THE DAILY BEE.

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MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 26

A FAINT HOPE.

In commenting upon the recent imposing demonstration at Faneuil Hall, the Boston *Courier* says that "the assembly exhibited most merely the sentiments of the well-affected men of Boston, but fairly and fully represented also those of a like class of men throughout the North. And these men constitute a powerful majority of our people. For political purposes we have appeared otherwise of late in the eyes of the nation. A sleeping majority, with a fighting minority, tells the exact state of the case; and it is from the past inertness of the former that those evil consequences have ensued, which the proceedings of Thursday will have such a cogent influence to correct." This is confident language, and we should be pleased at beholding the data upon which it is based. If our Boston colemporary, which we know to be earnest, faithful and untiring in the advocacy of the Union and the constitutional rights of the South, will give us its reasons for believing that hitherto a sleeping majority has been overpowered by a fighting minority, we shall be better enabled to understand the strong faith by which it appears to be animated. For instance, when the *Courier* expresses itself in such terms as these:

For we do not believe the majority will slumber any longer—since it seem the result to be, that the noblest institutions ever contrived by man thus become the football of demagogues and are put in serious peril by the spiteful influence of unchecked fanaticism. Henceforth "the Union" will have in the ears of the people of the North a more harmonious ring. It will be a charmed, a holy word. Those who love love and the Constitution will appear to be, as they really are, when brought to the test, in the supreme ascendency; and those who deride them as "Union savers," if any such remain, will be looked upon as they are, as the enemies of their country, and be regarded as such men deserve.

We cannot but suspect that the wish is father to the thought, and that its sanguine anticipations are the suggestion of irrepressible enthusiasm. We should be delighted to share the convictions of our colemporary; but regarding facts with a cool and unprejudiced vision, we confess that our hopes are overmastered by our fears. It will no doubt be remembered that at the Presidential election of 1856, when FREMONT carried all the New England States, together with New York, that his supporters in every one of these states, without an exception, were in a decided minority of the popular vote. In other words, the united vote of BUCHANAN and FILLMORE, representing in the aggregate the conservative element, far outnumbered that cast for FREMONT. At that time, then, it would have been just to say that the Black Republicans constituted but a minority of the people of the North. Can we say so now? Let facts determine.

During the last year or two the American party has disappeared in the Northern States: its component parts having fused with either the Black Republicans, the Democrats, or with both. In the various political contests which have taken place, the two opposition elements of anti-slavery and constitutional rights have consequently met each other face to face. In many cases the struggle has been highly animated, and the vote large. What has been the result? Simply that throughout the New England States Black Republicanism has invariably triumphed; and that in New York, where, for the first time, an attempt was made to employ the strength of the American party so as to cause it to be felt, the Black Republicans carried a majority of their ticket. Throughout these elections we have seen no evidence of a sleeping majority being surprised and overcome by a fighting minority. On the contrary, it has seemed to us that both parties were wide awake and vigilant, and that if the anti-slavery element gained the victory, it was through sheer superiority of numbers.

If we still do not wholly despair of witnessing a return to reason and good sense on the part of the North, it is not because we believe that at this time the majority of the citizens of that section are sound in sentiment and free from fanaticism, but because we have some reason to conclude that many who have heretofore acted with the successful faction have done so unconsciously, and without due regard to the consequences of their conduct. Hence we are disposed to think that some good may follow the Union meetings held in Boston, New York and elsewhere, inasmuch as they seem to undeceive a certain class of citizens who have hitherto been deluded by the monstrous allegations of the *Tribune* and other sheets, into the idea that the South was gasconading, and meant nothing by her protests and menaces. If none these misguided people can be convinced that a real crisis is impending, that the Union is in danger, and that the furious fanaticism of the leaders of anti-slavery have brought about this trouble, we believe they will abandon their associations and sustain these true hearted and patriotic citizens who are laboring to preserve the Union, by upholding the rights of the weaker section.

