The New Orleans Bee.

Office 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 2, 1863. Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXXVI.—Whole No 12,887.

NEW ORLEANS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 2, 1863.

Sales at Auction Sales.

By D. E. Morphy, at 12 o'clock, on the levee, opposite Jackson Square, hams and tongues.

By R. T. Montgomery, a 11 o'clock, foot of Bienville street, new molasses; at 10½ o'clock, at stores 99, 101 and 103, Customhouse street, furniture.

By D. E. Morphy, at 10 o'clock, at the corner of Ursulines and Peyroux streets, grocery store.

By E. M. Jacobs, at 11 o'clock, at 111 Royal street, oyster saloon and coffee stand.

By the Sheriff, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, dwelling-house.

J. A. Cassavant, Surgeon Dentist, has removed to No. 156 Canal street, near Baronne. See advertisement in another column.

R. T. Montgomery will sell this day, at 11 o'clock, foot of Bienville street, 100 bbls choice new molasses. Dealers should be on hand.

The sale of elegant furniture at Nos. 99, 101 and 103 Customhouse street, in the matter of Negle & Carpenter vs their creditors, will be resumed this day, at half past 10 o'clock, by R. T. Montgomery, auctioneer. A large portion of very fine stock yet remains to be sold. Dealers and housekeepers would do well to attend.

Valuable Improved Real Estate on Carondelet street at Auction.—We are requested to call attention to the sale to be made this day at noon, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, of the brick dwelling-house situated on Carondelet street, between Julia and St. Joseph streets, First District. For particulars see advertisement.

Great Bargains in Boots and Shoes.—When every thing manufactured of leather is so hard to be got at old and moderate prices, the pedestrians public, every body, indeed, little and big, able to stand or walk, will welcome the notice elsewhere of the great closing out sale, at great bargains, of boots and shoes, at J. J. Weckerling's, corner of Frenchmen and Morene streets, Third District, preparatory to his removal to the corner of Esplanade and Victory streets, opposite the Engine House.

Wines, Liquors, Teas, Cigars, &c., at Low Cash Prices—Joseph H. Wilson & Co., dealers in wines, liquors, teas and cigars, heretofore doing business at No. 36 Lafayette street, it will be seen, have removed to No 159 Tchoupitoulas street, between Julia and St Joseph streets. In addition to the large and assorted stock of the articles named, kept constantly on hand at the lowest cash prices, they have also for sale Crooke's celebrated bitters, of which their establishment is the depot. Persons seeking any of the merchandise in which they deal can scarcely fail to make satisfactory purchases by giving them a call.

A Memphis letter to the New York *Times* states that the Memphis and Charleston Railroad is being abandoned by the Federal forces, as the expense of guarding it was too great.

Memphis papers continue to report roving bands of guerrillas along the river; about 100 of them, under Sol Street, having recently dashed into Hickman, plundered stores, and captured four or five Union soldiers.

The schooner Friends, Capt. Grant, hence for Rastan, in sailing down the river on Saturday evening last, when near Mottell's Flats, came in collision with a steamer bound up, carrying away the bowsprit, jib boom and head gear, which compels the Friends to return to the city for repairs.

Lucien Anderson, M. C., captured by the rebels in their raid on Mayfield, Ky., passed through Cairo recently, says a dispatch from that place, *en route* for his home; having been released on condition that he would procure the release of Truston Polk.

Great consternation was caused in Sidney, Iowa, on the 10th November, by the blowing up with powder the court-house of that town. The excited inhabitants could find no clue to the authors of this gunpowder plot.

Prisoners Taken at Waterproof, La.—We learn, says the Natchez *Courier* of the 27th ult., that fourteen members of the Conner Battery were taken prisoners by the Federal troops last Sunday night, at Waterproof, La. They were probably taken to Vicksburg.

Arrival of General Banks and Staff.—The steamship McClellan, Captain Gray, arrived here yesterday morning from Brazos and the Texas coast, having Major-General Banks and staff on board, says the *Era* of yesterday evening.

It is stated in a New York dispatch of the 23d of November, that an Army of the Potomac letter says an order has been issued to shoot all guerrillas as soon as captured.

New York Journals on the Situation in Tennessee.

The New York *Tribune*, as if by authority, speaks as follows:

There might be cause for uneasiness if a second rebel column were approaching Knoxville from Southwestern Virginia, simultaneously with that from Chattanooga. While it is possible that a force has been put in motion from the Virginia line, it seems certain that it has not neared Knoxville sufficiently to threaten Gen. Burnside. A body of troops coming from that direction would have to march nearly 150 miles over extremely rough roads, and could not come within many days march of Knoxville without due notice of its advance to our army. No information to that effect is yet made public.

To our certain knowledge, General Grant has positive information that the rebel force advancing upon East Tennessee consisted of only three divisions of infantry. Allowing five thousand muskets for each of these—a very liberal estimate—we have not yet seen reason to suppose that the strength of the army we know to be at the disposal of Gen. Burnside.

