The New-Orleans Bee.

VOL. IX. NEW SERIES.
VOL. XXII.—WHOLE No. 3671.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF GENERAL COUNCIL AND FIRST MUNICIPALITY.—NEW-ORLEANS, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 29, 1848.

J. LAGNE & WEISSE, Proprietors,
No. 62 CHARTRES STREET.

TERMS OF THE BEE.

Daily Paper (one year in advance).....$12 00
Country Paper, (semi-weekly) one year.....5 00

In all cases the subscriber must give one week's notice in writing before he can be allowed to discontinue.

Advertising—One dollar for every TEN lines for each insertion in the first insertion; and HALF that price for each subsequent one. Nine advertisement inserted for less than one dollar in each language.

Advertisements not specified as to time will be Published one month, and charged accordingly.

Advertisements inserted at intervals will be charged one dollar for every TEN lines, for each language, and 25 each insertion.

☞ The privileges of Annual Advertisers is limited to advertisements strictly within the line of their business, and to the extent of one square every other day.

The New-Orleans Daily Bee
Is Published Morning, Dec. 29, 1848.

Panicities on both Sides.

Whatever Congress may do towards the settlement of the Slavery question, there is a strong desire prevailing the people of all sections of the country, that this prolific topic of agitation should be put to rest at an early day. It is in itself a constant source of sectional strife and inquietude, it leads to hostile feelings and arouses passions and prejudices unfriendly to the spirit of brotherhood that should unite the North and the South. It is a question, too, that would long since have been compromised upon some basis equally satisfactory to all parties, but for the pestilent efforts of a faction whose reckless ambition to acquire political notoriety leads them to seize upon this fire brand of discord, to illumine their path. The fanatics have appropriated the Slavery issue to themselves and seem determined to preclude calm and sensible people from interposing to procure its peaceful and equitable settlement, when we say fanatics, we mean the pirates on both sides; for it is a mistake to imagine that the only fanatics are Northern negrophilists. The latter are mischievous enough in their efforts to worry the South into irritation and anger; but Mr. Calhoun and his squad of South Carolina followers, with their eternal menaces of dissolution and their fabrications of crises, and their calls for Southern Convention, and their dreams of Northern crusades for the emancipation of our Slaves, contribute their full share towards fomenting and exasperating public feeling. Gunmasts and his crew never utter a diatribe against Slavery, but South Carolina brimstone begins to calculate the value of the Union, and whines as piteously as if Congress had, in defiance of the Constitution, passed an act to abolish Slavery throughout the States of the Confederacy.

"It is by this constant crimination and recrimination—this miserable warfare of words—this alternation of abuse on one side and scurrilous defiance and threats on the other, that the country is kept in a state of unrelieved anxiety upon the subject. We fully believe that apart from the brawling agitators, whose petty schemes of political and personal distinction induce them, at all hazards, to press the issue to the verge of danger, there are few people who would not feel perfectly satisfied at almost any arrangement of the question that bore with it the semblance of justice. The people themselves are sound upon the issue. The North is indisposed to trespass upon the guaranteed rights of her Southern brethren—the South is willing to concede something to the unnatural prejudice against her domestic institutions, which pervades the North. The chief obstacle to an adjustment spring out of the utter and irreconcilable hostility of the two extremes. There is little prospect of harmony while Giddings, and Wilmot, and Palfrey, urge the enactment of their iniquitous and unconstitutional projects; and while Mr. Calhoun, preaches homilies on the blessings of slavery and construes every life menace of the abolitionists into a vitally dangerous assault upon the rights and liberties of the South.

Some timid folks apprehend fearful consequences from the agitation of this matter, and think the Union must inevitably be broken to fragments. We entertain no such fears. This Union has grown dearer to the people with every year of its existence, and every accumulated proof of its ability, its value cannot be calculated. Like the crown diadem of Portugal, it is priceless. The treasury of the universe has not wealth enough to purchase it; its strength, too, is administrative—no collision can shiver it, no shock of public opinion swing it from its eternal moorings. To imagine that such mere breeders of mischief, such contemptible agitators as Gunnison and his myrmidons could shipwreck our Union, or even place it in a position of peril, is to exalt their importance immeasurably beyond all reasonable computation. When this Union gives way, its disruption will be due to causes far more tremendous than all the petty thunder which the filibustian industry of negrophilists could ever manufacture.

LETTER FROM GEN. TAYLOR.—L. W. Hall, Esq., of Syracuse, forwarded to Gen. Taylor a copy of the "Life and Times of Silas Wright," published by him. He has received the following letter in reply:

BATON ROUGE, La., Nov. 20, 1848.

MY DEAR SIR: Your polite communication of the 10th ult., has been some time at hand, but I have deferred the acknowledgement of its receipt until the arrival of the volume of which it referred. I have now the pleasure of informing you that I have duly received your "Life and Times of the Hon. Silas Wright," and beg to offer to you in return my grateful acknowledgments for so valuable a present.

The great respect in which I have always held the character and public services of this eminent patriot and statesman, renders your volume a highly valuable one to me, and I anticipate much gratification in reading this connected history of this conspicuous career, in the retirement of our country.

I am, sir, with great respect,
Your obedient servant,
Z. TAYLOR.
Mr. L. M. Hall, Syracuse, N. Y.

From Havana.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.
[By Telegraph.]

HAVANA, Dec. 18, 2 P. M.

THE GOLD FEVER IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS—HORRIBLE MASSACRE AT THE FEJEE ISLANDS.

