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THE DAILY BEE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 5.

The Norsemen Mail failed yesterday from beyond Augusta.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

According to the latest returns of the election in France for members of the Legislative Assembly, the number of opposition representatives chosen does not exceed eleven. The Legislative Assembly is composed of some three hundred members, each of the eighty-six Departments into which France is divided being entitled to not less than one delegate, and the more populous Departments sending from three to ten. Of the eleven opposition representatives, five were elected in the Department of the Seine, embracing the city of Paris and its environs. The remaining six are from remote points of the Empire. The entire strength of the opposition constitutes so feeble a fraction in proportion to the overwhelming power of the Imperialists, that they will be unable to wield the slightest influence, and are hardly numerous enough to form the nucleus of a party. Think of the House of Representatives of Congress consisting of two hundred and twenty-two Democrats and eleven Freesoilers, and we may conceive how utterly impotent such an opposition would be. Besides, the simple fact of the election of the eleven Republicans in France places them in a dilemma almost fatal to all attempts on their part to organize an opposition. According to the political creed of CAVAIGNAC and his associates, LOUIS NAPOLEON is an usurper and a tyrant, to whom no allegiance is due. If they persist in adhering to this principle, they cannot take their seats in the Legislative Assembly, for they must bind themselves by oath to recognize and respect the Empire and its head. If, by some quibble of conscience or profound political casuistry, they reconcile themselves that they may properly take the oath, not only will they provoke the distrust, and perhaps the hostility of their most ardent supporters, but will voluntarily divest themselves of the only weapon they can possibly wield against the Government. The moment they swear allegiance to the Emperor they cease to be Republicans. How they are to escape from their embarrassing position does not seem very clear.

Some of our newspapers, whose knowledge of France and her politics is singularly superficial, attach altogether undue importance to the partial and meagre success of the Republicans. They argue that because the latter have elected about one-thirtieth of the entire representation, a formidable opposition is inevitable; that the popularity of LOUIS NAPOLEON is disappearing, and that important political changes, and perchance a counter-revolution, are impending. Such opinions are really destitute of the smallest plausibility. All that is proved by the triumph of CAVAIGNAC and his comrades is, that in the city of Paris and a few other portions of the Empire the Republican creed of CAVAIGNAC and his associates still numbers considerable adherents—but admitting this to be a fact, it is not the less certain that the people of France have in the recent contest evinced their unaltered attachment to the present form of government and its able chief by an enormous and overpowering vote. It is manifest that the influence of the government contributed materially to its result. There is something in this, but not much. Had the French electors been opposed to LOUIS NAPOLEON and the Empire, rather the government candidates would have been defeated in a large number of districts, or the abstentions—to use a current phrase—would have been more numerous than the votes. Now neither of these signs of opposition was apparent. The vote was particularly large, exceeding, we believe, nine millions, and more than ninety-five hundredths of the government candidates were successful. The patronage and power of office are not to be underrated. They may turn a doubtful election. They may change votes enough to secure a triumph in districts where the opposition equal the adherents of the government; but they cannot metamorphose an entire constituency, or annihilate the votes and votes of millions of electors. Making all due allowance for the fees and fears stirred in the mind of any unbiased observer that without such interference the result would have been substantially the same. Perhaps the opposition might have acquired somewhat more respectable dimensions, but further than this we do not believe it had the elements in it to form and possible majority.

The truth is, LOUIS NAPOLEON is the man of France; and an Empire, vigorous and unchallenged, relentless in the suppression of every symptom of insubordination, but humane in its policy, and paternal in its general character, is the government best suited to the national habits and traditions of France. There are thus all the conditions of the French Empire which will insure its continuance. The *coup d'état* was treachery and subjugation, yet it may have saved France from internal horrors. The censorship of the press and universal surveillance are odious and degrading, yet all experience has shown that the French press, when free, indulges in excesses detestable and insidious. Louis NAPOLEON understands the character of the people whom he governs. He gives them employment, and thus stays the hungry cry of the multitude. He gives them glory, and thus enlists the national reputation for valor and order in the heart of every Frenchman. He has placed France in the front rank of European nations, and has established her supremacy in arms to her ancient glory; and this alone is an achievement that would have lent him much of the prestige which he has enjoyed for years. Finally, he has thus far given prosperity to the Empire. Never was France more exempt from the evils of pauperism and mendicancy than at present. It matters not that this prosperity may not endure; that it is based on fictitious capital and expanded credit, and that it may at some future period be succeeded by terrible reverses. France feels the present good, and looks not to prospects and dangers ahead, while her sagacious but selfish Prince consolidates his power, erects his influences, places himself beyond the peril of intestine convulsions, and, if he ever dares to look upon the possibility of financial disturbance and universal suffering at some remote period, consoles himself probably by repeating the celebrated words of the Duke of Orleans—*après moi, le deluge.*

