THE NEW ORLEANS BEE

Office 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 21, 1865 Vol. XXVII—New Series. Vol. XVII—Whole No. 13,358.

NEW ORLEANS:
TUESDAY MORNING, FEB. 21, 1865.

On our second page will be found sheriff's and auction sales, bank notices and various miscellaneous advertisements.

Egan & King advertise Pure Boston Pink Eye Potatoes, Fresh White Corn Meal and New White Navy Beans.

We are obliged to Mr. Geo. A. Williams, clerk of the Vicksburg and Natchez packet Gray Eagle for copies of the papers from those places of the latest date.

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—Mr. Eddy appeared here last night to an excellent house, and with much artistic force and finish as Jacques in the incidentful and exciting drama of the Police Spy. He was supported with great credit by Mr. Chaplin in the part of the Notary. The performances was got-up with care and was received with satisfaction. It is to be repeated to-night, and doubtless with still greater effect as the actors become more at home in their respective roles.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—A warm welcome was extended last night to the reinstallation on these boards of the Mammoth Variety Company. Old favorites were inaugurated with enthusiasm, and the new artists received with mass friendly encouragement. The house was well filled. A fine programme is provided for to-night.

VARIETIES THEATRE.—Owing to the non-arrival of Mr. Lawrence Barrett, Adrienne the Actress was given here last night in place of the Lady of Lyons, Miss Irving appearing as Adrienne with her usual spirit and brilliancy. She will to-night personate Mrs. Cheveley Delmaine in the Serious Family.

Affairs at Vicksburg and Natchez.

The Natchez Courier of the 17th says

Now that the exciting draft is pretty well disposed of, we look forward for a more devoted attention to business. Soon there will be an increase to travel on the river. A cessation of business above indirectly affect us here, but the demands of the army being satisfied, the river again free of ice, we look forward to a brisk trade along the Mississippi coast—such as Memphis, Vicksburg, Natchez, Baton Rouge and New Orleans, have not experienced since the war commenced.

We publish, officially, the names which were drafted on Wednesday last, most of which, if not all, will probably be supplied by volunteers.

The number of whites drafted in Natchez was 48, colored 20.

The draft took place in Vicksburg on the appointed day, the 15th, 71 whites, and 70 colored being drawn, with an additional number of representatives to supply the places of those who might be rejected for cause.

The Vicksburg *Herald* of the 15th, says

The weather yesterday was very warm and pleasant. The river opponents this city to on a stand, but will resume to-morrow morning.

Business was active on the levee yesterday.

A meeting was held in Vicksburg on the 16th inst., under the presidency of A. Burwell, Esq., for the purpose of memorializing the Treasury Department for the appointment of a cotton purchasing agent at that city.

Southern News via Bayou Sara.

Three Attacks on the Lines of Wilmington, the Fleet co-operating—Mass Meeting of Gibson's Louisiana Brigade at Mobile—Their Resolution to adhere to the last to the Banner of Independence—Order from Gen. Lee—His offer of Pardon to Deserters and Absentees—His views of the Situation—Affairs in Upper Mississippi and Alabama—Federal Raid on Cold Water.

[From the Times-Delta.]

We have receive the following dispatches from our correspondent at Bayou Sara:

Wilmington, February 14.—Considerable skirmishing on our lines at Sugar Loaf on the Saturday three attacks in force were made, and which were repulsed with considerable loss to the enemy.

During the attack the enemy's whole fleet opened on Fort Caswell. Our casualties twenty. Some say our monitor threw several shells at Fort Anderson, killing one and wounding several. All quiet since.

Mobile, January 16.—At a mass meeting, Gibson's Louisiana brigade resolved, with enthusiasm, to witness the recent demonstrations for more vigorous prosecution of the war, again pledge themselves to stand by our noble President and constituted authorities so long as a banner remains which shall be bonne victorieuse—until our independence is achieved.

Richmond, February 13.—Gen. Lee has issued general orders citing persons in all departments and most temporarily absent, who will return to their commands within 20 days from publication of this order at headquarters of the department in which they may be.

No general amnesty will again be granted, and those who refuse to accept pardon now offered and shall hereafter desert, shall suffer such punishment as courts may impose and no application for clemency will be entertained.

The order closes as follows: "Taking new resolution from the fate which the enemy intends for us, let every soul devote all his energies to the common defense. Our resources, wisely, vigorously employed, are ample, and with a brave army, emboldened by determined and united people, success, with God's assistance, cannot be doubtful.

