THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.

Office 73 Chartres street.

NEW ORLEANS, THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 18, 1864.

Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXVI—Whole No. 13,022

NEW ORLEANS:
THURSDAY MORNING, FEB'Y. 18, 1864.

Sales at Auction To-day.

By Wm. P. Vincent, at 10 o'clock, at No. 16 Chartres street, dry goods.

By D. E. Morphy, at 12 o'clock, at 167 Tchoupitoulas street, hay and iron.

By McCorren & Landry, at 11 o'clock, at Masonic Hall, furniture.

☞ The attention of our readers is called to our second page, where will be found auction and Sheriff's sales, official orders, election notices, and other important advertisements.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS are an only medicine for invigorating a debilitated constitution. Persons of nervous habit, suffering from impaired digestive organs and bilious affections, should give these remedies an impartial trial. Coughs, colds and asthma are speedily relieved and ultimately cured by a steady course of these medicaments. Sold everywhere.

We are requested to call the attention of buyers to the sale of hay and bran, which takes place this day, at 12 o'clock, M., in store No. 157 Tchoupitoulas street, by D. E. Morphy, Auctioneer.

McCorren & Landry announces the sale at auction in their mart, this day, of the contents of a private residence, all of which is nearly new. See their advertisement.

VALUABLE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD FOR BANK OF LOUISIANA NOTES.—Mr. Sam. L. Hill, real estate broker, announces elsewhere that he will sell for notes of the Bank of Louisiana, a brick building suitable for a large hotel, on New Levee street; also, two brick stores, adjoining it, adapted to an extensive produce business, together with several lots of ground. Terms of sale, cash.

FROM PORTLAND.—We are indebted to the politeness of the U. S. steamship Merrimac, from Portland, Maine, for newspaper favors at late as the 8th instant from that city. The general intelligence by the arrival has been anticipated, via St. Louis and New York, with the exception of a little additional news by the Arabia, which we give elsewhere.

STEAMER HOPE SUNK.—The steamer Hope was sunk this morning, about 8 o'clock, while lying at her wharf at the foot of Bienville street, by the U. S. gunboat No. No. 19. The Hope will probably be raised. There were no lives lost.

The Latest and Important News from the South via Mobile.

(MOBILE DATES TO THE 8TH.)

THE WAR IN MISSISSIPPI.

PARTICULARS OF GEN. SHERMAN'S MARCH INTO THE INTERIOR.

Severe Fighting at the Big Black, and Near Clinton and Jackson, and on the Yazoo River.

DEATH OF MAJOR BRIDGES, OF TEXAS

Retreat of Confederate Forces Across Pearl River, on Account of Loring being Cut Off from French.

BURNING OF GOVERNMENT COTTON.

Rebel Army Commanded by Lee and French—Union Forces by Sherman, McPherson and Hurlbut.

We have received a copy of the Mobile *Evening News* of the 8th instant, containing interesting and highly important particulars of the recent military operations of the opposing forces in the vicinity of Jackson, Miss. They are confirmatory of the intelligence from Vicksburg given by us yesterday morning.

[From the Mobile Evening News, February 8.]

Jackson.

We had intelligence on Saturday evening, from one of our special correspondents of the advance of Sherman to, and his occupation of Jackson. The dispatch was put in type for the Mailroad Edition but, as we learned from "Headquarters" here that no information of the sort had reached the General Commanding, and as permission was not given the Reporter of the Associated Press to send the intelligence forward, we concluded to withhold it from the public until we had further advice.

We append the dispatch as "set up" on Saturday, and refer the reader for later and fuller intelligence from "The Front" in Mississippi to the letter of our special correspondent, which appears in another column.

Meridian, February 6.—The advance of the enemy across Big Black was at first successfully disputed by Ross' brigade and the Yankees driven off the field, leaving their dead and wounded.

Their infantry then came up, advancing rapidly, and determinedly, slowly driving back Lee's cavalry which opposed them.

Overwhelming numbers swept upon our forces compelling their retreat to Jackson to which point the enemy have so far successfully advanced.

There has been no general engagements I can learn of, but our forces are concentrated, and it is probable that the enemy will not attempt to advance farther at present, but will rest satisfied with the occupation of Jackson while reinforcements and supplies can be brought to his aid. He may, nevertheless, be dislodged.

The Yankee line, I understand, is Pearl river.

M'INTOSH.

Our Mississippi Correspondence.

LETTER FROM MERIDIAN.

Meridian, February 7, 1864.—After telegraphing you on Friday at noon of the brilliant affair of the Texans under Ross, on the Yazoo, and the advance of the Federals on Clinton and Jackson by the different roads, I was unable to send you any more news in connection therewith. The excitement attendant on the evacuation of Jackson and my inability to procure an approval of a dispatch, without which no reports are allowed to pass.

