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NEW ORLEANS:
MONDAY MORNING, FEB. 16, 1863.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By McCerren & Landry, at 11 o'clock, at their salesroom, Masonic Hall, furniture, carpeting, &c.

By R. Scott, at 11 o'clock, at the foot of Toulouse street, cranberries, green corn, sardines, mackerel, &c.

By F. H. Flynn, at 11 o'clock, at the new auction mart, 31 Royal street, furniture.

By R. T. Montgomery, at 10½ o'clock, at No. 101 Magazine street, choice flour, at 11½ o'clock, on the Levee, foot of Lafayette street, cotton.

By Gabriel Leaumont, at 10 o'clock, at 69 Chartres street, brogans and hats.

By G. P. Phinney, at 11 o'clock, on the Levee, sugar and molasses; at 12 o'clock, at 64 Gravier street, boots, shoes and dry goods.

THE GRAND CONCERT AT THE OPERA HOUSE TO-NIGHT.—As we mentioned in our last, a grand vocal and instrumental concert for the benefit of the poor, will be given to-night at the Opera House, under the auspices of a few musical *dilettanti* of our city, whose talents form the charms of the social circle, and it required a circumstance like the present to give the public the rare and esteemed privilege of sharing the delights which are devoted to the edification of the parlor and the home circle alone. This consideration of itself, were it not supported by so praiseworthy a design as that which suggested this extra musical festivity, should be sufficient to fill the old Opera House with one of the largest and most brilliant assemblies, which so often, is the good old days, graced this fashionable resort. True that the affliction which reigns over so many hearths, where joy and pleasure once ruled, has in a great measure kept from places of amusement those familiar ones, whose presence shed radiance and happiness around; but let us forget the pangs of anguish in the discharge of a benevolent duty, let the design of this entertainment abate something from the departure of this temporary isolation and let us see the old circuits of the Opera House graced once more with that galaxy in which beauty, wit, elegance and refinement were sister stars.

We present below a programme of the evening's entertainment. The first part is composed of the following: The Vestal chorus of Spontini, sung by five female voices Bun ich in Wald—melody by Mendelshon, sung by Mr. **. The Aria of *Il Giuripmento*, by Auber, sung by Miss **. The Duo in Trancredi, by Rosini, sung by Mr. ** and Miss **. Brilliant variations on the violin, by Jacques Oliveira, which in itself will be a feature of the entertainment. The Aria in Acteon, by Auber, sung by Miss **. Scene and Air of Judith, sung by Mme. **. Motet for two pianos, arranged by Schnucke, by Mesdames **. This will be one of the striking features of the instrumental performances. The lady performers are well known to our community, and the talent which has been so frequently admired in the drawing-room, cannot but elicit the appreciative applause of the audience. The second part embraces the following: The Chorus of Charity, by Rossini very appropriately selected, sung by twenty-five female voices. The Aria of Zampa, sung by Mr **. Duo for Soprani, by Spohr, in which two pleasing and highly cultured voices will display their beauty and richness. Aria of Manon Lescaut, by Auber, sung by Miss **. Concerto for two piano, arranged by Weber, performed by Mesdames **. The Kiss, by L. Arditi, a new waltz air, sung by Miss **. O But Each Lieje Voglione, melody by Gaubert, sung by Mr. **. The grand aria of the Prophet, sung by Miss **. The whole to conclude by the Souvenirs of Bellini, and a brilliant fantasia, which will be performed by Oliveira on the violin, in his usually inimitable style and perfection.

THE VARIETIES THEATRE.—"Evadne, or the Hall of Statues," a tragic play of great interest, was brought out at the Varieties on Saturday night. The chief characters were well cast, and the relative powers of the various *artistes* were offered a fine field for display. Mrs. Baker, although out of her peculiar *rôle*, at times, as *Evadne*, rose to the full dignity of the character, and her acting in the statue scene is particularly noticeable for a correct and vigorous rendition. Mr. Ryer as *Ludovico*, on the other hand, is too fierce and too much of a *Jago* to be a good *Ludovico*. Mr. Rand, as *Vicenzio*, gave evidence of careful study and just appreciation of text. We refer, with pleasure, to the improvement that this young actor has made since his first appearance before a New Orleans audience, and when we remember the incessant calls upon his attention in the production of the various pieces brought out at the Varieties this season, all credit should be awarded him for a faithful performance of his duties. Mr. Gobey as the *King* also deserve mention for a just and even representation. Altogether "Evadne" met with a deserved success. The comedietta "My Sister Kate," last night, brought out Mrs. Gladstane in one of her most excellent personations—supported by Mr. Bowers as *Tom Cheff*, and Mr. Rand as *Charles Unit*. The rainy weather kept most persons in doors; but those who were present enjoyed the performance greatly. "The Pet of the Petticoats," with Mrs. Baker as *Paul*; and the farce "The Thumping Legacy," with Bowers as *Jerry Ominous*, closed the performance. To-night "The Merchant of Venice" will be repeated, with Mr. Ryer as *Shylock*.