The advantage of the enemy will have but little value if we do not permit them to impair our resolution. Let us time upon confidence in security, fortitude in suffering, courage in danger, with the firm assurance that He who gave freedom to our fathers will bless the efforts of their children to preserve it."

Beaufort, Feb. 11.—Four hundred Yankee cavalry rode in our pickets at Gold Water, eight miles north of here, yesterday. They destroyed the ferryboat and returned toward Hernando.

Parties from above report a large number of transports loaded with troops going down the river.

We also received from one correspondent Mobile papers of the 14th, 15th and 16th inst. We select the following for this issue.

FROM MISSISSIPPI.

Columbus, Miss., Feb. 21.—Some very important changes have been made within the past few days, in the reorganization and disposition of the cavalry in this department. Gen. Forrest remains in supreme command of all that class of troops.

The Yankees have apparently abandoned the line of the Tennessee river in force, there being no troops at Eastport, though to compensate for this, and perhaps to disguise some secret movements of importance, they have drawn the lines very lightly, about Memphis, only gaze mitting recognitions blockade runners to make the passage.

[From the St. Louis Republican, Feb. 13.]

Sorghum Sugar.

After experimenting for two years, Mr. Robert Moore, of Bloomington, Illinois, has discovered a method of crystallization, by which the syrup from imphee and Chinese sugar cane can be advantageously reduced to sugar. Sugar can be advantageously reduced to sugar. Sugar from Sorghum has heretofore been produced on a small scale, but no success has attended the efforts to manufacture it extensively, and to bring it into market at reasonable prices. During the past year Mr. Moore has made about 600 lbs of sugar, and samples of it sent to the show it to be of very good quality.

While all kinds of cane syrups can be reduced to sugar, it is now agreed that the Imphee variety is the most profitable, on account of the purity of its juice and the superior richness of its saccharine matter.

Mr. Moore states that he can produce sugar in large quantities, as quickly as it is obtained from the ordinary sugar cane, and at prices far more satisfactory to consumers than those now prevailing. The estimate is based on one gallon of syrup yielding three pounds of sugar, leaving an excellent article of molasses.

Speaking of the "Life of Cæsar," the Philadelphia *Chronicle* says Mrs. Eugenie Bonaparte is spending a power of money on her jaunts, wardrobe, and if her husband does not write a book, or strike oil there is no failing but he will be published some bright morning in the business list.

What is the difference between a dress and a child crying over a sore finger? One hurts the mind, the other mind the hurt.

A hotel on Staten Island was enlivened last week by the severe flogging of a blasphemer by an enraged female.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Two Days Later from the North.

GOLD IN NEW YORK ON THE 14TH 167½—COTTON 80 TO 82.

Important Movements of Sherman's Army.

(To the New Orleans Bee.)

Morgantown, February 20, 1040 P. M.—Steamer Cuba Dolson passed down at 7:30 P. M. with New York dates of the 15th. Gold closed on the 14th at 167¾. Cotton 80 to 82. No quotation on the 15th.

New York, Feb. 15th.—The Richmond *Dispatch* of the 11th thus sums up the situation in South Carolina: The Edisto River rises in the south western portion of South Carolina, flowing south westwardly, empties with the Atlantic forty miles southwest of Charleston.—Branchville is on the Augusta branch of the South Carolina Rail Road, one mile from the Point at which the rail road crosses the Edisto. This river is now the line held by general Hardee in the neighborhood of Branchville. Nearer the coast we hold the line of the Combahee River in the vicinity of Charleston and Savannah rail road. From the most authentic intelligence it appears that the whole or at least a part of Sherman's army is making active demonstrations against Combahee Ferry, near the Charleston and Savannah rail road, as if with the intention of marching on Charleston.—The fact of his forces have appeared at four points on the Edisto, namely, at the New Bridge five miles below Branchville at Romakers and at Holman's Bridge and at the rail road bridge opposite that place.

Our troops that held the bridge over the Saltketchie were driven in last Wednesday. If he succeeds in forcing a passage of the Edisto above and below Branchville he will keep the railroad running thence to Columbia and also the railroad to Charleston and compel our troops to fall back from Branchville. But they will most probably evacuate it if at any time it should appear that Sherman cannot be prevented from crossing the river. The above is written in hope of giving our readers some idea of the situation in South Carolina.

