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THE DAILY BEE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 19.

Subscriptions by the Week.

Carriers of the Bee are authorized to receive subscriptions by the week, at the rate of 25 cents.

The Northern Mail came through yesterday. See the latest dates.

PUBLISHERS AND THE PRESS.

The war is raging in the Northern papers, on the rights of book publishers and newspaper critics are involved. The merits of the question are these: Ticknor & Fields, Boston, are the publishers of Longfellow's poem of "Hiawatha." The *Boston Traveller*, to which a book has been sent, criticised it in terms of condemnation: Messrs. Ticknor & Fields demanded of the proprietors a note declaring the criticism was unfair and unfriendly, and thereafter they would discontinue their other books or advertisements. To all this looks like an exceedingly unsatisfactory, and bears the aspect of an attempt to menace the independence of the press, by a withdrawal of the advantages of advertising, unless favorable books are invariably eulogized, and the interpretation given to them by Messrs. Ticknor & Fields by the *Traveller*, whose indignant remonstrances have been copied, and approved by the press at large.

It appears, however, that the publishers of Hiawatha found an able advocate in the shape of a weekly journal called the *Publishers' Circular*. According to this article on "Hiawatha"—reprinted in the Boston *Traveller* was "a most unwarrantably censorious, and unfriendly criticism. The Circular proceeds to comment on the conduct of the Boston publishers, but one view of the matter does not appear to have occurred to the *Circular*, apparently, that if they considered it poor in the publishers had a right to withdraw their advertisements, if they thought the criticism was grossly unfair, it was proper in the public and in the trade, for them to do so. Being unknown in the public eye, Messrs. Ticknor and Fields choose to make a matter of complaint from a transaction which also sacrifices a portion of their receipts from extensive advertising their own affair, and quite in the long run, they will be far more than the journal they have thrown up. We see no sort of justification in the *Traveller* to create a clamor on behalf of that paper, or the critical notice which exposes some of the publishers has been the most undue and reckless by any which have not the slightest to do with the matter.

According to the Circular of a portion of the newspapers to pass that account to them, or to advertisements, has perhaps a fourth. Indiscriminate puffing is the prominent feature in many. We should hope, however, that such character would be entirely from such an accusation. Publishers are desperate enough to resort to the request for immediate notices, or almost impossible to analyze a comment upon it with anything like a glance at a hasty glance at a chapter with compliance with the wishes of the editor is limited to this advertising, and disposed as he may to form a independent opinion, he is to draw the conclusion, and write a notice of commendatory notice.—Perhaps of the press evincing an the eagerness of the publishers make their literary wares, according before the community which has been stamped "puffing" patiently for temperate notices, they would obtain them.

But this would not suit the competition of the trade. We will remark, that, as nine tenths dismissed with a kindly there have no right to feel generally some book, the critical reputation, proven inferior, and is visited with

PROPERTY FOR SALE, AT BILOXI.—Our attention to the advertisement of administrator of the estate of and Mrs. E. Izard, deceased, the sale on Monday, the 31st Jan. furniture, fixtures, slaves, farms to the well known establishment Hotel. As the 1st March, persons desirous of purchasing would do well to attend and examine the furniture and ac-

NEW ORLEANS.—This excellent has long since taken rank as one seminaries in the South. Since of Professor EVERETT, it has independently conducted by Hamar aided by a number of gentlemen in chemical and experience in the branches of a thorough taught in the College pupils, at the option of instructed either in the class course. The terms are advertisement in our columns the officers of the *New York* for late St. Louis papers.

Accounts at New York from Central Union, Capt. Jesse Forgey, Anderson, at 5 o'clock, for Mexico, etc. She will take Chiquita, Chiquet Pass, Bernard, and landings on the Vermilion.

Commercial, the Mobile Mission to Cuba expedition, yesterday made a descent at Sagua, in defiance of Spain. Some time of the wealth may be formed by his journey into Spain of his military power proved with Spanish troops. While the revolution of the twelve was, he armed all his steamers, chief and pinnace, them at the disposal of the Government.

The New York *Tribune*, in one of its usual, also abusive of New Orleans, speaks of our population as not exceeding eighty odd thousand souls. This is an error. The population of our city is at the time nearly double that figure.

Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1855.

I had hoped I would be able in this letter to inform you of the organization of the House by the election of a Speaker, conservative National American, but though fifty balloting have taken place an election of Speaker is, seemingly, farther off now than it was a week ago. Since I wrote you, Mr. Bloss, of Pennsylvania, has been the foremost candidate, most of the opposition to the administration North having united upon him, though not the whole of it, a portion utterly refusing to vote for him. His highest vote has been 107, when 114 votes were necessary for a choice; but yesterday he fell of one vote, and to-day two. It has been at the same time, with very great difficulty that some of those who have voted for him have been induced to hold on so long, and the probability is that he will now decline in strength quite rapidly. Mr. Pennington, it is now understood, will commence a large portion of the opposition votes, though some of the BANKS men will still adhere to him, and threaten to do so to the bitter end, of which speculators took place to-day, when he was interrupted by Mr. Tompkins, to whom he gave way.

Mr. Tompkins then went on to say, that since the last meeting he had talked with many persons on the subject, and had come to the conclusion that so far as it referred to the theatres, especially the French theatre, it would not be practicable at present to enforce it.

Here, Mr. Outhwaite got up and addressed the chair, saying that the proviso was not in order, and was not speaking to the question, the President decided that such was the case and gave the floor to Mr. Outhwaite, who then proceeded to speak at length on the question. The proposed ordinance had, he said, created a great excitement in the lower part of the city, and it was represented, and he had expected to see the hall crowded on the occasion of their deliberation on the subject. The measures were also directed against what he called the settled usages of this city, and he prophesied, that if it passed the Board, it would not become a law this year or next year. It would create a civil war in this city. He believed the measure had some remote connection with the spirit of abolitionism. Such an ordinance was not at all in consonance with Southern customs and habits. It might do for Puritan Boston, but it would not do for New Orleans.

Mr. Tompkins then took the floor, and said that he had no objection to amending by leaving out theatres in his resolution, so that the ordinance would apply to bar-rooms and grog shops only. (When he found he was alone he had yet to ask the consent relative to theatres, on account of the English theatres and not of the French. The keeping open of the French theatres on Sunday evenings was not so great a nuisance as the keeping open of the English, for the reason that those who frequented the Orleans were not so given to drunkenness and dissipation as the habitues of the other places of amusement on Sunday night. He would then amend, leaving out the word "theatres." The speaker then went on to show that a great portion of the murders in this country were committed on the Sabbath day by men under the influence of liquor, that hundreds of laboring men, who were those who were paid and kept by members of society, become inmates of our jails, workhouses and hospitals—a charge to themselves and a burden to the community—through the baneful practice of Sunday dram-drinking. He was followed by Mr. Gillmore, who spoke in the same vein. Mr. De Ticknor offered an ordinance in a speech of some length, which created not a little merriment. Mr. Durell made his speech against the ordinance, and had taken his seat when a motion to adjourn was made and lost.

The vote upon the ordinance was then taken and the ordinance carried by 6 yeas to 5 nays. The vote stood as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Tompkins, Bailey, Price, Pride, Gillmore and Converse.

Nays—Messrs. Outhwaite, Durell, Duverge, Dupre and Pierre.

The board then adjourned to Wednesday evening next.

BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN.—This Board met last evening at 6 o'clock.

The Comptroller announced the sale of the contracts for numbering and branding drays, and for keeping in repair the sewers and gutters wards of the city, referred to the finance committee.

The Treasurer's weekly report showed a balance on hand of $7,386.

The Surveyor reported that repairs upon the various plank roads of the city, to the cost of $12,238, had been made, to make the roads in repairs which he represented the cost would be $12,238. The cost per annum of keeping the various plank roads of the city in repair would be about $16,000, while the cost of keeping the same roads shelled in repair would be $3000. The plank roads in question were Bienville, Dauphine, Burgundy, Rampart, Claiborne, Derbigny, Tchoupitoulas, Magazine, Laurel, Prytania, Carondelet, Baronne, Dryades, Rocheblave, Broadway, Jefferson, Orleans,