THE DAILY BEE
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NEW ORLEANS:
SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 1, 1863.

Sales at Auction To-day.

By the Sheriff, at 12 o'clock, M., at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, the frame buildings erected on a lot of ground situate at the corner of Conti and Burgundy streets, Second District; also, sundry book accounts, surrendered by A. Guyot and Guyot Brothers, to their creditors. 2d. At 5 o'clock, P. M., on Philip street, near Chippewa street, Fourth District, the contents of a blacksmith shop and of a wheelwright establishment. See advertisements.

Messrs. B. K. Morphy, at 10 o'clock, at No. 47 Magazine street, hogsheads tobacco and hoop and round iron; also, sundry furniture.

Messrs. Cooper & Landry, at 11 o'clock, at their auction room, Exchange Hall, Exchange place, 12 o'clock, M., a fine brick residence, No. 17 Rampart street.

By B. L. Montgomery, at 10½ o'clock, at Union Warehouse, corner Notre Dame and Tchoupitoulas streets, floor; at 11 o'clock, at salesroom, No. 93 Camp street, India bagging, soap, cigars, sides, whisky, brandy, &c., &c.

The United States Mail steamship Geo. Washington, E. V. Gager, Commander, will leave her wharf this morning at 9 o'clock for New York direct, with a full freight, the United States mails, and the following passengers:

Gen Dwight, Col Chickering, Lieut Hall, Lieut C D Webb, Capt Swift, Lieut C A Hartwell, W Malloy, M F Romaine, R Haverstall, R Thomas, J C McKitrick, K Cowner, C F Hoffman, A Clement, Mrs Noack, child and servant, R M O'Brien, F G Taylor, J S Murdock, J Mandeville, C S Macomy, F Macomy, Mrs Macomy, J Causley, A S Blake, Mr Chase, 6 Field and lady, Jesse Hosman, J L Kennedy, wife and three children, W H Hunting, Miss E Cobesta, Mrs Liddy, J Ruback, C Lock, J Dulcie, lady and two children, J D Weaver, F W Moler, Mrs Simmons, Miss J Leeman, J G Robinson, and 48 in the steerage.

WINE, BRANDY, ETC.—Oscar Bercier & Co., No. 17 St. Louis street, have for sale a large invoice of choice French wines, brandy, cordials, olives oil, etc. See their advertisement.

FLOUR.—Two thousand barrels choice extra flour are for sale by H. Willor & Co., No. 61 Tchoupitoulas street.

MACKEREL.—A. D. Grieff, Nos. 48, 50 and 52 Old Levee street, has a fine lot of mackerel for sale.

The sales this day by the Sheriff, comprise: 1st. At 12 o'clock, M., at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, the frame buildings erected on a lot of ground situate at the corner of Conti and Burgundy streets, Second District; also, sundry book accounts, surrendered by A. Guyot and Guyot Brothers, to their creditors. 2d. At 5 o'clock, P. M., on Philip street, near Chippewa street, Fourth District, the contents of a blacksmith shop and of a wheelwright establishment. See advertisements.

Messrs. McCorren & Landry will sell at auction, this day, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, a fine brick residence, No. 17 Rampart street. Any one wishing to purchase a comfortable residence, or seeking investment, this is a good opportunity. For a residence it has every thing to make it desirable; being in a central location and a good neighborhood, the property can always be well rented to good tenants.

The attention of our readers is called to T. T. Montgomery's various sales this day, August 1st, as follows: At 10½ o'clock, at Union Warehouse, corner of Notre Dame and Tchoupitoulas streets, 247 barrels choice extra flour. At 11 o'clock, at salesroom 93 Camp street, there will be sold, moss, India bagging, flour, salt, pilot bread, sides, soda, soap, mule shoes and wrought nails, liquors, and a large variety of other choice groceries. Also, at 11 o'clock, at old auction mart, 87 Camp street, a large sale of elegant rosewood and mahogany furniture, paintings, mirrors, pianofortes, bedding, glass and crockery ware, &c.

At auction, to-day, at 11 o'clock, at their mart, by McCorren & Landry, a general assortment of furniture, mattresses, &c.

The Mississippi Open—Change of Base for General Banks.

The capture of Port Hudson by General Banks, closes the campaign in the West. On the recovery of the control of the Mississippi River it will not be safe, indeed, to predict immediate and uninterrupted navigation of its waters for purposes of commerce. For reasons that we presented in these columns a short time since, a restoration of active commercial operations in the Mississippi Valley is impossible until the final establishment of peace. The National Government has had undisputed possession of the Mississippi river as far down as Memphis, for more than twelve months, but yet we will [illegible] a steamboat at any time [illegible] period, [illegible] to-day dared [illegible] Memphis, above or below, [illegible] a police thick engagement [illegible] of the Mississippi river [illegible] Orleans—a distance of two thousand two hundred miles, twenty hundred miles if we include [illegible] to prevent such guerrilla firing on [illegible] steamers as will place an effectual bar against navigation for commercial purposes.