It was said some days ago that Sherman was also sending a column against Augusta on the Georgia railroad and up the Savannah River, but we have no reliable information on this head.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The President to-day nominated to the Senate the Hon. E. D. Morgan to be Secretary of the Treasury.

New York, February 14.—The *Herald's* special has the following:

From the most authentic intelligence it appears that the whole or at least a part of Sherman's army is making active demonstrations against Combahee Ferry near the Charleston and Savannah railroad as if with the intention of marching on Charleston. The rest of his forces have appeared at four points on the Edisto, viz.: at New Bridge five miles below Branchville at Romakers and at Holman's Bridge at the rail road bridge opposite that place.

Charleston, Feb. 8.—A dispatch from Gen. Wheeler, dated February 8th, says that a large column of the enemy's infantry struck the railroad at Graham and Blackstock. Gen. Patrick is at Branchville with three brigades. Gen. Shinder died suddenly this morning at Appolosa.

New York, Feb. 15.—The Richmond *Sentinel* of the 14th says that the Union forces are making raids in Florida and at last accounts were marching on Scott Bluff. It says the appointment of Gen. Dick Taylor to command in the rebel army of Tennessee has inspired the troops with fresh hopes.

Washington 14th.—It is fully understood that the country is indebted mainly to Horace Greeley for the late peace demonstrations. It was at his instance and solicitation that Mr. Biber went to Richmond and got the machinery which made the conference necessary. General Grant told members of Congress recently that if the country would give him 100,000 fresh troops he could close the war in three months. Governor Thos. H. Hicks, U. S. senator from Maryland, died to day at seven o'clock.

Gov. Bramlette's Views in Favor of the Acceptance by Kentucky of the Constitutional Amendment Abolishing Slavery.

In his message submitting the constitutional amendment transmitted to him from Washington, to the consideration of the Legislature of Kentucky, Gov. Bramlette remarks:

Our slave property was assessed for taxation in 1860, before the War Began at $107,191,257 in 1861 the effect of rebellion and unfriendly legislation reduced the valuation to $57,311,376, and in 1864 to $31,179,256.

In view of the sufferings of our people, the illegal stand ever maintained by our State, our losses by the direct and indirect action of our Government pending our struggle to maintain our national life, they we not, with confidence, demand, as a condition of our acceptance of the proposed amendment, that Congress will appropriate the sum assessed before our slaves—$31,179,256—to the use of the State, to be used in compensating the owners for the slaves so emancipated? England, in the act of 1833, abolishing slavery, appropriated £20,000,000 to compensate the owners.

It can not be that our Government will be less just, if we accept the amendment upon condition that the assessed value of 1864 be paid to the State, to compensate owners who are to be affected by the proposed amendment, the appropriation to be declared to be limited to the proportion so ultimately given to the United States by the action of the Commonwealth. I have well believe that the adoption of this amendment will have the effect to shorten our struggle with rebellion can not refuse to vote the appropriation, as it will, upon their own theory, be entombed. Those who hold to our view will not refuse it, because it is just and right.

The past is beyond our control, the present only is ours, but, by wise and prudent counsels, the future may be shaped by us. Deprived of all support from the past, shall we throw overboard the future by impulsively or rashly throwing away the present opportunity to shape our destiny?

The good of our own people—security, peace, liberty, and the union of Kentucky, Should be our chief and great concern, in acting upon the momentous question. To forfeit present benefit and impend future calamity, because of disapprobation of the part, is not the wisdom of the safe and prudent statesman. If we could defeat the final adoption of the proposed amendment by our refusal to ratify it, the policy of impunity or so doing would then be a legitimate question of debate. But, whether we ratify or not, the end must come, it is a fixed fact; slavery must end. Shall we accept the fact, although we had no hand in bringing it about, or shall we close our eyes to its existence? Though we may close our eyes to the fact, yet it will still remain, and will affect us as materially as if we looked upon and accepted it.

By refusing the conditional acceptance suggested, will you not greatly endanger the quiet and security of our people, and subject them to untold calamities by provoking the issue, without the possibility of gaining any thing thereby? Will you not risk the loss of all against nothing to be gained? Better accept it unconditionally, than to reject it altogether.—The prudent farmer, after the storm has swept over his orchard and torn a branch from a favorite tree, leaving it attached by only a few shattered fibers, will cut off the branch and cast it away, that it may not draw the sap which would go to heal the wound, to feed, for a season, the sickly life of the torn branch, then carry back its decay to the parent trunk.