CHILDREN'S HOME OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN NEW ORLEANS, No. 7 Moreau street. It has been thought advisable to make this institution a general one, rather than continue it, as it has been, in connection with one parish. One gentleman and two ladies from Christ Church, St. Paul's, Trinity, St. Peter's, and the Free Church, are to take the management of all its affairs, under the Bishop of the Diocese, and with the assistance of the several pastors. The design is to provide a home for orphans, half-orphans and other destitute children, under the religious training and instruction which this Church affords. It is not commenced in opposition to other existing institutions, but that provision may be made for the children of the Church and such others as may be committed to its care. Subscriptions and donations for this object are invited from the charitable; and until the reorganization is comp eted they may be sent to the Reverend A. D. McCoy, No. 5 Esplanade street, or to the Home.

DR. BODENHAMER.—Many of our readers who are afflicted with diseases of the intestinal canal will rejoice to learn that that eminent and successful practitioner, Dr. W. BODENHAMER, has taken an office at No. 167 Canal street, next to Dauphin, and is now prepared to offer his services in all cases requiring medical or surgical treatment. We need scarcely say one word of Dr. B.'s distinguished ability and wonderful skill in the treatment of affections of the lower bowel, as there are hosts of citizens in New Orleans who are walking certificates of his admirable, successful and painless method of cure. See advertisement.

NEW WORKS.—Our thanks are due the publishers, through J. C. MORGAN & Co., Exchange Place, for the following new books:

Portraiture; or, Wit and Humor in Paragraphs. By the Editor of the Louisville *Journal*. Here we have bound up in one volume a portion of the inimitable gems of wit and humor with which Prentice daily decorates the columns of his paper. In this volume there is perpetual food for laughter. Its author is beyond all rivalry the greatest wit in America. Derby & Jackson, publishers.

The British Reviews. Leonard Scott & Co.'s republications.—Here we have in one batch Blackwood for November; the North British for November; and the London Quarterly, Edinburgh, and Westminster Reviews for October—all excellent and full of variety and instruction.

BOOKS OF THE HOLIDAYS.—As this is the season for gifts and tokens of friendship and affection, we advise the thoughtful who like to bestow useful presents to call at T. L. WHITE'S, No. 106 Canal street, and select from among his collection of splendidly illustrated books by the best American and English authors, or from among his illustrated juvenile books, for suitable gifts. See advertisement.

HARPER'S MONTHLY.—FEBRUARY, No. 7 Exchange Place, has laid us under obligations for the January number of Harper's Monthly Magazine—and a capital number it is.

FULLER'S SERMONS.—We are indebted to the publishers, SEMMES & Co., through THOS. L. WHITE, No. 106 Canal street, for a volume of sermons by RICHARD FULLER, D. D., of Baltimore. Many of these productions are replete with piety and profound biblical learning.

Francis Fernandez, auctioneer, sells TODAY, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at his auction rooms, corner of St. Louis and Chartres streets, No. 128, the wardrobe of the Round Robin Troupe, from Broadway Theatre New York, comprising a splendid collection. See advertisement.

Fruit dealers' attention is called to the sale by D. F. MURPHY, auctioneer, which is to take place THIS DAY, in the Levee, second District, opposite the Red Stores. See sworn advertisement.

CARPET SALE.—We call the attention of the trade to the sale of 300 cases of brussels, three and brogans, ingrs, winter clothing, &c., to take place THIS DAY, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at WARDEN & LEGGETT'S commodious rooms, No. 71 Chartres street. See sworn to sale.

LATER FROM MEXICO.

The steamship Tennessee, T. Forbes, commander, from Vera Cruz 23d instant, arrived here last evening.

By this arrival we have received files of Vera Cruz papers, but they contain no news of moment.

The American bark Julia Dean, from Havre, bound for Vera Cruz, was lost on the 9th instant, during a severe gale, off the Anegada Puera Reefs, 23 miles from Vera Cruz. No lives lost.

The steamship Reforma, from Tampico, arrived at Vera Cruz on the 20th inst., with Don Santos Degollado on board. Every thing was quiet at Tampico, and no attack from the enemy was apprehended. Don Juan de la Garza commanded the place.

