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LEGAL ADVERTISING PAPER.—NEW-ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, MAY 10, 1847.

MAGNE & WEBBER, PROPRIETORS,
No. 81 Chartres, and 18 Camp street.

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Alexander Gardiner,
(Clerk of the United States District Court)
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
Calle Nueva (Gravier) 10 entrada,
Commissioner for Louisiana, &c.
(New York City.)

The New-Orleans Daily Bee.

Monday Morning, May 10, 1847.

Report of the Grand Jury.

This is an able document—concise, perspicuous and candid. It bears evident marks of the clear and vigorous style of JAMES H. CALDWELL, foreman of the jury. The report expresses satisfaction that so few cases of crime have been brought before the jury during its present term, and attributes it to the excellent and efficient police regulations of the three Municipalities.

The Grand Jury visited the several workhouses and prisons. The Parish prison is clean and in perfect order, but requires some repairs. The floors of the rooms on the basement story are too low, and liable to inundation. The gratings are too small for the purposes of ventilation. The Parish prison is extremely insecure, as is proved by the recent escape of sundry of its inmates. The jury recommend that two watchmen be stationed outside the walls of the prison, until permanent means are adopted to prevent the egress of criminals.

Of the Police Jail, the report speaks in high terms. Cleanness is the distinguishing merit of this establishment. The workhouse of the 3d Municipality is airy, spacious and clean. The prisoners however complain of being stinted in their allowance of bread, and the jury recommend that the quantity given to each inmate should be increased. They likewise request the District Attorney to enquire into a case of alleged inhumanity practised on one of the prisoners.

The workhouse of Municipality No. 2, merits great praise. The internal arrangements and economy of the establishment are perfect. Complaint is made of the protracted detention of prisoners for costs of Court. Some modification of the law seems necessary, and a man cannot pay costs while immured in prison, nor obtain security, as a stranger. The Grand Jury call particular attention to two points: first, the imperfection and unnecessary harshness of the vagrant laws: second, the baleful consequences of the promiscuous association of men and boys in the workhouses and prisons. In respect to the first, the report disapproves of the exorbitant powers exercised under the vagrant laws, by the Recorders and Justices of the Peace, and thinks that many and crying abuses have followed. The observations of the report on this head merit republication in full.

The uncontrolled discretion vested in one individual—the proceedings and mode of trial—the severity of the punishment compared with the character of the offence—the lame and imperfect means of redress tendered to those who are aggrieved by them—all the main features of this law tender an anomalous enormity in the legislation of a people professing so much tenderness and regard for the personal liberty of the citizen. Indeed it has swept away, with one breath, all the safe-guards which, in *other cases*, are thrown around the accused for the protection of his personal character. This Vagrant law of 1841 seems to have been framed in unison with a view to fill the Workhouses than to prevent crime. No wonder that abuses have arisen in the administration of such a law. No wonder that the complaints of those who suffer from these abuses should have been loud and bitter. Some of them (mechanics) had been confined several months—they knew not the cause of their confinement—they had in vain endeavored to communicate with their friends out of doors—in vain asked for a trial by Jury. Others had been committed for breaches of the peace, until they should furnish bail for their good behavior. Under the authority of what law the description of prisoners are detained in the Workhouse, the Grand Jury know not. They are informed by the District Attorney that the Parish Prison is the proper place for them.

The Act of 1805, December 5th, relative to vagrants, directs "that the names of all prisoners are entered in virtue of such act, their surnames, name, place, residence, and the cause of their arrest, shall be advertised in two of the newspapers of the city." The object of this provision is obvious. The friends or acquaintance of the prisoner, being informed of his situation, would come to his assistance, by furnishing evidence of character and the security required by the act. But this beneficial disposition—this only relieving feature of the bad law—has long been entirely disregarded, although not conflicting with any of the dispositions of the act of 1841, and, therefore, not repealed by it. The Grand Jury deem it their duty to call the attention of the law officers of the State to this subject. The harshness of the law in this respect, has some that tempered by a mild and merciful administration of it.

