THE DAILY BEE
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NEW ORLEANS:
MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 29, 1862.

New Orleans Bee.

Office, 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 29, 1862. Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXXVI.—Whole No 12,572.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By R. Scott, at 10½ o'clock, at post No. 20, First Dist. brick cabins, beds, tumblers, &c., &c.

By McCoven & Landry, at 11 o'clock, at their auction mart, contents of a private dwelling.

By R. T. Montgomery, at 11½ o'clock, on Camp street, No. 93, flour, oats, coffee, whisky, wines, Fulton market beef, &c.

By D. W. C. Farrington, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at the corner of Camp and Common streets, sugar and molasses.

By the Sheriff, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, a lot of ground in the Second District.

ARRIVAL OF THE MARION.—This favorite packet, Capt. Johnston, and J. A. Phillips, purser, made her last trip to this city in six days and twenty hours. This, if our memory serves us, is the shortest time made, even in the days of the Bienville and De Soto, and other fleet packets, trading between the two ports.

Mr. J. A. Phillips, the obliging purser of the steamer Marion, will please accept our thanks for favors.

DR. STOLLE'S ARCANUM.—The celebrated chemical preparation known under the name of Stolle's Arcanum, prevents the cane juice from becoming sour and molasses from fermenting. It is for sale at No. 55 Bourbon street. Planters will find it to their interest to try the arcanum. It may save them money.

OFFICE OF COLLECTOR OF TAXES.—Mr. Campbell, collector of the State taxes for the Second District, has removed his office to No. 9 St. Peter street, between Chartres and New Levee, Pontalba Buildings.

THE COURTS.—The District Courts have all adjourned for the holidays, the Second to the 9th prox., and the Third and Sixth to the 13th prox. The Fifth will be opened after the holidays, and be attended by the Judges of the other Courts alternately.

DESIRABLE FAMILY RESIDENCE IN THE SECOND DISTRICT AT AUCTION BY THE SHERIFF.—Particular 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 the parish of Orleans, of a cottage brick house and a two-story brick kitchen, &c., all slate-roofed, situate on Burgundy street, between Conti and St. Louis, Second District. See advertisement.

R. T. Montgomery will make this day, (Monday) the 29th inst., at half-past 11 o'clock, at the spacious store, 93 Camp street, an important and peremptory sale of extra family flour, choice oats, whisky, prime Rio coffee, oil, claret, sherry and champagne wines, London porter, and a large and choice assortment of groceries, all of excellent quality and worthy the attendance of grocers, bakers and dealers in produce.

The attention of dealers in meat is called to the peremptory sale of 108 half barrels Fulton Market beef, which takes place this day, at 11½ o'clock, at store no No. 93 Camp street, by R. T. Montgomery. See advertisement.

Mr. D. W. C. Farrington sells this morning, at 10 o'clock, at office corner Camp and Common streets, 108 hogsheads sugar and 288 barrels molasses. Terms cash in Treasury notes.

McCerren & Landry sell at auction to day, at 11 o'clock, at their mart, the furniture of a private dwelling, and a lot of winter clothing.

Later from the North.

By the arrival of the steamship Marion in our port, yesterday morning, we have Northern intelligence to the 26th instant, being four days later news than that brought by the Creole.

Interesting from Washington.

The Washington correspondent of the New-York *Herald*, writes as follows from Washington under date of the 19th inst:

REPORTED RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY SEWARD

The *Star* of to-day says that Secretary Seward has resigned.

EFFECT OF THE RECENT DISASTER AT FREDERICKSBURG—REPORTED RESIGNATION OF GEN. BURNSIDE, ETC.

The excitement caused by the recent disaster to our army at Fredericksburg grows deeper and more intense almost every hour. Not a word of censure is heard against General Burnside; but it is believed that the failure is attributable entirely to the higher military authorities, and the demand for a change in the military officers of the administration is almost universal. It is not supposed that Mr. Lincoln will throw the mantle of his honesty over the authors of this last misfortune, nor is it believed that he participates in the error that were committed any further than forbearing to remove from office those who have brought it about. The causes of this sad result are so potent that the most ordinary intelligence cannot fail to perceive them, and much astonishment is expressed everywhere, without reference to political affiliation or partisan proclivities, that the President does not, without hesitation, dismiss from his Cabinet and his councils, the Secretary and the General-in-Chief, under whose administration of army matters there has been only a series of lamentable disasters.

It was stated last evening, upon very high and reliable authority, that General Burnside has resigned the command of the Army of the Potomac.

Secretary Seward has determined not to remain in the Cabinet unless Messrs. Stanton and Halleck should be dismissed.

GEN. M'CLELLAN'S MOVEMENTS.

A letter from General McClellan of day before yesterday, in which he mentions nothing of being ordered to Washington, is regarded as a refutation of any rumors concerning the General's presence in this city, or the probabilities of his coming as a witness in either the Porter or McDowell courts.