It cannot be questioned, in view of the division of Bragg's army for the flank operation in East Tennessee, that if General Grant means to strike a blow this winter, now is the time and opportunity. Since General Sherman has effected a junction with him, the strength of his army is as great as it will ever be until the old regiments are filled up. We cannot print the figures, but know that the army of the Cumberland alone is believed in Chattanooga to be equal in point of numbers to the Rebel force still in front of the place.

General Grant, ever since he took command, has been anxious to solve the problem of the security of our possession of Chattanooga definitely and decisively in our favor. We are convinced that he will not let the winter pass without working the solution, whether he sees upon his present opportunity or not. This much is certain: Chattanooga, so far, has been to us a barren conquest—a mere possession of a piece of Rebel territory. Another battle will be necessary to secure us not only a permanent title to what we now have, but also the real value of the tenure; that is, the access to and control of the roads leading east and south from the place; all of which the enemy at present firmly holds. Without them, Chattanooga is not a gateway, but a gate, locked by Rebel hands, from behind which we cannot move in any direction.

The *World* says:

At last accounts General Burnside's command was in extreme peril. He had lost all of East Tennessee save Knoxville, where he was invested and in danger of capture. Matters have a very grave look in that quarter. Longstreet is an able general, while Burnside is not.

General Grant, we are assured, has his army in motion. This threatening movement of Longstreet upon Eastern Tennessee compels him to take the initiative against Bragg. The latter must either fall back or fight, and to save Longstreet he must do the latter. Reinforced by General Sherman's command, which is much larger than the highest rebel guesses have placed it, General Thomas's force must largely outnumber that of the enemy. If numbers, skill, and valor can give us a victory, we ought soon to hear of one in the neighborhood of Chattanooga.

General Meade's army is also in motion and Lee must either fall back to Richmond or fight a battle. There are indications that his purpose is to retreat, and the sudden sending away of the Union prisoners would seem to indicate that the rebel government is of opinion that a siege of their capital is not an improbable event.

It is well understood that Gen. Meade is advancing against Lee under positive orders. He own judgment is against so important a movement without a larger force. So, if a reverse should occur, the fault must not be laid at his doors, but at those of the President and General Halleck.

We read in the New York *Sun*:

The news from Tennessee is highly important. The rebels have struck the long threatened blow against General Burnside, and he is now closely invested at Knoxville. His outposts, which were very numerously much extended, have been driven in, with some loss, to our side, and Gen. Longstreet is vigorously following up his temporary advantage. Gen. Burnside's position is critical. He cannot now form any junction with our forces at Chattanooga, and General Thomas can only aid him by detaching a sufficient force from the main body to compel Longstreet's retreat. It is barely possible that reinforcements may be sent to Knoxville by the Cumberland Gap. But the route is so difficult, in consequence of the guerrilla operations now going on in that region, that it would appear that relief can only come from Chattanooga. Strategically, Gen. Burnside's forces may be regarded as the left wing of the Army of the Cumberland, and a serious disaster to it would be dangerous to our cause in the South west.

An Important Movement by a Portion of General Thomas's Army at Chattanooga.

Washington, November 24.—The *Star* of this afternoon will contain the following account of a brilliant preliminary movement by Gen. Thomas:

Chattanooga, November 24.—The reconnoitre ordered by Gen. Thomas has been a much successful and brilliant affair. The troops employed were the divisions of Generals Wood and Sheridan, of the 4th Army Corps, under the immediate command of Gen. Adam.

The object of the movement was partly to ascertain the strength of the rebel lines, and partly to feel the knolls in front of our left, half way between our lines and Missionary Ridge. The principal attack was led by Gen. Hazen's brigade, commanded by him, and supported on the left by General Willich's brigade, and on the right by the whole division of Sheridan. The entire field was distinctly visible from the front part of the woods, where Hazen's line of battle was formed.

General Howard's corps formed in a solid column as a reserve to the attacking force, the field being commanded by the heavy guns. Only one field battery was taken into action. This was planted on an elevated knoll, in the centre of which General Sheridan's line of battle was formed. Before the order to advance was given, the troops moved out of their position just before 10 o'clock, P. M., and remained in line three quarters of an hour in full view of the enemy. At last everything being ready, General Granger gave the order to advance, and Generals Hazen and Willich pushed out simultaneously.

The first shot was fired at 2 P M, and in five minutes the command of General Hazen was fully engaged, while the artillery of Lieutenant Wood and General Thomas opened heavily upon the rebel rifle pits. The practice of our gunners was splendid, the camps and batteries of the enemy being about one and three quarter miles distant. But our fire elicited no response, and it was soon evident that the rebels had no heavy artillery in that part of their intrenchments.

