The New Orleans Bee.

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NEW ORLEANS:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, JULY 9, 1862.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By R. S. Sykes, at 6 o'clock, on the Levee, post 39, salt.

By E. M. Jacobs, at 11 o'clock, A. M., at Algiers, milch cows, etc.

THE TAX BILL.

We proceed to the further enactments of this measure. One-fourth of one per cent. is to be paid on gross sales of all property except stocks, bonds and other securities, and on these one-tenth of one per cent. Returns of sales and accrued duties are to be made, and the duties are to be paid monthly to the assistant assessor, under a penalty of $500. Duties are not to be levied on sales for which no license is required. On each head of horned cattle slaughtered for sale exceeding eighteen months old, 30 cents; under that, 5 cents; those slaughtered for killer's consumption are free. Butchers are to make monthly returns of all animals slaughtered, and accrued duties, which must be paid at the same time. In default, assessment and collection are to be made under the general provisions of the law; and in case of fraud or evasion, a penalty of ten dollars for each animal withheld is to be imposed.

Owners of bridges, ferry-boats, steamboats, or railroads are to make to the assistant assessor monthly returns of the gross receipts and accrued duties, and pay the latter to the collector. In default, the assessor or assistant assessor is to make the assessment, under the general provisions of the act; access to books necessary to enable him to do so being provided for. If not then paid, within five days, five per cent. is to be added to the amount; in case of fraud, a penalty of one thousand dollars is imposed. The duty may be added to fares at present charged, existing prohibitions notwithstanding. The duties on railroad bond interest, on coupons and on dividends, are to be deducted from them by those paying the amounts; and returns of them are to be made, and they are to be paid over every six months. The penalty for each default is $500; and assessment may be made in such cases under the general provisions of the act.

The duties on dividends of banks, trust companies, savings institutions, and insurance companies, are payable on those due after the first of July, 1862, and as often as every six months thereafter; within thirty days of which, returns similar to those required in the case of railroads, &c., are to be made, the duties are to be similarly withheld and paid over, by those paying the dividends, and the penal conditions are similar. Savings banks for small deposits, whose annual net profits do not exceed six per cent, are exempted; and the duties are not to be exacted on dividends of other parties on whose dividends similar duties are paid. Within thirty days after the first of October, and quarterly thereafter, all insurance companies, except life-insurers, are to make full returns of all insurances effected, with the duties accrued during the preceding quarter, and pay over the duties. The penalty for default is five thousand dollars. The duty is one per cent. on the receipts during the quarter. Mutual fire insurance companies strictly confining their business to their members are exempt.

Three dollars are to be paid in advance to the collector on every passport demanded of the Secretary of State, or issued by a foreign minister or consul of the United States, after the 31st of July, 1862. The latter two are to account to the Treasury for the fees due.

Parties publishing advertisements are to make quarterly returns, as in analogous cases, to the assistant assessors, and pay duties to collectors. In default, assessment is to be made under the general provisions of the act, and five per cent. added. The penalty for fraud is $500. Where prices of advertising are fixed by law, the duties may be added thereto.

Section 49, (except so much thereof as relates to the selection and appointment of depositaries,) 50 and 51, of "An act to provide increased revenue from imports, to pay interest on the public debt and for other purposes," approved August 5th, 1861, are repealed. In estimating incomes all other duties on them are to be deducted, and the tax is to be levied and collected for five years, yearly on the 1st of May, according to one clause, or due and payable by the 31st of July, according to another, for the year ended the preceding 31st December, commencing next May or next July, for this year. Income on interest on United States securities, are to pay not exceeding 1½ per cent. per annum. Five per cent. is to be added if the duties be not paid by the 30th of August, and by ten days after demand, and a lien on every description of property is established for recovery by distraint, with all charges and penalties. The appropriate returns are to be made; and in case of neglect, or under statement, the assessor may assess or rectify. Should his assessment or addition be wrong, the declaration of the party interested is to be received as the correct sum.