A vessel from New York arrived at Vera Cruz with a large quantity of guns and carbines ordered by the Government.

The advices from the capital offer nothing of importance.

In port of Vera Cruz.—American schooner Red Eagle, loading for New York; American bark Flash, for New York. Arrived December 18th, American schooner Ellen. Sailed December 20th, Spanish brig Polaca Antonieta, for Laguna; December 18th, Spanish brig Invincible, for New Orleans.

The Tennessee brings the following passengers:

Mrs. Davis, Dr. Rogers, Mr. Waldonado, Montes de Oca, Capt. Stone, Capt. Wear, Capt. Frisk, Capt. Sasal, Mr. Sweet, T. Rossi, and 5 in the steerage.

Consignees.—J. W. Zacharie & Co., $9,000; Cramer & Co., $8,767; F. de Fuentes & Co., 1 bale merchandize.

FASHIONABLE GOODS AND NOVELTIES.—M'lle. M. Vucher, No. 141 Royal street, successor to M'lle. CLEMENCE GUERIN, has just received a superb assortment of fashionable goods and novelties, to which we take pleasure in directing the attention of the ladies of the city and country. Amongst other objects, we may mention elegant articles for ladies' toilets, of the latest style, as well as children's dresses, bonnets, &c., all of which are remarkable for material, cut and making up.—See advertisement.

TO SMOKERS.—Those who love the genuine meerschaum pipes, superior brands of cigars, and the soothing weed in all its varied forms are referred to the advertisement of G. JAQUET, No. 53 St. Peter street, to be found in our columns. Country merchants are particularly invited to examine his stock.

We have received late advices from the African Squadron. The steamer San Jacinto, which left this port in July, arrived at Porto Praya August 18, with her machinery disabled. An examination of the vessel resulted in a verdict of her unseaworthiness, but upon the arrival of the flag-officer on board the Constellation, the decision was overruled and the San Jacinto was ordered to proceed on her voyage to the west coast of Africa. She arrived at Monrovia on the 25th October in safety, and found the Constellation there. The San Jacinto was to leave in a few days for the Congo river.

LOSS OF THE STEAMER LEONA.—By the arrival, last night, of the steamer Fair Play, from Shreveport, we learn that the steamer Leona, Capt. Roberts, from Shreveport, bound to this port, struck a snag on Monday morning last, when opposite Dr. Brigg's plantation, Red River, and sunk in twelve feet water forward and twenty feet aft. Outside of where she lay the water was fifty feet deep and the boat was rapidly settling, and would doubtless be a total loss. The Leona had about sixty passengers and seven hundred and forty-one bales cotton on board. All the passengers with their baggage, were saved. The Fair Play, from Shreveport, passing shortly after the accident, took off the passengers and one hundred and seventy-five bales cotton.

The Leona was owned solely by Capt. Roberts, and was valued at $15,000; insured in this city for $7000.

BUENOS AYRES.—The news from Buenos Ayres is of more active hostilities between the lower Plate belligerents. After the Argentine fleet had forced the passage of the river, Gen. Martin Garcia had proceeded up the river, finally pursued by the Buenos Ayrean fleet. The story runs that when the latter had approached very nearly within range of the victorious squadron, the commander, disregarding the remonstrances of the officers, had ordered the officer to be suspended, and then to be shot down stream. Upon this the vessels reached Saint Nicholas October 18. In the meantime Gen. Urquiza had advanced from Entre Rios with his army, and entered the state of Buenos Ayres. On the 23d of October the two armies, each about ten thousand strong, encountered each other at Cepedes, after sustaining a severe shock, Urquiza had remained master of the field, capturing several guns abandoned by the Buenos Ayreans, and, having reposed, had marched upon Buenos Ayres, and at the moment the steamer sailed was within short distance of the city.

NEW YORK, December 20.—At the Union meeting last evening, Mr. J. W. Savage nominated Lieutenant-General W. Scott for President, and Gen. Sam. Houston for Vice-President, each at outside meetings, and the nomination was carried amidst the plaudits of the multitude. Resolutions were read as follows:

Resolved, That the Union thus formed, consisting as it does of the closest and most delicate and important relations that can exist between communities of people, demands from each part warm and constant consideration for the safety, prosperity and happiness of each other, and that every policy that tends to subvert this end is hostile to the spirit of the compact.