EXCHANGE OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS OF WAR.

The Secretary of War, in answer to a resolution of inquiry relative to the exchange of soldiers and other civilian prisoners, reports that General Hitchcock, Commissioner for the exchange of prisoners, under date of September 25, 1862, made arrangements for the exchange of sutlers, teamsters and civilians, in accordance with which exchanges have been made and others are on list for exchange.

SPEECHES ON THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

In the House, to-day, Mr. Crisfield, of Maryland, spoke in opposition to the emancipation proclamation, and Mr. Kelley, (radical), of Pennsylvania, made a powerful speech in support of it. Mr. Kelley showed no mercy to the border State men, who, he said, held out one hand to the Government and the other to traitors.

The Battle of Fredericksburg.

The N. Y. *Herald* of the 17th, in its article entitled "The Situation," contains the following [illegible] regarding the late conflict, of which [illegible] surroundings have been the [illegible]:

During the storm and darkness of Monday night General Burnside succeeded in making good his retreat across the Rappahannock without attracting the attention of the enemy. The artillery was first moved over, the infantry bringing up the rear, and reaching the north bank safely a short time after daylight. The pontoon bridges were then removed, and the communication between the two shores was effectually cut off. The retreat and evacuation of Fredericksburg, which were rendered necessary by the disaster of Saturday and the ascertained strength and extent of the enemy's fortifications, was a perilous adventure, but was conducted in safety. It may be consoling, however, to know that, although the Union forces suffered a loss of some ten or twelve thousand brave men in this fruitless attack upon the enemy's position, Gen. Burnside did not fall too deeply into the trap for him by General Lee; but retired in time to save his army from the chances of annihilation.

It is but just, perhaps, to General Burnside to say that the advance movement upon Fredericksburg was not undertaken in accordance with his own judgment, but was peremptorily ordered by the military authorities in Washington, who, of course, are alone responsible for the result. It is stated upon reliable authority that the rebels sent a notification to our army on Sunday that they intended to shell the town, and requested that our wounded should be removed.

FROM BURNSIDE'S ARMY—THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD CONFLICTED—WM. T. CONFEDERATE OR, TICKETS SAY OF THE BATTLE.

The correspondent of the New York *Tribune* writes as follows from the headquarters of Burnside's army, under date of the 18th inst:

Yesterday the rebels sent under a flag of truce a request that we would bury their dead. A burying party accordingly went over and continued their labors to-day.

During the truce Col. Walton, Chief of Longstreet's artillery, informed some of our officers that the rebel infantry force engaged on Saturday was only two brigades, but that they had a large reserve near by.

He said our men exhibited the greatest bravery, considered the rebel position impregnable, and that a force of 500,000 would find it impossible to carry the heights in the face of their batteries. The rebel loss was small compared with ours, from the fact that they were protected by a stone wall and rifle pits.

Our losses, as heretofore reported, have been considerably de-vessed by arrivals of stragglers in camp. The one hundred and seventy-five prisoners taken by a considerable portion of whom were captured from their camps, when we evacuated the south side of the river. The prisoners taken on both sides have been paroled.

It was stated that Lee and Longstreet came down to-day and held a consultation with some of our officers. The flag of truce was withdrawn to-night, after all our dead were buried.

General Lee's Official Report on the Battle of Fredericksburg.

The following is General Lee's official report of the battle of Fredericksburg:

Headquarters, Army of Northern Virginia, December 14, 1862.

The Honorable Secretary of War, Richmond, Va:

Sir—On the night of the 10th inst. the enemy commenced to throw three bridges over the Rappahannock—two at Fredericksburg, and the third about a mile and a quarter below, near the mouth of the Deep run. The plain on which Fredericksburg stands is so completely commanded by the hills of Stafford, in possession of the enemy, that no effectual opposition could be offered to the construction of the bridges or the passage of the river without exposing our troops to the destructive fire of his numerous batteries. Positions were therefore selected to oppose his advance after crossing. The narrowness of the Rappahannock, its winding course and deep bed, afforded opportunity for the construction of bridges at points beyond the reach of our artillery, and the banks had to be watched by skirmishers. The latter, sheltering themselves behind the houses, drove back the working parties of the enemy at the bridge opposite the city; but at the lowest point of crossing, where no shelter could be had, our sharpshooters were themselves driven off, and the completion of the bridge was effected about noon on the 11th.

In the afternoon of that day the enemy's batteries opened upon the city, and by dark had so demolished the houses on the river bank as to deprive our skirmishers of shelter, and, under cover of his guns, he effected a lodgment in the town. The troops which had so gallantly held their position in the city under the severe ammunade during the day, resisting the advance of the enemy at every step, were withdrawn during the night, as were also those who, with equal tenacity, had maintained their post at the lowest bridge.