The Federals threw across the Big Black, at the Railroad bridge, a column of 15,000 men, which immediately took up its line of march on Baker's Creek, Clinton and thence to Jackson. At the same time another crossing was attempted at the Messenger's Ferry, but it was greatly impeded by our cavalry—while another force was crossed over above, which, being effected, our forces fell back, skirmishing all the way and disputing every inch of ground. I think this force was confronted by Jackson's cavalry—The force that crossed at the railroad bridge was confronted by Wirt Adams's cavalry. On Thursday morning, General S. D. Lee assumed command. The fighting on Thursday by our men was gallant and stubborn, but overwhelming numbers compelled Lee to give ground, which he did gradually, and at the same time punished the enemy severely.

While these columns were advancing towards Jackson, the gunboats ascended the Yazoo escorting a transport fleet which was moving up that river, to what particular point I am unable to say, but presume that it was intended to operate against Grenada, and also between Loring's force, who was in Canton.

By season, on Thursday, Lee had been flanked well on Clinton, the enemy pressing forward his infantry in a solid mass. Their cavalry were whipped back every time they came in collision with ours. In the last charge on this day, the gallant Major Bridges, of Texas, fell mortally wounded. He commanded under Lee. His loss is greatly deplored. He was regarded as one of the most efficient, daring, dashing, cool points of the army. Twelve prisoners were captured and sent to Jackson.

Early Friday morning, the most of the gain said to be distinctly heard in Jackson as coming from the different points where the enemy were supposed to be advancing. There was scarcely any intermission in the artillery fire throughout the day, while is gradually neared. By 10 o'clock the Federals had reached Clinton, which had been abandoned by our forces. Our troops had retreated when the enemy would be upon them to cross. Gen. French had arrived and assumed command, and military matters progressed with due regularity. Gen. Loring was ordered down from Canton by night, and with three divisions it was expected that the enemy could be beat out of Jackson, until our reinforcements came up when it was believed we would be able to drive the enemy back.

The present advance of Gen. Sherman proved Loring, coming down in force, and he was compelled to cross Pearl river below Jackson. French did not cross over Pearl river, but remained on this side, and the moment that the head of Loring's column would have reached the northern limits of the city, French's column would have entered from the east, and thus have formed a junction in the city and have manoeuvered Sherman. Loring could not well leave Canton until the intended point of attack by the Federals had been first ascertained, and I think it more than probable that he was hampered in his movements by superior orders.

The Federals entered Jackson about sunset. Gen. Lee moved off on the Canton road, having gallantly contested every inch of ground from Big Black to Pearl river.

I did not learn our loss on Friday, but believe it to have been severe, as the fighting was desperate, quick and sharp. The enemy had his forces massed, and forced his way by brute force. He must have suffered terribly. About 10 o'clock Friday, I learn this Ferguson's brigade joined Gen. Lee, and gallantly contributed to the defense made against the Federal advance.

During the day large volumes of smoke were seen rising in the west on the line of the enemy's advance. It was supposed to be cotton burned by our cavalry. Some supposed that the town of Clinton was burned by the Federals.

Of the operations of Sun. on the Yazoo, on Friday, I learned nothing definite. It is said that he again beat back the Federal advance, and sent two of their transports. I believe the report to be true.

The Federal forces are commanded by Generals Sherman, McPherson and Hurlbut, and number, as well as I can learn, about 35,000 men—it may not be so great. I am inclined to think it from 35,000 to 40,000 of all arms.

Every thing that could be moved having been brought to this side of the river, and placed on the trains, our forces immediately took up the line of march for Morton, thirty miles east of Jackson, where our army is being massed. Just before leaving, some two hundred bales of cotton, most all of which was the property of the Government, was fired, as well as what few things that may have remained that could not be brought away.

As the last trains were leaving the Yankees had reached the west bank of the river and planted a battery, while their sharpshooters went actively to work and prevented the complete destruction of the pontoon bridge over Pearl river. In attempting its destruction we lost one man killed and two wounded.

Within an hour or two after our attacks by the artillery rents with General Polk. The advance of the Federals was known, and well known, and their programme ought to have been known in ample time either to have prevented it, or have massed a sufficient force to have given battle with reasonable chances of success.

Leaving Jackson on one of the trains, I came through to this place. This morning I found Gen. Polk at Church.

The Federalists proclaim their intention to inaugurate at Jackson, a Governor and all necessary officers for the civil government of the State of Mississippi. CLINT.

Additional News from the South by a Mobile Paper of the 5th.

The *Picayune* issued an extra yesterday evening with extracts from the Mobile *Register* of the 5th inst. We reproduce the following:

SHELLING CHARLESTON—FIRE IN FEDERAL CAMPS.

Charleston, February 5—Eighty-five shots were fired at this city to-day.

There was no firing on Fort Sumter.

The enemy have been at work all day hauling ammunition to Gregg and Cummins's Point batteries.