But for all this, the recovery of the control of the Mississippi river is not less a vital triumph for the Union cause, and a fatal blow to the rebellion. It will be, *it is*, so regarded in the South. It will be so regarded in Europe.

It needs not to be argued that the re-opening of the Mississippi river is a final and conclusive triumph. There is no possibility of the rebels ever wresting from us one of its captured posts back again, or putting any craft larger than a skiff safely again on its waters. The topography of the river is peculiar. Between Cairo and New Orleans there are barely a dozen points where the river has bluff banks capable of being converted into fortresses. All these points are now in the possession of the United States, as follows: Columbus, Hickman, Fort Pillow, Randolph, Memphis, Helena, Napoleon, Vicksburg, Fort Gibson, Natchez, Port Hudson, and Baton Rouge. All these points, except two, are now crowned with formidable forts and earthworks, and most of them are already strongly garrisoned by Union troops. They form a series of defenses, whose batteries the fleet of no hostile Power will ever run, and they guarantee the navigation of the Mississippi river, in perpetuity, in the hands of that Government by whose statesmanship and treasure, in the beginning of this century, it was secured.

For the present, the river may only be used for military purposes, and for such limited commerce as the armies on its banks may give occasion for and are able to protect. But this advantage will be of incalculable value to the Government, in the saving of time and expense in the conduct of military operations in the South-west. The first effect will be to bring the Department of Gen. Banks into immediate and almost daily communication with the North, by way of the Mississippi river to Memphis, and thence by telegraph to Cairo. All the reinforcements for that Department, and all its supplies and munitions of war, will reach it by the channel of the Mississippi; and all of the unavoidable and often aggravating delays and dangers of the Atlantic coast and Gulf voyage will be avoided. It is easy to understand what renewed energy and satisfaction will be imparted to the army in Louisiana by this improved state of things. Three months now will enable it to do the work that it would have required a year under the old order of things. And just in this proportion will the events be hastened that are to see the grand collapse and end of the rebellion.—*New York Times.*

The Attack on Charleston.

An officer who was sent down to Port Royal by the Seamen Court of Inquiry, writing on Tuesday, 7th instant, to a friend here, says:

"Before I can communicate with you again the fire of the war will have concentrated around the City of Charleston. Admiral Dahlgren sends to-morrow the advance guard of the attacking squadron, which contains, among other vessels, some machines intended to remove river obstructions, to the rendezvous of the fleet. The following is an estimate of the ships and force to be engaged:

Name.	Tons.	Guns.	Officers and Men.
Iron-clad New Ironsides	3,468	20	400
Iron-clad Wabash	4,216	40	4 0
Iron-clad Powhatan	2,415	12	300
Iron-clad Housatonic	844	2	100
Steam-sloop Ironsides	1,996	12	300
Steam-sloop Pawnee	1,289	9	180
Steamer Unadilla	1,165	8	250
Steamer Ottawa	863	9	250
Iron-clad Nahant	844	2	100
Iron-clad Catskill	844	2	100
Iron-clad Patapsco	844	2	100
Iron-clad Nahant	844	2	100
Steam-gunboat Seneca	512	3	90
Steam-gunboat Huron	507	4	100
Steam-gunboat Conemaugh	507	4	100
Steam-gunboat Ottawa	507	4	100
Steam-gunboat Sonoma	507	4	100
Steam-gunboat Wissahickon	507	4	100
Steam-gunboat Marblehead	507	4	100
Total	17,995	150	3,340

Screw ships, barks and smaller craft are attached to the fleet, but the above is probably all the Admiral will put under fire. The iron-clads are in excellent condition, workmen have been sent from New York to put them in trim. The fight will not be a rapid one, as it was supposed here, from inklings gathered from the Admiral, that the "job is to be handled carefully and finished well."

Lessons of the New York Riot.

[From the National Intelligencer.]

In view of the maxims habitually enforced by our rulers, we do not need to be informed how we regard the present outrage upon the decency of New York, directed against the execution of enrollment law. We know the excesses and pollutions which will be urged by heated partisans in explanation, if not in defense, of such outrages. We shall be told that the Administration has justly forfeited the confidence of the people by its demonstrated incapacity to apply successfully the resources of life and money already placed at its disposal, that it has treasonably changed the theory and object of the war, that it has sought to compass the disruption of political parties, reducing them to the ranks of the army to an equality with the negro race, and that the law which prescribes bad regulations the enrollment makes a distinction between the rich and the poor, which is possible his conscience, and his purse, who must pay the hundred "imposed of them." We have already heard these sophistries brought forward, not in the way of their refutation and of the exposure of their fallacy, but as the result of an enlightened public opinion, as the corrective of a policy conceived to be false, impolitic, partisan, tyrannical and treasonable.