Shall we be less wise? Would we be deemed wise or prudent who, having an arm shattered by a bursting shell, and pronounced by the surgeon to be incurable save by amputation, yet would obstinately refuse amputation, solely upon the ground that he was not shot in open battle, or fair fight? Would such refusal change the character of the wound, or lessen the danger of mortification and death? Shall we refuse to have the shattered limb of slavery amputated, when none can think of saving it, merely because it has been destroyed by rebels and Abolitionists combined?

A ball at Konigsberg, in Prussia, recently, a young lady suddenly fainted, and it was afterwards learned by the doctor who was called upon to render aid, that her indisposition arose from the presence of a spider on some green ornaments in her hair, and in the lineaments of her face, which, strip of the same color.

The War Status of Fernando Wood.

The papers have generally represented that, in his late speech regarding the peace conference, Fernando Wood, the rather varying and indefinite leader of the Northern peace Democracy, had repudiated the peace platform and given his unqualified adhesion to the war policy. The text of the speech shows that there are at least two characteristic *ifs* in the way of his absolute accession to the war party, and under cover of which a skilful political dodger could retreat, if not to his former position, at least some distance from his new. These *ifs* involve the hypothesis that the Government has sincerely made and exhausted all possible peaceful efforts, consistent with honor, for reunion, on a Constitutional basis, and the corollary hypothesis that those efforts have been defeated by the positive refusal of the rebel authorities to listen to any terms but unconditional and lasting separation. In the words of Mr. Wood:

It has been one of the sources of my complaint against this Administration; it has been one of the gravest charges which, in my judgment, can be properly made against it, that in stead of having proposed negotiations, it has prevented any proposition of peace being made to it, by heaping indignities to this capital of any agent or emissary of the rebel Government. Therefore, until I am entitled that the Administration earnestly desires peace, that it has exhausted every thing which, in honor, it could do to procure peace, consistent with the Union and the maintenance of the laws and the Constitution of our country—until that time comes, I must retain my position in favor of peace, and in favor of negotiation as against continued hostility.

But, if these peaceful efforts have been made and exhausted, if the door to conciliation and union has been thrown open by the President of the United States, and if the answer to that has been recognition or separation, why, sir, so far as my feeble influence is concerned, it will be given to aid our country, to maintain its early constitutional way to national integrity, in the language of the immortal Jackson, "The Union must be preserved, peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must."

The New York *News*, organ of the extreme peace party, and under the editorial control of Benjamin Wood, Fernando's brother, thus refers to the latter's speech in question:

Either Mr. Wood's former attitude in regard to the war between the sections has been equivocal, and, by us at least, misconstrued, or he has relinquished the position that he has assumed at the period of his return to Congress. We do not recognize in the opinion expressed by him on Saturday, that hostility to the principle of armed coercion of the States that constitutes an indispensable attribute of the peace party. We do not propose to analyze the speech that, in our estimation, identifies its author with the War Democracy, and we are able to lay it before our readers, that they may decide how far our judgment is supported by the evidence. We cannot understand the motive that has occasioned this sudden change of base on the part of one whose consistency, tact and energy we relied to vindicate the cause to which we are devoted. But we cannot dispute the fact that Mr. Wood stands today in antagonism with his own previous record, and has pronounced himself a recreant to all interests and purposes.

The Great Coal Oil Fire in Philadelphia—Danger of Storing Petroleum in Cities.

[From the Philadelphia Press, 6th.]

