NEW ORLEANS DAILY BEE.
DUFOUR & LEMET, PUBLISHERS.
No. 62 Chartres street.
TERMS OF THE BEE.
Terms of Subscription—Daily, per annum, in advance, $12; half-yearly, $6; quarterly, $3; three of the months in succession, $4; Weekly, published every Tuesday and Saturday, subscription, $5 per annum, payable in advance.
Rates of Advertising—Transient advertisements (leaving the text of the paper), first insertion, $1 50 per square; each subsequent insertion, 75 cents per square.
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Weekly Edition.
TERMS—PER YEAR.....$5.
WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 27, 1871.

Amusements This Evening.

VARIETIES THEATRE—"Dot."
ACADEMY OF MUSIC—"Mother Goose; or Follies of Humpty Dumpty."
ST. CHARLES THEATRE—"East Lynne."
TIVOLI CIRCLE LOT—John Robinson's Circus and Menagerie.
MASONIC HALL—Salzmann's Royal Japanese Troupe.

POLICE OUTRAGES.

An experience of more than two years of the Metropolitan Police system has convinced every observant citizen that in no ex or seven hundred men, selected from any class out of the Penitentiary, can there be found so many, dangerous to the public peace as there are on the police of this city. There was, originally, a considerable minority of the force, composed of old citizens who were well behaved and performed their duties, respectfully and considerately, and some still remain, but they were not of the sort of men who were wanted, and they are being fast got rid of.

In all christendom, under the most absolute governments, such a police as New Orleans is cursed with, exists no where else. They are domineering, they are insolent, they are cruel, they are ruffianly, and they are worthless for any good purpose. They beat drunken men to death; they shoot at the people on the streets as if they were wild beasts; they club citizens, half the time without any visible justification. Without cause they lay their hands upon respectable citizens upon the public thoroughfares or in public offices. At night they will drag gentlemen into lock-ups, without any excuse, and imprison them with vagabonds, thieves and barbarians. All these things to gratify their malice against the decent population of the city. We speak of what has come to light through the press, and of things, some of which, gentlemen connected with this paper have personal knowledge. Heaven alone knows how many wrongs have been committed, of which the public never hear,—wrongs upon the poor who are ignorant of their rights or who knowing them, see no possible way of obtaining redress.

The material of this police was originally bad, in the main. Whatever was good in it has become powerless or corrupted, and the bad have had more than their own way. The department has been administered for evil. The law was enacted to enable the Governor to crush the people of New Orleans, with a thousand or fifteen hundred men armed with clubs and revolvers. His control of the organization is absolute. He used it to maintain the slaughter-Houses monopoly. He used it to accomplish the great election fraud of November 1870. He uses it to intimidate and thug his opponents in the ward meetings of his party. He uses it to enforce his usurpations in putting men out of office, whom he has no authority to put out. The men of the force are his slaves and his bullies. He shields himself from personal responsibility for the outrages committed by this ruffianly band by putting before him the Board of Police Commissioners. That shield must be torn away. The public ought to know, if they do not know, that he should be held individually accountable for every outrage committed by these followers of his, who are so costly in the mere matter of money, to the people. The majority of the Police Board are his creatures; his servile instruments. He can put them out of office at any moment, as he put out Recorder Weber and Recorder Stiles. It is no use for a decent man to make complaint to that Board of any policeman retained by the Governor for his audacity and his ruffianly qualities. It is equally vain to appeal to the Recorders for redress. The fines they pocket are numerous in proportion to the number of arrests made. Hence a cordial understanding between them. The only protection left is the Fifth District Court and the decree there may be set at nought by the Governor's partisning power. Justice, in this connection, is not always done in that Court, but when it is, the Governor steps in and destroys the influence of the tribunal by setting aside its judgments. It was but the other day that one of the police ruffians, who, for beating and kicking a man nearly to death, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment and waiting trial upon an indictment for manslaughter, was released from prison by a pardon from the Governor.

The members of the police force know how things stand and act accordingly. They know that the Governor wants men of violence, men of ruffianly instincts, who care for nobody's rights when his work is to be done. They know that they are safe while he rules the Police Board. They know that they are safe with the Recorders, and whatever fear they had of the Criminal Court is lessened too, in the case of caughts they have seen what he can do with the decrees of that tribunal.

Society can know neither peace nor security, while those whom it pays to protect it, can be regarded in no other light than public enemies, and while those enemies are directed by a malignant, a dishonest and an unscrupulous man. There must be some remedy for such a condition of affairs. If the Legislature does not devise some effectual relief, it may be necessary to raise a committee somewhat larger than the Committee of Fifty-one.

MORE PHLEBOTOMY WORK FOR THE COMMITTEE OF FIFTY-ONE.

