# The New Orleans Bee.

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TERMS OF THE BEE.

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NEW ORLEANS:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 8 1867.

Moyers & Dedrick, the well known U. S. Assessor, No 5 St. Peter street, are now receiving large numbers of Treasury certificates in favor of discharged colored soldiers. We call the latters' attention to Messrs. Moyers & Dedrick's special notice in another column.

Thanks to the Société St. Cécile for polite tickets to their Musical Soirée, to be given on the evening of the 10th inst. in the Opera House.

THE CONCERT TO NIGHT.—We have elsewhere spoken of the concert to night for the benefit of the sufferers by inundation, but desiring to call particular attention to it we cheerfully accede to the request of the ladies to give the names of the gentlemen who have volunteered their services for the evening. Mr. Col Ignon has kindly volunteerd to lead the chorus Professor Fernando, long connected with the Parisian opera, has offered to sing, and Professor Smith will play the accompaniments on the piano. We have not yet received the programme of the performance, but presume that it will be found in our advertising columns. The names of the ladies who have volunteered to sing have not been furnished us, but we learn that the list embraces the names of some of our finest amateur singers. It is to be hoped that the Opera House will be filled on the occasion, for aside from the music, the object for which the concert is given should attract a large number of our people.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The Zanfretta's appear to-night in the beautiful comic ballet arranged by Alex Zanfretta, entitled "The Belle of Madrid," and the comic pantomime of diablerie, "The Gnome King." Miss Brent, as usual, will give some of her recherché selections in the "song divine," and the pretty Clinetop Sisters and the numerous troupe of the Academy's artistes will add abundant interest to the entire programme.

Mr. C G D. Holle, No. 61 Exchange Place, dealer in books, stationery, etc., sends us copies of the *Courrier des Etats Unis*, *Hirpers* and *Leslie's Weekly*, *Leslie's Budget of Fun*, and a couple of fiction, published by H M DeWitt, New York, entitled respectively, "Estelle, or the Conspirator of the Isles," and "The Fatal False step, or the Path of Crime." The illustrations in the weeklies, particularly of the Paris Exposition, in *Leslie's* are very elaborate and interesting.

## MINOR TOPICS.

We are pleased to see that within the past two days many of our citizens have registered themselves as voters. This is right and proper. Indeed it is a duty which no man should wish to shirk. It is a sacred duty which one owes to the State and to the community. It will be observed that we have made many appeals to our people, and that we have urged the necessity of registering upon them with all our ability. We feel deeply in this matter, and at times have almost despaired of getting our voting population to appreciate the great necessity of obtaining their Registration papers. We have but one more week. The time will soon pass, and thus far the number of our former voters who have entered their names is ridiculously small. In a city so densely populated as this there should be a large vote. The lowest estimate of voters should reach five and twenty thousand. How does it happen then that less than three thousand of our former voters have registered? We cannot account for such apathy when the stake is so valuable. More than eleven thousand of newly made citizens have already registered themselves, and they can be seen crowding the offices still. Although the last two days have brought out a larger number of our old voters than any former days, the time is yet too short to admit of any delay. Unless a very great number come forward within the next three days we shall be obliged to conclude that Louisiana have forgotten their State, and that they no longer think her worth an effort. Is this the case? If not, then, come forward and give us the moral support of your name.

—The report published in yesterday morning papers that another levee had broken away on the other side of the river placing in jeopardy a large number of people, and breaking up the Opelousas Railroad, recalls to our minds the great necessity of providing for the sufferers who have been already driven from their homes, as well as those who are in imminent danger. An effort is all that is required. We published yesterday the same subscribed upon our own list, showing that in the course of a few days we have received more than one thousand dollars. Here is one case which shows what can be done with a will. We presume other lists have been equally successful, and hope that the committee may send something on at once. It should not be forgotten that to night there is to be a concert in the Opera House for the benefit of the sufferers, and there should be a crowded house. Let us give these poor people a rousing benefit.

—It seems that the car question has been settled by the company itself, and that it has been determined to abolish the cars altogether. Perhaps this is the better way of settling the matter. There is one unanswerable argument in its favor. The cars marked by a star, set apart for the negroes, have been almost invariably crowded by the whites. We have never seen, that we now remember, a star car with out some white passengers. If that is permitted no reasonable or just man would object to the negroes getting into the white cars. It is only poor rule that will not work both ways. We should have preferred to have seen an order long ago prohibiting the whites from using the star cars. At any rate we are glad the matter is settled.

THE RIVER.—The Natchez *Courier*, of the 4th inst., says about an inch and sometimes an inch and a half is the extent of the daily fall at the water opposite Natchez. The total fall is about thirty inches from the highest mark of the season.