The following stamp duties are imposed:

Agreements, or contracts, for each piece of paper on which written	5 cents.
Do., for rent of any land or tenement, if for not exceeding three years	50 cents.
Do., exceeding three years	$1 00
Bills of exchange (inland), drafts, orders, and checks not exceeding $100	5 cents.
Exceeding $100 and not exceeding $200	10 cents.
Exceeding $200 and not exceeding $350	15 cents.
Exceeding $350 and not exceeding $500	20 cents.
Exceeding $500 and not exceeding $750	30 cents.
Exceeding $750 and not exceeding $1000	40 cents.
Exceeding $1000 and not exceeding $1500	60 cents.
Exceeding $1500 and not exceeding $2000	$1 00
Exceeding $2000 and not exceeding $2500	1 50
Exceeding $2500 and not exceeding $3000	1 85
For every $2500 or part of $2500 in excess of $3000	1 00
Bills of exchange (foreign) drawn in, but payable out of the United States, if drawn singly or if drawn otherwise than in sets of more than one, according to the custom of merchants and bankers, and letters of credit, same as bills of exchange (inland)	
Do., if drawn in sets of three or more, for every bill of each set, where the sum made payable shall not exceed $300, or the equivalent thereof in any foreign currency	3 cents
Above $300 and not above $250	5 cents.
Above $250 and not above $500	10 cents.
Above $500 and not above $750	15 cents.
Above $750 and not above $1000	20 cents.
Above $1000 and not above $2000	40 cents.
Above $2000 and not above $3000	60 cents.
Above $3000 and not above $5000	70 cents.
Above $5000 and not above $7500	$1 00
For every $2500 or part thereof, in excess of $7500	30 cents.
Bills of lading for any goods to be exported from a place in the United States to any foreign place	10 cents.
Do., for any goods to be carried from one place in the United States to any other place in the United States, either by land or water, except when carried by any express company or carrier	5 cents.
Do., when it exceeds twenty five cents, but does not exceed one dollar	2 cents
Do., when one or more packages are sent to the same address, and the compensation exceeds one dollar	5 cents.
Protest on notarial act	25 cents.

In one part of the published schedule the tax on photographers is set down at $10. In another it is given as follows:

Photographers, under which term is included every person who makes for sale photographs, ambrotypes, or pictures on glass, metal or paper, by the action of light, for each license, when the receipts do not exceed $500	$ 10 00
Do., when the receipts are over $500 and under $1000, for license	15 00
Do., do., when the receipts are over $1000, for license	25 00

And again, notwithstanding the stamp duty above stated on conveyances and deeds, we find it announced in another part of the schedule that a duty of $1 is imposed on them, without regard to amounts.

Land-warrant brokers are to pay a license of $25; instead of $50, stated for brokers generally.

The following articles are not to be considered manufactures:—Boards, books, bricks, bullion in the manufacture of silver-ware, burning-fluid, cheese, concentrated milk, draining tiles, flour made from grain, gypsum, pig-iron, lime, lumber, magazines, malt, newspapers, printers' ink, roman cement, shingles, slates, split peas, stoves (but stoves are to pay a duty of $1 50 per ton,) umber, umbrella-stretchers.

Of the thousand and one other duties imposed, the following are among the most interesting:

Sugar, brown or Muscovado, not advanced above No. 12, Dutch standard, produced from cane (excepting sorghum and Imphee cane), per pound	1 cent.
Do., all domestic advanced above No. 12, by whatsoever process, and not refined, per pound	1½ cents
Do., granulated, per pound	2 mills.
Do., loaf, per pound	2 mills.
Do., lump, per pound	2 mills.
Do., pulverized, per pound	2 mills.
Do., refined, per pound	2 mills.
Do., refined, or made from molasses, syrup of molasses, melado or concentrated melado, per pound	2 mills.
Sugar candy, made wholly or in part of sugar, per pound	1 cent.
Tobacco, cavendish, plug or twist, valued at not more than 30 cents per pound	15 cents
Do., do., valued at any sum not exceeding 30 cents per pound	10 cents.
Do., fine cut, valued at more than 30 cents per pound	15 cents.
Do., do., valued at any sum not exceeding 30 cents per pound	10 cents.
Do., gr ound, dry or damp of all descriptions (except aromatic or medicinal snuff in glass jars, boxes or packets), per pound	8 cents.
Do., manufactured, of a fitable, not fine cut snuff or cigars, or tobacco prepared with stems in, valued at over 30 cents per pound	15 cents
Do., do., valued at less than 30 cents per pound	10 cents.
Do., smoking tobacco, prepared with stems in, per pound	5 cents.
Cigars, valued at not over five dollars per thousand	1 50
Do., valued at over five dollars per thousand, and not over ten dollars, per thousand	2 00
Do., valued at over ten and not over twenty dollars per thousand, per thousand	2 50
Do., valued at over twenty dollars per thousand, per 1000	3 50
Snuff, dry or damp	12 cents.
Soap, castile, erasive, fancy, and all others except soft soap, and soap otherwise provided for, valued above 3½ cents per pound, per pound	1 mill
Do., do., do., valued above 3½ cents per pound	5 mills
Do., cream, face, honey, scented, shaving, toilet and transparent	2 cents.
Starch, made of corn	1½ mills.
Do., of potatoes	1 mill
Do., of rice	4 mills
Do., of all other material	6 mills
Cocoa, prepared, per pound	3 mills.
Coffee, ground	3 mills.
Salt, per hundred pounds	4 cents.
Carriages, &c., valued at $75 or over, drawn by one horse	$ 1 00
Do., by two horses, valued at $75 and not exceeding $200	2 00
Do., exceeding in value $200 and not exceeding $600	5 00
Do., exceeding $600	10 00
Tickets, passage, by any vessel from a port in the United States to a foreign port, if less than $30	50 cents
Do., exceeding $30	$1 00