Our troops rapidly advanced, as if on parade, occupied the knolls upon which they were at twenty minutes to 2 o'clock. Ten minutes later, General Willich, driving across the open field, carried the rifle pits in his front, whose occupants fled as they fired their last volley; and General Sheridan moving through the forest that stretched before him, drove in the rebel pickets, and shelled his advance in obedience to orders. On reaching the rifle pits where the rebel force was awaiting his attack—the design being to recover the heights on our left, but not to assault the rebel works

We have taken about 200 prisoners, mostly Alabama troops, and have gained a position of importance should the rebels attempt to hold Chattanooga Valley; and with these heights in our possession, a column moving to turn Missionary Ridge is secure from flank artillery.

Affairs in Georgia.

We have already quoted from the late message of Governor Brown, of Georgia, some remarks concerning the internal affairs of that State. We make the following extracts in the same relation:

IMPRESSMENT OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.

These impressments have been ruinous to the people of the northeastern part of the State, where there is not, probably half a supply of provisions made for the support of the women and children. One man in fifty may have a surplus, and forty out of fifty may not have half enough. If the impressment officer is permitted to seize and carry off the little surplus in the hands of the few, those who have not enough, have no where to look for a supply. Every pound of meat and every bushel of grain, carried out of that part of the State, by impressing officers, must be replaced by the State at public expense or the wives and children of soldiers in the army must starve for food.

As all efforts to prevent the suppression of the system of moral robbery and plundering in a portion of the State almost destitute of supplies, has failed, I deem it the duty of the Legislature to take the matter into its own hands and protect its own people.

To this end I recommend the passage of a law making it felony, to be punished by ten years' imprisonment in the penitentiary, for any person claiming to act as a Confederate officer or agent, to impress the property of any citizen of this State in violation of the act of Congress, or to refuse to allow the citizen all the rights given by the act of Congress. And if any person should profess to be an officer or agent of the Government, with power to make impressments, who has not such authority, I recommend that the act make it the duty of the court to sentence such persons to receive thirty-nine lashes upon his bare back, and to be imprisoned ten years in the penitentiary. I also recommend that the law be so changed as to make it felony in any commissary or quartermaster to send an officer or agent into any county in the State to make impressments until he has published the name and description of such officer with the nature of his powers, in a newspaper having a general circulation in the county, or by posting such advertisement upon the door of the court-house, and at three of the most public places in the county. So much oppression and corrupt speculation is believed to have grown out of the abuse of this power that it will require stringent laws to arrest the evil.

SALT SUPPLY.

Prior to the occupation of East Tennessee by the enemy, we were succeeding well in the importation of salt. Since that time we have been unable to get any from the Virginia works. The appropriation of our trains by the order of the board of public works of Virginia, has been a serious interruption. I have, however, through the agency of Hon H. B. Bingham, a member of this General Assembly, laid our complaint before the Governor and the Legislature of Virginia, and have great confidence that we shall receive justice and even liberality at the hands of the Government of that noble old commonwealth.

Before our communication with the works was cut off, I had succeeded in securing a sufficient quantity to furnish every soldier's family in Georgia with a half bushel in addition to that furnished as a former distribution.

The different salt companies in the State have imported large quantities, and while it is feared we shall be hard run for a supply, it is hoped there may be no suffering.

COTTON CARDS.

For the statement of the Card factory, I refer you to the report of its superintendent. While we have not been so successful as we could have wished, the number made and distributed has been of great service to the people.

The greatest difficulty has been in procuring wire. I do not consider our undertaking to make wire, in sufficient quantities, as by any means a success. But I have hopes of being able to get a good quantity through the blockade, and anticipate but little future difficulty in keeping up the supply.

As the wire costs very high and has to be paid for in hard cash I arrive at the appropriation of $200,000 for that purpose, to be refunded to the treasury out of the proceeds of the sale of the cards.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Mortuary Report—The following is the weekly report of deaths in the city of New Orleans, from the 23d to the 30th November, 1863:

Diseases—Abscess of liver 1, albuminuria 2, asphyxia 1, apoplexy 1, disease of bowels 1, disease of brain 1, bronchitis 3, burned 1, catarrh 1, cholera infantum 5, cholera morbus 1, congestion of the brain 3, congestion of lungs 1, consumption 13, convulsions infantile 1, croup 2, debility adult 2, debility infantile 1, diarrhea 4, diarrhea chronic 21, dropsy 2, dysentery 6, dysentery chronic 1, diphtheria 4, suicide 1, fever 2, fever congestive 1, fever pernicious 2, fever intermittent 5, fever brain 1, fever puerperal 1, fever remittent 2, fever scarlet 1, fever typhoid 5, fracture of leg 1, fracture of skull 1, gangrene 1, gas enteritis 2, hemorrhage from lungs 1, disease of heart 4, hydrocephalus 2, homicide 1, inflammation 1, inflammation of bowels 1, inflammation of liver 1, inflammation of lungs 2, inflammation of stomach 1, inflammation of throat 1, inflammation of womb 1, killed 1, marasmus infantile 3, old age 1, peritonitis 1, pleurisy 1, pneumonia typhoid 1, premature birth 2, pyemia 1, scrofula 1, stillborn 6, syphilis 1, teething 1, tetanus 2, ulceration of the bowels 1, wounds gunshot 3, not stated 2. Total 173.

