THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.

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NEW ORLEANS:
TUESDAY MORNING, FEB. 28, 1865.

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

Auction Sales this Day.

By Rene Guillemez, at 11 o'clock, in Exchange Alley, between St. Louis and Conti streets, office furniture.

By S. Guinault, at 10 o'clock, corner Union and Gentilly streets, the furniture of a order-house.

Amusements this Evening.

VARIETIES THEATRE.—Six Degrees of Crime—Dance—Jenny Lind.

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—Streets of New York—Grand fancy dress and mask ball.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Variety Performances—Comedy, Minstrelsy, Ballet, Ballads, Gymnastics, Pantomime.

Mr. Geo. A. Williams, clerk of the steamer Grey Eagle, has our thanks for a Vicksburg *Herald* of the 24th.

We are indebted to Capt. Tyler, of the steamship George Bailey, for favors.

We are obliged to the officers of the steamer Mobile for acceptable courtesies.

Mails for the North and the West, via the river, will close at the Post office at 9 o'clock this p. m.

A mail for Matamoros will also close at 1 o'clock this p. m.

ORDERS REGARDING THE DRAFT.—Two orders are elsewhere published from the office of Col. Sheldon Sturgeon, Superintendent of the volunteer recruiting service. The first designates Thursday, the 23 March, for commencing the draft in the First District, and explains the rules and conditions under which substitutes may be furnished. The next requires substitute brokers to obtain special authority from the Superintendent's office accompanied by ample bonds in the sum of $2,500 against fraud toward the Government or individuals.

THE STREETS OF NEW-YORK AND MASQUERADE BALL AT THE ST. CHARLES.—A special programme for the last of the carnival is offered for to-night at the St. Charles theatre, comprising the five act drama of the Streets of New York, a piece full of sensational incident and spectacular interest, and a concluding festivity in the form of a grand fancy dress and mask ball, of which the promise is given that it shall be select without being cold and still, and abundantly gay without abusing festival privileges.

Late from Matamoros.

Arrival of the Steamer Gov. Bailey—Later from Matamoros—All Quiet in that City—Arrival of a United States Commercial Agent—He Opens his Office and Re-establishes Commercial Intercourse.

The British steamship Gov. Bailey, Captain Horace Tyler, from Matamoros 23d inst., arrived in port yesterday morning in ballast, to Avendano & Bros. and the U. S. mails and the following passengers:

Major R. McCulloch, Miss J. Rogers, Miss K. Tunis, B. O. D. Sullivan, Alexander Sullivan, Tyler, Mrs. Evans, Miss Kendall, mounted rifle; J. Shearing, F. Fulle, Samuel Kinney, E. Moore, H. Hunt, Geo. Brown, J. Hicks, H. Hughes, M. Hyland and wife, J. M. Murphy, Robert Fulton and son, Capt. Sylvester, E. W. Lentick.

San Roman, from New York, arrived at Matamoros on or about the 21st inst., with Mr. Amos Wood on board as U. S. Commercial Agent to that port, who opened his office immediately, and commenced business by clearing vessels and all other business connected with his office.

Everything was quiet at Matamoros when the Gov. Bailey sailed.

Troops from Vicksburg and Natchez.

Gen. C. C. Washburn resumed command of the Vicksburg District, headquarters at Vicksburg, on the 23d inst.

We glean as follows from the Vicksburg *Herald* up to the 25:

THE RIVER, WEATHER, ETC.

The *Herald* reports the river falling rapidly on the 21st and 22d, having fallen 6 feet in those days.

Flocks of wild geese flying northward are noted as harbingers of spring coming in that way.

AN EXTRA—COTTON SPECULATION.

We learn that the steamer Rob Roy arrived from Red River on the 21st instant at Baton Rouge with a large cargo of cotton. The boat went up the river on private account on a pass from the President. There definite positions made arrangements with the rebel Gen. Hardy Smith for the extent, and have been successful. It will prove "a good spec."

PLANTATION INTERESTS—APPREHENSION DELAY IN PLANTING.

An order from Gen. Dana requires all leases to be approved at his Department headquarters in Memphis before being recognized by the rebels. Referring to the apprehended delay from this cause, the *Herald* remarks:

The Treasury Regulations, were issued to employ time to enable planters to begin operations early enough this season, but delays in issuing the proper orders to carry them promptly into effect, have occurred until the time for plowing is also lost, has fully come. The planter's time is precious, and every moment taken from him now endangers more the prospect for an abundant crop. The order requiring the planter to have his lease approved by the departmental commander, will certainly occasion another unnecessary delay, for no planter will begin work uncertainly.

The planting interest is one which concerns every citizen, and the success will wish its success to all departments of business.

We hope to see it receive the proper attention, and less embarrassment.

LEASED PLANTATIONS TO BE DEPENDED BY STOCKADES, &c.