Under cover of darkness and a dense fog, on the 12th, a large force passed the river, and took position on the right bank, protected by their heavy guns on the left.

On the morning of the 13th, his arrangements for attack being completed about nine o'clock, the movement veiled by a fog, he advanced boldly in large force against our right wing. General Jackson's corps occupied the right of our line, which rested on the railroad; General Longstreet's on the left, extending along the heights to the Rappahannock, above Fredericksburg; General Stuart, with two brigades of cavalry, was posted in the extensive plain on our extreme right. As soon as the advance of the enemy was discovered through the fog, General Stuart, with his accustomed promptness, moved up a section of his horse artillery, which opened with effect upon his flank, and drew upon the gallant Pelham a heavy fire, which he sustained unflinchingly for about two hours.

In the meantime the enemy was fiercely encountered by General A. P. Hill's division, forming General Jackson's right, and after an obstinate conflict repulsed. During this attack, which was protracted and hotly contested, two of Gen. Hill's brigades were driven back upon our second line. Gen. Early, with part of his division, being ordered to his support, drove the enemy back from the point of woods he had seized and pursued him into the plain until arrested by his artillery.

The right of the enemy's column, extending beyond Hill's front, encountered the right of Gen. Wood's division of Longstreet's corps. The enemy took possession of a small copse in front of Wood, but were quickly dispossessed and repulsed with loss.

During the attack on our right the enemy was crossing troops over his bridges at Fredericksburg, and massing them in front of Longstreet's line. Soon after its repulse on our right he commenced a series of attacks on our left, with a view of obtaining possession of the heights immediately overlooking the town. These repeated attacks were repulsed in gallant style by the artillery under Colonel Walton, and a portion of McLaw's division, which occupied these heights.

The last assault was made after dark, when Colonel Alexander's battalion had relieved the Washington Artillery, whose ammunition had been exhausted, and ended the contest for the day.

The enemy was supported in his attacks by the fire of strong batteries of artillery on the right bank of the river, as well as by the numerous heavy batteries on the Stafford Heights.

Our loss during the operations, since the movements of the enemy began, amounts to about eighteen hundred killed and wounded. Among the former I regret to report the death of the patriotic soldier and statesman Brigadier General Thomas R. R. Cobb, who fell upon our left, and among the latter, the brave soldier and accomplished gentleman Brigadier General M. Gregg, who was seriously, and, it is feared, mortally, wounded, during the attack on our right.

The enemy to day has been apparently burying his dead. His troops are visible in their first position in the rear of their battle, but with the exception of some desultory cannonading and firing between the skirmishers, he has not attempted to renew the attack.

About five hundred and fifty prisoners were taken during the engagement, but the full extent of his loss is unknown.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, R. E. LEE, General in Command.

News from Tennessee.

SEVERE FIGHT AT CORINTH, MISS—MORGAN MOVING TOWARDS THE NASHVILLE AND LOUISVILLE RAILROAD.

The New York *World* of the 20th publishes the following dispatches:

Headquarters Fourteenth Army Corps, Department of the Cumberland, Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 18.

Gen. Sullivan at Jackson, Tenn., telegraphs Gen. Rosencrans that Gen. Dodge telegraphs him from Corinth to-day that his cavalry have been fighting Forrest all day in that vicinity, with 2500 cavalry and five pieces of artillery, having left Waresboro' on Tuesday.

Col. Napier, with two or three thousand cavalry and four cannon, crossed the Tennessee river to Carrollville on Monday to join Forrest. It was reported that they would strike Jackson first, and Bethel next, to stop Grant's supplies.

SECOND DISPATCH.

Nashville, December 18—Forrest and his four thousand cavalry have turned up in the vicinity of Corinth, Miss. A telegram received at headquarters to night reports fighting with him going on in that vicinity all day to-day. Morgan is reported moving northward to cut off the Louisville and Nashville Railroad.

It is reported from Kentucky that Van Dorn, with 50,000 men from the Army of Mississippi, has arrived at Stevenson, Ala, to join Bragg. Our own trustworthy advices contradict the report. The move is too hazardous to be attempted. No important movements in our front today. Hardee's corps has moved to Triune. Kirby Smith is reported moving towards Lebanon, supposed Morgan.

The whole force of rebels in Tennessee is variously estimated at 75,000 to 80,000 men—an exaggeration. Their old regiments are filled with conscripts. The force at Murfreesboro' yesterday, was 35,000 men. Raine's division is at Hollow Tree Gap. Rebel outposts were about eleven miles from Nashville, on various roads.

The dispatch about the commander of the rebel army misled the public. Bragg is in active command. Official letters are received from him almost daily. The story that the enemy had advanced all along our front and drove in our pickets last week was entirely fabricated.

The War in North Carolina.