Let us, then, anticipate the worst, and, in view of the maxims habitually enforced by our rulers, we do not need to be informed how we regard the present outrage upon the decency of New York, directed against the execution of enrollment law. We know the excesses and pollutions which will be urged by heated partisans in explanation, if not in defense, of such outrages. We shall be told that the Administration has justly forfeited the confidence of the people by its demonstrated incapacity to apply successfully the resources of life and money already placed at its disposal, that it has treasonably changed the theory and object of the war, that it has sought to compass the disruption of political parties, reducing them to the ranks of the army to an equality with the negro race, and that the law which prescribes bad regulations the enrollment makes a distinction between the rich and the poor, which is possible his conscience, and his purse, who must pay the hundred "imposed of them." We have already heard these sophistries brought forward, not in the way of their refutation and of the exposure of their fallacy, but as the result of an enlightened public opinion, as the corrective of a policy conceived to be false, impolitic, partisan, tyrannical and treasonable.

New Orleans Bee.

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of rolling, stimulating men of the baser sort to deeds of violence. It is then that extremes begat extremes, until, in the oscillations of passion, swaying now in this direction and now in that, the whole fabric of social order is shaken to its base, not only on the wide area of our national polity, but within the narrow boundaries of municipal law.

Even in a time of peace great cities often become, as Mr. Jefferson called them, "great sores on the body politic." The morbid humors which infect society are here brought to the surface and spread by contagion. Popular discontents have easily come to a head, and expose at once their nature and their virulence. In other parts of the country there have been desultory attacks on the enrolling officers of the War Department. It is in the city of New York that the first attempt at organized resistance has been made.

The duty of the Government in this exigency is plain. The law must be *enforced* if it is not loyally obeyed. There is no other alternative. In a Government of *laws* there can be no other, and if a mutiny of freemen will not submit to be governed by the arbitrary will of a few in public place, just as little can they submit to be governed by the caprices of that many headed monster the mob. Let all those in office stand by the law which girds them with strength, and let the people learn that in this day of giddiness and revolt the only stability of our times is to be found in loyal obedience to lawful authority. It was said many years ago by that mocker at free government, Thomas Carlyle, that our political institutions were "anarchy, plus a constable." At the present time, when our constabulary force has taken on the form of vast armies, organized for the enforcement of the laws and the suppression of an armed rebellion, let it be the lesson of the hour that only more stinging because of revolt springing up among those who are rutting down revolt. The Government must suppress such tumultuous uprisings with a heavy hand, but the wise surgeon, while he applies the knife and cautery to the extermination of the core of the blister, will not neglect a pathology of the symptoms by which the origin of these disorders may be traced.

CONDITIONS OF PEACE.—Rev. Dr. Ellis, of Charlestown, preached a discourse last Sabbath, on the "Conditions of peace." He said that he would be willing to leave the terms of peace to the patriot dead on both sides, could this be done. The dead are not revengeful. They do not ask that more homes shall be desolated, or more lives sacrificed on their account. He intimated that the present Cabinet were incapable of arranging a permanent and satisfactory peace. A common journeyman could tear down a beautiful structure, but it required the services of an architect to rebuild it. He believed that there was latent statesmanship enough among the people, which had never been brought out, to save the nation. Some man or men to act as counsellors, and give their services to an important work, who had never been identified with any political party. In conclusion, he urged that we should all pray for peace.—*Boston Courier, July 14.*

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Public School Libraries.—We find in the official paper the following:

Headquarter Department of the Gulf,
Nineteenth Army Corps,
New Orleans, July 30, 1863.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 85.

[Extract.]

3. Col. S. B. Holabird, Chief Quartermaster of the Department, is authorized and directed so appropriate to the use of the Public Schools of the city of New Orleans, as a foundation for Public School Libraries, to be devoted to the exclusive use of the teachers and pupils, all books and engravings suitable for this object which may come into the possession of the military authorities of the United States. The Chief Quartermaster of the Department, the Superintendent of Public Schools, and the Judge of the Military Court, for the time being, are hereby constituted a Board for the organization of one or more Public School Libraries with authority to establish all necessary rules preregulations for their use and preservation. This order will be carried into effect without delay.

By command of MAJOR GENERAL BANKS:
RICHARD B. IRWIN, A. A. General.

