DAILY BEE

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NEW ORLEANS:
SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 3, 1863.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By D. E. Murphy, at 10 o'clock, on Magazine street, No. 47, mattresses; at 12 o'clock, at Post 38 Third District street beef.

R. B. Sykes, at 4½ o'clock, under the Opera House, on Bourbon street, coffee-house furniture.

By E. M. Jacobs, at 12 o'clock, M., at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, one lot of ground and 120 acres land; at 11 o'clock, on Bayou Fields street, between Victory and Moreau street, unfinished cotton.

By Vincent & Co., at 10 o'clock, on Customhouse street, No. 64, spool cotton, fancy prints, muslin de laines, &c.

By R. T. Montgomery, at 10½ o'clock, opposite the meat market, Second District, flour, apples, onions, beets, &c.; at 11¼ o'clock, at Post 28 Second District, turnips, beets, carrots, &c.

By R. Scott, at 12 o'clock, on the levee, at the foot of Toulouse street, lard.

The United States mail steamship Marion, Captain Johnston, left her wharf last evening for New York with a full freight, the United States mails, and the following passengers:

Mr. E. P. Leleux, Dr. Thomas Rice, J. D. Hutchinson, Miss Menard, Isaac Schiffenstein, Rev. Mr. Vennard, S. Cohn, M. Gavin, W. J. McLean, B. M. Hunter, A. M. Spaldeth, F. H. Marshall, D. W. C. Farrington, Rev. James Colley, E. Dufournet, D. N. Bolano and lady, P. C. Banks, W. N. Thompson, P. D. Davis, S. M. Hilyer, Captain George Scott, Capt. B. F. Wells, Wm. Mitchell, E. Keeler, J. Davis, D. Jamison, E. Valentine, and twenty-one in the steerage.

THE VARIETIES.—An attractive bill is offered at the Varieties to-night, composed of the Roman tragedy of "Jane Shore" and the spectacular and fairy extravaganza, "The Forty Thieves." The superior manner in which Mrs. Gladstone acquitted herself of the character of the *Duchess*, in "Lucretia Borgia," warrants her success in Rowe's tragedy of "Jane Shore." The other characters will doubtless be supported with the same ability which has characterized Mr. Eyer's and Mr. Baker's personations of the respective parts of *Duke* and *Gesmre*, in "Lucretia." We predict a large audience at the Varieties to-night.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—This favorite place of amusement is delighting its large audiences nightly with the amenities of negro minstrelsy, and the addition of the little men to the Museum cannot but have increased the attractions of this place of amusement.

MUSEUM.—We spent a half hour yester day at "the levee" of Commodore Foote and Colonel Small, in the Museum, adjoining the Academy of Music we can safely assure our readers that they are well worth looking at and listening to.

In another column will be found the advertisement of a lady who offers her services as housekeeper. The best references will be given.

The sales this day (Saturday,) the 3d instant by R. T Montgomery, are important to fruit and vegetable dealers, and should be attended by them as all the goods offered will be peremptorily sold. At half past 10 o'clock, ex bark Ida, opposite Meat Market, Second District, choice flour, apples, onions, beets, turnips, carrots and Malaga lemons. At half-past 11 o'clock, ex bark Rohamtom, post 26, Second District, a large amount of onions, turnips, carrots, beets, etc. A rare opportunity for market men. At 11 o'clock, at Old Auction Mart, 87 Camp street, the most large and important sale of fine and medium priced furniture, carpets, bedding, and other varieties of merchandise.

For particulars refer to advertisement

The Sheriff sells at auction this day, at 12 o'clock A. M., at No 46 St. Charles St., First District, the contents of a Machinery Depot, and at noon, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal St., twelve lots of ground, with a small one-story frame dwelling house, etc., thereon, in the Third District of this city, in that part called Gentilly.

For particulars see advertisement and plan on exhibition at the Exchange.

The Latest News from Southern Sources.

The Invasion of Van Dorn—Reliance, Jackson and Trenton Taken—A Dash Upon Holly Springs—Memphis Threatened—Later from Virginia—Federal Reports from the West.

The *Advocate* published yesterday morning the following intelligence:

We have received the Memphis Jackson *Appeal* of the 28th, and add to it of interest:

MEMPHIS THREATENED.

