THE DAILY BEE
PUBLISHED DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED) A
[No. 75 Chartres street.

[illegible] Dollars per week, at the rate of Twenty-five Cents for the all numbers, payable to the Carrier.

Daily Bee, one year in Advance.....$12
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[illegible] will also give one weekly copy [illegible] Dollars [illegible] Subscribers to Decembers [illegible] Daily Bee, [illegible] paper through [illegible] of the Subscriber, will be considered as a [illegible] at the office.

NEW ORLEANS:
FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 26, 1862.

New Orleans Bee.

Office, 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 26, 1862. Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXXVI.—Whole No. 12,570.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By McCoren & Landry, at 10 o'clock, at their auction mart, holiday presents; at 11 o'clock, furniture.

By Hanlon & McLean, at 11 o'clock, at No. 80 Common street, coffee.

THE VARIETIES THEATRE.—A crowded house, not inferior in number to that which thronged the Varieties on the opening night, greeted the reproduction of "Dot" last night. There were so many pleasant associations connected with this interesting play, that it was not surprising that the audience should have been as large as it was. The excellent rendition of the various characters by John Owens's talented company, when "Dot" was first presented to a New Orleans audience, caused much speculation as to whether the performance of last night would reach the standard of excellence attained by Owens's company. Whilst we cannot assert that the performance was without its faults, we must admit that the play was as well performed, as a whole, as the first representation usually is. If *Old Tackleton* will better know what he has to say, and will bear in mind that he is a crusty, cynical, hard-hearted *middle-aged* man and not a young Whitefriars rioter in a state of decline, the unity of the play will be better preserved. *Tilly Slowboy* might also amend her manners somewhat and be less volatile. Mr. Rose's *John Peerybingle* was an excellent performance, as was Mr. Baker's *Caleb*. Mrs. Gladstane sustained the character of *Bertha*, the blind girl, with great fidelity throughout, and gave a certain prominence to a character that is in itself but a negative one. Mrs. Baker's "*Dot*" was characterized by much spirit, and she gave a fine personation of the cheery housewife. Mr. Bowers, in his anomalous character of *Tilly Slowboy*, made the audience laugh; and we suppose that that, is a measure, makes up for the paradox. Mrs. Preston was quite at home in her old character of *Mrs. Fielding*. Miss Mafflor looked and acted the *May Fielding* of the play. "Out on a Spree" are to be repeated to-night; and we suppose that, on this second representation, all will go smoothly and "merry as marriage bells."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—A varied and attractive programme is offered at the Academy to-night, and those who desire to spend a pleasant evening could not do better than drop in to see the antics, and hear the side-splitting jokes of the Minstrels.

Attention is called to the sale to be made this day, at noon, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, by the Sheriff, of two valuable lots of ground fronting on Nuns street, Fourth District.

Said Sheriff will sell, also, at half-past four o'clock, P. M., on Miro street, between Carondelet Walk and St. Peter street, Second District, one mule. For particulars and terms see advertisements.

Comments of the Northern Press on the Late Battle.

[From the New York Times, 16th.]

THE BATTLE OF SATURDAY.

The action of Saturday is evidently to be classed with the great battles of the war. The whole of the Richmond Rebel Army seems to have been in the field, though, we are sorry to say, it does not appear that it was opposed by the whole of the "Army of the Potomac." We hardly know of an entlying division of the rebel force in Virginia. All had been gathered in from the Shenandoah Valley and from the country east of the Blue Ridge—they had been brought from Gordonsville, from Richmond and the Peninsula leading up to it, from the regions on the south bank of the James, from the North Carolina coast, and from all the points for a hundred miles around Richmond occupied against the menaces of Union columns. There were very good facilities for this: for though there is not a single line of railroad running into Fredericksburg, yet at the junction forty miles below that place the whole railroad system of the South and West converge. We do not credit the assertions of the telegraph that they had two hundred thousand men on the field; but even a half of that force, posted in such formidable positions as they held, was an army that certainly should not have been met with less than its own strength. Of the rebel Generals, Lee, Jackson, Longstreet and the Hills, appear all to have been on hand.