The Case of the Vendoux.—About twenty women, mostly of mature age, and of every shade of color, (two of snowy white and the others of darker origin) were brought up for trial on the charge which we copy *verbatim* as follows: "By Special Long, at 6 P. M., on Marais street, charged with being an unlawful assemblage for the purpose of bringing the curse of our Heavenly Father upon those they wish to seek revenge upon, commonly called a Vendoux assemblage. Messrs. Mandiveri and Abell appeared for the troops, and asked a postponement of the trial, until the absence of the accused in the meantime, in order to give them time for preparation. The prosecutor objected strenuously to any postponement or to the release of any of the accused except on good bonds, as it was his belief they could not disperse the assemblage, and besides it was a very serious one. The Court held that this reason was a very good one for giving the accused time to prepare for the defense, and consented to continue the case for twenty four hours, requiring, however, a bond from each to the amount of $100. What the assembly was actually engaged in, we presume, will appear at the examination to-day.

The news of the arrest attracted to the Trémé Station, where the prisoners were taken, a large crowd of followers or sympathizers, and around the Second District police station yesterday morning there was a great throng. Special officer Long, after giving the crowd notice to quit, made two raids, capturing some forty or fifty men and women—some as vagrants, and others for refusing to disperse when ordered.

The Case of Gardner—Decision of Judge Hughes.—This case, which has been "dragging its slow length along" through the Provost Court for several weeks, was yesterday decided, according to the promise of the Judge at the close of the trial on Wednesday last.

The decision was at considerable length, and appeared to be very well digested. After reviewing the law points which had been brought up by the counsel in the case, and showing the reasons for its decisions upon them, he referred to the testimony of the witnesses for the prosecution. It was true they were confessed thieves, and their testimony was greatly clouded, and it would be a serious wrong for a court or a jury to convict a man on such testimony alone; but the charge did not rest on that basis alone—it was corroborated and supported by other facts, viz: the finding of the burglars tools in Gardner's shop; his prevarication and falsehood concerning them, as proved by the officers and the workmen on the place; his association and social drinking with three witnesses, notorious thieves; and his failure to explain, or to attempt to explain, these criminating circumstances. The respectable testimony he had produced in favor of his good standing proved nothing more than he had been deceiving every one; and while it was painful for one so much younger to pass a sentence blasting the life of one older than himself, yet it was a duty in this case, which he felt to be imperative, to pronounce this severe judgment. The statutes not providing clearly for this case, the special functions of the Provost Court—created for these disordered and troublesome times—must be invoked to punish for the sake of deterring others from the perpetration of such crimes. The accused must go to prison for twelve months.

Provost Court—Judge Hughes—(Friday.) Ten boys, from six to sixteen years of age, were brought up for violating the city ordinance which forbids bathing in the river in the daytime. Some of the boys were very small, and washed out the charge against them with their tears and promises never to do so any more; thereupon the Judge let them go. The three larger boys, however, were lectured on the bad example they were guilty of, and to make an impression upon them, they were fined $1 each.

C. J. Holle was arraigned on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses. The prosecutor, Mr. Hammer, of the firm of Hammer & Bro., came to the coffee-house in April, and offered for sale two barrels of whisky, by sample, which the prosecutor agreed to purchase at the price asked. The accused said he had the whisky in store, would send it that evening or next day, and gave his business card. Before leaving, he asked for $5 on account, which he obtained; but, after the lapse of several days, the whisky nor the seller not having made their appearance, Mr. Hamner went to look for both at the No. indicated on the card in Poydras street. The place was closed, and on inquiry of the neighbors, they said Holle would occasionally be in the store, but it was never open for business. Witnesses testified to the same fact, that there was no appearance of any business being done at the place. The Court decided that while the transaction was full of intents to defraud, it was so petty in amount that the law did not take hold of it. Remarking that every one should be on their guard against having transactions with the accused, he was discharged.

A very poor-looking bakeress was brought up on the charge of issuing bread of light weight. Mr. Mandiveri pleaded accident and poverty on the part of his client, and the Court fined her only $10, with an admonition to be very careful in the future.

Charges of swindling seem to be the order of the time. Another case was tried, in which a flour dealer charged a young man engaged in the baking business, with buying flour at sundry times from him to the amount of $1300, on representations which proved to be false. It appeared that the accused had been buying flour from other parties, and had been paying on account from time to time, to the prosecutor he owed a balance of about $700, and when he failed to pay that on demand his representations of ability, &c., were found untrue. The case was partially adjourned, but as a material witness for the defense was absent, it was postponed to Monday.

Mary Beanne, who has made her mark in the Provost Court as well as in the ill-famed thoroughfares of the city for a long period back, was up again on the charge of breaking and assaulting a good-looking f. m. c., and writing him a threatening letter. It appeared that the pair were both colored, and in her parlance she had been "his woman;" but they had quarreled, as the whitest of lovers will do, and all that she had done was only a reciprocity of angry feelings. The Court, however, decided that her face had become so familiar in spots of this kind, that he would punish her now with a fine of $10, and a peace bond of $100.