Grenada, December 27—A surgeon of Gen Cheatham's division, just in from Memphis, who left there on Tuesday, reports that the Confederate cavalry, under Van Dorn, had encircled the city, occupying Chelsea, Wolf river Bridge and the Fair Grounds.

A flag of truce was sent in on Tuesday morning, the supposition was to demand the surrender of the city.

The Memphis *Argus* of the 23d says, on the authority of Col Logan, of the Thirty-second Illinois, that the Confederates had captured Bolivar, Jackson and Trenton.

The greatest excitement prevails in Memphis, the Federals moving all their plunder into the fortifications on Sturday night and Sunday morning.

The *Bulletin* acknowledges to a loss of fifteen hundred prisoners and an immense amount of stores at Holly Springs, and total destruction of the railroad north of that place.

It also says the destruction of property will probably compel Grant to fall back from Oxford and Holly Springs.

FROM VIRGINIA.

Richmond, December 26.—There is nothing of interest from Fredericksburg to day There are movements which cannot be made public, but which will no doubt, be successful.

Christmas was celebrated with unusual spirit, yesterday. There were few acts of lawlessness.

Passengers report the Yankees to be falling back, the Federals four to eight thousand strong, under Milroy, advancing up the valley. They are reported to have taken the route of Moorfield and Strasburg, evading Winchester.

It was reported the enemy were at Front Royal several days ago. They are now reported to have reached Woodstock, thirty miles this side of Winchester, in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley.

TOMPKINSVILLE, KY., TAKEN BY MORGAN.

Chattanooga, December 27.—Parties from Murfreesboro report that Morgan had taken Tompkinsville, Ky., and captured twelve hundred prisoners, a hundred head of cattle, and sent them to Murfreesboro'.

Several persons have been, or are to be, executed at Murfreesboro' as spies and deserters.

BERKELEY'S POSITION.

Richmond, December 28.—The New York *Tribune* says that the Confederate States must be recognized—there is no probability of whipping them—peace is the only panacea for the present difficulties.

THE HERALD'S VIEWS.

Richmond, December 28.—The New York *Herald* of the 25th contains full details of the recent military operations in North Carolina, and claims a splendid success for the Union troops.

It is despondent and thinks the *Herald* urges Governor Seymour to call a convention of the loyal States, and to invite the Southern States to co-operate. It says that unless the rebellion is crushed before spring, the Confederates will have Napoleon for an ally.

FEDERAL REPORTS FROM THE WEST.

Richmond, December 28.—A dispatch in the *Herald*, from Cairo, says it was reported at Memphis that the Confederates had gone southward Grand Junction, but nothing was known positively.

A small Confederate force made a raid on the suburbs of Memphis on the night of the 21st, pillaged several stores and carried off a hundred head of cattle and one hundred and eighty mules.

COMMERCIAL.

Richmond, December 28.—Gold was quoted in New York on the 24th at 132.

FEDERAL REPORTS FROM MIDDLE TENNESSEE.

[Telegraphic Correspondence Cincinnati Commercial.]

Nashville, December 18.—The rebels' grapevine has been busy to-day. Gen. Price was coming to effect a junction with Bragg's army. The military authorities in Central Kentucky say that they consider reliable information that Van Dorn has arrived with his command at Florence, Alabama, to reinforce Bragg. Information from that point of late as yesterday, contradicting the report.

Gen. Rosecrans just received at headquarters from Nolensville, reports Forrest, of Bragg's rebel cavalry command, fighting our cavalry near that post. He left Murfreesboro last week with about four thousand men.

All is nearly quiet in our front to day. The rebels are changing positions somewhat. It is reported moving northward to cut off our communication.

General Hamilton is relieved from duty at Nashville, at his own request.

FIGHT NEAR JACKSON, TENNESSEE.

[Telegraphic Correspondence Cincinnati Commercial.]

Jackson, Tennessee, December 18.—Jackson, Tennessee, telegraphs Gen Rosecrans that General Dodge telegraphs him from Corinth to day that his cavalry had been fighting Forrest all day in that vicinity.

Forrest, with 2500 cavalry and five pieces of artillery, left Handsboro, on Tuesday.