Of the minuteness with which every thing which it is possible to tax has been considered, and with which the imposts are made, we may give an illustration from one department, which we are sure will induce our readers readily enough to excuse us for not publishing the whole six columns and a half long schedule. In the first place, then, we find the following stamp duties imposed:

Bottles, boxes, packets, phials or pots, containing medicines, &c., the retail price or value of which, contents included, does not exceed 25 cents, a stamp duty of	1 cent.
Do., exceeding 25 cents and not exceeding 50 cents	2 cents.
Do., exceeding 50 cents, but not exceeding 75 cents	3 cents.
Do., exceeding 75 cents and not exceeding $1	5 cents.
Do., exceeding $1, for each and every 50 cents or fractional part thereof over and above $1, an additional	2 cents.

And then we find distinctly specified as subject to the same kind and rate of duties, the following articles:

Alteratives, anodynes, aromatic snuff, Badger's cod liver oil, balsam of liverwort, balsam of wild cherry, balsam of Iceland moss, balm of a thousand flowers, balm of life, bitters, Brandreth's pills, British oil, Bull's sarsaparilla, Townsend's sarsaparilla, Burnett's cocoaine, catarrh snuff, cathartic pills, chemical preparations, medicinal cordials, medicinal drops, dentifrice, electuaries, embrocations, epileptic pills, essence of life, eye-water, family pills, female pills, glycerine lotion, hair dye, hair restorative, Hostetter's bitters, Hyperion fluid, liniments, magic liniment, lotions, medicinal lozenges, medicinal herbs, medicinal waters, medicines, officinal preparations, medicinal oils, oxygenated bitters, pain-killer, panacea, pectoral balsam, perfumery, pills, plasters, pomades, potions, powders, medicinal preparations, pulmonary balsam, pulmonary syrup, pulmonic syrup, pulmonic wafers, railroad pills, ready relief, Richardson's bitters, Rossia salve, salves, Schiedam schnapps, sherry wine bitters, medicinal spirits, sugar-coated pills, tincture, tonic mixtures, tooth powders, ungments, vegetable pulmonary balsam, vermifuge, and worm lozenges!

The penalty for not having documents stamped is $50, and nullification of the document. Stamps ostensibly for one kind of document cannot be used for others. Forgery and fraud in connection with dies or stamps is punishable with a fine not exceeding $1000, and imprisonment with hard labor for not more than five years. To prevent re-employment of adhesive stamps, the parties using them are to write their initials and fasten on them, under a penalty of $50. In certain cases, with the approval of the Commissioner, parties may use their own dies or designs for stamps, to be so affixed that on opening any thing to which the stamp may be attached, it will be effectually destroyed, under the same penalty. For forgery of such stamps, or use of forged ones, the penalties are reported to be the same as "prescribed in section ninety-three;" but that prescribes no penalties for any thing. Perhaps we should read "ninety-seven" for "ninety-three." They would then be a $1000 fine and five years' imprisonment, as stated in the third sentence of this paragraph. Issuing of unstamped documents is punishable by fine of $200. Acceptors of foreign bills of exchange, payable in the United States, are to affix the requisite stamps, under $100 penalty. Stamps are to be supplied for sale in sums of not less than $50, with a discount of five per cent. Spoiled stamps may be replaced. Provision is made for the Commissioner's impressing on documents not liable to stamp duty, evidence that they are not. Telegraphers are prohibited from sending or receiving messages, and express men from sending packages, without seeing them stamped, under a penalty of $10. Uncompounded medicinal drugs and chemicals, and those compounded under recognized authority, and not offered for sale in any other guise, are exempted from stamp duty. Using stamps put on articles, to cover other articles, is punishable with a fine of $50, and forfeiture of the article. Attempt to remove such articles, except under bond for exportation, or to evade the duty, is punishable with a fine of $100. Monthly declarations are to be made that no such removal or evasion has been made, under a penalty of $500.