A branch of the abuses of this arbitrary, and as we, the Grand Jury, believe to be unconstitutional law, is to the regulation which compels a man to labor without having a share in it. Vagrants and mechanics are arrested and from thirty days to six months, whose sole offence has been that they were found drunk in the streets. The rules of the Workhouse exact their services, and mechanic and laborer are set to work without the slightest regard to their peculiar condition on the expiration of their time or accounts. What a poor unfortunate, who neither has money nor a shilling in his pocket—his self-esteem blunted by his degradation—no wonder he avoids society, associating only with outcasts—like himself, and like them, finding himself again, from the same cause, working out for the public and none for himself. Mechanics have been in these prisons, who have earned $3 per diem in the meanest picker of oakum, or rock-stone breaker per diem. What inhumanity in that law, to incarcerate a man under the plea that he has no visible means of existence, and then force labor from him and allow him no remuneration in its profits. The Grand Jury are of opinion, that if the law were modified, so that the whole of the profits of the labor in the Workhouses and Prisons, of this class of unfortunate persons, were paid to them *pro rata* with their earnings, that many would leave the city for their homes, with resolutions of reform; but having no means, deprived by a cruel and despotic law of the fruits of their own earnings, they are plunged again into the same vices for which they have in part paid the penalty.

With respect to the promiscuous intercourse between men and boys in the Prisons and Workhouses, the Grand Jury know of no better and surer remedy than the establishment of Houses of Refuge, which would at once isolate juvenile delinquents from older and more hardened offenders, and render more probable the complete reformation of all who are not thoroughly irreclaimable. Such an institution would provide a home and means of subsistence for many a destitute orphan who now earns a precarious livelihood by questionable pursuits, and is gradually becoming familiarized with human nature in its most depraved aspects.

The Grand Jury, in closing their report, pay a passing tribute to the District Attorney, "for the bland, amiable and business, like manner in which he has concluded the cases before them."

The Webster Dinner.

The Citizens of Richmond tendered to Mr. Webster a public dinner during the sojourn of that distinguished gentleman in the city. The Richmond papers contain copious accounts of this festivity, in which leading men of both parties united. The sentiment which drew out Mr. Webster was the following, offered by Mr. Macfarland:

Hon. Daniel Webster:—Honor to the statesman and jurist who is an honor to his country.

Mr. Webster rose, says the Richmond *Times*, and proceeded for about an hour in a speech which absorbed the whole attention of the company, and of which we shall endeavor to give a sketch (however imperfect) on Monday. The honorable speaker dwelt upon the Constitution of the Union as the great achievement of the age, in a manner which none but himself can eulogize, referred to its history, the circumstances of its origin, the men who had formed it, and the benefits it has wrought to the country. He concluded with the noble declaration, that "to that chain of amity which ought to bind England and America," Other speeches were made, several of them alluding, in terms of high eulogy, to the ample provision that has been made for the comfort and improvement of the laboring classes that may be employed about these docks, and mentioning the fact, that during the festival the American ship Oregon had arrived—the first that had ever moored there. After the repast was over, the new Park was thrown open, and in the evening a splendid ball took place in the rooms of the Warehouse Company.

The Liverpool Times, in a review of the state of the foreign relations of England, counts confidently on peace with France, in consequence of the dependence of the latter for food upon foreign supplies, which, in case of war, could be cut off. "England is now," says the Times, "in a time of peace feeding the people of France out of its supplies." The question very naturally arises, who is feeding the people of England? The Times expects, with equal confidence, peace with the United States.

"A new and profitable commerce is every day rendering a free intercourse with this country more necessary to the people of the Great Western Valley, the future, and almost the present arbiters of the American republic. This year the English market will be worth eight or ten millions sterling to the growers of grain and the producers of live stock, in the States of Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Tennessee, as well as being worth as much to the cotton growers of the cotton plains and hollows of Mexico. The subscription to buy Mr Dupera a home, amounted yesterday to $300.

MEETINGS.—Several meetings have taken place during the week past for the relief of the poor Irish who are now in our city, and who have suffered so much on their passage from Ireland. We hope that every one will contribute his mite towards alleviating the sufferings of those unhappy people.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT.—None but civil causes were argued on Saturday before this Court. Several bills were laid before the Grand Jury, who ignored that against Benjamin Harding, *alias* Chase, for stabbing with intent to kill. A *nolle* bill was found against Jacques Ferrand, for embezzlement, and another *nolle* against Nathaniel Lewis, for entering a house with intent to steal.

HON. ISAAC DESHAZO.—Mr Superior Blanchard, charged with receiving stolen goods, was brought up on Saturday before Recorder Genois, and was honorably discharged by His Honor, the charge proving to be wholly unfounded.

