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The New Orleans Bee.

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NEW ORLEANS, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 22, 1854.

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{Vol. xxviii.—Whole No. 7630.

THE DAILY BEE.

Friday Morning, December 22d.

THE NORTHERN MAIL came through yesterday, with the exception of the New York papers of the 14th, which are behind-hand.

AMERICANISM AND THE SOUTH.

A few days ago we published in juxtaposition two articles from the Boston *Atlas*, and the New York *Tribune*, particularly abusive of the American party for its alleged affinities with Southern slavery. These brief excerpts which we commended to our neighbors of the *Courier*, have brought out a reply from that journal nearly two columns long. Had we anticipated such a rear of artillery in response to the crack of our rifle, we should have paused ere we ventured to confront the heavy calibre of our neighbor's guns. As it is, we are in for it, and must do our best to render lighter weapons equally efficient.

Let us state the proposition in dispute fairly, for there is nothing like knowing precisely what we seek to maintain. The *Courier* has several times charged the Know-Nothings, or American party with abolition propensities—We have endeavored to prove that this charge is unfounded. Now let us be clearly understood. Nobody pretends to doubt that among the Know-Nothings of the North there are anti-slavery men. No one dreams of denying that among the Know-Nothings of the South, there are slaveholders and slavery propagandists.—At the North the sentiment of opposition to slavery is universal, at the South every man is from the necessity of things, an advocate or an apologist of the institution. Consequently, the American party being composed of Northern and Southern men, naturally numbers friends and foes of slavery, just as being composed of Whigs and Democrats, it numbers advocates and opponents of a tariff, filibusters and anti-filibusters, friends and enemies of internal improvements. This much we are perfectly willing to concede, but what we contend for, and what we have proved by such testimony as the *Courier*, with all its isolated passages from newspapers, has failed to overthrow, is that the American party is a national party; that it is of its very essence to banish from its midst all sectional discussion; that even as it absorbs antagonistic political elements, it annihilates sectional differences; that its principles are a unit, and are entirely independent of, and totally disconnected from the slavery question; that it could not be a national party, entertaining the same views and aspiring to the same results, every where, North, South, East and West, but for this identity of principle.

What has brought about the virtual dismemberment of the Whig party? Why is it that the Democratic party has almost completely lost its power of cohesion, its prestige, and its strength? Why is it that the slavery question is unfounded. Now let us be clearly understood. Nobody pretends to doubt that among the Know-Nothings of the North there are anti-slavery men. No one dreams of denying that among the Know-Nothings of the South, there are slaveholders and slavery propagandists.—At the North the sentiment of opposition to slavery is universal, at the South every man is from the necessity of things, an advocate or an apologist of the institution. Consequently, the American party being composed of Northern and Southern men, naturally numbers friends and foes of slavery, just as being composed of Whigs and Democrats, it numbers advocates and opponents of a tariff, filibusters and anti-filibusters, friends and enemies of internal improvements. This much we are perfectly willing to concede, but what we contend for, and what we have proved by such testimony as the *Courier*, with all its isolated passages from newspapers, has failed to overthrow, is that the American party is a national party; that it is of its very essence to banish from its midst all sectional discussion; that even as it absorbs antagonistic political elements, it annihilates sectional differences; that its principles are a unit, and are entirely independent of, and totally disconnected from the slavery question; that it could not be a national party, entertaining the same views and aspiring to the same results, every where, North, South, East and West, but for this identity of principle.