As to our army, we must suppose that the major part of the three divisions of Gen. Burnside had crossed the Rappahannock before Saturday morning. Our troops had commenced to cross on the afternoon of Thursday, and continued to pour over during that evening and night and during the whole of Friday, when all continued quiet; and on the evening of that day a dispatch was sent to the press which announced that the "main body of the Union army was over the river, the balance being in position to cross at any time." As the battle of Saturday was commenced in the morning by our troops, both on the line of Sumner and Franklin, by their advances on the enemy's works, it must be supposed everything was gotten ready for the assault, which implies a knowledge of the rebel numbers and position. Yet a semi-official Washington dispatch this morning states that it is believed (in official circles, we suppose) that not over forty thousand of our troops were engaged. This is probably as far from the truth as the estimate from the same quarter of the enemy's numbers; but still it does not appear that the assault was made with anything like the force we had been assured was within Burnside's grasp. From a careful reading of the dispatches, and from the list of officers killed and wounded, it would appear as if only our centre and left Grand Divisions (those of Sumner and Franklin) were engaged. Gen. Hooker, on the right wing, does not seem to have participated in the fight. Gen. Sigel, who, we were told, with his Reserve Grand Division, had arrived on the Rappahannock some days ago, was not evidently not on hand. And several other heavy detailed columns from the North and from before Washington, which marched in the early part of the week, to take a hand in the struggle, which, it was believed, would be both great and decisive, were not at Fredericksburg on Saturday. Besides these forces, we had been assured that a vast mass of troops had been gathered at points to the southward of the rebel capital, which were to make a co-operating assault somewhere on the enemy's rear, simultaneously with Burnside's assault on their front. This programme, which was evidently large, comprehensive and promising, if it had an existence anywhere outside the brains of strategic newspapers, was not carried out; and the fact that though our side had the choice of the moment of the assault, there was such an insignificant part of it attempted or executed, and that a mere moiety of our army were in the action, looks as if it were no part of the plans of Gen. Halleck.

It is highly probable, however, we think, that Gen. Burnside began the operation of Saturday for a reason which, as yet, does not appear, and that it was only *preliminary* to the combined movement which upon the rebel army, which we still believe to be executed. With the Grand Division of Gen. Hooker, with the Grand Division of Gen. Sigel—with the Harper's Ferry garrison and the column from Washington, joining the two divisions which fought so valiantly Saturday—one of them twice assaulting the enemy's works, and at least holding the ground on which it fought, and the other driving the rebel right wing a mile and a half before it—with his army of Saturday thus more than doubled, (which it probably is this morning) Burnside will make an attempt to complete the work in hand, and which cannot wisely be delayed. But if, as we still earnestly hope, in him to whose various forces, there be really an army gathering on the south of Richmond—Petersburg, and if their co-operation has been made with Burnside's advance, we have yet the end of the year, see the campaign with so auspiciously inaugurated by the Rappahannock on Thursday last, as to be less suspicious ones.

A most obvious reason in fighting an enemy strongly intrenched would be to turn his position by a flank movement, and so compel him to leave his ground to protect his communications. This, we suppose, is what Gen. Burnside intended in commencing his attack, not on the main position of the rebels but on their right, where they had not so great advantages of ground. Although General Franklin gained some ground, it became evident toward noon, that the flank movement would not succeed, and that hour Generals Meade and Gibbon, who had fought on the left, since morning, were relieved by Generals Sumner and Doubleday, and General Newton's division was sent round to support the left, when the firing slacked on that part of the field. This necessity of strengthening the left after several hours fierce fighting, and the lull in that quarter when it had been strengthened, would seem to indicate that the reinforcement of the left was merely holding our ground on that side.

The tenor of the reports which we publish this morning will see that it was about this time (noon) that the order was given to charge up the hill against the main position of the rebels. The natural inference is that there was no longer any immediate hope of turning this position, and an attempt was made to carry it by main strength in a bold assault. That it failed, Gen. Burnside became convinced at noon that he was obliged to accept the disadvantage resulting from the enemy's superiority of ground, and felt to be his duty to hazard the sacrifice of men necessary for storming the rebel intrenchments. The attempt, though made with vigor and renewed with spirit, did not succeed; the subsequent fighting, continued during the day, was rather an exhibition of unbroken courage than an operation expected to be followed by material advantage.

The rebels strengthened their works yesterday, and there would appear to be some evidence that they had brought up more men than they had on the ground on Saturday. They have gained no other advantage than that of simply holding their position, and have evidently no intention to relinquish it and give battle on more equal terms. Gen. Burnside is accordingly in no danger; he can retreat his own time for renewing the attack. The rebels, though they cannot retreat without dishonor, probably count on breaking the spirit of his army by repeated repulses from their strongholds, where they incur comparatively little danger, and completing the work by routing him and driving him into the river when he is sufficiently weakened. We take it for granted that the Government has made dispositions for diversions to take place simultaneously with this attack on Gen. Lee's army at Fredericksburg. If the whole army can be detained there while these other movements are executed, the apparently fruitless fighting of Saturday may be instrumental in achieving important results. If Gen. Sigel, for example, has been ordered to a position from which he could have intercepted and cut off Lee's retreat if he had been beaten, he may avail himself of the same advantage by getting a long way in the rebel rear and hasten to Richmond to co-operate with a force sent by the water route. If there are any such contemplated movements military reasons have prevented their disclosure, and the public will first learn of them by their results. A more practicable enterprise, considering our superiority in numbers, would seem to be to cut the rebel communications and compel the enemy to fight on equal ground under peril of starvation. The resources of military strategy ought to find some less expensive way of dislodging him than dashing our army to pieces against a position of nearly impregnable strength.