A conflagration, the most terrible in its consequences of any that has occurred in our city since the 10th of July, 1850, broke out yesterday morning, about half-past two o'clock, among a large quantity of coal oil, which had been stored on an open lot on the south side of Washington street, above Sixth. On the southwest corner of Sixth and Washington streets, there is a coal yard belonging to Daly & Potter, and to the west of this was the lot on which the coal oil had been stored, to the amount of two thousand seven hundred barrels. The flames spread through the greater part of this oil with almost the rapidity of gunpowder. The property in the immediate neighborhood consisted of three story brick dwelling houses, which are occupied by respectable families of limited means, and are worth about two thousand dollars each. The families in the neighborhood sprang from their beds, and, without attempting to secure even their clothes, rushed into the streets, glad to escape from the terrible death that threatened them. The streets were deep with slush, and the rain was pouring in torrents. Such a stormy night, it is said, was never known before in this city. Some who lived in the closest proximity to the fire were unable to escape, and perished in the flames. The blazing oil ran down the building beneath it streams, down Sixth street to Federal, and fired the houses on both sides of Sixth street, destroying them and their contents, as if they had been straw. The flames, at the caprice of the wind, went up the street and down again, and into Edsworth, Washington and Federal streets. Fully five squares of houses, had they been in flames in a few, was the work of hours, and the scene was one to make the coward heart quail. There were people escaping from their burning homes, which contained in many instances their living all in the world, with no covering but their night clothes. There were parents seeking their children, and little ones mourning the loss of their parents; but worse than all these heart-rending scenes, there were men, women and children literally roasted alive in the streets. Joseph B. Ware and his family, consisting of his wife, five daughters and two sons, occupied the dwelling No. 115 Sixth street, the second house below the coal yard. They all got into the street just as they left their beds, and there they found themselves in a sheet of fire. The family became scattered. Mrs. Ware had her youngest child, a girl of about four years of age, in her arms. She fell, and Lewis C. Williams, a member of the Moyamensing Hose Company, made a desperate effort to save them. He had hold of the unfortunate woman, but he was compelled by the necessities of the fire to leave her to her fate and save safety for himself by flight. Mrs. Ware, her child, and a daughter about fifteen years of age, were burned to death in the street, and so terribly mutilated that their remains can only be identified by the peculiar circumstances surrounding them. Captain White and his two sons escaped, but three of the daughters are missing. Captain White and his two sons were all badly burned.

There were five bodies in all recovered. They were taken to the Second District Station House. Three of the bodies have been recognized as belonging to the Ware family. The body of a man, supposed to be James Gibbons, the proprietor of a dry goods store, 1133 South Ninth street. There is also a boy not yet recognized, and a man whose body was found in Ninth street, a short distance from Washington street. A fragment of red cloth, resembling the lining of a woman's coat, leads to the belief that the victims were women. The remains are believed to be those of Samuel McMeakin, a member of the Moyamensing Hose Company.

[FIRST TO THE RESCUE.]

The parties have examined the remains of those at the station house, without the ruins of the fire, and believed that the flames were first discovered in sending some coal oil, under a shed, across building had therein from Edsworth (formerly Little Washington) street. There were immense numbers of chasm present, and a feeling of horror seemed to pervade them all. Among the visitors were District Attorney Mann and the Grand Jury, as it was stated, who desired to view the terrible havoc made by the fiendish ravages of coal oil. Although this is the whole of great commercial importance, and must receive consideration as the medium of an increasing business, yet it is more than probable that the legal authorities will act at once, and abolish the places where large quantities of the material are stored away in the thickly built up parts of the city. It was a direful night to stand amid the ruins yesterday and contemplate the destruction of property and the more shocking destruction of human life. We have it from excellent authority, that all the property destroyed was insured within thirty minutes. The burning oil spread from house to house, south from Washington avenue, across Ellsworth street to Federal street, and running down the cellar windows of the dwellings and stores, involved the whole of them in a terrible, raging, leaping, crackling, roaring blaze.

Those of the police and firemen who were early at the scene say it was impossible to arrest the sleeping inmates. It is probable that they became awakened and effected their escape to the rear, saving nothing but the slight clothes they had on. A more complete wreck of tenements, stores, furniture and household goods generally, has not been seen in this city since the memorable fire in 1850, that commenced in "Brock's store," on the wharf below Vine street.

It may be stated that the whole of the property destroyed was insured in Hamet in the space of thirty minutes. The streets being flooded with water and snow, the water courses and sewer inlets being choked up, the burning oil spreading with great celerity over the surface, reached from house to house on both sides of the way, and two in burning streams into the cellars of houses.

A idea may be formed of the fierce heat when it is correctly stated that the paving stones and cobbestones in the street over which the fiery sea of desolation flowed were cracked or calcined to a considerable extent. A fire plug was heated to redness, and a portion of the rails of the Union Railway were twisted from their fastenings. This, however, was speedily repaired, and the travel on the line was not interrupted in consequence. The foul gas directly through the whole of the burnt district.

