THE DAILY BEE, PRESENTED BY C. F. WESTON & CO. Alfonso Phil, President. U. S. WEBSTER, Sec. & Treas. R. DUVERGER, N. DUVOUL.

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THE DAILY BEE.

Friday Morning, May 11th, 1855.

THE NORTHERN MAIL came throughyesterday with the latest dates.

MADAME DE GRANDFORT OF AMERICA.

Our readers doubtless remember that some two or three years agoa French lady, Mdme. BAROUSSE by name, and enjoying no inconsiderable share of literary reputation, delivered several lectures to rather slim and unappreciative audiences on the History, and Poetry of French. During the dreadful epidemic of 1853, this lady had the misfortune to lose her husband—an intelligent, noble-hearted gentleman, whom we knew intimately, and regarded with high esteem. Four months after that melancholy event, Mdme. BAROUSSE entered once more into the bands of matrimony with Mr. MANOEL DE GRANDFORT, an ex-editor and fessiliteonnaire. They endeavored jointly to establish a weekly literary journal in New Orleans; but the enterprise proved a disastrous failure, and the newly married couple left our city and wended their way Northward. We next hear of Mdme. DE GRANDFORT as a lecturer on woman's rights, and other kindred topics, but we cannot say whether she acquired fame or fortune by her new experiment. Her name had almost began to fade from memory, when it was revived by the publication in Paris of a work, of which she claims the authorship, on America and Americans. The book has not yet reached New Orleans, but from the extracts which have appeared in the French and English journals, it seems to be written in the vein of Mrs. TROLLOPE, Col. HAMILTON, CHARLES DICKENS, and the immortal XAVIER MARMIER—in other words it is a tissue of dull and flatulent distribes, in which every thing coarse, vulgar, ignorant, mean and disgusting is set forth as the veritable type of Americanism. From the passages subjoined it would appear to be destitute of the humor of TROLLOPE, the sarcastic style of DICKENS, or even the deliciously amusing and candied egotism of MARMIER. The preface to the book consists of the following pretended quotations, addressed to philosophers and statesmen:

1st. Authority may cause to persue the vagabond, the fraudulent bankrupt, the refugee from justice, the thief, the forger, the murderer or the promoter of sedition—of whom we spoke some time ago. It is now known that he had fled to the United States. He is found in all the gazettes of Europe daily for fifty years.

2d. Most public offices in the United States are held by naturalized Europeans, come no one knows whence. (Political statistics of the Union.)

3d. The Americans are a great people!!—(Opinion of a crowd of eminent men in England, France and Germany.)

Proceeding from this text, the lady goes on to describe most of our gentlemen as blackguards, and our ladies as bloomerites, if no worse; we have no household ties, our wives are slaves, Almighty Dollar, our public men are subjected to the tyranny of a mob, to whose level they must themselves descend, or resign all hopes of preferment, our institutions are drifting rapidly towards destruction, and finally, the French Canadians are infinitely our superiors in everything worth having! The following extract serves to give some idea of the author's truthfulness:

"A New York woman, who had not some hundred of dollars to throw away every month in shopping, would think herself very poor, and be the most pitiable creature in the world. An American lady rarely dines at Home. Her husband, occupied down town, returns only in the evening; that leaving her free to act full liberty, by which she is not slow to profit. Then the house is abandoned, the children, when old enough, are sent to college, or stuffed with candy by the nurse, and left to play. The day is to the American woman, life and happiness! for the exercise is often monotonous and wearisome, when she has visited the theatre, she is too cold to go out. They do not know here the sweet relations of family, the intimacy of the fire side. Our children are taught in a strange way, and was scarcely installed, when a woman, or bold air, with thick eyebrows and a prominent forehead entered. The lady threw a rapid glance around, and, finding no place vacant, cried aye said to Jullien in a harsh tone, and make haste' Jullien was eager to obey, supposing that the newcomer was her parte monsieur or her handkerchief on the seat. What was his astonishment at seeing her tranquilly instal herself in his place without so much as a word or look of thanks. He did not know what to do with himself, and seeing a furious look on the parent, he decided to go out, when he heard some one call him from the other side of the vehicle. Sir! cried a little feminine Jullien turned, it was a very young girl, dressed in silk, sweet with taste and distinction. Come, place yourself here, said she, smiling. But there is no room, Mademoiselle, he replied. Never mind, come. The appeal was too gracious to pass unheeded. Jullien advanced then towards the young American. She rose, said to her mother, giving her place to Jullien, sit there, said she. Oh! Miss, he, I cannot suffer it, murmured the confused young man. What a stupid fellow! cried the young girl, impatient at pushing him in her seat. Then square and resolute she placed herself on his knees. With the presumption character of a Frenchman, Jullien did not fail to attribute to familiarity of the young miss to the influence of the elegant costumer, and the neatness of his gloves. He grew bold, and said she would have done as much for the first Yankee comer!