There has been a large fire on Folly Island to day, supposed to be the burning of the Federal hospital.

A gunboat in Ejisto river is lying high and dry, and it is believed she will be destroyed.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

Morristown, February 5th.—Private W. H. Roberts, Company A, Twenty-first Mississippi regiment, Humphreys Brigade, was shot to-day, for deserting his regiment to join a cavalry regiment.

Trains are now running to Rogersville Junction.

We have nothing of interest to report from the front.

THE SITUATION IN VIRGINIA.

Orange Courthouse, February 4—The Prince William cavalry have sent in a batch of prisoners captured near Kettle farm, Fauquier county, on Sunday last. They belong to the 5th Corps, and report everything quiet in their lines. Our scouts report the enemy planting furloughs quite liberally to re-enlisted men.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS.

Richmond, February 5—In the Senate today the House bill to increase the efficiency of the army by the employment of negroes in our ship carpenters was reported upon favorably by the Senate Military Committee, and placed on the calendar. The Government Appropriation bill passed and has passed. One amendment proposes that no salary be paid to any officer appointed under the Provisional Government, before he has been reappointed and confirmed since the organization of the Permanent Government, but at the solicitation of several Senators, it was withdrawn. The bill exempting farmers and planters who have furnished substitutes was, on motion, taken up from the table by ayes 12, noes 8, and made the special order for Tuesday next, at 1 o'clock. In the House, evidence of the re-enlistment of a large number of troops from different States was presented, and resolutions of thanks adopted.—The Senate bill to organize a general staff for the army was discussed, but not disposed of. Both Houses were in secret session most of the day.

SHERMAN'S ADVANCE IN MISSISSIPPI.

Corinth, February 4.—Sherman is advancing in command of two corps under McPherson and Hurlbut. Prisoners report them 30,000 strong. General Jackson has fought them all day, and they have made but two miles progress to-day. They camp six or eight miles below Clinton to-night and find this a "hard road to travel."—General Ross defeated them yesterday on the Yazoo, in a hand-to-hand fight, with pistols.

LATEST FIGHTING ON THE YAZOO.

Jackson, February 5.—Official information to half past 4 o'clock last evening has been received here from General Loring, who was then nine miles west of Clinton.

The enemy advanced slowly in line yesterday, his forces numbering at least 15,000 infantry.

There is also a force of the enemy advancing from Messenger's Ferry, via Queen's Hill. The enemy's intention seems to be to move on Clinton and Jackson.

Our loss in the engagement yesterday was about ten killed and a good many more wounded. Among the killed are several officers, including the gallant Major Bridges.

I am unable to learn the force of the enemy on Queen's Hill, but I fear it is large.

General Ross's Texas brigade made a most gallant fight yesterday with the enemy on the Yazoo. They fought the enemy on foot with swords, at twelve paces, repulsing them with severe loss. The enemy left his killed and wounded in our hands.

Heavy and continuous firing is heard on the Yazoo to-day. No report is yet here to-day from General Ross.

LATEST—THE ENEMY ACROSS BIG BLACK.

Jackson, February 5.—The enemy have crossed Big Black, and are advancing eastward in three columns supposed to be about 10,000 each.

This morning Wirt Adams dashed on their advance at Champion Hills and captured twelve prisoners and lost one man killed and one wounded.

The enemy's casualties are supposed to be considerable.

There has been heavy skirmishing all day.

Additional Foreign News by the Arabia.

THREATENED DISPUTE OF THE DANISH-GERMAN DIFFICULTY.

Berlin, Jan. 22—The Danish Government has decided a delay, in order to consider the Holstein and with its concurrence to withdraw the November constitution, and subsequently to the Diet engagement entered into towards Germany in 1851 and 1852. In the case this delay should be granted, which is probable, the Austrian and Prussian troops will not cross the Eider. A month is necessary for the convening of the Rigsrad.

Hamburg, Jan. 22—The Federal Commissioners have issued a proclamation, dated the 21st, which says: "Troops under the command of Field Marshal Wrangel have crossed the frontier of the Duchies. Considering the protest made by several Governments to the Federal Diet, we have commissioned General Hahn to declare to Marshal Wrangel that we expected the usual notification. We cannot recognize the troops as belonging to the Federal reserve, and we must submit to hate which are unavoidable. We have received instructions from the President of the Diet, that the spirit of the Austrian and Prussian troops would not interfere in the affairs of an execution, and the administration of Holstein and pass through those Duchies. We therefore call upon the authorities and inhabitants of the country to give the Austrian and Prussian troops the required co-operation, and to receive them in a friendly manner."

Duke Frederick has replied to a deputation from Altona that he hoped soon to be able to accept the invitation from Altona.

Military Resources of the Rebel Confederacy.

(From the New York Post.)