Resolved, That the Constitution, the treaties and the laws of the United States, and judicial decisions thereupon, recognize the institution of slavery as legally existing in that it is our duty as good citizens of a common government in good faith to stand by that Constitution, those treaties, those laws and decisions of that final arbiter of all disputed points, the Supreme Court of the United States. That, inasmuch as the proceedings of the Convention which framed that Constitution were brought to a stand—as appears by the declaration of Roger Sherman, one of its most distinguished authors—until a compromise was agreed to, and on other previous propositions relating to domestic slavery, which compromise embraced restrictions on the slave trade, and on other provisions relating to domestic slavery, which compromise embraced restrictions on the importation of slaves prior to 1808, a provision binding on each State, and upon the Union, to surrender fugitives from service representatives, founded in part on the three-fifths of the slave population, and other guarantees for the protection of slave property, we protest against and denounce as contrary to the principles of the Republic and the Constitution was established, all such inflammatory appeals which tend to make the Union less perfect, to jeopard and disturb the domestic harmony, compromise and concession, upon which the Union was founded by our fathers. That we regard the recent outrage at Harper's Ferry as a crime, not only against the laws of Virginia, but against the Union itself, and we approve of the firmness by which the treason has been duly punished. That, in our opinion, the subject of slavery has been too long mixed with party politics; the result has been the creation of sectional parties, contrary to the advice, letter and spirit of the farewell address of the Father of our common country. That, therefore, it is the duty of farmers, planters, manufacturers, merchants, mechanics and every citizen, North, South, East and West, to discountenance all party organizations that thus violate the spirit of the Constitution and the advice of Washington.

WASHINGTON, December 20.—The Pacific Railroad bill, which Senator GWIN intends introducing at the earliest opportunity, is the same as reported from the Select Committee, under amendment made thereto by the Senate, passed previous to the close of the last session.

The pairing off of some of the members of the House accounts for the reduction in the aggregate, but it was not after the relative vote for Speaker on the first and second trials. When Mr. Sherman lacked four of an election on the last ballot, however, only three were necessary to produce that result, and this was occasioned by the absence of Mr. Reynolds, of New York. The 38 votes of Mr. Nesbit was cast, in the days of South American friends, with Gen. Briggs, and the Democrats. Mr. McClernand's 28 votes included all Illinois Democrats, and some out of the South and elsewhere. No other Democrat received more than seven votes. Messrs. Adrian, Horace F. Clarke and Briggs voted for John G. Davis, of Indiana, and Mr. Davis voted for Mr. Clarke of New York.

The Democratic Senators were in session in caucus to-day, on the subject of a Public Printer, and, as yesterday, they adjourned without making a nomination.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20.—This morning the Southern students who are attending lectures at the medical colleges in this city, held a meeting at the Assembly Buildings, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposition to secede in a body from their schools, and go to college in Southern cities.

It appears that the officers of some of the Southern medical colleges have made overtures to the students attending colleges here, for the purpose of inducing them to desert their schools and proceed to the institutions in the South.

A list of those who had determined on leaving the colleges in this city, to proceed to the Southern institutions, was read—in all, some three or four hundred names. A large number were added. Dr. McGuire made a motion that they leave in a body, tomorrow night at 10 o'clock, in a special train from the Baltimore depot, which was agreed to.

DESPERATE DEATH.—The Iberville *Sentinel and Gazette* has the following:

Mrs. Smith, wife of Jno. Smith, brickmaker, of our town, while standing in front of the fire on Thursday last in her dwelling, with a child in her arms, as we learn, took fire in her dress. As soon as she discovered it, she threw herself in bed and covered up to smother the flames. She was badly burnt, however, from her feet to her head, which, bringing on abortion, she died on Friday in great agony.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

Later from California.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER BALTIC.

