THE NEW ORLEANS BEE

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NEW ORLEANS:
FRIDAY MORNING, FEB. 10, 1866.

On our second page will be found sheriff's and auction sales, bank notices and various miscellaneous advertisements.

OPINION OF JUDGE PARSON.—We republish, this morning, in extenso, on our second page, the opinion of Judge Peabody of the Territorial Court for Louisiana, in relation to peonage. This document will, no doubt, be read with interest.

Auction Sales this Day.

By J. B. Cecat, corner Exchange Alley and Gravier street—furniture.

By H. Gahmann, at Hero's, corner of Magazine and Levee and Vienna streets—furniture.

BENEFIT OF MR. WILLIAMS AT THE ST. CHARLES.—Mr. Williams, of the St. Charles theatre, is to take a benefit to-night with a very pleasant bill comprising the musical feature of Paul Jones and the musing piece of Handy Andy. Mr. Williams is an actor of talent, whose efforts always show discrimination and conscientiousness in the great letter of the Chinese Cousin especially, minutely and intuitively delicious. The professional efforts of Mr. W. deserve, and will doubtless receive, a cordial recognition from the play goers of the St. Charles. The last grand matinee of the Seven Sisters will be at noon on Saturday.

VARIETIES THEATRE.—Tom Adams' Rose will be repeated here to night, the Gilt Edge assisted by the strength of the company, together with the amusing piece of the Cousin Cousin.

On Saturday at noon the Mobile Serenade will give their second concert in connection with a grand matinee at noon on Saturday.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The Lemons and brilliant riders, Madame de Berg and Mr. Cooke will again appear in the circus at the Academy tonight, together with the usual attractions of the circus, the variety gymnastic, the trained animals, and the lions and tigers. On Saturday at noon will be the last grand matinee.

GERMAN DRAMA.—Fritz, and his friends occupied the Opera House, for the 28 times in this city, Arthur Sketchley's Mrs. Gamp entitled: Our Cousin Cousin, or the Ladies of Saltcharge.

"Another Policeman's Ball" is up, and is the title of a local article in one of our city dailies. Rebounding is local fun, exceptional startling, even to those who are unusually accustomed to the humorous, and yet so far as Punted by the hard work of war.

GRAND FANCY DRESS BALL.—We acknowledge a polite invitation to attend Lafayette dress ball, to be given by the Jackson Horse Guard Association, at Mozart Hall, on Tuesday evening, St. Valentine's day, Feb. 14. The date of the occasion, as well as other circumstances, is quite suggestive of a general and enjoyable occasion.

It came out recently in the investigation of the New York city Department, by a committee of the State legislature that for several years a considerable sum of money was made for carting and hauling away the mud and garbage from the streets within their removal could have been secured without expense to the municipal government. It was shown that an offer to take the contract to do the work for nothing had been made to the Sanitary Superintendent, and had not received encouragement for its faithful performance. The search given by that officer for obtaining the proposition was in substance that the law authorized him to pay for the service, but not to accept it produced without cost. The job had daily been hour contracted and empowered, in the vast and intricate system of official indirection and responsibility which play to powerful a part in the politics of New York city is now reaches three years to the outside world.

It is officially stated that New York city contains 270 miles of paved streets, and, including the unpaved, an aggregate of 700 miles of streets. It would take three weeks to travel completely over the city on foot, at the rate of ordinary march speed.

Horace Greeley on Petroleum Investments and Commercial Puffery in Newspapers.

To certain questions touching petroleum stocks and other things, addressed to the editor of the New York Tribune, that journal on the 28th January, replies as follows, evidently from the pencil Horace Greeley, whose phrase of the dangerous analogies to which we formerly alluded in the North Bay but referred to the following extract:

Answer.—We know very little about boring for Petroleum, save in a very general way, but we believe that it has proved more remunerative than mining for gold, or silver, or any other metal. Individuals have doubtless been lured by this as by every other form of human enterprise, yet it is our impression that two dollars have been made for every one lost by efforts to extract petroleum from the valleys of the Alleghany. And we doubt whether any other Mining enterprise is attractive and important on this wide over half so uncertain. As a whole it certainly that this speculation will be affording jobs every other, so that it doubtful whether anything has been made for every one that proves productive, we are so sanguine to doubt that the business will be in the balance.

Yet we could not advise our inquiring friend to buy the stock of any company which we—Years ago, when a good deal younger and greener than now, we were frequently forced to give such advice to friends and acquaintances, and invariably the result incurred the regret having done so. More experience has taught us that it is unwise to have money in any enterprise, no matter how promising, unless you know that it is in the hands of an honest, upright, capable manager, who will give it their constant and careful attention. Without this, it is fortune to fill, no matter how great the abstract possibilities and excellence.

We are now prepared to be further, and say: When you see any investment continually, persistently commended by a newspaper, be very careful how you put your money into it. It may be a good thing; but the best ones do promote their interests without resort to puffery taken at ordinary prompt. The journalist may be entirely disinterested, but he rarely knows anything more of it than he has been told by the promoters thereof. Hence the fact that it is thus recommended is your best guess. Illustrations of the principle where and we remark with no reference to any particular case, since we have no special reputations with any. It is entirely proper that those who own or control a promising mining property should seek the aid of capital wherewith to develop and develop it; but let them do this by legitimate, straightforward advertising, not otherwise.