Full returns with deeds, schedules, lists, statements, &c., are to be made with respect to legacies, and the duties paid, or they are to be recovered under the general provisions of the act. Persons refusing to exhibit necessary documents to the collector are subjected to a fine of $500. Articles subject to duty may be seized by the collector, and are to be forfeited, and the party having them in possession is liable to a fine of $100.

Five hundred thousand dollars is appropriated for the purposes of the act.

Drawback of the duty above $20 paid, is allowed on all articles except raw cotton; and certificates of drawback are made receivable in payment of duties imposed by the act. A penalty of $500 is imposed for fraud in claiming drawback.

Sixty thousand dollars appropriated in March, 1861, for the capitol of New Mexico, and $50,000 for military roads therein, are credited to the Territory, in payment of her direct annual tax under the act of the 5th August last, and so much of the act as imposes a direct tax of $20,000,000 on the United States is suspended until April 1st, 1865.

And this closes our sketch of the Tax bill.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Provost Court—Judge Bell.—C. Burnele, whose name was formerly given as Bender, and who was arrested on the charge of being concerned in the murder of the colored man Johnson, of the British ship Theodore Knoop, was admitted to bail in $10,000. The evidence before the Coroner's jury did not implicate him.

John Gill and George Reedan were sent to the Parish Prison for three months, for using language hostile to the United States.

Henry Hoffman, whose arrest on a charge of selling spirits to United States soldiers, was reported yesterday, was sent to the Parish Prison for three months.

Hy. Livingston was fined $20 for assault and abuse.

John Regan, John Murphy and Sarah McCullough were sent to the Workhouse for a month.

Sarah Ward and Kate Moore, charged with stealing jewelry from Mrs. E. Hubbell were discharged, as there was no evidence to convict them.

Mrs. Pringle, of Union street, who had a woman arrested the other day on a charge of stealing clothes from her, but had the tables turned on her, by proof that the clothes were merely detained to secure payment of a washing bill, was up again yesterday. She had been ordered by the Court to pay the bill. This, it was now complained, she had not done. She said she did not owe the money and did not like to pay it. The Court said if she did not comply with the order, she would be committed for contempt. She thereupon paid the claim.

John C. Murphy and Andrew Williams were sent to the Parish Prison for a month, for introducing liquor into camp and selling it to soldiers.

Wm. C. Burns was sent to the Parish Prison for one month, on the charge of stealing a comrade's watch. His story was that the complainant, a soldier had got drunk, lost his watch, and offered a reward of $20 for its restoration; that he went in search of it, found it on a citizen, demanded and obtained it, and restored it without fee or reward. His story was not credited.

Mr. Andrew Richoux was arraigned on the charge of intending to leave the city without satisfying a claim of $50 against him. The defendant had placed twelve sacks of coffee in the hands of plaintiff for sale. He had sold four of them, and the commission was revoked. Plaintiff claimed the $50 as commissions. The Court decided this was too much, and ordered to be contented with $15.

John Shea, and, in the first instance, had a woman sent to the Workhouse for a month, on the charge of being drunk and abusive. Immediately afterwards he was himself arraigned on the charge of having shamefully abused and assaulted the woman. The charge was fully proved, and the Court sentenced him to pay a fine of $20. This he refused to do, and was so obstreperous that it, that the Court ordered him to be sent to the guard house, until the fine should be paid. On the way thither, however, he became so violent that the Court had him recalled, and sentenced him to imprisonment in the Parish Prison for three months.

Arrests.—Edward Dwyer was arrested yesterday afternoon, on Johnson street, on the charge of assaulting his wife. He was let out on bonds.