STATEMENT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CONSOLIDATED DEBT.—We have received a copy of the "Statement of the Commissioners of the Consolidated Debt of New Orleans, from the 14th of May, 1852, to the 30th of September, 1862." This statement embraces the receipts from the various corporate bodies of the city, the amount of bonds issued by the Commissioners, and the amounts collected for taxes on the consolidated loan, from the 14th of May, 1852, to the 30th of September, 1862; the amount of interest on bonds sold, that on bonds redeemed, and the interest of coupons of bonds redeemed; the amount of the consolidated debt at the date of its maturity paid. The control of this debt having been determined by a very strict law, the Commissioners are compelled to abide by its requirements, and the statement under investigation can offer no subject of serious opposition. If we find it necessary, however, we will give it a more critical examination, and we will give our readers the result of our researches.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER BIO-BIO.—We received yesterday from the Southwest Pass a telegraphic dispatch stating that the steamer Bio-Bio had crossed the Bar at 2 o'clock, P. M.

The most important part of the news she brings will appear in our evening edition, which, from this day, will be published in English as well as French.

NEW MUSIC.—We have received from L. Grunewald, music publisher, of 26 Chartres street, a beautiful piece of music, "The Kiss," composed by S. Arditi, a valse air, with words in English, French and German. This piece will be sung to-night at the grand concert at the Opera House.

SALE OF DRY GOODS, HOSIERY, &c.—Messrs Hoffman & Marks, auctioneers, will sell, to-day, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at their store, No. 41 Chartres street, a large invoice of dry goods, silks, embroideries, hosiery, &c. See their advertisement in another column.

DYSPEPSIA, RHEUMATISM, DIARRHEA AND DYSENTERY.—We invite particular attention to the certificates in our advertising columns attesting the efficacy of the remedies for dyspepsia, rheumatism and diarrhea to be obtained at No. 117 St. Ann street, New Orleans.

R. T. Montgomery will make this day, the 16th inst., two very important sales, worthy the attendance of parties wishing to make lucrative investments. At 10 o'clock, at Warehouse 101 Magazine street, 300 barrels choice extra flour, to be peremptorily sold to close consignments, for brands and particulars refer to advertisements. At 11½ o'clock, on the Levee, foot of Lafayette street, 19 bales cotton, just landing from steamer Laurel Hill, all in very excellent condition. Purchasers cannot fail to receive a large profit by the investment.

R. Scott, auctioneer, will sell this day, (Monday) at 11 o'clock, at Post 14, Second District, Picayune Tier, cranberries, cider, lemons, hickory nuts, mackerel, sardines, buckwheat, syrups, crackers, beef, hams, &c., to which attention is called. See advertisement under auction sales.

Furniture, carpeting, &c., and a rosewood mahogany piano, at 11 o'clock to-day, by McCerren & Landry, at their auction mart.

WEEVIL, VIRGINIA.—A bill has been introduced in the Legislature of Wheeling "for removing the seat of government from Wheeling to Alexandria, as soon as the twenty counties east of the proposed new State of West Virginia shall be in a proper condition"—no one to vote for delegates to said convention unless he is a 'loyal citizen.'"

New Orleans Bee.

Office, 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 16, 1863. Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXXVI—Whole No. 12,613.

ARRIVAL OF THE UNITED STATES SUPPLY STEAMSHIP UNION.—The United States supply steamship Union left New York January 24th, with supplies for the Blockading Squadron along the coast, communicating with all the vessels stationed on the blockade.

