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NEW ORLEANS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 31, 1855.

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THE DAILY BEE.

Wednesday Morning, Jan. 31st, 1855.

The Northern Mail failed yesterday from beyond Montgomery.

THE HEIGHT OF IMPUDENCE.

Ab-ut as cool and consummate a specimen of impudence as we have ever heard was witnessed a few days ago in New York. The Longshoremen of that city were on a strike for higher wages. In the meanwhile a large number of emigrants had reached the city. Immediately on their arrival, Mr. Fagan, the Superintendent of the Emigrant Office, seeing that they were penniless and demanded work, sent them to several merchants, among whom were Messrs. Grinnell & Minturn, to supply the place of the 'longshoremen. When they arrived at the wharves where they were to be employed, they were asked to go to work, but refused unless they were given $1 75 a day, and preferred to go back to the office and assist on charity, than to work for less than the demand of the strikers. We are not informed whether the Board of Trustees of the Emigrant office continued to feed these modest and ennobling gentlemen, or not. Doubtless it was a cruel hardship that, coming as they did from countries where they either could find nothing whatever to do, or were constrained to work twelve hours for a shilling, they should be compelled to labor for less than seven times the amount of European wages. Doubtless, too, they considered themselves fully entitled to the support of the community, being idlers and paupers, too lazy to work, and too grasping to accept such wages as the exigencies of the times enabled others to offer.

Seriously, it is to be hoped that these are not the materials which constitute the pauperism of New York, for if they are, the charity of that city is entirely thrown away. We are as little inclined to treat the subject with unkindness as most men, but assuredly it is a lazy lout of a fellow preferred subsisting on alms, to plodding an honest livelihood by labor, for the sake of fatten at our expense. In the case of the emigrants, the audacity exceeds anything we could have imagined. Let the reader bear in mind that the wages of labor in Great Britain are from a shilling to eighteen pence a day, and in Germany considerably less; that these newly imported foreigners were offered work at a daily sum exceeding fourfold the highest of these amounts; that they refused it because it was not equal to the pay asked by longshoremen who were on a strike, and that finally they went back to the emigrant office and solicited eleemosynary aid. Just consider the sublime insolence of these fellows—putting their feet for the first time on American soil, hungry, cold, destitute, willing to beg their bread, yet putting on airs as if they had been half a century in the country, and rejecting with disdain one dollar and fifty cents per day for their labor.

What cogent to be done with such a gracious set of scamps? The authorities by pampering their idleness, only encourage them. The remedy strikes as simple. Let them work, or starve. Any man who would sooner beg a meal than earn one, has no claim upon the benevolence of the community. Such a specimen is a rolling enough, even in ordinary times—a rolling enough, even in ordinary times—but in these times—among our own countrymen, it is not the word to characterize it. When exhibited by a host of new comers, who at the very moment of landing on our shores, dare to become burdens upon the public. Let the helpless and the feeble be cared for under every contingency. Feed the women and shelter the children, but as for the men, give them work and meat, and make the latter conditional upon the former. Honest indigence appeals to our warmest sympathies, but we have none to waste upon selfish and soulless sluggards who fancy themselves endowed with the imperceptible right to live without labor, upon the generosity of others.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature has been in session over two weeks. We were prepared for seven days of idleness, during which time would be frittered away in idle speeches, and little else; and little else would be under consideration than a multitude of petty intrigues relative to the Senatorial election. The first week of the session is by conventional usage, a sort of legislative saturnalia, and the members are not held strictly accountable for their sayings or doings; but at its close it is not unreasonably expected they should go to work earnestly and deliberately for the welfare of the State. Well, John Slidell was elected a Senator on Monday a week ago. That job has been completed to the satisfaction alike of the candidate and his friends. Surely, the General Assembly should now apply itself with some show of diligence and alacrity to the task before it. We can assure the members if they are conscientiously disposed to perform their entire duty, they will enjoy the enjoyment of leisure during the forty-eight or more minutes of leisure during the forty-odd days of the session yet remaining. Of course it is in their power to stay or shirk the labors and responsibilities devolving on them. They have the undeniable privilege of wasting time both on Friday and adjourning over from unpruitably their time, of adjourning over from day to day, for want of having the quorum, passing off a dozen local bills, neglecting the important interests entrusted to them, and returning home to their constituents. They can do these things, but we will not believe in their necessary and dishonorable violation of their plighted faith.

Thus far, the Legislature has scarcely touched any of the vastly important topics which should come before it. The proposition to repeal the usury laws is a solitary measure of reform which has been started, and has not yet passed, though we believe there is a fair prospect of its adoption. But this is but one, and not the most important of the series. We do not perceive that any attempt has been made to abolish the tax on mortgage system, the common ... the Bank charters, and other gross abuses and ... of our code—which hang like an incubus over the prosperity of the State, cramping its energies, and impeding its development. On the other hand we do perceive that the Legislature adjourns every now and then for want of a quorum, and does not seem to have fairly commenced its labors. Gentlemen, time is precious, your duties are manifold and onerous, and you owe the State some service. As intelligent and patriotic citizens we conjure you to throw aside all sluggishness, and to buckle to your task with a firm resolve to complete it at an early date. Endeavor to rescue our State from the slough into which she has been driven by bad legislation, and the serious infraction of statutes framed for a different ... Return to the State from the slough in which she is at present sinking. Let them resolve to ... or we you separate. Remember that ... the eyes of the State are upon you. Let ... the people of the State from the ... the ... the ...