Our whitling propensity receives the following slap:

"Armed with a pocket knife, they seize the first piece of wood that comes to hand, a cane or an umbrella left in a corner. If these are wanting, they take to the furniture, they carve without respect to country, tables, chairs, doors, chairs, sofas, billiard-tables, church pews—in fine, nothing is sacred to them. I have often seen on the Ohio steamboats, gentlemen cutting furiously under the very eyes of the Captain, the arms of chairs in which they were seated! This mania is so universal in the United States, that during the sessions of Congress, almost all the desks of the Senators and Representatives are supplied every morning by the attendants with little bits of wood for the use of the members. It is indeed a very intellectual occupation, calculated to develope to the highest point the faculties of these gentlemen."

The reason for everything in the United States, it is said, is the dollar,—and if the object of a passion in the men, it is certainly that of a worship in the women. If American women's desires were gratified, and she permitted to enter political life,—

"From the moment its secrets should be known to them, the State would be compromised for them, as for Jugurtha, everything in the world has its price; it only remains to fix it.

Even HENRY CLAY does not escape the author's slander, for in a note written by another party in 1841, but endorsed by her, he is spoken of as

"A man of limited capacity, acquainted with no language, dead or living, except his own, of low habits, drinking whiskey in taverns with the mob, utterly ignorant of European affairs, the most malignant family in the world, he does not know, and picking his teeth at table with his knife, in the presence of ladies."

After these specimens, for which we are indebted to the New York *Express*, we fancy the reader will not be solicitous to investigate very closely the pages of Mdme de GRANDFORT's work. We have no objection in the world to her abuse of us. That cannot do much harm. Her praise might be dangerous. The lady was for many months treated with marked kindness and distinction in New Orleans, so we presume that her descriptions of persons and things in the Crescent City will display in perfection her mingled malice and ignorance.

DION BOUCICAULT, Esq.—We understand that this gentleman will deliver one of his Lectures on European Society at the Pelican Theatre, on Tuesday next, at the benefit of Mr. Charles Hill, which has been postponed till that time. These lectures were very largely attended in New York, where they were originally delivered. It will interest many of his friends to know that he is yesterday (Thursday) with his son, by his wife, our favorite actress; the "Fairy Star." If young Bouricault gives the public half as much pleasure as both of his parents have done, we shall have no objection to announce "the first appearance," on the world's stage, of ten or a dozen of his brothers and sisters. N B. We state this last fact confidentially. It is not to be repeated.

THE WEATHER.—The weather for two days past has been charmingly chilly. There has been a decided falling off in the demand for iced julaps, while the sale of pure brandy, on the contrary, has been seriously brisk for this season of the year. The sudden change in the temperature is supposed to be owing to heavy rains that must have fallen in our neighborhood. While on the subject of the weather we may infer that we have ascertained from good authority that there is no truth in the report that the Pleiades offered Lord Raglan, in case of his dismissal, the office of meteorological editor. The proprietors are perfectly satisfied with the thermometrical talent of the present incumbent of that chair.

LADIES' AUCTION CONTINUED.—The sale of the splendid stock of the late Mlle Massey, Chartres street, near Bienville, will be continued this day by Mr. BARNETT, Sen. The assortment embraces a vast variety of choice goods, selected from the most approved Paris ashions, and specially adapted to the elegant and fascinating toilet of the ladies of New Orleans. The fair sex have indeed strewed the store during the last few days, and will no doubt continue to grace the auction with their presence, on the goods are of a character to be adequately appreciated by them.

SUPPOSED AT CAIRO.—The St. Louis Republican of the 5th, says

A letter from a friend at Cairo informs us, that two shocks of an earthquake were felt in that city about half past ten o'clock of the night of the 27th. The second between the shocks of the first. Their duration was about five seconds each, the vibrations seeming to be lateral, and the motion rolling, jumbling, and, we believe, shaking all the to St. Louis.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Massachusetts Know-Nothings have deliberately cut loose from all National sympathy by adopting an anti-slavery platform, and sending abolition delegates to the National Council which assembles at Philadelphia in June. We are glad to perceive that the American party in New Jersey has taken just the contrary course—their resolutions being eminently national and conservative; and that the party in New York is resolved to pursue the same consistent, manly and judicious policy.