The white population of the several States now held under rebel control, between the ages of fifteen and fifty years, is as follows, in round numbers, after adding about twenty per cent, for the average increase from 1850 to 1860:

Alabama	200,000
Mississippi	127,000
North Carolina	190,000
South Carolina	90,000
Virginia	120,000
Texas	80,000
Total	1,017,000
Western Virginia reduces these figures at least	100,000
North Carolina held by us, say	75,000
Mississippi and Alabama held by us, at least	100,000
	175,000
Deducting this sum from the preceding, leaves	1,167,000
Deduct one-half of this number are women	583,500
Leaves	583,500

This number is the complement of males between the ages of fifteen and fifty, to be deducted from the total population of the Rebel States, if we wish to know the number available for military service, or killed, wounded or disabled by sickness and exposure—the multitudes that have migrated to the North, to the West Indies, or to Europe, and those who have fallen by the ordinary casualties.

But the number is to be still reduced by a large and very considerable percentage of exempts for various disabilities that render a considerable part of all populations from doing effective service in the field. It is a very liberal estimate to allow an remaining fit for service as soldiers, three hundred thousand, which includes the soldiers already in the field.

There are, it is true, in their armies many from Tennessee, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and Missouri, but their numbers cast of the Mississippi cannot reach fifty thousand men.

Assuming then that the Confederates can bring into the field, when the campaign opens, 350,000 men, and boldly that the gravest question with them, is how this army shall be fed and clothed, we have some basis for an estimate of the capacity of the Confederacy to withstand our efforts to crush it.

We entirely agree in the opinion that we should not abdicate a jot of our preparation for all emergencies, that our armies should be fed up with the whole number called into the field, but we cannot resist the conclusion that such energy on our part will dissolve the whole fabric of rebellion, and that this last levy will have little to do but to bring the rebellion, bound in chains, to the capital, and lead the final triumph through its streets.

The report of Mr. d'Israeli's receiving a large legacy from a lady totally unknown to him, turns out to be correct, and from the terms of the bequest it appears to be a testimony of admiration and appreciation of his literary, and not his political career. The testatrix was a widow of a Mr. Wyllyams, of Tor Mohun, Devonshire. In the letter of gift she will the legacy is left him "in testimony of my affection and admiration of his efforts to vindicate the Jews!" The entire amount he will receive is not stated, the personal property alone exceeds £40,000, or $200,000, and there is real estate, &c. The will was proved by Mr. d'Israeli, as executor and residuary legatee, so that it appears no scruples prevent him from the enjoyment of such a windfall as it has fallen to the lot of few authors to receive.

"THE RAPID ARM."—Some of Gen. Lee's soldiers are publishing a paper, gotten up with pen and pencil, called the "Rapid Ann." The following is a specimen of the wit in it:

TACTICS OF RISING.

[Recruit inclined in front of the piece.]

First motion—Send the right hame straight on the left; bring the head on a hoe with the face of the piece, at the same time extend the arms and discipline cheeks of the piece firmly in both hands.

Second motion—Bend the body slightly forward; pocket the musket; and apply the lips smartly to the mouth middlings.

Third motion—Break off promptly on both legs, to escape the barring or injury, should the piece recoil.

BARNUM'S HUMBUG AND BOSH SHOWER.—Mr. Barnum is lecturer at Cooper Institute, New York, on "How to Make Money." observed:

The public will not be humbugged twice. No amount of advertising can deceive them twice. Anything presented to them must be worthy of their patronage, and must possess intrinsic merit. As an age. illustration of this I am happy to observe among the audience the face of an individual who has shared largely the patronage of the public. I mean Mr. Gleason, the justly celebrated Oriental lecturer. (Applause.) I myself had the pleasure of hearing one of his lectures, and witnessing his unique and unexceptional illustrations of eastern characters; and, I assure you, I was not less delighted than the rest of the audience, because it possessed the charm of novelty, originality and excellence—hence his popularity. Though it is evident that he is not a born showman, yet popular sentiment has decided to fortune. I myself made him a liberal offer, but for some reason or other, he declined it. I say this in proof of the liberality already observed about public patronage, not in jest or in the individual who deserves it fully, though doubtless unexpected by him. (Applause.)

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Church Robbers Sentenced for Life—Givens Estrella and Joe Williams, aliens were tried yesterday before Judge Atocha, and convicted of having burglariously and sacrilegiously entered the Church of the Cauptrine, near Ursulines street, and carried off all the articles of silver and gold used in the service of that church, including silver candlesticks, golden goblets, etc. The scoundrels attempted to secrete the stolen articles on the night of the burglary in the yard of the premises where they had rooms. A servant of the Rev. Dr. Delassus defendant, whose family resides on the same premises, happened to be at home that night, and saw their fruitless efforts to bury the plate in the yard wherein they failed, as the ground was too hard. He saw them take the things into the house, and felt certain that they meditated something, but he feared to let on that he had seen anything, as he knew the dangerous character of the men, one of whom was a private in the same regiment with the servant. He went to his quarters early, where the robber also made his appearance, to impress others with the idea that he had not left camp. On the following day the burglars set up some of the first articles to prepare them for sale. The servant, who watched them from his room, then notified officers Capo and Dorsey, who arrested the guilty men and brought them before the Provost Court. They were convicted and sentenced to hard labor at Fortress Pickens with ball and chain.