General Dana's order relative to leased plantations contains the following provision:

Owners or lessees of plantations under the authority of the above mentioned regulations will, immediately after receiving the above mentioned approval, without delay, "construct stockades or such other temporary defense as may be necessary to secure their laborers, stock, and other property from the danger of being carried off or destroyed by small rebel parties of the enemy," and any lessee who shall disregard or neglect this regulation, will suffer the withdrawal of the approval from his lease, and the forfeiture of his privileges, besides such further penalty in the case may render proper.

MILITARY PROTECTION FOR A WORKING PARTY ON THE LEVEE ABOVE BATON ROUGE.

[From the Vicksburg Herald 25th.]

We learn that the steamer St. Nicholas was pressed into government service on the 21st instant, at Baton Rouge to carry an expedition from that place over the river.

A messenger came in, informing General Herron that a rebel camp was on Bayou Grosse Tête, about eight miles distant. The General at once sent out a detachment of cavalry to surprise the camp, and if possible, capture it.

Mr. Mulrooney has a large working party on the river thirteen miles above, repairing the levee which has broken at several places. It seems that Williams's guerrillas are operating in the vicinity, but that they had promised Mulrooney that they would not disturb his party. A messenger from the working party came into the General's headquarters stating that this guerrilla band had notified Mr. Mulrooney to cease operations. The General at once dispatched a force to protect the working party.

Precautions have been taken to protect the working party, and the work of repairing the levee will be continued.

ABANDONED PLANTATIONS TO BEING REPLANTED NATCHEZ.

The Treasury Agency, at Natchez, under date of the 23d, advertises the following abandoned plantations to lease for the present year:

"Bradon," containing 1500 acres; under cultivation.

"Lochdale and Lockhaven," containing about 5000 acres.

"La Agrent," containing about 300 acres.

"Unawa," containing 600 acres of land.

"Ashowalk," containing 1200 acres of land.

Cash Advances.

LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES made on approved Merchandise consigned to my friends, Messrs. SEYFORD, TILLSTONE & CO., New York.

WM. J. REID,
46, Carondelet street.

Additional from the North and the West from the Papers of the Mollie Able.

We have by the Mollie Able, Capt. Greenleaf, from Cairo the 21st, packages of Western papers inclusive of the above date from Cairo and St. Louis.

THE BANK TAX OF 10 PER CENT.

New York, Feb. 18th.—The *Commercial's* special from Washington says, it is thought that the Senate will agree to a tax of ten per cent. on the circulation of State Banks, just passed by the House.

[Special to the Chicago Tribune.]

Washington, Feb. 19.—The ten per cent tax on the circulation of State Banks, which Mr. Chase and Mr. Fessenden have always urged as essential to the National Bank system, got through solely by a mistake of Mr. James Brooks, who, understanding it to have been carried when it really had not, changed his vote to move a reconsideration. His change carried the tax. Then when the effort to reconsider came up, one or two who wished the banks to be taxed, but had voted against it through fear of bank interest in their districts, having already put themselves on record they now abandoned themselves, and so allowed the effort to reconsider to fail. The Senate is greatly sure to concur. Mr. Hooper, of Mass., made an effort previously to have the tax fixed at three per cent., but this failed, because in the opinion of the majority it is not severe enough to tax local circulation out of existence.

REPORT OF NEW TRADE REGULATIONS FOR THE SOUTHWEST AFTER THE PROPOSED CAPTURE OF FRANKLIN LINCOLN.

Memphis and Cairo, Feb. 17.—The *Bulletin* says it is reported upon authority well worthy of consideration, that the cotton trade will be closed in this Department within twenty days, by order of President Lincoln, and that it will be reopened upon new principles, after the proposed visit to the South and West, which is looked for soon after the 4th of March.

More About the Occupation of Columbia.

SECRETARY STANTON'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CAPTURE OF THE CAPITAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA—HE CALLS FOR RECRUITS TO DEAL THE FINAL BLOW IN THE SPRING.

Washington, Sunday evening, Feb 19—The Richmond *Examiner* of the 6th states that a dispatch had been received from an official of the Treasury Department at Columbia, to the effect that Sherman's advance was to near Columbia that the home guard and citizens had turned out to aid in resisting the Union forces, and skirmishing had commenced near the city.

Albany, Sunday, Feb. 19—The following telegram has been received by Gov. Fenton:

Washington, Feb 19, 1865.

Last night the Department received the gratifying intelligence of the occupation of Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, by General Sherman, and the probable evacuation of Charleston by the enemy. Hasten on the recruiting, fill up the army, and the rebellion must receive its final blow in this Spring's campaign.

(Signed) E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

GENERAL LEE'S ORDER OF ASSUMING CHIEF COMMAND.

Washington, February 19.—The following is a copy of General Lee's general order on assuming command of the land forces of the Confederate States.

