The New Orleans Bee.

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THE NEW ORLEANS DAILY BEE

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Semi-Weekly Edition.

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NEW ORLEANS:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 29, 1869.

TRY GEORGE ALCES' CIGARS.

185.....Rampart Street.....185

Amusements This Evening.

VARIETIES THEATRE—King Rene's Daughter; or, Love and Jealousy.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Miss Eliza Holt and Burlesque Troupe.

ST CHARLES THEATRE—Forty Thieves; or, Sailing Of the Family Jars.

THE DEBATE IN CONGRESS ON THE GEORGIA BILL—THE RADICALS ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR CRIME.

The debate on the new Reconstruction bill for Georgia, in both Houses of Congress, was conducted by the Democratic members in a very spirited manner. Messrs. Thurman of Ohio, Saulsbury and Bayard of Maryland, members of the Senate, denounced the bill with an eloquence and power worthy of the palmiest days of that body. Mr. Cox of New York, Faulkner of Wisconsin, Blair of Kentucky, and Worthington of Indiana, led the attack in the House. And a remarkable fact connected with the discussion was the opposition to the bill of several leading Radicals—among them Messrs. Carpenter of Wisconsin, Conklin of New York, and Bingham of Ohio. The telegraph gave us but a faint idea of the obstinacy of the contest. Senator Carpenter, it will be remembered, was selected by Secretary Stanton, while he was in the War Department, to appear in the Supreme Court in the McCardle case, on the part of the Government. That should have been a sufficient guarantee as to his soundness in the Radical faith, and his readiness to go the whole length of the Radical policy. Senator Conkling has likewise been regarded as one of the three leading men of the party in the State of New York; and Mr. Bingham of Ohio made himself a thorough nuisance as the prosecuting officer of the military commission which tried and sentenced Mrs. Surratt. Those three men are the very last we should have expected to come over to Democrats to defeat a Radical measure of such importance as that debated on the occasion to which we allude.

A still more remarkable circumstance attending the adoption of this wicked measure, against which it was so easy to launch Democratic denunciations, was the boldness with which the Radical leaders justified the action they were about to take. They did not deny the monstrous character of the Bill, nor their bad faith towards Georgia in imposing further peculiar conditions and such conditions, to the admission of Georgia's representatives in Congress, and her final restoration to the Union. They made a clear confession of wrong-doing and made no other defense of their conduct than that the proceeding was a necessary one to secure the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment. This was avowed as the only reason actuating them. Senator Morton, of Indiana, who confessed the bill, seeing the hesitation of some of his colleagues, reproached them for their weakness and cowardice, saying: "If we have done wrong it is too late to talk about it now." Like Macbeth he seemed to think that it would be "as tedious to turn back as go over." He was even ready with an answer for his colleague, Senator Edmunds, who asked, "Why not at once require the military commander to put through the ratification of the amendment?" Said Mr. Morton: "You should have thought of that when you voted for the original Reconstruction bill." The wise answer to which no reply could be made, and none was made. The Republican leaders have never until the present session avowed so openly the unlawful and revolutionary character of their legislation. A further stage in their career has been reached. They now seem to think it unnecessary to cloak their actions. They are now willing to stand up in their true attitude before the country, as new revolutionists, without attempting to disguise their designs.

The leaders of the Democracy in Georgia, if we can judge from the utterances of the press there, will not accept the conditions of the new law. They say, and say reasonably, that a guarantee have we, after having complied with the new terms, the contract will be executed on the part of Congress? "Will it not be better that the Fifteenth Amendment should be ratified under the dictation of the military commander and our negro legislature, than that we should cover ourselves with infamy by taking part in the ratification thus forced upon us, by which the State should be deprived of its direct representation?" Gov Bullock has summoned the Legislature together for the 10th day of January, and it has been suggested, we perceive, that a quorum be prevented by the Democratic members refusing to obey the summons, but at last dates a policy had not been decided upon. An intimation has been made from Washington to the people of Georgia, that if they will meet in convention and agree to rescind the ordinances of secession, and to adopt the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution, the law "to promote their reconstruction" will be repealed. Senator Morton it is announced, avows that the sole object of the law was to secure the adoption of the amendment.

The crime and the motive are thus acknowledged.