Neighbors Squabbling—Mrs. Hall of the Third District was charged by her lady neighbor with selling liquor to soldiers, and having a house of ill fame. Accused said it was a matter of spite of those neighbors who were proud of associating with shoulder straps, and looked down upon her because her husband was a private. She was ordered to give a bond to keep the peace.

The negro Wm. Toney confessed yesterday before Judge Atocha that he stole at different times a number of watches, jewelry, etc. That he was incited to do so by Augustin Macola, who pawn him $2—$10 for a watch, and that Antoine Pecona and Dominique Gentier also received of him stolen property. Lieutenant Deane had found most of the property which was identified. Macola and Pecona were sentenced to 6 months in the workhouse. Gentier was discharged.

Second District Recorder's Court—Chas. Leonhard Presiding—A boy about 7 or 8 years old, found pilfering sugar on the Levee was arrested with 21 pounds of sugar in his possession. He was sent to the House of Refuge.

A Chinaman, who calls himself J. Atort, was sent to the workhouse for receiving stolen goods.

Barney McMahon and his wife were dining on whisky and oysters, as usual, when they got to quarreling and eventually into the calaboose, and Recorder Leonhard sent them to the workhouse for 60 days.

First District Recorder's Court—Judge H. T. Vehnard—The colored women Ann was before the Court with her four children, for throwing Brickbats into the windows of Mr. W. Lees. The whole family was sent to the Workhouse for 60 days.

Identified—The body found floating in the New Basin was recognized as that of the drayman John Horn. He got accidentally drowned on the 9th last. He was 37 years old.

The Conservative Meeting at the Orleans Theatre—This meeting was well attended last night, and was the occasion of some very entertaining and eloquent speeches—Mr. Mills presiding. The venerable Jacob Barker, as he appeared on the stage, addressing the meeting, was a striking feature. He was frequently applauded, and we regret that we could not hear the conclusion of his argument to prove that the colored population are the greatest sufferers by this unfortunate war.

☞ More than 70,000 trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants were planted in the New York Central Park last year. The carriage drive now completed is about eight miles in length; bridle road five miles, and walks twenty miles. Over 4,000,000 persons visited the park in 1863, and in one day over 9,000 carriages entered the drives.

[FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF YESTERDAY.]

HEALTH ORDINANCE.—Again Mayor Hoyt makes an official publication of the City Ordinance, commonly known as the Health Ordinance, and gives notice that after the 10th of March next its provisions will be vigorously enforced.

SURVEYOR OF THE PORT.—It is announced that Mr. J. P. Tucker has been appointed to the position of Surveyor of the Port in this city, the duties of which office have heretofore been performed by Collector Denison. Mr. Tucker arrived a few days ago on the Evening Star, and, it is said, will at once proceed to act as Surveyor. In the capacity he is not without experience, having been for the past three years Assistant Surveyor of the Port of Boston.

JACOB BARKER AND THE "IRON CLAD OATH."—Mr. Jacob Barker published a card, stating that, after due reflection, he has taken the oath inconsiderately "iron clad" "in preference to allowing the new comers to dictate who shall govern the State," regarding the act as "a mere promise to obey the law," and in the light of a second oath of allegiance, "some what like endorsing his own note." The venerable gent adds the reservation that "all oaths not legally prescribed and administered are a nullity, judicially decided so to be everywhere."

The United States transport steamship Merrimac, Captain Sampson, arrived this morning from New York, 5th instant, and Portland, Me., 8th instant, bringing the Thirteenth Maine Regiment, 1000 men, under command of Colonel Fessenden.

The U. S. transport steamship De Molay, Capt. Sampson, arrived this morning from Portland, Maine, 24 inst., via Key West 13th inst., bringing the 29th Maine Regiment, 800 men, under command of Col. Geo. L. Beal.

CLOSING OF BAR ROOMS, &c.—The new order of the Acting Mayor, relative to bar-rooms and coffee houses, announces that these places must be closed on approaching election day, the 23d, from 7 A. M. till 8 P. M. On other days they will be required to close at 11 P. M., except Sundays, when they shall close at 9 P. M.

WHERE THE WAR WILL END.—The Washington *Republican* has a long article upon the Prosecution of the War. It argues that while our Southern lines are secure, an attempt will be made to drive our forces out of Knoxville. We are also told that Richmond is the end of the war, and that if we can maintain our position at Knoxville and Chattanooga, the capture of Richmond is, in effect and in fact, the end of the war.

