The New-Orleans Bee.

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF GENERAL COUNCIL AND FIRST MUNICIPALITY.——NEW-ORLEANS, THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 15, 1849

"LAGHE & WEISSE, Proprietors", No. 93 CHARTRES STREET.

TERMS OF THE BEE.

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☞ The privilege of Annual Advertisers is limited to advertisements strictly within the line of their business, and in extent to one square every other day.

The New-Orleans Daily Bee

Thursday Morning, March 15, 1849.

☞ The paper man was a complete failure yesterday from beyond Mobile. The *Picayune's* Express came through and furnishes us with some extract of intelligence.

Municipal.

The Municipal Elections are rapidly approaching, and thus far, they appear to create little public feeling. Both political parties are seemingly wearied of strife. Neither has yet retired from the exhausting excitement of the late Presidential canvass, and neither feels disposed without adequate cause, to throw down the gauge and do battle again.

It is a curious anomaly in the history of our fierce struggles that men frequently engage with less zeal and zeal in these contests upon the result of which their prosperity may immediately depend, than in others that are but indirectly and remotely connected with their pursuits. This is the feeling in our city which should be brought with deep importance to every taxpayer, is viewed with listlessness, and suffered to pass away with indifference. Whether good or bad magistrates are chosen, when the Municipal authority is vested in efficient or inefficient officers, are matters apparently of no moment whatever, though the merchant, the mechanic, the property-holder and indeed every citizen is directly interested in the event, and will feel only in the good or evil effects of this choice, before the year expires for which these officers are chosen. But an election for Governor of the State, or Congress, if all serious consequences attend to a high point. Parties will be marshalled against each other, the entire machinery of politics will be called in requisition, men will look to the result as if the welfare of the commonwealth hung on a series of years depending on a single vote. Yet a Governor has no long salary attached, and his only power consists in the bestowal of some few places on his friends—a power which the new Constitution has curtailed almost entirely to judicial officers. Yet every one feels that the choice of a Governor may be somewhat important to the people of the State, considered in the aggregate, but it is just as true that the election of Municipal officers for the administration of the affairs of a City, as New Orleans, should be rigidly viewed by the citizens of that corporation as a duty that should call forth the utmost judgment, wisdom and discretion, and its exercise must necessarily involve considerations only at moments of the prosperity of New Orleans, as any which the election of a Governor can present to the consideration of the entire State.

These reflections are taken because the citizens of New Orleans, and at this moment, when the season of civic challenges in one or two of the Municipalities, are seemingly cold, they seem more intensely to their interests. Business is the chief concern of New Orleans, and a fair, just and economical administration of public affairs, they must be more anxious in the selection of their agents to secure and ensure a closer scrutiny than they would give to the abilities, services and qualifications of those who seek for callings. It may be a misnomer to call the election of the man and of the place from an improper and indolent mistaking judgement of power in the hands of gaiety and incapacity men let him look at the opposite, the almost hopeless condition of the Third Municipality, with her bankrupt treasury, her impoverished credit, her insufficient laws for enforcing her just rights. Though the other wards have not been hurt, hardly in any event, reduced in the miserable position of the Third Municipality, yet enough experience may prove to shall see a necessity to create a serious consideration. The principles to be applied to the government of a city are the same as those which are employed in the government of a state. They only differ in degree, not in kind. It is closer and more simple to administer the concerns of a corporate body than of a commonwealth, but comparatively there is the task may be, it cannot be satisfactorily performed without knowledge, capacity, experience, honesty and unremitting zeal.

Let the reader bear in mind these homely truths, and then we will be better prepared to exercise our rights and franchises of which they are possessed, in a spirit befitting intelligent freemen.

SENATORIAL COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE.—The following list of Standing Committees of the U. S. Senate was submitted by Mr. Mangum, on the 11th and was adopted:

On Foreign Relations—Messrs Cass, Benton, Webster, Mangum, Foote.

On Finance—Messrs Dickinson, Douglass, Webster, Hunter, Phelps.

On Commerce—Messrs Hamlin, Soule, Dayton, Mason, Smith, Fitzpatrick.

On Manufactures—Messrs Sebastian, Butler, Jones.

On Agriculture—Messrs Sturgeon, Turney, Walker.

On Military Affairs—Messrs Davis of Miss., Bright, Bell, Borland and Dawson.

On the Militia—Messrs Houston, Fitzpatrick, Dodge of Wisconsin.

On Naval Affairs—Messrs Yulee, Bright, Mason, Bodisco, Miller.