The New York *Herald* of the 20th, contains the following in its article of the Situation.

The report of the defeat of General Foster at Kinston, North Carolina, which was promulgated in a dispatch from the rebel Gen. Evans, proves to be entirely false. So far from being a defeat the affair proves to be a victory for the Union arms. After three days skirmishing and fighting, commencing on the 11th instant, Gen. Foster captured Kinston, driving off the forces of General Evans, killing and wounding two hundred and fifty rebels, taking nine hundred prisoners and eleven pieces of artillery. Our loss in the action was but more than two hundred. After this success our troops advanced in the direction of Goldsboro' and Weldon, the occupation of these places being the main object of the expedition. The accounts by our correspondents to-day contain all the particulars of this important movement. We also give a map of the locality to illustrate the design of General Foster. Our gunboats attempted to support the land forces, but, owing to the short water in the Neuse river, they were not able to render much assistance. The gunboat Allison, however, of the Marine artillery force, showed some fight, but was met by a battery of the enemy within two miles of Kinston, the fire from which did her some serious damage, and finally compelled her to retire. The flotilla, on its return down the river, was constantly fired upon by guerrillas from the shore. The latest rebel accounts to the 15th instant report that artillery firing was heard below Goldsboro' on that day. No fighting occurred up to the 16th.

United States Congress.

We copy from the New York *Herald* of the 20th, the following proceedings held in the United States Congress on the 19th instant:

The memorial of the War Committee of New York, asking Congress to authorize the issue of letters of marque for the capture of the rebel privateer Alabama, was presented. A bill granting pecuniary aid to Missouri for emancipated slaves was referred to the Judiciary Committee. The consideration of the resolution providing for a joint special committee on the subject of compensated emancipation in the Slave States for the emancipation of their slaves was postponed.

The resolution inquiring of the Secretary of War whether any oath had been proposed to citizens who have been arrested and imprisoned that they would not sue or bring any action against those who arrested them, was briefly discussed, but no action taken on it. The bankrupt bill was then taken up, several verbal amendments adopted, and the Senate adjourned.

The credentials of Mr. Flanders, the new member from Louisiana, were presented, and a motion offered that he be qualified. Mr. Valandigham, however, objected, and the papers were referred to the Committee on Elections. The bill making appropriations for invalid and other pensions was passed.

Mr. Sherman made an explanation as to the financial scheme recently introduced by him, saying it was his own act, without consultation with the Committee of Ways and Means or with the Secretary of the Treasury. He was opposed to the financial scheme of Mr. Chase.

Resignation of Mr. Seward as Secretary of State—The Causes for the Action.

The rumor of Mr. Seward's resignation takes from the Washington correspondence of the New York *Herald*, and published elsewhere, is confirmed by the following:

[From the Washington Star of last evening]

A majority of the Senate, in caucus, on the 17th inst., adopted a resolution which, as first prepared, declared a want of confidence on their part in the Secretary of State, but which was modified so as to express to the President a unanimous recommendation of a partial reconstruction of the Cabinet. A committee was appointed to wait upon the President and communicate their action.

On being informed of the fact, the Secretary of State on the same day sent to the President his resignation, and requested that it might be immediately accepted.

The Assistant Secretary of State sent in his resignation at the same time and in the same manner.

The Secretary and Assistant Secretary still remain at their desks, awaiting the appointment of their successors.

LATER.

Since the first edition of to-day's *Star* went to press, we have obtained additional and very interesting information connected with the subject matter of the resignation of Secretary Seward.

It seems that the Republican party of the Senate met in caucus on the 18th inst., when the original resignation, virtually requesting the President to dispense with the services of Mr. Seward as Secretary of State, was introduced and discussed, developing the fact that the caucus stood upon it about sixteen for to thirteen against it. Finding it impossible to obtain anything approaching unanimity of action upon it, or on either of the many propositions as a substitute for it, to which its introduction gave rise, they adjourned over until the next day.

On again meeting, the substitute for it, recommending the President to partially remodel his Cabinet, was unanimously agreed to; the conservatives believing that it would be regarded as being a general Republican party Senatorial invitation to the whole Cabinet to resign, leaving the President free to elect who he should hereafter be his official advisers; and that the grand result would surely be to induce him to accept what they considered to be the recent unmistakable manifestations of popular sentiment as his guide in the necessary reconstruction.

We learn, farther, that the committee who waited on the President bearing this resolution consisted of nine Senators—six regarded as radicals and three as conservatives. It was doubtless so composed by the Senator who presided in the caucus on the occasion, who, in all probability, was himself a member of the radical wing.

Mighty Important—Capture of the U. S. R. Steamship Ariel by the Alabama—The Ariel Ransomed for $260,000—Passengers on their Way to New York—Doubtful Destination of the Alabama.

