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The New-Orleans Bee.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE STATE ..... NEW-ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 7, 1851. No. 1455 Vol. X.—NEW SERIES. Vol. XXIX—Whole No. 6504.

The New-Orleans Daily Bee.

Official Journal of the State, Genera[illegible] Council, [illegible] Municipality and Board of Delegates.

Monday Morning April 7, 1851.

GENERAL COUNCIL.
WHIG TICKET.

FIRST MUNICIPALITY.
T. W. COLLINS,
DR. ALPUENTE,
L. J. HARRIS,
L. BURGI.

SECOND MUNICIPALITY.
CHAS. M. WATERMAN,
JOHN LEEDS,
GEORGE ALLEN,
WM. C. TOMPKINS.

The Northern Mail arrived through yesterday with the latest dates.

THE ELECTION TO-DAY.

The municipal elections throughout the city take place to-day. Twelve members of the General Council—four to be chosen from each Municipality—and three Boards of Aldermen are to be elected. The contest for members of the General Council will be nearly exclusively political, and a powerful effort will be made in the First and Second Municipalities to secure the success of the Locofoco ticket. The General Council possesses certain attributes which renders its party complexion a matter of some importance. It is vested with the power of appointing the Inspectors at general elections, and upon the proper and discriminating exercise of this power depends to a considerable extent, the purity of the franchise. The Locofocos had a majority in the General Council some four or five years ago, and they abused the privilege so outrageously, in the appointment of Commissioners of Election, that the next year the people turned them out neck and heels. Since then, the General Council has been Whig; but it is evident that to-day the opposition will make a desperate and well organized effort to secure the ascendency in that body. They have nominated a strong ticket every where, and have employed all the numerous electioneering devices at their command, to advance their object. Their forces will be brought out at an early hour, and they will be manoeuvered with all the skill and strategy for which Locofocoism is distinguished.

We invoke, therefore, the Whigs of the city—and especially those of the First and Second Municipalities—to be up and doing. We call upon them to regard the contest as an important one—to come forward and deposit their votes. We have no fears of defeat, if the Whigs only take the trouble to exercise the right of the franchise. The Whig party have never been fairly discomfitted in New Orleans, though they have frequently allowed themselves to be worsted by their own apathy. The possession of the General Council is the great aim of our adversaries. Give them that, and they will pack the Inspectors next November so dexterously as to secure success throughout the city, at the elections for Congress and the State Legislature. Let the Whigs then rally in their strength, and vote the clean ticket, without spots or erasures. In the Second Municipality there will a tremendous struggle; and it is not impossible that Locofocoism may succeed in electing one or more members on the General Council ticket. Hence it behooves the Whigs of the gallant First—so true and unfaltering in their political faith—to exert themselves for the complete success of their own ticket, and thus neutralize any loss we may sustain in the Second.

It would be unwise, however, while endeavoring to promote the success of the Whigs in the General Council, to neglect the Aldermen. In the First Municipality there is little of party feeling involved in this election, and we have only to call on the citizens to sustain those candidates whose experience and ability offer the best guarantees of their usefulness to the Corporation. In the Second, political distinctions have regulated the selection of nominees, and both parties are in the field with full tickets. If the Whigs toil with half the zeal and energy which mark the opposition, they will elect their candidates. But we have our misgivings. We have rarely seen the Democracy more active, and the Whigs more indifferent. At all events, we warn them at this critical moment, that they are in danger of defeat; and we tell them very plainly, that if the counting of the votes shall show that they are most essentially used up, they will have nobody to blame but themselves. *Verbum sap.*

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP OHIO.

The U. S. mail steamship *Ohio*, Lieut. Scenck commanding, arrived yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, from New York, Charleston, Savannah, via Havana, with the California and Pacific mails. The steamer Georgia left Havana for New York on the 3d instant. The Falcon from Chagres arrived the same day. Among the passengers by the Ohio is the Hon. Henry Clay, from Havana.

The U. S. steam frigate Saranac, Capt. Tatnall, sailed from Havana for Pensacola on the 3d instant, at eight and a half o'clock, A. M.; at 11 o'clock, A. M., Mr. Clay was conveyed on board of the Ohio in the Captain General's barge, when the Ohio immediately left, and passed the Moro at eleven and a half o'clock; at one o'clock, P. M., saw the smoke of a steamer about twenty-five miles ahead, which proved to be the frigate Saranac, which vessel left Havana three hours ahead of the Ohio; at 5 o'clock, P. M., the Ohio had gained on her so as to bring her hull in full view from deck; and at seven and a half o'clock, was abreast of her, and about one-eighth of a mile distant. The Saranac was illuminated with large battle lights, fore and aft, and during the passing of the Ohio, fired a salute of thirteen guns, and four volleys of musketry, in honor of Henry Clay. The firing of rockets, and the burning of blue lights, so illuminated the ships, that the people could be distinctly recognized from the decks of each vessel. Three cheers were given by the passengers of the Ohio, which was answered by the crew of the Saranac. The stillness of the night, and the calmness of the water, lent enchantment to the scene, which was one of the most magnificent ever seen at sea. This may be considered one of the finest compliments that Mr. Clay has had given him during his travels by sea or land.