"If the rebellion be not crushed, substantially, by the first of August next, the nation will be involved in new difficulties."

The Public Debt of the United States.

The New York *Commercial*, replying to the *Tribune*, says:

The debt is today $1,526,856,276, being already within $60,160,000 of the estimates of the Treasury for July next.

The required payments in gold are as follows:

UNITED STATES GOLD DEBT AND INTEREST.

Feb.	$3,775,556	7 P. ct.	$264,291
April	3,775,556	7 P. ct.	264,291
March	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
May	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
June	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
July	17,775,556	6 P. ct.	1,064,733
Aug.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sept.	1,975,556	6 P. ct.	118,533
Total	$[illegible]		$[illegible]

The coupon and certificates that bear gold interest matures on the 1st March 1, and will then be, the $500,000,000 loan is paid for. The interest of the $500,000,000 loan is paid May and November. But, suppose all full interest should be $15,000,000, but as the loan was not completed until January, there is not full six months to pay. The result is $22,608,262 in gold to be paid on May 1, and $26,102,945 to duly 1 interest. Further, by over $1,000,000, the sum we named here on February 1 was stated at $10,618,231, and the San Francisco telegram yesterday announced $2,000,000 shipped thence for New York on Government account—making $17,618,231.

Thurlow Weed on the National Debt and the Monetized Raw.

A noteworthy letter from Thurlow Weed to ex Governor Morgan, of New York, on the above topics, appears in our last files from the North. The subjoined extracts will show its general tenor:

Assuming that we are, no matter at what further cost, and in defiance of all obstacles, to preserve our Government and Union, it becomes important to divide that time, and thoughts between the present and the future—We shall, when the war terminates, find that it has cost, not only the treasury of the Nation, three-fourths of which amount will remain a National debt.

Even this formidable debt, required to preserve our nationality, exceeds not that nationality's intrinsic value. But is it not time to bind up our bleeding loins and gather strength to bear this heavy burden? Should we not cast a financial anchor that will enable the treasury to ride safely through a storm equal if not great as that England ever encountered.

When the Federal Government was established the old States ceded their respective rights to the territory wrested from Great Britain to the United States. By the purchase of Louisiana from France, in 1803, and by the cession of Florida by Spain in 1819, we became possessed of a domain of almost boundless and fabulous extent and value. We had been amply remembered by the Indian right of possession. But it was, perhaps, at immense cost, worked itself free, leaving the proceeds applicable to the support of the government and the payment, first, of the Revolutionary War debt, and next of the war debt of 1812.

Though ever prodigal with the public lands, the government found, in the revenue they yielded, a productive resource. In various forms of bounties, wages, arrearages, pensions, indemnifications, &c., we have scattered hundreds of millions of dollars; and yet the aggregate revenue derived from the public lands never has been less than one hundred and fifty millions of dollars.

After years of discussion and debate, the popular idea of "voting yourself a farm" obtained, and in 1861 the "Homestead law" was enacted. This, in effect, rendered the public domain valueless to the Government. The argument in favor of the homestead measure, that the Government did not need the proceeds of the public lands, was then conclusive. But is it so now? Shall we not, when the "din of war" ceases, need every available resource to maintain the national credit? The war has been prosecuted by the indomitable energies of the people. We are the creditors of the Government. Its resources are our only assets. Nor, as in other countries, or even in our own, on former occasions, are the creditors of the Government confined to bankers and capitalists. The farmer, the mechanic, and even the laborer, has loaned his earnings and his savings to the Government. With the public domain immediately alienated by valuable acquisitions secretly devoted to the payment of the national debt, the national credit will be placed upon an impregnable basis. In the proceeds of that domain we should have a fund annually increasing in amount, and in endearing as time. The war ended, we will know with what an elastic spirit our people will return to industrial pursuits, and with what giant strides our country will resume its career of improvement.

In view, therefore, of an approaching momentous financial crisis—a crisis which, if not, so far as is possible, reasonably provided for, may prove as severe a trial as the war which has produced it—will not Congress immediately reserve the public domain by a repeal of the Homestead law? There is no such sure way of fortifying the national credit. There is no such easy, simple or equitable mode of providing for the payment of interest on the public debt. The proceeds of the public domain, under a proper system, will bolster the treasury. With that vast Deposit, facilitating the other financial operations of the government, and easing the burdens of the people, the country will shoulder its debt, and the people, with confidence in the wisdom of their government, will go cheerfully to their work and watch, that a destiny of greatness and glory for the republic, temporarily arrested by rebellion, may be triumphantly accomplished.