On Public Lands—Messrs Felch, Borland, Shields.

On Private Land Claims—Messrs Downs, Winthrop, Dickinson.

On Indian Affairs—Messrs Atchison, Sebastian, Rusk, Phelps, Bell.

On Claims—Messrs. Whitcomb, Norris, Jones.

On Revolutionary Claims—Messrs. Walker, Norris, Dodge of Iowa.

On the Judiciary—Messrs. Butler, Downs, Berrien, Bayard, Dayton.

On the Post Office and Post Roads—Messrs. Rusk, Spaulding, Pearce, Corwin.

On Roads and Canals—Messrs. Bright, Atchison, Phelps.

On Patents—Messrs. Dodge of Wisconsin, Berrien, Hunter.

On the District of Columbia—Messrs. Mason, Yulee, Shields.

On Pensions and the Patent Office—Messrs Jones, Norris, Whitcomb.

On Retrenchment—Messrs Bradbury, Houston, Phelps.

On Revolutionary Pensions—Messrs Dodge, Butler, Hunter.

On Public Buildings—Messrs Hunter, Yulee, Bright.

On Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate—Messrs. Dodge of Iowa, Westcott and Shields.

On Printing—Messrs Bagland, Hamlin.

On Engrossed Bills—Messrs Jones, Sebastian.

On the Library—Messrs Pearce, Davis of Mississippi.

On Enrolled Bills—Mr Rusk.

Select Committee on Suicide's Eligibility—Messrs. Benton, Felch, Mason, Webster and Pearce.

NEW WORKS.—We are indebted to J. B. Steer, for the following new publications:

Outlines of English Literature, by Thomas B. Shaw, professor of English Literature in the Imperial Alexander Lyceum of St. Petersburg. Lea & Blanchard, publishers. This is an excellent manual, concise and comprehensive, of the progress of English literature, from the earlier periods to the present time. It is a valuable and instructive introduction to the study of English literature, and is written in a style of great perspicuity.

For the following, we tender our acknowledgements to J. C. Morgan, of the Literary Depot:

Mysteries of City Life, by James Reed. We know well the author of this work. If his taste and cultivation were equal to his fancy, he would be one of the cleverest writers of fiction in our country. As it is, his book contains some good and many execrable stories; a number of brilliant flights of fancy expressed in terms that would have made Lindley Murray shudder; evidences of much desultory reading and of strong native powers of mind, unpruned, unregulated and unchastened.

THE SUGAR CANE.—We have been informed by many of our planters, (says the Pointe Coupee *Echo*, that a large quantity of their plant cane has been seriously injured by the severe cold we had a few weeks since. A great portion of the stubble or ratoon has also been damaged. Many of our planters will find it a hard task to procure enough seed. They are nearly all now engaged in putting in seed for the next crop.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Mr. Clay's return to the Senate.

That no system of government can long exist among men, unless it is substantially, and in the majority of cases, founded in reason and justice, and sanctioned by experienced utility for the people among whom it exists, is not, we conceive, a matter of disputation; therefore, it may be predicted, with perfect certainty, of any institution which has been generally extended and long established, that it has been, upon the whole, beneficial, and should be modified or altered with a very cautious hand. This proposition cannot be disputed, especially by those who have thought much and dispassionately on human affairs, for all human institutions are formed and supported by men, and unless men had some reason for supporting them, they would rapidly sink to the ground. It is in vain to say a privileged class have got possession of the power, and they make use of it to perpetuate these abuses; doubtless, they are always sufficiently inclined to do so—but a privileged class or a despot is always a mere handful—a grain of sand to the sea shore—against the great body of the people; and unless their power is supported by the force of public opinion, which in all countries, and particularly in our own, is omnipotent, it would be utterly impossible to maintain its ground. Consider attentively all the great convulsions recorded in history, some of which have shook the world, as by an earthquake, and it will be found that after a brief period of strenuous and often almost superhuman effort on the part of the people, they have terminated in the establishment of a government and institutions differing scarcely, but in name, from that which had preceded the struggle. It is hardly necessary to remark how striking a confirmation the English revolution of 1688, and the French of 1830, afford of this truth.