What has brought about the virtual dismemberment of the Whig party? Why is it that the Democratic party has almost completely lost its power of cohesion, its prestige, and its strength? We answer, the slavery question! Political parties have ceased to be national, disrupted as they are by this potent element of disturbance. The Southern Whig cannot stand on a Northern platform. The Southern Democrat dares not sustain the creed of a VAN BUREN, a BUTLER or a CASS. Politics have been rendered so subservient to the slavery question, that the two old parties can no longer recognize their respective members. They may cling to political names, but the cordial sympathy, the unbroken union that once resulted from harmonious co-operation are gone; perhaps forever. Now the American party is sectionally national, because it is entirely free from this decomposing element. The North and the South can stand upon the same platform—they can agree upon the leading and fundamental articles of party faith. They are not allowed to bring the slavery issue into the American doctrine. The private opinions of the members concerning slavery are entirely distinct from the principles and tenets of the American party, and cannot be amalgamated with them. Hence it is that the only conservative and national body of men in the country—the only political party which may be expected to cling to the Constitution, and to recognize no higher law, is the American party.

It is useless to repeat the recorded evidence of this fact, especially as the *Courier* will not see what is palpable to every body else. It says for instance that the election of the Know-Nothing ticket in Massachusetts was not distasteful to the *Boston Atlas*, while we showed from the columns of that sheet, that the *Atlas* mourned over it, and feared it would be contested. The *Tribune*, according to the *Courier*, loves Abolitionism more than it does Americanism. Of course it does, and, what is more, it hates Americanism as a foe to Abolitionism. How our neighbor can extract any proof of its curious notions, from the course of the *Tribune* in relation to the Nebraska bill, we cannot pretend to solve. Again, Mayor SMITH, the Know Nothing Mayor elect of Boston, is denounced by the *Tribune* for calling out the military to protect the Marshal in the Burns affair. The *Courier* thinks his duty but not his will consented. Well, if he did his duty, he did what nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand men in Boston were unwilling to do on that memorable occasion. It is no light or trivial matter to do one's duty in the face of threats and public reprobation, and Mayor SMITH has been cursed ever since, and will be, we suppose, for the next ten years, for nobly obeying the laws, at the cost of the most signal disaffection and the widest fanaticism.

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BANQUET OF THE HEBREW BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.—It will be seen by our advertising columns that the Manager of the German Theatre has most kindly tendered a benefit to the Hebrew Benevolent Association of our city. The representation is fixed for Thursday evening next, the 28th inst, and the piece selected for the occasion is HALM's noble drama of "Griseldis." We trust the occasion will prove a substantial benefit to the philanthropic society, for whose behalf the proceeds are intended

☞ Our thanks are due B. M. NORMAN, No. 14 Camp street, for the following:

Elements of Character, by Mary C. Chandler. This is an essay on character, with precepts for its formation. It contains much good sense, with a strong under current of religious feeling.

Hypocrite or New Foes with an Old Face.—By the author of Alton Locke. This is a powerful story of the church and its doctrines in the fifth century. It is founded upon history and is intensely interesting, and replete with vigorous and well drawn characters.

The Wonderful Mirror. A beautiful story for children.

These volumes are published by Crosby, Nichols & Company, Boston.

The Souvenir Gallery, an illustrated gift book for all seasons, embellished with thirteen beautifully finished engravings by the first artists, and edited by Emily Percival. Published by Phillips, Sampson & Co., Boston.

NEW BOOKS.—We are indebted to the publishers, Harper & Brothers, through J. B. Steel, No. 60 Camp street, for the following works:

The Young Husband, by Mrs. Grey. This is a fair specimen of Mrs. Grey's authorship. It is a pretty story, with enough of incident and character to render it interesting to novel readers.

The Franconia Stories, by Jacob Abbott. The two volumes contain Agnes and Caroline, two charming tales by one of the most successful writers for young persons, of the day. We wot of sunny little ones whose eyes will sparkle at the prospect of reading some more Franconia Stories.

Later Years, by the author of the "Old House by the River." Pleasant Sketches, touching stories, a natural and pleasing view of thought, a genial morality, and a pure spirit pervade this volume and render it attractive.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15, 1854.

The slavery question has been again on the tapis in the House, brought there by a proposition originating with Mr. MACE, democrat, from Indiana, to re-enact the Missouri restriction. This comes of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise by the passage of Kansas-Nebraska bill; a bill which, in the language of the Charleston, (S. C.) News, quoted by the Bee sometime since, "has proved to its authors an unmitigated curse."