FOR NEW YEARS PRESENTS—We advise our readers to give MM. Desbons & Bonne caze's establishment, situated at the corner of St. Peter and Royal streets, as well as the branch house corner of Toulouse and Bourbon streets, a call before purchasing their presents elsewhere. Those gentlemanly, whose popularity in the line of confectionary importers has by some proverbial, have just received direct from Paris a most select choice of fancy boxes, bonbons, etc. Amateurs might only be embarrassed in the selection of the fine articles on exhibition at both places. 5t

The Suez Canal—Congratulatory Letters.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* writes as follows:

Congratulations are beginning to flow in from all sides upon M. de Lesseps, and the telegraph is daily at work. The Empress has sent her most cordial congratulations to the Emperor, and has asked the Prince Imperial to write in his own hand a letter of felicitation. Copies of these messages will undoubtedly reach the *Times* by the next mail. I therefore, pause to anticipate any of them. But I must give a copy of an address drawn up this morning by Gen. Fleury and signed by all the Arabian chiefs now encamped together. The principal signers were all grouped in a photograph by Disderi, but I regret to say that it has not yet been developed. The Arabian's address appeared to me to be couched in the following terms:

To the undersigned, evidence of the United States of America present, the great Republic intends upon the great address which has attended the consummation of the maritime canal across the Isthmus of Suez. The people of the United States are interested in every enterprise which promises the free intercourse of nations and enlarges the commerce of the world. The work which has been completed under your direction is eminently of this character. It removes one of those barriers which, interposed, were said to make supreme of nations. It favors hopes of universal peace. Opening the way to a freer exchange of commercial products, it will increase the wealth and prosperity of mankind, and, beyond this, it unites by closer ties the Eastern and Western hemispheres, which have been so long separated by the isthmus. New impulse will be given to civilization, commerce and enlightened government ought to be promoted thereby. In this aspect we regard it as one of the most important works which in any age has been initiated by individual enterprise, and with a full recognition of which is due to you and those associated with you and a profound respect for the Government which have rendered assistance, we present our congratulations upon its completion, and trust that it may realize all the anticipations which have animated and sustained the Company under whose auspices it has been constructed.

(Signed) N P BANKS,
DR THOMAS W EVANS,
GEORGE PEABODY,
DR H W HARKNESS,
HOWARD M TICKNOR,
DR EDWARD A CRANE,
SAMUEL POMEROY LORING,
NATHAN APPLETON,
LYSANDER DICKERMAN,
And several others.

CAIRO, Nov. 22, 1869.

Such will be the general tenor of all the congratulatory letters, from whatever source they may come, and the next point to be considered therefore is, whether the Suez Canal, as it stands to-day, deserves all that will be said of it, either in praise or in depreciation.

The Paris *Journal* has a long article marvelling how Lady Mary Wortley Montague came to the country and traveled around along with Horatio Seymour. The lady who did this was the Honorable Miss Murray, one of Victoria's maids of honor, and a niece of the Duke of Argyle. She was a great botanical amateur, and used to astonish American fashionables by the strange plainness of her dress and habits.

Cuba.

IMPORTANT PROCLAMATION FROM PRESIDENT CESPEDES.

Guaimaro, Nov. 30.—*To My Countrymen*—It was expected of me, I am informed, that I should have issued a proclamation on the 10th of last month, the first anniversary of our *pronunciamento* of independence. It was expected that I should render an account of what had been done during the glorious first year of our war of liberation, or in other words, that I should render a portrayal of the situation. It is due, perhaps, that I should render an account of our progress, of our victories, of our defeats, of our expenses, and of our financial, military and political situation.

A GLORIOUS RECORD.

On the 1st of October I requested my generals-in-chief—Major General Canada, Fighter Gen. Major General Agramonte and Major General Thomas Jordan—to report at their earliest convenience to the commander-in chief of our army, Gen. Manuel Quesada. In this report I requested that they should give the number, names and location of the different engagements which they and their respective subordinates have had with our enemies; their losses by battle or disease, and names enrolled at different dates during the year, as well as the strength of their respective commands at the date on which they concluded their reports.

The great distance intervening between the different commands and detachments, with the irregular communications attending such widely separated military posts, prevented an early response to my request. Though it has been somewhat delayed, the aggregate report demonstrates a most glorious record for our sacred cause.

OPERATIONS OF THE FIRST ARMY CORPS.