The following is a list of officers attached to the Union:

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Commanding, Edw. Conroy.
Acting Master and Executive Officer, S. C. Gray;
Acting Master and Sailing Master, Levi Crowell;
Paymaster, L. C. Merrill.
Acting Surgeon, S. D. Flagg;
Acting Assist. Surgeon, J. W. Smally;
Acting Ensign, W. Hallett.
Captain's Clerk, Henry Cone.
Paymaster's Clerk, O. S. Paterson.
Acting Master's Mate and Mail Agents: W. H. Mead; " " " C. E. Tucker; " " " E. G. Arnold; " " " W. V. Smith; " " " C. W. Armstrong.
First Assistant Engineer, J. F. Butler;
Second " " E. L. Thorp;
Third " " S. C. Slater;
Third " " Ed. McFarrick;
Third " " Thos. Ustick.

One Day Later from the North.

The *Picayune*, in its edition of yesterday, continued its gleanings from the *Appeal* of the 10th, which furnishes the following dispatches, copied from late Western papers received at Jackson, Mississippi:

WASHINGTON NEWS.

Washington, January 30.—Senator Richardson took his seat in the Senate to day for the first time. Mr. Browning presented his credentials.

The House to-day presented an exciting scene. Hendrick B. Wright, of Pennsylvania, from the results have claimed in good fellowship ever since his famous reply to Mr. Vallandigham, delivered a vigorous speech, in which he attacked the radicals severely, declaring boldly that further persistence in their policy would bring utter ruin upon the country, and calling upon them, from the most patriotic motives, to abandon it, or the Union was irretrievably lost. His allusion to the return of Gen. McClellan to the army, simply on the ground, as stated, that he was the choice of the soldiers, brought forth thunders of applause from the dense crowd in the galleries, which was only checked by the determination of the House to clear them if repeated.

Satisfactory explanations have passed between the French Minister and the State Department, regarding the recent alleged efforts to induce M. Mercier to depart from a just and friendly course respecting our affairs.

Horace Greeley denies, most emphatically, that he solicited any intervention by France in our affairs.

A rebel newspaper reports that one of our iron clads had made an unsuccessful attack upon a fort on the coast of Georgia, and that it had been obliged to retire in consequence of injury done to the turret.

The fighting near Blackwater, below Petersburg, is all over, and the rebels have been driven beyond that river.

Gen Burnside is to be examined before the Committee on the Conduct of the War upon the subject of his alleged failure in not obeying the orders of General Halleck, under him attempted to interfere with his command in the white commander of the army of the Potomac. His chief of staff was examined to-day. The committee have the names of several officers who came up here and entered into the room of Gen Burnside's movements in the Rappahannock.

It turns out that the fate of Gen Stone being tried before a secret court-martial here, he was ordered to the presidency of one this morning to the surprise and the Government had no charge against him. He was, however, relieved without being disturbed.

Robert Dale Owen, who was a candidate for Assistant Secretary of War, has subsided into a clerkship in the War Department.

Gen Franklin, in answer to the allegations of tardiness and inefficiency in his late command, has been in the habit of having his name, asked to have a Court of Inquiry assembled for his trial under them, immediately on being released from duty with the army of the Potomac, and it has been determined that it shall be so hereafter.

It is said that the dispatch has reached here from Gen. Dix, from Fort Monroe, to-day, stating that the fleet has been informed by a gunboat from Cape Fear River, that the Rebel ram in the Roanoke, in an interview which had just taken place between that officer and the rebel C. S. Navy, which is intended to be forty feet long, Capt. Cushing, who fitted out the gunboat that he had blockaded in a very recent engagement in the Roanoke, in which the rebels had suffered defeat.

Stonewall Jackson's cavalry, Rev. J. Sandstreet, recently captured by our cavalry, was at the War Department to-day for the purpose of effecting an exchange. He is a Methodist preacher of much talent. He stated to day to several persons that the rebel Government in the Southern States was in a very bad condition, the chance of success being very small, and that he had left the service of Jeff Davis because he was heartily tired of it. He also said that the Government had no intention of ever recognizing the rebel forces, he concluded himself with the conviction that Providence would favor the cause of loyal men in the South, and would furnish food and clothing for the negroes, he says, never were as abundant as now, owing to the strict police measures that had been adopted, and to the circulation of accounts of returned contrabands, who told the story of their flight, and the cruel manner in which the Federals had treated them.

