New Orleans Bee.

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THE DAILY BEE

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Any person receiving the first number of the Bee, or otherwise, will be obliged to communicate, and address to the office, and thereby be relieved of the fact of the office.

NEW ORLEANS:

MONDAY MORNING, FEBY. 1, 1864,

Office at 8 o'clock Yesday.

By McCorkle & Landry, at 11 o'clock, at their auction mart, Masonic Hall, Gravier st.

By H. E. Murphy, at Pool No. 10, First District, sale shipping, bales, &c.

By R. T. Montgomery, at 10½ o'clock, at 79 Camp street, flour, bacon, pork, &c.

PROPERTY FOR SALE.—Mr. E. Fassbel, broker, No. 56 Exchange Alley, has for sale a number of residences and valuable lots, situated in the First, Second, Third and Fourth Districts. See his advertisement in another column.

R. T. Montgomery will sell at 10½ o'clock, on Monday, 1st February, at salesroom 89 Camp street, 25 plows, also, medicine barrels, beef, pork, brandy, gin, &c. See advertisements.

FRENCH SHIRTS, &c.—A new supply of French shirts, to which a preference is given by a large portion of the community, is announced at the well known shirt establishment, Leigh-look's old stand, corner of Canal and St. Charles streets.

C. RAVELET & SON.—It will be perceived that the house of C. Ravelet & Bro., No. 23 Chartres street, opposite, and favorably known for their judicious and tasteful assortment of dry goods at moderate prices, have returned by the last mail steamer from the way of New-York, a lot of merchandize, purchased by their partner in Paris before the rise in prices, and which consequently may be had on the most advantageous terms by dealers in the city and country. Orders from the country, as heretofore, will be promptly attended to.

ELECTION NOTICE.—Elsewhere will be found an order from Governor Shepley directing the Sheriff to open the polls in the parish of Orleans for State officers, on the 22d February, together with the usual notice of the approaching election by the Sheriff.

INHALATION TREATMENT.—All who are suffering with asthma, bronchitis, or any disease of the throat, lungs or heart, are referred to the notice of Dr. A. Foltin that his office, No. 158 Canal street, is open to patients for consultation from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M. He may be consulted in English, French and Spanish.

THE VARIETIES THEATRE.—*Mr. Baker's Benefit To-night.*—Having already, in view of Mr. Baker's approaching benefit, expressed our deliberate appreciation of his merits both as a stage manager and as an actor, there is no need to repeat at length the grounds of our high estimate of his claims upon the theatre going community. To doubt that they would eagerly seize the present opportunity to render him a brilliant and substantial acknowledgment of the extent to which they are indebted to him for theatrical amusement, would be a reflection upon their taste, discrimination and candor. But there is every assurance that his benefit will be a decided triumph.

The play selected for the occasion is the dramatic version of Dickens' beautiful domestic story of Dot, or Cricket on the Hearth. The cast assigns Caleb Plummer to Mr. Baker, John Perrybingle to Lawrence Barrett, Tilly Slowboy to Dan Setchell, the Stranger to Jos. Barrett, Dot to Mrs. Baker, and Bertha to Viola Barrett. Of the discussion of Tackleton, the last-named person with a voice from Jones, we are not informed. Respecting the amiable character, therefore, curiosity will be up-to-date. Perhaps his representative is at this moment undergoing completion at a blacksmith shop.

Dot, upon its own merits, would be sure to draw a full house; with Mr. Baker's benefit added it can not fail to go off in a house crowding style.

War or Peace in Europe.

The latest foreign advices show Europe to be still in an oscillation of painful suspense between war and peace. If anything, the clash of war would seem to be threatening to volcano and blackness from day to day. The thunders are still locked in its dreadful mystery. There are the gloom and preliminary tremors, without the explosion of the tempest.

But it seems not be forgotten that if many or the imminent point to war, there are not wanting also many of unmistakable tendency to peace. The very luminosity of the conflict, the very intensity which white preparations are made to meet it, are calculated to retard the actual clash of arms. Wars are more often, perhaps, the result of accident than of deliberation. A deliberate armament for the single on the part of the antagonists is not always a certain precursor of deadly struggle. On the contrary, the mutual display of savage fury may inspire such a degree of caution, such a keen appreciation of danger, as to cause the crisis of controversy to pass without a collision. It is then, no doubt safe to say that the chance of war in Europe do not yet preponderate over the guarantees of peace.

And among those guarantees of peace may be counted some of those considerations which, at first view, cheer us full of hope for a general conservation of Europe. The polish question, that Hungarian and Venetian questions, and the Danish-Holstein question, and we may add, the Mexican question, all operating in a greater or less degree to put Russia, Austria, Prussia and Germany and France each heads to keep the peace with each other. Again England, she is bound in peaceful bearing by India and Ireland; and by the interests of her immense merchant marine, which must, perhaps more than prospective than now, but which is nowhere had so much to fear from the consequences of war.

The Danish Holstein difficulty, however, if not without its threatening aspects. There was, by last advices, almost nothing to distinguish the relations between Germany and Denmark from a state of flagrant hostilities, which would constitute England at least, and possibly other powers, to intervene against the German States. Austria, Prussia, and France, in addition to England, would almost inevitably become parties in the conflict, if not speedily adjusted. The necessity for such an adjustment may lead at last to a disinference of the great powers, similar in its nature, if not so extensive in scope, identical in general purpose, if not constituted under the same formalities, as the proposed Congress which failed from the doubts, the fears, or the jealousies of some of the powers invited to assist in its deliberations. Whether the initiative in a new project of pacification be taken by England, France, or another power, it will be a doubt to been decided whether Europe can be saved from the calamities of general war by European arbitration. The interval between this and spring will probably test the experiment; but may look higher for peace reasoned or a widespread way of ingenious deration.

A New Engine of Destruction.

If nature's in the beneficent course of constant agents of preservation, she is also the inexhaustible storehouse of materials for the means of inhabit destruction. The mysterious proportion between these diverse elements in nature forms a not less mysterious compliment of the inexorable condition of life and death in human history. Generation after generation, the battle remains a drawn one; death cannot beat the victory, life cannot abate its consequence. A like inexplicable correspondence exists between the powers of peace and the terrible engines of war. In the age of unexampled peaceful thriving, most of the useful and the astonishing arts, there is also a not less unprecedented invention of tremendous agencies of war.

One of the latest efforts of science to arm war with still more destructive engine, appears in the reported attempt, said to be successful, of some European chemist to the chloride of nitrogen as a fulminating agent in military operations.

The strongest objection urged against its use is founded in its remarkable explosive and terrific potency, by which, it is apprehended, it might prove scarcely less destructive to friends than to enemies. A New York contemporary thus describes the chemical properties and explosive power of this agent:

Chloride of nitrogen is composed of one atom chlorine and nitrogen, and is obtained by decomposing a solution of sal ammoniac with chlorine gas, at a temperature of about 100 degrees. The chlorine united with the nitrogen of the ammoniacal salt, and appears as a viscous, yellowish, innocent looking liquid, floating in drops on the surface of the solution from which it is separated by distillation. Although it appears oily on the surface, it is specifically heavier than the solution, and sinks to the bottom of the vessel, from which the solution may be then decanted, though this step, or any other method of isolating the chloride is attended with the greatest danger. Should there happen to be any greasy or fatty matter, even in the slightest particle, in the vessel, the chloride will explode on the contact of the solution, with no energy of destruction proportioned to the violence with which it is produced. Although it is apparently