It will not be denied that the public councils of our country have been often the theatre of angry and violent conflicts. Questions have arisen eliciting all the eloquence and learned research of the most eminent Statesmen, and fears entertained that possibly this great and growing Confederacy of States would no longer remain united, but dissolve into its original elements. Fortunate indeed, that during these periods of turbulence when the whole land presented a scene of discord and excitement, the people differing among themselves upon matters of the greatest importance to the welfare and future prosperity of the country, and the National Legislature, though else but a place for the indulgence of fanatism and sectional feeling, there was one, who unmoved by the warring passions and unawed by the impending danger, dared to throw out upon the wavely, and quell the tornado which was likely to sweep away our popular institutions, and bury them and the Union in one common ruin. It was during these conflicts of the popular feeling, when our most sacred rights and valuable laws were in jeopardy, and our affairs with foreign powers, uncertain and calamitous, that Mr Clay, rising above the fury of the storm and disclaiming any allegiance with the conflicting elements, raised the wind of the people is the source, and the happiness of the people the end of all legitimate government on earth.

The address pronounced on that great man was fully displayed in the Senate during an memorable session of 1850, when the question pending the admission of Missouri into the Union was first agitated. It will be remembered how hard he struggled with that powerful horde of Northern abolitionists "when Jesus strongest, and ruled it when Jesus wildest." The lovers of republican freedom, as embodied in the federal constitution, fired at its noble and patriotic appeal upon the conduct of the great men of the Nation, while the lovers of despotic power abroad were rejoicing in the dangers which beset our liberties. But freedom did not lud us farewell—and the American people, under the benign influences of a free government and good laws, united as before in the promotion of great commercial interests, by going hand in hand in confederate together. The power of Mr. Clay as a debater, about this time, appeared in its full bloom. He treated every question and every motion which came up in the most luminous manner and with the justest discrimination. But we will dwell on the consideration of this veteran statesman—*his deeds prove him*—and it will be admitted that the civilized world have good cause to thank him, and our country men to love and honor him, for saving them from velement commotions perilous, and probably fatal to our, never disturbed country.

The manner of Mr. Clay is, in every respect, suited to a senator. At the bar, he warms the soul of the listener, and the tribunal is uniformly fixed, sagacious and discriminating, deducing his conclusions with admirable clearness from his premises, and necessarily warning from the inner grandeur of his subject into a gem of fervent eloquence. He seems to treat human affairs as if he viewed them from a more exalted plane than most men; as if he were enabled to shove the mists, struggles and cares of humanity, and superior to power and wickedness the veil which shrouds their secret causes and course from the gaze of ordinary things. Important in their generation, sometimes almost omnipotent for good or evil, with which, they are particularly men, how great soever, rarely leave any very important consequence behind them, or at least rarely do what other might not have done as effectually as them; and which was not very much dictated by the tendency of the human mind, and the tide, either of flow or ebb, by which human affairs were at the time washed to and fro. The desperate struggles of wary ambition in which they are engaged, and in which so much genius and capacity were exerted, are swept away by the flood of time and seldom leave any lasting trace behind. It is the man who determines the direction of this tide, who impresses their character upon the general mind—who are the real directors of human affairs—it is the giants of thought, who in the end governs the world. Kings and monarchs, princes and potentates, warriors and legislators, are but the ministers of their blessings or their curses to mankind. But their dominion seldom begins till the wolves are no more.

In the career of Mr Clay to the theatre of his eloquence and fame, the people of our country, with one accord, should rejoice. The evening of his life is as bright as the meridian splendor. The ever-busy hand of Time, it is true, has left visible traces upon his brow, but the pulsing a decline of physical energies and of that majestic frame which has mocked at disease and been the pride of sculptors. His collossal mind still retains its wonderful powers, that mind which has aroused national sympathies, flattered the spirit of independence, and guarded with vestal vigilance the government in its constitutional vigor, as the sheet-anchor of our peace at home and safety abroad. R.

PROGRESS OF MR. POLK.—The ex-President was received at Wilmington with marked kindness and hospitality. He was waited upon by a delegation from Charleston and escorted by them to that city. Mr Polk was accompanied by the Hon. Robert J Walker. On arriving at Charleston, Mr. Polk was received by a committee of gentlemen, and welcomed by Mr Conner. He replied in an elegant and eloquent terms. A procession was then formed, and the distinguished gentlemen were conducted to Fage's Hotel. In the afternoon they dined at the St. Andrew's Hall, and the occasion was signalized by many complimentary toasts and patriotic speeches.

