The New Orleans Bee.

OFFICE 73 CHARTRES STREET. NEW ORLEANS, SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 16, 1871. YEAR—Vol. XLIV.—Whole—15,422

NEW ORLEANS DAILY BEE

DUFOUR & LIMET, PUBLISHERS.

No. 73 Chartres street.

TERMS OF THE BEE.

Terms of Subscription—Daily, per annum, in advance, $10. Half yearly, $5. Quarterly, $2. Price of the paper—single copies, 10 cents.

The Semi-Weekly is published every Tuesday and Saturday. Subscription, $5 per annum, invariably in advance.

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Weekly Edition.

TERMS—PER YEAR.....$5.

NEW ORLEANS:

SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 16, 1871.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Answer of the City Council to Mr. Beckwith's Lectures.

Mr. Lacey, our able City Attorney, has filed in the Eighth District Court an answer on the part of the Mayor and Administration to the flagrant fulmination of the aforesaid of the Metropolitan Police Board of which the latter sought to have the officers of Mayor and Councilmen declared vacant, the late ordinance concerning Police Boards declared null and a prohibition laid upon the city authorities, all with a view of compelling them to receive as receivable in payment of taxes, such warrants as had been issued by the Police Board.

The answer of Mr. Lacey we regard as almost complete vindication of the action of the city authorities with regard to these warrants. He does not ask as he might have done, the dismissal of Mr. Beckwith's petition on account of the unwarranted interference contained in about proceedings at once the merits of the cause. Content to rest on the assertions of the Police Board itself, we prove from their own showing.

Answer is first taken to the contention of the Police Board to sue the city. Based upon the unconstitutionality of the act No. 94, of 1870. Then it is alleged that this act is arbitrary, unreasonable and oppressive, and one which the General Assembly does not possess the power to pass. In the event of that it is nothing or void, special answer is made as follows:

1. The acts establishing the Metropolitan Police are in violation of article 13 of the Constitution which requires taxation to be equal and uniform, and of article 118 of the Federal Constitution which declares that no State shall pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts. Inasmuch as the Legislature has no power to pass the acts making police appropriations, and that only relative of the force and the transfer of the control of the Police Board from the Governor to the Mayor and Administration.

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