The New-Orleans Bee.

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J. MAGNE & WEISSE.

NEW ORLEANS BEE

J. MAGNE & WEISSE, PROPRIETORS.
NO. 81 CHARTRES STREET.

Official Journal of the State.

NEW-ORLEANS.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 9, 1845.

The following article from the Washington Constitution, presents considerations which have been urged time and again in the columns of this paper. That the British manufacturers which newspapers records the coming in the guise of packets, are so many armed vessels of war, with complete equipments of Paixhan guns and other appliances for naval combats, is a fact fought with incontrovertible importance to the people of this country, while it is equally notorious that the maritime force of the United States, upon which is the point of collision with any European power, our widely extended seaboard, must absolutely rely for protection and defence, is in small force and inadequate, and has been treated with unaccountable and most reprehensible neglect. The views of the Constitution upon this subject are worthy the earnest and immediate attention of the Government. We are somewhat inclined to think, that they indicate a wrong policy on the part of the last administration. There are [illegible] within the control of the Government, upon which [illegible] naval strength.

From the Washington Constitution.

MILITARY MAIL BOATS.

Which matter of general [illegible] that the splendid steamships which are employed by the British Government to carry the mails from various points in England to different points in the West Indies, the United States, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, are built of such material, capacity, and strength, that they can at any moment be turned into vessels of war. Indeed, it is ascertained, that many of the British military officers, and men, are employed on board, and it could be got up and placed in position in a few hours. There is a valuation put upon these vessels, and they enter the mail service, so that if the contingency should arise the Government would promptly take them from their present owners, and transfer them to military purposes. These vessels, [illegible] are running into all our principal harbors, acquiring the most intimate knowledge of their channels, defences, and weaknesses, so that in case of sudden hostilities they could strike with no efficiency but that which nothing but this intimate knowledge and wise forecast could give them. But shall this politic course on the part of our great rival have no lesson? Shall we neglect profit by the example? Shall we continue the cautious preparations for war we have hitherto made? Some of these vessels are [illegible] the latest, and by means of the ship canal now complete, they could, in any emergency, place as many more there as might be deemed necessary for offensive operations. What, then, under the existing state of things, should be our line of policy? Can we not encourage the building of similar boats, to be used in the same contingencies for similar purposes? The mails are now carried on the Western rivers, in most of the bays, and on the lakes, in what are called "mail boats." These are slight built boats, calculated for speed, and for which they would be fit for military use. Let a class of boats be built expressly for this service, after the British example, of strength and capacity that would fit them for any emergency. Let the Government encourage the building of such boats, by contracting to employ them to carry the mails—let them, in fact, be built under the supervision of competent naval officers of the Government, and thus be prepared, in the moment of necessity, to concentrate them at any point where they might be needed. And if, as we have already hinted, the attention of the Government will be directed to the construction of a ship canal, to connect the Mississippi with the lakes, its completion would render these military boats available everywhere.

We respectfully submit that these suggestions are worthy of the serious consideration of our Government. It would be a ready way of increasing our naval strength, by a slightly increased expense for carrying the mail—the boats remaining the private property of the contractors till need by the Government arose. We cannot be indifferent to what is passing around us. It would be the extreme of folly to presume upon an eternal state of peace. Wisdom, prudence, experience, all teach us, that military preparations and defences are necessary to protect the rights, and even to insure the peace of all nations. Let us, then, be that way which is most beneficent to the people, or whatever may be necessary, gradually to place ourselves in an attitude of reasonable and efficient success.

THE CONVENTION.

Mr. Boutousqué moved to strike out Mr. Rouzaud's amendment that one Senator should be chosen from each municipality. Adopted.

Mr. Benjamin moved the adoption of the section.

Mr. Lawrence said the only data in his possession was the canvas of 1840. According to this document the first municipality would have a right to two Senators, the second to one and the third to one. When the proposition was first made it encountered no opposition, save from Mr. Eustis. Since then we had had a pretty stirring discussion, and his motives, as well as those of his friends had been attacked. What proof was there that the division was not popular, particularly in the lower part of the city. He had not heard a young his city lawyer, any anxious desire manifested to have another Senator to the Second Municipality.—He approved greatly the proposition of Mr. Preston to elect three Senators by the separate municipalities and to give the fourth to the city at large.

Mr. Rusellus combatted the idea of a diversity of interests in New Orleans, and asked for proof that is any measure of general legislation there was the slightest opposition of interest among the several municipalities. New Orleans was not a corporation consisting of three cities, but a great commercial city, an undivided city, governed by one Government Council and one Mayor, and nothing augmented the prosperity of a part of the city, without contributing to the prosperity of the whole.—He was convinced that the proposed division would inflict a fatal wound upon the prosperity of New Orleans. This was proved by the consequences of the separation into municipalities.