MAY MOVING.—The first of May is a great day for moving by tenants in New York—one says the *Sun*, which every housewife dreads of all others in the calendar. One poor woman Anna Laurie, dropped dead while in the act of moving her furniture into her newly leased tenement in the rear of No. 16 Grand street. The body was taken to the station house and a Coroner notified to hold an inquest.

REGISTRATION IN THE INTERIOR.—Up to noon to-day says the *Advocate*, of the 3d inst., 4291 voter had registered, of whom 205 are colored. In Donaldsonville, according to *La Bravo*, of the 4th, there were registered but 46 whites, against 289 blacks, in three days.

POLITICS IN LAFOURCHE PARISH.—A political meeting was held last Saturday in the Courthouse, which was filled with the citizens of both races, in response to a call made by Mary Citron. The meeting was organized by appointing S T Grissamore, chairman, and I D Moore, secretary. The assembly was first addressed by Hon. Louis Bush and Col Beattie, on the question of political reconstruction, and they were followed by several colored orators, some of whom advocated the policy of adhering to and labouring with the Southern people for the common welfare of all, and others advocating the Radical view. Some of the speeches were well delivered and occasionally good arguments were produced. The meeting was concluded by a few well timed remarks from Col Beach, addressed to his colored hearers, advocating harmony of action and a mutual good feeling of the two races, as the safest and surest method to secure the general prosperity and welfare of all.—*Thibodeaux Sentinel*, 4th

## Eight-Hour Law in Illinois.

[From the Chicago Times, 30th ult.]

It is almost apparent that the action of the delegations in the Legislature, last winter, in passing the eight-hour law, has brought trouble upon the railroads in Illinois, as well as upon all other branches of business. The railway companies whose machine and repair shops are situated in Illinois, desired to get a clause to an addition of twenty per cent. to the cost of operating such shops in this State, when no such addition is made to the cost of repairing in other States. They will not submit to it. It is the fixed determination of every railway company in Illinois.

Some days ago, a railway company in the central part of the State notified its employés that all of them were intended to strike on the first of May unless all those to leave the service of that company immediately. The majority who left upon the notice included two-thirds of the whole number. That company is now making arrangements to remove the shops from Illinois to Indiana.

The action of the Illinois Central Railroad held a delegate meeting in this city some days since, and resolved to strike for eight hours, to extend by each other in the coming struggle, and so on. The plans and purposes of the Central company have not been made known, and probably will not be in advance of their execution. But there is no reason to doubt that the railway companies will act together. The attempt is great, therefore, cannot be doubtful. Either the shippers and passengers who have brought this trouble on the State will be driven to their boats, or the railway shops will disappear from Illinois.

Over $200,000 worth of steel have already been shipped from Norfolk, Va., to Sheffield, since this season.

## LUXEMBOURG.

Our later telegrams from Europe are not satisfactory about Luxembourg, and an uneasy feeling is again perceptible in commercial circles. People unskilled in the wiles of diplomacy were too fast in accepting the temporising words of the Graf von Bismarck as an omen of peace. In reality they meant nothing. Thus far we are not able to say that peace is upon probable, for it is not yet settled that the question may not lead to war, nor is it at all certain that the proposed Congress of great powers can fix upon a basis for settlement that will be satisfactory to both parties, or, indeed, to either party. Neutralization will not do. If that basis were proposed by the Congress and accepted by France and Prussia, we should feel safe in saying that in less than six months the French eagles and Prussian drums would be sounding martial music along the Rhine. The peace made upon that basis would prove a mere truce, during which both nations would make vigorous preparations for war. Neutralization means nothing more nor less than a defeat to both parties; both would have to retreat from the positions taken; give up the plans that they had formed; the policy that they had adopted. With the memories of Ludowa still so fresh Prussia is too proud for that, with a clamorous populace at home France cannot afford a defeat at present, and more especially a diplomatic defeat. "No more Sadowa," say Thiers and Favre in the Senate Chamber, and the cry is even now echoed through half of France. The opposition is daily growing stronger. The prosperity that comes from many years of peace cannot satisfy the French nation; they forget the profound impression made upon the public mind by his great letter in favor of the annexation of Texas? Most of grounds that behalf that there were before men tions and fragmentary, based upon the wish rather than the reason of the people, were completely lost in the compact and convincing political arguments of Mr Walker in behalf of that measure. It carried conviction to so great a number of men that its success was insured, though Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Clay opposed what was called "immediate annexation." The next great triumph of Mr. Walker, in a series of statesmanship marked at so many points by monuments whose inscriptions are forever ineffaceable, was the adoption by Congress of the tariff of 1846, twin measure in date and fame, in principle with the abolition of the corn law imposition of Great Britain, which was carried by the great abilities of Sir Robert Peel. Mr. Walker, by his grasp of thought, ability of statement, force of argument, depth of knowledge of his subject, fertility and boldness of illustration, and technical skill in presenting success over amazing obstacles, could in no sense be regarded as the superior of Mr. Walker in the Secretary of the Treasury of the great Cabinet of James K Polk.

