The New-Orleans Bee.

No. 344. VOL. VIII.—NEW SERIES.
VOL. XXI.—WHOLE No. 3443.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF GENERAL COUNCIL.——NEW-ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 17, 1848.

HAGNE & REIMS, PROPRIETORS,
No. 81 Chartres and 18 Camp street.

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DAILY PAPER (one year in advance).....$12 00
COMMERCIAL PAPER (one week) (one year in advance).....5 00

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Monday Morning, April 17, 1848.

The Banquet.

The banquet given at the Orleans Ball Room on Saturday, in honor of the French Revolution, was one of the most brilliant festivals ever witnessed in our city. About 700 persons sat down to the sumptuous repast provided. The wars and stripes of America, and the tri-color of France, waved together their friendly folds in every corner of the spacious hall, and a select band of musicians performed, during the banquet, a number of appropriate, patriotic and inspiring airs. The occasion was marked by the utmost cordiality, harmony and good feeling.

When the cloth was removed, the following address was read by Dr. VATTIER:

To the French People:

BRETHREN:—"In overturning an equitocating government, that had never been sanctioned by your suffrages, you have done nothing but what was legitimate and just; but, in subverting it without punishing the usurper, you have extorted the respect and admiration of all who, since 1830, had continued to doubt your magnanimity after victory. Let the glory, then, be yours!

"Penetrated with the sacredness of the mission of which you are the apostles, you will continue, calm and patient, the work of social regeneration you have proclaimed, to the encouragement of the timid and the confusion of detractors.

"As Frenchmen resident in New Orleans, we who will share the benefit and glory of your labors without participating in the toils and dangers of the enterprise, we consider it right in proffering to our brethren, who are perilled in their noble task, the pledge that we are ready and to you who are seven thousand leagues from us, to offer, in the language of our ancestors, to be all that you have been—faithful, and the assurance of our cordial participation for the success of the great work, which yet remains to be achieved, in view of our happiness and prosperity of the French Republic."

This address was adopted by acclamation, and ordered to be despatched to the French Minister at Washington, to be by him transmitted to the Provisional Government.

Then followed the regular toasts, of which we have only room for the following:

The French Republic—Hailed to her American sister, with the banner of civilization unfurled, she will encourage the world for the happiness of the human race.

The Provisional Government—A lawyer-band has never been crowned upon human intelligence. Thanks to its members who have proved themselves worthy of their mission.

Louisiana—Her children were once our brothers—they are now our most cherished allies. Whether near or far, we will express a tender recollection of them.

The American Press—The ardor of its sympathy for our revolution should not surprise us. It has been fighting in the same cause for seventy-two years.

A number of animated and eloquent speeches were made. Among the orators who stirred the hearts of the multitude, were M. Roger, the French Consul, Gov. Johnson, Messrs. Preaux, Rene, Masson, Reynolds, Dimitry, Canonge, and others. In the course of the evening, patriotic songs and chorus were chaunted, and the festival assumed the character of a regular jubilee, at which the enthusiasm and excitability of our French friends manifested themselves in rather noisy but perfectly good humored demonstrations. The company did not separate till a very late hour.

Correspondence of the Bee.

WASHINGTON, April 31st, 1848.

The Senate at a late hour yesterday passed resolutions sympathizing with the republican movement in France, which were despatched by express, to meet the steamer United States at New York. The vote was unanimous, although there were some few Senators, who like Mr. Calhoun, were desirous of proceeding calmly and of awaiting the issue of the revolution. Such is the impetuousness of party, that these great public questions cannot be considered with the deliberation that should attach to them; every demonstration is seized upon for popular effect and to advance party supremacy. Every American heart must naturally sympathise with the great step in the career of human progress, which has just been taken by the French people—it should end where it has been begun, much—very much will have been achieved.

But, we must hope for better and larger results. We must hope to see a sound constitution adopted and cemented by those safeguards and restrictions, which alone can secure pure and permanent liberty.