The Compromise of 1850, which sprang from the wise head and patriotic heart of HENRY CLAY, and required the united efforts and loosal powers of "the giants of those days" to accomplish, had, by being sequestered in by all parties, put an end, or was fast putting an end to the sectional strife that had so long existed between the North and the South, when that transcendantly wise, experienced, modest, but profound statesman, Mr. Douglas, under pretence of doing more perfectly what that Compromise had done, or intended to do, brought forward a measure which has completely blasted and stilled it, and has again stirred up the bitter waters of sectional hostility. This measure—the Nebraska bill—the paper before quoted very truthfully says, "instead of putting an end to the freesoil doctrine, has given it a power and respectability which is never possessed before, and which we believe it could never have attained through any other medium than that opened by this bill. It has brought the subject of slavery again into Congress where it must be met; if not now, at no distant day, when Kansas shall apply for admission as a State, and the South may as well prepare for the struggle.

The late election of Gen. Whitfield, a pro-slavery man, as a delegate from Kansas, it is stated here, and believed at least by Northern men, was the result of a *fraud*; that it was effected by the Missourians, not settlers in Kansas, going over into that Territory in sufficient numbers to accomplish their object. This has created so little ill feeling, and has perhaps in some degree provoked the movement to restore the Missouri restriction.

Mr. Mace spoke in favor of his proposition, and was sustained by Mr. Washburn, of Maine, to both of whom Mr. Oliver, of Missouri, replied. Mr. Stephens, of Ga., yesterday spoke in favor of the Nebraska measure, and opposed the restoration of the Missouri Compromise; he was replied to by Mr. Campbell, of Ohio.

In the course of the debate yesterday the House was put in good humor by allusions to the late extraordinary revolutions in many of the States, and the various causes to which they were imputed. Mr. Stephens thought that the man in North Carolina was about right when he declared that these wonderful results were owing entirely to the *rum-hankies*, who seemed to be carrying the country.

One thing is very certain, that if it be the *wonderful* who are doing such wonderful things, they are *running* the old parties into a cocked hat, and *shacking* them so effectually that they will never be able to go ahead hereafter.

I said above, that the slavery question must soon be met, and that the South may as well prepare for the struggle. If any thing can avert this it is the triumph of the American party, whose platform being *nationality*, is calculated to exclude all questions of a purely sectional character, and to unite Americans as a band of brothers. Their policy, so far as I can comprehend it, is to have every thing not strictly national, to the States, and among others the question of slavery. Had the Missouri Compromise been let alone, there would not have been much difficulty in keeping such questions out of Congress; but the fact cannot be disguised that very considerable portions of the North are bent upon preventing that Compromise, and thereby prohibiting slavery north of 36° 30'.—If the people of Kansas should determine to exclude slavery, and ask admission into the Union as a free State, things may pass on smoothly and quietly; but should they ask admission as a slave State, I fear the struggle could not be avoided.

Mr. Badger introduced a bill into the Senate a day or two ago, to increase the salaries of the judges of the Supreme Court, and the per diem of members of Congress fifty per cent—Mr. B. spoke some time in favor of his bill, which was referred to the Committee of the Whole. Instead of passing this bill I think Congress is rather disposed to change the *mode* of giving members, from the per diem system to that of a yearly salary. This system was once adopted, but so unpopular was it at that time that it hurled nearly every member from his place at the next election, even Mr. Clay having himself by the skin of his teeth, or by the nine lives of a cat, escaped by picking the flint and trying the rifle again.