There was four man-of-war vessels at Havana when the Ohio left—the frigate Louisa Fernandez, brigs Habanero and Variel, and the steamer Pizarro.

Havana is perfectly quiet—no amusement or excitement of any kind.

The new steamer El Dorado, from New York, arrived at Chagres the day the Falcon left.

The Ohio brings 175 cabin passengers, with about $480,000 in gold dust.

The Ohio made the run from the Moro Castle to the Balize in 46 hours.

☞ As usual, we are indebted to L. A. Levy, Jr., of San Francisco, for full files of California papers, by the Ohio.

☞ We are indebted to Mr. J. C. Winans, one of the passengers on board of the *North America*, for late San Francisco papers.

☞ The Commencement of the Law Department of the University of Louisiana, will take place at 12 o'clock to-day, at the Lyceum Hall of the Second Municipality.

Mexico.—By the brig *Union*, Capt. Rodovich, we have received Mexican papers of the same date as those brought a few days ago.

The Ohio—Arrival of Mr. Clay.—The steamship *Ohio*, Lieut. Schenck, commanding, reached our city yesterday about 11 A. M., from New York via Havana, with the California and Pacific mails on board. Among the passengers by the *Ohio* is the Hon. Henry Clay, Amute was fired in honor of the arrival of the great Commoner. Had he come amongst us on any other day than the Sabbath, he would doubtless have been received with enthusiastic public demonstrations.

The news from California brought by the *Ohio* has been of course anticipated by the *North America*.

The Garnahne Cravame.—Mr. L. Susini, who succeeded so admirably in arresting the Sauve Cravame, has contracted with the Police Jury of the Parish of Jefferson to stop the Gardanne Cravame for the stipulated sum of $25,0.0. The undertaking is a most difficult one; but if anybody can accomplish the task, Mr. Burgi is the man.

CALIFORNIA.

ARRIVAL OF THE NORTH AMERICA.

On Saturday last the steamship *North America*, Captain Byrnes, arrived in our harbor, from Chagres, which she left on the 20th ult. She brought four hundred and fifty passengers, one hundred of whom are for New York, and five hundred thousand dollars in gold dust, in the hands of the passengers. The *Falcon* left Chagres on the 29th, for Havana, with about one hundred fifty passengers, and the *Empire City* left the same day, for New York, with an equal number of passengers. The British steamer *Thames* arrived at Chagres, from San Juan, and left on the 28th, for Southampton, with $800,000 in specie. The steamship *Pampero*, Lieut. Hunter Commanding, was in port when the *North America* left.

By the *North America* we have received files of San Francisco papers to the 5th March.—They contain intelligence of considerable interest. The Legislature had been engaged in ineffectual attempts to elect a U. S. Senator. The *Alta California* says:

"After one hundred and forty-two ballotings, the Joint Convention adjourned till the 1st of January next. So California will have but one Senator in Congress next session until the next Legislature shall have met and elect one. On the first ballot the vote stood, for Fremont 8, King 18, Heydenfelt 16, Geary 4, Weller 4, Collier 2. Necessary for a choice 25. On the hundredth ballot, Fremont 13, King 18, Heydenfelt 15, Geary 4. On the last ballot Fremont had 9, King 20, Weller 18, Geary 1."

The wet season was nearly over over, although but little rain had fallen.

In mining, according to the *Alta California*, the summary is not very exhilirating. The great scarcity of water had been a sore disappointment. The great rush for two months had been for the Trinidad, Klamath and Scott's rivers. We add the following from the same paper:

Steam communication along our entire coast is on the increase. From the Columbia river to San Diego, the means of communication are quite plenful. We are hoping for steam communication with China soon, and are looking with exquisite attention to the motions of Congress in this respect.

We have had of late two destructive fires in this city, both probably the work of incendiaries. The first, which burned the steamers Santa Clara and Hartford, may have been accidental, but the other, which destroyed several houses on Monday night, could not have been. The city seems almost at the mercy of ruffians and robbers.

The cities of San Francisco and Sacramento had been the theatre of popular commotion which, in the latter, had terminated by a bold exercise of ruthless Lynch law. In San Francisco, it appears that two men named Stewart and Wildred, entered the store of Mr. Jansoon under the pretence of purchasing blankets, and seizing him in an unguarded moment, beat him so terribly that his recovery is considered doubtful. The presumed criminals were arrested, taken before Mr. Janson and identified by him, though not fully and satisfactorily. The officers of justice interfered with the populace, and sought to obtain possession of the prisoners with a view of handing them over to the law; but the people were too exasperated to wait for the tardy process of the tribunals, and determined to try them forthwith. A jury was empanelled, and counsel appointed to prosecute and defend. The San Francisco papers are filled with details of the affair. After much argument on both sides, the case was submitted to the jury. After being out about an hour, the jury came into court and said they could not agree, and there was no possibility of their agreeing; and they therefore asked to be discharged.