Headquarters Confederate Army, February 9, 1865.

GENERAL ORDER No. 1.—In obedience to General Order No. 3, February 6th, I assume command of the military forces of the Confederate States. Deeply impressed with the difficulties of the position, and humbly invoking the guidance of Almighty God, I rely for success upon the courage and fortitude of the army, sustained by the patriotism and fortitude of the people, exhausting their united efforts, under the blessings of Heaven, will secure peace and independence. The reports and communications will be addressed, will for the present be with the Army of Northern Virginia. The staff and regular returns of each army and department will be forwarded, as heretofore, to the offices of the Adjutant and Inspector Generals.

RELATIONS OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED STATES.

New York, Feb. 20—The foreign mails had the following:

The *Nord* says that there was a meeting of the Privy Council on the 4th, at Paris, and that the alliance of America in their connection with the Mexican Empire formed the subject of the meeting.

France is not without uneasiness as to the attitude of the United States to that Empire at the conclusion of the war, with a large, tried and well officered army.

The uneasiness was increased by the recent resolution of the United States Senate.

The Privy Council came to the conclusion:

That for the moment it would be wrong to give way to exaggerated fears, and that in the face of the pacific and conciliatory assurances which the American diplomacy continues to give the best course to adopt is to abstain from all movements, without, however, indulging in a false security.

WRECKED AT SEA.

New York, Feb. 19.—The steamer Golding Star, from New York the 11th inst., has arrived, and reports that on the 15th she saw the steamship Merimac in a sinking condition. The lines were all out, bulkes damaged, and everything afloat. The ship was leaking badly, and she lay by her until night, receiving all her crew, amounting to 140 officers and men, and took them into Port Royal.

A NEGRO REGIMENT CAPTURED IN ARKANSAS.

Memphis, February 12.—The steamer Dove left Helena with the 56th regiment colored troops, Colonel Dean, in hunt of rebels, on the 8th instant, and on Sunday, the 12th, the rebels captured the boat and entire regiment, killing Colonel Dean. It is not known what the mortality of the regiment was before surrendered. It is supposed the rebels were of Marmaduke's command.

FROM WEST LOUISIANA TO CAIRO.

[From a date Dispatch of the 18th.]

A successful expedition was sent out from Morganza on the 20th ult., which captured Captain Miller and Lieut. Hendleson, of the 5th Louisiana cavalry, and five privates.

Reliable information from Red River reports the rebels as having the Ambrose Mississippi, Webb and Misty below Alexandria. The Missouri is ascertained to be a very formidable vessel and of war.

On the 9th two hundred rebels attempted to cross the Mississippi at Rodney, but were discovered by a gunboat, when seven hundred soldiers were landed from the Olive Branch.—They captured two and killed one. The others escaped.

From Havana.

New York, Feb. 20.—The steamer Liberty brings Havana dates to the 15th.

There is no Mexican trade.

Several more blockade runners had returned to Havana, unable to effect entrance into the blockaded ports.

The rebels intend purchasing small schooners to run in the coast of Florida.

The Cuba trade is opening again. Twelve hundred and five arrived on the 12th.

River and Steamboat Items.

[From the St. Louis Republican, 21st.]

Weather continues warm and clear, with no visible indication of remaining so for several days.

Business on the Levee yesterday was quite active, New Orleans boats getting all that they wanted.

STAGE OF THE RIVER.

By mark kept at the foot of Walnut street, the river now at this point 5 1-2 inches, leaving it about low water mark of 1863; 7 feet 2 1-2 inches, with 2 feet 6 inches fall in Cairo; 4 feet 6 inches in Missouri; 5 feet 8 inches in Illinois, and 5 feet full in Upper Mississippi.

DEPARTURE.

St. Memphis to New Orleans.

BOATS LEAVING.

The following boats leave this day: Hart Able and Gladiator, New Orleans; Continental to New Orleans.

Later from Europe.

New York, Feb. 19.—The steamer Saxonia, from Southampton, 8th, arrived this morning. Parliament was opened on the 7th of February. The speech said Her Majesty remains steadfastly neutral between the contending parties in America, and would rejoice at friendly reconciliation. The Queen has had great satisfaction in giving her sanction to the conference meeting of delegates from Canada assembled at Quebec. In the resolutions which were adopted for a Union of those Provinces under a central Government, if approved by the Provincial Legislatures, a bill will be laid before Parliament for carrying this important measure into effect.

Confederate loan 55 to 57.

French rents 67f. 20c.

Panic rumors gained much credit at Frankfort that United States bonds advanced to 5 per cent. above New York prices.

Erie shares and United States 5-20's slightly lower.

A Paris telegram says the news of the revolution of Mexican Territory in France was wholly unfounded.

A French paper confirms the report that the steam ram Olinda recently off the coast of France, is a Confederate cruiser. A large number of cases and barrels were transported by her from an English steamer.