It is a great leap which France has made from royalty to republicanism and one, which whatever may be its consequences, elevates her against retrograding. We cannot go backward. There is an element at the bottom of this revolution, of vast and vital consequence, and upon which its stability and success seriously depends. It is the question of *bread*. If occupation can be found for suffering labor, and judiciously distributed, no power can restore the semblance of the ancien régime. If, in the operation of the workshops, the provisional Government exhibits much wisdom, both as to this temporary employment, it will be enabled, it is to be hoped, to devise a more extensive and lasting system. After all, *bread* is the great pacificator and leveller. No throne can stand before a starving people, and no Government can prevail, which does not provide against the contingency. Much. There is more practical philosophy on this simple proposition, than in all the theories which have bewildered christendom for ages. When a people want bread, the government alone is assailed, because reason lures to sway and vague change offers a prospect of relief to none can be for the worse. Now, the rich are subject to the same common law, as essence being independent in our nature.

The Circuit Court of the District, delivered its unanimous opinion this morning declaring their want of jurisdiction over the case of Mr. John Nugent, the correspondent, held under arrest by the Senate. He was therefore remanded into the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms.—From recent indications, I am inclined to believe the Senate will make an order to release him from confinement, for what satisfaction can be to that chamber to hold his body, when there is no prospect that he will divulge any information, other than he has already communicated. He has how paid a dear penalty and if the Senate will proceed to frame a law or regulation, defining what constitutes *contempt*, it will render a service to the country and protect itself from any further indications.

While Mr. Allen, was earnestly appealing to the Senate yesterday for the adoption of his resolutions, extending sympathy to France, an incident occurred, which for a moment took the whole Chamber by surprise. Suddenly, a man, who was occupying a seat in the Gentlemen's gallery, leaped across the reporters desks and planted himself upon the carved Eagle, which surmounts the Vice-President's Chair, exclaiming in a loud voice, "I protest against that man speaking for the people of Ohio!" The doors were opened upon which his weight rested, visibly terrified under the load, and manifest consternation pervaded every countenance, for the fate of the intruder, as well as of the officers who were rising, alternately between him and as he was jerked backwards, as unexpectedly, as he had advanced. Upon inquiry, he turned out to be a respectable and wealthy citizen of Cincinnati—Gen Price, who in prosecuting religious investigation, has had his brain deranged. Certainly, there was much method, as well as truth, in the exclamation which he made, in mounting the pinnacle.

Letters have been received here from various sources in Mexico, which express serious apprehensions of the effect of the suspension of Gen. Scott, from the command of the army. This result was anticipated from the time the order was issued by the Department, and we shall be more than fortunate, if the Treaty is ratified, without serious embarrassment proceeding from this cause. This proceeding is only in character and keeping, with the conduct of the Administration to every Whig officer of note, since the opening of the war. It was the reward and gratitude, which Gen Taylor received for his patriotic and valuable services and which every other like man—*if any there be*—should in no happen; that the war was to be prosecuted further.

The Senate is now sitting under the infliction of a heavy debate, upon the bill from the Judiciary, to relieve the Judges of the Supreme Court from Circuit duty for the term of one year to enable them to bring up the delinquent business. The fate is somewhat doubtful, as it is advocated and opposed with equal zeal. They will probably get the question to-day, and I think will concur with the House.

Private bills are the order of the day in the House.

The contested election case has been postponed by consent, to avoid the return of a member of importance. It can be called up at any time, bring a question of privilege.

HOMO.

☞ The *Patria* comes to us under date to a sister with an English and Spanish side—The English department is conducted by Mr. Mathewson, and gives evidence of spirit, enterprise and ability. The proprietors and editors have our cordial wishes for their continued prosperity.

The News by the Washington.