Another storm arose now—Judge Spence seeing that the jury had well and faithfully performed their duty, having calmly listened to the testimony, and deliberated upon it, and were entitled to be discharged; and the meeting demanding, some that the jury should be polled, some that a new jury should be impanelled, and some that the meeting should hang the men at once. The vociferations of "Poll the Jury!" "Hang the Jury!" were the most prevalent; and in reply to them,

Judge Spence said that the jury had not agreed to be polled when they agreed to serve; and addressing the court, and in his province, he discharged the jury.

The jury were, however, still prisoners in their box, and the cries of "Poll the Jury!" "How did the Jury stand?" were so vociferous that one of the jurors finally stood up, and said, the jury stood—9 for conviction, and 3 for acquittal; that one of the jury had continued doubts as to the identity of the prisoner, or three would have been a unanimous verdict of guilty. This statement was received with cheers, and some cries for another jury, and to hang the prisoner; and in the midst of considerable confusion, the question was put to the meeting, whether the jury should be discharged, which was agreed to. Then the meeting voted also to discharge the court.

The excitement had not fully subsided at the last accounts, and the turbulent spirits amongst the populace were still at work, endeavoring to persuade the mob to seize the prisoners and hang them, in spite of judge and jury.

At Sacramento, Lynch law, in all its tremendous terrors, and frightful promptitude, was applied to a man by the name of Frederick Roe,—a gambler. The circumstances of this tragical occurrence are briefly these:

From the statements made before the jury of committee of twelve selected by the people, it appears that on Tuesday, about 2 P. M., a young man, a mir or, was in the "Mansion House," at Kelsey's saloon, gaming bell, corner of J. and Front streets. He was looking on at a monte table, when the dealer asked him to play. He declined, and Frederick J. Roe, a gambler, called upon him to play. Some words ensued, and Roe struck the miner in the face.

A fight was the result, in which Roe was worsted, when he was joined by several of his fellow gamblers and they all together fell upon the miner, Mr. Chas. H. Myers, a blacksmith, passing by at the moment, interfered on behalf of the miner, and cried, "fair play, don't four of you get on one man!" He struck no one however, but succeeded in drawing off Roe, who thereupon drew his pistol a Colt's revolver, and turned upon Mr. Myers, with "what the h—ll have you got to do with it?" Myers was running away, when Roe fired and shot him through the head near the ear, the ball lodging in the back part of the head. Myers lingered about four hours and died at six o'clock. It appeared from the statements of Roe's witnesses that he had been on a "bust" the night previous, and had been drinking just before the affray.

Roe was arrested and locked up by the city Marshal. The people as embled wazed indignant, and resolved to investigate the affair in a summary manner. A jury was selected, witnesses examined, and after a long examination, the verdict of guilty was rendered against Roe. The excitement now became uncontrollable, the crowd shouted "hang him," and rushed towards the jail—an awning post was used as a battering ram, and the door of the prison forced open, the wretched man seized and hurried along to the place of execution. The Sacramento *Transcript* winds up its narrative as follows:

It was half-past 9 o'clock at night and quite dark when the crowd with the doomed man reached the place of execution.

The prisoner gave his name as Frederick J. Roe, and was twenty years of age. He was born in England, where his mother and sisters now reside. His features were regular, though care-worn, and he seemed entirely prostrated.

A scaffolding erected under one of the trees was occupied by the prisoner, Mr. Rightmire, a clergyman, (Rev. Mr. Briggs) who had been invited, and several others.

A rope was provided, and the prisoner furnished with a glass of water.

He stated, through the Rev. Mr. Briggs, that he had done the deed in a moment of passion, and had nothing to say for himself.

A rope was thrown over a limb, a handkerchief placed over the prisoner's head, his hands and feet tied, and the rope adjusted. The crowd to witness the solemn scene did not number less than five thousand.

Everything was conducted in an orderly manner, and after the duties of the clergyman were over, the prisoner was launched into eternity, amid a profound silence which pervaded the vast multitude. He was lifted from the platform, and as he was let off, while the rope was drawing up, he uttered a groad, and said, "Lord, have mercy on my soul." After a struggle, he hung quietly. When fifteen or twenty minutes had escaped, he was lowered and delivered to his friends, who took him to the Mansion House and endeavored to restore him, but, as we learn, without avail.