Yesterday afternoon policemen were engaged in pulling down the most tottering walls, or those most likely to fall, thus to prevent any accidents. What may appear strange, yet it can be easily understood, there were several hundred barrels of petroleum in the northwestern part of the conflagration that did not take fire. The grade of the yard ran downward from this point, and the wind, there as it was, came from the north, or the northwest. The firemen kept a constant supply of water on these barrels until the height of the conflagration had passed.

There are several other places in that neighborhood where considerable quantities of coal oil are stored. It is not generally known to those who pass along the street because it is almost entirely hidden from view by surrounding dwelling houses. A fire in such a place would in all probability be attended with loss of life.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Circuit Court.—Judge R. Lisbey.—Th. H. Hilliard, who sold liquor to a soldier, was fined $100.

Jno. Maloney, charged with having had a Government mule in his possession, was acquitted from the criminal charge. The question of property, as to the mule, is to be decided hereafter.

Sophie Myers, who let the soldiers in her house out by the back door when the Provost Guard was in front, was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

Robbery.—Peter Lahatte and Peter Robinson, darkies, were sent before the First District Court, on the charge of having robbed Mich. Decker of a gold watch and chain on Chartres street.

United States District Court.—Judge E. H. Durell.—In the case of the United States against the household effects of Willis Mallard, claiming a vendor's privilege, was argued yesterday. It was urged in opposition that the intervenor had accepted promissory notes and thereby caused a novation to the extinction of his lien. The contrary was shown by the account. The claim was therefore admitted by the Court.

The case of the schooner Watchful was again taken up, argued at length and taken under advisement.

Another Nuisance to be Stopped.—The mischievous conduct of ragamuffin boys has excited considerable complaint and name to the police of the city authorities. An order therefore has been given to the Lieutenant of police to have all boys arrested found hanging around and jumping on the city railroad cars to the danger and thoughtless injury of their lives and limbs and to the annoyance of the passengers. This order goes into effect from to day and delinquent boys will soon find themselves locked up.

First District Court.—Judge Hennand.—John Bird, alias Bulldog, who stole thirty-nine yards of cotton, a dress, etc., from the store of Mr. Breaux, Eliza Nixon, who stole linen cloth from Mr. Aogé, and Henry Jones and Dorsey, all colored, who stole three dogs on Galvez street, were found guilty and remanded for sentence.

The Legislature.

FRIDAY, February 17, 1865.

Senate.—The Senate was called to order pursuant to adjournment. There was no quorum present. There being no prospect for a quorum at one o'clock, a motion to adjourn to Tuesday, at 12 o'clock M., was carried.

House of Representatives.—Time was a quorum present, at the usual hour. The Hon. B. Belden, Speaker, presiding.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Strong.

The Committee to report on a proper building for a State house advised against further negotiations with the managers of the Odd Fellows Hall. They had found the building of the Mechanics Institute eligible and the managers well disposed to a fair contract with the State. The Committee however concluded that the building of the Louisiana University was more suitable and economical. A special act for the preservation of the Museum, etc., was recommended, with a resolution to elect to move the State house into that building.—Adopted.

On motion Messrs. Brooks, Prescott, R. D. Miller, Todd and Lester were appointed as a committee to superintend the removal into that building in conjunction with a committee of the Senate.

Mr. Chamberlain offered a bill, to compel the attendance of absent members of the Legislature to form quorums in the House, by issuing warrants, &c.—Rejected.

A motion to take up Mr. Chamberlain's bill, to admit the evidence of interested witnesses in certain civil suits came up, but the House refused to suspend the rules for that purpose.

The Militia bill was the order of the day, but was referred to a committee of three to compare the bill as amended by the Senate with that adopted by the House, to act upon the amendment. Messrs. Chamberlain, Foley, and Lecture were appointed on that committee.

The bill authorizing the adoption of children in certain cases, was up at the second reading, but, it is being to quorum the House adjourned until Tuesday at 12 M.

FROM OUR YESTERDAY EVENING EDITION.

The river at last accounts was rising at Memphis and Vicksburg, and with the general breaking up of the ice in the upper rivers, which was beginning, a great increase in the rise was expected.

The Memphis *Argus*, of the 15th, relates the sinking at that place of the Government wheelboat, loaded with 11,000 sacks of grain, valued at $50,000. The boat itself, valued at $15,000, it is feared will prove a total loss. Overloading is thought to have caused the accident.