We learn from Capt. Hilton, of the steamer Reliance, from Key West 24th instant, that the U S M steamship Ariel, Capt. Jones, from Aspinwall for New York, was captured off Cape Mays, Cuba, by the Alabama, on 20th inst., and a prize crew put on board. The Ariel was then ordered to Jamaica, to land 700 passengers, in order to have the ship. Capt. Semmes took a bond of $260,000, and hope for Gen. Vanderbilt, and released the Ariel, in consideration of the female passengers on board.

The foremast of the Ariel was carried away by a shot from the Alabama before she surrendered, which she did at the earnest solicitation of the passengers.

The Ariel had on board but $15,000 in treasure when captured, the remainder of $750,000 was left at Aspinwall in anticipation of meeting the Alabama, which was known to be cruising in search of vessels from Aspinwall to New York.

[From the New York Herald of the 20th]

The Battle of Fredericksburg—Congressional Inquiry Into the Cause of the Disaster.

Upon the motion of Senator Wilkinson (Republican,) of Minnesota, the Senate has directed an investigation into the causes of the late disaster at Fredericksburg, the Joint Committee on the conduct of the war being appointed for that purpose, and ordered to report to the Senate. The committee is assigned to particularly inquire "what officer or officers are responsible for the assault which was made upon the enemy's works," and also "who is responsible for the delay in assaulting the enemy." We learn that the committee have already proceeded to the Rappahannock to prosecute the investigation; and it is further stated that they are accompanied by Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, and several others. This last information is not very welcome to our readers, who recollect that Wilson's visits to the army have been always followed by some calamity, owing to his fatal meddling with the generals. After the battle of Antietam he paid an ominous visit to the Army of the Potomac. General McClellan was speedily removed from the command. The object of his visit to Falmouth just now is no doubtedly sinister, and probably to screen the really guilty parties and to throw the responsibility where it does not belong. We hope, therefore, that the committee will be on their guard against his suggestions, and that they will make no scapegoats of subordinates, but conduct the inquiry with thorough impartiality, so as to get out all the facts. The inquiry is highly important, and the result ought to be laid before Congress and the people without any unnecessary delay.

It will soon be seen whether it is meant as a whitewashing investigation, resulting in the verdict "Nobody to blame," or whether the committee will have the courage and integrity, in this critical moment in the existence of the republic, to strike at high officials and denounce the criminals, whoever they may be. It is not because we have plenty of men that their lives are to be unprofitably or thrown away by the 15,000 at a time. If such a course should be persisted in, our great army, thus decimated, would soon be frittered down to a handful through of useless manoeuvres and purposeless slaughters have been perpetrated.

We perceive that a sum of seven hundred and fifty millions has been voted by Congress for army expenditure. It is very easy for members of Congress to vote money out of the pockets of the people. It is not so easy for the people to pay it. Before they do they want to know in what manner the money already raised for the army has been expended, and whether it is not incumbent on the President to appoint entirely different set of men to manage future expenditures. The people are willing to expend their treasure and their blood to support the Union and the Constitution, but not a cent or a drop of blood to carry out the visionary, impracticable ideas of fanatics; nor will they patiently look on while their sons and brothers and neighbors are slaughtered by wholesale through the criminal carelessness or ignorance of pretenders, who have never seen a battle and who undertake, at Washington, to lead in the field armies of 130,000 men, at sixty or one hundred miles distance, by a click of the telegraph. Let the people, therefore, have light on this vastly important question before it is too late, and "let justice be done, though the heavens should fall."

We slip the following paragraph from the New York *Herald* of the 20th instant:

GREELEY GOING TO HAVE THE PRESIDENT.—Greeley, having at first claimed the Fredericksburg repulse as a "gratifying" victory, is at last compelled by public opinion to acknowledge that somebody is to blame for the useless slaughter of our brave troops at that place. In yesterday's *Tribune* the law of the matter is laid down as follows: "If any one has done wrong, or proved himself one of those 'angers that won't bore,' let him be unmasked by all means." "A general commanding who would lead or send troops to an assault certain to be sanguinary, and all but certain to prove a failure, would be a wholesale murderer, utterly unfit to live or to die." Field Marshal Greeley then proceeds to prove that neither Burnside nor Halleck nor Stanton was responsible for the Fredericksburg disaster, and leave it to be inferred that President Lincoln is guilty, and consequently "unfit to live or die," and worthy only to "be superseded." This is the old radical anarchical story over again. Greeley returns to his first fancy of deposing the President and making somebody a dictator. We know as well as Greeley does that the fight at Fredericksburg was unnecessary, and we believe that the responsible parties should be visited for it. But we attack not the President, but the radicals who surround the President, and whose satanic influence has been the ruin of the country. Let them, and not the President, be "superseded."