Major-General Frederico Cavada, commanding the First Army Corps, reports sixteen thousand men with good arms. Ten thousand of these men are mounted, and have been well instructed in the discipline of war. This corps has lost two thousand three hundred killed in its different engagements with the enemy since the 6th of last March. The six brigades composing the corps have met the enemy one hundred and seventeen times. They have twice defeated their enemy within the limits of Guiso forges. They have lost two thousand and ninety-one men during this time by wounds and casualties of war. For every man that falls there are, I am assured by General Cavada, ten men ready to take his arms and place. The First Corps has grown from a command of eight hundred men to its present strength.

The second army corps, which operates in the State of Camagney, is now 12,000 strong. Its history has been bloody. Seven thousand men have gone from its line by death in battle and by disease. It has fought 226 engagements, a full score of which have been quite formidable affairs. Its gallant commander, Major General Adolfo Cavada, has been a true and brave patriot. He deserves the highest meed of praise which grateful country can extend him. Truculand, Puerto Principe, Nuevitas, San Geronimo, San Cristobal and other battle-fields tell the story of this noble army of patriots.

The third army corps, jointly commanded by Major General Thomas Jordan and Major General Hogorato Castillo, has made a record as imperishable as the rocky mountains and little valleys of operation. It now numbers 9,000 men. It has met the enemy 183 times. Las Tunas, Magote, Bayamo, Palma, Soriano, Canto, Baire, San Lucian, Holguin, Arroyo Blanco, and a long list of names of battle-fields attest to the great work done in the east by this gallant division of our army.

I must neglect to name the name of our bravest ally, General Thomas Jordan. Gen-ral Jordan has been with us here as Adjutant General of the army since July 8. To his superior race, ripe experience and wisdom do we owe the credit of the perfect organization of our forces. That our people have ignored jealousy and all that tends to belittle ourselves as ungrateful revolutionists may have no better illustration than the universal admiration of our patriots are held under a Spanish bullet, she must be declared the legal owner of all that property, and should she will of those interested will look to in this matter and if possible compromise with Mrs. Gaines before the case goes into court.

The Texas Trade—Commodore Morgan—The Late Association of America.

Mr. J. M. Morphis, the able correspondent in New Orleans of the Houston *Tenas*, thus writes to that journal. He commends on the Texas trade with New Orleans are worthy of the attention of our merchants and dealers:

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 17, 1869.

Editors of the Tenas—I arrived in this city one week ago, and find business very dull and money scarcer than it has been within the last thirty years, and heard many merchants admit the amiable, but unwise and old Commodore Chas. Morgan, for so working the railroad and steam-ships as to draw the life blood of the Crescent City; and turn its trade and commerce into New York, to the ruin of this people.

New Orleans merchants aver that if they put in an appeal on time, that old Charlie crushed out by lowering the rates of freight and passage prices, and then after the opposition ceases raising the charges to enormous rates. From Boston to New York is about the same distance that it is from New Orleans to Galveston, yet the fare from New York to Boston is six dollars, while from New Orleans to Galveston it is eighteen dollars.

Gentlemen inform me that merchandise is transported from New York to Galveston and Indianola for less than it costs to ship it from Morgan monopoly line charge from New Orleans to the same points.

Yet to-day, who can blame Commodore Morgan for the astute money making operations? What is time to the property of New Orleans, compared to his own?

The Commodore has them good railroad and steamship transportation and makes them pay for it, but he pays his employés princely prices. The salary of Mr. Lee was fifteen hundred each, about four times that of the Governor of Texas.

I learn that not $200,000 of the $2,000,000 promised by subscription to meet that amount promised by Commodore Morgan, has been subscribed; this though, I am informed, will be increased to the amount of $1,000,000 by our crusade against our oppressors. They helped us to capture Vera on the 10th of October, and a freeman, who two days before was a slave, first held aloft the banner of independence in the plaza of Vera. Liberated slaves have been engaged in every battle with our enemy since that glorious day. In February last our flag was raised in the city of Puebla on the Island free and equal. After my Cabinet had been selected and a National Congress of thirty elected representatives met, that august body framed a Constitution for our better government. In that Constitution slavery was declared unconditionally abolished. We have waged a humane and civilized warfare. We have abstained from wreaking vengeance, spite, hatred, and deserved retaliation upon our enemy. While they deserve no consideration from us, we have aimed to stand fair and honorably before the world. At present and while our shameless foes hold the exterior line of the Island, we must expect a continuation of slaughterous reports about us. Our pride has been and is to make such a record that when the war shall have ended we can point with pride to our history and dare the world to show us as ignominious act on our records.

