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The New Orleans Bee

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THE DAILY BEE.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE STATE, GENERAL COUNCIL, FIRST MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL, AND BOARD OF LIQUIDATORS.

Tuesday Morning, Jan. 6, 1852.

THE NORTHERN MAIL failed yesterday from beyond Charleston. Several of the back mails came through.

THE WEATHER has grown winterish again, but its clearness and beauty compensate for its coldness

We are indebted to the Hon Louis St Martin for a copy of the report of the Patent Office.

THE APPROACHING SESSION.

The Legislature of Louisiana will assemble at Baton Rouge on Monday week. Probably since the admission of the State into the Union, the General Assembly has never had more important business to transact than will devolve upon it at the coming session. Unfortunately, the term of its labors is restricted by the Constitution to a period entirely too brief for the adequate fulfillment of all its duties. Much will have to be hurried through with unavoidable expedition—a large amount of merely local legislation will have to be shuffled to a more propitious time. The many momentous questions connected with the vital progress and prosperity of the State, with her existence as a flourishing commonwealth with the preservation of her commerce, the development of her resources a the improvement of her facilities, will necessarily occupy the almost exclusive attention of the members. The consideration of railroads and other internal improvements, of amendments required in the Constitution, to render it any thing else than a startling point of a homestead exemption, of the laws concerning tax sales mortgages and community, suggests the propriety of forming a new constitution, opens in itself a field for discussion, investigation and argument that would not unreasonably consume the entire sixty days allotted to session.

Other questions of a less fundamental character inevitably crop up. The paramount interests of the State are first to be consulted, and its most important necessities supplied, ere the usual minutiæ of petty legislation and private influence can be begun. With so much before it, indolence and procrastination are not to be tolerated. The members must be punctually in their posts. Every Senator and Representative ought to be present at the opening of the session. The custom any relaxation of the first week or two should be sacrificed to the stern council duty. The session has not been unanticipated, and will not be protracted beyond the time necessary to be occupied. Whatever is to be done to be accomplished, must be commenced at once, and be steadily pursued to its completion within the constitutional term, or it will be inevitably thrown into the chaotic limbo of the multitudinous measures which will be dormant for the whole year.

We do not doubt that the members of the Legislature will be fully impressed with the extraordinary responsibilities of their position, and that they will exert their best energies to meet the exigencies of the occasion. We have every confidence that they will be equal to the emergency, and that they will receive the approbation of their constituents. In the discharge of their duties they have a glorious example before them. Let them achieve results only like those which have distinguished the statesmanship of their predecessors, and they will have the gratitude and respect of their constituents. In the highest guerdon of a public servant: the confidence of the people

CONGRESS

In the SENATE on the 26th ult., no quorum being present, Mr Mangum moved an adjournment till the 29th.

The Chair ruled that less than a quorum could not adjourn but from day to day.

And then at near one o'clock, the Senate adjourned.

In the HOUSE the Journal, having been read, the Speaker laid before the House a communication he had received from the Librarian, informing him of the destruction of the Congressional Library, by means that are unaccountable, as neither fires nor lights are permitted within its walls, in consequence of which at least 20,000 books have been destroyed, with a great number of paintings, engravings, models, &c., of great value.

He further stated, that the 20,000 books, which were in the adjoining rooms, have been saved, among which are the library of the late President JEFFERSON, and various valuable works on the arts, sciences, natural history, &c., and concluded with the expression of a hope, that a thorough and searching inquiry will be instituted into the cause of the disastrous occurrence; and that means may be adopted to prevent the recurrence of a similar national calamity.

Mr. Stanton, of Ky., chairman of the committee on buildings and public grounds, moved a joint resolution requiring that committee to investigate, and report the best means of ascertaining whether the destruction of the library was caused by negligence, any defect in the flues by which it was warmed, or whether it was the work of an incendiary, and authorizing them to send for persons and to examine them on oath.

A motion to substitute a select committee failed, and the joint resolution was unanimously passed.

Mr. HALL, of Mexico, submitted a resolution requiring such information as it may be proper to communicate relative to the seizure of the brig *Eagle*, of Salem, of the port of Bristol, and the imprisonment of the captain and crew in the city of Mexico, which was agreed to.

Mr. STANTON, in pursuance of a communication from the Commissioner of Public Build ngs, reported back the resolution heretofore adopted to meet the expenses attending the funeral obsequies of the late President, and that the balance remaining in the hands of the Sergeant-at-Arms be appropriated for the security of that part of the building that is at present exposed, which was agreed to.

Mr. CLINGMAN, of N. C., introduced a joint resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to the officers and crew of the U. S. ship Jamestown and the British brig of war Plumper, for the humane and generous conduct displayed by them in the case of the wreck of the Governor Raymond, and the preservation of the passengers and crew, which was agreed to.

Mr. CLINGMAN, from the committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of Lieut. Commanding Thomas A. Dornin, which was read twice and committed.

Mr. CLINGMAN, from the same committee, reported a bill for the relief of Lieut. Commanding Charles H. Bell, which was read twice and committed.

Mr. CLINGMAN, from the same committee