GREVASSES.—The Baton Rouge *Gazette* of Saturday says—We are sorry to state that the river still maintains its threatening attitude, and that in the course of the past week no less than three extensive crevasses have taken place on the west side of the river. The one at the Brusle Landing will cause immense injury—another at Lobdell's Landing, and the third one, by far the most extensive, has broken through the grand levee, at or near Col. Chas. Morgan's, Pointe Coupée. The crevasses will cause immense damage to the planters in Pointe Coupee and West Baton Rouge, as most of their cane will be destroyed and their crops thus injured for some years to come. The river at this place seems to have fallen a few inches, but whether on account of the crevasses or other causes we know not; the boats from above bring such contradictory reports that it is impossible for us to ascertain the true stage of water in the upper rivers.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—An unfortunate occurrence took place a few days ago in the Parish of Pointe Coupee. Mr. W. L. Batt, while in the act of drawing a pistol from his coat for the purpose of shooting some dogs which were running at a horse, the pistol accidentally went off and shot a little boy about five years old. Two balls taking effect in his body, he shortly afterwards expired. A jury of inquest was held on the body, and after having examined the witnesses who were present, they returned a verdict according to the above facts.

☞ A rencounter took place on the 6th inst., in St. Louis, between Messrs. Pickering and Blair—whose quarrel has been previously noticed. Mr. Blair struck Pickering over the eye, and injured that organ with the point of his umbrella. Both the parties appear in print with communications describing the street fight in very opposite language. Pickering himself alleges that he returned Blair's blow with interest; but Blair's brother declares that Pickering did not offer any resistance. We suppose the affair is not ended yet.

SENTENCED TO BE HUNG.—The St. Mary's *Planter's Banner* says: "The negro, whom we noticed last week as having stabbed another negro, of Bayou Salé, was tried at this place last Monday, and sentenced to be hung, the execution to take place on the first Monday in March, 1850. The negro that was stabbed died the next day after the wound was inflicted. The jury recommended that the punishment of the criminal be commuted to imprisonment for life."

☞ Mr. WILSON, the vocalist, is at Mobile performing with much success. We understand he comes here in a few days.

City Intelligence.

THE LOUISIANA STATE BANK.—*Suit for forfeiture of Charter.*—The Attorney General of the State having yielded to the clamors raised in certain quarters, has finally instituted a suit against the Louisiana State Bank for a forfeiture of its charter. The grounds alleged in the petition which is now on file at the Fourth District Court, set forth that a provision of the charter of that institution was violated on the 3d February last, by declaring a dividend when there were no profits from which dividends could be legally declared, it then cites the circular of the new Board, averring that in consequence of previous mismanagement the capital of the Bank is deficient over two hundred and thirty thousand dollars.

On this subject it is quite apparent that both the old and the new Board, as well as every Stockholder of the Bank must occupy common ground. There can be no difference of opinion as to the necessity of preserving the Charter of an Institution which having twenty years yet to run, is intrinsically most valuable. Whatever difference of opinon may therefore prevail between the present and the old Direction, arising from the issue of the last election, it is obvious that a community of interests now exists which will enable the Bank to ward off the blow in the most legal and unexceptionable manner. It would be ridiculous to imagine for a moment that the old Board were not perfectly familiar with the provisions of the Act of 1842, under which the Bank has been working ever since the enactment of that statute. Taking it for granted that they were fully cognizant with all its provisions, is it to be presumed that in direct opposition to their own interests, they would even for the gratification of declaring a dividend have violated one of the fundamental rules, and exposed the Bank to be forthwith deprived of its Charter? We think not. We cannot bring ourselves to imagine that any set of men would pursue such a suicidal course. What is then the clear inference of the principle under which the old Direction acted in declaring the dividend in question.—They evidently viewed certain assets which the new Board consider to have depreciated in value, as *fully worth par*, and acting under such a supposition with clear breasts and consciences (as we must presume,) had every right to declare a dividend. They looked upon the capital of the Bank as intact, and would be willing no doubt, to state so under oath, whilst the new Direction, taking another view of the matter, came to the conclusion that the stock on the books was deficient in value sixteen per cent. It is consequently a mere difference in opinion, and such we imagine will be the view taken of the subject by a court of justice. In that event, and it appears to us a reasonable one, the charter of the Bank is not placed in the slightest danger, and if we have been betrayed into commenting on the present proceeding, it has been from a desire to guard the holders of stock from making any unnecessary sacrifices. It is our opinion, and not lightly expressed, that the whole matter will end in smoke.

THE GREEK SLAVE.—We would remind our readers that this magnificent statue of Powers will only remain on exhibition for a short time at the State House. The merits of this unique piece of statuary have been so frequently alluded to, that we can say no more in its praise than that every body ought to go and admire the masterly execution of the great sculptor, the more so, too, as the exhibition is for his benefit.