Wm. H. Pond was arrested on Rampart street, at noon yesterday, on the charge of stealing $2 50 from the till of Mrs. Swartz, in her store.

Mrs. McCarty was found drunk on the corner of Girod and Tchoupitoulas streets, and was taken care of.

Wm. Wilson, alias Red Bill, too notorious as he is, has been arrested. He was caught out on one of the creeks or bayous, at no great distance from the city. The authorities have been on the lookout for him for a long time; but we have heard none but general grounds alleged for his arrest.

Mary Scott was arrested on Common street yesterday, shortly after noon, on the charge of assault with intent to kill, according to the entry on the books; but for using threatening language, according to the warrant against her.

Wm Crosby was arrested under a warrant charging him with assault and battery.

Mortuary Report—For the week ending at 6 o'clock, A. M., Sunday, July 6, 1862. Total number of deaths last week, 131; this week, 144. Increase, 13.

Disease.—Apoplexy 2, inflammation of bowels 4, congestion of bowels 1, congestion of brain 4, inflammation of brain 1, softening of brain 1, cholera 2, cholera infantum 9, cholera morbus 1, consumption 21, adult convulsions 2, infantile convulsions 4, croup 1, acute diarrhea 10, chronic diarrhea 1, dysentery 5, brain fever 1, congestive fever 1, intermittent fever 1, nervous fever 2, typhoid fever 6, typhus fever 4, gastro-enteritis 3, disease of heart 1, whooping cough 1, insanity 1, lockjaw 1, disease of liver 3, infantile marasmus 6, measles 1, old age 2, pneumonia 6, inflammation of stomach 1, premature birth 3, still-born 3, teething 4, trismus nascentorum 3, poison 1, suicide 2, wounds 2, not stated 2, other diseases 16; total 144.

Sex.—Adult males 47, adult females 24, male children 40, female children 32; sex of one not stated. Total, 144.

Color.—Whites, 111, mulattoes, 10, blacks, 19; color of four not stated. Total, 144.

Condition.—Free, 124, slaves, 14; condition not stated, 6. Total, 144.

Ages.—Under 1 year, 34, from 1 to 2 years, 19, from 2 to 5 years, 10, from 5 to 10 years, 3, from 10 to 15 years, 1, from 15 to 20 years, 3, from 20 to 25 years, 6, from 25 to 30 years, 7; from 30 to 40 years, 16; from 40 to 50 years, 8, from 50 to 60 years, 7, from 60 to 70 years, 5; from 70 to 80 years 1; from 80 to 90 years 1, from 96 to 100 1; not stated, 22. Total, 144.

Nativities.—Africa 1, France 8, Germany 5, Ireland 11, Italy 3, Prussia 2, Scotland 1, Spain 1, West India 1; not stated, 34; Louisiana 71, Virginia 2, Indiana 1, Massachusetts 1, Pennsylvania 1. Total, 144.

Geo. Wm. Dirkeyer, M. D.,
Secretary Board of Health.

Desperate Attempt at Suicide.—The *True Delta*, on the authority often eye witness, reports that on Monday, when the troops were embarking on board the St. Maurice for up the river, the wife of one of the soldiers left her child sitting on the wharf and plunged into the river. She was rescued by one of the soldiers. But as soon as she was sufficiently recovered, she again rushed into the stream, determined to end her suffering and sorrow amid its turbid waters. She was again rescued, but her deliverer came very near finding with her a watery grave.

The Free Market.—Seventeen hundred and twenty-eight families were yesterday supplied with the following provisions: 182 bushels cornmeal, 20 bushels rice flour, 8 barrels mess beef, 3 and a half barrels mess pork, 300 pounds bacon, 2 barrels mackerel, 1 box codfish, 23 barrels sugar.

Identified.—The body found in the river at the foot of Canal street, as reported yesterday, has been identified as that of James Logan, a boy between 11 and 12 years old. He had been missing for about a fortnight, and is presumed to have fallen in the river while playing. His head was off, and his extremities nearly so.

Parole.—An order of Gen. Shepley extends the time for paroling to-morrow. After that day, the provisions of General Orders No. 13 will be strictly carried into effect.

The President of the United States has nominated 256 Generals, of whom 19 are Major-Generals. Eighteen Major-Generals have been confirmed—one, Gen. Shields, has been reported from the Military Committee, and is on the calendar. One hundred and seventy-four Brigadier-Generals have been confirmed, forty-seven have been reported, four adversely, and are on the calendar; fifteen are still before the Committee.

