The New Orleans Bee.

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NEW ORLEANS DAILY BEE

DUPOUR & LIMET, PUBLISHERS.

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TERMS OF THE BEE.

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Rates of Advertising—Transient advertisements having plus run of the paper, first insertion, $1 per square; each subsequent insertion, 75 cents per square.

Prime Editorial Page, transient advertisements, each insertion, $1 50 per square.

All advertisements inserted at intervals to be charged as new, each insertion.

First or Editorial Page, monthly advertisements, each square, $25 per month.

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All Business Notices of Advertisements to be charged 20 cents per line, each insertion.

All transient advertisements must be paid for in advance.

All advertisements not marked for any number of insertions will be published six times.

All bills with regular advertisers shall be rendered monthly.

Weekly Edition.

TERMS—PER YEAR.....$3.

NEW ORLEANS:

TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 8, 1871.

THE CLAIMS OF THE STEAMBOAT INTEREST.

We publish to-day a communication signed *Steamboatman*, the writer of which seems to think that in our comments upon the resolution of the Administration of Commerce, touching the removal of the Sugar Landing, now under consideration of the City Council, we entirely ignored the interests of that numerous, influential and important body the steamboat men of New Orleans.

It does not follow because we failed to mention the steamboat men, that we intended to slighted them in any new arrangement of the landing places of the port. We think they are entitled to a very large consideration on the part of the authorities of the city, as much so as the owners and agents of steamships, the Sugar Shed Company, or the tax-payers of the city. But we do not see why all interests cannot be reconciled by a little yielding on the part of each. I undoubtedly the landing space on the levee of our city has been very much curtailed of late years, and that the steamboats have reason to complain of the delay they have experienced in discharging their cargoes by the crowded state of the wharves. It is also true that this has been caused by the construction of railway tracks along the levee and the erection of sheds for the protection of the sugar and molasses there. These constructions are unquestionably very much interfered with the landing and arrangement of the boats brought to our wharves by the numerous steamboats daily and hourly arriving here during the winter and spring months from all parts of the country tributary to New Orleans. The space previously appropriated to the use of steamboats has been circumscribed by an extent which has actually prevented the easy dispatch of business, caused great loss of time and increased the expense attendant upon the discharge and landing of freights. But we think that if the space now occupied by the sugar sheds were devoted to the public use and again placed under the charge of the officers of the city, there would be no further complaint on the part of steamboats in the sugar trade, and the reason why the city should not appropriate sugar sheds at a reasonable price and throw them open to public use. It is understood that the owners of these sheds now admit them to be an obstacle to commerce and not the profitable investment they had first imagined. If this be the case, the probability is that they would be willing to dispose of their interest in the sheds to the city at a reasonable valuation.

As to the New York and Philadelphia steamship landing between St. Louis and St. Peter, sts., we know of no reason why it should not be removed to Thalia street or some part of the levee up town. Nothing stands in the way but a lease the New York Steamship Company not yet expired. Surely this company would not oppose a rearrangement of the wharves of New Orleans, demanded by the convenience and interests of commerce.

As to the valued Thalia street, we, on the river, think it the time to agitate their removal. The Legislature is now in session and the City Council have not the power to act on the matter.

If the entire space on the levee between Canal street and Jackson Square be set apart for the sugar and molasses trade, the railroad tracks will not be in the way. We shall always hold ourselves in readiness to advocate the interest of our steamboat men as well as that of merchants and real estate owners, and commend to the attention of the city authorities the communication published in another column, which comes from one of our largest steamboat agents.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY.—The attention of old and new students is called to the advertisement in another column of this University of Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia, announcing that the next session in each of the institution will commence on Thursday, September 21st ensuing, and continue without intermission until the fourth Thursday in June, 1872.

It is hardly necessary to say that the Washington and Lee University has become a favorite institution with the Southern people and deservedly so from the high character of its instruction, impartial treatment of its students, the number of distinction in their several branches and entirely deserving of public confidence. At the head is the son of the illustrious Robert Lee himself an accomplished scholar. Gen. Custis Lee has taken up his distinguished father's work and is going forward with eminent success. For terms, see advertisement.

COMMERCE OF NEW ORLEANS.—Messrs. Young, Bright & Co., publishers of the *Price Current*, will issue their customary annual statement on Friday, 1st September. These valuable volumes of our commercial history are prized as a ready reference in commercial and financial circles throughout Europe and America, on account of their unequaled correctness, ability and impartiality. Commercial houses are requested to hand in orders for the quantities they may desire for transmission to their friends and customers, and communications should be addressed to the New Orleans *Price Current*, Nos. 122 and 124 Carondelet street. See advertisement elsewhere in this morning's *Bee*.