[From the New York World of the 15th.]

SATURDAY'S BATTLE AT FREDERICKSBURG.

The great battle fought without other result than heavy losses in killed and wounded on Saturday, and not renewed yesterday, reflects like all the battles of the war except the first—the highest credit on the bravery of the Union soldiers. The main position of the rebels is behind works on a range of hills in the rear of Fredericksburg. It became evident about noon that the rebels were so strongly posted that they could be dislodged only by a charge of infantry, which should drive them back or seize their guns. General French's division, supported by General Howard's, made a gallant advance for this purpose; on a brisk run, at ten minutes before 12; but no sooner had they come within musket range than the enemy, under cover of a stone wall, poured into them a murderous fire, before which probably no troops in the world could have continued to advance. They recoiled before the leaden tempest, and fell back a short distance into a small ravine, but still out of range of the enemy's musketry. The movement this was observed, a fresh body of troops was sent to their support. Advancing with brilliant courage at a double quick, they attempted to charge the rebels, and drive them from their hiding places at the point of the bayonet. But the strength of the rebel position was too great for any bravery to succeed against it. The concentrated fire of their artillery and musketry made such frightful havoc in the ranks of our men that they reeled, and fell back in disorder. They were rallied, however, and brought off the ground, but no other attempt was made to storm the enemy's works during the day, although the firing was kept up till interrupted by darkness.

Gen. Franklin, who commanded our left, and opened the battle in the morning, is represented to have gained some ground, but it does not appear, from the description given of the position of the troops at nightfall, that he won any important advantage as the consequence of the day's hard fighting. The losses are represented to be heavy, and are probably greater on our side than on that of the rebels, whose most galling and destructive fire was poured into our ranks from sheltered positions, while our men were fully exposed.

What we yet know of the operations at Fredericksburg, is calculated to inspire as much apprehension as hope. The comparatively feeble resistance offered by the rebels to the crossing of the Rappahannock betokened a willingness to give battle, and a confidence that they could interpose a stronger barrier than the river to Gen. Burnside's progress. Lee invited battle because the long delay before Fredericksburg had given him time to concentrate his whole army at that point, and because, acting on the defensive, he could not be compelled to fight except in a strong position of his own choosing. Whether he gave battle at Fredericksburg or at some point in Burnside's advance nearer Richmond, there was every antecedent probability that he would fight with sufficient superiority of ground to counterbalance considerable superiority of numbers on our side. He seems to have found this favorable position immediately in the rear of Fredericksburg, and the unsuccessful attempt to dislodge him from it on Saturday proves it to have been well selected.

[From the New York Journal of Commerce, 16th.]

THE POSITION.

The news from the army is little more than what it was yesterday, and we wait with great anxiety the further operations of General Burnside. We are not successful on Saturday. That is too evident. It cannot be doubted that the enemy will use every hour to strengthen their position, and increase their forces. That they are on the ground they have chosen for the battle of the war, would seem to be evident. There was no necessity on the part of General Lee to remain and fight at Fredericksburg, in preference to that nearer his base of supplies, and there were reasons which would operate to induce him to fall back and await our attack somewhat nearer to Richmond. But he has had time for his forces to cross the Rappahannock, and seems waiting on the hills for the renewal of the unsuccessful attack of Saturday last. Meantime we look earnestly for some indication that our commanders have other movements on foot designed to co-operate with the army. It can hardly be possible that the Washington authorities have ordered the army to cross the Rappahannock and attack an enemy who has been for two weeks intrenching himself on the heights, are only a mile from the river, unless they had some other movement on foot designed to flank the enemy, or to draw him from this chosen position.

It seems beyond question, that if the pontoons for bridges had been at their proper place when Burnside arrived at Falmouth, he would have had no difficulty in crossing and occupying the very hills now in the possession of the rebel army. Thus a culpable neglect on the part of some one has prevented the immediate success of Burnside's advance, and brought on a great battle under exceedingly disadvantageous circumstances. We cannot imagine, however, that nothing has been done to repair this neglect. The whole fate of the campaign being changed by the delay in crossing the river, it must be that the wisdom of those in charge has provided the means to make the crossing at last of some effect.

[From the N. Y. Evening Post of the 16th.]

THE REPORTS OF THE LATE BATTLE.

Who is it that prepares and supervises the telegraphic reports from the seat of war sent to the press? Whoever he be, we can assure him that he does his work very imperfectly or very knavishly. He either does not know the truth, or does not care to tell it to the public. Take the reports given us, for instance, of the late movement upon the rebel line of defense beyond Fredericksburg; who could gather from them whether it had been a reconnoissance in force or a general assault, and whether we had been repulsed in it, or successful?