The New York *Herald* of the 20th contains the following:

With the exception of a few shots fired from the Union batteries on the hills to disperse some bands of rebels which appeared to be gathering in numbers sufficiently large on the opposite side of the river, there was no hostile movement made by either army on the Rappahannock yesterday. The enemy's pickets are lining the south bank thickly; but they observe a peaceful and somewhat friendly aspect towards our men. The official reports of our losses in the battle of Saturday reduce the number slightly. So far the killed are enumerated at 1400, and the wounded at 8000.

Rumors were afloat yesterday that General Burnside had tendered his resignation, but that the President refused to accept it. We do not find, however, any confirmation of the story.

One Week Later from Europe.

By the arrival of the steamship Scotia, at New York on the 20th instant, from Liverpool on the 7th and Queenstown on the afternoon of the 7th instant, the Northern papers obtain the following European intelligence, which is one week later than that brought by the Arabia.

The American Question.

The British newspaper comments on American affairs are without any political significance

The London *Globe* thinks that the situation in America promises to soon yield striking results of some kind.

The London *Times* editorially argues that the success of the Democratic party at the elections has rendered the Government desperate, instead of daunting it, and it looks upon the last news from America as the worst that has yet been received, as it indicates that the search has at last been put to the combustible materials which lie strewn over the whole Southern States, and that the President has received upon the propagation of a servile war. The London *Times* hopes there will yet be a phase before the warring factions are actually committed to some terrible act of outrage and reprisal.

MR. GLADSTONE DEFINES HIS POSITION.

The following letter from Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to Professor Newman, is published in the London *Star*:

No. 11 Carlton House Terrace, December 1, 1862.—MY DEAR SIR—I am sure you will receive indulgently a comment I have to make on a statement in a recent letter on American affairs, published in the *Star* touching on a matter not of opinion, but of fact. I have not, to my knowledge, expressed any sympathy with the Southern cause in any speech, at Newcastle or elsewhere, nor have I passed any eulogium on President Davis. In dealings, whether with South or North, I have thought it out of my province to touch in any way the complicated question of praise or blame. Perhaps I should end here; but I cannot avoid adding that I think myself's much better friend to the North American—if it is not presumptuous to use the phrase—than those who have encouraged and are encouraging them to persevere in their hopeless and destructive enterprise. Among these I of course assign to you the prominent place, merited alike by your distinguished powers and your undoubted sincerity.

Believe me, my dear sir, faithfully yours,
W. E. GLADSTONE.

To Professor Newman.

Professor Newman replies to Mr. Gladstone, lamenting that the policy of the English Government appears to be the encouragement of rebellion and to foster a party of insurgents without moral claims; and he says that all the world inevitably believes that England has been actuated by an intense desire to see the destruction of the Union, and that every other pretext is hypocrisy.

The London *News* of the 6th instant replies to the *Times* on the horrors of Lincoln's emancipation scheme, and quotes evidence to show that the predicted horrors are purely imaginary, and that the slaves will make better use of their freedom.

THE COTTON FAMINE IN FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Times* writes that "the distress resulting from the cotton famine begins to be most severely felt in the manufacturing districts of France. The sufferings of the working classes are daily on the increase. Some of the principal manufacturers and merchants state, in an address, that 'in the Department of the Lower Seine one hundred thousand workmen are now destitute, and to-morrow there will be one hundred thousand more to swell their account. The communes have exhausted their very last resources. The retail trader has no longer money or credit. The manufacturer has no longer the means of employing his workmen. We are happy to state that each one does his duty nobly. The sacrifice of the master are numerous and incessant. The resignation of the workingman dignified and calm; but, destitute as he is, he can no longer wait. Subscription lists are now opened.

The late cotton crop in Algeria had not been as productive as was expected. The English capitalists, which had begun to cultivate cotton in that country, had withdrawn.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN ON THE UNION.

We take the following paragraphs from a full report of the speech of Queen Isabella, of Spain, at the opening of the Cortes:

"Our relations with foreign powers continue to be friendly. I hope for a satisfactory conclusion of the difficulties that the disagreement of the plenipotentiaries in Mexico has opposed to the execution of the Treaty of London. The unnecessary war with the United States, I hope, that execution have not changed the desire I feel for the accomplishment of it and the realization the idea upon which it was based. At the proper time I will lay before you the communications respecting the grave events which have happened on the coast of Cuba, and I feel confident that those events will not change the excellent relations which I maintain with the United States Government. Our colonies are every day becoming more flourishing, in spite of the injury that the American war inflicts upon their commerce and their productions. Their distance from the peninsula increases my solicitude in their behalf. In their government and administration reforms are wanted. Reforms in accordance with the example of my august ancestors, to make one nation of all Spaniards in every country in the world.

THE FRENCH WAR SHIPS AT NEW ORLEANS.