Trust worthy information has reached us that, in order to expand still further the plethoric purse of the Recorder of Mortgages in the city of New Orleans, the process of blood-letting is again to be applied, under the pretext of recording unsatisfied judgments in favor of the city. And these judgments are to be recorded, regardless of the changes made since they were rendered. We all know that the recording of a lien on property after it has passed from the possession and control of the party in whose name it stood when the obligation was formed is a waste of time. Nevertheless, if our information is correct, and we have no doubt of it—the Recorder of Mortgages is at this moment perpetuating on his books judgments based on slave property and moveable effects no longer in existence.

Would it not be well for the Committee of Fifty One to enquire at the seat of wisdom, of His Honor the Mayor, by whose authority the Recorder is proceeding? There is no question that the transactions referred to are in progress, and that another bill, similar to the recording of tacit mortgages in favor of [illegible] minors, has been reported to.

How long will the people submit to being fleeced in this manner? No sooner is one scheme completed and the money received, than another more daring and shameless is put in operation, having the same object in view—the people's money—without any valid or equitable consideration being given in return.

Jobs and contracts for which no valuable or at all events sufficient consideration is given, are the subjects which should claim the attention of the Committee of Fifty-One. It is by such means that the Treasury of the city is exhausted and the debt augmented.

The fair now being held at Odd Fellows Hall, for the benefit of Louisiana Retreat (Female Asylum) under charge of the Sisters of Charity, will come to a close on Friday night, 29th inst. We are informed that the spirited contest for the banner, which has caused quite an excitement among several branches of the Hibernia order, will come on Thursday, the 28, at 11 P. M., on which occasion it is expected the Hall will be crowded with anxious friends of the different branches. The vestments, portrait of the Pope, silver set and other articles under contest will be decided on Friday, the evening of the closing. It will result in well for those who have not yet visited the fair to remember those rare articles on Friday evening, as it will also be the last night of many valuable and rare articles to be disposed of.

CHRISTMAS WEEK FESTIVAL—THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—We acknowledge the courtesy of the ladies of the Third Presbyterian Church, on Washington Square, Third District, in forwarding to us a programme of the festival which will be given by them every evening this week in the school house under the church.

To-night a series of tableaux will be presented. To-morrow evening—the entertainment will consist of recitations of choice pieces. On Friday evening a second series of tableaux and on Saturday evening a series of the most beautiful and attracting dissolving views will be exhibited by Milton C. Randall, Esq.

These exhibitions will doubtless attract a large attendance of our Third District citizens and be productive of much enjoyment to them. We wish the ladies of the church great success in their efforts to celebrate appropriately this holiday season.

ATLANTIC INSURANCE COMPANY.—An election of nineteen directors of this company will be held on Wednesday, the 10th January next. See advertisement.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.—This amount will buy a bottle of Mrs. Whitcomb's Syrup, the great soothing remedy for all diseases incident to infants and children.

INCIDENTS OF A TRIP TO CUBA.

Matters in the Ever Faithful Isle. The Nacional Holiday in Spain—Captain-General Valmaseda. The True Condition of Affairs—The Future of the Island.

The following letter from Havana was written by our confrère, Col. Napier, formerly of the New Orleans *Times*, but now Editor of the Claiborne *Advocate*, published at Homer, Claiborne Parish, in this State. With large powers of observation and means of obtaining facts possessed by few, Col. N. makes a very graphic report of affairs in the Island, and full faith may be given to his statements:

I had the pleasure of making the run over to this city, a few days since, on the steamship Yazoo, in company with that excellent seaman and christian gentleman, Captain Callahan, who certainly bestowes a compliment on a side where steamships, captains, and public carriers are apt to be deficient. The fact is, the last time I travelled that way, all the passengers, Americans, Cubans, and Spaniards, suffered so much in a vessel vainly from the unambiguous criticisms of our then Captain, who seemed to think these waters his private property, and a seat at his table for the purpose of his saying what he thought about them individually and collectively, that we all swore we would see him at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico before ever traveling with him again.

To conclude, however, with our trip, the Yazoo has recently been overhauled and refitted with new machinery, at a cost of $50,000; and, what with that and the steadily matchless Callahan at the helm, we came from the mouth of the river to Moro Castle, we were only a little over fifty-two hours on the route.

It was perhaps, because we weighed anchor in the harbor when the officials of the Island were in a hurry to go to dinner, or perhaps because of the presence of two men-of-war and a monitor in the harbor, that we may have had some odds in securing the rights of American citizens. At any rate, we were detained a short time, and were graciously allowed to pay the landing fee and come ashore. Apropos of the American man-of-war. I need hardly state that the execution of those young students, charged with desecrating the grave of Castanova, created the most profound horror among the native population, and appeared to them just about as justifiable as if Gen. Sheridan should order so many people in the high school of your city to be shot for singing about Conway Tan Cents for Cake. The oldest youth shot in here reached to have been aged only eighteen years, and two were said to have met death from wounds received without any trial at all.