The general impression conveyed was, that only parts of two divisions had been engaged, that one of them, Franklin's, was entirely successful, but that the other, Sumner's, was temporarily driven back. We had taken the prisoners, and we held the ground at night which we fought over during the day. It now turns out, by the more authentic accounts of the newspaper correspondents, that the engagement was a great and general battle, in which all the divisions were more or less engaged, and in which we failed entirely of accomplishing our object. The rebel lines were not carried, and our troops returned to the houses and cellars of Fredericksburg.

What the people demand and need is a frank, full and explicit statement of the results of every action. If these results cannot be obtained in the confusion of a battle-field, tell us so; tell us that the reports forwarded are a mere hasty gathering up of rumors; if we have lost the day, say it openly that we have lost the day; and when we have achieved the victory, let that fact be announced without exaggeration or vainglory. But these attempts to conceal failures, to varnish over defects, to extract gleams of success out of route, are slaughtered and wicked impositions. It has more or less characterized the entire history of the war. At the close of every battle we are instantly excited by flaming bulletins of success, and we go to bed dreaming of flags of triumph, and triumphal processions; but when we wake up the next morning, and the sobrer reports come, we find that we have been severely beaten. This was the case at Bull Run, at Hall's Bluff, at Great Bethel, on the Chickahominy, in Pope's campaign, and now in the beginning of Burnside's.

As it is generally understood that these war bulletins pass under the eye of the government censor, of course the government gets the blame for the miserable manner in which they are managed. It should either see to it that they are correct, or cease its interference altogether.

The Great Conflict.

We copy the following from the *National Intelligencer* of the 15th inst.:

* * *

The accounts which have reached us from the scene of this sanguinary conflict come down to 11 o'clock yesterday morning; and, having been prepared for the Associated Press from authentic information, we entertain no doubt of their entire reliability.

We learn from them, generally, that a terrific battle had raged on Saturday, from morning to night, during which the Union troops had repeatedly attacked the enemy in his entrenched position, with heroic but unsuccessful valor, being received with such showers of fire from the hostile batteries and rifle-pits as finally to compel our brave battalions to recoil, with severe loss in killed and wounded. It seems the misfortune of our armies often to fight the enemy in his own chosen and strong positions. But the general result of the struggle of Saturday, taking in the idea of battle on the whole field, seemed, according to the dispatches, to favor the Union arms.

The engagement, contrary to what appears to have been the general expectation, was not renewed yesterday. The enemy was occupied in extending and strengthening his works, and our army was taking care of its wounded and burying each of its dead as could be recovered from the battle-field. Gen. Burnside was reinforced during the course of the day by the arrival of Gen. Sigel's corps. He unquestionably had good reasons for delaying another attack upon the enemy's lines.

In the absence of any dispatches last evening, either to the Press or the Government, we infer that nothing of importance had occurred.

* * *

It is currently reported in the German journals that Prince Hohenlohe, son-in-law of the Elector of Hesse, has fled to America, leaving behind him wife and child, as well as a large number of heavy debts. The Prince has been ruined by speculation and extravagance; and bought large estates and other property without the possibility of paying for them. A composition of twenty-five per cent, it is said, will be paid by his representatives.

The New York *World* of the 16th contains full extracts from late copies of the Richmond papers, which we copy below:

The Military Situation in the West.

[From the Richmond Enquirer, Dec. 16.]

The last accounts from Tennessee represent that our soldiers have ample supplies, while Rosencranz is so situated that he must either fight or starve. If he chooses not to risk the fortune of war in the field, he stands a good chance to starve for five brigades of splendid Confederate cavalry under Morgan, Wheeler, Wharton, Forrest, and Pegram limit his forage, the field to within a few miles of his stronghold at Nashville. Unless the rivers rise shortly, Rosencrans must fight or adopt the most desperate alternative. The Yankee papers tell us that he is rebuilding the railroad to Knoxville, and will not move until he has secured that transit for his supplies. But they do not tell us that Gen. Bragg's troopers are cutting the road faster than Rosencrans repairs it.

In Mississippi recent movements indicate the approach of a crisis. It has already been announced on the faith of a general rumor, that the Mississippi expedition, under the command of the Federal Gen. Hovey, had reached Friar's Point, fifteen thousand strong, with pontoon bridges, a large force of cavalry, and nineteen pieces of artillery. It has also been recently reported by telegraph that the main force of the enemy has advanced within about twenty miles of Columbus, Mississippi. It is stated that the most costly works outside Richmond was constructed at this place. It is not improbable that Columbus may attract the attention of Gen. Grant quite as much as Vicksburg. It is a city with not less than fifteen thousand inhabitants situated in the midst of the richest cotton plantations of the South. The fact is undeniable, an army cannot move more than a mile per day through the prairie lands, which, beginning about Pontotoc, extend south one hundred miles. Our cavalry, and the people will certainly destroy the Mobile and Ohio Railroad; and if it is Gen. Grant's design to co-operate with the great naval force now off Mobile, as well as Porter's fleet against Vicksburg, he will have to make a long march through a country in which he will find no friends between him and the seacoast.