THE WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST.

A Cairo telegram, of February 3, P. M., says:

Morgan, with a considerable force, is reported as crossing the Cumberland above and below Rockport, either to cut the railroad or obtain possession of certain points in Northern and eastern Kentucky.

Twenty-five hundred rebels, with three pieces of artillery, made an attack on Island 10 on Sunday night. There were only eleven persons there. The rebels were shelled off by the gunboat New Era stationed there. The Confederates crossed the Obion in skiffs, and are supposed to have come from beyond the Cumberland.

Early this morning a rebel force was discovered marching on Fort Donelson. The commandant went out, met and met them, and at 4 o'clock this afternoon fighting between the opposing forces was still going on.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

New York, Jan. 30.—A *Tribune* dispatch says: "This, the stormiest day, was the most severe yet known to the army of the Potomac. Much difficulty was experienced to-day in supplying the soldiers with rations. The entire cavalry force of the army, not on picket duty, was this morning engaged in carrying supplies from the depots to the camps."

Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Jan. 30.—Vigorous measures are in progress to secure the return and prompt punishment of deserters now absent from camp.

A heavy snow storm, accompanied by a northeast wind, set in on Tuesday night, and ceased at an early hour this morning. A portion of the snow melted almost as soon as it fell, but the remainder this morning, measured about eight inches on a level. The condition of the roads is indescribable.

DESTRUCTION OF THE FLORIDA—BOMBARDMENT OF GALVESTON.

Cairo, Feb. 3—10 P. M.—Letters received in Washington, dated January 19th, states that the city of Galveston was then being bombarded, with a good prospect of its ultimate reduction.

Advices from Matanzas report the destruction of the rebel steamer Oreto off Florida, in the vicinity of the keys of Cardenas, on the 27th of January.

DECISION UNDER THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

A St. Louis telegram, of Jan 28, says:

In the case of Benjamin Williams, a black man indicted for grand larceny before the criminal court, the question whether he was a free man or a slave at the time of the larceny, in January, was argued day before yesterday, and in the latter corporeal punishment. The evidence clearly proved that he was born a slave in Mississippi, but previous to his arrival in this State, twelve months ago, was the property of Major Traskill, of Arkansas, who at that time was a prisoner to the Union forces.

Judge Glover has given an elaborate opinion, declaring said prisoner to be a free man by virtue of the President's proclamation, and, being since free, he is no longer, the judge knowing no power or law by which a man, being once emancipated, can be again enslaved.

THE CASE OF MR. ROHEAU.

Philadelphia, January 30.—The grand jury to day made a presentment in relation to the arrest of Mr. Roheau, a proprietor of the Philadelphia *Evening Journal*. The presentment says: "We testimony shows that the arrest was made by order of General Schenck, for the publication of an editorial article under the title of 'The Message of Davis,' and other articles of a like character tending to the support of the rebellion against the United States Government." After quoting the editorial alluded to, the grand jury say that: "They cannot refrain from saying that, whilst they, individually or as a body, could not do anything which would have a tendency to weaken the Government, yet they feel equally bound to enforce enforcement of all laws that have for their object the liberty of the citizen, which laws are in their sacred keeping."

After reading the presentment, Judge Hallow said: "I shall require the District Attorney to examine the affidavit, and to frame such bills of indictment as he shall deem necessary, in support not only of the laws of Pennsylvania, but of the Constitution of the United States. We can then arrive at the question of the legality of the statutes therein contained. The record will then present detailed charges, and the defendants may object to the prosecution for any cause they may have, and they may also have the judgment of the Supreme Court, in case they should be dissatisfied with the findings of this Court."

Summary of Southern News.

The *Picayune* published on Saturday evening, simultaneously with our second edition, the following news, obtained from the Memphis *Appeal* of the 10th, which we condense:

A Charleston dispatch of the 9th, from Charleston, states that information had been received that a Federal fleet of over seventy vessels was in Port Royal harbor. It consisted of fifty-two transports, fifteen large war steamers, and four or five iron clads.