The New York papers of the 8th teem with details of the intelligence by the steamer *Washington*. She arrived at New York on the afternoon of the 7th inst. The news is of the highest importance. The example of France has been followed in Austria and Prussia, in both of which capitals fighting has taken place, and many lives lost. Prince Metternich has been dismissed. Germany wishes for a German parliament, a national flag, and a confederate army—Hungary is said to have declared for a republic—Lombardy is on the eve of insurrection—the peasants in Wurtemburg are burning down the castles of the nobility—all the States are arming—commerce is at a stand still, and a European war or the general establishment of democracy is imminent.

The Duke and Duchess of Montpensier left London very suddenly; and it is rumored that they were told to leave by the foreign office. After the sacking of the Tuileries, some of Louis Philippe's documents were seized and sent to M. de Lamartine. It is rumored that they contained the clue of a plot to poison the Queen of Spain. These papers were sent to Lord Normandy, who, in his turn, sent them to the foreign office. We give this as a rumor current in society in Paris. The rumor, however, became so loud, that an official paragraph has been inserted in the *Independance Belge* as follows:—

"We have authority to state that the Duke and Duchess of Montpensier did not receive notification to quit England."

No notice has been taken of this paragraph. There is a plot on foot.

At a grand ball at St. Petersburg, on the 8th, an aid-de-camp suddenly entered and gave a slip of paper to the Emperor. His Majesty changed color, and with a sign of his hand, he bid the music stop. Turning to the officers, he said—

"Gentlemen, France is a republic; you must be ready to put foot in stirrup at a moment's notice."

A change of ministry is not unlikely in England, notwithstanding Lord John had a majority on the three years additional income tax.

Louis Philippe continues to go by the name of Comte de Neuilly.

St. Patrick's Day passed off in Ireland without any of that seditious and serious disturbance which was feared.

Queen Victoria has given birth to a princess. This is an increase to the taxes of Great Britain of £30,000.

France.

The Proclamation of the Provisional Government to the French people.

CITIZENS—In all the great acts of the life of a people, it becomes the duty of the government to make its voice be heard by the nation.

You are about to accomplish the greatest act of the life of a people; to choose the representatives of the country, to produce from your convocations and from your suffrages not a mere government but an organic constitution. You are going to organise the Republic.

For our part we have only proclaimed it. Carried by acclamation to power during the interregnum of the people, we did not wish, and we do not now wish, for any other dictatorship but that of absolute necessity. If we had relived the past of peril, we should have been cowards. If we should remain in it one hour more than necessity commands, we should be usurpers. Your salons are strong. We count the days. We hasten to give back the republic to the nation.

The provisional election law which we have made is the widest that in any nation of the earth has ever invoked a people to the exercise of the sufferage right of its will, by the sovereignty. The election belongs to all without exception. Every Frenchman of virile age is a political citizen. Every citizen is an elector. Every elector is a sovereign. The law is equal and absolute for all. There is no citizen who can say to another, "You are more sovereign than I." Contemplate your power. Prepare to exercise it, and be worthy of entering upon possession of your reign. The reign of the people is called the republic.

