NEW-ORLEANS BEE.

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FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

HENRY CLAY,

OF KENTUCKY.

Subject to the decision of a National Convention.

NEW-ORLEANS:

FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 18, 1839.

THE NEXT SPEAKER.

Every one in the slightest degree acquainted with politics must be aware that the most important measure to be adopted by the coming congress will be the election of Speaker of the House of Representatives. It is a doubly interesting and important contest, both because it will decidedly determine the political complexion of the house, and because the office itself is one of high intrinsic responsibility. In the speaker is vested the power of appointing committees. According as the majorities on these committees will be composed of whigs or locofocos, may we anticipate a searching and impartial investigation, without fear or favor, into all the acts of the administration, or a hasty, negligent and unsatisfactory scrutiny, such has unfortunately distinguished the conduct of the Van Buren majority, who have obtained the ascendancy in the house. The influence of the reports furnished by the committees of investigation, on the public minds, is of extreme magnitude, and even the great question of the presidency will be collaterally affected by them. In every point of view, therefore, will the election of speaker of importance be regarded with intense anxiety by both political parties.

We therefore we have considered the election of a whig to this office as a settled point. The disastrous issue of the late contest in the west did not overthrow this opinion. The whigs could still claim a majority—reduced it is true—in the popular branch of congress. All that was needed on the part of the opposition was unanimity, zeal and the determination to be present in Washington in time for this struggle, which takes place at the very opening of the session. Now the efforts of the administration in Maryland—effort which were made with redoubled desperation, under imminent dread of losing the speakership—have partially prevailed, we begin to regard the success of the whigs as somewhat problematical. This belief is not founded altogether on a apprehension of being in a decided minority. Such an issue is impossible, even in the event of Mitchell's going with the administration. But should this be the case, the whig majority will be barely sufficient to effect the proposed object and its accomplishment could only be rendered certain by the serious resolution of all the opponents of the administration to be in Washington prior to the opening of congress, and to unite without the slightest defection or hesitation upon the candidate for the whigs. Will this be done? We have our fears that it will not. The whigs lack the energy, the iron will of their antagonists. When the locofocos have to work into duty, move forward in consolidated phalanx and with a single view to its achievement. They will be in Washington to a man for days before the beginning of the session. Some of the whigs, less zealous, may lag behind, and thus sacrifice the inestimable acquisition for which they have been toiling for so many months.

But taking for granted that the whigs will not thus be caught napping, that they will be in Washington as early as their antagonists, there is a depth of policy, a Machiavelian astuteness in the craft of the locofocos that may yet defeat us. This cunning party well know that they can effect little by their unassisted strength; in order to elect their candidate they must forage upon the enemy. They calculate to accomplish their object in this wise: A pure unadulterated Jackson locofoco would probably be beaten, because he would receive none but locofoco votes, while he would possibly forfeit the suffrages of the new converts of the party who belong to the Calhoun school.—Hence it has been determined to conciliate these doubtful adherents, and secure their support by nominating one of them as the candidate for the speakership. The Van Buren party, reckless as they are of genuine principle, and caring only for success, will sustain unanimously the member who is put in nomination. The South Carolina delegation, delighted at the flattering concessions of their new allies, will of course give them an entire vote, and if this should still fail to elect the candidate, the locofocos also will have their expectations of triumph on the state rights projections of some of the Georgia members, where the humiliation of a state rights sub-treasury Calhoun publican will very likely detach from the whigs. In the nicely balanced condition of the two parties, the loss of three or four votes upon which the whigs have a right to count, would be fatal to their hopes; and if this case of the locofocos be attended with the course upon which they not unreasonably look for, the cause of party will undoubtedly carry the speakership.

Mr. Pickens, of South Carolina, is the individual whom the locofocos have pitched upon as the instrument by which they may effect their purpose. Mr. Pickens' political tenets may be summed up in a single word—*Calhounism*. He is a gentleman of considerable talent, unimpeached integrity, and we presume qualified for the office, as far as attainments and knowledge of parliamentary forms can capacitate him. Should the whigs fail to elect their candidate, we presume Mr. Pickens would be their second choice. He is in every respect infinitely preferable to a thorough going loco-foco. Some display of impartiality might reasonably be expected from him. At all events in choice of evils he would be the least pernicious.