In a recent conversation with Governor Fish, upon the financial future of our country, that gentleman suggested a difficulty which claims the earnest attention of statesmen. In the event which we all contemplate—a restored Union—the inauguration of a system of taxation adapted to the circumstances of the country, will be a difficult and delicate duty. The then existing debt will have been created for the purpose of coercing insurgent States back into the Union. The citizens of those States, unlike our selves, are not creditors of the Government, and have no interest in the debt. Shall they be taxed to pay it? This would be regarded as a fresh infliction, or penalty, after their offence had been expiated. That tax will, however, in a degree become necessary, but we should make these "infliction" as little burdensome and irritating as possible.

The repeal of the Homestead law would subject none who voted for it to a charge of insincerity. All the circumstances and conditions of the country and people have changed. The claims of the Government, even if those claims conflicted with the interests of the people, are paramount. But there is no such conflict. Those for whom benefit that law was enacted are now giving their services and blood to the Government. And what is a prospective "homestead" worth without a Government to protect and a Union to concentrate it? Is it not, then, the imperative duty of Congress to reclaim and husband every acre of the broad, fertile and rich domain? Held, inviolably, as a trust fund for the protection of the national credit, our national debt, however large, instead of depressing industry, would furnish a secure, and, moreover, would furnish guarantees for the fidelity of our rulers and representatives, and impart strength and stability to the Government.

Very truly, yours,

THURLOW WEED.

Hon. E. D. Morgan.

Loss of a Valuable Library.

One of the most serious losses by a late fire at Natchez, Mississippi, is the referred to in the Natchez *Courier* of the 13th instant:

We are pained to learn that, during the great fire on Wednesday morning, the large and valuable library of Judge J. S. B. Thacher, was entirely consumed. This may be looked upon as a great public calamity. His library contained, besides law and historical books, the most complete record of Mississippi, as Territory and State, that could possibly be obtained, as well as a most accurate history of Natchez, from the time of Spanish rule to its growth as a commercial city of the United States.

POLITICAL.

The citizens of Louisiana should ask themselves what course is best calculated to secure their own honor and interests, and the welfare of the State. Louisiana was dragged into secession against the wishes of the majority of the people. There never was a vote of her citizens directly in favor of secession, and the ordinance by which she was arrayed in her hostility to the Government was never submitted to a vote of the people. Every candid man will admit that the scheme of secession was carried through by fraud and violence, that a system of intimidation was resorted to, which silenced the voice and the pen of opposition, and made it dangerous for any man to be even suspected of allegiance to the Union. Had there been a free election on secession or no secession, there is no doubt whatever that Louisiana never would have cast off her allegiance to the Union.

The leaders of the secession conspiracy told us that if the State (large the Confederacy, our property would be secured, that slavery would be forever secure; that there would be no serious war. How have these promises been kept? Where are our slaves and? where is the security of slave property? Echo answers, where? The wisest statesmen of the South warned us that a war with the Free States would certainly result in the overthrow and total destruction of the institution of slavery. Their sage counsels were disregarded; but their wisdom has been proved by the bitter experience of the last three years. We went to war for a delusive idea, and the result is that slavery which was secure under the old Union, has been killed so dead that the only question now is whether the carcass shall have decent burial. Instead of no war, we have seen the South devastated by this fratricidal conflict, and ruin and poverty have taken the place of prosperity and wealth.

This is the manner in which the leaders in rebellion have kept their promises; and the question now is, whether the people who followed them in voluntarily at first, are bound in honor to stand by them any longer. Was a true Southerner, honor means everything. Are we, then, bound in honor to support men who have violated every promise and broken every pledge? We say that honor does not point in that direction. Honor calls us to regard the welfare of the State, the interests of the people, the well being of our families; to fulfil our obligations as citizens and as citizens.

The sacred interests of society, the interests which all men of honor hold most dear; the ties of family and the obligations of patriotism call upon us with a loud voice, to give up all sympathy with a hopeless and unjustifiable cause. Rebellion has lost all chance of success. It is sad or exceptionable if in any manner is to prolong a struggle which can only bring disaster and ruin upon the South. It is our duty, under these circumstances, to come promptly forward and take the President's oath, thereby publicly securing our acquiescence in the decrees of fate, and our determination to accept the present situation of affairs, and to do what is best for ourselves and our country.

The true conservative candidate for Governor, is

HON. MICHAEL HAHN.

He accepts the fact that slavery is dead beyond all hope of resurrection, he will use all his power and influence to rebuild our civil institutions upon an indestructible basis. He is in favor of a system of labor which will secure the enfranchisement of our plantations, and is inflexibly opposed to any attempt to revive the condition of slavery, he is quite as inflexibly opposed to the fanatical doctrine of the political equality of the negroes—the theory advocated by Mr. Durant, and represented by Mr. Flanders, the candidate of the negro equality party.

A Good Example.

Joseph Bagher, one of our oldest and most honored citizens, has taken the President's oath, and has been published in the Union to the world.

The course of Mr. Barker is one which is dictated by sound common sense, and by pure principles of patriotism. His whole life and history are against such a supposition. He is one of our consistent conservative citizens, and the fact that he has taken the President's oath, speaks volumes.