In Stockton, Napier, Martinez, and various other points about the mines, summary trials under Lynch law had been held. Of these cases, the *Alta California* observes:

"It will be difficult for people in the Eastern States to fully realize our condition here. They will, therefore, probably condemn by wholesishing for a speed tribunal of arraigning and punishing for a most heinous offence. But they should recollect that of late our larger towns have been more like a penal settlement without penal laws than a civilized community.—We have here the scum of all other houses of Europe and Australia, regularly formed gangs of desperadoes, who would as readily burn the city and massacre as eat. So well drilled are all, that it is next to impossible to deserve, or, if arrested, to prove anything against them.—Lynch law is not the best law that might be, but it is better than none, and so far as benefit is derived from it here, we have no other here."

A destructive fire took place at San Francisco on the 3d ultimo. Two steamers, the Santa Clara and the Hartford, were nearly entirely burned. The loss is estimated at $54,000. The Santa Clara belonged to G. W. Aspinwall, J. F. Kennedy, and Beverly C. Saunders, and was not insured. Five of her crew were missing; the remains of two were discovered on board the next day. Both steamers were employed in the river navigation, and were fine boats.

Another fire broke out at San Francisco on the morning of the 4th ultimo, in an uncouspled frame building on Sansome street, at the intersection of Bryant Place. It spread rapidly, the wind blowing fresh from the southwest at the time, and consumed more than a dozen of the surrounding houses, which were small and extremely combustible. The Howland House, Shamrock House, Museum Hotel, New Bedford Coffeehouse, were the principal establishments consumed. The loss will probably be covered by $12,000.

Business in California yet remained extremely depressed, the previous symptoms of reaction having subsided. Very goods alone have there been a slight revival manifested.

PANAMA.

We have Panama papers to the 25th ult. Our readers doubtless remember the account of the murder of a number of persons who were crossing the Isthmus, by some of the natives. It appears that three of the murderers have been arrested, tried, and condemned to be shot. They were conducted by those who arrested them to the place where lay the ghastly remains of their victims, and there they confessed the deed.

They stated, says the *Star*, that they were coming up the river—in the boat were six passengers, all men—the night was very dark and it was late; they had premeditated the murder and commenced the work of slaughter while the men were asleep in the bottom of the boat. At the first blow of the oar it broke in two; they succeeded in wounding two men, whose bodies, half dead, they threw overboard; two others, awaking at the noise of the conflict, sprang overboard and waded ashore, where they were followed and killed. The men were the two bodies before us! The remaining two men were killed in the boat—one with a broken piece of the oar, and the other with a machete, or long knife.

This completed the terrible work of destruction. The boat was then taken down to the Trinidad river, where the tool-chest, that fatal, heavy chest, which weight led to the suspicion that it contained money, and sharpened the hellish appetite of the fiends to the commission of the murders, was carried to the shore and broken open. Judge of their astonishment and disappointment at finding carpenter's and turners tools instead of gold! Was it for this that six innocent and unoffending men were thus torn from life, inhumanly butchered in cold blood, at the hour of midnight, while dreaming of their far-off homes and the dear ones of their hearts, to whom but a few days or a few weeks before, they had bid adieu? Ah! what could be the feelings of these monsters in human shape, at this moment of terrible disappointment!

The fourth murderer has escaped, and is probably gone to Porto Bello. As an accurate description has been sent to the authorities, there is little doubt he will be arrested, and will share the fate of his fellows.

The *Star* gives an account of the adventures of a party of Americans who left Panama some time since for the purpose of visiting and making an examination of the gold mines near Buenaventura. Owing to a scant of provisions and the difficulties to be overcome in pursuing their inquiries in a strange country, full of suspicious and jealous people, and also in consequence of the illness of some of the party, unfitting them for duty, the enterprise was abandoned, and they returned home. Sufficient was learned by them, however, whilst at Buenaventura, to satisfy the most incredulous that there is plenty of gold in the country, quantities of which they saw in the possession of the natives and Indians.

Thirty buildings in the town of Taboga, near Panama, were consumed by fire on the 22d ult. The loss is estimated at $30,000.

Oregon.—By way of San Francisco late intelligence from Oregon has been received, but the advices are destitute of interest. Judge Lancaster has been announced as a candidate for Congress, in opposition to the late delegate, Mr. Thurston.

Chili.—News from Valparaiso to the 25th December has been received at San Francisco. On the 15th, a large number of houses in Valparaiso were destroyed by fire, involving a loss of $200,000.

We are indebted for the following list of passengers to Purser Fairchild, of the *Ohio*.