"If you ask us what republic we understand to wish for, and what principles, what politics, what system, we desire in the republicans who are going to elect—we answer, "Regard the people of Paris and of France since the proclamation of the republic." The people have fought with humanity. The people have triumphed with humanity. The people have suppressed anarchy from the first hour. The people shall, immediately after the combat, broken the weapon of the angry, it shall burn the scaffold. It has proclaimed the abolition of the punishment of death against its enemies. It has respected individual liberty by not prescribing any one. It has respected conscience in religion, which it wishes to be free, but which it wishes to be without inequality and without privilege. It has respected property, has pushed probity to those instances of sublime disinterestedness which are the admiration and the charm of history. It has chosen everywhere, in order to offer to the nation, at its head, the names of the most honest and the foremost men who have fallen under its hand. It has not uttered a cry of hatred or of envy against fortunes. Not a cry of vengeance against persons. It has made, in one word, of the name of the people, the name of courage, of clemency, and of virtue. We have not asked a single instruction to give you. Inspire ourselves with the people imitate it. Think, feel, vote, act like it. For its own part, the provisional government will not imitate the governments which are usurpers of the sovereignty of the people, which wound corrupt the electors, and which would buy an immoral peace the conscience of the country. What would be the good of succeeding by those governments, if it were only to imitate them? What would be the good of having created and adored the Republic, if the Republic were to enter from the first day of its existence into the track of the abolished royalty? It considers itself only as the guardian of the sacred power of the election that light which illuminates conscience without oppressing them. It limits itself to the neutralizing of the hostile influence of the old administrations, which has perverted and destroyed the right of election. The Provisional Government wishes that the conscience of the people should be its reign. It wishes itself with the old parties. The old parties love grown older by an age in three days. The republic will convince them, if it be sure and just to them. Necessity is a great motor. The republic, know it well, has the happiness to be a government of necessity. Reflection is for us. It is impossible to return to the impossible realities. No more attempts to descend to unknown anarchy. We shall be republicans by reason. Give only security, liberty, and respect for all; insure to others the independence of suffrages which you wish for yourselves. Do not notice what name those whom you believe to be your enemies write upon the bulletins, and be sure beforehand that they will write but only name that can save them; that is to say, that of a capable and honest republican. Security, liberty, respect for the consciences of all citizens who are electors; that is the invocation of a Republican Government that is its duty, that is yours. That is the safety of the people! Have confidence in the good sense of the country. It will have confidence. Give it liberty, and it will one day back the Republic.

"Citizens, France is attempting, at the moment—in the midst of some financial difficulties, bequeathed to her by royalty—but, under the evidently good auspices, the greatest work of modern times, the institution of the government of the entire people—the organization of the democracy—the Republic of all souls, of all interests, of all the intelligences and of all the virtues! Circumstances are propitious. Peace is possible. The new idea may be able to take its place in Europe, without any perturbation but that of the jealousies which people have against it. There is no anger in the minds of the people. If the legitimate royalty has not carried away with it all the enemies of the Republic, it has left their powerless; and although they are invested with all the rights which the public gratitude reserves to minorities, their interest and their prudence insure us that they will not themselves trouble the peaceable foundation of the popular constitution.

"In three days that work which it was thought would be postponed to distant times, had been accomplished without a drop of blood being spilt in the streets, without any other cry but that of admiration being heard in our departments, or on our frontiers. Let us not lose this unique occasion in history. Let us not abdicate the greatest force of the new idea—the security which it inspires in citizens, the astonishment which it inspires in the world.

"Yet a few days of magnanimity, of devotion, of patience, and the National Assembly will receive from our hands the new-born republic. From that day all will be saved. When the nation, by the hands of its representatives, shall have seized the republic, the republic will be strong and great, like the nation; holy, like the idea of the people; imperishable, like the country. (*patrie.*)

"The members of the Provisional Government:—DUPONT (DE L'EURE.) LAMARTINE, MARRAST, GARNIER PAGES, ALBERT, MARIE, LEDRU ROLLIN, FLOCON, CREMIEUX, LOUIS BLANC, ARAGO.

"The Secretary-General—PAGNERRE."

The greatest tranquility reigns in the city, and in all the departments. The mechanics have resumed work, and every one seems to have forgotten that a revolution has taken place.

Mr. Ferdinand Flocon, one of the members of the Provisional Government, is sick.

PARIS, (Sunday night) March 19.—The city is tranquil. There has been no renewal of the demonstrations. The Provisional Government has postponed the election of officers of the national guard till the 5th of April. It is decided that the elections for the National Assembly shall not be adjourned.

The new five franc pieces of the Republic were put into circulation to-day. The Bank of France gives cash for its specie to those who require silver to pay their subscriptions.

Dupont de l'Eure, formerly resident at Rouen, Provisional Government, deceased the occasion of a demonstration in Rouen. Not one of the place where he was shot.

"A deputation from Berlin arrived yesterday at the Government of Berlin demanding that the Government of Berlin demand the recognition of the Provisional Government of Berlin. The Government of Berlin promised to do so. The deputation then demanded the recognition of the Provisional Government of Berlin, which it promised to do