Sentiments of the Country.

Twenty-five hundred citizens of Louisiana met at Baton Rouge, on Monday, to hear Hon. Michael Hahn on the political questions of the day. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and Mr. Hahn's views received the approbation of the good people. The meeting was not a mushroom affair, but the farmers and planters from miles around came together and resolved to support Mr. Hahn for their Governor.

Shall we hold back and remain silent at this most interesting period in the history of our State? Every sentiment of patriotism, every impulse of manhood, and every instinct of self preservation and self-interest, say on "No." Citizens of Louisiana! We have but to do our duty, and a prosperous and glorious future is before us. This is the inauguration of peace, freedom and prosperity—will we aid in the noble work?

Free State Executive Committee.

109 COMMON STREET.

MEETS EVERY EVENING, at 4 o'clock.

President—Col. A. C. HILLS.
Vice President—J. T. BARRETT, JOHN PAYNE.
Secretaries—W. H. HIRE, J. R. TERRY.
Treasurer—W. F. STOCKTER.

MEMBERS.

Col. A. C. Hills, B. Rush Plumley, Z. P. Gahuright, Dr. A. P. Dostie, Geo. S. Denison, George Ingram, Louis Lombard, J. R. Terry, Samuel Parsons, John Parsell, Geo. F. Phelps, F. Devergne, J. L. Davies, H. Schangler, Charles Claiborne, Dr. W. H. Hire, Jas. Fellon, Joseph Gaffanki, Judge J. B. Eustis, W. F. Judd, Thos. Winn, Joseph Zimmer, J. M. G. Parker, Joseph Wall, J. B. Sarcder, Gerhart Seiltz, W. H. Burrough, E. B. Bell, Thos. H. Murphy, Jas. McLaughlin, Judge A. Lanzas, Judge F. H. O'Neill, E. S. Chadwick, C. F. Schroan, W. O. Bertin, E. O. Bertin, G. J. Covanagh, J. P. Montanel, Dr. Beckman, F. Baker, Hermann Baker, W. E. Wasson, Judge R. Mentzer, C. Baumbach, Patrick Harmon, Judge J. J. Burnett, J. E. Boulin, James Dunne, P. M. Crosby, W. B. Fish, Chas. Lonsmann, Henry Kenets, M. Delhomey, Edmond Flood, John Stumpf, Thos. McMahon, S. J. Wenck, O. W. Austin, S. F. Lynch, George S. Barns, J. W. Thomas, Michael Ryland, F. Murphy, Chas. Lonsmann, P. M. Crosby, F. J. Kohnke, John O'Connors, Frederick Otto, Robert Sonnle, Spencer G. Hamilton, W. T. Shearter, T. G. Meeks, Edward Kingston, E. H. Shakspeare, L. Maurer, Wm. King, Charles Manner, G. W. Sandler, Henry Nixon, F. S. Wampot, Chas. J. Cure, H. C. Thompson, J. Brinkmeyer, J. P. Collins, M. T. Hill, Michael Murphy, Wm. Seymour, Capt. Count Lange.

FREE STATE NOMINATIONS.

Election, February 22, 1864.

FOR GOVERNOR,
MICHAEL HAHN.

FOR LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR,
J. MADISON WELLS.

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE,
S. WROTNOWSKI.

FOR TREASURER,
J. G. RELDEN.

FOR ATTORNEY-GENERAL,
R. L. LYNCH.

FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
JOHN McNAIR.

FOR AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS,
A. P. DOSTIE.

The above Candidates are the Nominees of the FREE STATE CONVENTION, which met in Lyceum Hall on Monday Evening, February 1st, in possession of the Call of the Free State General Committee. feb 18

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

SEE OFFICE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Feb. 17, 1864.

The Gold hange market has shown only a little degree of activity to-day, the demand being checked by the exports of Cotton by the 14th inst. (see below) and the amount already in the market on hand. The New York flight cost to a moderate extent at 1¼, 1¼ and 1¼ per thousand, some parties have sold at 1¼ and 1¼, only in the day, subsequently sellers at 1¼, 1¼. We also notice sales of three days' flight at 1¼ per thousand. There was more irregular discount for checks on Northern points, noted at ¼ ¾ per cent. There was very little counter business with continued quiet but firm. Some private Sterling sold at 110. The Banks ask 108 for Sterling and 3.120 for France, with sales at 3.18. Private France may be quoted at 3.17¼, 3.17.

Upon at 7 o'clock, Performance to commence at 7½.

PRICES OF ADMISSION—Dress Circle and Parquette, 50 cents. Second Circle, 50 cents. Gallery 25 cents. Gallery, 25 cents. Private Box of 6 $1 and Four Stall, $1.

VARIETIES THEATRE.

LESSEE AND MANAGER.

LEWIS BAKER.....STAGE MANAGER.

THURSDAY EV