But circumstances were then different from what they are now, and I cannot but think that when the people come to see what reforms may be effected by this change, they will not only not oppose, but demand it. In the first place, the salary need not exceed the average amount now received by members for the two sessions of Congress; and in the next place, as every member would then be interested in despatching the business, saving the expense of a long residence here, and returning to his family and private affairs as soon as possible, the business before Congress would be disposed of with a degree of expedition and promptitude not now witnessed. Speeches for "Buncombe" would then be knocked in the head, breathed out of the Capitol, or coughed down; since 233 members would never consent that their time should be taken up by *one*, in delivering a speech for the *Tribune*, or in constituents. Four such speeches occupy a whole day, and the expenses of the 230 members whose time would be thus consumed, would be, for that day alone, on an average, each, or $1380 for the whole.

These calculations would seem be entered into, and the result would be that "Buncombe" would be kicked out of doors by general consent, and rules adopted requiring every member to speak to the question under consideration instead of "talking to the rest of mankind," as is now the practice.

The long session of Congress would then close at the end of about four or five months, instead of going on to the first of September, and members would therefore receive more pay for the next ten years, for nobly obeying the laws, at the cost of the most signal disaffection and the widest fanaticism.

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ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—We are to have to night at this home the popular American comedy of "Extremes," which is to be played for the first time in New Orleans. It is to be brought out by the manager with entire new scenery at considerable expense, and with a very strong cast. Miss Caroline Richings and Mr. Richings are announced to appear in it.

THE CASE OF DR. BEALE.—It is reported that twenty five thousand dollars have been raised in Philadelphia and in New York, among the Presbyterians and Democrats, to procure the pardon of Dr. Beale, but the impression prevails that Gov. Bigler will not pardon him.

ANOTHER DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.—On the night of the 14th inst., a fire broke out at the corner of Chesnut and *Fifth* streets, opposite the State House, in Oxnard's block of five-story buildings, occupied by Stafford & Cookman and Williams & Curry as certain stores; Hoskins's extensive furniture establishment adjoining; also, a large store at the corner of *Fifth* street, occupied by Edward L. Walker, agent for Chickering's pianos, and Stayman & Bros.' music store were burnt. On Fifth street, Lacy & Phillips' saddlery manufactory was burnt. The total loss is estimated at not less than $400,000, of which one-half was insured.

SPIKING CANNON.—A Correspondent of the *London Times* sends the following: It has occurred to me that by a simple method cannon might be so formed that the operation of spiking would only render them useless temporarily.

If, instead of the present method of boring the touch-hole in the cannon itself, a perforated piece, and a conical plug adapted to the tightly into it, then by having the touch-hole in this plug, if the cannon be spiked, this plug could be unscrewed and a fresh one inserted in a minute. The cannon should be furnished all of one size, so that all the plugs would fit any of them."

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The number of boys killed here up to this date is 196, one.

Mr. Carpenter, shot in a frenzy at Covington a few days since, is recovering slowly.

CONGRESS.

In the SENATE on the 14th, a memorial was presented praying an expedition for the relief of Dr. Kane in the Northern Seas. Referred.

A bill was passed increasing the commission of the registers and receivers of public lands.

The House resolution modifying the original plan for the construction of the New Orleans Custom House was passed.

In the House a memorial relative to Dr. Kane and his expedition was read and referred.

The Indian appropriation bill was considered, when Mr. Stephens replied to Mr. Mace's speech on the Nebraska bill, and the Missouri Compromise.

After some discussion, the Committee rose and the House adjourned.

MR. HUNT.—The following are the remarks made by Mr. HUNT in reply to a fling made by Mr. JONES, in the House of Representatives, on the 13th instant, against the medical profession. The question was on a motion to print 5,000 copies of the abstract of the census, containing important vital statistics:

A debate ensued, during which Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, said he could see no possible necessity for printing these statistics. He supposed every physician knew how many of his patients he had killed scientifically or ignorantly. It would do no good to know how many have been killed in the aggregate.

Mr. Hunt immediately rose to vindicate an honorable profession, saying he repelled the slander of the gentleman. (Sensation.)

Mr. Jones, of Tennessee—I have been a member of this House for some years. I have never in my life, either here or elsewhere, intentionally wounded the feelings or attempted to insult any gentleman. I am no bully; I am no duelist; and with us b i wish to have nothing to do.