* * *

We stand before the world in a more formidable array than Mexico, Chile, Peru, or any and all other Spanish American Republics ever presented against tyrannical Spain.

Conquer our enemy we must. There is no backward track. We ask you all to stand firm. Obey the important orders which have been lately issued for the destruction of the enemy's source of income. March onward and onward as have other peoples while struggling for their liberties, and God and right will sustain us all until victory stands inscribed in letters of flame upon our banners, and the fraternity of republics welcomes us into the sisterhood of free nations. From *La Independencia*. From *La Libertad*: From *La Reforma*: From *La Patria*.

CARLOS MANUEL DE CESPEDES.

Geology at Fault—The Deep Sea World

Some very interesting facts to geologists and naturalists have been developed by one or two deep sea explorations, made by direction of the British Government, under the supervision of Dr Carpenter, Professor Wyville Thompson, and Mr. Gwyn Jeffreys, and a report of which was read lately at the meeting of the Royal Society in London.

The paper was a very lengthy and very interesting one, from which we have condensed a few of its most important features. In it many facts were established diametrically opposed to previous belief. For instance, it had been held that at a depth of 300 fathoms all life was at an end, and that the deep sea temperature everywhere was 39 degrees; but it is proved that life existed at much greater depths, and that there was a considerable variance in temperature. There was found to be a difference in bottom temperature of from 32 to 47 degrees within eight or ten miles, the last being merely exceeds the waste of myself, and the previous made for my family and friends by testamentary executorship, the surplus will be devoted to proper objects of charity by my trustees, whose duty it will be to apply to the objects designated in their appointment the entire residuary proceeds of my estate. Hence to compromise can be made after my death.

MYRA CLARK GAINES.

New Orleans, December 27, 1869.

[COMMUNICATION.]

Mrs. Gaines' Claim in New Orleans.

[From the New Orleans Times.]

We call attention to the notice of Mrs Gaines, in another column, in reference to a claim, the extent and importance of which will surprise many who may read this article. We have taken some pains to investigate this matter, and find that a grant was made, in the year 1791, by the King of Spain, of nineteen hundred and twenty toises square of land, adjoining the (then) city of New Orleans. By sundry deeds of conveyance the title became vested in Daniel Clark, soon after the Province of Louisiana was ceded to the United States by France, in 1803. Clark prior to his death in 1813, presented his title papers to the Board of Commissioners created by act of Congress, and asked for the confirmation of the claim refgried to. In 1812 the Board confirmed the said claim to him, in their report submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury in that year, which report was subsequently ratified by Congress. Owing to the said ratification by Congress, of the decision of the commissioners in his favor, the survey was not laid down on the plats of the surveys of that date, and it was not until about a year ago that the proper steps were taken to obtain from the Department at Washington an order to have the lines delicately established by the Surveyor General of Louisiana. Upon so examination of the papers and documents, I find that on the 5th of October, 1869, the Hon J J Davis, Surveyor General for the State of Louisiana, approved the survey of the tract now in question, on the 26th of the same month a patent certificate was executed to issue, which may not be generally known but such is the fact) that the is the only approved survey of any tract of land lying in the township in which the city of New Orleans is located. It has been held by the Supreme Court of the United States that the formal approval of a survey, by the proper officers of the Government, gives to the claimant title to the land embraced thereto.

It is well known to the legal profession, and to many others, that no Spanish claim was ever set up by the land on both sides of the Mississippi the same was opposed to belong to the United States upon her acquisition of the territory from France. Until 1812 because it fells below the United States; by their act in now making and approving the survey of the Spanish grant to Daniel Clark, acquired from the same, this is Hence the claim referred to is, declared to be valid against any claim of this Government.

The approved survey of the confirmation to Clark places Mrs. Gaines in a position to contest the title to all the property on Canal street, from near the Customhouse to Bayou St. John, and as none of the lots fronting on said portion are held under a Spanish title, she must be declared the legal owner of all that property, and it would be well for those interested to