THE MERCANTILE CORRIER. The first number of this new weekly paper made its appearance yesterday. Being printed in French and English as a Monday paper had its place in our paper, for the present, but we think it probable that the success of this city, we hope, will succeed, and do not see why it should not. The editorial columns of the *Courier* are known to us as journalists of some experience, and their paper judging by the first number, deserves public support. The publishing office is corner Camp and Gravier streets, Mr. C. C. Harris agent.

EXTRAORDINARY DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA. The Supreme Court of Louisiana since 1864 have in substance held that Confederate currency is not a valid consideration of a contract or sale of property of any kind, and they refused to enforce the specific execution of contracts in cases where such currency was the price stipulated.

It would seem from the following announcement that they have changed their opinion on this subject. We clip from the *Times-Picayune* of Monday:

The Supreme Court.—From a private dispatch from Monroe on Saturday we learn that the case of Mrs. M. P. G. Allen vs. M. Culiff and his bondsmen, involving the title to the Brooks House in this city, had been decided in favor of the defendants. This case has been in the courts for some time, and its decision settles the question of Confederate money being a proper consideration when received in good faith. This property was purchased during the war for Confederate money, and the title has passed holds good.

THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATING CONVENTION.—Mr. S. H. Packard, President Republican State Central Executive Committee, announces that by virtue of a resolution adopted by the committee on August 3d, the convention called by the State Committee on June 27th, will assemble in the United States Court Room on Wednesday August 23 at 12 M.

A correspondent of a Cincinnati paper attempted to interview one of Brigham Youngs wives the other day, but she quietly dismissed him saying, "I will have nothing to do with you. I am perfectly contended. I get everything I need and live an easy, pleasant life. Leave me."

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[COMMUNICATED.]

To the Editors of the Bee.

Gentlemen—I have read your articles (both English and French) on the removal of the Sugar Landing from its present locality to Thalia street, and while I fully agree with you on the impolicy of the removal, I think it is only just that both sides should be heard. The sugar boats pay a large tax to the city for the privilege of landing their cargoes, and in justice they should be allowed some accommodation for their money. Do they have it now? And if not, where can they get it? As it is well known that during the great rush of sugar last winter several of the sugar boats, for want of room at the usual landing, were compelled to go to Thalia street and discharge their cargoes, and the result was that every boat that went there saved over one hundred dollars on the labor in discharging, saying nothing about the time saved. Consequently for the coming season they prefer to go there if they cannot get the accommodation at the old landing. Now you argue that it will be an act of injustice to the property holders and tax payers of the Second District, or in other words, the interest of steamboat owners must be sacrificed to the interest of the tax payers of the Second District. Now I say that their interests are not entitled to any consideration, for men who will not contribute *one cent* to protect their rights ought not to be considered. You are perhaps not aware that last fall the steamboats were anxious to contest the right of way on the levee to the railroads, and for that purpose, after consulting eminent counsel, raised a fund of four thousand dollars towards paying lawyers court fees, and asked the property holders and tax-payers of the Second District to raise a like amount when they the steamboatmen would take all the trouble of conducting the suit. After canvassing the matter for *several weeks*, how much money do you think they (the tax-payers of the Second District) were willing to subscribe? Why, not *four cents* let alone $4000. Now I contend that the steamboats are perfectly justifiable in removing to Thalia street, if the Administrators are willing to give them that landing. They would only be consulting their own interest by doing so, just as the tax-payers are consulting theirs by trying to have the boats retained.

I fully agree with you that the steamships should be removed, that their removal would inconvenience and they would be really better accommodated at Thalia street than they are now, but steamboatmen have not the power to remove them, so they must remove themselves. As to the Sugar Sheds, I think they have proved a bad speculation to all parties, except the Administrators who put up the votes, and that the stockholders would be as willing to get out of them as any other body of men could without too much loss. Let the tax payers look at the *coupons* tax paid by steamboats to the city, and see if they are not entitled to some consideration. I will take one as an example, the Bart Adee pays annually to the city a tax as shall age of 3.33 dollars, and fifteen per cent of her value, does an merchant or tax payer pay anything like it, and all boats pay the same. Now to the Railroads! I do not agree with you. *They ought to be removed*; they are ten times more numerous than the steamboats, being a hindrance and impediment to *all branches of* commerce from Esplanade to Delord street, and they should be removed, and could be without injury to the parties, as Claiborne street would be a much better route for them and neither more or further for any body else.

Should these views meet with your approval, I may have more to say hereafter.

Yours, etc., STEAMSMAN.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have seen the protest of the tax payers, addressed to the Administrators, which purports to be signed by merchants, tax-payers and steamboatmen, but, on examination, I fail to find the name of a single steamboatman. Now, I consider a fraud on the Administrators, as it is intended to make them believe that the steamboats are protesting, when they are not. There is also an assertion in it that the present site is sufficient. Now, this is a mere bare-faced assertion, as anything to do with the sugar trade knows is simply ridiculous. Let its stick to the truth at all events.

Louisiana Crop Intelligence.