We look with no disfavor on mining, whether for petroleum or for any of the metals. It has laudable though precarious business; you may lose your money, however promising your venture, but you can hardly fail to benefit the public. We hope to see a large expansion of mining operations within a very few years.

Cooking Vegetables.

This is the simplest branch of culinary art—one with which so much pains should be taken, that our people might be tempted to abandon the unhealthy and expensive habit they entertain of subsisting on animal meats. Actually, vegetables should be cooked while fresh. They should be perfect of their kind. Fresh potatoes and turnips should be used chiefly, cooked, boiled or roasted, dressed, and similar judgments, as dishes having sold to them. An occasional change with a dish of boiled fruit nicely. Delicate preparations that would be only burned, should be put in a chimney in the kettle, and placed in a pot of boiling water.—Such preparations, however, usually belong to what is commonly called dessert—that word is coming, according to English precedent, fruit, nuts, etc. Vegetables should be picked and washed clean, and laid in cold water until ready for cooking. Potatoes, parsnips and roots generally, should be thrown into cold water as soon as peeled, or they turn black. A little salt should be thrown into the water, and green vegetables should be put in boiling water at the start. Only use as much water as will cover them sufficiently; they are washy if cooked in too much. There are some exceptions to this rule. When turnips begin to grow old, to change the water while cooking renders them milder. Also bee beans that peas should have the water changed after parboiling them. Drain perfectly. Vegetables to be dressed with drawn butter, should be saturated simply with it as you would sauce with gravy.

Alleged Recognition of the Confederacy by the Mexican Empire—Asserted Cuban Bull, &c.

(From the Tri-Weekly Times of last evening.)

There are at present very excellent prospects of serious trouble with Mexico, which will be hailed with delight by our people generally, if we are capable of judging of the state of public feeling. Gen. Mejia, the Mexican commander at Matamoras, has issued an order directing the subjugation to return to the rebel authorities refugees found upon Mexican soil. Mejia claims to be acting under authority from Maximilian.

The manner in which the refugees are to be sent back is as follows: A church of authority of the "Confederate Government" is opened up against them, and under an extradition treaty which they claim to have recently entered into, the accused Texans are returned to Mexico.

This extradition treaty guarantees the return of all persons guilty of circulating twenty dollars in value, and no difficulty is experienced in obtaining a charge against any person, and having him sent to the rebel Gen. Sheridan at Brownsville, for trial. Once on Texas soil no man is heard of the charge of robbery, but the man is immediately extradited into the rebel ranks.

Whether Mejia made the treaty with Maximilian, or whether it is between Maximilian and Jeff. Davis, we do not know, for in any case, it is a formal recognition of the Confederacy in addition to being a gentle reminding reminder for the rebel army.

Major Gen. Canby has treated with contempt, and, we are credibly informed, has gone so far as to inform Mejia that he will take a Mexican Eagle and hold him as a hostage for every Texan returned to the rebels in the above manner, for the General has supported in his treaty by the authority of Secretary Seward, and under present orders, it will be a peculiar fact if it carry out his threat.

It seems to us, however, as unwise for Gen. Canby to contract with Mejia, when he claims that Canby in the present position of affairs. Mejia's action is beyond doubt a direct slap, which an officer of the Union would hardly admit.

Over-Legislation.

(From the New York Times, Jan. 27.)

The great error of our law makers is over-*legislation*. The tendency of everywhere, is to run on every hand carried beyond the limit consistent with the freedom of the individual, the unimpeded operation of the natural laws of society. Losing sight of the fundamental idea of republican institutions—that of a self-government—it has been the chief aim of the legislation of the last half-century to interfere with the action of the citizen by conventional rules, to correct any period unbalanced, tendency by a system of checks and penalties, to impede the operation of self-interest as the sole judgment by an arbitrary, conventional model to do, in short, in the name of regulation, everything that has been done by despots to Rest the freedom of the individual. Every interest has been treated as incapable, or unable to take care of itself, and so has been the Government, or at least had been its respect, and we have thus had to call all the indicatory of the chosen tools of public office-seeking employing and working the wires for reforming their fellow citizens to support the Government which they have drawn and intends to administer. The effect is only every department has been so crippled by law; the law letter, in her cases, is a mere plagiarism of the worst features of arbitrary governments.

The most unsatisfactory feature of excessive legislation is in the widely spread idea that true liberty consists in the freedom of *political* action and action, but equally in the freedom of the citizen to do whatever may conduce to his interest, without legal prescriptions or political leave. Thus there against political liberty has been the chief, if not of respect that open violation, but cannot what may be termed social liberty, the right the free operation of the productive, industrial commercial and industry in general. In fact, the tendency has been that of the law, in the interest control resting, from the free operation of self-interest, by arbitrary enactments, vexatious to the public and prejudicial of the free development of the social world. Political liberty is a thing not of itself, but is only accompanied by its natural consequence—the right to act in relation to and the interest of the according to the dictates of self-interest,—in short, to do what we please in the pursuit with no wrong. The social liberty has been violated by the Legislature, in a recent period, within the last, in the Sunday Liquor Law, the Sunday Excursion Steamer, the Sunday Theatre, and the Sunday Concert, and the Sunday Opera, and the Sunday Ball, and the Sunday Dance, and the Sunday Dance, and the Sunday Dance