[From the Paris Monitour, December 4]

Admiral Reynaud, commanding the station of the Antilles, has arrived with his flagship at New Orleans on the 29th of October, on board the frigate La Guerriere. The frigate was joined next morning by the dispatch boat Prevoyante, and the corvette Quintine. The presence of these three vessels who hailed with lively satisfaction by the population of New Orleans; and the French residents felt happy at this fresh proof of the solicitude of the Emperor's Government for the interests of French subjects.

[Paris (Dec. 5) correspondence of the London Times.]

That the presence of French ships of war has produced "lively satisfaction" among the people of New Orleans, is a fact which proves their hostility to the Federal Government and General Butler, is no doubt true, but the announcement of the fact in this official journal is likely to produce anything like "lively satisfaction" in Mr. Seward, and may be followed by a demand for explanation either here or at Washington. The presence of Admiral Reynaud at New Orleans, coupled with the fact of a determination on the part of France to seek an opportunity of intervening in some way in the American quarrel, otherwise, it is asked, why is it set forth in so prominent a manner that the population is stated as the "grounds" for the ships of war, coinciding, as it does, with the note of the French Government inviting mediation? The Admiral Reynaud was not long ago in Washington, and appeared to be very well shown no great inclination to proceed to New Orleans, thinking, perhaps, that his mission was more of a diplomatic kind than otherwise. Whatever objections he may have had were removed by the instructions given to him by M. Mercier, the French Minister. Before M. Drouyn de Lhuys's note appeared, the relations between the Governments were not of the most cordial kind; and the next advices may inform us that they have become much less so. The *Monitour*, that gives the passage I have quoted, does not represent a statement which appeared in the other papers, that Admiral Reynaud, proceeding to New Orleans was not objected to by Mr. Seward.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The Lord Mayor of London (Rose), conservative, had been elected member of Parliament for Southampton, by a small majority, over Captain Mangles.

The London *Times* says it has been arranged that the marriage of the Prince of Wales with the Princess Alexandrina shall be solemnized at St. George's chapel, Windsor, and not, according to precedent, at the Chapel Royal, St. James. The Lord Chamberlain had received her Majesty's commands to make the ceremony shall be celebrated with the utmost magnificence.

Mr. O'Malley Irwin, who figured in the Galway contract affair, had brought an action against Sir George Grey, for having neglected to lay before the Queen a petition of right, and claiming damages to the extent of £100,000 Sir George Grey stated that he did present the petition to the Queen, but recommended her not to endorse it. The jury immediately returned a verdict for the defendant.

Mr. Henry Thomas Hope, eldest son of the celebrity banker of Amsterdam, died at his mansion, in London, on the 5th inst. His immense property will be mainly inherited by his only child, the Countess of Lonsdale.

THE WAR IN MEXICO.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Times* says:

Contracts have been concluded by the French Government for the supply of the army in Mexico for two years. Such a thing is reasonable to infer that a prolonged occupation of the country is intended.

Two of the new streets in Paris are to be called Rue de Mexique and Rue de Puebla.

THE GREEK QUESTION.

It is announced that the Russian Minister at Athens had communicated to M. Rulizzis the opinion of the Russian Government that the principles of the protocol signed by the protecting Powers in 1830 should be upheld.

An Athens dispatch of the 1st says: Public opinion, being irritated by an unfavorable telegram, has obtained from Government a *plebiscite* for the election of Prince Alfred.

The London *Post* says: Advices from Athens have declared that, failing Prince Alfred, they would apply for a son of Lord Derby.

The Provisional Government had presented demonstrations in favor of the Duke of Leuchtenberg.

Athens, December 5th, 1862—Voting for the election of a king commenced yesterday. Two thousand five hundred signatures have been taken, which are, without exception, in favor of Prince Alfred. His election is considered certain.

ITALY.—The ministerial crisis still continued. Signor Fasolini had been received by the King, and it was reported that he would undertake the presidency of the council and the ministry of foreign affairs. It was still said that Signor Cassinis would enter the new cabinet, but only as minister of justice.

The *Alliance*, of Milan, publishes an article by Kossuth, recommending the Italian Government to direct all its efforts towards Venice and Hungary.

RUSSIA.—A squadron of the Lancers of the Guard at St. Petersburg recently mutinied. All the privates and non-commissioned officers were placed in chains, and were sentenced to fifty court-martial.

THE LATEST MARKETS—LONDON MONEY MARKET.

London, December 6, Evening.—Consols closed at 92¼ to 92¼ for money.

American Stocks—Erie Railroad 42¼ to 43; Illinois Central shares, 40¼ to 40 discount.

Liverpool, December 6, Evening.—Cotton—Sales to-day 3000 bales, including 1000 bales to speculators and exporters. The market closed quiet and unchanged.

Breadstuffs—The breadstuffs market closed dull, with a declining tendency.

Provisions—The market closes heavy and downward.

HAVRE COTTON MARKET.