So far the enemy has managed the Western campaign very ably, and, in fact, has entirely out-generaled us in the West, as we have outgeneraled him in the East. The assignment, however, of Gen. Johnston to the Western Department affords the prospect of some early and brilliant action in these distant theatres of the war. His command includes Gen. Pemberton's district, to which he is doubtless have a careful eye. We do not know what force General Johnston has in his command; but, if he is not deficient in force, it is impossible that powerful diversions, for the purpose of relieving General Pemberton and Price might be made, which, if successful, might turn the scale and open the next Spring campaign in Missouri and on the banks of the Ohio.

The Fight at Fredericksburg—Awful Responsibility of the War Department.

[From the New York Herald of the 16th.]

The news which we published yesterday and publish to-day from the Rappahannock is highly cheering to our able generals and gallant troops, but far from honorable to the War Department or hopeful for the country. With brilliant deeds of arms, and with the most terrible fighting, the enemy is still in possession of his stronghold, and we have failed to dislodge him. Burnside has done all that a skillful commander could do, the subordinate officers have acquitted themselves like heroes, and the rank and file of our army have fought with an obstinacy and determination almost without a parallel in the history of war. Yet, from the advantages possessed by the enemy, he remains upon his works, has been unsuccessful, and thousands of braves have fallen in vain. The truth may as well be told; we have fought at every that ever trod the earth, possessing superior numbers, large and small, and with all the appliances and resources of war at command, has suffered a decided repulse at the hands of a half naked, half starved, half armed foe.

The easy crossing of the river on Thursday was a suspicious circumstance, which the subsequent events have only too well explained. The Confederate Commander-in-Chief saw the advantage of the position which the authorities at Washington threw into his hands, and he made good use of the opportunity. This route to Richmond was the very one by which the insurgent chiefs desired our Government to select. It abounds with natural difficulties, and the War Department has permitted the enemy to add to many artificial obstructions that the campaign in Virginia is likely to prove a fearful one.

The story of this campaign is the story of the Chickahominy, Harrison's Landing and Antietam repeated. Blunders and movements were deliberately and pertinaciously withheld from Generals McClellan previous to the seven days' battles before Richmond, which reinforcements would have placed him in possession of that city in a few days and saved thousands of lives. The same is true of the unsuccessful attack of Saturday last. Meantime we look earnestly for some indication that our commanders have other movements on foot designed to co-operate with Burnside. It is hardly possible that the Washington authorities have ordered the army to cross the Rappahannock and attack an enemy who has been for two weeks intrenching himself on the heights, are only a mile from the river, unless they had some other movement on foot designed to flank the enemy, or to draw him from this chosen position.

It seems beyond question, that if the pontoons for bridges had been at their proper place when Burnside arrived at Falmouth, he would have had no difficulty in crossing and occupying the very hills now in the possession of the rebel army. Thus a culpable neglect on the part of some one has prevented the immediate success of Burnside's advance, and brought on a great battle under exceedingly disadvantageous circumstances. We cannot imagine, however, that nothing has been done to repair this neglect. The whole fate of the campaign being changed by the delay in crossing the river, it must be that the wisdom of those in charge has provided the means to make the crossing at last of some effect.

The Richmond papers of the 16th contains the following, upon an item of news of which we had been advised by Southern papers:

Washington, Monday, December 15, 1862.—On Wednesday evening our gunboats at Port Royal, about twenty-seven miles from Fredericksburg, were fired into by a rebel battery from the shore, supposed to number twenty heavy guns.

One of the rebel shots struck a coal schooner, wounding Capt. Simmons, who has since died.

Another shot struck the Corvinack on the larboard side, pushing into the engine-room and wounding H. F. Smith, of Rhode Island, who has since died; also wounding Jeremiah Daily dangerously, and two others slightly.

The firing was very rapid, and continued until sundown, when the rebel batteries were silenced.

Two schooners at the commencement of the fight were lying directly in range of the rebel batteries on the shore, but were brought off safely by the Tenser.

Our gunboats lay off the shore until morning, when they again opened upon the rebel battery, but met with no response.

Newspapers, War and Taxes.

One of the direct fruits of the rebellion and the war has been the enormous increase in the price of the paper upon which newspapers are printed. It has advanced in price over one hundred per cent during the last twelve months, with every indication of a still farther rise. This has added largely to the expense of conducting a newspaper, which, taken in connection with the taxes on advertisements, taxes on telegraphic dispatches, taxes on the receipts, as well as all kinds of material used, will have a wonderful effect upon the press throughout the North, causing an enormous amount of mortality among them.