Passengers from Havana—Gen. Henry Clay and event, Dest. Wet Mercer and servant, Miss Mercer and servant, Miss Cammack and servant, Mrs Robinson, Miss Robinson, Miss Robinson; Geo W Thatcher, Lady, children and servant; Mr Fort and Lady, F Duncan; A J Freeden; D James, R H Lowe; A H Holcomb, D C Gomez; J de Cordova; M Bennette; C J Eslinc; D L Rankit; L Hanson; P Tucena; Ralph Langwit, G Chaunt, T B Hulsey, A Miller; M A Bonneau, E W Clark; James Montgomery; Saml Hutchinson; Stephen Hotchkiss; M J Callaghan; F Bowen; E Lallan; J Fitzwilliams; M Criscold; J W White; Saml J W Spring; W E Carmichael; Lady; Jayne Baulind; Francisco de Cestan, Lady and servant; Canisser Le Compte; Domingo Lobad; J M Lanier D D Cook; Mrs Richards; Mrs Cassidy and Daughter; H Palmer, Lady and family; H Burton, Children and servan.; Mrs Kirtland, Children and servant; M Rank and family; D Baker; P Sweeney; A Nichold; J A Woolford, David Eller, G Eschman; A Hill; Thos Brown; James Brooks and Lady, Frazer; Allen; Jas Sperry; Jas Spenlen; H W Morris; N Hopson; D B Russeto; W E Williams; W K Hill, Thos Hark; J G Walker; Thos McMillen; Sol Bell; Wm Borney; G Hancock; J Leach; N C Cannon; C F Cameron; G W Sheets; Jas Dean; Jas Williams; J Cohen; W A Ward; Wm Stebbens; A Caspe; J H Hutchinson; R Hanson; J Hord; N Martin; J L Martin; J West; J B Brinn; J Hanna; W Hickerman; F Taylor; E Leahey; C Tasher; H Chandler and son; A Elliott; J E Fox; Jas; C R Guillard; Chas Shell; F Curson; W H Allen; Thos Kicker; Jno Hankey; Capt J Williams; P Gannite; C H Cox; Chas Williams; Geo Wood; Wm man; J W Lawson; J R Mosley; Jas Nattle; F Rowley; P McPrey; J Salsbury; F Barks; J C Benich; Jno Wolcott; Simon Benbery; J Murg; J Wm Jarvis; Jno G Patterson; Wm G McKalvey; Peter Morgan; J Chambas; Major Chas Ogden; R C Williams Philip Scote; A R James; Wm Fisher; J Rice; Geo Crooney; J Lindsay; Mrs New combe and family; Lewis Krauff.

☞ The Resolutions of the House of Delegates of Virginia, on the subject of the Compromise measures, which we published, passed the Senate of that State on Thursday by a nearly unanimous vote, (as was the case in the House,) after having been modified to read "unwarrantable interference of certain non-slave holding States," and by striking out the part excepting Vermont from the States to which their resolutions are to be sent.

Pittsburgh, Friday, March 28.

A gang of counterfeiters have been arrested with a large quantity of implements and Bogus money.

Col. Benton passed through here yesterday. He is to address the St. Louis Democracy on Wednesday.

Spiritual Knockings have been manifested in half a dozen places in this neighborhood.

New York, March 28.

The British ship Infanta, from Liverpool, is ashore on Long Island. The steamers Prometheus and Falcon sailed for Chagres this afternoon, and the Hermann, for Southampton, sails to-morrow.

The Governor has made a requisition upon the Governor of New Jersey, for Wilkes, the fugitive. The Governor of New Jersey intimated that he will deliver his decision in a brief space of time.

James Nolan, a waiter on board the steamship Arctic, was arrested last evening for taking up a letter at the Postoffice, yesterday, belonging to William Leary, containing drafts for $2,506, which Nolan got cashed. The prisoner had been identified by the Postoffice clerk, but the money has not been found.

Frankfort, March 28.

Kentucky Emancipation Convention.—The State Emancipation Convention of Kentucky, called by Cassius M. Clay, Marshall, and others, is a dead failure. It will not be held. The object of the Convention was to nominate emancipation candidates for Governor and State officers, and to organize an anti-slavery party in the State.

The Silver Mines of Venezuela.—We understand that a company has been formed in this city, with a large capital, for the purpose of working the silver mines of Venezuela. A project is also on to foot establish a Bank at Caracas, with a capital of a million and a half of dollars.—*Philadelphia American.*

The Horrid Affair at Pittsburg.—We published a statement a few days since of a mother, at Pittsburg, having recently received from her daughter a mortal blow with a poker. The facts are melancholy enough, but no quite so bad as that. The Pittsburg *American* says:

Some of the children were quarreling in a room—the daughter was parting or reproving them, and had the poker in her hand, when the mother came in, and, reprimanding the children, took the poker from the daughter, and turning round, and in something of a ruffled and excited state of mind, stumbled and fell, the poker entering her side, penetrating between three and four inches. She died almost immediately. The unfortunate sufferer was Mrs. Riddle, the wife of Squire Riddle, of Robinson township—one among the most worthy and respectable families in the country.

The Vagrant Act.

At the request of Recorder Caldwell we republish the following opinion, which was delivered on Monday, the 11th day of November last, in the First District Court, by Judge Lazne, on the application of John Clayton to be discharged from custody:

The prisoner, John Clayton, has been committed to the Parish Prison by the Recorder of the Second Municipality, on the charge that he "is a vagrant, following no honest occupation to gain a living, and unable to produce credible testimony of his good character," until he finds bail in the sum of five hundred dollars for his appearance before the First District Court, or until he be discharged by due course of law.