Ages—Under 1 year, 15; 1 to 2 years, 12; 2 to 5 years, 16; 5 to 10 years, 2; 10 to 15 years, 3; 15 to 20 years, 5; 20 to 25 years, 24; 25 to 30 years, 5; 30 to 40 years, 17; 40 to 50 years, 18; 50 to 60 years, 16; 60 to 70 years, 5; 70 to 80 years, 6; 80 to 90 years, 2; 90 to 100 years, 3; 100 and upwards, 0; unknown, 27. Total, 173

Nativities—England 2, France 2; Germany 13; Ireland, 21; United States, 79; West Indies 1; not stated 55. Total, 173.

Males 107; females 65; not stated 1.

White 138; black 31; mulatto 9. Total, 172.

Provost Court—Judge Atocha presiding.—Frank Easton, an assistant wagon-master of the U S Quartermaster's Department, was fined $100 for the charge of having, when in the employ of the Government, bought from disloyal persons a wagon and a team of mules for his own use, and that he had the teamster paid and the team fed from the army food. He was found guilty, and sent to prison for six months—the offer of his sureties to reimburse the United States not prevailing.

Edward Conklin was fined $50 on the charge of having attempted to smuggle goods to the Confederates. The goods were confiscated.

The lithographers Smith and Craft, charged with counterfeiting postage currency, were acquitted of that charge, but Craft, in whose house an Enfield rifle was found had to pay a fine of $50, because he had no permit. He said he found the weapon in the well.

Captain Steward, who on board his fishing smack on the Lake had a keg of powder, an Enfield rifle and other weapons and ammunition, was fined $250, and his arsenal confiscated.

Another Captain was fined $50 for having letters to Dixie on his vessel.

Inquest.—The Coroner was called yesterday to hold an inquest on the body of a negro found dead in a street gutter night before last. A pass of Col. Kilburn was found in the pocket of the garment for the boy Prince, which identified the body. Deceased was about 25 years old, and died from cold and destitution.

First District Court.—Judge Hostand.—Michael Jurche, arraigned on a charge of murder, pleaded guilty.

The case of Henry Stevens was called. The witnesses did not respond and were ordered to be arrested to testify, and to pay a fine of $10.

Daniel Lemper had his trial on the charge of larceny in December last, November 3d.

The colored man Roberts and Joe Armstan were tried yesterday for stealing a sow from Hans Christian.

Jos. Conaway and Frank Bradford were put on their trial for an assault and battery on Mrs. Bestick.

Second District Recorder's Court—Chas. Lieumont.—A colored woman named Jane concluded to take up her quarters on the rails of the Pontchartrain railroad. The Recorder gave her quarters in the Workhouse.

Quite an array of individuals inflicting Barroda street were before the Court. Only one of them, a beauty, was sent to the Workhouse for 60 days.

Two colored girls were charged with having no character, although their character was very black. They were sent to the workhouse for 30 days.

An old negro, who almost forgot his name, was sent to the First District Court, on the charge of having stolen a keg of butter.

Mark Riley, for the fourth time to receive a prison paid $5, and Wm. Cordreaux for insulting a policeman was fined $2 30.

Secretary Seward, in answer to a request asking permission to seize men for service with Kearsarge and Sabine, says: Such permission cannot be given, and any one engaging in it would be prosecuted with all practicable diligence.

The *World* also says there can be no doubt Halleck has been outwitted by Grant so far as the movement of fresh armies operating in Virginia and Tennessee are concerned. From the Rappahannock to Tuscumbia not a single field is embraced.

A tub of pickled feet (of Chinese ladies) has been received at the Hyderian Museum, London. They show the effects of the Chinese system of compression—in days gone the corset was are actually doubled under the sole, making the foot only 4½ inches long, and other strange deformities are seen in all the specimens.

FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF YESTERDAY.

We are indebted to the steamer Olive Branch, Captain Oglesby, for acceptable newspaper favors up to the 24th ultimo, from St. Louis.

Later News from the North. via the River.

BURNSIDE'S POSITION.

Highly Interesting from Washington—Meade's Army to Advance.

FROM CHARLESTON.

Latest Commercial News.

Affairs in East Tennessee.

Cincinnati.—Major General Foster has arrived here, and will leave for Knoxville today.

Official advices from East Tennessee, up to 11 o'clock yesterday morning, were encouraging at that time. Firing at Knoxville was heard by our extreme outposts from Cumberland Gap. Adjutant Stanly, of the 12th Kentucky cavalry, arrived at Cumberland Gap yesterday, and brings hopeful news of the situation. Burnside still holds out, and had notified the citizens that he would certainly hold Knoxville. The rebel force opposing him is estimated at 15,000. Knoxville is not closely invested. The enemy has withdrawn from the south side of the river, and we forage there. The artillery fighting on the 19th and 20th was very severe, and the enemy sustained heavy loss.