Disruption of the European Alliance on the Soil of Mexico—Startling Revelations.

The following Vera Cruz correspondence of the London *Times* forms a very important link in the complicated question of the disruption of the European alliance in Mexico. Gen. Prim's explanation of the course of the Emperor of the French is made more lucid now by the startling revelations of the London *Times'* correspondent:

[Vera Cruz, April 7) Correspondence of the London Times.

As I have little doubt you are anxious to know what has recently taken place here, I will in the following letter send you what information I have been able to gather. The Commissioners of England, France and Spain had agreed to meet on the 19th of this month the Mexican Ministers at Orizaba, for the purpose of conducting negotiations there and bringing them to a conclusion. Orizaba was fixed upon as yellow fever was raging at the time in Vera Cruz. It is a healthy town, one hundred miles from the seacoast. The forces of the Allies were only allowed to proceed to it on the understanding that if, after the conference on the 19th, the Commissioners of the three European powers could not agree with the Mexican Government, they were again to withdraw their troops to Vera Cruz. The English, French and Spanish Commanders-in Chief signed a treaty with the Mexicans, in which they faithfully undertook to perform the obligation. Each gave his word of "honor" that the Government he represented would not depart from the promise so made. The allied troops accordingly proceeded to Orizaba, and found there a very good hospital, with every facility for providing stores. The French took up their quarters about five miles from the town. Four days before the time fixed for a conference the English, Spanish and Mexican Ministers met. As the French Minister, however, did not join them, they waited until the 19th. The French Commissioner was still absent.

General Prim then showed great impatience of the delay, and he resolved at length to ride towards the French quarters to ask an explanation of the cause. He had hardly gone two miles, when, *to his surprise, he met the French army advancing in military array.* First came the cavalry, with drawn sabres and carbines loaded and cocked. The infantry followed, with muskets at the trail, loaded, and bayonets fixed. Then came the artillery, every gun loaded and ready to unlimber. He met Prim's staff, and asked Admiral Rouier the meaning of that movement, and told him that he had come to ascertain why he had not made his appearance at the conference. The Admiral replied that he had received orders from France *which absolved him from all former treaties.* He added that he had heard our sick were in danger of being massacred. General Prim at once protested against the course taken by the French. He told Admiral Rouier that he was violating the recent treaty, and acting in flagrant violation of every obligation imposed by the law of nations, by advancing armed and ready for battle, into the interior of a State against which war had not been declared. The Admiral gave the protest a patient hearing, and answered that he would encamp where he was for the night and think about it. General Prim then rode back to Orizaba, and informed Commodore Drummond of what he had seen, heard and done.

To ascertain if there was any ground for the assertion that a massacre was in contemplation, he visited the hospital and found every thing quite safe. He visited it again at seven, eight and nine P. M., and again found every thing quiet. The Commodore went at ten P. M., and with the same result. As there was no evidence of any plot of the kind at four A. M. on the 20th, General Prim then went to the Mexican Minister, and told him that he would return to the French quarters and urge the necessity of strict adherence to the conditions of the treaty. As all the Spaniards had gone to Vera Cruz, the Mexican Minister insisted that he should be accompanied by a guard of honor of some hundred men.

Gen. Prim, however, did not wait for the guard of honor, but set out at once on horseback towards the French encampment. Imagine his surprise at finding the army in advance again, as on the day before. He rode right into the middle of the French staff. As he passed the French Admiral the latter saluted him with "*Bon jour mon Amiral*," but the reply was simply, "*Bon jour* General." When the Spanish commander got into the middle of the staff he took off his hat, bowed all round, and said, "Officers and gentlemen, you made this advance yesterday under the *covert of your sick being in danger.* I have visited your sick and their medical officers at five, seven, eight and nine P. M., and found everything quite safe. The English Commodore visited your sick at ten P. M., with the same satisfactory result. I visited them again at four this morning. I found all quiet, and was assured by your medical officer that they are as safe as in the middle of France, the Mexican people soon showing their good feeling by the readiness with which they supply them with provisions. Now gentlemen," he added, "I have relieved your minds on this score, and I beg of you to adhere to the solemn promises you have made and not to advance further."