It should likewise be borne in mind that the law dividing the city might be abrogated, whereas it would remain irrevocable, if the proposed measure were incorporated in the Constitution.

With regard to his amendment, it had never pleased him, but he had presented it to calm the susceptibilities of certain members. He considered it at least useless, as doubtless the Senators would be chosen as they had always been from the several Municipalities.

With respect to the opinion of his constituents, he declared that he had not met a solitary person but was in favor of the general ticket—the only opposition to it arose in the Convention. He considered himself the representative of the whole city—of the whole State, and as such was bound to follow the dictates of his conscience.

Mr. Soulé presented an amendment providing that the Legislature which shall re-organize the Senate, shall repeal the law dividing the city into municipalities.

Mr. Marigny made a curious sort of speech in which he abused the Second Municipality, impugned the motives of those who had assumed the division of the city, and argued that the second Municipality, in the event of the proposition pushing, would groan and crush the two others, &c., &c.

Mr. Saunders moved to lay Mr. Soulé's motion on the table subject to call. He was confident the Convention would never entertain the question, and he made the motion to preclude debate.

Mr. Claiborne offered a substitute, providing that the municipalities should be united only upon a petition from a majority of their respective councils. Rules out of order.

Mr. Lewis carried some amendments made by Mr. Marigny relative to his action in the Legislature. True he had voted for the division of the city into three municipalities, but got from the motives ascribed to him.—The gentleman in one breath complained this division, and in the next advocated it for purposes of Senatorial apportionment. This was an absurdity.

Mr. Lewis then briefly reviewed the arguments in favor of the General ticket, and contended that it was the only fair, equitable and proper mode, and tended to preserve the distinguished character of the Senate.

Mr. Lewis complained of complicating the research which had induced him to divide the city. It was because the Second Municipality unorganized and irritated with utter contempt by the city proper, and I rouse the country without to correct the injustice.

After some sparring between Messrs Lewis and Marigny.

Mr. Soulé took the floor, and spoke an elaborate speech against the General Ticket system. He contended that the amendment submitted by him was a fair test of the authority of the profession of [illegible] the members who were speaking in favor of the city of the city, and that all except one had voted against it. If this were the fine position of them opposed to him, he hoped the question of unity would be dismissed.

Mr. Soulé then proceeded to examine at some length and with considerable ingenuity the various positions assumed by Mr. Grymes in his speech of the day previous, maintaining that they could not legitimately hear upon the question, inasmuch as population, not territory, had been assumed as the basis of representation in the Senate. This being the case, all the arguments about large districts and extended territory fell to the ground. He next alluded to Mr. Bentley's argument in favor of the parishes preserving their entire limits, and remarked that the Convention by a very decisive vote had negatived the proposed proposition of that gentleman to include the right bank with the parish of Orleans, then doing away with his argument.

The book of total population would give New Orleans one Senator for every 11,000 inhabitants, but having been excluded of her representation about one half 40,000 inhabitants in the first municipality would certainly hinder her two Senators, while the second and third would be each entitled to one Senator.

The city of New Orleans was [illegible] three cities under one name, did this way that [illegible] of distribution a measure be had always [illegible] the three municipalities the history of the corporation, and argued that the second municipality had been built up and improved by the funds of the old corporation before it was separated by the act of the Legislature. He next proceeded to freight very minutely against the second municipality, accusing that corporation of imposing enormous taxes, and incurring a vast amount of indebtedness—He cared not how his worthiness might be received in that portion of the city. He claimed nothing more than justice, and would be satisfied with nothing less. He disclaimed all political motives, declaring that his career in this respect was at a close.

If it were true that there is identity of interests between the municipalities, there would be the danger of dividing the representation by—but the whole argument was unsound. The very phrase for the exposition of the city was an eloquent dissertation on the diversities of interests between the several municipalities. Was very hungry of the act of dividing the city. Then separate interests demanded separate representatives, more especially in all that concerned the appropriation of money.

If the second municipality could not depend so here all four Senators, why was she not satisfied with the proposition to give her two? The constitution was unavoidable that that section of the city wished to govern the other two.

Mr. Soulé closed with an eloquent appeal in favor of the population of Gallic origin.

Mr. Rouzaud briefly but forcibly repelled the insinuation that he and his friends were acting solely in the interests of the Second Municipality. They were representatives of the city, not of a section. The provision offered by him yesterday, and which obviated all possibility of the calamity so much dreaded by the gentlemen, was rejected by their own votes.

The opening was thus taken on the adoption of Mr. Lewis' amendment, and the vote stood—yeas 27, nays 20.

Mr. Soulé gave notice of his intention to move for reconsideration.

Mr. Spencer moved to reconsider the vote by which the Parishes of St. Mary and St. Martin were constituted one Senatorial district. The motion will lead on the subject in call.

The Convention adjourned.

