New Orleans Bee.

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NEW ORLEANS:

SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 13, 1862

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By B. M. Morgenroy, at 10 o'clock, at Peyster street, between Camp and Magazine streets, entire front slightly damaged; at 12 o'clock, at No. 72 Camp street, organs, champagne, claret, starch, tar, boats and sundries; at 4 o'clock, P. M., on the lower side of the Bon Secour, near Chandler street, mules, claybags, chains, blocks, harness, &c.

By B. R. Murphy, at 10 o'clock, at No. 67 Magazine street, butter, corn meal, pig fronts, and sundries; at 11 o'clock, at the Bazaar, 66 Camp street, fancy and staple dry goods, jewelry, &c.

By A. A. Cohen, at 10 o'clock, at No. 52 Magazine street, [illegible] and American dry goods.

By E. W. C. Farrington, at 10 o'clock, at No. 55 Chartres street, household furniture.

ARRIVAL FROM THE NORTH.—Last evening the steamer Potomac and Roanoke arrived in our port, bearing dates to the 3d instant, from [illegible].

CAPT. FITCH'S OPINION OF HAVANA.—The Captain of the Roanoke reports that the Rev. Father Gaffiniere on board that steamer is for an Havana. He, doubtless, proposes to perform a visit city.

Capt. Fletcher, of the Potomac, and Mr. Rogers, purser of the Roanoke, will please accept our thanks for favors.

FIRE.—A fire broke out last night, at about half past ten o'clock, in a small grocery store at the corner of St. Louis and Burgundy streets. The conflagration, though inconsiderable, cast a lurid glare over the Heavens, as though the entire city were in flames. We have escaped any particulars.

T. KEELAR & SON.—By reference to our column of auction sales it will be seen that T. Keelar, of the above firm, auctioneer, will sell at auction at his sale rooms, No. 73 Camp street, on Monday, the 15th instant, 300 lots of assorted dry goods and hosiery, comprising a variety of articles such as flannels, cassimeres, patents, Kentucky jeans, [illegible] and half tims. And an assorted lot of fancy goods, all of which are fully described in the advertisement to which we call the attention of our readers.

The Sheriff will sell at auction this day, at 10½ o'clock, A. M., on the premises, the contents and fixtures of a cigar store, No. 34 St. Charles street. At 4½ o'clock, P. M., on or near to the Gentilly Road, moveable effects belonging to a secession. For particulars see advertisement.

Mr. R. T. Montgomery will make several important sales this day, the 13th instant, at the following hours and places: At 10 o'clock, at store on Peyster street, between Camp and Magazine streets, 100 barrels extra flour, slight, by damaged by water, for the benefit of whom it may concern. At 11 o'clock, at old auction mart, 87 Camp street, a large assortment of furniture, carpets, mirrors, &c. At 12 o'clock, at store 73 Camp street, 70 bags choice Rio coffee, champagne, claret, sugar cured hams, fine candles, pure starch, and a very extra quality of tea. At 4 o'clock, at lower side of New Basin, near Girondo street, for the benefit of whom it may concern, all the sails, rigging, chains, anchors, &c., saved from the wreck of schooner Claudina. At 4 o'clock, at Tattersall's stables, Gravier street, horses and mules.

Mr. D. W. C. Farrington sells this morning, at 10 o'clock, at No. 55 Chartres street, a general variety of furniture and household [illegible] at bedsteads, bureaus, parlor vases, sideboards, kitchen utensils, etc. The terms are cash in currency.

D. R. Murphy, auctioneer, calls the attention of buyers to the various sales advertised by him for this day. See his auction advertisements.

THE MESSAGE.