He asks for his discharge for the following reasons:—

That said commitment is illegal, and all proceedings under it, on the following grounds:

1. That it does not allege in what manner it was proved he was a vagrant.

2. That the commitment is deficient in form and substance, and not such a one as the law authorizes.

3. That the late law, organizing the Mayor and Recorder's Court of New Orleans was intended to give jurisdiction alone to that Court, and the case should have been sent there.

4. That the whole proceedings, under which he is detained, are defective and contrary to law.

The last ground is a very broad one, and involves the whole question of the law punishing vagrancy, and, therefore, it may as well be examined first.

The vagrant law, like many other portions of our penal statutes, must be traced through many differ-ent, and not always consistent enactments, in order to find out what it really is; and as some of these enactments are contrary to portions of the constitution of the State, it has been rather hastily concluded that all existing laws punishing vagrancy are unconstitutional. This, in my opinion, is a mistake. That society has a right to protect itself against the idle and worthless, no reasonable man can doubt. That it may punish those who, being able to work, and possessing no means of honest livelihood, lead designedly an idle and vagrant life, is evident, for such persons must obtain their means of livelihood by the wrongful appropriation of the property of others, either by swindling or pilfering, or by imposing upon public or individual charity, and according to themselves those gratuities which are only useful when conferred upon the unfortunately disabled and honest poor.

The State, and particularly this city, receives every winter a large accession of these criminally idle persons—of men who can and will not work—who have no means of livelihood, and who, if left to remain here and run at large, are almost certain to endanger the lives and property of our citizens, encumber our jails and fill our penitentiary. It has been deemed better to check the evil in its bud then to wait for its blossoming—to prevent the commission of great crimes, than to punish them after they were committed. It was, therefore, an object from the earliest organization of the Territory to remove from our limits or to confine those who were most likely to be guilty of offenses. Hence the vagrant laws.

In 1805 the Territorial Legislature passed "An act on vagabonds and suspicious persons," approved of that act define vagabondage or vagrancy, (for the words are used indiscriminately throughout,) fixed its punishment and directed the mode of trial. The following are the sections:

"1. That all persons being able to work, and having neither profession nor trade, nor any dwelling place, nor any property wherewith to maintain themselves, shall live idle without pursuing some honest occupation to procure them the means of subsistence; shall be found loitering about, gaming houses or other disorderly places, and are not able to show what means or ways they possess to subsist upon, not to produce credible testimony of their good conduct and morals; and also those who beg in the streets or elsewhere under the pretension that effect, shall be deemed idle and disorderly persons; and such as will be in any of the above cases, shall, upon conviction, be condemned to give security for their good behavior during twelve months, to the satisfaction of the justice of the peace before whom they shall be convicted or denounced; which security shall be of such sum as and justice will deem proper to fix; and in case of default or impossibility on their part to give the said security, the said justice of the peace shall, at discretion, condemn them to be committed to the house of correction, to be there kept at hard labor until they give the said security, or for a term not exceeding one month.

"2. All the o e who shall be found wandering abroad at night, or who lodge and sleep in grog shops or other suspicious places, in out houses or in the open air, and who shall not be able to give an account of themselves and their occupation, or be known or proved to be persons of ill fame and suspected of evil practices, or other, [illegible] shall be deemed vagrants, and shall be punished as in the preceding section."

This illiterate philosopher has given a relation of the fears of Indians upon their going each year to gather the plant from which they make the poison, in the forests of Java. He also minutely describes the method of extracting the curare, and the singular effects of this poison, which may be taken into the stomach with impunity, while introduced by a puncture under the skin it causes almost immediate death. Birds have since been given by travellers, but much doubt and uncertainty still rest upon the subject. The recent experiments of a learned Frenchman go far to confirm the new related of the poison at the same time, that they appear to complete its history.

Upon injecting a liquid solution of curare into the veins of an animal, death ensues instantaneously, without the animal uttering a cry, or manifesting any [illegible] of convulsive agitation. If the poison be introduced under the skin, its effects manifest themselves more slowly; but death invariably follows, with similar and very singular symptoms. The animal Eyes not to feel the wound; a bird will fly its nest, but at the end of a few seconds it falls dead without uttering a cry, or giving the least sign of suffering. A rabbit, a dog, and a cat will go and come, after the infliction of the fatal puncture, in a rational manner, but it soon appears languid, and lies down as if to sleep. Then respiration ceases, the heart stops, and life disappears, and it dies without a struggle.

In general, when life ceases, suddenly, the nerves retain for some time the power of reaction under the influence of galvanic and other chemical stimulants. If a nerve of motion be excited, convulsions supervene in the corresponding muscles; if the skin be pinched, certain special movements are made. After death by curare, none of the phenomena of reaction are seen; there is a complete annihilation of all the properties of the nervous system. The nerves of the heart, which have ceased to feel the stimulus of age are as inert as those of one that has been cold and stiff. The blood is completely black, and so much altered that it coagulates with difficulty.