To the abolition agitating journals, like the *Tribune*, *Independent*, and other incendiary sheets, which have been instrumental in bringing upon us the rebellion and the war, by their incendiarism, agitating and dictatorial course in reference to the institutions of the South, are now reaping their reward. No other class of journals are affected by the state of affairs or feel it as much as the abolition sheets. They have sown their seed, and are now reaping their harvest in an enormous increase in the prices of the materials for their papers, loss of circulation and advertisements, and heavy taxes. In order to avoid the destruction of which they are raising the price of their papers, and hope thereby to eke out their miserable existence. But this will not save them. It may prolong their existence for a short time, but sooner or later they must yield to the just and righteous punishment that awaits them for their incendiary course, and disappear from our midst, to be remembered only by those who have been led astray by their pernicious teachings.

[*N Y Herald.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, NEW ORLEANS, December 24, 1862.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 117.

I. Owing to the necessities of the service and to preserve the reputation of the Army, all Horses, Mules, Wagons, Carts and other means of transportation in the possession of officers, soldiers or employes of the Government, at the city and thoroughfares of the Department, will be delivered to the Chief Quartermaster or Chiefs of Bureaus of this department as he may designate Horses, Wagons, Carts, etc., which have been purchased in the State by such parties, are to be reported and receipted at the Office of the Chief Quartermaster. A certified copy of the bill of sale, giving the date, price of purchase, from whom bought and a description of the property, will be deposited at the same place. Officers entitled to Horses, and having them in possession, as above stated, may retain them in service and pay for by getting proper authority as to do.

II. Commanding Officers will see that Quartermasters and other Military Agents of the Government, at their respective stations, are not imposed on. Every violation or evasion of it will be reported to the Chief Quartermaster.

III. The Chief Quartermaster will cause all seized or confiscated Houses not assigned by his authority, to be delivered, without delay, Engineers or others may be provided with quarters near their Regiments.

IV. All General and Staff Officers, regularly assigned to carry out the foregoing, will report to Chief Quarters and find, provided, and not found in kind, and quarters, or to place a guard or a confiscated house, or other buildings required for the Government.

V. All Houses, irregularly held, occupied or confiscated, will be assigned by the Chief Quartermaster, who will, as far as practicable, deliver them to proper disposition, to be held by them subject to the future disposition of the Government. The Provost Marshal will give any assistance necessary to carry out this order.

By command of

MAJOR-GENERAL BANKS.

RICHARD B. IRWIN, Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSARY, DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, New Orleans, La., Dec. 24, 1862.

Persons loyal to the United States and desirous of furnishing fresh beef or beef cattle for the Army, or any of the posts or stations in this Department, are requested to call at this office, on Thursday, 25th inst., at 10 o'clock, prepared to bid, in writing, giving quantity, price, and time and place of delivery and price. No proposals will be received, or considered, unless made in writing. Bids should be marked "Beef Proposals."

C. W. SCEWCHUTH, Col., C. S.

At a meeting held at Polar Star Lodge, No. 46 [illegible], on Monday, December 22, at 7 o'clock, P. M., it was the sense of the members of this city to form an Association for the purpose of stopping the sale of intoxicating drinks, beer, &c., in and around the markets of this city, which is now a public nuisance. Mr Birger was appointed to the chair, and Mr Lemle appointed to act as secretary. After making the necessary preamble, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

J. H. SINGER, President.
S. BONNAFFON, Vice-President.
J. SCHIAL, Treasurer.
CHAS. SANDAR, Secretary.

The following resolutions were then adopted:

On motion of Mr Meth, that all persons who are members of this Association, and amended by Mr Marcus that each member pay the sum of one dollar, and that a committee of two be appointed from each District to obtain the signatures of merchants who[illegible] to join us, the following gentlemen were then appointed to visit the merchants in their different Districts:

Messrs. Bernard Bonnafon, First and Fourth. Richmond and Pumphrey, Second. Schaffer and Myers, Third.

On motion of Mr Berger, a committee of three, Messrs. Frederick, Corgan and Berger, were appointed to engage an honest lawyer to petition the proper authorities for the aforementioned purpose.

On motion, it was then voted to publish the above proceedings in the city papers.

On motion of Mr. Berger, the meeting was adjourned until half-past 8 P. M. MONDAY, December 29, 1862, at Polar Star Lodge, No. 46, Carondelet street.

We would request all stockholders to attend.

J. H. SINGER, President.
CHAS. SANDAR, Secretary. dec24 4t

Exchange.

ON PARIS AND BORDEAUX, for sale by OSCAR BERCIER & CO., 77 Tchoupitoulas street.

For Baton Rouge.

THE regular packet boat "EMPIRE PARISH" L. Bouck, Master, leaves New Orleans every SUNDAY MORNING at 8 A. M., and every WEDNESDAY at 3 P. M. Returning, leaves Baton Rouge every MONDAY at 8 A. M., and every THURSDAY at 12 M. Freight and passage low. For freight or passage apply on board.
dec25 1t WM. J. REID, 33 Magazine street.

Eggs! Eggs! For Sale.

20 BARRELS EGGS, guaranteed fresh, just received and for sale by J. AUGE,
dec25 3t No 12 POYDRAS STREET.

The Shelling of Fort Royal.