THE MODEL ARTISTS.—There is evidently no rest for the model artist. Classic poses and mythology display are at a discount. The police, having no reverence for antiquarian exhibitions, pounce down upon the unfortunate actors, and cabbage them minus the clothing which ordinary mortals think proper to adopt. William Rose, the olympian joue, who was compelled to vacate the First Municipality, in consequence of the hot pursuit of honest Capital Whitmore, selected the "Old Third" for an exposure of his person, and according opened on Monday evening to an audience fully capable of appreciating the naked truth. But his generous efforts to enlighten the denizens of that dark *faubourg* were suddenly interrupted on Tuesday night by the unexpected appearance of Captain Kennedy, who very unceremoniously seized hold of the Jupiter of the establishment, and conveyed him to the Watch House, together with Messrs Lewis, Stanton, Maria Stotts and Lizzy Mayfield, all acting in their several capacities as models. Where will the arts seek a refuge after this new interruption of the Vandals? That is a question to be determined after Recorder Seuzeneau has made an examination into the affair.

GENERAL COUNCIL.—The body met last evening pursuant to adjournment, and elected Mr. Maury President. A message from the Mayor was received enclosing four proposals for repairs to the Parish Prison. Also calling attention to the necessity of a revision for Aldermen and Members of the General Council, and also announcing the expected visit of the Hon. James K. Polk to the city, and requesting that suitable measures be provided for his reception. Mr. White offered a resolution to appoint a committee to meet the ex-President on the Mississippi and tow him up to the city, which was lost. Adopted, and a committee of three, Messrs. Hire, Bell and Walker, on motion of Mr. Maury, was appointed. The proposal of Thomas Hire to make the necessary repairs to the Parish Prison for $1,750, was accepted, being the lowest bidder. Two collectors of the Public Revenue for the Fourth, which had settled for the taxes 1847, were appointed. Mr. Mr. McCune was elected tax collector from the Fourth District. The Finance Committee to whom was referred an application for an extra compensation to Mr. Quinnebat of Walsh, the same was reconsidered, the rules being dispensed with. Paid letter and resolution were referred to the Committee on Finance. A motion to report at the next sitting, and said report to be acted upon immediately after the message of the Mayor.

Of Mr. Bruneau, former of the platform, asking a deduction of fifteen days from the day of the payment of the Parish Prison, which was referred to the Finance Committee, with power to act.

Of Samuel Moore, claiming settlement for his property abandoned for the opening of Ursulines street, referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Of Wm. Bonn, claiming fifty dollars for 200 tons of gravel. Referred to the Improvement Committee.

Of Hennessee, police officer, to be paid for the amount deducted from his salary. Referred to the Police Committee.

Of H. Bullard, in the name of the Navigation Company of Lake Pontchartrain, Bayou St. John, complaining that the Bayou St. John is becoming more and more shallow from the filling up by mud and every kind of impurity thrown into it; and the offensive exhalation thrown off by the gas works and thrown by the engine of the drawing company into the Bayou, praying for a remedy. Referred to the Health Committee.

Of Louis Dufau, praying to be permitted to use the Council chamber every Friday evening to give public and gratuitous lectures on the history of France.

On motion, the prayer of the petioner was granted, provided it does not interfere with the wants of the Municipal officers.

Of J. B. Otto—Complaint to have been illegally arrested by Lieutenant Vix, on the 1st instant, and prays that the conduct of Lieutenant Vix be investigated. Referred to the Police Committee.

Of J. Playa—For permission to build a verandah in front of his property at the corner of Orleans and Chartres streets.

On motion of Mr. Witz, it was

Resolved, That permission be, and is hereby granted to J. Playa to erect a verandah in front of his premises situated at the corner of Orleans and Chartres streets.

Of Jos. Bouscaren—Asking permission to build a verandah in front of his premises, situated at the corner of Orleans and Chartres streets.

On motion of Mr. Witz, it was

Resolved, That permission be, and is hereby granted to J. Bouscaren to erect a verandah in front of his premises, situated at the corner of Orleans and Chartres streets.

Of Mr. Macready—Complaint against the Police Jury of Jefferson, for the non-payment of his services as Constable of the Second Ward, and prays that the Council will take the same into consideration, and order the payment of the same. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Of Mr. Bullard—Asking permission to build a wharf in front of his property, situated in the Second Ward, and to be known as Bullard's Coffee House Landing