The fierce controversy between Archbishop Hughes and Mr. Erastus Brooks seems to have at last received the finishing stroke at the hands of the Archbishop, who finally concludes that his antagonist has no regard for veracity, and is utterly unworthy of notice; therefore, says the Archbishop, "I take him with overself hands to the nearest open sash of a window, and send him forth with the single mental observation, Go hence, wretched and vile insect; the world has space for you as well as for me." It is not thought the Archbishop has gained much by this controversy, and the exasperated tone with which he quits, is places Mr. Brooks in somewhat of a triumphant position.

Mdme. Powell, who was under trial in the United States District Court, charged with purloining money from letters in the Baltimore Post Office, was to-day acquitted. A portion of her guilty was rendered by the jury without leaving their box. The Hon. Reverdy Johnson and Z. Collins Lee were counsel for the accused, both of whom made powerful efforts in his behalf. Mr. Johnson made his speech yesterday. Mr. Lee was peculiarly happy and eloquent.

The St. Louis Intelligencer expresses its full conviction that rumors about abundant gold deposits near the sources of the Arkansas river are true.

A distinguished Virginian, now in Washington, says the President can decide the Virginia election by the removal of Gov. Reader and the appointment of Judge Loring, of Massachusetts, in his place, and he is strongly urging the Administration to pursue that course.

It is said that the patent for Singer & Co.'s simple thread and embroidering machines has been sold in France for the handsome sum of 500,000 francs, or nearly $100,000.

We hear it said by one whom we believe to be good authority, that Gen. Shields is to be appointed Governor of Minnesota Territory, in place of Willis A. Gorman, who is to have a Colonelcy in one of the new regiments. The General is now in Minnesota, and it is understood that his acceptance of the proposed Gubernatorial Chair, depends on his liking for the country over which he is to exercise authority.

The Pennsylvania State Treasurer furnishes a list of the public defaulters in that commonwealth. The total defalcations are estimated at $449,923. One individual is represented to be behind-hand to the extent of $55,343; another to the extent of $40,536; another to the extent of $36,094; another to the extent of $15,917; another to the extent of $13,000; another to the extent of $27,847—and so on, down to sums as low as $120. The defaulters include Brigade Inspectors, Justices, Sheriffs, Auctioneers, County Treasurers, Prothonotaries, Collectors, &c., &c.

The Cincinnati Gazette states that while several workmen were engaged in rolling a salamander safe weighing upwards of three hundred pounds, down Walnut street in that city, the flag stones of the pavement gave way or broke, precipitating the safe and men into the vault underneath. Two of the men were killed on the spot, and others badly injured.

There was one hundred letters dropped into the Post Office in Alexandria, (Va.) during the month of April, upon which the postage was not prepaid—so the Postmaster could not put them in the mail. This fact coming to the knowledge of Mr. T. A. Stoutenburg, of Alexandria, he wrote to the Postmaster and paid the postage on the letters and so had them sent to their destination. He deserves, and will receive some hundred thanks.

A gentleman in New Bedford called upon the Postmaster of that city on Saturday last, and paid the required postage upon letters addressed to the Post Office for waiting present.—The name of this good Samaritan, or the amount expended, is not given.

On Thursday last, says the Detroit Advertiser, a house in Redford, in this county, was struck by lightning. The field passed over the lightning rod nearly to the ground, thence through the side of the building along the joists, up the posts of a bedstead, through a feather pillow, over the bodies of a man and his wife, and it then found its way to earth. It made a hole through the pillow, singeing the feathers in its course and badly burned the unfortunate man and woman, who thought themselves safe on a feather bed. This is one of the most remarkable instances of the freaks of lightning that ever came to our knowledge. It has been taught, and generally believed, that feathers were a perfect non-conductor of electricity. The facts in the present case seem to disprove the old theory.

It is currently rumored in political circles that Governor Reader will be asked to address adopted by the two branches of the Massachusetts Legislature calling for the removal of Hon. Edward G. Loring, Judge of Probate for this county. We find the report is credited by many members of the Legislature, who also say that a majority of the Executive Council are in favor of the removal. In this case, the action of the Governor is final. He has the full veto power, from which there is no appeal.

A queer superstition prevails among the people of North Yarmouth, Maine, that in the telegraph wires under the impression that they caused the drought.

The new bridge recently erected over the Passaic River, on the Jersey side of the 5th instant, at the time the test of twenty tons was applied. There were about thirty persons on the structure at the time it gave way, most of whom were precipitated into the water. Two persons were somewhat injured.

