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The New Orleans Bee.

NEW ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 23, 1854.

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THE DAILY BEE.

Monday Morning, Jan. 23, 1854.

THE NORTHERN MAIL failed yesterday from beyond Montgomery.

THE APPORTIONMENT.

The letter of our attentive correspondent at Baton Rouge will give the reader an insight into the manner in which the dominant party propose to cut and carve the Legislative Districts, so as to secure within all reasonable probability, and until the next apportionment, a clear majority. We presume it will be of little avail to remonstrate against this outrageous Gerrymander. Within the last few years party politicians have abandoned even the semblance or the pretext of fairness in such matters. With few exceptions, the practice now is for the party temporarily in power to act with a direct view to the prolongation of their ascendancy, and with utter contempt for those considerations of contiguity of territory and community of feeling upon which Legislative apportionments should of right be based. A signal example of this infectious determination to retain power at all hazards, was given in the formation of Congressional Districts last year, when in open violation of the act of Congress requiring the Districts to contain as nearly as possible an equal population, one District was established with 20,000 less than the ratio of federal numbers, and another with 30,000 more. If the Senatorial apportionment contemplated be carried into effect, the Democratic party will have just three-fourths of the Senators. The Whigs will, under no circumstances, be able to elect more than ten out of the thirty-two, could not hope to obtain half the Senate, unless they succeeded in electing the entire delegation from the city.

We regard these efforts to oppress and outrage the minority as flagrantly injurious, let them be made by any party they may; but there is one source of consolation in the knowledge that however grossly wrong these Gerrymanders are in intention, they often injure the faction for whose benefit they are perpetrated. In a State like Louisiana, scarcely half settled, the character of the population is continually undergoing change, and as new neighborhoods spring up, and sparsely settled localities become fully occupied, it often happens that the parish which was democratic for many years gradually becomes whig, and *vice versa*. Thus, for instance, St. Charles, ten or twelve years ago was strongly democratic and is now thoroughly whig. Caddo was once hopelessly democrat, and now the whole county is a whig county. Three times out of four, Sabine gave Mr. Polk a hundred and fifty majority and is now one of the closest and most doubtful parishes in the State. Assumption was at one time incontestably democratic then decidedly whig, and now seems inclined to return to her first love. It would not surprise us, were similar changes to occur in many of the Districts now constituted for the express purpose of returning democrats. In such an event, our locofoco brethren might find themselves in the position of the engineer who was hoisted by his own petard.

We feel hopeless however, we trust that the whig minority in the Legislature will lose no opportunity of exposing the signal inequality and injustice of the proposed law. Though its passage may be a foregone conclusion, yet its character, its objects and its consequences be fully and fearlessly exhibited, so that the honest and fair minded among the democracy, for there are yet a few left, may clearly comprehend the spirit and purpose of the act, and may understand the mode in which their representatives construe the mission confided to them by their constituency.

MEXICO.

By the schooner *Kate Fox*, Captain Shiva, we have received papers from Vera Cruz, we have received papers from the capital of Mexico to the 7th instant.

Great rejoicings took place in Guadalajara upon the decree extending the term of office of Santa Annas as president. A solemn mass was chanted in the cathedral, and the city illuminated, and the private buildings of the city were brilliantly illuminated. It will be remembered that the proposition to prorogue the powers of the President, originated in Guadalajara.

Don Manuel, who killed in a duel at Guanajuato his cousin Rocha, after first insulting a young lady to whom the latter was engaged to marry, was brought before the Court of Guadalajara, tried, and sentenced to death, it having been proved in evidence that the duel was fought without seconds, and that Rocha's pistol was unloaded. The Judge was of opinion that there was foul play, and hence the severe sentence passed upon the prisoner.

Brigadier General Jose Antonio Almonte, Minister of Mexico at Washington, was promoted to the rank of Major General, in place of Gen. Lombardino, deceased.

Two ladies, Dona Nieto and Dona Capa, travelling with a gentleman named Munoz, were attacked on the night of the 3rd December, near the town of Chilapa, by a party of robbers, who fired a volley at them. One of the ladies Senoras Capa, was killed, and the other severely wounded. The gentleman escaped unhurt.

