carry to victory the sustained flag of Austria, and march to the combat with the blessing of God and the confidence of your Emperor."

Applications for discount at the Bank of England were numerous and for large amounts, and a further advance in the rates was anticipated.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

STARVATION AT PIKE'S PEAK MINES.

LEAVENWORTH, K.T., May 17.—A letter received here from Denver City says that there is a great scarcity of provisions at that place, owing to the demand from Pike's Peak miners and emigrants, which they are unable to supply.

There is a great scarcity at the mines, and several of the miners have died of starvation.

Many destitute miners are also arriving, and find the prospects of even a livelihood very discouraging.

All accounts from the mines are very unfavorable.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN MEMPHIS.

MEMPHIS, May 17.—An extensive fire occurred in this city last night, which destroyed Stevenson's block of eight buildings, situated on the corner of Washington and Main streets.

The loss is estimated at $150,000. The property was partially insured.

Messrs. Zerr & Trabue, who occupied one of the buildings as a furniture warehouse, lost about $12,000. Their property was not insured.

Messrs. Frank Smith & Co., produce dealers, occupying another building, lost $4000. They were fully insured.

Messrs. McComb & Co., commission merchants, lost $500.

Messrs. J. L. Case & Co., feed store, lost $9000. They were insured for $5000.

Mr. J. M. Gooch, grocer; Mr. J. W. Bell, dealer; H. Bow, grocer; H. H. Mette, liquor dealer—all lost considerable by the fire.

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Political.

The Washington *Republic* names as prominent candidates for the nomination of the Charleston Convention, as President, General Harney, Wool, Jessup, Commissioner Bowlin and Secretary Cobb. Mr. Orr will, it thinks, if he cannot get the first place on the ticket, take the second.

At the commencement of the canvass in Virginia the two candidates for Governor were stumping together, but Mr. Letcher, the Democratic nominee, before the State was half gone over, took ill and was forced to give up. Mr. Montague, the Democratic candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, took his place, and during a few discourses held his own very well; but he, too, fell sick last week, and Mr. Goggin is now left to pursue the canvass alone. At last accounts he was in Accomac.

The Hon. J. W. Stevenson, a Democratic member of the last Congress, is a candidate for re-election, and takes strong and decided ground in opposition to Congressional legislation in behalf of slavery.

The central organ of the Kentucky Democracy, the *Lexington Statesman*, which journal is understood to reflect the views of Vice-President Breckinridge, has the following remarks upon the subject of intervention, which is being contended for by the opposition in Kentucky:

"To look to Congressional interference is to subvert political principles which we may have learned to regard as the fundamental doctrines of the Democratic party, to inaugurate a dominant policy in direct conflict with that theory upon which alone there seems to be a hope for the permanent adjustment of our sectional difficulties, and finally to concede a power which, if exerted to its legitimate extent, would place the extension of slavery within the absolute control of an Abolition Congress. Congressional legislation in protection of slavery in the Territories irresistibly carries with it the power to legislate for its exclusion. The duty or right of Congress to protect cannot be maintained without admitting the power to abolish. If Congress can interfere for one purpose, it can for another. The South cannot assert a principle and expect to reap only its advantages. We must abide to full enforcement."

We commend the sentiments of the *Statesman* to the careful consideration of our friends of the Charleston *Mercury*. Accordingly to their standard, Vice-President BRECKINRIDGE and those who think with him are no Democrats.

A MAN DYING TWICE.—A man died in the Seventeenth ward a day or two ago, who might be said to have died once before, and was recalled to life by a singular circumstance. He had suffered for long time from consumption, and grows weaker and weaker, and more and more attenuated, until he could not stand or speak. He felt that he had but a few days to live, and made every preparation for approaching dissolution. His wife watched beside him, and one morning he beckoned to her to put her head to his lips, when he whispered, "I am going, Jane," and took her hand.

A slight spasm passed through his frame, a gurgling noise overpowered his voice, he ceased to breathe, and he was pronounced by his friends to be dead. Death has passed in his throat. At that moment his wife fainted, and she started up from her chair, and said, "I feel as if I could get out of my grave!" By this time she had recovered, and he began to stammer and gasp, and then he sat up and spoke! He lived two years, and then died for good and all. He was a man of large frame, and weighed two hundred and twenty pounds. Some time after this, he was thrown from his wagon and killed on the spot.

Speaking of the treaty of 1815, the London Times says pertinently enough:

With Austria in possession of Sardinia, the Emperor, who even now passively represents the Germanic Confederacy, would be virtually master of the Congress of Vienna, even without the full rights of belligerency which he has given. We have to say yes and no to the national policy which picked that congress the "first Austrian power." Austria, it is true, had made the Austria now holds has been under the first Austrian cannon that the settlement of the Italian Peninsula. This is a fact, of the be decided by a hasty, ignorant, but confidently asserted assertion, that Austria is only the power in the national policy of Europe, which, in the Congress of Vienna, by conceding the Ticino she will demand, by conceding the Ticino she will demand, Austrian army in its hand. Given the fortunes of the war, and the Austrian army in its hand, Given the fortunes of the war, and the Austrian army in its hand, Given the fortunes of the war, and the Austrian army in its hand,