A case of larceny was tried, which depended for positive proof mainly on the testimony of two children, though there were some suspicious circumstances detailed by the older witness. After deliberation, the Court declined to convict, the testimony of the children, their ages being six years and under; and as there was not sufficient proof against the accused, he was discharged.

McConachy was tried on the charge of forging the name of John Hogan, the clerk of the Fire District police station. It appeared that Hogan had written a line for Joe, a black boy, requesting somebody to pay $10 which was due Joe. No name was signed by Hogan, but the person to whom the document was presented insisted upon a signature, and Joe therefore got McConachy to do him the favor to write the name of "Mr. Hogan" on it. The evidence was clear that the accused had no criminal intent in the transaction, and that it was not a forgery. He was accordingly discharged.

Robert Moore was tried on the charge of an assault and battery on Mr. Nelson. It was a clear case of knock down, and it was also evident that the accused had been provoked to it by straightened circumstances, aggravated by the refusal of the prosecutor to pay promptly a bill for work done by Mr. Moore. After a patient hearing, the Court required the accused to furnish a peace-bond of $250.

[FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF YESTERDAY.]

Additional News.

From the Mobile Tribune of the 28th.

From the Mobile *Tribune* of the 28th we clip the following:

FROM CHARLESTON.

The enemy was very quiet on Thursday. The Ironsides, Monitors, gunboats and mortar boats remained all day in their position without firing a gun. It is supposed, however, that the Federal troops are energetically engaged digging dirt, throwing up new earthworks, mounting guns, &c.

In reference to our own operations it would not be prudent to speak, but we may safely say that if the Federals count on having their own way to operate in, unmolested, they will find themselves, ere long, bitterly disappointed. They will hardly attempt another assault on Battery Wagner, but will probably attempt to feel their way up gradually.

Generals Beauregard and Gilmore have arranged, under a flag of truce, for an exchange of the wounded on both sides. About one hundred and fifty, or as many as can be safely sent away, will take their departure from the Queen Street Hospital this morning. The steamship Alice has been chartered to take them to the fleet. They are to be turned over to Admiral Dahlgren, who will at the same time return a number of our wounded in exchange. Just.

LATEST FROM NORTH ALABAMA.

We learn from two gentlemen who had conversed with parties that left the vicinity of Whitesburg, Ala., on Sunday evening last, and were at Warrenton, a few miles from the Fort Deposite ferry, on Tennessee river, on Monday last, that the enemy had not crossed the river, and had not been at the ferry at all. At Whitesburg they shelled the south side of the river, where a force of Confederates amused themselves firing at the Federals during the intervals when the latter ceased firing, and retired behind the trees when they resumed. The force at Huntsville is reported by these parties to consist of fifteen regiments, infantry and cavalry, under command of Brigadier-General Turchin, Col. Stanley, and Tennessee renegades and traitors, Bob Johnson, John B. Brownlow, and Jordan Stokes.—*Huntsville Confederate.*

Proclamation by the Governor.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala., July 24, 1863.

I have received authentic intelligence that formidable expeditions of the enemy are preparing in North Alabama to devastate the interior of our State. The late call of the President for all up to forty-five years of age takes all the militia, both officers and men, who are subject to conscription. I have convened the Legislature to meet on the 17th proximo, in the hope that this body will increase the State forces, by extending the age of the military service.

We have, however, no time to wait for the legislative action, and I call upon the men of Alabama at once to rally to defend their homes and property. The service will be of a mounted character, if by forming volunteer companies under the act of Congress of 21st of August, 1861, for six months. By the regulations of the War Department, under this act, cavalry companies must consist of at least sixty private, one captain, one first lieutenant, and two second lieutenants, five sergeants and four corporals. Infantry companies of at least sixty four privates, and the same number of officers as cavalry. These companies will not be called out until the exigency which requires their services arises, and will be allowed to return to their usual pursuits as soon as the exigency has passed. They receive no pay or allowances except while in actual service. The other mode is by organizations under the act of Congress of October 13th, 1862, and each company must consist of at least twenty men. Companies organized under either of the acts referred to will be held by the Secretary of War for local defense, and will not be required to go beyond the limits of the State; they should be officered by competent men who have seen service, if such can be obtained.

JOHN GILL SHORTER.

Still Later News-via Mobile.

THE ARMIES IN VIRGINIA.

MORGAN STILL RAIDING.

Earl Russell and Mr. Mason.

The *Era* has a Mobile paper of the 29th, with advices from the North to the 25th, which is as follows:

Culpepper, July 27—A special dispatch to the Philadelphia *Enquirer* says Meade is headquarters were at Warrenton on Saturday. Sedgewick is reported moving towards Fredericksburg. A body of cavalry of Stuart's command on Saturday captured an aid of General Upton, within one hundred yards of General Meade's headquarters.

All is quiet.