Colonel Napier, with 200 or 300 cavalry and four cannon, crossed the Tennessee at Carrollsville on Monday, to join Forrest. It is reported that they would strike Jackson first, and Bethel next, to stop Grant's supplies.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Appeal* says: A correspondent of the New York *Tribune* acknowledges to a loss of 2000 men in the battle of Fredericksburg.

Ex-President Buchanan is out in still another letter to the *National Intelligencer*, reviewing his controversy with General Scott. He attempts to show that extra supplies of arms were not distributed to the Southern States by Floyd, and cites, as evidence, a report of Lieutenant-Governor Stanton, of Ohio, when a member of the House Committee on Military Affairs.

Yesterday evening, as a freight train was coming in from Vicksburg, it ran against two mules on the track, throwing off the locomotive and smashing up some four or five cars. No personal injury was sustained by the accident, though a lady and her child made a very narrow escape, they being in a box car, which was overturned.

A steamer arrived at New York on the 18th from Bermuda, and reported several vessels there loaded with arms, ammunition and stores for the rebels. The steamer Cornubia, painted lead color, had sailed, doubtless, to run the blockade.

MOVEMENTS OF GENERAL VAN DORN.

In addition to the dispatch from our regular correspondent at Grenada, published in our midnight edition Saturday night, as to the movements of Van Dorn, we have numerous reports from above this morning. Several gentlemen who left Grenada at noon yesterday say that the news of the successes of our cavalry in north Mississippi and west Tennessee, and the appearance of Van Dorn before Memphis, was credited when they left, by the military authorities.

They inform us that the rumors as to Memphis were brought out by a gentleman named Rice, who stated that he knew the Federals had retired to their breastworks, and had seen the Confederates bringing in a flag of truce. The Federal force consisted of only two regiments. He was informed that Van Dorn was occupying the northeastern portions of the city, and had demanded possession.

On the other hand, a gentleman in this city informs us that intelligence has been received that General Van Dorn and command reached Grenada late last night, and while the expedition was out it captured twenty-three hundred prisoners. We hope to hear from our correspondent before going to press—*Appeal, 25th.*

FROM VICKSBURG.

From persons who left Vicksburg at 3 o'clock this morning, we learn that the Federals had effected a landing on the Yazoo river, some six miles above the city, and brisk skirmishing was kept up all day Saturday and Sunday. The enemy were gradually feeling their way through the woods towards our lines of defense, with the view, as supposed, of bringing up their batteries and finding our main position at Snider's Bluff. They were, however, successfully repulsed at every attempt they have thus far made, our troops maintaining their position with heroic firmness.

The casualties, as far as we could learn, were very slight. Some fourteen or fifteen of our men were killed during the two days' skirmishing, and probably some twenty or thirty wounded. On Saturday two gunboats were very handsomely repulsed by our batteries at Snider's Bluff, our loss being one killed and one wounded.

Our troops are in high spirits and confident of their ability to keep the enemy under the protecting wing of their gunboats. Reinforcements are daily arriving, and in a very short time the line of the Yazoo will be made impregnable to the assaults of the enemy. A brisk engagement was expected to come off this morning.

[Memphis Appeal, 30th.

MATTERS ON THE RIVER.

[From the Vicksburg Citizen of the 26 h.]

From below the reported bombardment of Fort Hudson is confirmed, and an attack by the Federal land forces is daily expected. We have also further confirmation of the rumor that Banks had landed at last a portion of his troops at Baton Rouge, and that he has established his headquarters at that city.

On the river above, the battle is close at hand. The fleet of gunboats and transports, carrying an immense army, is now in the immediate vicinity of the city. It is supposed that they will bring an army of one hundred and fifty thousand men to reduce this place. Numerical strength will avail them nothing in an attack on Vicksburg, and we predict for them the most disastrous defeat that they have yet met with in this war.

FROM NASHVILLE.

The Knoxville *Register* says:

The news from Nashville leads us to believe that Rosecrans' advance is still so to move till its supplies of the material of war have reached it by way of the Cumberland.

Neither the Tennessee nor Cumberland are yet navigable for gunboats. Until this condition of the rivers supervenes, we shall, it seems, have no battle near Nashville.

Our army even now swarmings the city at distances from it ranging from six to sixteen miles.