A Richmond dispatch of the 8th announces, on authority of an official dispatch, that thirteen guns, property worth a million of dollars, and 100 prisoners were captured at Sabine Pass. The gunboats were waiting outside for newcomers. Speaking of the late naval engagement in Charleston harbor, a dispatch from that city states that the officers of the British war steamer Cadmus show the results of the late naval engagement to have been much less substantial than at first supposed. Not a Federal vessel was sunk. The Mercedita had been towed into Port Royal, in a disabled condition. Her boiler had been perforated by a shot, and the rushing of water in the hold, had given rise to the impression that she was sinking. Two other gunboats were also struck and badly damaged. There were several killed and wounded aboard each of these vessels. The Ironsides was still off the bar; going out to sea in the morning and returning in the evening to participate in any night attack. The officers of the blockading squadron believed that Savannah would be attacked before Charleston.

It is admitted that the Montauk had been much injured during the attack at Green's point. Her turret refused to work during the latter part of the fight.

The news from Charleston say the Northern dates, of the 5th had produced much excitement. The *Herald* regards the raising of the blockade as a serious matter if recognized, and it cites various authors favoring the validity of the act very decidedly, but expresses its own views very dubiously. It fears some understanding with France and England with regard to this mode of raising the blockade.

Four new iron-clads were to be sent to the Southern coast. The grand armada was waiting favorable winds. Dispatches from the West states that Forrest had been repulsed at Fort Donelson. He captured a battery of four guns, but afterward lost them, with about 150 men killed, wounded and prisoners. Forrest is said to be wounded. Resolutions had been offered in the Legislature of New Jersey rejecting the responsibility of that State for any portion of the debt incurred for the emancipation of negroes in Missouri or other States.

The resolutions offered in the Kentucky Legislature by Thos. F. Marshall, declare that Kentucky forces are neutral. The Louisville *Journal*, of the 2d, favors the proposition of a conference between the Kentucky Legislature and the Northern Legislatures to see what shall be done. A letter had been received from Evansville, Indiana, detailing the operations of the rebel steamer on the Ohio river. They had visited several towns from Owensboro' to Newburg, and had carried off all the arms they could find, and all provisions for which they could obtain transportation. Several landings had also been visited and quantities of supplies secured.

The Federal Army in Arkansas.

[Special Correspondence of the Chicago Times.]

Arkansas Post, January 15.

The Western army seems to have brought colder weather with it, and today a wintry wind is sweeping through the forest. Snow has four inches deep, and a piercing wind has driven every one indoors, and made the great camp as silent as if deserted. A sudden blast from an almost forgotten region of ice, it has come to stay awhile. The delightful summer of yesterday is hushed, and winter, apparently fresh from cuffing New England ears, has dashed into this storm-ly settled, half civilized region. Our lack Texan prisoners, captured during a day or two ago, shivering, shudder and groan away from windy cracks, as if the marrow in their bones, illy protected by the scanty covering of flesh, had frozen.

They are sullen and sullen, and, grouped in a corner, give wicked glances from under half-closed eyelids that had undoubtedly felt, as if, with an outside concealing, they but deep-hid within the inner man should keep collectively thawed by the fire of indignation or hate, perhaps both. These men differ from those captured in the field. Having deserted their companions in the hour of need, they expect from both sides treatment as skulkers, and extract sullen defiance, in some lower animal do when leaving blows, but no one thinks of giving. These rangers, accounted, deserters, and taken like fugitives, are a good deal as wild animals would. Their vocation has evidently been counting, they possessing an aversion to camp discipline.

To day each cabin in the lately captured barracks is filled by groups of soldiers, who discourse present realities and future prospects, while the snow shifts through a hundred cracks over them. Like a ship's forecastle in stormy weather, there are prophets who predict, hesitators who doubt and dispute, cheerers who encourage, and a few who confidently tell how they escaped and during. Some are consulting the log in regard to an increase of warmth. Occasionally relieved pickets, half frozen, rush in. Papers have not been seen for three weeks, books are only remembered as adding the charm of home. Even the greasy card packs have disappeared, being forgotten or thrown away during recent movements.

Outside the frozen creek and mourn, the forest gives forth that dreary multitude of sounds it always does in a storm. The trees moan, seemed unreal—yesterday, our army resting under midsummer heat, to-day, surrounded by a snow-waste desolate as the Dovrefjeld, and as fatal to Napoleon's veterans in Russia. Even the roofs of the better class remind us forcibly that we are in Arkansas, and give truth to the story of the "traveler," who, after lying under the drippings of a shower all night, was apologized for by his host with the remark that the roof never leaked in dry weather, and when there was a storm it became impossible, of course, to mend it. We can enjoy unobstructed astronomical views at any moment by turning on our backs.