Mr. Hunt—The gentleman says he did not slander an honorable profession; but he did, by censuring it and talking about physicians killing and keeping an account of their own dead, and that there is no necessity of having the vital statistics printed by order of this House. When the gentleman speaks of hitting in connection with an honorable profession endeared to us from our birth, the members of which not only preserve our lives in time of sickness and disease, but come to us as messengers of humanity and mercy, I say he is an enemy to science and slanders an honorable profession. I did not impute to the gentleman an intention to do so. Perhaps he spoke in ignorance; and indulged in a too common practice of persons to find fault with their neighbors, supposing that they rise in consequence, in proportion as they detract from others. The gentleman did slander an honorable profession, whatever his intention might have been. Having said his intention was not to do so, I concurred in his declaration. The gentleman says he is no bully, and wishes to have nothing to do with duelists. What does the honorable gentleman mean? Is he so false to truth and honor as to impute to me that I am a bully, and that I would threaten on the feelings of an honorable gentleman in the world; and that I would wantonly do wrong to any human being! If he means by being a bully, that I have the courage of a gentleman to resent injury, he does nothing more than appreciate my character as a gentleman. Why does the gentleman talk of bullying—has he fear? Does he imagine I desire to insult him? No, I had rather cherish good will towards all mankind.—And, if I have any heart, I have Christianity enough to eradicate all ill-feeling and live at peace with the world. I have always filled the gentleman and myself on social and kind terms. When I rose to vindicate an honorable profession, I had no idea of trampling on him.

Mr. Jones made no reply, and the resolution was passed.

The War in Europe—What Gen. Webb thinks.

Gen. James Watson Webb returned from Europe in the Pacific, and publishes his views on the present aspect and the future prospect of the war in Europe, in the *Courier and Enquirer*, as follows:

The Press of England and France, and indeed public opinion in both countries, is at variance in regard to the course of the contest for the next four months. The *Times* declares the campaign at an end, and that the proceedings of the Allies will be purely defensive until spring; and for ten days preceding the sailing of the *Pacific*, its leaders would induce the world to believe that England was on the very eve of destruction, and piteously appeals for reinforcements—each object cowardice—such degrading admissions of weakness and national imbecility, are effected by this change, they will not. And all this because the British Cabinet do not make it its organ, and the Duke of Newcastle chooses to send his official despatches to the Morning *Chronicle* instead of the *Thunderer*!

There may well be a difference of opinion on both sides of the water in regard to the next movements in the Crimea, and we therefore venture to give our readers a few words on this subject, on which they may place the most implicit confidence, in defiance of what the Times in its ignorance and spleen, declares to be the case. Both Lord Raglan and General Canrobert have reported to their respective Governments, that the Allies are now in a position to make a breach in the walls of Sebastopol in forty-eight hours, whenever they are ready to make the assault. These batteries occupy a whole day, and the expenses of the 230 members whose time would be thus consumed, would be, for that day alone, on an average, each, or $1380 for the whole.

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PEEL'S SOUTHERN OPERA HOUSE.—Mr. Minor's new burlesque of "Lindi de Chamouni" is being presented at this house nightly, to large and appreciative audiences. If one would enjoy a hearty laugh let him go and hear the inimitable performance of the Campbells in this piece.

MR. EUGENE GOBARD.—This distinguished gentleman who has recently arrived in this country from Europe, reached this city, from New York, on the steamship Black Warrior, on Tuesday. It is his intention to make several balloon ascensions from this city the present winter, the first of which is to take place about the first of the ensuing month. It is needless for us to state to our readers that Eugene Godard is one of the most celebrated and successful aeronauts now living, for his fame is world-wide. Due notice will be given of his first ascent.

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By Telegraph!

Transmitted to the New Orleans Bee.

[By the National Line.]

A New Governor of Nebraska.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The Union of to-day contains the following, announcing the appointment of Ward W. Izzard as Governor of Nebraska.