THE AFFAIR AT HOLLY SPRINGS—LARGE QUANTITY OF COTTON AND STORES DESTROYED.

[From the Memphis *Appeal*, Dec. 25.]

Various rumors of a Confederate dash into Holly Springs, Miss., on Saturday, have been afloat in the city during the past forty eight hours. We have nothing official of the affair, but from different excitement just from the South we obtain the following statement

On Saturday morning, at 8 o'clock, Gen Van Dorn, in command of a considerable force of Jackson's cavalry, made a dash upon Holly Springs, capturing the entire Federal force at that place, which, according to the statement of a gentleman who witnessed the raid, amounted to fully three thousand.

The stores belonging to the Confederate that Holly Springs was the depot for most of Gen Grant's commissary stores, and by making a bold dash upon the place and destroying them, it would inconvenience Gen Grant's army no little.

So, Van Dorn undertook the task, and, from several sources we learn, was entirely successful. He came into the place at an hour when the troops least expected it, and opened fire upon the guard—killing, according to our informant a fifteenthfire, over two hundred.

The suddenness with which the Confederates sprang upon them, while asleep, created much confusion and consternation, and it was some time before they could return the fire. Our informant states that Van Dorn lost only three men killed and several wounded.

The Federal troops soon surrendered and were paroled, many of whom have arrived in this city. Among the prisoners taken was ex-Governor Wood, of Illinois, who was speculating in cotton in the rear of General Grant's army.

After the prisoners were paroled, the Confederates set to work destroying the United States property. Two hundred and twenty odd wagons were burned, and all the mules sent off to Dixie.

The large warehouse in which the commissary stores were kept was fired and burnt to the ground, together with its contents, valued at half a million of dollars.

A large amount of cotton, which had been accumulated there, probably four thousand bales, was also burned. There was the greatest excitement in the town during the fight, and it is reported that the citizens fired from their, win ows upon the Federal forces, killing quite a number of them.

Mr. Charles Fox was the Provost Marshal of Holly Springs. He was paroled.

After Van Dorn accomplished the object of his visit to the place, he put out towards Grand Junction, leaving.

Gen. Van Dorn has been made Chief of Cavalry of the Confederate forces in the West. He was formerly Major of Cavalry in the United States service previous to the war. He will, no doubt, make more of a reputation as a commander of a cavalry expedition than as a corps commander. Van Dorn, it is thought, will join Gen. Forrest.

The *Advocate* yesterday published the following speech of President Davis, of which we give the most striking passages:

Address of President Davis.

Delivered in the Hall of Representatives, Jackson, Miss., Dec. 26, 1862.

Friends and Fellow Citizens, Gentlemen of the House of Representatives and Senate of the State of Mississippi:

