The New Orleans Bee.

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Office of the "Bee" is removed to Chartres street, between Conti and St. ...

Tuesday Morning, October 23, 1855.

The NORTHERN MAIL came through ... with the latest dates. *Laus Deo!*

THE TRUE ISSUE.

... man who has obtained education ... enable him to read the Constitution of the United States, and who is a blind and ... garted partisan, who ... that the present system ... and inefficient, whether ... believe that the laws on the ... education, and that the ... fraud should be more ... more stringent—and the ... one, he will respond in ...

We care not whether he ... Democrat; native or naturalized ... a passable share ... he will unhesitatingly ... to these interrogatories. ... moment he acknowledges ... the naturalization laws, ... of their amendment, he ... whole question. Herein lies ... issues under controversy ... more surplusage, and is ... essentials. Why then ... the continued ob... a party which proposes ... admitted to be neces... months of the con... which all on the same ... who like them, ... age, or do they prefer it ... native born citizens? ... Why they came to ... expect to live under ... of a government ... choose? Would they ... to govern ... with their children ... governed by such ...

... adroitly constructed ... the charge of reli... This has been so con... and so need but brief notice. ... Louisiana our platform speaks for ... does assert that the Ame... State maintains a religious ... the disinterested ... Boston Post, ... whose editor and all his relations are pensioned on the government."—*N. Y. Post.*

OHIO.—The latest information from Ohio is to the following effect:

Chase's net majority in sixty-six counties heard from officially and otherwise, is 18,324.

The remaining counties, it is thought, will increase rather than decrease these figures. The majorities for other Republican candidates have not been footed up; all being satisfied that they are overwhelming in their favor.

Twenty-three Senators and sixty Representatives are known to be elected by the Republicans, and three Senators and nineteen Representatives by the Democrats. Reports come in slowly today.

This is the State from which our neighbor of the *Courier* had a bragging despatch claiming a large majority for the Democrats. The boot is on the other leg, we fancy.

GOOD NEWS FROM WISE.—We find the following in the Mobile *Gazette*:

The news from Wise parish is of a cheering character. Some of the American candidates have been there recently, and straightened what was crooked. The gallant Terrell, and the noble-hearted Lewis met the foe down there and put him to flight. They say—and we know it is true—that John M. Sandidge is no more in debate with William B. Lewis, than would be a young pig in the clutches of a bear; a squeal or two is all that is heard. Several in Wise who had withdrawn from the American party have "come back again;" and as one piece, on one occasion, eighteen new converts to "Old Line" were taken to the rock—fought bravely on in Wise. That parish is now considered safe for the American ticket, which renders success in this Senatorial District doubly sure.

LOUISIANA ITEMS.

The Concordia *Intelligencer* says: On Friday night last we had a shocking affair at Natchez, living near the Landing, named Louis Fleetgo, his brother, and another person named Charley Wilke, went down the river in a skiff to meet some hands on a camp on the Louisiana shore, some ten miles below Vidalia. They had not gone down the river many miles before they met the packet steamer Southern Belle, coming up, and by some unaccountable means got directly under the steamer and were lost. They were not discovered by the backmost small boat on board, or were ascended under as they were crying out to let for aid.

The steamer immediately backed her wheels, sent out a yawl, and hunted in vain for the men and their skiff for half an hour. Neither the skiff or the bodies had been found up to the time of our writing.

The Harrisonburg (Catahoula) *Independent* has the following: We learn that several cases of yellow fever have occurred at Columbia, two of which proved fatal. We are informed, however, by Mr. Peace, the mail carrier, who left Columbia yesterday morning, that the disease had subsided. On Black River the fever had also ceased to spread. We do not now be able to learn the number of deaths that have taken place in that neighborhood. Among the deceased we have the name of Reuben M. Clerc, Levi Fois, Benjamin Holmes, Mrs. Lander and child and Geo. Beard. Several deaths had occurred among the blacks.

At Harrisonburg and Trinity the disease has ceased as an epidemic.

Opelousas (Iberville) *Sentinel* says: We think we may now rejoice with something like a certainty, that the yellow fever has left our town, as we have heard of no more new cases for the last nine days.

