# The New-Orleans Bee.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF GENERAL COUNCIL AND FIRST MUNICIPALITY. NEW-ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 25, 1848.

BIGNE & WEBB, Proprietors. No. 91 CHARTRES STREET.



**The New-Orleans Daily Bee.**

Monday morning, Dec. 25, 1848.

☞ This being CHRISTMAS DAY, no paper will be issued from this office to-morrow.


## The Overturn of the Administration.

In a discussion which recently arose in the United States Senate, upon the causes which produced the overthrow of Mr. Polk's administration various and widely discordant opinions were advanced. One member ascribed the result exclusively to the repeal of the Tariff of 1842, and the passage of the act of 1846; another considered that the political revulsion could be justly attributed to nothing else than the influence of "Free Soil" principles; while a third argued that the election of Gen. Taylor was a triumph effected by the potency of military enthusiasm. We apprehend that the distinguished gentlemen who debated this question were biased by their individual views in imputing the result to this, that, or the other cause. The election of TAYLOR and PILLSBURY was brought about by a combination of circumstances.

The greatest humbug of the day is the boasted agency of "Free Soil" principles. Whatever may have been the motives of those who originated the Wilmot Proviso, and nominated MARTIN VAN BUREN, the result indisputably proves that Gen. Cass was helped and Gen. TAYLOR injured by the movement. "Free Soil" did not enable Old Zack to carry a single State. It lost him Indiana and Ohio beyond a peradventure. The Democratic organ in New York admits that Gen. TAYLOR would have carried that State under any circumstances. In the South the clamor against Gen. TAYLOR in consequence of his unpledged position, and the fact that Gen. CASS was seemingly opposed by Northern Anti-Slavery men, imparted a lagubrious strength to the Locofocism sufficient to enable it to retain its ascendancy in such States as Alabama, Virginia and Mississippi. In a contest, unmixed with extraneous issues, TAYLOR would have carried all these States.

In the first place, there existed a deep-seated dissatisfaction with the party in power. The people labored under the conviction that Locofocism had abused the trust reposed in it and deserved chas. They had lost all confidence in the administration, and were ripe for change. The war with Mexico, the frightful expenditure it had involved; the gross favoritism exhibited in conferring military dispositions; the partisan jealousy evinced by the Administration towards Gen. TAYLOR; the wholesale and unscrupulous abuse of the veto—all contributed to inspire the people with the stern determination to eject the dominant party from office. With respect to the agency of military renown in securing the success of the Whigs, we are of opinion that though it may have aided in effecting that result, it proved but a feeble and minor auxiliary. The personal popularity of our candidate—his reputation as an honest man, a pure-minded, true-hearted soldier, a statesman alike to the violence of mere party strife and to the factious intrigues of unprincipled politicians—his character for sound judgment, thorough knowledge of mankind, prudence, wisdom and inflexibility of purpose, accomplished much more than did the halo of his heroic exploits. He was beloved by the people who felt instinctively that he was entitled to, and would justify their confidence.

The influence of the tariff question was powerful in certain sections. In Pennsylvania, a doubtless aided materially in defeating Gen. Cass. That gentleman was the favorite of a party which had grossly outraged and betrayed the enthusiasm of the Key Stone State, by first pledging its faith that the tariff of '42 would be preserved, and afterwards by repealing that act through the casting vote of Pennsylvania's own chief-tool. In that State, therefore, the rebound was prodigious. The people were resolved to visit the authors of the iniquitous fraud with ample retribution, and they did so. The tariff question was also an inactive agent in New England and in Louisiana; elsewhere we doubt whether it entered into the canvass as anything more than an incidental element.

In brief, Gen. TAYLOR's success was occasioned by his personal popularity and the purity of his character; by the desire of the people to elevate a patriot to office in place of tinkering politicians and partisan leaders; by the remembrance of the unworthy, swindle practised upon the yeomanry of Pennsylvania; and by the strong and earnest wish to discountenance the Executive arbitrary employment of the veto. Of all the causes which affected the result, the Free Soil humbug was the least influential. The little it accomplished was to the detriment of the Republican nominees.

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THE LILLIPUTIAN WATCH.—Our readers have heard much of the wonderful miniature watch, manufactured by Mr. AUGUSTUS MATTHEY, a Swiss jeweller, now in the employ of LOUIS MAJE, No. 41 Chartres street. A day or two ago we called at Mr. MAJE's, to examine this exquisite little piece, and he kindly furnished us with its exact dimensions. The entire watch, including case and cap, is completely covered, by a *quartilla*—a Spanish silver coin, half the size of a five cent piece. Its diameter, including the case, is 4 11-12 lines; height or thickness, with case and glass, 1-13 line. The dial is of gold, the case gold enamelled; it has eight holes jeweled with rubies; all the bridges are of steel; the cap is of gold, with the regular inscription on it. The precise weight of the watch, with the glass and cap, is one penny-weight, or the twentieth part of an ounce.

This beautiful minute piece of mechanism is valued at $1500. It will be raffled on New Year's Eve, if all the chances are taken.

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HOLIDAY GIFTS.—We have received from J. B. STEES, a very handsome annual, entitled, "*The Gorlandy or the Token of Friendship.*" This is an American annual, beautifully got up, and reflecting great credit on the publisher. In addition to this, Mr. STEES has a most extensive assortment of London and American Annuals, every way adapted for Christmas presents.