Annual Report of the President on the State of the Nation—Financial Policy of the Government—National Banking Law Heartily Endorsed—New Plans of the President for the Disposition of Slaves—Abolition of Slavery A. D. 1900—Our Foreign Relations—Treaties and Conventions with Washington, Liberia and Hayti—International Quarrels and the Pacific Railroad—The Indian Troubles, &c., &c.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

Since we last met, another year of health and general prosperity has been added to the many which have preceded it. While we have been brought into unusual peril, which has not passed away, we have cause for gratitude in the main continued exemption of the country from the accustomed calamities of war, and for the measure of success which has attended our labors. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste of war. Our fellow citizens, responding to the call of patriotism and duty, have entered the military service in numbers sufficient to support the most extensive operations, while those remaining at home have found profitable employment, and have developed fresh resources, which have yielded far greater than ordinary returns. Our commerce, except with localities occupied by the insurgents, has expanded, and our navigating interest, instead of being threatened with extinction by hostile cruisers, is more prosperous than ever before. Our mineral lands have been found more extensive and valuable, our agricultural productions have been increased in quantity and variety, and our people are more and better fed, clothed and housed than at any former period. Towns and cities have been built, and even large states organized in remote territories, and we have been challenged to accept the fact that we are a nation of large dimensions, as well as of great power. Lastly, we have been permitted to perfect and establish our system of government, and to put beyond dispute the question whether it is to be indeed a government of law, or only a name for misrule and oppression.

Considering these things, we may well humble ourselves before the Most High, in view of our shortcomings, but we may also thank Him for the consolations He has graciously afforded us, and may hopefully commit ourselves to His keeping for the future. Nor should we be unmindful of the responsibilities which have been devolved upon us by the peculiar circumstances in which we are placed. We have been selected, apparently, as the guardians of the last great experiment in self-government. Human nature is on trial with us, and our fidelity or infidelity to the cause we represent will determine the question, for us and for all mankind, whether a government like ours can live and flourish, or must inevitably perish in the midst of civil war. Deeply impressed with the solemnity of the duty, I have given to the country my best efforts to perform it faithfully, and I am conscious of having failed only where success was impossible. Whatever errors I have committed, and whatever shortcomings you may have to lament, I am sure that you will find in the record of the past three years, and in the present condition of the country, abundant evidence that the trust has been accepted with a sincere desire to discharge it faithfully, and that the exertions of the Executive have been earnestly directed to the restoration of the Union, and to the establishment of a peace which shall be worthy of the sacrifices we have made, and the blessings we have enjoyed.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will present the state of the finances in detail, and I refer to it for information on the subject. The receipts from all sources, including loans and balances from the preceding year, for the fiscal year ending on the 30th June, 1862, were $583,885,947 69, of which sum $49,464,497 62 were derived from customs; $1,795,331 71, from the direct tax; from public lands, $152,612 72, from miscellaneous sources, $931,787 64; from loans in all forms, $529,692,460 50. The remainder, $2,257,865 80, was the balance from last year.

TREASURY EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR.

The expenditures during the same period [illegible]

[illegible] and adjust such complaints. This proposition had been made repeatedly by Great Britain, to France, to Spain and to Prussia. It could be done it has been kindly received, but has not yet been formally adopted. I deem it my duty to recommend its appropriation in the case of the [illegible] owners of the Norwegian bark Admiral P. Tordenskiold, which vessel was in May, 1861, [illegible] by the commander of the blockading forces off Charleston from leaving that port with cargo, notwithstanding a charter privilege had shortly before been granted to an English vessel. I have directed the Secretary of State to assemble papers in the case to be communicated to the proper commissioners.

RESIGNATION OF THE MINISTER.

Applications have been made to me by many free Americans of African descent to favor their emigration. While [illegible] declination on this subject, for reasons set [illegible] Congress, others, both in public and private circles, and still others influenced by philanthropic sentiments, have suggested similar measures; while, on the other hand, several of the Spanish American republics have protested against the sending of such colonists to their respective territories. Under these circumstances I have declined to move any such colony to any State without first obtaining the consent of its Government, with an agreement on its part to receive and protect such emigrants in all the rights of freemen; and I have at the same time offered to the several States interested in the subject, or having colonies there, to negotiate with them, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, to favor the voluntary emigration of persons of that class to their respective territories, upon conditions which shall be equal, just and humane. Liberia and Hayti are, as yet, the only countries to which colonists of African descent from here could go with certainty of being received and adopted as citizens; and I regret to say that such persons contemplating colonization do not seem so willing to emigrate to those countries as to any [illegible] more willing as I think their interest demands. I believe, however, the opinion among them in this respect is improving and that ere long there will be an augmented and considerable emigration to both the countries from the United States.