Nothing seems certainly known as to the pending trip of the steamer Yazoo from New York for this city. Had she started on the 11th she would be fully due, even if she stopped at Havana. But it is not believed that she sailed on the 11th.

The Vicksburg *Herald* asserts that there is no more authentic advertisement of approaching spring, than the return of the blue birds it announces the appearance of a flock of these welcome and eloquent precursors, and concludes accordingly that sweet spring is imminent. One swallow does not make a summer, nor one blue bird, by parity of reasoning, a spring, but a whole flock, the largest ever seen says the *Herald*, ought to make a very complete vernal season.

THE RED RIVER CROPS IN COURT.—A Washington dispatch of the 10th says:

The case of the cotton captured on Red River by gunboats, and held as prize, will be argued in the United States Supreme Court on the 20th. The case is to decide whether cotton thus captured shall be subject to the prize rules as if taken on the high seas.

The States Needed for Constitutional Ratification.

According to the Cincinnati *Commercial* the total number of States is thirty-six. The number of loyal States, if we include Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee, is twenty-eight. The number necessary to answer the requirements of the Constitution adding an amendment to it, (if we count the States in insurrection,) is twenty-seven. Of these twenty-eight Delaware has rejected the Constitutional amendment, so that it would require the vote of all the remaining loyal States to secure the ratification of the amendment. But of these States, the Legislatures of Kentucky and New Jersey are Democratic. The indications are that both will follow the lead of Delaware; in which case the amendment will be defeated, for the present. The Democratic party will be held responsible for that result, and will have the credit or discredit of interposing its power to prevent the abolition of slavery throughout the United States.

A new volume of selections of Tennyson's poems has been published in England, containing some which the poet has altered, but failed to improve. For instance, Lilla's song in "The Princess" reads, in the original, as follows:

"Thy voice is heard thro' rolling drums,
That beat to battle where he stands;
Thy face across his fancy comes,
And gives the battle to his hands:
A touch, a touch, I am he!
He sees his blood about thy hand;
The war like fire he sweeps the land,
And strikes him dead for thine and thee."

And the altered version, as follows, is so weak that one wonders how it took could so figure thus stands:

"Lady, his rolling drums
Beat to battle, wherever he stands;
How thy face across his fancy comes,
And gives the battle to his hands."

[illegible]

MARINE NEWS.

Port of New Orleans, Feb. 21, 1865.

CLEARED YESTERDAY.

[illegible]

ARRIVED YESTERDAY.

[illegible]

—DEPARTURES—

[illegible]

BELOW, COMING UP

[illegible]

RECEIPTS FROM THE INTERIOR

[illegible]

DIED.

[illegible]

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL.

[illegible]

AMUSEMENTS.

VARIETIES THEATRE.

Tuesday Evening, Feb. 21, 1865.

[illegible]

A Grand Fancy Dress and Masked Ball

[illegible]

I. O. O. F.

REGALIA AND DRESS HALL.

[illegible]

Independent Order of Odd Fellows,

[illegible]

AT THE NEW OPERA HOUSE.

[illegible]

FAIR

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE HOLY CROSS ASYLUM.

[illegible]

Wanted,

[illegible]

FRENCH RESTAURAT,

[illegible]

Street Commissioner.

[illegible]

Cash Advances.

[illegible]

Hay.

[illegible]

Fish Eye Potatoes, &c.

[illegible]

FOUR, FLOUR, HAMS, LARD, &c.

[illegible]

Notice to State Tax Payers.

[illegible]

YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE,

[illegible]

Headquarters, Dep't. of the Gulf.

[illegible]

GLOBE HOTEL,

[illegible]

Mad'e OLYMPE.

[illegible]

CITY HOSPITAL.

[illegible]

AUCTION SALES.

[illegible]

Furniture, Sewing Machines, Mattrels Tools, &c.

[illegible]

Valuable Improved Property in the Third District.

[illegible]

FAIR

[illegible]

Furniture.

[illegible]

Succession of Pierre Omer Lacour.

[illegible]

Compagnie d'Assurance Mutuelle de la Nile Orléans.

CINQUIEME ETAT ANNUEL.

[illegible]

Merchants' Mutual Insurance Company vs Andrieuko Mentes.

[illegible]

Succession of Theodore Cephalus.

[illegible]

Notice.

[illegible]

WOOL.

[illegible]

WOOL.

[illegible]

To Hire or Lease.

[illegible]

To Hire.

[illegible]