Maladies of the Imagination.—We copy from the Mobile *Tribune* the two following cases of singular mental delusion:

Dr. Williams is at this time treating a case, which he says is nothing more than an illusion of the mind. The patient is a lady who is somewhat advanced in years, and positively asserts that she has swallowed a pin, and it has lodged somewhere in her throat. Under this belief she refuses to receive food or nourishment, saying that it is impossible for her to swallow. Previous to the time when she said she had swallowed it, about three weeks ago, she was a woman of stout constitution and robust habit, but has now dwindled almost to a complete skeleton, and was yesterday lying without the power to speak.

Her throat has been several times examined, not only by Dr. Williams, but other physicians, and they all agree in the opinion that there is no pin there. There is a complete absence of inflammation, no redness, no swelling, or internally as far as can be seen, and she does not complain of pain from a pressure of the parts. Yet she first two days after this idea became fixed in her mind, partook of her meals as usual, but since that time has refused any nourishment whatever. There is an absence of fever, and the pulse is slow and easy.

The doctor had just been repeatedly that there was no pin in her throat, and that he could do nothing for her, she continued to rend for him. He thought of a plan at last by which he succeeded in a very strange fancy. He he takes with him several surgeons, and pretending providing himself with a rusty pin which he crooked for the purpose. He inserted in her throat, and pretended to remove one or more of these instruments, having a bottle of pins, and, at his last and greatest effort, pretended to draw out the very pin which had given her so much pain and trouble, and produced it in his hand. This satisfied the lady that the pin was there, and thanked the doctor with the warmest expressions for the preservation of her life. In a few hours her imagination was again at work, and she positively declared that there is another one there, and under that belief she is now in a state from debility, and unless this phantom is in some way removed from her mind, she will probably die within a few days.

Dr. Williams speaks of another case of the same character, which fell under his observation, going to prove that the mind can be so deadened, and without the control of will, as to receive and fix such an illusion—and that it is an illusion only. About four weeks since a man came rushing into his office in a state of the most complete exhaustion, his body half bent forward, his eyeballs fairly projecting from his head, his tongue hanging out of his mouth, from which issued froth and foam. As soon as he had sufficiently recovered himself, he said that he had swallowed a pin and that it was then crosswise in his throat and wished to know if it would kill him. The Doctor immediately commenced an examination, but was unable to discover the pin. He told the sufferer that there was no pin there, but he insisted on it, and said that it was there, for he felt it sticking him and the pain he suffered was most excruciating. His question, "if it would kill him," was again repeated to which the doctor answered in the negative, and it was then that instant relief seemed to take place. He drew several long breaths, made a swallow or two to satisfy himself that it was really gone, placed his chest and stomach as if the obstruction had parred down to where it could cause no pain, became calm and composed and has not complained of it since. He said that he thought it would kill him, and hastened to a physician to get it taken out.

City Intelligence.

Orleans Theatre.—The beautiful opera of "La Favorite" will be performed to-morrow evening, and on Thursday, we understand "The Prophet" is to be brought out.

Placide Varieties.—Another attractive bill tonight at this popular establishment. See advertisement.

The Ravels.—These astonishing artists continue to attract crowded audiences every night at the St. Charles. Their performances are truly surprising.

Murder.—An altercation took place on Friday evening in Dryades street, between Thomas Brady *alias* Tom Brady, and John Baker, which led to the death of the latter. The quarrel arose out of a debt, the settlement of which was urged by Baker, and in the course of the dispute the latter was cut across the abdomen. The wound was so severe that his entrails protruded, and in this state he was conveyed to the Hospital, where he lingered until Saturday evening, when death put an end to his sufferings. Brady has not yet been arrested.

Another Murder.—A quarrel occurred on Saturday evening, between two omnibus drivers, at the corner of Daneel and Camp street, which resulted in the death of one named Boyal. How the dispute arose, we are unable to state; but after some harsh words, Boyal was stabbed by one Tony in the neck, and died a few minutes afterwards. Tony then mounted his omnibus box and drove off.

Adams's & Co's California Express.—ADAMS & CO., will forward an Express to California by the steamship ALABAMA, to leave for Chagres on Tuesday, the 8th inst.

This Express crosses the Isthmus in charge of a messenger employed for that purpose, and is immediately shipped on board the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's steamer at Panama, in virtue of peculiar facilities granted us by that line, thereby enabling us at all times to transport with mail speed every description of merchandise committed to our hands.

Packages should be put in water-proof order, and not exceed 125 lbs. in weight, or 5 cubic feet in measurement.

☞ Bills of Exchange greatly reduced.

☞ Insurance for any amount when desired.

ADAMS & CO., 76 Camp st.