A despatch from Washington of the 14th says—At the commencement of the recruiting of troops for the British army in this country, Mr. Crampton, the English Minister, received instructions from his government to be and certain Consuls were visiting our neutrality laws. This fact aggravates the case; and our Government will say some thing to the official to be recognized and Minister and Consul, if the British Government does not (after additional investigation) disavow Mr. Buchanan has been instructed to withdraw all them.

EXORBITANT OFFICE-HOLDING.—We are informed by credible authority, writes the Mr. Henry Peterson, that a Collector down the Red River, who received from the Federal Government a salary of $2,000 per annum, has received $60 thousand. We had thought to mention George Sweet's private car, but as we cannot tell how much he may well afford to pay, some of these pickers can not possibly afford to patronize, Madison. In a word by of numbers, we will say that the Collector of Customs at Newport picked by each. George, the present *Peter*, left passe-du Duck, 843 pounds; Hunt, 900 pounds; Judd, 678 pounds; Madison, 500 pounds. "Root, hog and take the horn."—*Morehead Advocate.*

NEW IBERIA, Oct. 18th, 1855.

MESSRS. EDITORS:

There is an amusing boldest told on ex-Gov. A. Mouton. It seems that at a barbecue given in Vermillion some weeks since, the Governor thought it would be expedient to address the crowd in a language which he thought would correspond with their capacities, and in his efforts to describe what was Know Nothingism, he delivered himself of the following:

"*Mandé negrels-la gé, qui volé pouile-la yé di ou, mo pa conné. Mandé No Nations la yé ques yé fé? ... yé di ou, mo pa conné; ça cé lou No Nation?*"

It is needless to say that the crowd took it as an insult to their common sense, and many who were opposed to our party have come amongst us.

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☞ We invite the attention of all reflecting minds to the following able article from the Baton Rouge *Gazette* of the 19th inst.:

The Democratic Central Committee and their Selected Attorneys.

A majority of the Attorneys selected by the Central Committee of this Anti-American party in New Orleans, have given their opinions upon the various questions submitted to them for consideration. There is only one of those questions that we propose presently to touch, and to expound our decided dissent from the opinions given. And we will remark, in the outset, that there is no good citizen who desires to see our *legal* vote excluded from the ballot-box; and we will add further, that no good citizen would desire to see this great palladium of republican government and American liberty invaded by fraud and perjury. The triumph of one or the other party is of little consideration, compared with the dangerous consequences resulting from such a desecration of that which is, and should always be, held most dear by every friend to rational republican freedom. The ballot box stands, unquestionably, as the great conservator of our free institutions; and as soon as it is in vaded and violated, either by force, fraud or any other unworthy means, that moment, inroads are made upon these institutions, dangerous to the peace and safety of the citizen, and to the perpetuity of the government.—Therefore, it behooves every citizen, sacredly, to guard it as such conservator, and protect it against such inroads, as he would guard and protect his own *personal* rights and liberties; for the reason, that the political rights, not only of the community at large, but of each individual citizen, are deeply involved—is immediately and directly affected thereby.

The view taken by the Attorneys regarding the duty and powers of the Commissioners, and the sacramental and conclusive force of the oath to be taken by one presenting himself as a voter, is neither consistent with precedent, or the law controlling elections.

Now, it seems to us that these legal gentlemen have kept out of view altogether the oath taken by the commissioners, although some of them have alluded to it.

It is an oath prescribed by the constitution itself, and is partly in these words:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of this State, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as commissioner according to the best of my ability and understanding," &c.

After taking this oath, the commissioners are then sworn officers of the law. Now, what character of votes were these commissioners under the sanction and responsibilities of their oath, to *receive?* The 12th section of the act of 1855, where this is the only law, says:

"That it shall be the duty of the commissioners to receive the ballots of all *legal votes* who shall offer to vote, deposit the same in the ballot box, to be provided for that purpose, and to keep duplicate lists thereof."

With any one contend for a moment that the commissioners are not, impliedly, vested with power to reject illegal votes, under the provision of law, and not even allow the voters to take the oath? It is only when the commissioners shall be in doubt as to the qualifications," that "they shall administer to him" (the voter) the oath. See 14 sec. Then if the commissioners are only "to receive the ballots of all legal voters, who shall offer to vote," can they not examine into the grounds upon which the right rests, yea, is it not their absolute duty so to examine? And if it is their duty to examine, and they find the claim to vote invalid, is it not their duty, and within the scope of their powers, to reject an illegal vote? Else, why examine? But when the commissioners are in doubt as to the qualifications of a voter, then the law requires that the conscience of the voter shall be probed by his willingness to take the oath.