To-day being the national holiday of Spain, (Puriama Concepcion) there was the usual firing of cannon at day break, and parade of the military. Captain-General Valmaseda at 9 o'clock, attended by an escort of Cavalry and a large assemblage of the nobility and leading officials on foot, proceeded to the Church of Santo Domingo, where high mass was performed with much pomp and ceremony. Every body composing the escort wore white gloves *de rigueur* and there must have been nearly a hundred persons present adorned with decorations. Fine bands of music and a line of infantry extending from the Chapel where Columbus first said mass, made up outside an effective show. The Conde de Valmaseda was a sight in himself—whom I have always thought the most dignified man I ever saw. He is sometimes spoken of as the Spanish Lion, though his sober port is rather the dignity of a plethoric ox, whom he equals in weight.

The Church had already been filled with that curious crowd who are to be seen nowhere outside of Cuba. As in many countries of Europe no seats or pews are to be found inside, and each lady carries a regular soothsette style received all the bravos, although she did not deserve half of them, while even the tenor who did, and who before most audiences is the good luck of tenors has it all his own way, was forced to content himself with a few faint murmurs of applause.

To pass into the theatre built by that eminently respectable old brigand Tacon, one has to go through what would be called in the States a first class barroom, and what appears a little more singular is that ladies and gentlemen are served in the same spacious and brilliantly lighted saloon, without the fact ever attracting any attention or appearing at all singular here. Think of Mrs. Jones, of going into Tom Carey's or Johnny Hayden's, to take a lunch, to brace yourself up for the last act of the Travadore. The idea, however, when you see it in a proper place and manner at all grotesque. Everyone who drinks at all does so at little round tables, and the different refreshments are well dressed and quiet as if regular pharmaceutics in an evening assembly. The second great point is that the delighting world here knows how really to enjoy itself to be under the influence of liquor. They have no respect whatever for intemperance place or person, and the idea of taking a leaf out of Mrs. Grundy's book never once occurred to a living soul. It is only those born in or for fast American society here based on a visit, who are afflicted with man-of-war who ever dream of all who have to go out and come all night at the Italian Opera, and meet the ladies in unexceptionable places. And such a style of living is very necessary for the transient visitor, who is ignorant of the language, who does not know a soul in the place, or how else could they retain so many excellent adventures which they reach home. Under such circumstances society is not very drain there is made upon labor. The fear of emancipation makes all owners of slaves very fearful of losing the labor of the plantation, with the view of lessening the loss when the deluge comes. The period allowed a slave to purchase his freedom is four hours, a kind of life which, of course, means death in a few years. Without large additions of Asiatics it is not easy to see what will become of labor in the island, let the question be settled as it will. At this day houses are not worth more than one-half what they were thirty years ago. The complaint of hard times is greater than in your city. No present business man would permit a certain from selling his property if he could get anything like an approach of its value, and this is what is very large number are secretly doing.

Of the native population, none are willing to lose any money, or hardly in making necessary repairs, for an accession of disloyalty would place them under embargo of confiscation. If they do loudness they do it at their peril, and any American who is unfortunate enough to be identified with them as interest may expect to see his dwelling looted and fired, or perhaps the principal itself, upon the innumerable hangers on about public offices, who can, or pretend they can get the contribution some way.

The native population of the lower class are not much better than what the Spaniards say of Mexico; but this, in itself, is the worst accusation against the Spanish Government. The fact that a large body of the people are ignorant and worthless is itself an accusation against a government, and the last argument that should be used for its preservation. The inhabitants of the island on the other hand never weary of laughing at the amusing ignorance of the Spanish peasantry who constitute the great mass of emigrants and who make up largely the Volunteer material for their ignorance and lack of intelligence.

Without attempting to decide as to the merits of those accusations, I should give either the Spaniard or the native population the preference in the selection of friends to the American residents of the Island. There is certainly a greater affability and refinement in the way in which the former swindle you; but the dead-beat style of your Cuban Oriental appearance does no description. Shan blan as you would avoid being done upon any and every occasion.

I ought also to say in justice to several Spanish friends whom I met, that I never met more agreeable hosts. I expressed the same views to them, that I have written down here without exciting any angrier remark than some quiet sarcasm now and then. Some arguments in favor of free trade, of free ports, of changing the mode and these lying in the road. He saw something he was willing to compound existing duties for, and doubtless would order five hundred prisoners to be executed without ceremony. One must understand this character to be able to appreciate the animosity that enters into this war, to judge of the stories that Spaniards and Cubans tell of each other; and in order to judge of the ferocity of the war. The guerillas will never be driven from the Island while the Spanish colors are flying. Spain will not cease without the interference of other nations, to struggle until the Island is completely ruined.

Of this ruin there are now already abundant signs. The crops that are made are not particularly large, though that of last year was not much over one-half of the ante-bellum period. The reason they are so large as they are is the extraordinary