Goldsboro', July 27—Major J. B. Houston and Captain W. B. Avery, of the Thirty-second New York regiment, captured on Saturday by our scouts, arrived here this morning. They were taken nine miles from Newbern, while on a pleasure excursion. Their horse and buggy was also captured.

Richmond, July 27.—The correspondence relative to the seizure of Will o' the Wisp by the United States ship Montgomery, shows that the British Government is dissatisfied with the decision of the prize court. It considered that some compensation should be granted to the owners.

Seward replied that the owners might carry the case to the Court of Appeals. Lord Russell expressed his regret at this answer, and hoped that Seward would reconsider the matter, as the case presented so clear a case of [illegal] seizure.

Seward, in along reply, says it is not incumbent on the United States to withdraw its confidence from its judicial tribunals.

The London *Times* is glad that Seward's peevish letter was not replied to.

Henry Ward Beecher, in a speech in London, charged the Abolitionists of Great Britain with being false to their principles, inconsistent and deficient in back-bone.

Richmond, July 27.—The Baltimore *American* of the 25th, by telegram from Cincinnati of the 24th, says:

Morgan crossed the Central Ohio Railroad at Campbell this morning, closely pursued by General Shackleford. The depot was burned, and some track torn up. At 9 o'clock he reached Greensey, where he did a great deal of damage, plundering, &c. When last heard from, he was at Manchester, moving towards Steubenville.

The German Democratic organ at Cleveland has taken down the name of Vallandigham from its columns, and raised that of Brough, for Governor.

Five hundred rebel officers, including Gens. Archer and Jones, arrived at Pittsburg on Monday, *en route* for Johnston's Island, where they will be detained until exchanged. Ten thousand prisoners are confined at Fort Delaware.

Privateers are at work on the coast of Maine. The *Times* says Lee's army, the last group of the rebellion, must speedily be captured.

Information has been received that an immense cavalry force is collecting at Portsmouth and Suffolk. More raids are no doubt on the tapis.

Meridian, July 28—The latest news from Vicksburg is that the Federals are still shipping troops up the river. A large number of steamboats are constantly arriving from above.

Governor Pettus, of Mississippi, is dangerously ill.

From Washington—Press Dispatches.

Washington, July 17.

CONTRABAND TRAFFIC ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

The Court of Inquiry, of which Major-General McDowell was President, and General Philip St. George Cooke and Colonel Dubois members, has reported its researches to the headquarters here. They proceeded under the following inquiries in obedience to orders: "What officers have participated in the traffic of cotton or other products in the Mississippi valley? What officers and under what circumstances have issued permits or licenses for trade in insurrectionary districts, and what officers have used, or permitted to be used, public property for private purposes?" The Court commenced its labors at St. Louis on the 18th of March, 1863, and continued in session there for some time, examining all available witnesses, not wishing to recall officers from the field. They then proceeded in succession to Memphis, Helena, Grant's army, near Vicksburg, and to Lake Providence.

The Court closed its sessions on the 24 of the present month. Its duties have been arduous, and the immense mass of testimony taken proves conclusively that many officers in service on the Western rivers have rendered themselves amenable to the army regulations against peculation and speculation. It is understood that the results of the labors of this Court will be given to the country as soon as it has passed through the higher supervision at headquarters.

THE CONTRACTS FOR FLOUR.

The bids for flour under the last call of the Commissary Department were opened on Wednesday. Nearly all of them were thrown out on account of the excessive prices. Only four thousand barrels were accepted. The market of flour on hand enables Colonel Bomford to present the Government against any attempt at extortion.

From North Carolina.

[Correspondence of the New York Herald.]

UNION PICKETS CAPTURED WITHIN THREE MILES OF NEWBERN.

Newbern, N. C., July 13, 1863—The rebels in this vicinity are growing bolder and bolder every day, notwithstanding the successful raids continually being made into their country. Last Sunday morning about nine o'clock a guerrilla party of about fifty surprised the outer picket guard of the Ninety-second New York, Colonel Hiram Anderson, garrisoning Fort Anderson, and captured them. The capture occurred about three miles from the city, across the river. The picket party consisted of a sergeant, a corporal and three men, who fired their muskets at the rebels, but it is believed did not succeed in inflicting any injury.

The guerrilla party was a portion of Colonel Hill's band of some 400, who make their headquarters at Big Swift creek, whence they sally forth from time to time to plunder and commit other depredations. The firing of the pickets had scarcely been heard at the fort when the heavy guns of the latter were put to work and heavy shells discharged in the direction of the firing. This had the effect of scattering the guerrillas, who, unfortunately, succeeded in getting off with their captives. Fort Anderson, it will be remembered, was assaulted last March by a force of six thousand, under the rebel General Pettigrew, but they withdrew on the appearance of General Foster and a strong force of Union troops and batteries after the exchange of a few shots. The rebel force now in the vicinity are said to belong to no particular organization, but are acting as an independent band, like that of Major Whitford's, who, with his five hundred men, lately occupied the same locality.