[From the Richmond Enquirer, Dec 24.]

On Thursday evening last our batteries, stationed both above and below the town, opened fire on the gunboats, which were anchored in the stream just opposite, consisting of the Freeborn, the Anacosta, Penguin, Yankee and Resolute.

The firing lasted about an hour and a half, and was very rapid. During the bombardment eleven houses were struck—four of which were completely riddled, and were, of any thing, the best in the village, being the residences of Dr. Urquhart, Mrs. Lucy Thornton, R. H. Pendleton and Mrs. Parker. No one was hurt, though grape was fired upon the women and children as they were leaving the town. It is proper to say that no notification was given by the Abolitionists of their intention to shell. After the bombardment they dropped down the stream some seven miles. It is thought the gunboats were struck several times.

The people of the town are now scattered, like those of Fredericksburg, in the farm houses and cabins of the adjacent country. During the night many of the women and children, who had been driven out, had no other shelter than the woods.

Interesting from Washington.

The correspondent of the New York *World* writes from Washington under date of the 15th as follows:

ATTORNEY-GENERAL BATES ON THE RIGHTS OF NEGROES.

A highly important official paper, it is believed, will soon make its appearance, Attorney-General Bates having completed his opinion on the Federal citizenship of the negro, claiming that he is entitled to certain privileges and immunities, such as passports, clearances to vessels, and, in fact, all rights guaranteed to white persons, under the Constitution of the United States, as distinguished by the laws of the States of the Union. A long review of the Dred Scott decision is made, with a special argument against it. As representing the policy of the Administration on so important a question it is one of the most important documents ever issued. It was called forth by an application made to Secretary Chase by a colored person for a clearance to a vessel from the port of New York.

MAURY GOING TO RUSSIA.—The *Journal of Commerce* of the 15th publishes the following paragraph:

The Liverpool *Mercury*, special organ of the secessionists in England, announces the arrival of Matthew F. Maury, whose departure from Halifax was reported some days since by a correspondent of the *Evening Post*. Maury goes as rebel Commissioner to Russia. The *Mercury* says:

Commander Maury has notice of important and favorable news from Russia, (serously, local winds, etc.,) arrived at this port from Southampton on Sunday, in the steamship Arabia. We understand that he will proceed to St. Petersburg as Commissioner from the Confederate States to Russia. Several months since Commander Maury published a letter on the secession question, which evinced much ability and keen perception. His devotion to the Southern cause may be estimated from the fact that when the war broke out he resigned all the valuable appointments which he held under the United States Government and joined the Confederate.

ANOTHER POLITICAL PRISONER DISCHARGED. John Sassendorf, a naturalized Prussian, who was arrested some months since, while attempting to go from Baltimore to Richmond, and sent to Fort Warren, afterwards became insane, and was placed in the State Lunatic Asylum. He has recovered his sanity, and on Monday was discharged from that institution.

[*Boston Herald.*

Gunboat Fight Twenty-seven Miles from Fredericksburg!

The New York *Tribune* of the 16th contains the following, upon an item of news of which we had been advised by Southern papers:

Washington, Monday, December 15, 1862.—On Wednesday evening our gunboats at Port Royal, about twenty-seven miles from Fredericksburg, were fired into by a rebel battery from the shore, supposed to number twenty heavy guns.

One of the rebel shots struck a coal schooner, wounding Capt. Simmons, who has since died.

Another shot struck the Corvinack on the larboard side, pushing into the engine-room and wounding H. F. Smith, of Rhode Island, who has since died; also wounding Jeremiah Daily dangerously, and two others slightly.

The firing was very rapid, and continued until sundown, when the rebel batteries were silenced.

Two schooners at the commencement of the fight were lying directly in range of the rebel batteries on the shore, but were brought off safely by the Tenser.

Our gunboats lay off the shore until morning, when they again opened upon the rebel battery, but met with no response.

AMUSEMENTS.