Commercial.

London, Tuesday Evening, February 7.—Money—Englishmen inside continue unbearable in discussing by a number of new schemes daily introduced, and in course of consolidation, and Consols declined to 89¾ 3 89¾.

London, Feb. 6.—Market quiet at former prices.

Groceries—Sugar steady. Tea heavy. Coffee steady. Rice unchanged.

Liverpool, Feb. 7—P. M.—Cotton—Sales of two days, 23,000 bales. Market firm at ¼ 3 ⅛ higher—closing quieter.

Flour—Dull and quotations barely maintained.

Grain—Wheat heavy and 1 3-24 lower. Corn inactive, mixed 2s.

Provisions—Sugar very dull and prices weak. Coffee dull and unchanged.

Petroleum—42 net and unchanged.

Consols—89¾ 3 89¾ for money.

Stocks—U. S. 6-20s, shares 67¾ discount. Erie shares 25¾ 3 25¾.

N. Y. Markets of the 20th.

[By telegraph to the Mobile Democrat of the 21st.]

New York, February 20.—Cotton dull, quoted at 85c.

Flour dull, 5 to 10c lower, $10 50 to $10 60, extra state, $11 25 to $11 35, round hoop Ohio. Corn dull and nominal, $1 68, old mixed. Oats firmer, quoted at $1 11½.

Pork dull and lower, $35 to $36 for new mess, $33 50 to $33 75 for 1861 mess, $30 for prime.

Lard firm at 19½ to 21½c.

Whisky heavy, quoted at $2 07 to $2 10.

Sugar dull at 9¾ to 10¾.

Petroleum dull, 45 to 46c for crude, 87 for refined bond, 87 for free.

Stocks steady. Gold $2 01¾ since the board met. U. S. 6's '81, $1 30¼, 71 coupons, $1 11½ registered coupons, $1 10, ten's coupons, 1 02¾; treasury notes, $1 10¾. N. Y. C., $1 12¾. Erie, 75¾. Reading 124. C. R. & Q., $1 12.

(The following dispatch appears to have been erroneously referred, in yesterday's telegrams from Montgomery, to the date of the 21st.)

New York, Feb 20—Gold market is weak and prices lower. The news from Sherman has produced a panic feeling. The short sales are large. Early in the morning the price fluctuated between $2 08 and 01.

St. Louis Market.

St. Louis, February 18, P. M.—Tobacco.—There is more activity in the market, with an advance on sweet leaf lugs. Sales were 1 hhd green and damaged lugs at $7 to $8; 3 hhds factory do at $9 to $10; 3 hhds planters' do at $11 50 to $15 50, 4 do common stripping leaf at from $14 50 to $17 50; 8 hhds smoking do at $22 25 to $23 50 per 100 lbs.

Flour—Receipts 1840 bbls. There was full the usual demand, and had been expected, considering all the circumstances. Sales were 50 bbls superfine at $12 12½; 50 do at $8 50 to $7 50; 200 do at $7 50; 200 do at $7 60 do extra at $8 25; 300 do at $8 05; 300 do low double extra at $8; and 50 bbls choice city double extra at $10 50 per bbl.

Corn—Receipts 3,322 sacks. Two contractors were there to-day, picking up lots pretty freely at $1 05. Sales were 500 sacks in second hand bagging at $1, 100 do in new sacks, white at $1 12½, 120 do do at $1 05, and about 3,000 sacks at $1 05, sacks included.

Oats—Receipts 2,000 sks. There was a moderate demand for the market, but no noticeable change in prices. Sales were 17 sks in sacks, in second hand bags, 170 do at N. M. R. R. sacks, same price, 110 do, 52 do, 140 do, 53 do, 150 do, 130 do, 30 do, 172 do at 70c, and 110 do at 70c, sacks included.

Rye—The market seems to have waked up a little. Sales of 31 sks, 25 do and 13 do at $1 20, and 140 do prime at $1 18 ⅌ bushel, sacks returned.

Whisky—Sales of 93 bbls, mixed at $1 55 ⅌ bushel, and 50 bbls pure bbls at $2 ⅌ gal.

Provisions—Sales of 10 ctrs shoulders at 11½c, and 70 boxes rib sides on private terms.

Bacon—Sales of 6 hogsheads shoulders, and 2 bbls at 20c ⅌ lb on packages included.

Barley—The market is quiet, and sales of 81 sks fair, at $1 35, was the only transaction we could learn of.

Beans—Sales of 20 bbls at $2 30 per bushel, packages included, 10 sacks at same, sacks returned, 6 bbls inferior at $1 10 per bushel.

Flaxseed—Sales of 31 sacks at $1 65 per bushel.

Lard—Sales of 20 tierces manufacturing on private terms.

Hay—The market is unchanged, with sales of 150 bales prairie at $21, 190 do timothy and 190 do do at $22 per ton.