SIR BARNARD.—We stated yesterday, on the authority of the *St. Bernard* newspaper, that the Democrats of that parish had appointed delegates to a local convention, repudiating the nominations made at Benbrook, and instructing those delegates to vote for a new ticket headed by ALBERT FARRE as a candidate for Representative. We are requested by Mr. FARRE to state that the use of his name on that occasion was entirely unauthorized by him.

CITIZENS' BANK.—It will be seen by the notice in our advertising columns that a dividend of nine per cent. has been declared by the Board of Directors, payable to the cash stockholders of the bank from and after Monday next. The prosperity of the Citizens' Bank is the legitimate result of its admirable administration.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILROAD.—The offices of this company have been removed from No. 45 Carondelet street to the New Depot Buildings, on Calliope street.

THE TRIUMPHANT COMPANY.—We publish in to-day's paper the charter of the Triumphant Company. This document is the fruit of the judicious and prudent compromise effected with the representatives of the Margou claims. The company now stands on a stable and permanent basis, and will, we doubt not, pursue a career of uninterrupted prosperity.

It will be seen by our advertising columns that the steamer *Lecomte* will take the place of the steamer *Cora* in the Belize and Honduras coast trade, while the latter is repairing. The *Lecomte* will leave every Saturday and Wednesday, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

TELEGRAPH TO CUBA.—An international treaty between the United States and Spain allows telegraphic communication to be made between the United States and Cuba; and, in furtherance of a plan to secure such a connection via Florida, a general law was passed by that State and approved by the Governor, December 27th, 1856, providing for the organization of a company to carry out the enterprise proposed.

The Cuban government has made the necessary concessions, and the ratification of the home government is only needed to warrant the commencement of the work, which will require but six months for its completion. We understand that the requisite funds are already provided.

The Patent-Office has received from California a new brandy, which is named California grape brandy. This liquor is said to possess an excellent flavor, and to be far more palatable than the best brandy imported from Europe.

We had intended following up our article on the frequency of critics by suggestions of specific as well as general remedies for the evils. Our friends of the *Bulletin* have, however, anticipated us in this respect, and have put forward views on which we positively ecstasize. The subjoined extract from an article on legal reform is that paper, expresses clearly and forcibly our own opinions:

The subject is too broad and too important for anything like a full discussion within the limits at our command; but we may indicate in few words one of the legal reforms which we think absolutely indispensable for our safety. In the first place, we would get rid of the fallacy of a jury consisting of twelve men as a verdict. This we deem a fatal and paramount step. We know well the objections that will be raised against it, which have hitherto prevailed to make eminently necessary to a verdict in criminal cases. So long as we demand a unanimous verdict, just so long will murderers, with hands all dripping with the gore of their fellow-beings, be turned loose to re-enact their horrid tragedies. How often has it occurred in this very city and elsewhere that one man has hung a jury, and thereby secured the release of a villain, when the plain, unbiased opinion of eleven of the twelve jurors came into the box with the previous determination to wound perjury and acquit the guilty! As a general rule, we think it will be found that the majority of a jury may be relied upon to unite on right principles. We are equally satisfied that in a multitude of cases there may be some upon a jury who cannot be thus relied upon, and as juries are now constituted, they have it in their power to control their colleagues and thwart the ends of justice.