Loss of the Packet Ship St. Patrick.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The New York and Liverpool packet ship St. Patrick was towed to the quarantine ground, and had on board about four hundred passengers, mostly immigrants, all of whom were fortunately saved, and have arrived here in a steamer.

The vessel was insured for fifty thousand dollars. She had a full cargo, the amount of insurance on which is as yet unknown.

River Intelligence.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 21.—Noon.—The river is at last rising here, and the weather is clear and pleasant. The steamer Judah Touro left to day for New Orleans. A private despatch from Cincinnati says the river has risen there, but to that point.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 21.—The stage of the river here remains unchanged. The weather is cloudy and milder.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 21st.—The John Trader passed down at 1 P. M. to-day, bound for New Orleans.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 21.—The following steamers passed here yesterday, bound for New Orleans: The Ocean Wave, Hinsperger, George Collier, Fanny Ballitt, Golden Gate, and Bunker Hill No. 2.

The Little Rock Railroad.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 21.—The Little Rock (Ark.) Railroad Bill has been carried in the Legislature by a majority of nine in the Senate and fifteen in the House.

United States Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—In the Supreme Court to-day. Case No. 50. Zabedee Bing, *et al. vs.* Hugh Maxwell, a certificate of decision between the Judges of the Circuit Court of the United States for the Southern District Court of New York. Justice Curtis delivered the opinion of the Court—that the first question certified by the Circuit Court in this case must be answered in the negative, to wit: That upon a true construction of the Revenue laws of the United States additional duties of 30 per cent, which have been levied and collected by and paid to the defendant, as collector of the port of New York, as stated in his answer under and by virtue of the eight section of the act, entitled an act for the reduction of the duties on imports, and for other purposes, passed July 30, in the year 1846, were not to be treated as penalties; and one moiety thereof divided between and paid in equal portions to and among the collector, naval officer and surveyor of the port of New York, holding the said offices at the time of levying, collection and payment thereof in the said port of New York, as claimed by the plaintiffs in their bill in this cause. And this Court is farther of the opinion that as the decision of the first question in the negative necessarily disposes of the case, it is unnecessary to consider and respond to the other questions certified.

Case No. 2. State of Pennsylvania *vs.* the Wheeling and Belmont Bridge Company. The argument of the several motions in this case for a writ of mandamus to execute the decree of this Court and for a taxation of costs was continued by Reverdy Johnson in the opposition, and concluded by Edwin M. Stanton, of N. J., in support.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

BY MAIL'S OPERAS AGLOW.—We gold, b day for the ed. Mr. Mail's Opera Company, which is situated near the Pacific Railroad depot, in the square below McCoy's Place, in the Third Ward, is now building, which, from the progress of erection during the past year, is now fully completed, and is occupied by the children of the Lancaster. It is certainly one hundred and twenty feet in width, and 6 to three stories in height and has seven entrances and cost about $10,000. The structure is a fine building, and reflects great honor upon those who have nobly devoted their energies to the accomplishment of this benevolent enterprise. There are now under the care of the Asylum about 250 boys, of all ages, between thirteen years and six months of age, the youngest being the youngest. Notwithstanding the liberal donations which have been made to it, the institution has expended for the institution are not borne without great difficulty and effort on the part of the directors. We would recommend that at an early day a fair be held in the one which has been held during the week at Masonic Hall, in aid of the purpose of soliciting contributions to further the benevolent objects of the institution and to relieve it from the embarrassments under which it is now struggling.

PERSONAL.—Our Friend Jacob Hyman, the Superintendent of the Fire Department, has been ill for the past week, but we are pleased to state that he is now convalescent. We hope he may soon be able to resume his duties.

FIRE.—Yesterday, about 12 o'clock, a small fire occurred in the house of Mr. Wm. Wilder, in Dryades street, between Jackson and Calliope streets, which was soon extinguished by the Fire Department. The house was slightly injured.

FIRE.—Yesterday, about 1