$1,400,000 in *Treasure—Later from South America, &c., &c.*

NEW YORK, December 24.—The steamship Baltic has arrived at this port from Aspinwall, bringing California advices to the 7th instant, the trip from San Francisco having been made in eighteen days and twenty hours.

Upwards of $1,400,000 in treasure has been received by the steamer.

The mails and passengers by the steamship Northern Light, which left New York on the 4th inst., were still at Panama up to the time of the Baltic's sailing.

The steam frigate Roanoke, the frigate Sabine, and the store ship Belief are lying at Aspinwall.

The steam frigate Saranac and the Levant are at Panama.

Private letters Panama state that the trade has been extremely depressed.

Captain Kibby had captured upwards of 600 of the Red Rover Indians, and it was expected that the remainder would soon surrender.

SOUTH AMERICA.—The business at Valparaiso was somewhat improving. The Republic is in a state of tranquillity.

The war existing between Peru and Ecuador are not yet ended. The affairs are still in an unsettled and confused condition.

Castilla has granted Ecuador an armistice of forty days.

Two Peruvian frigates are anchored off the coast of Lima.

Mr. Beverly Clark, the United States Minister at Guatemala, has protested against the treaty recently negotiated between the British Government and Guatemala, and regards it as a violation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty.

FROM NICARAGUA.—Mr. Dimitry, the United States Minister in Nicaragua, has been taken down with the yellow fever, and is said to be in a critical condition.

THE SLAVER WANDERER.—Boston, December 24.—The yacht Wanderer, which has for several months been undergoing proceedings before the United States Courts, has arrived at this port, having, while on her passage hither, run ashore on the Flores. The vessel was in no dangerous a condition that Capt. Martin, her commander, took ashore the chronometers, charts, and other nautical instruments. But the first mate, Mr. Welton, got her under way and has arrived safely here. Mr. Welton says that he was unwillingly carried from Savannah to the coast of Africa, and that Martin's real name is Lincoln F. Patten, of Bath, Maine.

STEAMBOAT IN DISTRESS.—St. Louis, December 24.—The steamer Caroline Dilgard is aground on miles above this place, and has aboard from sixty to eighty persons. She is unable to obtain any assistance from here. Great anxiety is being made in order to prevent a famine on board.

CONFIRMATION BY THE SENATE.—Washington, December 24.—The Senate to-day, in executive session, confirmed the following appointments: Postmasters—Mr. Browne, of Philadelphia; Mr. Hatch, of Buffalo, and Mr. Vattier, of Cincinnati.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.—Washington, December 24.—In the House to-day, the same rambling discussion was continued upon Clark's resolution and other matters, and up to 9 P. M. nothing had been done towards the election of Speaker.

A desultory debate continued kept up, the Republicans hoping to come to a vote when Southern members are out in sufficient numbers to give them a majority.

It now appears doubtful whether the House will adjourn over the holidays.

AMERICAN AND UNION PRESIDENTIAL CONVENTION—*Disorder and Confusion.*—Washington, December 24.—Numerous delegates, representing the American and Old Line Whig and Union parties, held a meeting last night, and resolved that their Chairman, in connection with the Chairman of the National American Committee, should call a Convention for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the Presidency in 1860. A meeting of the Union party was also held, which was attended by about four or five hundred people.

The speakers denounced the Southern fire-eaters as well as the Northern fanatics, and proposed to the people to rally around the Constitution and the Union and put down sectional strife.

The above principles were embodied in a series of resolutions, which were adopted or so declared, while about an hour's excitement a substitute was offered, declaring the meeting to be inopportune and unnecessary.

The first resolution was, however, favored by the majority, although much confusion and disorder prevailed. In the midst of the confusion and excitement, the speakers' platform gave way, precipitating the orators upon it. None were, however, seriously injured, and the meeting dissolved and dispersed to the music of a full band.

BRITISH POLICY IN MEXICO.—WASHINGTON, December 24.—Official advices from the American Legation at London were received by the Asia, which state that several eminent bankers of London had sent a petition to the British Government, urging the Government to recognize the Constitutional, or Juarez Government of Mexico.