Brigadier-General Sanders wounded at Campbell's Station, a few day ago, has since died.—Colonel Woolford is slightly wounded.

The *Commercial* says, the withdrawal of the enemy from the south side of Knoxville, is significant of a decisive repulse. Burnside is holding Knoxville under instructions from Grant, and it is not to be supposed, therefore, that the forces under Thomas, Hooker and Sherman, are wasting their time during these momentous days. We are in hourly expectation of receiving intelligence of a most important character.

From Washington.

[Special Dispatch to the Republican.]

Washington, November 23.—The advices received by the Government are of a corresponding tenor with those furnished by the newspapers; though a little more confidence is felt in Burnside being able to hold out.

The Washington *Chronicle* and *Republican* to day assert that General Meade advanced this morning; but the *Star* denies it, declaring that official circles know nothing of it. The latter is correct, in point of time only, for Meade has made no advance yet. The cavalry, however, is just now very active, and stirring news may be anticipated at least from that branch of the army.

It is published here that Thomas's army is on the move, and Longstreet may find troops in his rear before he can successfully besege Burnside, which will compel him to retreat, or run the risk of being cut off.

The statement that the President has not commenced writing his annual message, because of the non-receipt of the Secretaries reports, is untrue, as it is well known that he has completed that portion relating to the policy of the Administration in its bearing on the war, especially that portion referring to the status of the States in rebellion, and the institution of slavery therein.

A late train from the army brings intelligence that everything has been quiet to-day. No movement of our own, or the rebel forces has occurred. The quietness is not permanent.

Senator Sherman arrived to night.

Washington, November 23.—The *Star* says it is not known in official circles that the Army of the Potomac has moved, nor is it expected that it will move to day, and intimates that General Thomas is about taking advantage of Longstreet's movements against Burnside.

The *Republican* says of this morning's news: This morning, at dawn of day, the Grand Army of the Potomac broke camp, near the north bank of the Rapidan, and with ten days' cooked rations in their haversacks and wagons, commenced an advance movement upon the enemy, under orders of General Meade. It is supposed that before noon to day the whole of our army will be beyond the Rapidan General Lee must fight or run. If Lee has resisted the crossing of Meade's forces there has been a battle before this. If Lee does not resist our crossing it is evident he is not strong enough to fight outside of his fortifications. In the latter event he will fall back on Gordonsville or Richmond—most likely the former.

The report that Lee's army is at Hanover Junction is only speculation. It will soon be known exactly where it is, for Meade will not stop until he finds it, if he has to go to the "walls of Richmond."

Washington, November 23—It was published here to day, and telegraphed North, that the Army of the Potomac at day break commenced an advance on the enemy; but gentlemen who arrived from the front to-night are entirely ignorant of the alleged movement. The announcement is premature.

Advices from the Army of the Potomac to night say deserters come in daily, and in large numbers hourly. The most intelligent, and probably well informed, estimate Lee's effective strength at from fifty to sixty thousand.

A man of high connection in a rebel State says Lee is in hourly expectation of an attack by Gen. Meade, and is prepared at every point to give him a terrific reception. The permanent and temporary rebel works on the Rapidan are being strengthened and enlarged to a vast extent.

Washington, November 23.—The *Chronicle* and *Republican* both announce that the Army of the Potomac moved at an early hour this morning.

Baltimore, November 23.—The transport Delaware, from Port Royal and Stono Bar on the 20th, reports the capture of the rebel steamer or Banshee, from Nassau, with a cargo of great value.

New York, November 23.—The *Herald's* Army of the Potomac dispatch says: The enemy, though not seen in large force, appears to be working diligently, and seems determined to give Meade a warm reception.

Washington, November 22.—It having been decided that Burnside was to be relieved by Foster, it is now stated the order was issued the 16.h, and Burnside is ordered to report to the Adjutant General here.

From Charleston.

New York, November 23.—A Morris Island letter of the 19th says:

"Shells were fired into Charleston on the 17th instant, falling into the most populous portions of the city.

"On Sunday night a very heavy rebel fire continuously poured into our batteries from the rebel works.

"Nothing new in the fleet"

New York, November 23.—By the Fulton we learn that the sea wall of Sumter has been entirely destroyed. The rebels were building a bomb-proof on the ruins. The bombardment still continues.

New York Markets.

New York, November 23—P. M.—Gold—Irregular, unsettled, and lower, opening at 53⅝, advancing to 54⅛, declining to 52½, and closing weak at 52⅜.

Cotton—Dull, heavy, and lower, at 83 to 84c.

Flour—A shade firmer, with a very moderate business demand at $6 45 to $6 65 for extra State, and $7 85 to $7 60 for extra round hoop Ohio. Pork unchanged.