From what we have stated, it is evident that the election of speaker to the house may well be regarded as doubtful. It will depend, in the first place, upon the zeal and activity of the whigs, and in the second upon the fidelity of those state rights members from Georgia and Virginia who have been usually classed with the opponents of the administration. If both these conditions are fulfilled the whigs will gain the day—and almost as a consequence, will carry the presidential election. If not, they will be defeated in 1839, and very possibly in 1840.

It is not difficult, we should think, to render effective the wily schemes of the locofocos; to counteract where they mine, to fight them with their own weapons. *Fas est ab hoste doceri.* If the locofocos select a state rights Van Buren man from South Carolina, as their candidate, cannot the whigs choose a state rights whig from Georgia or Virginia as theirs? Mr. Dawson, Mr. Habersham, Mr. Hunter of Virginia, or Waddy Thompson of S. C. would probably concentrate as large a vote from the state rights ranks, as would Mr. Pickens, Mr. Rhett or any of the locofocos. If the whigs perceive that the Hon. John Bell, by running against the candidate of the administration, will only incur discomfiture, let them cast their suffrages in favor of a candidate possessing more availability. The whigs owe to their constituents and their country the solemn obligation to leave nothing untried that will tend to strengthen the cause of reform, and enfeeble that of executive usurpation. They are aware that the election of a whig speaker will be the entering wedge that is to split the present administration, and shatter it to fragments. Let them, therefore, neglect no point of vantage, despise no source of gain, reject no plan of operations by which they may ultimately achieve this great victory.

☞ The prospect of a whig majority in the New York legislature, and the consequent election of a whig United States' senator, is very fair. It is known that last year, the re-election of Mr. Talmadge was prevented by the loco-foco senate, which was composed of 19 administration and 14 anti-Van Buren senators. One of the 19 died during the session. The terms of eight have expired. Of these eight, seven were loco-focos. There are now elections to fill up nine senators, viz: one whig and eight Van Buren. If the whigs succeed in four districts they obtain a majority; if in three they tie the loco-focos, and have the majority with the casting vote of Lieut. gov. Bradish. Last year they elected five out of the eight. This year they will probably do as well. The assembly is considered safe for the whigs under all circumstances, for should their opponents even carry the city, they would still have a majority of twelve to overcome in the remainder of the state.

PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION.

In Philadelphia city the whig senator and representatives are elected by nearly two thousand majority. The vote stood—Miller, (V. B.) 3602; Sparkman, (whig) 5514. For mayor, Gaskill (whig) in the city and county, 3453; Scott, (V. B.) the next highest, 3321 and Moyamensing, (whig) the lowest, 26.2. In the county the Van Burenites have succeeded by a large majority in carrying the city and county ticket.

GEORGIA ELECTION.

The returns for the governor's election, from thirteen counties viz. Baldwin, Bibb, Burke, Bulloch, Chatham Effingham, Green, Hancock, Jasper, Richmond, Talbotto, Warren, Wilkinson, give for Dougherty (whig) 3047—McDonald (Van Buren) 2920—in Chatham county there was no opposition to the Van Buren ticket for the legislature.

☞ [illegible] ARGUS AMERICAN SLAVER CAPTURED.—The schooner Catharine, captain Dandes, of Baltimore, 30 days from Sierra Leone, arrived at New York a week since, a prize to her Britannic majesty's sloop *Dryad*, which she had her on a charge of being engaged in the slave trade. She is said to be owned in Baltimore, and has an American register on board. She was fitted out at Havana, where she took up her cargo.

☞ We have received several numbers of the New York *Evening Express*, a paper issued from the office of the *Daily Express*, and said to throw cents per copy. It commenced as an experiment upon the cash system, and has been invariably pursued in England, and has realized immense profits to the penny press in this country. The Evening Express contains all the news of the day together with the opinion of the public journals on both political parties. It is a very fair experiment, instituted on what seems an excellent plan—we think it will succeed.

☞ By the steamboat *Shepherdess* we have received St. Louis papers to the 3d instant, inclusive. The only item of interest they contain, is the announcement of the arrival of the annual caravan to Santa Fe traders. The party had about twenty wagons, and brought between one hundred and fifty and two hundred thousand dollars in specie.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 3.—The river here, opposite to be about *stationary*. There is no water sufficient in the channel for ground sheet boats to run, any distance about three feet. Between our city and Louisville. For the last three or four days, boats have been running pretty brisk, mostly for the purpose of carrying passengers to Louisville for the races.

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