The Situation in Memphis.

REPORT OF DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON.

The "Bluff City" is situated in some respects so like the "Crescent City," that the following proceedings of a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce and the business men generally of Memphis will be worthy of reading here.

Yesterday morning a meeting was held at the Merchants' Exchange, of the Chamber of Commerce and the merchants and business men of Memphis, to hear the report of their delegates arrived from Washington.

The meeting was organized by calling Dr. D. T. Scott to the chair, and appointing Wm. Lasselle, Esq., Secretary.

Dr. Lotterich presented the following report, which was read and received:

The committee appointed by the Memphis Chamber of Commerce to wait upon the President of the United States and the Secretary of the Treasury, respectfully make the following report:

1. The limitation in the amount of supplies allowed to be shipped here, has been made from a misconstruction of the regulations relating thereto; and instructions had already been issued by the Treasury Department which, if carried out in the liberal spirit intended by the Department, will amply meet our wants.

2. Abandoned cotton must, under the law regulating the same, be reserved for sale to a loyal State; but cotton voluntarily abandoned, (under the impression that the proceeds would be paid over to the owner as soon as returns could be had from Washington), will, if already sold, be returned to the owner, and he will be allowed to sell it when and where he pleases.

3. In view of the condition of the surrounding country, Memphis cannot yet be proclaimed loyal. But we hope we have the undivided support of the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, that a continuance in our loyal course will, at an early day, entitle us to be so considered; and that as soon as consistent with the public welfare, we shall be so declared, and followed all the privileges and advantages resulting therefrom.

4. The Committee, without authority from the resolutions under which they were acting, felt authorized to complain of the presence of revenue tax collectors in Memphis, until such time as we shall be entitled, by such an acknowledged loyalty, to the benefits due to tax payers, and respectfully suggest that the Chamber take this question under legal investigation.

The Committee take pleasure in testifying to the due attention given to our complaints by the Executive and Treasury Departments in Washington, and to their evident anxiety to receive all reliable information as to the legitimate wants of our community, and a more than willingness to do and allow everything consistent with the great object of suppressing the rebellion, calculated to promote our welfare and prosperity.

In conclusion, your Committee would urge the importance of relaxing no effort to secure the acknowledgement of our loyalty, the recognition of which would be immensely beneficial to the interests of our community in more than a merely commercial sense.

Respectfully,
JOHN W. LEETWICH,
A. P. HUMPHREY,
A. T. LACEY.

A. T. Lacey, Esq., offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, by the Chamber of Commerce, merchants and business men of Memphis, That the thanks of this meeting are hereby tendered to our worthy fellow-citizen, Col. D. M. Leatherman, for valuable co-operation with the committee, while in Washington.

S. F. Hallman, Esq., offered a resolution that the delegation be constituted a committee, empowered in accordance with the report of the delegates, to take measures to ascertain the legality of the action of the United States tax from the citizens of Memphis until the clause in the President's proclamation, declaring the city to be in a state of insurrection, be revoked; and also to take such steps as they shall find suitable to obtain the restoration of the rights and emoluments of citizenship, that the recognition of its loyalty which had once been accorded to it.

Wm. Lasselle, Esq., called the attention of the meeting to the fact that the citizens of this portion of Tennessee have to pay the United States taxes, as if they were loyal, while they are deprived of the commercial and other rights of citizens of the United States, as if they were disloyal. Let a consistent course be adopted and carried out.

Highly Important Decision in a Prize Case.

A VESSEL MAY APPROACH A BLOCKADED PORT TO ASCERTAIN THE STATE OF THE BLOCKADE, IF SHE DOES SO IN GOOD FAITH.

United States Circuit Court—Before Judge Nelson.

July 17—The bark Express and her Cargo vs. The United States.—This vessel and cargo were captured on the morning of the 28th of November, 1861, by the sloop-of-war Vincennes, at the mouth of the Mississippi, off the Southeast Pass, some three miles from the Balize. The vessel was under a charter party, entered for Boston, under the master, at Ship Island, September 3, 1861, to ship a cargo of coffee to "New Orleans or Mobile, as may be ordered by the charterers, and if the vessel, on arrival, be warned off by a blockading squadron, to proceed either to New York, Baltimore or Philadelphia, which second place is likewise to be named by the charterers previous to the departure of the vessel from Rio Janeiro." If warned of New Orleans or Mobile, the master to deliver at the port of discharge the order from the officer warning him off, &c. On the 14th of September, 1861, the master was instructed by the charterers to proceed to New Orleans with his cargo, (6185 bags of coffee) and should the port be open upon arrival, the bill of lading endorsed would advise him to whom to deliver the cargo; should the port be blockaded, he would be warned off, and would then proceed direct to New York.