Whisky—Sales of 100 bbls on private terms.

Cattle—There is no change to report in the market, and prices rule firm for good shipping beeves. Selling prices are, common to fair 3¼ to 4¼, fair to good 4¼ to 5, good to choice heavy 5 to 5½ per lb gross.

Hogs—There is a little softness of feeling just expiring in the market. Last prices are not quotably lower. Good still range from 5 10 to 5 20 per 100 gross.

Sheep—While there is a little falling off in the demand, still the market may be stated as firm at $6 to $6 for good, and $6 to $5 50 for extra.

The Public Debt of the United States.

Washington, February 13—Hon. Mr. Pruyn, of New York, having addressed a letter to the Secretary in regard to the public debt, to-day received the following reply:

Aggregate of debt bearing interest in coin	$1,187,158,158 30
Debt bearing interest in lawful money	8,148,231 40
Total	$1,195,306,389 70
Debt on which interest has ceased	2,979,154 41
Debt on which interest has ceased	29,833,71 11
Debt bearing no interest	431,168,365 15
Total principal	$1,657,287,619 36
Total interest	33,151,901 98
Amount of legal tender notes	120,296,060 00
Amount in treasury	10,219,987 14
Balance	$1,679,917,041 19

It is stated at the department that at this date (Feb. 13) this amount has been reduced about nine millions of dollars; and, also, that the department intends next week to commence paying the army of the Potomac. The amount of suspended requisitions given above includes all the unpaid requisitions for every branch of the public service.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

First District Court.—Judge Houstoun—Josephine Griffin was charged with having stolen $108 in gold, $200 in currency, etc., from the room of Mr. Dromet, during a short absence of the owner. Some of the property was found with the prisoner. The jury found a verdict of guilty.

Celestine Palmer, a colored woman, was acquitted of the charge of having stolen a cloak from a house on Dryades street.

Mich. Spielberger was sent to prison until 10 o'clock to-day, for contempt of court, in refusing to speak English.

Small Cases—J. L. Cloon and Richd Keyes were charged with having forcibly broken into the house of Eliza Fisher, at the corner of Ursulines and Custombouse streets. They are held for trial for malicious mischief.

John Connor smashed the glass of a lamp on one of the corners of Calliope street which cost him $5.

Michael Connor whipped his wife who followed watch. It is some excuse to the woman denied the delinquency of the husband. Recorder Vocquet discharged the woman but fined the husband $5 and demanded peace bonds.

Lorenzo Dolly published his mother's paternity to children and was sent down for thirty days. Other cases of disturbances of the peace, etc., were let off with fines of $5 each.

Criminal Court. Judge N. Leeper—There were further witnesses heard in the case of J. H. Caldwell who sold spurious oil paintings to Mr. Hynes, a Gov. detective. The latter charges that he informed accused that he intended to take the step into the Confederacy. The defence introduced several witnesses to impeach the character for truth and veracity of the detective. The case was continued.

Returning the Bracelets—One of the burglars who in December last abstracted gold and jewelry &c., valued at $2,000 from Dr. Knapp, promised and near leaving his life for taking of the deed, in public was before Recorder Vocquet again yesterday. The case was continued.

The Legislature.

MONDAY, February 27, 1865.

Senate—A quorum was present at half-past 1 o'clock, P. M. Lieut. Gov. Wells in the chair.

The journal of the previous days when there was no quorum was read and adopted.

Several members voted for the proposed amendment of the Constitution of the United States, rattled during their absence.

It was then announced that the vote of this legislature, ratifying the amendment, was ready on its way to Washington.

A message from His Excellency Governor Hahn announced the resignation as Governor, and recommended that measures be taken for the proper inauguration of his successor, Lieut. Gov. Wells.

The resignation was accepted on motion of Mr. Montamat, and the message ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

A message from the House asked concurrence in resolutions of thanks to Gov. Hahn, for the able and patriotic manner in which he has discharged the duties pertaining to the gubernatorial chair, and to provide for the inauguration of Gov. Wells; also a resolution tendering the thanks of the Legislature to General Sherman and his army.

The vote of thanks to Gov. Hahn was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be published by the New Orleans and Washington newspapers.

A resolution was adopted for a joint committee to superintend the inauguration of Lieut. Gov. Wells as Governor of the State of Louisiana on the 4th prox. Messrs. Montamat, Guthiel, Mahoul, Delage and O'Connell were appointed.

The resolutions from the House, tendering the thanks of the Legislature to General Sherman for the success which, under God, has attended his recent movements, particularly against Charleston, the cradle of secession—Gen. Beauregard's letter from Branchville, Barnwell, informing the Senate that he had, without having given any provocation, been assaulted with a bayonet by a colored soldier. The writer asked for leave of absence until recovery.

Adopted.

The Senate then adjourned till Wednesday next.

