The New-Orleans Bee.

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MAGNE & WEISSE, PROPRIETORS, No. 81, Chartres Street.

Thursday morning, Dec. 24, 1846

Mr. Rathbone!

We have heard with some pleasure over the list of Standing Committees appointed by the United States Senate on the 14th, and have failed to discover the name of Mr. Calhoun either in the capacity of chairman or simple member. It is generally said, that grave body of legislators and executive advisers would have been so completely forgotten, as if he were no longer a Senator. There is not, we believe, a representative of a single state who has not been placed on the committee of choice. To Mr. Calhoun, whose rare and extraordinary and exceptional position has assigned, of being excluded from the deliberative functions of a colleague, while continuing to form a constituent part of the United States Senate.

The mode in which this species of ostracism was accomplished is curious enough, and probably significant of the future. The majority of each committee are Democrats, and were selected by caucus at a meeting of the dominant party. Mr. Calhoun's name must, therefore, have been proposed, counted, for some one can doubt that he claims to belong to the Democracy, and has hitherto acted with South Carolina given him the only so exclusively Democratic members of the Senate could not certainly have expected that the Whigs, who were generously allowed a minority on each committee, would select Mr Calhoun in preference to their own political associate. If the Democracy abandoned him, he would become a stray waif which neither party would care to claim. This was precisely what occurred—and serviceably, by a neglect that must have been designed, the distinguished senator from South Carolina is deprived of taking an active part in those important committees which precede the discussion and development of schemes of national legislation.

The subordinate role which Mr. Calhoun is thus playing, has probably been brought about by those jealousies and personal pique which actuate the Democracy, and impel the leaders to view with displeasure any candidate for the Presidency who announces a determination not to be driven by the dictates of a convention. As Mr Calhoun has openly avowed these opinions, and no instance than suspected that he intends running with or without a caucus nomination, it becomes a matter of some moment to diminish as much as possible the power of so dangerous a rival. As he depends exclusively on his sons, his fellow-Democrats resolved to follow him, that scanty decisions would overtake him. The sagacity which Mr. Calhoun has received is not likely to be disregarded by a man of his temper. The Locofocos, probably deceive, ere the session is over, that they have chosen the least effectual means of taking the great Nullifier from the public deliberations.

Congress.

In the SENATE on the 14th, the Hon J. M. Clayton appeared and took his seat. Mr Mangum presented the credentials of the Hon Thos. E. Badger, Senator from North Carolina, vice Mr Haywood, resigned. Mr Badger was sworn in and took his seat.

The report of the Commissioners of Patents, with a report from the Treasury Department, upon the tonnage of vessels employed in the coastwise trade, were received and ordered to be printed.

A memorial was presented, was from Leslie Combs, of Ky., praying payment for silver, &c. Referred to a committee on the ground that the claims rested for the payment is no longer available in the transmission of Texas into the Union.

Mr Johnson submitted a resolution of inquiry that the committee on military affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing three months pay to all officers, non commissioned officers and privates, regulars and volunteers who may have served in the war with Mexico, and also of allowing upon the same footing to all officers and seamen of the navy, who may have served in the Mexican war.

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The Senate then proceeded to make the Committees. The following is the Committee on the principal ones:

Committee on Foreign Relations—Messrs. Sevier, Cass, Archer, Atchison and Webster.

Finance—Messrs. Lewis, Benton, Evans, Speight and Huntington.

Commerce—Messrs. Dix, Pennybacker, Johnson, of Md., Chalmers and Davis.

Manufactures—Messrs. Dickinson, Colquitt, Simmons, Sturgeon and Woodbridge.

Military Affairs—Messrs. Benton, Dix, Crittenden, Houston and Hudger.

Naval Affairs—Messrs. Fairfield, Yulee, Mangum, Cameron, Miller.

District of Columbia—Messrs. Cameron, Breese, Miller, Chalmers, Johnson, of Md.

The Senate then went into Executive Session, and after some time spent therein adjourned.

In the HOUSE Mr. Bowden of Ala. announced the death of his predecessor, (Mr. McConnell,) in neat and appropriate terms, concluding with offering the customary resolutions. They were adopted, and the House forthwith adjourned.

☞ In to-days paper will be found a long and interesting letter from our correspondent "Corporal." It has been in our possession a day or two; but circumstances have unavoidably delayed its publication.

CENTRAL AMERICA.—Capt McIntyre, of the bark Ellen Augusta, reports that his bark was chartered at New York by a Mr Bell, to carry out to Blue Fields or Aux Cayes, a cargo of provisions, which he landed at her port of destination. After landing the provisions, Mr. Bell enlisted the crew of the bark ashore with the intention of detaining her. Capt McIntyre also states that when he was ready to sail, Mr. Bell sent an armed force on board and searched his vessel, to ascertain if there were any of his men on board. His main object, Capt. M. learned afterwards, was to keep his vessel to carry a load of Mahogany back to New York.

Capt. M. also states that a Prussian brig arrived at Blue Fields, about the 10th of October, with one hundred and ten Prussian emigrants, whose previous destination was Texas, but had put into that place short of provisions and water, and were enticed to remain by the persuasions of Mr. Bell. When Capt M sailed they were dying off very fast from the country fevers, which prevailed in that place to an alarming extent, and the effect of their food, which was only green cocoa nuts and plantains.

The Brig St. Simons, Capt. Eldridge, left Boston for Mobile, 21st November, with an assorted cargo. On the evening of the 23d, at 9 o'clock, in lat. 28, long. 69, while scudding under bare poles, shipped a heavy sea which swept every thing from the decks. The main-mast went 10 feet from the deck, also, and every thing forward above the foretop—filled the cabin partly full of water, breaking down cabin bulkheads, &c. Lost overboard at the time, Edm P. Addington, 2d officer, and Jas. Laudder. On the 26th, espied a ship to leeward, lying too; made signals of distress, and the ship hove to until next day, when the weather being more moderate, they were enabled to take them from the wreck.

☞ We regret to learn, says the Richmond Republican of the 14th, that a personal combat took place yesterday in the street near the Depot on the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, between Messrs. Chas. D. Bell, editor of the Southern Standard, and John Lambert, growing out of a newspaper controversy, relative to the Mayor of the city, the father of young Mr. Lambert. One or more blows were struck and several shots with revolvers were exchanged.—We are glad to say, however, that but little injury was done; Mr. Lambert receiving no wound, and Mr. Bell only a slight flesh wound from a ball in the thigh.

☞ The Big Sioux, the first steamer of the season