Mr. Roebling, engineer and architect of the railroad suspension bridge below Niagara Falls, made an attempt last week to measure the depth of the river, by throwing a sounding line from the bridge. He prepared an iron plummet, weighing forty-two pounds, attached it to a sounding wire, 450 feet long, and let it drop, but the weight was almost instantly separated from its fastenings by the force of the current.

Mr. John Mears was severely clubbed on the 3d instant, at the Metropolitan Hotel, by Chas. S. Cooper, late Lieutenant in the N. Y. Volunteers, who keeps a paint factory in First avenue, and presented a draft. Some conversation passed between the parties, and Mears said that Cooper had never thought reflected, and on his apology was demanded, and being refused, Cooper went away very much dissatisfied, and shortly after returned to the hotel with a cowhide, which he applied to the back and shoulders of Mears. Some of the hotel boarders interfered and the violent proceeding ceased. The parties were arrested for the assault, and taken before Justice Wood, who held him to bail in answer the charge.

Twenty-seven fires are known to have occurred in the United States during the last month, where the loss in each instance exceeded $10,000. The total amount of loss, including that occasioned by the late fire in Boston, exceeds $1,200,000, and the property destroyed, comprised seven manufacturing establishments, two churches and three steamboats. Very destructive fires continue to rage in the forests in Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia, inflicting incalculable losses.

A BARE STAKED AGAINST A DOLLAR.—We are informed on good authority, says the Baltimore Republican, that the following circumstance really transpired on Saturday night, in a well known hotel on Baltimore Street. A card party played for various stakes, until one of them, a woman, becoming, in her language, "dead broke," offered to stake her infant child against a dollar, upon the issue of another game. The proposition was agreed to by her opponent, who was a childless moth-r, and being favored by fortune, or misfortune, the conclusion of the game found her the winner of the baby, a bright, healthy male infant. The child, we learn, was delivered without a word of remonstrance, and we judge from the heartless conduct of the unnatural parent, that her offspring will find with its new guardian, a better home than the one from which it was ruthlessly staked and lost.

THE OLDEST POSTMASTER IN THE UNITED STATES.—The Baltimore Sun gives a list of the oldest Postmasters in the United States, at the head of which stands the name of John Bickel, of Jonestown, Lebanon county, Pennsylvania. In a letter to the Post Office Department he speaks of his appointment as follows:

"My father's name was John Bickel, and I was commissioned "John Bickel, jr." My father died in 1841, and I was appointed in his place, by his wife, our favorite actress; the "Fairy Star." If young Bouricault gives the public half as much pleasure as both of his parents have done, we shall have no objection to announce "the first appearance," on the world's stage, of ten or a dozen of his brothers and sisters. N B. We state this last fact confidentially. It is not to be repeated.

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CITY INTELLIGENCE.

ELIMINATION OF EX-POSTMASTER KENDALL.—Commissioner Lushee's Court of Examination met last evening, at 5 o'clock, P. M., pursuant to adjournment, to investigate the charges preferred against Wm. G. Kendall, ex-postmaster of this city.

The first witness called was Thomas Hall, sworn—Am clerk in Post Office. I have examined the books of the Post office, and found the registery for the valuable letter sent by Marshall Hanson to Mr. Adams, on 24 of August last. It is in the handwriting of Mr. Wm. Kendall's clerk. Another letter is registered Sept. 12. I first saw an agent of the name of McGibbony connected in September, when I first went into the office. He had free access to the office whenever he chose to come, as he was a special agent of the Department. There are two desks in the valuable letter office; I have seen Mr. McGibbony need both desks. He used the unclosed one of the office. I don't know whether he was in the office in August. I never saw Kendall approach the desks to which the mails were opened. I always opened them. I don't permit any one to approach them, because I am responsible for the valuable letters until I pass them into the hands of the treasurer. No one could get a valuable letter until it is passed into the hands of the treasurer without my knowledge. I never knowingly put into my hand of all the clerks.

Cross-examined—When mails come after 6 o'clock they remain unopened till next morning. The key hang in the office. If any one assumed to opening bag had a key there, there would be present him. If any one took a valuable letter and then destroyed the who's package in which it came and way the bag there would be no means of ascertaining all that were called for them. Clerks are usually there till 6 P. M.; I have been there till 8. Bags of letters opened. I always opened them. I don't permit any one to approach them, because I am responsible for the valuable letters until I pass them into the hands of the treasurer. No one could get a valuable letter until it is passed into the hands of the treasurer without my knowledge. I never knowingly put into my hand of all the clerks.

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