INQUEST.—The Coroner on Saturday held an inquest on the body of a white man, found drowned in the river opposite Fort street, in the 3d Municipality. The deceased was about thirty-five years of age. Verdict accordingly.

Majority of New Orleans.

In compliance with resolutions passed by the General Council of the city of New Orleans, on Monday, the 3d day of May, inst., requesting the Mayor to issue his proclamation, designating a day on which the citizens may be called upon to testify by a general illumination, the admiration and gratitude towards the brave officers and soldiers, who have so nobly fought for us on the American native soil, during the late glorious, and repeated victories on the fields of Mexico, I, the undersigned, Mayor of the city of New Orleans, briefly reminding the fellow citizens, and keepers of Public Houses, in the three Municipalities, to illuminate their respective houses on Saturday evening, the 15th of May, the Block council of the same are invited to illuminate their respective Hall and Public Squares. And all Captains of vessels in port are requested to hoist their flags from sunrise to sunset, on the above appointed day.

A. D. CROSSMAN, Mayor.

The Commissioner of Patents, in the late report just published, commends to Congress the revival of the agricultural reports of the office. He says:

"The concurring testimony of very large number of intelligent citizens from every State and district in the Union, received in this office, furnishes convincing proof of the beneficial influence of the agricultural reports of the Patent Office. They have stimulated and fostered the agency of Congress, to every district in the Union; they have penetrated every neighborhood and been read in almost every family. They have also attracted the attention of the State Government, declaring its intention to despatch a sloop-of-war to Ireland with a cargo of provisions, supplied by Boston and the State of New-York—the expense of the fringe, glue, stuffing, &c. Also—the game of thirty, one complete, and twenty, one wanting, of the game in three languages, French, English and Spanish.

B. A. & C. Live constantly on hand—Ivory Set and Bone Bohard Tables, Ivory Billiard Tables with India Rubber Bands in different styles, and various other kinds. They keep workmen in command for repairing or altering tables in city, and all orders addressed to them will be promptly attended to.

In the same establishment, and on hand, a variety of some of the most valuable and useful articles of Mechanical genius, which have been invented and patented in the Union, some of them being in use since 1844—Water cracks and measure leaves for sale. Also one only cock with three or more gallons of water without a chamber.

There are some of these articles of a very large extent of Portable Cooking Stoves for Launches, &c., so as to have a boat and in which thirty persons can be fed with good wholesome food in an hour. This is a very useful article for steamboats and ships.

Also—an assortment of kitchen paraphernalia of English, French and American manufacture.

Goods sold at the establishment will be warranted to be the performers and their prices will be moderate.

☞ Persons wishing to patronize the above establishment, will please address or call on B. A. & C.

FRENCH DRY GOODS.

RECEIVED per ships J. N. Cooper, Nicolas Cerneau, Lizette, and others from Havre, and for sale on his premises:

2 bales heavy cottonade, 9 do printed jaconets, 2 do printed percales, 3 do printed lawns, 4 bales colored jaconets, 3 do printed calicoes, 4 do plaid and striped gingham, 10 do mousseline de laines, 2 do black, 1 do figd do, 1 case cambric embroidered brlns, 1 do printed large, 1 do plaid ginga, 1 do net glaces and mittens, 2 cases gentlemen's hosiery and gloves, 8 do cold cream, 10 do pomatum, 8 do Cologne water, 12 and 1 4 do, 1 do satin rib bons.

DUFOUR, DURANT & Co.
23, Chartres.

BORDEAUX CLARET.—35 cases claret, Old Bermans, 75 do. do. Cte. Neuf, H Brion, Quyzier and Chateau Beychevelle, 1841, 1842, and 1844; 50 cases Claret St Estephe and St Julien Margaux, 1842; 25 cases Claret, St Estephe and St Julien, 1845; 25 do cases Claret, St Estephe and St Julien, 1846; 25 cases Claret, St Estephe and St Julien, 1847; 25 cases Barsac and Sauternes, 1844; 25 cases Barsac and Sauternes, 1845; 25 cases Barsac and Sauternes, 1846; 25 cases Barsac and Sauternes, 1847; 25 cases Claret, Cte. Neuf, H Brion, Quyzier and Chateau Beychevelle, 1841, 1842, and 1844; 50 cases Claret St Estephe and St Julien Margaux, 1842; 25 cases Claret, St Estephe and St Julien, 1845; 25