House of Representatives—The House met at the usual hour, a quorum present, and the Hon. B. Madison in the chair.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Scott.

The minutes were read and approved.

A message was received from Gov. Hahn stating the resignation of his Excellency who is about to proceed to the Senate in Washington, the resignation to take effect from the 4th of March next. The message, which further recommended the inauguration of his successor, Lieutenant Governor Wells on the 4th of March next &c., was read and the resolution accepted.

Resolutions complimentary to Gov. Hahn and for the inauguration of the successor were then adopted.

Another resolution complimentary to Gen. Sherman and Army, relative to the fall of Charleston and the forestalling of peace, etc., was unanimously adopted.

A compilation of census of Baton Rouge against Benj. F. Flanders and the trade regulations, was referred to the Committee on Federal Relations.

The petition, etc., relative to a ferry between DeSoto and Vicksburg, was referred to the Police Jury.

The last vote on the bill for the relief of Pendergast was reconsidered and the bill made the order of the day in the Committee of the Whole on Monday next.

Messrs. Bonin, Hunter, Badger and Todd were appointed on the inauguration committee.

The bill relative to District Attorneys was adopted with the title.

Considerable discussion was had on the bill to prohibit persons who hold commissions in the Confederacy, after the first of May next, from ever holding office in this State. Messrs Pleasant and Christian urged strenuously for the adoption of the bill. Adjourned.

Gov. Hahn's Message of Resignation to the Legislature.

State of Louisiana, Executive Department, New Orleans, February 27, 1865.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana.

Gentlemen—I hereby resign the office of Governor, to take effect on the 4th of March proximo, so that my occupancy of the office may terminate with that date, and enable my successor to be inaugurated, if convenient to your honorable bodies, on the 4th of March.

The one year of administration which I have had as your Governor, is a period to which I shall ever advert with pride and pleasure. Called to the office by a flattering vote of the people, I entered upon its duties with diffidence, and a full sense of its responsibilities. I leave it without self-reproach, with pride at having performed a part however humble in the triumphs and glories which have marked the history of Louisiana during the past year. At the commencement, I felt the State—the portion extricated by pacification—held slaves, by a vote approaching unanimity, which slavery has been since set free, and slavery will never more have an existence in fact or a condition in law in the State of Louisiana. Justice to a minority enslaved race has not ended here. The most extensive, as well as impartial and equal provisions have been made for their education, while our Constitution, keeping pace with the spirit of the age, has provided for their complete equality before the law, including the extension to them of the highest privilege of citizenship. I have no hesitation in saying that its terms will justify the adoption of universal suffrage whenever it shall be deemed wise and timely; and if the most devoted abolitionist shall complain that the doors have not been thrown open at once to all, he must admit, as we can claim, that our State has progressed farther than three-fourths of the Northern States, while showing tenfold more rapidity of progress in liberality of sentiment than any of them. We hope to vie in every noble and patriotic work with the best and foremost of our sister states.

Our State has furnished and is furnishing in proportion to the able bodied man in the State, a quota to the Union armies equal to that of any other State. Even in the parishes within the rebel military lines we are assured of the existence of a Union feeling; while the pressure in our midst of so many of their best and most substantial citizens, as refugees, attests that ever loyal Louisiana was but disturbed into the conduct of the secession movement. Not only this, but the return one by one of her absentees to their homes and firesides, which has been so marked of late, shows that the embers of secession feeling are dying away, and but for relentless military despotism the rebellion would have ere this passed so far as Louisiana, or any considerable portion of her people is concerned.

I speak of these things as encouraging signs of the times. In Louisiana, which now, as at the outset of the rebellion, can claim to be fully as loyal as Missouri, Maryland or Kentucky, the Confederate have passed the Rubicon of their crime. The power of secession is waning; its influence is now scarcely felt among our people.

Our progress in civil reorganization has been equally auspicious. A constitution has been accepted by the people, which has swept away not only the last vestige of human bondage, but all the concomitant blemishes upon civilization which stood upon our statute books and were a part of our institutions. The black code so long the reproach and regret of the humane and enlightened of the world, exists no more. The robust basis of representation, which gave to wealth and capital a leverage against the mechanical and industrial classes, which formed, as it was designed to, the establishment of an oligarchy among Anglo-Saxon freemen, is removed at once without the necessity of a long and wearisome agitation, as would otherwise have been necessary for the attainment of the equable system of equal representation. The voters have now equal to another, and entitled to the same privilege and opportunity of representation. Under governing laws and wholesome and liberal laws for youth without cost even for the plain, practical, and essentially Anglo-Saxon language. The Constitution favors industry, assures the sacredness of labor, guarantees impartial education, liberal representation, and will be the home of a prosperity hitherto unknown in our annals.