Under no other circumstances are the commissioners called upon to administer an oath. Certainly the law does not require it except in case of *doubt.*

No one will affirm that taking the oath makes legal an illegal vote. Then, why in case of doubt is the oath to be tendered? It is in order that an investigation may be had before the tribunals of justice, regarding the legality of the vote, and, if found illegal, that the voter "shall be subject to the penalties provided by law for perjury." And in order that the tribunals may proceed upon evidence of the highest nature, it is provided, "That it shall be the duty of the commissioners of election to have a copy of the above oath at the head of a list which all persons allowed to vote, on oath, shall be compelled to sign, before the vote is placed in the box, and it shall be the duty of the magistrate presiding at each box, to have the copy signed by the officers of the Clerk of the District Court of the parish in which the poll was held." See sec. 16. And, further, the last paragraph of the 14th sec. requires that "a copy of the oath shall be furnished with the election box for each precinct, and be left in it by the commissioners."

We think this position is clear and undeniable.

We will say that all Courts of Record are authorized, under the acts of Congress, to administer persons to take the oath of citizenship. Then it follows that the admission of an alien to all there important and inestimable rights, as the exercise of a high political function—that the proceedings, being a high judicial act, must be entered upon the minutes of the Court, or in other words, become a matter of Record—that the proceedings must be so entered upon the minutes of the Court, on pain of absolute nullity.

Then, if these positions be true, and we presume that they will not be denied, the commissioners of election are, under the responsibilities of their oath, bound to reject a voter who has no claims to be naturalized by a Court which kept no record of its proceedings, is the matters of naturalization. We say that the commissioners are so bound, because the fact is within their own knowledge or brought to their knowledge. It is a notorious fact, in the city of New Orleans, that, pot whitstanding hundreds have been naturalized in the Second District Court of that city, no record exists of any such proceedings. Then (so it has been declared by the highest tribunal known to the country) the proceedings are an absolute nullity. If so, without a view of these papers issued by this Court, how are these figures to perform their duty, and conform to that injunction of law which requires them to receive only "the ballots of all legal voters" in case of doubt (under the act, 14 sec.) in these particular cases, the oath affords no safeguard against the admission of illegal votes into the ballot box; for the reason that those persons may take the oath in good faith, not knowing the absolute nullity of their naturalization papers, and therefore could not be subject to the penalties denounced by the 17 section of the Law of 1855. Under these circumstances, how can it be contended, that the commissioners cannot require a view of the naturalization papers of every naturalized citizen? Where is the provision of law restraining them? No such provision exists. Then it becomes the absolute duty of the commissioners of election to demand an inspection of the papers of every naturalized citizen; and after such inspection, should no doubt arise regarding the qualifications of the voter, the commissioners are competent to reject the vote and refuse to tender the oath. In fact they would be culpable to allow a voter to take the oath, when they were satisfied, that he would swear falsely, for the reason, that in would be complicity in perjury. Under the construction made by the legal gentlemen whose opinions are under review, the commissioners are powerless, and the ballot box thrown open to every species of fraud and perjury. If one of the Democratic party had seen an emigrant step from an emigrant ship, but two hours before, and he is led up to the polls to cast his vote, under this wise construction, the commissioners cannot reject, but must allow the ballot deposited upon the voter's taking the oath, notwithstanding, the commissioners have, beyond the probability of a doubt, that he is about perjuring himself. Nothing could lead one to such an insane construction, but the blindness of partisanship. Hundreds of emigrants, by this means, might vote, changing the political complexion of the State, and placing the most corrupt and vicious men in power, and the ballot box for each officer to be voted for, would be thrown out, from the impossibility of ascertaining the legal votes cast.

Then it is the duty of the commissioners to require a view of the papers of naturalization, and if found illegal, that the voter "shall be subject to the penalties provided by law for perjury." And in order that the tribunals may proceed upon evidence of the highest nature, it is provided, "That it shall be the duty of the commissioners of election to have a copy of the above oath at the head of a list which all persons allowed to vote, on oath, shall be compelled to sign