The vessel belonged to British subjects, residing in Hull, England, and had sailed from that port in May, 1861, with a cargo of coal and cast iron building, for Rio Janeiro, and on discharging her cargo the vessel was put up for freight by the master, which led to the charter above referred to. The cargo on board belongs to the charterers, William Moore & Co., British and Brazilian subjects. The only question in the case is, whether or not the vessel and cargo are subject to condemnation for attempting to break the blockade of the port of New Orleans. Upon a perusal of the testimony in preparation and documentary proof we are satisfied that the master had no intent to violate the laws of the country, their purpose was to ascertain at the mouth of the Mississippi river by personal inquiry whether or not the port was actually blockaded. This we think was the bona fide intention of the master. There has been no disguise of the purpose, as it is avowed in the charter party and written instructions of the owners of the cargo, and repeatedly by the master himself. And the only question is, whether the master was justified under the circumstances disclosed in the case in making such inquiry. It is quite apparent that these parties had adopted the construction of the proclamation of the President announcing an intent to set on foot a blockade of the Southern ports indicated by its terms, that a vessel sailing for a port in a state of blockade was entitled to a warning of one of the blockading vessels before a forfeiture would be enforced; and that, acting upon this construction and consequent directions to be found in the charter party, and instructions of the charterer, the master proceeded to the port of making the inquiry, although at the same time he had good reason for the belief that the port was in a state of actual blockade.

This interpretation of the proclamation was overruled by a majority of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the vessel must be regarded therefore as affording no justification to either vessel or cargo. But, although the terms of the proclamation furnish no justification for the act, yet we think they are entitled to consideration when inquiring into the intent with which the act was done. The master is sailing for the blockaded port, as the terms may have honestly misled him, and the fact of finding the vessel at a place under other circumstances suspicious may, in view of these terms, be consistent with entire innocence. There was no official notice of the blockade of the port of New Orleans given by the Government to the British or Brazilian Government. There is no evidence in this case when or at what time it was established. The case must stand upon a blockade de facto as the respected foreign neutral traders at the port. There was no doubt a general notoriety prevailed at Rio Janeiro at the time of the sailing of the vessel from that place that the mouths of the Mississippi were blockaded, and the master of the vessel was advised in the course of the voyage by a vessel hailed that he would find a fleet at Balize. There are undoubtedly cases which hold, as a general rule, that even in the case of a blockade de facto, the inquiry must not be made at the blockaded port it reasonably practicable to ascertain the fact by inquiry at other neutral ports. There are exceptions to this rule, and under all the circumstances and proofs in this case we are inclined to think the present is one of them. Decree of the Court below reversed. For the United States, the District Attorney and Mr. Evarts; for the captors, Mr. Upton; for the cargo, Messrs. Larocque & Barlow and W. H. Scott, Esq.; for the ship, Messrs. Martin & Smith.—*Herald.*

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

SEE OFFICE,
FRIDAY EVENING, July 31, 1863.

Movements in monetary and financial circles were slow and limited to-day, and the rates of Specie and Exchange were rather weaker, though not sufficiently so to establish any quotable change. Although this was mail day, the steamship George Washington having cleared for New York, there was very little done in Exchange, both the offerings and demand being very circumscribed. Eight Clearers on New York raised at ¼@¼ and 2 ⅌ cent. premium in Tr. sury notes, according to the amount drawn for, and 5@5⅛ ⅌ cent. premium for other currency.

There were scarcely any movements worthy of note in foreign Bills, and we repeat our previous figures, Sterling 144@156, although some banks hold at 160, France 5.75@5.60. There were small sales of Gold at 33@33¼ ⅌ cent. premium. Federal Treasury Notes changed hands at 1@1¼ and 2 ⅌ cent. premium.

We have nothing to report in Stocks, Bonds or Mortgage Securities.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE SEE,
FRIDAY EVENING, July 31, 1863.

COTTON.—The week's sales are confined to 5 bales Ordinary sold privately yesterday at 60c. ⅌ lb., and 228 bales by auction, of which 31 bales pinkings at 18¾c., 45 do. at 19¼c., 58 bales repacked at 43½c., 33 do. at 44½c., 30 do. Low Middling at 47c., 16 bales Middling at 50c., and 6 bales strictly Middling at 56½c. ⅌ lb. cash, in Treasury notes, or one-third cash in Treasury notes, and the balance in eight drafts on New York, and bills of lading and insurance policies, both for sea and inland risks, to be made to the approval of the Quartermaster. To-day, 2 bales damaged sold on private terms.

STATEMENT OF COTTON.

Stock on hand September 1, 1862, bales...		2,100
Arrived past week.....	600	
Arrived previously.....