I leave your chief executive office in the hands of my constitutional successor, Lieutenant Governor Wells. He has already received marks of the confidence of his fellow citizens of this State, and is known to run all for the patriotic antecedents. I have full confidence that his administration of the Government will have the support of our fellow citizens, without distinction of party.

For myself, I look over fought the many and flattering marks of kindness which I have received from my fellow citizens of Louisiana. Past confidence which they have unwearingly awarded me is why be my endeavor ever to merit and justify. Whether it shall serve her in the public or the private station, her honor and her glory it will be my earnest aim to promote, with all the humble ability I can command.

I respectfully recommend the Legislature to take such measures as may be necessary to provide, in a fitting manner, for the inauguration of Lieut. Gov. Wells into the office of Governor.

MICHAEL HAHN.

FROM OUR SATURDAY EVENING EDITION.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Three Days Later from the North.

THE MOLLIE ABLE AT MORGANZA WITH NEW YORK DATES OF THE 21ST AND RICHMOND DATES OF THE 18TH.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE EVACUATION OF CHARLESTON.

News Received from Richmond by General Grant and Dispatched to Washington.

Richmond Papers on the Situation—Repulse of Kilpatrick near Augusta—Beauregard—Sherman's Movements a Mystery—Beauregard Evacuates Columbia which is Occupied by Sherman's Forces—His Policy in Draw Sherman into a Maze of Rivers and Swamps and Impassable Ways—A Column from Grant Sent to Fireworks to Seize the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad and Co-operate with Sherman—Preparations for the Evacuation of Wilmington—The Virginia and Tennessee Railroad in the Respected from Lynchburg to Bristol—Semmes made Rear Admiral and in Command of the James River Fleet.

Gold Panic in New York on the 21st Consequent on the News of Sherman's Recent Operations—It Fluctuates between ... and ... Closes at 97—Cotton 84.

[By the Gulf Telegraph Evening Bee.]

Morganza, February 27, 1865.

Steamer Mollie Able passed down at about midnight with New York dates of the 21st.

Gold closed in New York, on the 21st at 197.

Cotton dull at 84.

Cairo, Feb. 21—The following important announcement appears this morning:

Official, War Department, Washington, Feb 21, 1865.

To Major General Dix:

The evacuation of Charleston by the rebels is announced in the following telegram just received from Gen. Grant:

To the Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

City Point, Va., Feb 20.—The Richmond *Examiner* of to-day just received, says that Charleston was evacuated on Tuesday last.

U. S. GRANT, Major General.

New York dispatches of yesterday morning have nothing later from Gen. Sherman. The Richmond *Examiner* of the 17th relegates the statements that Kilpatrick was driven back a distance of about five miles and gives as reason for not contributing the pursuit the exhaustion of ammunition.

The Richmond 16th says there was nothing at the War Department to verify the reported defeat of Gen. Kilpatrick. The Wilmington *Clarion* states that an important movement is going on, which is supposed to be the evacuation of that place. The same paper says that a considerable Yankee force landed in the vicinity of South River. The Columbia *Guardian* of the 12th announces the burning and pillage of Allendale.

The Richmond *Examiner* says the force landed at Newborn is greatly exaggerated, and that only a few Yankees have landed there.

The Richmond *Whig* of the 17th, says that all it could learn upon enquiry at the War Department was that Sherman was somewhere, but it was not known where. The Columbia (S. C.) *Carolinian* says that the appointment of Gen Hampton to the command of such a Division as that of Butler and Young is an earnest of his success.

The same paper says that the resignation of General Johnston together with scores of other facts of an encouraging character which should not be published, are events that may well give our people cheerful joy. The Lynchburg *Republican* says that the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad is to be thought will be open to Bristol by the first of March. General St. Martin has assumed command in place of General Gardner of the Department of Mississippi and Eastern Louisiana, with his headquarters at Jackson.

During a recent debate in the rebel Senate the "food question" came up, when it transpired that thousands of soldiers' families had not tasted of meat for the last six months and were living on a short supply of bread alone. Then the soldiers themselves had also been without meat for a long time. Semmes has left Mobile as a Rear Admiral, to command James River Squadron. Richmond papers of the 18th say Grant has sent 5000 men to City Point recently, and it is supposed they are to be sent to Newborn to reinforce Sherman or Terry. A correspondent of a Richmond paper learns that the Federals are preparing an expedition against the Weldon Railroad.

The Richmond *Dispatch*, of the 18th, says Columbia has fallen. Sherman marched into and took possession of the city the previous morning. The intelligence came in an official dispatch from General Beauregard. The troops under Beauregard evacuated the city while the enemy were crossing the Congaree river. Public property had been removed to Charlotteville, together with all employés in the Treasury Department.

The same paper thinks this necessitates the fall of Charleston.

Five locomotives and railroad cars have certainly been loaded at Morehead by the Yankees. Jones City, N. C., was visited last week by Yankee soldiers and all the provisions carried off. Mosby was in Lynchburg on the 15th and would soon join his command.