After an absence of nearly two years I again find myself in Mississippi, from the days of my childhood, have ever been the trusted objects of my affections, those for whose good I have ever striven, and whose interests I have sometimes hoped I may have contributed to subserve. Whatever fortune I may have achieved in life, have been gained as a representative of Mississippi, and before all, I have labored for the advancement of her glory and honor. I now, for the first time in my career, find myself the representative of a wider circle of interest, but a circle in which the interests of Mississippi are still embraced. Two years ago, nearly, I left you to assume the duties which had devolved on me as the representative of the new Confederacy. The responsibilities of this position have occupied all my time, and have left me no opportunity for mingling with my friends in Mississippi, or participating in the dangers which have menaced them. But, wherever duty may have called me, my heart has been with you, and the success of the cause in which we are all engaged has been first in my thoughts and prayers. I thought when I left Mississippi that the services which I was called to render would prove to be but temporary. The last time I had the honor of addressing you from this stand, I was influenced by that idea. I then imagined that it might be my fortune again to lead Mississippians in the field, and to be with them where danger was to be braved and glory won. I thought to find that place which I believed to be suited to my capacity, that of an officer in the service of the State of Mississippi. For, although in the discharge of my duties as President of the Confederate States, I had determined to make no distinction between the various parts of the country—to know no separate State—yet my heart has always beat more warmly for Mississippi, and I have looked on Mississippi soldiers with a pride and emotion such as no others in pired. But it was decided otherwise. I was called to another sphere of action. How, in that sphere, I have discharged the duties and obligations imposed on me, it does not become me to constitute myself the judge. It is for others to decide that question. But, speaking to you with that frankness and candor to which you have ever been accustomed to listen from me, I may appear to have spoken to you, and which partakes of the nature of thinking aloud, I can say with my hand upon my heart, that whatever I have done, has been done with the sincere purpose of promoting the noble cause in which we are engaged. The period which elapsed since I left you in short, for the time, which may appear long in the life of man, is short in the history of a nation. And in that short period remarkable changes have been wrought in all the circumstances by which we are surrounded. At the time of which I speak, the question presented to our people was "will there be war?" This was the subject of universal speculation. We had chosen to exercise an indisputable right—the right to separate from those with whom we conceived association to be no longer possible, and to establish a government of our own. This was among those who, from the beginning, predicted war as the consequences of secession, although I must admit that the contest has assumed proportions more gigantic than I had anticipated. I predicted war, not because our right to secede and to form a government of our own was not indisputable and clearly defined in the spirit of that declaration which rests the right to govern on the consent of the governed, but saw that the wickedness of the North would precipitate a war upon us. Those who supposed that the exercise of this right of separation could not produce war, have had cause to be convinced that they had credited their recent associates of the North with a moderation, a sagacity, a morality they did not possess. You have been involved in a war waged for the gratification of the lust of power and of aggrandizement, for your conquest and your subjugation, with a malignant ferocity and with a disregard and a contempt of the usages of civilization, entirely unequaled in history. Such, I have ever warned you, were the characteristics of the Northern people—of those with whom our ancestors entered into a Union of consent, and with whom they formed a constitutional compact. And yet, such was the attachment of our people for that Union, such their devotion to it, that those who desired preparation to be made for the inevitable conflict, were denounced as men who wished to destroy the Union. After what has happened during the last two years, my only wonder is that we consented to live so long a time in association with such miscreants, and have loved so much a Government rotten to the core. Were it ever to be proposed again to enter into a Union with such a people, I could no more consent to do it than to trust myself in a den of thieves.

You in Mississippi have but little experienced as yet the horrors of the war. You have seen but little of the savage manner in which it is waged by your barbarous enemies. It has been my fortune to witness it in all its terrors—in a part of the country where old men have been torn from their homes, carried into captivity and immured in distant dungeons, and where delicate women have been insulted by a brutal soldiery and forced even to cook for the dirty Federal invaders, where property has been wantonly destroyed, and where every law, every outrage committed. And it is with these people that our fathers formed a union and a solemn contract. There is indeed a difference between the two peoples. Let no man long the delusion that there can be renewed association between them. Our enemies are a traditionless and a homeless race; from the days of Joel down to the present moment they have been disturbers of the peace of the world. Gathered together by Cromwell from the bogs and fens of the North of Ireland and of England, they commenced by disturbing the peace of their own country; they disturbed Holland, they disturbed France, and they disturbed England on their return. They persecuted Catholics in England, and they hung Quakers and witches in America. Having been hurried into a war with a people so devoted to every mark of distinction you have no doubt wondered that I have not carried out the policy which I had recommended should be our policy, of fighting our battles on the fields of the enemy instead of suffering him to fight them on ours. This was not the result of my will, but of the power of the enemy. They had at their command all the accumulated wealth of seventy years of unlimited prosperity which had been laid up during that time. They had grown rich from the taxes wrung from you for the establishing and supporting their manufacturing institutions. We have entered upon a conflict with a nation contiguous to us in territory, and vastly superior to us in numbers. In the face of these facts the wonder is not that we have done little, but that we have done so much. In the first year of the war our forces were sent into the field poorly armed, and were far inferior in number to the enemy.

After stating that the Confederates were compelled to arm themselves by the capture of weapons taken from their opponents on the battle field, and showing that at the end of twelve months of the war it was still necessary to adopt some expedient to enable them to maintain their ground, he goes on to explain the reasons which led to the passage of the conscription act, against which he says he regrets to see that some prejudice had been excited. After remarking that there is no disgrace to be brought into the army by conscription, and referring to the impression which seems to prevail, to the effect that the rich are exempted from service by this act, he goes on to state that more than a fair proportion of the men composing the army are drawn from the ranks of men of property.