The sales of Cotton for the week have been 4500 bales. Orleans fair, ordinary 100f.; fine 85f. Stock in port 52,000 bales.

ARRIVAL OF THE NORWEGIAN AT PORTLAND.

Portland, Me., December 19, 1862.—The steamship Norwegian, Capt. McMasters, arrived here at six o'clock this morning. Her mails were forwarded to New York by the early morning train.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
SATURDAY EVENING, Dec. 27, 1862.

COTTON.—There were sales at auction to-day of 3 2 and 34 bales Low Middling to Good Middling, slightly stained, at 56c. and 7 bales Good Ordinary, also stained, at 60c. ₱ lb. There is no stock on hand, and prices are received now and then, and immediately disposed of.

SUGAR.—The supply is light. The demand, in lower, less animated, and what with cut door operations having been interrupted by rainy weather, the market was very dull this in ernlog. Prices are rather easier, but not sufficiently so to warrant a change in previous quotations. The only sale reported was a lot of about 30 hhds. clarified seconds at 8¾c ₱ lb. Yesterday's sales were at 8¾c. for strictly fine Common to Fair, and 9@9½c for Yellow, and 10@10½c and 10½c for White Clarified, new crop, and 9¾@10½c for strictly Fully Fair to Prime, old crop.

MOLASSES.—The supply is more than ample for the present demand, which is limited. There were no sales to-day, and the current quotations are nominal. Our cotton operations, yesterday's sales were at 54c. for good fair; 56c for good, and 58c for Prime to Choice, new crop.

OATS—About 300 sacks sold from first hands at 80c. ₱ bushel, and 1 load at 85c.

CORN.—There was a sale by the regular trade to-day of 1350 sacks yellow at 56c. It is retailing at 60c. ₱ bushel.

BRAN—Round lots are held at $1 75 per 100 lbs. while the demand is supplied at $1 70@1 75.

HAY.—About 1200 bales were sold on private terms, and 400 at $25 ₱ ton. Small lots on the levee, in second hands, command $27@$31. The retail demand is supplied from store at $35.

COFFEE.—The stock is light. The retail demand is supplied at 30@35c ₱ lb. for Rio.

PORK.—Round lots of good Mess may be quoted at $19@19 50 ₱ bbl.

PROVISIONS.—The retail demand is supplied at 13 @13½c for Prime Lard in kegs, and 12@12½c for Butter. The *Times* on the horrors of Lincoln's emancipation scheme, and quotes evidence to show that the predicted horrors are purely imaginary, and that the slaves will make better use of their freedom.

WHISKY.—The demand is supplied at $1 20 for mixed with Louisiana Rum, and $1 10@— ₱ gallon for that made from grain alone.

FREIGHTS.—The Freight market is extremely dull, and the offers by sailing vessels for Northern ports are low. $5 ₱ bbl. of Tobacco, and $1 50 for Sugar, and 87½c. ₱ bbl. of Molasses.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The following sales were made at auction to-day: 100 bbls Flour at $2 75 for superfine, and $2 75@3 25 for sweet and sound Superfine; 10 bags Rio Coffee at 36c.; 5 Havana Segars at 7c.; 31 boxes brown Soap at 7½@8½c.; 10 boxes Starch at 9½c.; 2 bbls Onions at $2 30@3; 1 bbls Potatoes at $2 50; 45 bales India Bagging at 20c.; 1 bbl Whisky mixed with Louisiana Rum at $1@$1 45; 12 boxes Cordial at 75c.; 2 Converse Safes at $70 each; 2 Fairbanks Scales at $25; 25 half boxes Raisins at $2 30, and 10 cases Gum at 7c ₱ lb. We are informed that for some lots of Oats and Corn that were offered and withdrawn, 57c was the highest bid for the former, and 70c. ₱ bushel for the latter.

The weather was warm, cloudy and rainy during the forenoon, occasionally interrupting our door operations. Since then it has been clear and cool, with the wind from the northwest. The indications are that it will be cold by tomorrow morning.

Cattle Market.

JEFFERSON CITY, December 23 1862.

Arrived on Saturday 57 Beeves. Amount of stock sold was 187 Beeves, 11 Hogs, and 40 Veals. Sales of Beeves were to Mr Beeves, 50 Hogs, 65 Sheep, 35 Veals and 3 Milch Cows.

Texas Beeves, 1st quality, ₱ lb net..... 6c@7c
Texas Beeves, 2d quality, ₱ lb net..... 5c@6c
Texas Beeves, 3d quality, ₱ lb net..... 4c@5c
Veal, 1st quality, ₱ head..... 30@35
Veal, 2d quality, ₱ head..... 25@30
Hogs, ₱ lb. gross..... 6c@6½c
Milch Cows, ₱ head..... $100@$125
Sheep, 1st quality, ₱ head..