Cincinnati Markets.

Cincinnati, November 23—Flour firm but quiet at $5 75 to $5 80 for good superfine, and $5 90 to $6 for extra.

Corn firmer; old, $1 12; new, 94 to 96c. Oats higher, opening at 80 to 81c, and closing at 83 to 84c.

Whisky advanced to 70c., and in good demand.

Hogs closed 25c. higher at $7 to $7 20 for 200 lbs and upwards. Light $6 66 to $6 90. Products are held more firmly. New Mess Pork $18. Lard $12. Both are held 25c. higher at the close. Green hams 8¾ to 8¾c. Bulk shoulders 5½c. Bacon shoulders 6½c. Nothing done in sides; none good offered.

Groceries firm and active at full prices.

Gold 152. Silver 145. Exchange steady, and in large supply.

St. Louis Market.

[From the St. Louis Republican, Nov. 23.]

Monday, November 23, 2 P. M.—Dispatches from New York quote coin in that city at ⅝ per cent. premium.

Gold.—The market this morning is very quiet, with bankers offering to buy at 52½ per cent. premium, and selling at 53½ per cent. premium.

St. Louis Hog Market.—The demand continues unabated, and prices continue very firm. About fifteen hundred head were sold to-day, ranging in prices from 6 to 6½, net.

Flour.—The market opened and closed dull; no change in prices, with sales of 1,125 barrels, including 96 barrels low grade, at $5; 293 do super in lots, part delivered, at $5 50; 87 do super, at $5 70; 86 do super, at $5 80; 165 do single X, at $6 15; 88 do X, at $6 90; 380 do choice double X country, at $7, delivered.

Tobacco—Market quiet and prices unchanged, with break at both warehouses of 28 hhds; sales comprising 5 hhds, average at $1 25; 3 at $1 40; 2 do. factory lugs at $6 50 to $6 75; 5 do. planters do. at $7 70 to $9 45; 2 do common shipping leaf at $10 90 to $14; 1 do. medium do. do. at $16; 1 do. do. hide rejected; 2 boxes at $7 25 to $11 85.

Whisky—Opened and closed firmer and with an advance over Saturday, with sales of 94 bbls. ordinary proof, in two lots at 54c.

Late and Important News through Southern Sources.

CAPTURES IN VIRGINIA.

ASSAULT ON FORT SUMTER.

LONGSTREET IN FRONT OF KNOXVILLE.

Federal Situation at Chattanooga.

The *True Delta* has received a copy of the Mobile *Advertiser and Register* of November 21st, from which it compiles as follows:

Richmond, November 20.—Wednesday, about daylight, Gen. Hampton surprised the cavalry camp of the enemy four miles from Sherrysburg, Culpepper county, captured 175 men with their horses and equipments, and killed one major and three privates. Our loss was one killed and five wounded.

Our cavalry also captured thirty-nine Federals at Ellis's Ford four days ago.

Nearly all Meade's force is represented to be south of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad.

Charleston, November 19.—The enemy fired eleven shots from Battery Gregg at the city today, between 11 A. M. and 1 P. M. The damage was trifling; some three or four buildings were struck, and one person slightly injured.

The Fawnee and another gunboat came up Stono and shelled Battery Pringle, but effected nothing.

The firing on Fort Sumter has been slow and steady all day. Some few shots have been fired at the Sullivan's Island batteries.

There are no casualties at Fort Sumter or Sullivan Island.

Charleston, November 20.—Between 2 and 3 o'clock this morning the enemy, in several barges, approached Fort Sumter, and upon being hailed from the fort, answered with oaths. They discharged several volleys of musketry, which were replied to by the garrison, the engagement lasting from 15 to 20 minutes, when the barges withdrew.

Forts Moultrie, Bee and Johnson also opened on the barges. It is not known what damage was done to the Yankees. Major Elliott says it was a feigned assault.

Battery Gregg and Cummings's Point have opened very heavy fire on Sumter this morning.

Two or three more shells were thrown into the city last night, but no person was injured.

Montgomery, November 20.—There were six ballots to day for Confederate Senator. The first and sixth resulted as follows: First—J. J. Seibels 44, I. M. L. Murry 35, C. C. Clay 34, R. H. Smith 4, John Cochrane 1. Sixth—Seibels 45, Clay 34, Curry 33, Smith 3, Cochrane 1.

The Legislature then adjourned, to meet in convention again to-morrow, at 12 o'clock.

Atlanta, November 20—Advices from the front report nothing more than the usual shelling.

The *Confederacy* states that great destitution prevails at Chattanooga.

A special dispatch to the *Intelligencer* says there has been considerable skirmishing at Nickajack Pass. The enemy were driven back.

The *Appeal* learns from Colonel Chester that Longstreet had captured Knoxville, routing the enemy, and taking 1200 or 1500 prisoners; 140 prisoners arrived by the same train with Col. Chester. Wheeler is reported in the enemy's rear, and Longstreet pressing their front.