[illegible] Plan of the Orleans and Baffin.—We have received from Mr. B. M. Norman, Camp street, a colored plan representing of the City of New Orleans and its environs, from the basin of Bienville street to the Hermitage of this city. It is the first specimen of the kind ever attempted [illegible] and is highly creditable to the skilful and correct [illegible]. The engraving is remarkably accurate, embracing [illegible] of the city, all the public buildings [illegible] marked and lettered, [illegible] streets, in most of the bays, and on the lakes, in what are called "mail boats." These are slight built boats, calculated for speed, and which would be fit for military use. Let a class of boats be built expressly for this service, after the British example, of strength and capacity that would fit them for any emergency. Let the Government encourage the building of such boats, by contracting to employ them to carry the mails—let them, in fact, be built under the supervision of competent naval officers of the Government, and thus be prepared, in the moment of necessity, to concentrate them at any point where they might be needed. And if, as we have already hinted, the attention of the Government will be directed to the construction of a ship canal, to connect the Mississippi with the lakes, its completion would render these military boats available everywhere.

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[illegible] Duel.—We learn from [illegible] of the crew of the steamer [illegible] that she struck a snag on the 20th ult. nine miles below [illegible] and sunk immediately, in deep water. The cargo was saved in a damaged state. The boat, we learn, will be a total loss.

The Douglas was bought by Captain Lodwick and others, to take the place of the New Orleans. We hope, for our readers will remember, was lost in the early part of the season.—*Red River Republican.*

[illegible] Fire.—We learn by the Alexandria Republican of the 5th inst., that a store, the property of Mr. Hunter, was [illegible] in the Parish Court a few days ago, under the provisions of the Black Code, for offences committed on the person of a free colored woman. He was found guilty and sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment in the chain gang.

The National Intelligencer of the 1st inst. says:—"Ex-Governor Thomas, of Maryland, made his appearance yesterday before the Circuit Court for this county, and gave security in the sum of one thousand dollars to appear at the next term of the Court to answer the charge of libel to prosecution by the Grand Jury. H. G. S. Key, Esq., of St. Mary's county, Maryland, is the bill of ex-Governor Thomas in this libel case. Gen. Walter Jones is Counsel for Mr. Thomas.

GAMBLING IN NEW YORK.—A New York paper states that more than fifty gaming houses are in active operation in that city, the most of them being located in Park row, Barclay street, and Broadway, below Canal street; and that more than one thousand gamblers by professions, are profiting among the city and passing for respectable citizens.

[illegible] Intelligencer.—Thursday by the morning mail we duly received the Eclipse Gazette for the middle of the entire and particular [illegible] Office in the advertisement in another [illegible].

Chinese Circus.—Francis Lee of Mary Turner, [illegible], was yesterday sued under the Black Code, before a tribunal consisting of Judge Canonge and six freeholders, on the charge of setting fire to the house of Mr. Johnson, in Grand street, during the month of February last, and found guilty. She was sentenced to receive twenty five lashes, and to be imprisoned at hard labor for life in the Penitentiary at Baton Rouge. It was also ordered by the Tribunal, that her owner, receive the sum of $300, upon payment of the costs of the prosecution.

Recorder Baldwin's Court.—[illegible] Turner, arrested in the act of [illegible] was yesterday brought before the Recorder [illegible] to await his trial before the Criminal Court.

William Gray, accused of stealing a trunk of goods from [illegible] was committed for six months in the Workhouse, the owner of the trunk being unable to remain in the city to prosecute the case before the Criminal Court.

Louisiana Association Jockey Club Races—Eclipse Course Carrollton.—There was a large and highly respectable attendance yesterday, to witness the sport over this favorite course. The members stand was crowded by a number of beautiful and handsome belles, who appeared highly delighted, with the exciting and interesting sports of the day. The track was in some places wet and heavy, but was in much better order, than could have been expected, in consequence of the late heavy rains.

[illegible] Sweepstake for three year olds, of five seven nominations, five came to the post, viz: Vivaldi, Bonny Cowdry, Dart, Feathers and Fanny King. The betting previously to the race was principally confined to Vivaldi and Dart, which were freely taken against the field, and in proportions, either of which, were taken at the odds of one to two against the balance. The horses, in consequence of each of the first three bought some different nags, which fell of entirely and interest, and the betting, which was quite heavy, fluctuated considerably.

The heat requires but little description. Dart took the lead, and kept it throughout the heat, leading to the second round lengths ahead, under a hard pull, to 1:52.

Second Heat.—Notwithstanding that Dart had won a heat, the odds were now two to one, that Vivaldi would take the stakes. At the start, Dart [illegible] with his [illegible] Vivaldi [illegible] Vivaldi [illegible] Dart, [illegible] Vivaldi [illegible] Dart [illegible] Vivaldi [illegible] Dart [illegible] Vivaldi [illegible] Dart