CANDIDATES.

Council First Municipality.

First Ward. PAUL PEQUIGNOT.
RICHARD HAGAN.
F. A. LUMSDEN.
C. M. EMERSON.

Second Ward. W. M. FLEMING.
R. RICHARDSON.

Third Ward. JOSEPH LANATA.
JULES BENIT.
M. F. MAXENT.

Fourth Ward. J. L. FABRE.
H. L. FRIRE.
PAULIN BLANQUE.
J. A. NAUTRE.

Fifth Ward. GEO. CLARK.
CLEMENT RAMOS.
F. M. CROZAT.

Sixth Ward. E. GIQUEL.
A. DERRES.
J. A. BONNEVAL.

Sev'th Ward. ANTHONY FERNANDEZ.
E. BARTHE.
VICTOR LERNIT.
Ch. JUMONVILLE.

☞ We are requested to announce Dr. H. TRICOU, as a candidate for Alderman of the Sixth Ward, First Municipality, and also to state that it is through error that he is represented in the posted up placards as runing for the Fourth Ward.

COMMERCIAL.

The Markets.

Saturday Evening, April 5, 1851.

The demand for Cotton to-day was limited, and the sales did not exceed 1500 Bales. We quote Middling to good Middling 10¾ @ 11⅜. ✱ lb.

Only 300 hhds. Sugar were sold to-day at former prices. Pair 4⅜ @ 5¼c. In Molasses there were a few transactions at 30 @ 32c. ✱ gallon for rectified.

A made up business was done in Flour, and prices were the same, say from $4 05 @ $4 18¾ for Ohio. About 9500 sacks Corn were sold at 50 @ 56c. ✱ bushel.

Provisions are firm. Mess Pork is selling at $13 7½ @ $14 00. Bacon Sides are in fair request at 5¼ @ 5¾c.; and Shoulders at 5¾ @ 6c. ✱ lb.

Whiskey is dull at 18¾c. ✱ gallon for rectified.

Exchange are somewhat dull. We quote Sterling, 109½@110¾. Paris 5f. 15 @ 5f. 07½. Bills on New York at 60 days, ¼ @ 1 ✱ cent discount. Checks, ¼ @ 1 ✱ cent premium.

Freights remaining dull.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Placide Varieties.

MRS. C. HOWARD
Respectfully begs leave to inform her friends and the public that her
BENEFIT
will take place on WEDNESDAY EVENING next, 9th April, 1851, when she treats the entertainments selected for the occasion will meet with their entire approval.
☞ Box-sheet now open. ap7

Notice to Mariners.
Quarter Horse, New Orleans,
Collectors Office, April 4, 1851.
THE light ship Pleasanton, will be removed from her present mooring this the next ten days to a point about ten miles W. by S. of her present position. As soon as she is moored her exact bearing will be published. WM. PERRY,
ap5 10t Collector.

NOTICE.—If Hodson Gibbons and John Kirly, passengers, of ship Blanche, from Liverpool, will call at my office, No. 118 Common street it will be for their advantage. WM. MURE,
mr31 H. B. M. Consul.

New Orleans and Jackson, Miss. Rail Road.
IN accordance with a Resolution of the Joint Internal Improvement Committee of New Orleans and Lafayette—Notice is hereby given that the Convention of the friends of the proposed Rail Road from New Orleans to Jackson, Miss., will be held in the City of New Orleans, on the 3d WEDNESDAY, (16th) in April next.
The surveys of the route from New Orleans by the Coast and West of Lake Maurepas, to the State Line, having been completed. The report with the surveys of the Engineer, will be submitted to the Convention.
It is hoped that Delegates to said Convention will be generally appointed, and will attend.
GEORGE CLARK, 1st M'y.
C. D. VANCEY, 2d M'y.
G. HOOPER 3d M'y.
F. N. WOOD, Lafayette
City of Arrangements.
Office Agent, Sun Mutual Ins. Co
New Orleans, March 19th, 1851.
THE SCRIP for 1830, is ready for delivery.
mr20 L. MATTHEWS, Agent.

A BOISSIERE—At the office of the French Consulate, Agent for the Marine Insurance of Lloyds and Paris, and for the amicable settlement of
mr30 1m risks

☞ The bark ADLER, arrived from Bordeaux, is discharging in the Public Levee. The Consignees are requested to take the permits of their goods on the Levee. If said permits are not returned within a delay of five days, their goods will be sent to the public stores at the risk and expense of the consignees. G. M. LUGAS,
ap5 30 Bienville st.

☞ Neither the Captain nor Consignee of the bark ADLER, from Lubeck, will be responsible for any debts contracted by the crew of said ship.
a3 8t G. M. LUGAS, 30 Bienville st.

Dissolution of Partnership.
THE partnership heretofore existing in Paris and in New Orleans, under the firm of LOMAS & FRONS, is dissolved by mutual consent, on the 31st December