The Foreign Secretary, Lord John Russell, received the petition, and appointed the 6th of December for an interview with the bankers and Mexican bondholders. It is believed that the British Government is favorable to the recognition of the Juarez Government.

COAL BOATS SUNK AND LIVES LOST.—Memphis, December 24.—Two coal boats, owned by Messrs. Rupert & Smith, of Pittsburg, Pa., while on their way down, struck on John Worthington on Thursday. Joseph Lydick and John Baxter, employed on them, were drowned.

EUROPE.

FURTHER BY THE VANDERBILT.

The Vanderbilt brings European advices to the 7th inst:

RELATIONS OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE—LETTER OF NAPOLEON III. TO LIVERPOOL MERCHANTS.

The following is a translation of a letter addressed by M. Mocquard, in the name of the Emperor of the French, to four merchants of Liverpool, who had written to Napoleon III. inquiring his intentions in reference to England:

PALACE OF THE TUILERIES, *Nov. 30.*

To Messrs. Shaw, Mellor, Irving and Blackwell, Merchants at Liverpool.

Gentlemen: You have addressed yourselves direct to the Emperor "to know what were *his intentions as regards England.*" The great fear of war at present alone could explain this step.

On the one side, you are possessed by the imaginary trouble which appears to have seized your country with the rapidity of an epidemic; and on the other, you reckon on the loyalty of him from whom you desire a reply. I, sirs, however, say for you yourselves to give it, if you had calmly examined the true cause of your apprehensions; that cause you would have found only in all those rumors spreaded among your fellow-countrymen by the obstinate propagation of the most chimerical of alarms; because, until now, under whatever circumstances, there has not been a word or an act of the Emperor which could permit a doubt of his sentiments, and, consequently, of his intentions towards your country. His conduct, invariably the same, has been in one moment to show him as a faithful and irreproachable ally.

That what he has been, he will (I declare it to you in his name) continue to be—witness his language to-day, the appreciation of community of perils to be shared at a great distance by your soldiers and ours.

Thus, henceforth, fully reassured, oppose an error too much believed. Great nations should appreciate, but not fear each other.

Receive gentlemen, the expression of my distinguished sentiments.

The Secretary of the Emperor,
Chef du Cabinet,
MOCQUARD.

Dec. 3, 12:30 P. M.

ITALY.—TURIN, December 2.—The separate Governments of the provinces of Parma, Modena and the Romagna are suppressed from the 8th of December.

These provinces will have one sole government with a ministry sitting at Modena, and a legislative commission and commander of the military forces of the line sitting at Bologna.

Baron Ricasoli has arrived at Turin, and has had a long conference with the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

December 3.—The affair of the delegation of the Regency of Central Italy to M. Buoncompagni has been arranged to the satisfaction of all parties.

M. Buoncompagnie will proceed immediately to Florence, with the rank of Governor-General of the Provinces of Central Italy.

The functions of the Governor-General will extend to the command of the military forces of the line, and to the relations of Central Italy with Piedmont and the foreign powers.

ROME, Friday, December 2.—The report that the Pope had already consented to be represented at the approaching Congress, and that His Holiness had appointed Cardinal Antonelli First Plenipotentiary, is without foundation.

FLORENCE, December 5.—The *Monitore di Toscana* announces that M. Buoncompagnie will take the title of Governor-General of the League of the Provinces of Central Italy.

Baron Ricasoli has returned to Florence.

PARIS, Monday, December 5.—The *Patrie* of this evening says:

We are assured that most of the European powers have given in their adhesion to the Congress.

The Pope states that England has consented to take part in the Congress.

The *Pays* states that Spain has declined to send a plenipotentiary to the Congress.

The Pope's nuncio has been recalled from Madrid, and the Spanish ambassador has left Rome.

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The Pope's nuncio has been recalled from Madrid, and the Spanish ambassador has left Rome.

The Judge d'instruction has decided that there is no ground for further proceedings in the affair of M. Orsini's pamphlet, entitled Napoleon III. Viewed. The copies seized by the police have been returned.

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