After referring to the action of the Governor of Mississippi upon questions of local bearing, he draws the following comparison between the two contending parties

In considering the manner in which the war has been conducted by the enemy, nothing arrests the attention more than the magnitude of his preparations made for our subjugation. Immense navies have been constructed, vast armies have been accumulated, for the purpose of crushing out the rebellion. It has been impossible for he to meet them in equal numbers, nor have we required it. We have often stripped them to the bone, and in the case of the battle of Antietam, Lee whipped them four to one. But do not understand me as saying that this will always be the case. When the troops of the enemy become disciplined, and accustomed to the obedience of the camp, they will necessarily approach more nearly to an equality with our own in force. We have always whipped them in spite of disparity of numbers; and on any fair field, fighting man to man, and relying on those natural qualities with which men are endowed, we should not fear to meet them in the proportion of one to two. But troops must be disciplined in order to develop their efficiency, and in order to keep them at their posts. Above all, to assure this result, we need the support of public opinion. We want public opinion to frown down those who come from the army with sad tales of disaster and prophecies of evil, and who seek from the country the means to aid the enemy. We rely upon the women of the land to turn back these deserters from the ranks. I thank the Governor for asking the Legislature to make the people of the State tributary to this service. In addition to this, it is necessary to build up those regiments which have for so long a time been serving in the field. They have, and before the fast on many hard fought fields, and have proven their courage and devotion on all They have won the admiration of the army and of the country. And here I to day repeat a compliment I have heard which, although it seems to partake of flattery, is but the illustration of the esteem in which Mississippians are held. It happened that several persons were conversing of a certain battle, and one of them remarked that the Mississippians did not run. "Oh, no!" said another, "Mississippians never run. But those who have passed through thirteen pitched battles are too much decimated. Their ranks are thinned, and they look back to Mississippi for aid to augment their diminished numbers. They look back expecting their brothers to fly to their rescue; but it sometimes occurs as in the long anticipated relief would never come. The people, who, after the struggle of only twelve hundred men is expected to do the work of four thousand. Humanity demanded that these depleted regiments be filled up. A mere skeleton cannot reasonably be expected to perform the labor of a body with all its flesh and muscle on it. You must, then, by your aid, assist in revivifying your reduced regiments—enough to fill up the ranks if they would only consent to throw off the shackles of private interest, and devote themselves to the noblest cause in which a man can be engaged. You have now in the field old men and gentle boys who have braved all the terrors and the dangers of war. I remember an instance of one of these, a brave and gallant youth, who, I was told, was but sixteen years of age. In one of those bloody battles by which the soil of Virginia has been consecrated to liberty, he was twice wounded, and each time bound up the wound with his own hands, while refusing to leave the field. A third time he was struck, and his life-blood flowed in a crimson stream from his breast. His brother came to him to minister to his wants, but the noble boy said: "Brother, you cannot do me any good now; go where you can do the Federals most harm." Even then, while lying on the ground, his young life fast ebbing away, he directed his rifle and determined it to take one last shot at the enemy. And so he died, a hero and a martyr. This was one of the boys whose name sheds glory on Mississippi, and who, looking back from their distant camps, where they stand prepared to fight or die battles, and to look back the tide of Federal invasion, ask you now what to them and in the struggle—to send them men to stand by them in the day of trial, on the right hand and on the left.

He then states that when he first came in Mississippi, he was uncertain from what direction the attack would come. It had been stated in the public prints that the enemy would move down upon Mississippi from the North, with the object of taking Vicksburg in the rear while their navy would attack that place in front. But when he came to Grenada, he found that it probable that the enemy would attack from the river. Vicksburg and Port Hudson are the real points of attack. Every effort will be made to capture those places so as to force the navigation of the Mississippi, and to cut off communication with the trans-Mississippi department, and to sever the Western from the Eastern portion of the Confederacy. After urging upon all to "assist in preserving the Mississippi that great artery of the country," he passes over the issue involved which he then defines.