Atlanta, November 20.—General Wharton has returned from Richmond, having been promoted to Major General.

General Cheatham has returned to the front.

General Buckner will go to the front in a few days.

Two hundred and thirty prisoners came down this evening, and many more are on their way down.

Atlanta, November 20.—An officer who left Loudon on the 18th reports that Longstreet captured 1000, and Wheeler 600 Yankees on the 16th. Longstreet was a mile and a half from Knoxville entrenching.

In their retreat from Loudon the Yankee army, of about 5000, was greatly demoralized. They left about 100 wagons of commissary and ordnance stores on the road.

Robinson's brigade left Loudon yesterday to repair the pontoons left by the Yankees on the Little Tennessee, leading into Blount county.

Persons liberated from Chattanooga report great suffering for want of food and fuel.

One hundred and thirty-six Yankees, forming Burnside's rear guard, reached Dalton last night from Knoxville. They say Longstreet's Ferry trap, and that Burnside must evacuate.

Richmond, November 20.—An official telegram from General Bragg, at Missionary Ridge, of the 19th, says General Wheeler reports an attack upon and dispersion of the enemy's cavalry, turning them into their works at Knoxville, and capturing 300 prisoners. The infantry force is close up

Abingdon, November 20.—There is nothing definite, but encouraging indications from the westward. The clouds are marshalling for rain.

Charleston, November 20.—The enemy renewed his fire on the city this morning, about 11, and up to 2 o'clock this afternoon. The number of shells thrown we was twelve.

The enemy's shelling of Fort Sumter to day has been more heavy than usual with mortars, but few rifled shot were fired.

There are no casualties either in the city or in the fort.

Richmond, November 20.—The flag-of truce boat, with freight for the Federal prisoners, arrived at City Point yesterday

Meredith's reply to Ould's last letter in regard to his proposition for the exchange of prisoners, was returned without answer, in consequence of the offensive personalities. The correspondence between Ould and Meredith is therefore closed.

Ould has received a letter from Gen Hitchcock, who appears to be Meredith's superior, in which questions heretofore raised are not even discussed. This letter will be replied to in a becoming spirit, and the hope is indulged that the correspondence may lead eventually to an arrangement for exchange.

Fifteen miles more of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad has been completed, including Rappahannock bridge.

The Chattanooga correspondent of the *World* says no offensive movement can yet be undertaken by the army, as sufficient supplies are not yet accumulated.

Large numbers of mules and horses had died for want of food.

[From the New York Sun.]

Protection to American Commerce.

Ever since the commencement of the war, our New York merchants have been exceedingly restive under the individual losses experienced by them from the destruction of their ships by rebel cruisers, and a recent communication addressed to the Secretary of the Navy, presents the subject in a more serious light than it has yet appeared in, and demands a more energetic protection to our commercial interests. The memorialists state that merchants no longer calculate on protection by our cruisers, and that under this system, the imports to the New York port amounted in the quarter ending June, 1860, to $62,000,000 in American bottoms against $30,000,000 in foreign, showed a change of relations in the quarter ending June, 1863, of $23,000,000 by our own ships, while we have $62,000,000 by foreign vessels. The memorial is signed by the most eminent merchants, including Messrs Grinnel, Minturn & Co., Senator Morgan, Mayor Opdyke, Belmont & Co., Brown Brothers, and others, and concludes by stating that unless immediate protection is afforded, the mercantile navy of our country will be destroyed.

Secretary Welles, in his reply, admits the justice of the claims on the protection of the Government. He recently, he says, of his initiative, ordered the blockade fits hitherto required all the available force of the Department, but an increased force will in future be available for the pursuit and capture of the piratical rovers.

If the Secretary of the Navy shall fulfil his promises within a reasonable period, there is reason to hope that the evil complained of by our merchants will soon disappear. Most of the rebel cruisers are laid up for repairs, and all of them are in a dilapidated condition, and under the recent embargo by France and England on the sailing of armed vessels, it is not probable that any new ones will be encountered. It is manifest that English ship owners have grown rich by our expensive losses, and the wanton destruction of our ships at sea forms but a fraction of the losses to American commerce by the transfer of transportation to foreign bottoms, and under the most favorable circumstances, it will take us a long time to place American shipping where it stood at the commencement of the war.

The St. Louis *Democrat* says that a monster steamboat for the St. Louis and New Orleans trade, is being built at New Albany. Ind., by Captain Ambrose Ender, of St. Louis. This steamer, named Leviathan, will be the largest and finest Western steamboat, it is said, afloat Her main deck is 307 feet long and 50 feet wide. The engines of the once famous Eclipse will, it is supposed, give her power in proportion to her size.