Tonight, the barracks, about four hundred buildings in all, will probably be burned. During two days past the troops have been busy filling up trenches, leveling defenses, and demolishing the fort. Arkansas Post will soon be a military work, to amount the things that were.

Little Rock will not, I think, be moved upon by this army. Our destination, on the contrary, is down stream, and at the mouth, it is probable, reinforcements from Memphis will be awaited. Thus Vicksburg again becomes the point to treat—this time, however, with some hopes of success. General Grant, having fallen back from Holly Springs, will embark most of his army in the enterprise, and himself command it.

[FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF SATURDAY.]

The Latest News from Southern Sources.

We have received a copy of the Memphis (Jackson) *Appeal* of the 11th inst., from which we take the following intelligence:

From the North.

[Special to the Daily Appeal.]

Grenada, February 10.—Chicago dates of the 4th inst. have been received here.

On the 3d, in New York, dry good advanced beyond the reach of green backs, gold went up to 162½, and sterling exchange at 175.

At Camp Douglas, Chicago, twelve Confederate prisoners froze to death on the night of the 2d inst.

San Francisco dates of the 3d had been received. Judge Cramer of the Supreme Court, had decided that green-backs were not a legal tender.

A dispatch from Indianapolis, dated the 3d instant, states that an attempted arrest of deserters had been resisted in Morgan county, Indiana. The greatest excitement prevailed in the neighborhood.

The journals state that the Hatteras was sunk by the British ship Spitfire.

The Paris correspondent of the New York *Times* says it is universally admitted that the only solution of the cotton question is European intervention.

The Kentucky Legislature has ordered out twenty thousand troops, to be under the control of the military board.

From the Lower Mississippi.

We have positive information from Baton Rouge that a Massachusetts brigade and the negro regiments have been sent below.

The total force now at Baton Rouge is nineteen thousand men. Deserters are continually arriving here.

A flag of truce came in to-day, but nothing important was elicited.

A flag of truce boat, it is expected, will go to Vicksburg with prisoners.

Ten thousand Federal reinforcements, it is rumored, have reached New Orleans. This is considered doubtful.

Richmond, February 10.—In the Senate, Mr. Orr submitted a resolution requesting the President to inform the Senate what proceedings, if any have been instituted, to sequestrate slaves held by alien enemies in the Washington and New Orleans telegraph Company, was adopted. After a call of the Committee the senate went into secret session on the state of public finances.

In the House, Mr Hodge introduced resolutions looking to retaliation for negroes seized by the Yankee army. Referred.

The Exemption Bill was taken up, and Collier's substitute adopted in lieu of the original bill by one majority. The bill as thus amended was finally rejected by a decided vote.

Confederate States Congress.

Richmond, February 9.—The Senate has been in secret session to-day on the currency question.

The House passed a bill making it unlawful for any commanding officer to cause any soldier to be punished by flogging.

The Exemption bill was debated, but without action.

Letters from Vicksburg.

[Special Correspondence of the Memphis Appeal.]

Vicksburg, February 8, 1863.—On Saturday a great deserter of currently was created in this city on account of certain movements among the enemy over the river, which indicates that something was going on, but the precise nature of which could not be made out. It was, however, discovered, that the Yankees were going aboard the transports, and that a great portion of their tents had been struck, looking very much as if a general evacuation was being effected. The rising river of course received the credit of driving the vandals out of the swamp. Now, as the old river has got to be in a state of navigable, to be said that compromise might again (as it has in times past) perform its peaceful offices.

Personally, I am indifferent as to whether I am chosen or not.

The Senate of the United States has no attractions for me now.

Not one of those I found on my entrance there, seventeen years ago, remains. They have been swept away by the sirocco breath of fanaticism, which culminated in the dismemberment of this once glorious Union. To my humble self has been reserved the signal and distinguished honor of behendant at the hands of the political assassins of this fell spirit.