At first there was no reply to this protest. At length, however, Admiral Rouier, after some talk with his officers, turned to Prim, and said that he had received recent orders from the Emperor which absolved him from his word and the treaty. *He had been instructed not to treat with the Mexicans except at the point of the sword.* General Prim made no reply to this statement. He considered the conduct of the French *dishonorable*, and rode away at once for Vera Cruz.

Just as he left, the sound of hoofs which had been ordered to escort him, and which he had left a mile behind, and out of sight, made its appearance. The French cavalry at once halted, and the officer in command of the French cavalry demanded what they were doing there. General Melanie, the Spanish second in command, advanced from the Mexicans and explained that they were a guard of honor to General Prim and himself. The French colonel then ordered the Mexicans back, and told Melanie that he was now *virtually a prisoner.* The French lancers followed, with muskets at the trail, loaded, and bayonets fixed. Then came the artillery, every gun loaded and ready to unlimber. He met Prim's staff, and asked Admiral Rouier the meaning of that movement, and told him that he had come to ascertain why he had not made his appearance at the conference. The Admiral replied that he had received orders from France *which absolved him from all former treaties.* He added that he had heard our sick were in danger of being massacred. General Prim at once protested against the course taken by the French. He told Admiral Rouier that he was violating the recent treaty, and acting in flagrant violation of every obligation imposed by the law of nations, by advancing armed and ready for battle, into the interior of a State against which war had not been declared. The Admiral gave the protest a patient hearing, and answered that he would encamp where he was for the night and think about it. General Prim then rode back to Orizaba, and informed Commodore Drummond of what he had seen, heard and done.

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Just as he left, the sound of hoofs which had been ordered to escort him, and which he had left a mile behind, and out of sight, made its appearance. The French cavalry at once halted, and the officer in command of the French cavalry demanded what they were doing there. General Melanie, the Spanish second in command, advanced from the Mexicans and explained that they were a guard of honor to General Prim and himself. The French colonel then ordered the Mexicans back, and told Melanie that he was now *virtually a prisoner.* The French lancers followed, with muskets at the trail, loaded, and bayonets fixed. Then came the artillery, every gun loaded and ready to unlimber. He met Prim's staff, and asked Admiral Rouier the meaning of that movement, and told him that he had come to ascertain why he had not made his appearance at the conference. The Admiral replied that he had received orders from France *which absolved him from all former treaties.* He added that he had heard our sick were in danger of being massacred. General Prim at once protested against the course taken by the French. He told Admiral Rouier that he was violating the recent treaty, and acting in flagrant violation of every obligation imposed by the law of nations, by advancing armed and ready for battle, into the interior of a State against which war had not been declared. The Admiral gave the protest a patient hearing, and answered that he would encamp where he was for the night and think about it. General Prim then rode back to Orizaba, and informed Commodore Drummond of what he had seen, heard and done.

To ascertain if there was any ground for the assertion that a massacre was in contemplation, he visited the hospital and found every thing quite safe. He visited it again at seven, eight and nine P. M., and again found every thing quiet. The Commodore went at ten P. M., and with the same result. As there was no evidence of any plot of the kind at four A. M. on the 20th, General Prim then went to the Mexican Minister, and told him that he would return to the French quarters and urge the necessity of strict adherence to the conditions of the treaty. As all the Spaniards had gone to Vera Cruz, the Mexican Minister insisted that he should be accompanied by a guard of honor of some hundred men.

Gen. Prim, however, did not wait for the guard of honor, but set out at once on horseback towards the French encampment. Imagine his surprise at finding the army in advance again, as on the day before. He rode right into the middle of the French staff. As he passed the French Admiral the latter saluted him with "*Bon jour mon Amiral*," but the reply was simply, "*Bon jour* General." When the Spanish commander got into the middle of the staff he took off his hat, bowed all round, and said, "Officers and gentlemen, you made this advance *yesterday under the covert of your sick being in danger.* I have visited your sick and their medical officers at five, seven, eight and nine P. M., and found everything quite safe. The English Commodore visited your sick at ten P. M., with the same satisfactory result. I visited them again at four this morning. I found all quiet, and was assured by your medical officer that they are as safe as in the middle of France, the Mexican people soon showing their good feeling by the readiness with which they supply them with provisions. Now gentlemen," he added, "I have relieved your minds on this score, and I beg of you to adhere to the solemn promises you made and not to advance further."

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