The Cairo *Democrat* says it has seen some explosive bullets which were used by the South erners in several engagements. Resembling in shape the Minnié balls, they are hollow and contain fulminating powder, with a percussion match intended to explode the ball after it enters the wound.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

First District Recorder's Court—T. H. Venneard.—Margaret McCarthy, who with a very respectable appearance, was brought up for being drunk in the streets, was sent to the Workhouse for sixty days.

Wm. M. Foley and the colored girl Josephine were before the Recorder, on the first case, insulting the officer, and both were drunk, and have the choice of paying a fine of $5 or go to prison thirty days.

John Conlon to pay $2 50 or ten days.

Thomas Stanley complained that Wm. Green and Chas. Pepper had a fight to his annoyance and the disturbance of the peace. They were fined $2 50 and ordered to give peace bonds.

Johanna Shea, who was drunk and noisy, was required to give peace bonds, or go to the prison for 60 days.

Larceny.—Two colored men were arrested yesterday on the charge of having stolen half a dozen of forks and spoons, a bracelet, and a silver card-case. Their names are Arthur Arrogoss and A. T. Pinquette. The case is fixed for Friday, the 4th inst.

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

SEE OFFICE,
TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 1, 1863.

The upward movement in Exchange, noticed in our report of yesterday's market continued to-day. The supply of New York Sight was only moderate, and the bulk of the bills offered were *ex*; are regarded as first class and sold at ¾@¾ ⅌ cent. discount. A large part, if not the greater part of these negotiations were at ¾ and included bills which were sold yesterday at ⅝.

We also heard of sales to some ex out at 4 discount, but nothing lower. The market, however, seemed to be nearly bare of what would be ranked as second class.—The Banks refused to draw better than ⅛@¼ and despite advanced their pretensions to 2⅝@¾. One of the Banks made demand on 1 for payment in its own notes, another 167¾ for Currency and third 176. One or two private bills were sold outside at 162¾. They may be quoted at 160@165. The Banks ask for France 5.07@5.09; private bills may be quoted nominal at 5.12½@5.15. The improvement in Domestic Exchange may be mainly attributed to Treasury Notes, of Legal Tender Notes by the late arrivals from New York, which having pleased cotton buyers and others in funds have enabled them to refrain from drawing to meet their purchases. This will also to some extent account for the continued good demand for our leading staple and the unabated confidence of holders.

Before the news reporting a falling off in the Wall street specie market, Gold was in good request at 53@54⅛ ⅌ cent. premium, but was generally held at 55@56. There was no material change after the news, but buyers were less eager and many would not have repeated offers made early in the day. Yesterday's sales included one sum of $2000 at 57. Silver may be quoted at 40@45 premium. We noticed sales to some extent at 45. Mexican Dollars were in request. There were some purchasers at 1½ premium, payment in gold—in others we heard they were exchanged for gold at par.

Legal Tender notes approximate still nearer to par for Currency. We quote the nominal rate to dealers at ⅛ premium and by dealers at ¼. Coin Bank notes are scarce, and when wanted to pay for foreign exchange are difficult to find, but they are still quoted at only 1⅞ cent premium. Citizens' Bank notes were sold at 19⅞@⅞ premium, Crescent City at 87½@⅞. ⅌ dollar, Bank of Louisiana at 49@50c. and Merchants' at 49@50c.

Nothing of any moment was reported in Stocks and Bonds. In view of the dividend declared by the City Railroad of 5 ⅌ cent., (⅝ per share) payable on the 15th instant, its shares are held at 199@194. Holders of Gas Light sell 138@137. We continue to quote Insurance Scrip at 82½@90c. ⅌ dollar according to the date and company.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
TUESDAY EVENING, December 1, 1863.

COTTON.—Notwithstanding the accounts from New York the demand for cotton has fed to-day, and holders, actuated by firm prices, Middling being still quoted at 75c., and yet holding for more. Of these figures, the market was very nearly neglected, and we reported sales of 200 bales (65 and 10c) classification and price not reported, but understood to be at figures fully justifying the above remarks, and 36 bales at auction, embracing 1 bale Pinkney at 59c., 1 do at 60, 1 Mottram at 60, 2 bale Repeated at the same, 5 do at 62½, 1 bale do at 61½, 1 Sampies at 63½, 2 bales do at 64½, 1 bale Repeated at 65, 2 bales Samples at 65½, 2 do at 66½, 1 do Low Middling at 69, 1 do at 69¾, 4 bales Strictly Good Ordinary at 72, 4 Low Middling at 68½, 7 Strictly Good Ordinary, stained, at 70½c., 1 bale Middling at 70½c., 8 bales Low Middling at 71, and 2 Strictly Middling at 72c. A bale of Sea Island was offered, but withdrawn after receiving a bid of 81 40.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—We have again to notice a very light supply and a continued active demand, and a still further advance of ¼c. ⅌ lb. for Sugar, and 2@2½c. ⅌ gallon for new Molasses. The supply being extremely light and inadequate to the demand, to-day's sales were confined to 300 hhds. Sugar, in various lots, 10¾@11c. for Fair to Good F