Later in the day it was ascertained from reliable sources that the Yankees had thrown a large force across the peninsula to a point below the canal, and that they were engaged in erecting batteries on the Louisiana side opposite Warrenton. Of course there could be no use for batteries in that vicinity unless for the protection of their boats in carrying the troops over the river, and their plans are now begin-ning to develop, so that we can see what they are driving at. The attempt to cross the Mississippi is to be made at Warrenton where they hope the low land on this side will prevent our forces from interrupting the transit.

But the manner of accomplishing this feat is not yet wholly understood, and the means with which they intend to effect it, is not apparent. It is now conceded by the Yankees themselves, and confirmed by all the deserters and captives who have reached here, that the canal is a failure, and that the transports will never be able to go from river to river through this ditch. And on this account they are marching the troops overland to a point opposite Warrenton. Now, the question arises how will they get across over without the transports. Pontoons won't do, and the little ferry boat won't do either, nor can the gunboats do much at that business.

Yankee ingenuity, however, will no doubt adopt some new plan by which this dangerous transit is to be effected. Unless the transports go through the canal, they will never be able to get below the city, and the navigation of the canal not allowing such a voyage, they will be compelled to remain above. An attempt will no doubt be made to run the batteries by at least more of the gunboats, but these will be of very little use in carrying troops, and as fast as they could be landed in small parties the Confederate troops would gobble them all up, in spite of the gunboats. Altogether, the crossing of troops in that vicinity is an awfully precarious undertaking.

By moving the camp from Young's Point to opposite Warrenton the enemy is getting a considerable distance further away from Vicksburg than he is at present, and his prospects of success are diminishing every day. With the exception of the gunboats it is doubtful whether the Yankees will ever again get as near the city as they were before, and their prospects of attacking it from that direction below is playing most decidedly in our favor, and the hope is entertained that the programme may be followed out, so that we may get them voluntarily just into the very place where we want them.

Contrary to the general expectation, there was no attempt made during the night by any of the batts to pass down, and no other annoyance occurred. As usual, the reveille could be distinctly heard this morning, and the motion among the fleet was also indicative of movement. The same preparations for the transit could be noticed was the going away of the gunboats—whither they are bound or what for their object, no one can tell, but it is certain that some of them have been seen going up the river this morning.

It would not be surprising to hear that our cavalry had reached some point on the river above and made sad havoc with the Yankees, which requires the gunboats to go up and see what is going on. This is the way it will be, if the cavalry can catch them napping, especially as they did not attempt an advance up the Yazoo as had been expected. If the gunboats should be withdrawn from here the city will may be delayed for some time.

NESTOR.

Vicksburg, February 9, 1863.—Although nothing occurs I yesterday of any note, either by our own troops or among the enemy, we still a day of great interest in one respect, the most prominent feature of which was the discussion of the subject of the Exemption Bill.

Considerable motion was observed in the fleet all day, and the departure of the transports and gunboats seemed to be imminent. In the morning a new move was made, a large force of men started up the river, and, having been seen to go back towards evening, it was thought that an expedition had yesterday morning started up the river, and was intended to land somewhere in the rear of the Vicksburg batteries—perhaps at Milliken's Bend—on higher ground than where the fleet is now encamped. The going up of the gunboats the following day in a direction opposite to that taken by the troops, though no motion has yet been received, lends to the idea of a movement.

It is now all together doubtful whether Gen McClernand's grand army of the West can be brought into requisition as an attack on Vicksburg. The Yazoo Pass, the Louisiana swamp and bayou, and the high flood, and now it is being tested whether in order to find a dry place in which to encamp. It is apparent that the Yankees may be at a loss to find a place to land, and marching across to Vicksburg is too much to ensure at this stage of the water, even if it were feasible by any means. If it would still be impossible for the Yankees to move to reach Vicksburg from that direction, Warrenton is perhaps the only place that offers a good landing, and if they should attempt it there, it will be very likely that the gunboats and gunboats down either through the canal or by the river.

By certain movements on the Pennsylvania, it is believed that the enemy is at work throwing up embankments—for what purpose we do not know, and we can only speculate about it concerning it. Among military men it is supposed that the work is intended as breastworks or embankments for mortar batteries, with a view of shelling the city. A very strong impression is gaining ground here that it is the intention of the enemy to make the assault upon the city again by the gun and mortar boats, especially as the land army will not be able to co-operate by a flank movement. Out of the mortification at their failure to take the place, we have no reasonable hated and revenge, and for this they will shell the city and destroy the town if possible.