The Augusta *Chronicle* advises the citizens to relief the burning of cotton and for this to be announced as a Yankee concern.

The Richmond *Whig's* Eastern correspondent says great dissatisfaction exists among the plain growing slave holders at the order conscripting so many of their negroes for the service. Since the demand was made at least three-fourths of the negroes have gone over to the enemy. Farmers are now without means of cultivating their farms.

The Charleston *Mercury* announces its temporary suspension for removal to another point.

A Washington dispatch of the 20th says that the President has approved the bill for mail steamships service between San Francisco and China, the Chinese Empire touching at ports in Japan. Information from the army of the Potomac, on late as the morning of the 19th reports all quiet. Deserters are constantly coming in and are more numerous than for a long time. They say that desertion is so general in the rear of their own lines that Lee has issued an order to arrest every man found half a mile away from his camp or post.

New York, February 21—Gold market is weak and prices lower. The news from Sherman has produced panic feeling. The short sales are large up to noon, the price fluctuated between 97 and 98.

Additional Dispatches.

[Special to the New Orleans Times.]

Rumored Evacuation of Wilmington and Richmond and 30,000 of Lee's Army to Reinforce Beauregard—Beauregard's Strategy.

New York, February 21.—The *World* prints the following rumors in circulation here. Telegrams from Washington to private parties in this city state that Lee had sent 30,000 men to reinforce Beauregard, and enable him to check the advance of General Sherman. Gen. Grant is already aware of this fact, and that the army of the Potomac is once more in motion.

It also states General Sherman is retreating in heavy force, with Goldsboro' or Lynchburg as the objective points. It is true that Lee has moved troops south, it is because he considering the safety of North Carolina and South Carolina used far more importance than even the possession of Richmond and the occupation of Virginia. It was also positively asserted yesterday that Wilmington was in our possession, having been evacuated by the rebels.

The *Herald's* Washington special says there are strong indications that Gen Lee is preparing to evacuate Richmond, and fall back on Lynchburg for a final stand. Advices received at Washington state positively that nearly all the valuable machinery and mechanical stores have already been removed from the rebel capital, and it is anticipated that the abandonment will occur within ten or fifteen days.

The *Herald's* correspondence says the exchange of prisoners under the new arrangement perfected between Gen. Grant and Commissioner Ould is progressing rapidly and three steamers are now busily employed conveying released Union soldiers to Annapolis, Md., and conveying return loads of rebels.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 17th says the little army of Beauregard is yet safe and may lead Sherman such an advance as Greene led Cornwallis over the same rivers and swamps.

There is reason to believe that Beauregard is acting with this design, and that Sherman is near the end of his triumph.

Particulars of the Evacuation of Charleston.

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION IN A COMMISSARY DEPOT IN WHICH SOMEWHERE THE REBELS AND MEN—THE RAGING THROUGH THE CITY—6,000 BALES COTTON BURNED—IRON CLADS BLOWN UP—THE CREW FLAG RAISED ON SUMTER—REPORTED WITHDRAWAL OF THE GARRISON BY RAILROAD TO FLORENCE.

New York, Feb. 21.—The *Tribune's* correspondent who arrived by the Fulton, gives the following account of the evacuation of Charleston.

Charleston Harbor, Feb. 18—Early last evening Brig. Gen. Schimmelfing commanding Northern District Department North, discovered some indications which led him to believe the rebels were about to evacuate Charleston and its defences, and he accordingly ordered his pickets and picket-boats to keep a bright look-out, and report immediately any event on the part of the enemy.

A terrific explosion took place this morning which shook every ship in the harbor and all the bar, and almost simultaneous with the explosion flames broke out, and could be distinctly seen in different parts of the city.

It appears the first explosion took place at the Wilmington depot, the fire from which rapidly communicated with the adjacent buildings, causing an immense conflagration of all the dwelling-houses in the vicinity, and it was while the unfortunate inhabitants were trying to extinguish the fire, the second explosion took place, which resulted so disastrously, causing a terrible loss of life amongst the women and children, who were reported as having been hurriedly mutilated.

About 6 o'clock this morning Gen Schimmelfing moved his force and occupied the city and its defences. The formidable earthworks on James Island were found abandoned and the guns spiked. At 5 o'clock this morning a detachment was sent to take possession of Fort Sumter and raise the flag which Gen. Anderson hauled down exactly four years ago. At 8 o'clock the flag was raised amid deafening cheers.

At last as forces could be thrown into the city they went to work to put out the fire which, up to the time of leaving, was raging fiercely in different parts of the city. Old men, women and children, were rushing frantically to and fro in agony of despair, at the loss of their homes and the killing and mutilating of their friends. It is impossible to estimate the amount of cotton destroyed by the rebels.

Several thousand bales were collected in different par