The New Orleans Bee.

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NEW ORLEANS:
THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 13.

SUBSCRIPTIONS BY THE WEEK

The carriers of the Bee are authorized to receive subscriptions to our paper, at the rate of 25 cents a week, payable in all cases to the carriers themselves.

American Sales This Day.

By E. Hope & Co.; at 10 o'clock, at Hoe. at and 67 O. St. Charles st., household, bronze and American goods; also, nearly 4 dry goods.

By D. M. Murphy, at 12 o'clock, on the levee, opposite Post St., 50 bales of cotton.

By Richards & Lacy, at 11 o'clock, 5 Masonic Hall, jewelry, Christmas gifts, watches, &c.

THE CONVENTION.

The Legislature is now in session, and will probably remain so for some time. The people of the State are deeply interested in the result of its deliberations. The issues of the day, the course of the Federal Government, the action of the Southern States, and the position of the North, all require the wisest counsels to be given, and the most careful consideration to be had, before any action is taken. The Legislature was decidedly against the proposition. This is traveling faster even than the Constitution warrants. That instrument authorizes the convocation of a Convention without a previous expression of the popular will. Want of time could scarcely be alleged in justification of the action of the Legislature, inasmuch as the sense of the people of the State might be taken at the same time with the election of delegates, the latter to stand or become void according as the former should be determined in the affirmative or negative. It is desirable that in all movements involving so solemn and momentous an act as the withdrawal of the State from the Union, the mandate of the organic law should be respected, and obeyed. We start wrong when we begin by setting at naught the provisions of the Constitution by which we profess to be governed. Such infractions may constitute dangerous precedents for loose legislation hereafter. There is no doubt in our mind that seven-eighths of the people of Louisiana are in favor of a State Convention. Why, then, appear to distrust their verdict.

The bill presented by Mr. TAYLOR provides for the election of delegates on the 7th January, and for the meeting of the Convention, in the Hall of Representatives, on the 23d January. The patriots selected are unobjectionable. Not so, however, with the plan. In view of the characters of the Commissioners, of the magnitude of the issues which it will be called upon to decide, and of the consequences for weal or woe which may flow from its action, all will concede that it is eminently proper and desirable that the highest capacity, the ripest experience and the most approved talent in the State should be represented in that body. We affirm that every intelligent citizen knows to be true when we say that, in order to ensure the predominance of these qualities in the Convention, it should be held, not at Baton Rouge, but at New Orleans. From our position, and population, and commercial importance, the construction of ability and information in our city, but it is chiefly confined to persons engaged in business which, during the winter season, makes such imperious demands on their time as to prevent them almost from leaving New Orleans for a single day. While here, they might easily spare a few hours daily for a week or two in the Convention; but we apprehend it will be found virtually impracticable to secure the best citizens, our learned magistrates, our thoughtful and experienced merchants, and talented gentlemen of other classes, to abandon the Crescent City, and repair to Baton Rouge at this time. The past has proved beyond a doubt the difficulty, if not impossibility, of securing the services of such men to the Legislature, when assembled, for the same reason. Besides, there are unobjectionable and, indeed, invincible, insuperable objections being that they cannot afford to leave New Orleans in the midst of the busy season. To the Representatives of the rural districts it can certainly matter but little whether they sojourn temporarily at Baton Rouge or at New Orleans, while to the denizens of the city it must be a subject of marked importance. Besides, there are the issues of intelligence. Here we are in constant and early receipt of interesting information from all points. We shall be advised immediately of the movements elsewhere; we shall know how we stand and what we are to depend upon. In short New Orleans offers in every respect advantages which exist in no other part of the States. Let us hope that the propriety of holding the Convention in this city may be strongly urged upon the Legislature, as a measure which will tend to banish the whole State, by exalting the character of the city delegation, and insuring enhanced wisdom in counsel, and energy in action.

But whether the Convention sits at the capital or here, it should be the primary object of the constituency in every parish to endeavor to select as delegates those who have a living interest in the State. It is peculiarly fitting that they who are required in this grave conjuncture to determine the future destiny of Louisiana, should be citizens who, either by birth, education, protracted residence or the possession of a heavy stake in the community, identify their hopes and fortunes and unalienable attachment to the commonwealth and its domestic institutions. Such men may safely be trusted. To them the honor and the material interests of Louisiana may be confided, without the fear of ignorant and presumptuous meddling, or of a dishonorable and treacherous surrender of our rights. The receives of a Convention thus composed would command ready acquiescence, and command unbroken respect. Let not scheming, nor ugly youths, nor office party hacks find places within its precincts.

Since the foregoing was in type the telegraph brings advices of the final action of the Legislature on the Convention bill and of its adjournment.

THE ALTERNATIVE: *A Separate Nationality, or the Africanization of the South.*—This is the title of a pamphlet just issued, and for a copy of which we are indebted to the author, Dr. Wm. L. Holcombe, of Westmoreland, La. We have perused this production with profound interest and unalloyed pleasure. It is in brief compass an unanswerable exposition of Southern wrongs, a triumphant vindication upon ethnological and moral grounds of negro slavery, and a masterly exhibition of the indispensable necessity of a separate nationality. Dr. Holcombe writes like a philosopher who has studied his theme from a lofty stand point, and he stands point. There is a world of thoughtful investigation in this little pamphlet of fourteen pages, and more soundargument and irrefutable logic than in almost any other work of similar dimensions. It should be read by every man, North as well as South.

The Hon. Caleb Cushing says that whatever may have been done on board the James Gray, in regard to the Palmetto flag, was done "without any orders, knowledge or privity on the part of either of my brothers or myself, and was the act of the officers of the vessel, in pursuance of their own free and only knowledge of the matter at the time was derived from the telegraphic statement, and as it appeared in various shapes in the newspapers of Boston."

NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.—The Wilmington Journal of Saturday last says: "We have seen some members of both houses and of both parties this week. From what we could learn or hear, we come to the conclusion that the better opinion leans to the belief that a Convention will be called to consult and act upon the question of Federal relations. Such is the prevalent appearance of things. No definite understanding seems to have been come to as to what course the Convention is likely to adopt.

A most horrible murder was perpetrated in New York on the 7th inst. The victim, an old widow lady, named Sara A. Stanwix, who kept a fancy goods and millinery store, was found dead in her bedroom, at the rear of the store, with her throat cut from ear to ear, and her body stabbed and bruised in a fully shocking manner. Robbery seems to have been the motive for the commission of the shocking murder, judging from the disturbed condition of the apartments. The police have thus far been unable to ferret out the culprit.

COMMERCE OF THE SOUTHERN STATES.—The entire States alone, as exhibited in the United States reports of commerce and navigation in 1860, employed 3272 vessels, embracing 1,075,659 tons, manned by 31,264 sailors. And, adding both ocean and border States together, the tonnage employed in foreign trade was 1,744,-459 tons, manned by 37,488 sailors.

LOUIS NAPOLEON AND HIS GOVERNMENT.—A friend writing to the editor of the Baltimore Sun, says: that the desk-pards of France are alive with the building of steam iron gunboats, of light draft, but made to carry very heavy guns; that it is reckoned in the service that are intended to operate on the coast of the Southern States; that it is well known that some of the most talented and distinguished men of the South have been at the Tuileries for the last two or three months; that there is much reason to believe that a secret treaty has been entered into by the South with France, or Emperor Louis Napoleon; that it is also known that the commercial marine of France is in a languishing condition, when compared with that of England or the United States, and that the Emperor is ready to seize any fair opportunity to better its condition. The writer also says that he was assured to take a hand in the game of the emperor of France, ally in case of need. Napoleon has just now from 70 to 80 war vessels, 300,000 troops, and 50,000 sailors; can be whipped that none of them would soon be floating over the waves from the mouth of the Mississippi to the Gulf Stream to the South Sea. The aforementioned vessels, with 25,000 or 30,000 men.

The American shipbuilding odds: "Success to the *coup* process is no *trompe l'œil*."

BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

EUROPE.

News from Europe—Arrival of the Steamship Jura—Important Changes in the French Cabinet—The Fabian Revolution—Movements of the Allies in China.

NEW YORK, December 12.—The Cunard steamship Jura, from Liverpool on the 27th ult., arrived at her dock to-day. The following is a summary of her intelligence:

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

London Breadstuffs Market.

LONDON, November 27.—Messrs. Baring Bros. & Co. say Indian Corn was declining and prices were 1d. to 2d. lower. Wheat declined 1d. on the week.

London Money Market.

Messrs. Bell & Co. say American Stocks were stagnant.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

France.

Count Flahaut has been appointed French Ambassador to London vice Count Persigny.

Admiral Pelliaser has received the appointment of Governor of Algeria, and M. Laplace, Minister of the Marine. Admiral Hamelin is Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor. Other changes in the French Cabinet are soon expected.

The Paris Bourse was animated. The Three per cent. Rentes closed at 70f. 50c.

Increase of Duty on Cotton Goods, &c.

The Ministry have introduced a bill for a new tariff increasing the duty on cotton goods and iron.

Italian Revolution.

A Naples telegraphic dispatch says the white diplomatic corps had received Count de Rome, by the request of Francis II.

Illness of the King of Belgium.

Advices from Brussels state that the King of Belgium is lying seriously ill.

Later from China.

The overland mail from Alexandria brings the following intelligence:

A Tartar cavalry, 30,000 strong, is advancing on two columns upon the Allies, were completely routed, losing 3000 killed. The Times' correspondent says Consul Parker and three others were carried prisoners to Pekin, and were well treated. The headquarters of the allied forces were eighty miles from Pekin.

The Emperor's brother had been appointed chief commissioner to make peace. Affairs at Shanghai were in a quiet condition.

Steamships Arrived Out.

The Liverpool, New York and Philadelphia Mail Company's screw steamship Edinburgh, from New York, sheers she sailed on the 17th, arrived at Queenstown on the 30th ult., on her way to Liverpool.

The United States mail steamship Atlantic, from New York, had arrived out at Southampton—all well.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

Joint Session of the House and Senate

Speech of Hon. Wirt Adams.

BATON ROUGE, December 12.—In the House, the committee to which was referred Mr. McFee's bill to confiscate all goods arriving at New Orleans North after the 1st of January, reported unfavorably.

The Mississippi resolutions were reported back.

The House invited the Senate to a joint session. The hall was densely crowded, many ladies being present. The Hon. Wirt Adams being introduced, made a brief but telling speech, announcing the action of Mississippi, and asking the co-operation of Louisiana. In concluding, he returned thanks for the kind reception which had been given him by the State and her representative, and was greeted with much applause.

Mr. Bendy, of Lafourche, offered a resolution that commissioners be appointed to visit each and every slaveholding State, which save rice to lengthy debate. Messrs. Bush, of Lafourche, and Herron, of East Baton Rouge, for, and Messrs. Gray, of Bienville, and O'Quinn, of Avoyelles, against the measure, which was finally adopted—yeas 58, nays 3.

Mr. McFee's resolution that the Military Board make purchases of arms, &c., from foreign countries, was taken up. Mr. Bush, of Lafourche, moved to indefinitely postpone the resolution. Mr. Hunt, of Orleans, opposed the motion, and Messrs. Bell & Co.