VARIETIES THEATRE, GRAVIER STREET.
STAGE MANAGER.....LEWIS BAKER.
THE FOLLOWING
GREAT CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
Will be presented on
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY EVENINGS, December 25 and 26, 1862.
The performances will commence with the new and INTENSELY INTERESTING DRAMA, adapted by W. S. Burton, from Dickens's famous Christmas Carol of "THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH," entitled
DOT,
or
The Cricket on the Hearth.
This FAIRY HOMEBIRD DRAMA combines in its representation, beauty of
DOMESTIC INTEREST and COMIC HUMOR,
Aided by Beautiful Scenery, Magic Transformations, Startling Effects, Characteristic Music, and a Remarkable Cast of Characters.
Dot, (the little wife).....Mr. Byer.
Dot, (the little wife).....Mrs. Alexina Fisher Baker.
(in which she will sing "Lilly Dale" and "Dreaming my Joe.")
Caleb Plummer, (a toy maker).....Mr. Lewis Baker.
Bertha, (the blind daughter).....Mrs. W. C. Gladstane.
Edward Plummer, (his son).....Mr. Rand.
Tilly Slowboy, { A charity girl who takes care of the blind—if it's convenient.....Mr. Bowers
Mrs. Fielding, { Rather uncomfortable in one in consequence of certain indelicate trade.....Mrs. Preston.
Mrs. Fielding (Edwin's mother).....Miss Sefton.
Tackleton, (a toy merchant, Caleb's master).....Mr. Pratt.
Fairies of the Old School proud of their nobility, but not above complaint—Queen, Mrs. Preston; Thanda, Miss Sefton; Fairy, Miss Grelling.
Latter Day Fairies.
Strong, hard-working, useful little things not at all proud—Queen, Mrs. McClosky; Kettle, Miss Schoolcraft; The Original, Mrs. Chalpendale.
To conclude with the laughable farce,
OUT ON A SPREE.
Bolt, Mr Baker; Mizzle, Mr. Vining Bowers.
NOTICE—After this date, no reserved seats will be sold at night after the doors are opened. Persons desiring a private box can secure it at any time during the entire charge, by applying at the Box Office during the day, from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.
Comfortable great comedy, HIS STOOPS TO CONQUER.
The Theatre will be kept comfortably warm. d25

ACADEMY OF MUSIC,
ST. CHARLES STREET.
SPALDING & ROGERS.....Proprietors.
GREAT HOLIDAY BILL,
Two Grand Performances on New Year's Day—Noon, at 3 and Evening.
THIS (FRIDAY EVENING, Dec 26, 1862—
BEFREE'S OPERA'S, New Orleans and Metropolitan Minstrels in Great Brass Band, in their unrivaled Ethiopian Entertainments, introducing the Operatic Exposition Travestie Extravaganza—Robinson a Hombug—Storm Gallop—Dizzity and Impudence—Double Perplexed—Stump Speech—Mr. Wetzlin's Fiddle—Mr. Bernard Carbonado with the Negro Holiday Festival.
SATURDAY NOON, at 12 o'clock
Children and Servants admitted at all the noon performances for 25 cents.
Admission, evening, 50 cents. Colored Gallery, 25 cents.
Doors open at 6½ o'clock; to commence at 7½. dec26 CHAS. H. DUFRIZ, Manager.

For Sale.

Lancashire Coal at $1 50 per barrel.

NOW delivering from the Levee, in lots of Ten Barrels and upwards, in the First, Second and Fourth Districts of the City, this excellent Coal at One Dollar and Fifty Cents per Barrel.

Orders supplied from the Levee at a reduction from the above rates.

Also, VIRGINIA CANNEL AND PITTSBURG COAL.

All orders will receive prompt attention.

C. H. MILTENBERGER, Coal Merchant, No. 57 Camp st.

Important to Sugar Planters.

THE undersigned has received the sole agency of LIME for sale. Terms $15 per barrel, cash on delivery, subject to a small discount.
dec21 1m BRYDEN and CHESNUT, 102 Gravier st.

Union Bank of Louisiana.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec 23, 1862.

THIS Bank will be closed on CHRISTMAS, 25th inst., and the following Tuesday.
dec25 1t J. PERRET, Cashier.

Bank of Louisiana.

New Orleans, 26th December, 1862.

THIS BANK will be closed on Christmas and on the 2nd January next.

The Board will meet on the 29th and 31st instant, and 7th January next.

AUGUST MONTREUIL, Cashier.
dec 25

Louisiana State Bank.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 22, 1862.

THIS BANK will be closed on the 25th inst., 1st and 2d of January next.
dec24 L. BERNARD, Cashier.

State Tax Collector's Office Second District.

Office, corner St. Peter and Chartres sts.

NOTICE is hereby given to all State Licensee Payers (other than those of Class 1, Schedule A, Tax Act, for the year 1862, to call at this office from the 20th inst. to the 31st inst., inclusive, if not paid on or before the second Monday in January next, when the Collector will be in his office to receive the State Tax.

W. W. CAMPBELL,
State Tax Collector, Second District.
New Orleans, December 20, 1862. dec23 1w

1000 BBLS. Superfine FLOUR, 50 do Extra do, 20 Hhds. Clear Sides, Lard, Brooms, &c., &c. For sale by OSCAR BERCIER & CO., 77 Tchoupitoulas st.

Just Received,

In store and for sale, a carefully selected lot of Prime Old Rye WHISKY.
Pure Scotch do.
Superior Bourbon do.
Fine Otard BRANDY—in ½ casks.
Pure Jamaica RUM.
ALCOHOL.
Champagne CIDER—in barrels.
BROTT, DAVIS & SHORB, 24, 26 and 28 New Levee street, corner Gravier.

Direct Importation OF TOYS AND FANCY GOODS, AT NO. 16 CHARTRES STREET