THIBODAUX PARISH.—The *Empire Parish Register* says:

The next principal product of this parish, cotton, has all brought a remunerative appearance. Though there is not so much place land in cultivation this season as there was last year, it is thought that, owing to the better quality of seed planted, closer cultivation, favorable weather, and improved methods for thrashing and hulling, the yield will not fall off but little, if any. One thing the producers are confident of, and that is, the rice will be superior in quality, being more marketable, because of cleaner thrashing and hulling than the crop of 1870. The planters and thrashers will soon be in action.

CADDO PARISH.—The *Record* of Lake Providence says:

The weather for the past week has been quite cool, and many old residents say they never remember experiencing such weather. The nights and mornings call out the blankets.

The crop throughout this section are improving daily, nearly all of the plantations are now clear of grass, or soon will be. Some little rust has made many who have laid by their cotton.

RAPIDES PARISH.—The Alexandria *Democrat* of the 26 instant, says:

The cotton crop continues to make and improve. We hear of very little cutworm, or boll worm, or other caterpillar talk since our last. We must wait for the second crop to estimate their damage. The general hot weather will prove of immense benefit to the cotton and retard the caterpillar.

Russia in 1870.

Ever since the emancipation of the Russian serfs was decreed, ten years ago, says the *Saturday Review*, certain prophets of evil have come on affirming that the change must be productive of ruin, that the cornfields would gradually fall out of cultivation, and that the peasants would first become demoralized from having to work for a living, and then perish in consequence of having nothing to eat. The value of the prophecies, which were certainly tested by the evidence given in the book by Mr. Ralston, which seems to have lived long enough to see it, seems to become well acquainted with the workings of the institutions under the old as well as under the new system, and which has better opportunities than fall to the lot of most foreigners of gaining an insight into the character of the peasantry. Of the "mujik" he speaks throughout in a tone of admiration and praise, but on the whole he gives him a fair character, considering him as a kind of overgrown child, of a lazy nature, and indolent nature, but that his education has been so entirely neglected that he can scarcely be held responsible for faults which would deserve condign punishment if committed by a native Englishman, as a land of schools. But of the measure of emancipation he has nothing to say which is not favorable, and he holds up his Russian friend as likely to prove of an entirely beneficial nature.

So far as the landlords are concerned, Mr. Barry does not believe that they are the worse off for the loss of the serf labor, if the expression is taken in its fair meaning, and they cannot fail to be benefited by the partial reduction in the value of land, which is so great that "land that a few years ago could be sold for twenty years' rent, is now in demand at seventy rubles." To the statement that cornfields are becoming waste places, because no man can be found to till them, he does not reasonably consider the growing demand for land, which accounts for this rise in its value, a sufficient answer. All that has been written on this subject, that it never has had, and never will have, any appreciable effect on the integrity of the Democratic party, as now marshalling for the fray. We have always felt that the great cohesive principle, after all, is that of community, universal and complete, and with it peace. It is, too, an attractive principle, and on its wonderful magnetism we rely to bring into thorough and cordial Democratic co-operation the particles, by no means minute and indistinguishable, and which, united, will be most effective, that are fast detaching themselves from crumbling or shattered Radicalism. On the great bridge which spans the chasm of uneasiness, retrenchment, integrity and revenue reform, Conservative Republicans can proudly, and without a blush, march sure of greatful welcome into the great camp of Constitutional Democracy.

The enemy is entrenched around a centre, whence radiates to every point its corrupting patronage. To this we do not attach much moment, holding the opinion that more patronage is an element of weakness. It is so when it is profusely and generously used. But when, as now, the most fragrant Nepotism and personal favoritism lifting its head in defiance of party, and when, as now, the elements are in operation in an atmosphere rather more electrical than usual, it is important to be calm in taking our observation of the stars above and measuring the drift beneath. Never was the question of the relative strength of parties more interesting than now, with only a Presidential election impending, but one which, for the first time since our domestic convulsion measurably regular.

It is no part of our intention to recall, in anything like detail, the familiar story of our politics. So long as the party politics of peace it may be thus partitioned: from the formation of the Government to the peace of 1815; from the peace to the rise of the slavery agitation; from 1820, when, with the Missouri question, it may be said to have been born, to the civil war; and from then till now. Until the election of Mr. Lincoln, as we all have read and many of us have seen, party organization was perfect and intelligible; and the action of parties easily calculable. Anything first, and Know-Nothingism afterwards, were each a sporadic sort of thing, though the latter, in its influence on religious sentiment and sectarian sympathies and antipathies, had a pretty wide swath and did a vast amount of mischief. It certainly mowed down, very close to the roots, the Whig party. Then came the war, and in its fiery ordeal, not only or nearly all the rivets which held the party organization together, but the party itself in fact, when ancient Corinth fell, out of the various metals which were melted together in the conflagration, there was scarcely any trace of the evidence given in the book by Mr. Barry