Another reform we think indispensable is such a change in the law as will secure the best talent men for jurors in criminal cases. Very far from it. But it is within the certain knowledge of most of our readers that in desperate cases the rights of challenge now allowed by law has for one of its effects the placing in the jury box of men who either cannot or do not need what intelligent man in New Orleans takes no daily paper—of a ghastly crime, like the one committed on Saturday last in broad daylight in Canal street, which the whole community with indignation, be committed, what man will not read the reports of it in the papers, and what man can help forming a part of an "opinion" concerning it? But if he has formed any "opinion of the guilt or innocence of the accused," whether he declares that or not, he dare that that "opinion" could be either changed or confirmed by testimony or not. He must swear falsely—and the process of challenging will continue till twelve men be found who have never read anything about the transaction, and will therefore duly qualified to act as jurors. It is under the operation of practices like these that *justice* has degenerated into a farce, a sham, and a mockery, and that the reformed, say we—reformed principle, should be enforced.

MASS RATIFICATION.—The Democracy of Baltimore city recently held a Convention, and a resolution approving WALKER's course in Kansas and Mr. Buchanan's policy thereon was offered, but "ungraciously" laid on the table by ayes 34 to nays 15. If this course is much longer followed by the "only *national* (?) party," the principle that "a man is not without honor save in the house of his friends," will have, in Buchanan's case, a practical verification.

UNFORTUNATE.—F. J. MERTHEIM has returned to Westfield, Mass., where he is in a hopeless condition, having been robbed of all his money on the streets of Dubuque on the Hampden Bank, by means of chloroform while in the "Mississippi House," at Dubuque, Iowa. The landlord refused to assist him, and a letter in the Springfield *Argus* says: "The house and landlord should be marked with suspicion of being the barbinegers and confederates of thieves and rogues. Another man in the same house and on the same night, was relieved of $6000, by the administering of chloroform or ether."

OHIO.—In the Second Congressional District, Wm. H. SEWARD has been nominated as the candidate of the opposition.

DEATH OF SENATOR BIGG.—The *Prospero Iberno*, by a gentleman from Ngorgodoches, that Gen. BIGG committed suicide on the 29th ult., by shooting himself through the head with a rifle. No cause is assigned for the dreadful deed.

From Salt Lake City.

We have details of the news from Utah to the 7th instant.

The Mormons had received tidings of the military preparations of the government, but the news had excited little alarm. The sons of Young's organ is confident and boastful. Federal office-holders are affectionately informed that Utah is not a desirable abiding place for them, and that "they will not find it congenial to their health." Governmental appointments for Territories are denounced in unmeasured terms as a relic of barbarous colonial usage. The Nauvoo Legion, encasing who and Mormons, is changed into a corps of militia. Brigham Young having suggested the propriety of his office ceasing, Walker, to the abolition spirit of the North. Such he considered Walker's course in Kansas. He was born a Democrat—raised to have much reverence for the name, but could not, for the sake, dear as it was, go with a party against his native South. He felt it to be his duty to oppose it, and he should dare to do his duty.

THE PAPER ON MR. MARCY'S BUSHROOM.—*Harper's Weekly* relates the following anecdotes of Mr. Marcy:

While he was Governor of this State, he was visiting Newburgh on some public delicacy, and with a party of gentlemen, Whigs and Democrats, was at the Orange Hotel. Good humor was prevailing, and each story suggested another. The Governor always enjoyed a story, and could tell one with exceeding effect. A lawyer was present, and the Governor, recognizing him, said:

"Ah, yes, I'll tell you a good story of Spooner. The other day he came up to Albany, on his way to the Whig convention at Utica, and he took it in his way to call on me to get a pardon for a convict at Sing Sing. I heard the case, examined the documents, and being satisfied that all was right, agreed to grant the request. Spooner called for the paper to endorse, and I wrote—'Let pardon be granted. W. L. Marcy.' when Spooner called out, 'Hold, hold, Governor! that's the wrong paper!' And sure enough, it was a *Whig speech that he was going to make at Utica*, adjuring them to support principles way.—But I had granted pardon in advance, and I supposed he committed the offence afterwards."

The story was received with great applause, and Spooner, being looked to for a response, instantly went on with the following, which, for an extempore story, certainly is capital:

"Yes, gentlemen—yes, I did. And when the convention was over we went to Niagara Falls, and as we were all on the Clifton House balcony, I observed a venerable old gentleman with long white hair and on the same balcony, I observed a venerable old gentleman with long white hair and one of those broad-brimmed hats they wear down in Quaker settlements. Just then a boy came up to the old gentleman and said, 'Father, mother wants you to come down to dinner.' The old gentleman replied, 'Tell your mother I will be down presently.' Presently the boy returned, and said, 'Father, mother says you must