The issue before us is one of no ordinary character. We are not engaged in a conflict for conquest, or for aggrandizement, or for the settlement of a point of international law. The question for you to decide is, "will you be slaves or will you be independent." Will you transmit to your children the freedom and equality which your fathers transmitted to you, or will bow down in adoration before an idol baser than ever was worshipped by Eastern idolators? Nothing more is necessary than the mere statement of this issue. Whatever may be the personal sacrifices involved, I am sure that you will not shrink from them in whatever the question comes before you. Those men who now exist as, who have been associated with us in common Union, who have inherited a government which they claim to be the best the world ever saw—these men when left to themselves, have shown that they are incapable of preserving their own liberty. They have destroyed the freedom of the press; they have seized upon and imprisoned members of State Legislatures and of municipal councils, who were suspected of sympathy with the South. Men have been carried off into captivity in distant States without indictment, without a knowledge of the accusation brought against them. In utter defiance of all rights guaranteed by the institutions under which they live. These people, when separated from the South and left entirely to themselves, have, in six months, demonstrated their utter incapacity for self government. And yet, these are the people who claim to be your masters. These are the people who have determined to divide out the South among their Federal troops. Mississippi they have devoted to the direst vengeance of all. "But vengeance is the Lord's," and beneath His banner you will meet and hurl back these worse than vandal hordes.

The great end and aim of the Government is to make our struggle successful. The men who stand highest in this contest would fall the first sacrifice to the vengeance of the enemy in case we should be successful. You may rest assured then for that reason if for no other that the Government will be devoted to securing the independence of the country. Our Government is not like the monarchies of the Old World, resting for support upon armies and navies. It springs from the people, and the confidence of the people is necessary for its success. When misrepresentations of the Government have been circulated, when accusations have been brought against it of weakness and inefficiency, often have I felt in my heart the struggles between the desire for justice and the duty not to give information of the enemy—because at such time the correction of error would have been injurious to the safety of the cause. Thus, that great and good man, Gen. A S Johnston, was contented to rest beneath public contumely and to be pointed at by the finger of scorn, because he did not advance from Bowling Green with the little army under his command. We are in the midst of the crisis in that quarter. The works, then weak, have been greatly strengthened, the troops assigned for their defense are better disciplined and better instructed, and that gallant soldier who came with me had been pouring in his forces to assist in the protection of Vicksburg. Hunter, the sanguinary hero, he has emulated his father's glorious example upon other fields, and comes to Mississippi to defend, and, I believe, to protect you.

In the course of this war our eyes have been often turned abroad. We have expected some unmerited reception and sometime intervention at the hands of foreign nations, and we have had a right to expect it. Never before in the history of the world had a people for so long a time maintained their ground, and showed them selves capable of maintaining their national existence without receiving the recognition of commercial nations. I know not why this has been so, but this I say, "put not your trust in princes," and rest not your hopes on foreign nations. Your war is ours, we must fight it out ourselves, and I feel some pride in knowing that we have done so much in the contest. Yet England still holds back, but France, the ally of other days, seems disposed to hold out to us the hand of fellowship. And when France holds out to us her hand, right willingly will we grasp it.

He then reviews the prospects of the war and its fortunes during the last year, showing the gradual development and discipline of the troops, and thus discusses the prominent objects of the present campaign:

There are now two prominent objects in the programme of the enemy. One is to get possession of the Mississippi river, and to open it to the commerce of the world, and to divide us in the West, and to attain the capture of New Orleans, which has thus far rendered them no service. The other is to seize upon the capital of the Confederacy, and hold this out as a proof that the Confederacy has no existence. We have twice repulsed them at Manassas, Bull Run, and I believe that under God and by the valor of our troops the capital of the Confederacy will stand safe behind its wall of living breasts. Vicksburg and Port Hudson have been strengthened, and now we can concentrate at either of them a force sufficient for their protection. I have confidence that Vicksburg will and it as before, and I hope that Johnston will find generals to support him if the enemy dare to land. Port Hudson is now strong. Vicksburg will stand, and Port Hudson will stand, but let every man that can be spared from other occupations hasten to defend them, and thus hold the Mississippi river, that great artery of the Confederacy, preserve our communications with the trans-Mississippi department, and thwart the enemy's efforts of forcing navigation through to New Orleans. By holding that section of the river between Port Hudson and Vicksburg, we shall secure these results, and the people of the West, cut off from New Orleans, will be driven to the East to seek a market for their products, and will be compelled to pay tribute to the line of transportation