Messrs. Huerta, Anton, Gabino, Ortiz, Ramon Guzman, Guillermo Prieto, Miguel Buenostrio, and Morales Pantoja, political exiles, were allowed to return to Mexico, by virtue of the decree of amnesty lately published.

The Supreme Government had bought two steamers to carry the mail to the principal ports of the Pacific.

☞ Thanks to the officers of the steamer *Reindeer* for late Louisville papers.

ELECTION.—Mr. Armitage (W) was on Monday last elected in Lafourche, to fill the vacancy in the representation of that parish occasioned by the death of the late Michel Thibodeaux.

In the parish of Caddo Mr. BLANCHARD (D) has been elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Douglas.

OLD UNION BANK.—An election of twelve Directors for the Old Union Bank will take place at No. 121 Canal street on the 6th prox.

STATE BANK.—The annual election of Directors of the Louisiana State Bank will be held at the banking house on Monday, 6th February next, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M. See advertisement in another column.

PENMANSHIP AND BOOK-KEEPING.—Those who wish to write elegantly or understand Book-keeping, are referred to DOLBEAR'S Academy, 109 Canal street.

GEORGIA U. S. SENATOR.—A despatch from Milledgeville of the 17th inst. says:

No election yet for Senator. Dawson received 95, on third ballot; McDonald, first ballot 78, second ballot 71, third ballot 63. J. E. Ward last ballot 29, and gaining. Balance scattering.

THE BATEMAN TESTIMONIAL.—The St. Charles Theatre was crowded to its utmost capacity on Saturday evening by the friends and admirers of the Misses Bateman, and the performances went off with that enthusiasm which the rare histrionic talent of these gifted children never fails to inspire. At the termination of the piece entitled the Young Couple, Wm. Mark, Esq., as the representative of the friends of the Batemans, handed the gifts from the stage box to Mr. BATEMAN, and expressed the sentiments of the donors in the following note:

NEW ORLEANS, Jan 21, 1854.

On the occasion of the complimentary benefit tendered you by the citizens of New Orleans, prior to your departure for the shores of the Pacific, the undersigned have much pleasure in offering to you, Miss Kate, the accompanying ice service, and to you, Miss Ellen, the silver dressing case, which have been selected by a few of your friends in this city, as a slight though tender testimonial of their admiration for your precocious talents as artists, and esteem for your private character.

Your dramatic growth, so rare even among those of riper years, is so happily blended with the sweet artlessness of childhood as to command the regard of all who witnessed the pleasure of your scenic guidance. On the arrival of the period when you leave the mimic stage, covered with the laurels which you have garnered wherever the English language is understood, and enter upon the real drama of life, we trust the your meridian may fulfil the brightness of its dawn, and that around your own families, in the relaxation of those social virtues, which in riper years promise so fair a fruit, you may point with pride to those testimonials of esteem from your friends in New Orleans.

Wishing you health and every happiness, we subscribe ourselves,

YOUR ADMIRERS AND FRIENDS.

To Misses Kate and Ellen Bateman.

Mr. Bateman responded personally in a few words expressive of his grateful sense of the obligations heaped upon his family by the citizens of New Orleans. The entire affair elicited unbounded applause.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—This is the first night of Gabriel Ravel's Troupe. There will be several dances in which Mlle Zoe, Mlle Franche and Mlle Diaire will make their appearance. These, we are to have the ballet of Rolando, to conclude the simple pantomime of Gudenski, the entertainment will be rich and commands itself to general attention.

VAN AMBURGH'S ROOF OF THE MOSQUITO'S ARK.—Our readers are invited attention. The only wonder than the only and true Hippopotamus, the only and true Rhinoceros, the only and true Elephant Tippo Sultan, Osteo the Elephant, the Lions, Tigers, Leopards, Panthers, Bears, Hyenas, Camels, Dromedaries, Zebras, Antelopes, Deer, Monkeys, Apes, Baboons, Ostriches, Birds, Reptiles, Serpents, Monkey Riders, Tumblers, Jugglers, Clowns, Musicians, Equestrians, Equestriennes, Gymnasts, Acrobats, Ethiopian Serenaders, Ethiopian Delineators, Ethiopian Dancers, Ethiopian Musicians, Ethiopian Tumblers, Ethiopian Jugglers, Ethiopian Clowns, Ethiopian Equestrians, Ethiopian Equestriennes, Ethiopian Gymnasts, Ethiopian