THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.

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NEW ORLEANS DAILY BEE,
REPUBLICAN EXPONENT AT
No. 73 Chartres Street.
NEW ORLEANS:
THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 18, 1866.

Suppression This Evening.

St. Charles Theatre.—Mr. and Mrs. Kean in Hamlet.

Varieties Theatre.—Farewell to Colonel Sellers, Charlotte Thompson.

Academy of Music.—Ballet, singing, pantomime, "Damocles," etc.

Italian Opera.—Gounod's Opera of Faust.

Miss Havana.—The splendid steamship Evening Star, which is advertised to leave our port next Saturday, 20th instant, will ship at Havana on the way to New York.

A Splendid Dramatic Troupe.—It is expected that a French dramatic company will organize about the first of February in New Orleans. Some of very talented people will compose it. The range of performances will be large, comedy, vaudeville, comic opera and ballet. The experienced, expert, indefatigable, and genial and popular M. Lafarge is the business director of the enterprise, and will continue to be highly receiving solicitations for two or four performances.

A Beautiful Wonderful Picture.—We have enjoyed the pleasure of seeing a large picture in oriental work by Madame Marie Kaiser, wife of M. S. Kaiser, No. 68 Chartres street. It is either six feet by seven or eight feet in size, and is undoubtedly the largest of the kind ever seen in this city. The scene which it illustrates is the death of Douglas in the presence of Mary Stuart, surrounded by attendants and attended by a priest, as described by Sir Walter Scott. The pictorial effects which may be produced in any kind of work by female taste, skill, ingenuity and above all patience, it is really marvelous to behold. They recall our youthful credulity when we read in poetry and fable about whether explains by Arachne, Penelope, and the lovely but fated Lady of Shalott. Madame K. commenced the picture about five years ago and it is but just finished. Some of its lights and shades would do credit to a professional, and which is right coloring, it looks as a proper distance like a splendid oil painting.

Progressive Political Action in the South—John M. Botts and Negro Suffrage.

At the time of the military collapse of the Confederacy, the Southern mind was in the same state of exhaustion, and of passive acquiescence of the consequences of utter defeat, as the sphere of politics as in the field of arms. It would have been well, perhaps, for the people of the South at least, if they could have remained in that prostrate frame of mind for a period of indefinite length, or at least of indefinite power. Instead, by external and rather than internal influences, from political adventurers, they, or rather the politicians who got to agitate in their behalf, rushed too precipitately into platform work and party organization. Judging by results—always a safe and easy way to judge—this is the view in which the political revival in the South under the late presidential election must be regarded. We of this journal, however, have it to say that on our part this is not wholly a retrospective judgment.

We frequently pointed out the perils of premature political action, the danger of utterances of claiming rights, of urging the adoption of particular political policies, of such a measure as to reveal to the malignity and exposure to the torture, of the Radical enemy the weakest points, the worst places, the most sensitive nerves in the South. We warned against the precipitate assumption of positions that might have to be relinquished either under patronizing admission of angry contempt, or the necessity of not to advance and, with words of uncompromising import on the lips, take a stand from which at the first bark of menace, or under the persuasion of necessity, there must be a humiliating retreat. But as soon as the idea of restoration to the Union through the agency of the people of the South, under the policy of the then President, took root in the South, there arose a kind of political eruption in the South as contagious as small-pox, and the Legislatures and Conventions of State after State did things which the situation did not demand or which it condemned, and enacted things which the power that had summoned them into existence had plainly to be advised against that they should or ever fit at the time to require at their hands. Hence, there was much needless disappointment and humiliation. Hence, much was done ungraciously which might have been done graciously, and without making the iron hand of power visible with its absolute veto or overruling ballot in every Legislative or Convention body in the South. The fifty chiming in on the day of political gymnastic exhibition by no means compensated for the hard falls that invariably followed, and was but sorry sport for the most concerned spectators. In a word, the attempt at political resurrection was premature. After a few galvanic spasms on the erected corpse, the best friends of the dead perceived that nothing could be fitter, in the existing circumstances, than to let it repose in an honorable grave.

From pursuing the inconsiderate course referred to States have retraced their steps, under superior instruction, on the subject the payment of war debts, on the subject of the Constitutional amendments, on the subject of the legal status of freedmen, on the subject of freedmen labor and apprenticeship. The Radicals in Congress have carried almost all this, and it will not be their fault if the humiliating process is not continued until the South has drunk the dregs of bitterness and touched the bottom of degradation. To come to this point inch by inch, and in the throes of deadly moral struggle, is a phenomenon of suffering which has been painted, and the cruel glee of the Radicals, by the complicity of the sufferers.

The bottom, perhaps, is nearly reached. The second section of the Constitutional amendment opened nearly every recess and every sanctuary in the South to the intrusion of a Radical majority in Congress. The compulsory acceptance of negro suffrage will be the next step. And so near seems the prospect of the consummation to the Hon. John Bell, whose recent letter on the position of public affairs is commanding wide attention in the South, that he is in favor of the Southern States anticipating the Radicals by organizing a system of negro suffrage of their own.

In this connection, too, Mr. Bell, whose Tennessee reminiscences and long acquaintance with President Johnson go far to qualify him to judge of the latter, very significantly intimates that the President himself desired that the Southern States shall, on the score of suffrage, leave the North no room to doubt their liberality and justice to the negro population. Mr. Bell's own words in regard to this are as follows:

The President has expressed no wish and made no requisition as to other bases regarding the concession of the right of suffrage to the colored people. He has left the whole question with the States, and has declared that each State has the exclusive right to regulate this question for itself; but doubtless he would be gratified by a prompt and liberal act on the part of the present Legislatures or conventions in forming under the Constitution, as such a course would conduce greatly the North and the South to unite and act unitedly for the best interests, but a first years ago, I believe, the majority of two hundred and fifty thousand voters and to be able to read and write entitled the free man of color to a vote. A grant of the right of suffrage to Northern free negroes, based upon such a basis or standard of merit cannot be dangerous. I am persuaded it would be cordially ask and grant.

Note.—Sporting Telegraphic Intelligence Connected with Race Courses.

Below is a useful list for business men of printers in this and neighboring States reached from this city by telegraph:

Alexandria	Rapides	Texas
Amite City	Lafourche	Miss
Baton Rouge	Lafayette	Ala
Bayou Sara	Madison	Ark
Bayou Teche	Natchez	Texas
Bayou Vista	Opelousas	Ala
Bayou Sara	Plaquemine	Texas
Bayou Teche	Pointe Coupee	Miss
Bayou Vista	Rapides