A vessel arrived to-day from the Sandwich Islands, and the captain reports that these Islands have become almost depopulated, the inhabitants having taken up the gold fever and were emigrating to California as fast as conveyances could be procured.

The Sandwich Island papers report that a horrible massacre was perpetrated at the Fejee Islands on the 15th of April last. The commander of the English naval forces in those seas had landed a force of the English soldiers to the Fejees, for the purpose of rendering aid to the white inhabitants.

Important from Venezuela.—PAEZ TRIUMPHANT.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.
[By Telegraph.]

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 19, 4 P. M., 1848.

By an arrival at this port from Venezuela, we have the important intelligence that the city of Maracaibo has fallen into the hands of General Paez and his party. Several sanguinary engagements had previously taken place in the province, but the result of them was to be anticipated. Paez and his forces will be crowned with ultimate success.

Two important towns in the vicinity of Lake Maracaibo have pronounced against Gen. Monagas, defying his power and authority.

THE MOBILE CONTESTED ELECTION.—On Tuesday last Judge Bragg delivered a written opinion in the case of the contested Mayor's election. The Mobile *Herald* gives the substance of his decision:

1. That the Circuit Court has jurisdiction by virtue of the examination of informations in the nature of *quo warranto*; and that this jurisdiction is not ousted by the 16th section of the corporation the right to settle a contest to the office of mayor.

2. That the office of mayor is not for a state, but that one person is the nature of *quo warranto* here the most important questions in the adjudicated by the court, and only on the right of the relator to file the information. The merits of the case have not yet been reached.

We understand the proceeding of an "information" in the nature of a *quo warranto* to be simply this—the Solicitor, or other state law officer, informs the Court, generally at the instance of a prosecutor called a relator, that A or B has usurped a state office, and prays the court to summon said A. or B. to come into court and show by what warrant he exercises said office—and we understand the court to decide simply that it has power to issue the summons in the case.

THE FALCON.—A rumor prevailed yesterday that the steamship Falcon, which left our city a few days ago on her way to California, having on board Gov. Pennoyer, P. Sharp, and an immense number of passengers, had returned to the Balize in consequence of the appearance of the cholera on board. The latest version of the story is that some fifty or sixty of her passengers died. We have been unable to trace this report to any authentic source, and trust that it is nothing more than the invention of some disobliging wag.

Correspondence of the Bee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1848.

After passing through a brief season of premature summer, winter has for the first time appeared in earnest, with a rain-storm to herald its advent.

The political circles are in a state of comparative repose, similar to that which occupies the circles the coming of a new Administration. In both Houses of Congress the chosen champions have expressed their unwillingness to touch any of the important questions of public policy with a view of embarrassing Gen. Taylor, knowing, as they do, that the majority in the Senate will remain antagonistic for two years after the inauguration, and the aristocracy of England does not interpose so effectual a barrier against preferment from among the ranks of the people, as has this despicable democratic dogma in the distribution of the public honors and rewards. And while the present executive has pursued this course, he has had the audacity to libel the memories and acts of those great and pure men who contributed their patriotism and abilities in the dissemination of republican principles, and in establishing a system of policy by which it seems to be reserved and rewarded. The whole 8th administration for the Polk party has been to create an *oligarchy of office*, from which the people were to be excluded, and to which favorites and partizans only were to be admitted. While mouthing "democracy" they have practiced despotism, and from the experience of the government, including every administration, from Washington to Polk, has not witnessed such palpable corruption in high places, such willful prostitution of the federal patronage, and such enormous abuses and perversions of power. The administration is remiss in the core, and speculations has been the order of the day in every department and branch of public service.

"Prince" John Van Buren is here, nominally attending the Supreme Court, but really in search of the philosopher's stone—in attempting to build up a party for himself. The wood does not seem to grow modest as it grows old, or if it does, some of its denizens have forgotten their locality of blushing. Mr. Van Buren has talent, wit and cunning under affected frankness, but he has risen to his Zenith, and the future holds no prospect of further elevation. His race is run, and the wand of the "Magician" hath not charm, wherewith to magnify him into greater consequence. Father and Son are interred in the Albany grave yard, the same *Sod* now covers the remains of both.

Congress offered little attraction or interest in either branch. In the Senate, Mr. Westcott brought forward his project for draining the everglades of Florida, which was opposed by his colleague, Mr. Yulee, until the Chamber adjourned, when the task and adjourned this executive session.

While sitting with closed doors, the Senate settled the principle that no further diplomatic or other important appointments, should be acted upon during the remainder of the session. If therefore no effort is made to press Mr. Cass, as apprehended, he will have to encounter serious difficulties in passing the ordeal.

When Mr. Adams' administration was going out of power, it was the source of general condemnation, that the undertook to fill vacancies which existed at home and abroad, and the Senate deliberately resolved to lay all of his nominations on the table, including that of Mr. Crittenden as Judge of the Supreme Court, which fix others, from its high character, could not be constitutionally rejected. Mr. Benton and others were then members of the body, and when appealed to upon the confidence of this precedent, it is proper to say, they responded cordially and unhesitatingly. Mr. Polk may withdraw Mr. Cass—if he does not, he will be apt to get a taste of Senatorial inquisition.

Mr. Sevier is a doomed man. He cannot pass the Senate on his own account first and next, on account of his appointment being in contravention of the Constitution. There are two objections to Mr. Weller in a political view, it is well known that he rendered efficient service to his party, and in every respect is the superior of the coxcomb who has been selected by Mr. Polk to represent American character and intelligence in one of the most cultivated courts in the old world. This ignorant display of taste among the "select," has been carried to an extent that would astound the public if exposed in all its ramifications