COMMERCIAL TREATIES WITH TURKEY, LIBERIA AND HAYTI.

The new commercial treaty between the United States and the Sultan of Turkey has been carried into execution.

A commercial and consular treaty has been negotiated, subject to the Senate's consent, with Liberia, and a similar negotiation is now pending with the Republic of Hayti. A colonization [illegible] improvement of the national commerce is expected as result from these measures.

OUR RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN AND ASIATIC NATIONS.

Our relations with Great Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Prussia, Russia, Denmark, Sweden and Austria, the Netherlands, Italy, Rome and the other European States remain undisturbed. Very favorable relations also continue to be maintained with Turkey, Morocco, China and Japan.

THE REPUBLICS OF MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.

During the last year there has not only been no change in the condition of our relations with the independent States of our own continent, but more friendly sentiments than have heretofore existed are believed to be entertained by them toward us. Our commerce and progress are so intimately connected with our own that we shall equally participate in whatever favors any of them may offer to the interests of any one of them. This especially applies to Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Peru and Chili. The Commission under the convention with the Republic of New Granada, to which I referred without having assented and passed upon all the claims which were submitted to it. A proposition is pending to revive the convention, that it may be able to do more perfect justice. The Commission between the Republic of Costa Rica and the Republic of Costa Rica has completed its labors and submitted its report.

THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC TELEGRAPH CABLES.

I have favored the project for connecting the United States with Europe by an Atlantic telegraph, and a similar project to extend the telegraph from San Francisco to connect by a Pacific telegraph with the wire which is being extended across the Russian empire.

THE UNITED STATES TERRITORIES AS YET UNDISTURBED BY THE CIVIL WAR—THEIR VALUE.

The territories of the United States, with certain exceptions, have remained undisturbed by the civil war, and they are exhibiting such evidences of prosperity as justifies the expectation that some of them will soon be in a condition to be organized as States, and be constitutionally admitted into the Federal Union. The immense mineral resources of some of these territories ought to be developed as rapidly as possible. Every step in that direction would have a tendency to improve the revenues of the government and diminish the burdens of the people. It is worthy of your serious consideration whether some extraordinary measures to promote that end cannot be adopted. The means which suggests itself as most likely to be effective is a scientific exploration of the mineral regions in those territories, with a view to the publication of its results at home and in foreign countries—results which cannot fail to be auspicious.

THE FINANCES OF THE COUNTRY.

The condition of the finances will claim your most diligent consideration. The vast expenditures incident to the military and naval operations required for the suppression of the rebellion have hitherto been met with a promptitude and certainty unusual in similar circumstances, and this, public credit has been fully maintained. The continuance of the war, however, together with the increased disbursements made necessary by the augmented force now in the field, demand your best attention to the ways and means for providing the necessary revenue without injury to business and with the least possible burthen upon labor.

SPECIE PAYMENTS—CURRENCY.

The suspension of specie payments by the banks soon after the commencement of the last session, made large issues of United States notes unavoidable. In no other way could the payment of the troops and the satisfaction of other just demands be so promptly met, and it was provided for. The judicious legislation of Congress, securing the receivability of these notes for loans and internal duties, and making them a "legal tender" for other debts, has made them a universal currency, and has satisfied, partially at least, and for the time, the long-felt want of a uniform circulating medium, saving thereby to the people immense sums in discounts and exchanges. A return to specie payments, however, at the earliest period compatible with due regard to all interests, should ever be kept in view.

THE PRESIDENT'S FINANCIAL POLICY.

Fluctuations in the value of currency are always injurious, and to reduce them fluctuations to the lowest possible point will always be a leading purpose in wise legislation. Convertibility, prompt and certain convertibility into [illegible] is generally acknowledged to be the best [illegible] against fluctuations. It is extremely [illegible] and [illegible] for the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]