It is expected that a sudden dash will be made with a view of creating a panic in the city, and perhaps succeeding in some of our fears are entertained of any such movement, as every preparation is made to receive them with a warm and hearty welcome. The mortar boats will no doubt keep a good distance off, but by the mortars and boats acting in conjunction with the fleet, they may expect to come the John Chinaman over us, by scaring us with their big noise.

This morning there are not few boats in sight, and great quietness seems to characterize that vicinity. The supposition is that the army has mostly been moved up the river to higher ground. No gunboats are in sight of the city, though they are supposed to be in the vicinity of the mouth of the Yazoo. Nobody knows what a day may bring forth, and a vigilant eye is kept upon all the mysterious movements of the enemy.

NESTOR.

Latest from Texas.

Our latest information is from the Houston *Telegraph* of the 21st. On the 20th ult. there was nothing exciting at Galveston. The sloop-of-war Brooklyn, three large steamers, and mortar boat No. 9, were anchored outside. The appearance of high water they were rolling very much, and a truce boat, which started for the Federal fleet, was compelled to return. No mention is made of the Harriet Lane.

Sibley's brigade was making active preparations for its march to Louisiana. Colonel James Reily has been assigned by Major General Magruder to the independent command of the brigade, until it shall reach the headquarters of its brigade commander.

On the 30th ultimo a brilliant cavalry dash by Major Leonard into Houston, the citizens of Galveston and Houston united in presenting a beautiful and serviceable sword to that officer. The presentation speech was delivered by Miss Snyder, and replied by the General in true soldier style. Two breech-loading rifles, the invention and manufacture of Mr. G. B. Nichols, of Galveston, were thoroughly tested during the late bombardment of Galveston. They were placed in battery on the beach, and did such execution that the enemy's vessels there were compelled to haul off. Gen Magruder expressed great satisfaction at their success.

Lieutenant Colonel Giddings, of Carter's regiment, from Washington county, was taken prisoner near Helena and carried to St Louis. There he was packed in a room with twelve hundred others so close as to be nearly suffocating. As he writes, the room was only large enough to hold one hundred comfortably. Several died every day.

Ex-Senator Bright, of Indiana, on the War—He is for Peace.

The friends of Senator Bright, of Indiana, have asked the use of his name before the Legislature as a candidate to the United States Senate, to succeed Hon. Jesse D. Bright, a charge of disloyalty. Senator Bright replies:

It is the pleasure of my friends to offer me the unexpired term from which I was expelled. I will accept it if tendered by a vote that approaches unanimity, but otherwise I prefer that the people, in my judgment, as regarded by all just men as a signal rebuke in the foul conspirators who aided and abetted the assault upon the freedom of speech and of action.

Mr. Bright then defines his position on the administration and the war as follows:

It is enough to say that I then denied, as I do now, the right of the Federal Government to attempt, by force of arms, the subjugation of a sovereign State. I repeat now what I have spoken on a former occasion—"I am opposed to the coercive policy of this wicked and wicked administration."

I have never believed that war was any remedy for existing differences between the two sections. As your agent in the councils of the country, I was opposed to the introduction of this war; and if you were to offer me a seat in the Senate again, if I should accept it, I would not, during my stay there, contribute in any form to the support or encouragement of the inhuman crusade that those in power are waging, under the pretended pretension of the President of the United States, against those who are "bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh." On the contrary, I am for peace, peace, peace. I am now, as I have been from the hour this inhuman, unnatural and anti-Christian war was inaugurated, in favor of a cessation of hostilities, to be followed by a convention of the States, to see if the Union cannot be restored, and peace and prosperity again be made to smile upon the country, both by land and water.

Gulf-way of New York to Gas Light.

The long wang-tangle, which occurs in the gas pipe of the New York Sun of the 22nd inst. A very amusing account of it, which we copy from the Sun, we have no time to give, being some short of hands in our office, and being from business, we have to be quick for him. We quote the dispatch, and the paragraph: "The gas pipe was thought to be in the hands of the Sun, and the gas pipe was thought to be in the hands of the Sun, and the gas pipe was thought to be in the hands of the Sun, and the