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IOWA—ELECTION OF U. S. SENATORS.—A letter from Burlington, published by the St. Louis *Republican* states that on the 7th inst., Aug. C. Dodge and Geo. W. Jones were elected U. S. Senators from Iowa. The vote stood:

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| A. C. Dodge, | 38 | Geo. W. Jones, | 39 |
| W. H. Wallace, | 19 | R. P. Lowe, | 13 |
| Vacancy, (W.) | 1 | Vacancy, | 1 |
| | 58 | | 53 |

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

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| Joseph Williams, (Locо.) | | | 39 |
| Stephen Wheeler, (W.) | | | 18 |
| Vacancy, | | | 1 |
| | | | 58 |

Associate Justices.—George Green and J. P. Kinney, (Locо.) by same vote.

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COAST SURVEY.—The Report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, submitted to Congress a few days ago, shows that since 1844, there has been surveyed by the triangulation 17,555 square miles; by the topographical survey with the plane table 2,218 miles, and an extent of shore line and roads of 7,170 miles; and by the hydrographic 20,080 square miles of water; in all 47,023 square miles, principally on the shores or coasts of the United States. This work has been done in the following States: Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas.

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OHIO LEGISLATURE.—The letter, received from Columbus state that no organization of the Legislature had been effected. The democratic members hold on to their seats, and continue to exercise a perpetual session, but begin to look forward to a change.

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An arrival at New York from Vera Cruz reports that the city of Maracaibo had fallen into the hands of Gen. Paez, after several sanguinary engagements. Several Important crimes had been devised against President Monagas.

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### Correspondence of the Bee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19, 1848.

The Committees in both Houses are appointed, and the business of legislation will now proceed with more activity. To expedite the public service which has been so long delayed to please candidates, the Senate has set apart Thursday in each week for the consideration of the private claims. By a rule adopted at the close of the last session, the public calendar will be resumed in the order which it then stood, as unfinished business. This is a manifest improvement, for which the Whigs of the House, are entitled to much credit. There are others which recommend themselves to equal favor, which will be introduced after the 4th of March, when control of the Departments will have changed hands, and when able and patriotic men will have the responsibility of administering the Government.

Under the present dynasty, the public service, from its institution, has been converted into a mere party machine, for the advancement of political objects, and for the advantage of favored partisans. Millions of the people's money have been lavished on a mercenary army of contractors, speculators and politicians, without regard to any other consideration than the amount of political influence which they could bring to the aid of the administration, and to the support of the nominee of the Convention. The public records were mutilated and falsified—the accounts of Whig officers were willfully distorted, and the private integrity of the President even was impeached by his heads of bureaus and their subordinates; to defeat the popular will which he so fortunately failed to control. Such was the tenure by which the clique of Polk, Dallas & Co. held the Government. Under the pretext of economy, flagrant interference with the freedom of the elective franchise, neglect of official duty, and brawling partizanship, are good grounds of removal—and who denies that they have been? Gen. Taylor may expect a laborious vocation during the first twelve months of his new career. While proscription, for opinion's sake ought to be proscribed, justice, for the sake of the country, ought to be enforced. Public sentiment requires the ejection of the drones and schemers that now infest the Departments and fill every avenue of official station. At the late election the federal government was openly defined, and the office-holders were paraded as so many brain-band troops, to coerce and defeat the election of the patriot who had been selected to rule the Presidency. They marked their places on the issue and they have lost. This would be a sufficient reason for change, if there was not a superior one, in the necessity for a purification throughout the public service. The verdict of the 7th of November was not only rendered in favor of Gen. Taylor, but against the minions of Polk, who outraged all propriety and decency by their clamorous and offensive interference.

The embarrassments connected with the establishment of territorial governments in California and New Mexico, owing to the conflicting views from the designing, every ignorant incumbent like the present; for if those who ought to know better, are mean enough to take advantage of the accidental opening that now exists, twenty days before his inauguration, they should be taught that the public interests are to be considered before false notions of magnanimity to the family of a defeated opponent. Gen. Cass has grown rich out of the people's treasury and his sons have no claim to be pensioned by the law of 8 brittles.

There seems to be a practical method of escaping from the deligate and dangerous agitation of the slavery issue, and of settling the question of these territories, without arraying one section of the Union in hostile attitude against the other. It is simple and reasonable.

If the people of New Mexico and California desire admission into the confederacy, the proper thing for them to do is to assemble in a convention, to adopt a constitution conformable to our system and to present it to Congress at the next session, for ratification or amendment. It is not disputed on any hand, that the inhabitants of a State have the right to accept or reject the institutions of domestic slavery; while it is equally admitted that Congress has no power under the Constitution to interfere with the exercise of that exclusive right. Michigan and Arkansas were admitted in this way, in 1836, and the former went so far as to elect members to represent her, antecedent to the action of Congress. Her constitution was slightly modified, and the members thus elected were confirmed by the act upon the formation of the State government, which touched no other principle for twenty years, but that of the "Spoils".

The interests of the country and the necessity for the proper understanding of the true condition of the treasury and the other departments of the government, demand at this juncture a radical reform. Without the introduction of such a system, the state of the accounts of the administration can never be fairly ascertained and General Taylor will be embarrassed throughout his whole term, with developments of indebtedness and errors which are now dexterously plastered over to make a favorable showing in the estimate of Polk, Dallas & Co. Such incompetency, flagrant interference with the freedom of the elective franchise, neglect of official duty, and brawling partizanship, are good grounds of removal—and who denies that they have been? Gen. Taylor may expect a laborious vocation during the first twelve months of his new career. While proscription, for opinion's sake ought to be proscribed, justice, for the sake of the country, ought to be enforced. Public sentiment requires the ejection of the drones and schemers that now infest the