That he is not now acting as a lawyer or feed counsel is patent from the fact that statement put by Judge Bailey, has issued a card repelling the Radical falsehood that the State of Mississippi has made an appropriation for the employment of counsel to represent that State before the Supreme Court of the United States. Mr. Walker, as one who can date back to the early days of the republic for his rise and useful continuance in exalted public station, is now no more actuated by mercenariness than he was during the war. When Mr Chase became disheartened concerning the financial condition, and Congress was paralyzed, if not hostile to him, Mr. Walker stepped into the arena, and, by the intense force of his intellect, revived a despairing and almost defeated cause.

Though many in the South blame Mr Walker for not rigid and brusk attacking himself to the cause of the Union of States, even to the extent of enlisting it at the cannon's mouth, there is not one who does not know that he was deaf and dumb and blind to the many outrages that were committed under the name and guise of loyalty, that he did not give aid and comfort from the beginning to Mr. Lincoln and to Mr. Johnson for practical restoration of States and of people to those relations of amity which would speed every interest on the common road of a mutual prosperity. No greater thoughts of statesmanship and of philanthropy were ever uttered than in the words that were by Mr Walker to the 22d of February, 1865. They dashed along the wires and fell upon the public mind with a force in consistence with the satisfy that conveyed them to the country

## The Aspect for War.

ARMAMENTS OF THE ALLIANCES—FRENCH IDEAS OF A QUADRUPLE COMBINATION AGAINST PRUSSIA.

[Paris Special Correspondence of London Times.]

With reference to that part of my yesterday's letter which up to all proportions reported to me on foot for an alliance, offensive and defensive, between France and England, I have to mention another version suggested yesterday, and which seems to be less inadmissible than the first. It is to the effect that overtures for a quadruple alliance between Holland, Belgium, France and England are going on. The idea is said to have been started not long since by the King of Holland, partly alarmed at the impacting power of Prussia, and by the recent advances made by France. Commissioners from Holland and Belgium came to Paris, where they were a good deal feasted. They then proceeded to London, where, I hear, they now are, for the purpose of sounding the English Cabinet on the proposed alliance.

I need hardly repeat that I mention this fact with the same hesitation as yesterday, though its correct it would in some measure account for the recent visit of the King of Belgium to the King of Holland, which, I believe, took place at Utrecht. Certain it is that the Belgian Minister at Berlin, A person of high rank, Prussian, now in Paris, and who had an interview with the King on Wednesday last, positively asserted that Prussia no longer entertained the least apprehension as to his views concerning them, and he is anxious to have them corrected.

## Federal Supreme Court Decisions.

*Washington*, April 29.—The Supreme Court to-day decided an interesting case, involving the rights of dealers in liquor under the United States revenue law. The cases came up on an appeal from the Massachusetts Superior Court. The main issue presented was as follows: Does the payment of a tax to the United States by a person upon the liquors kept and sold by him, authorize him to do so, even if such sale is not contrary to the laws of Massachusetts?

The opinion of the Court, which was read by Chief Justice Chase, affirmed the decision of the lower Court, and declared that a Government license afforded no such protection to a dealer, that it could not authorize him to sell liquor in violation of a State or municipal law. The Supreme Court also decided to-day another interesting case relative to the gas tax. It was in the shape of a suit brought by the city of Philadelphia against the collector of internal revenue. The question was the liability of the city to pay internal revenue tax on gas consumed in public lamps. The Court decided that the city, as a consumer, was liable for such tax.

One of the colored delegates in the Richmond Republican Convention announces that if Congress does not give the ballot in the South to the negroes, he will go in for taking it by violence. That colored individual will have to be reconstructed.

## Robert J. Walker.

[From the National Intelligencer.]

A Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune* speaks of Robert J Walker as "one who did the Republican party good service during the war." He adds, "I believe it to be the attorney, and not the man, who puts the plea [in the Supreme Court] to overthrow the will of loyalty." The correspondent then proceeds, in much the same vein, to betray the idea, that notwithstanding the eccentric influence of Mr. Walker's manner to effect results in a forcing direction, yet, after all, "he is such a hearty and genial, and well-informed gentleman, that you like him, in spite of crabs and spite," in spite of reason and judgment.

This tribute to the conversational powers of Mr. Walker is an acknowledgment simply that they produce conviction.

The secret, if it is a secret, of the great success of Robert J Walker as a statesman or a jurist is, that he has instinctively aided with what he conceived to be right, and what has generally proved to have been so. We do not hesitate to say that he has never occupied the position, so degrading to honor, of supporting, from party or selfish considerations, "the wrong, when knowing the right." In his past political career, in what may the opinions of differing men, he has been remarkably conspicuous among American statesmen for taking high and advanced positions. In defence of the administration of Andrew Jackson, in which he was regarded at the date of his advent in Congress as unsurpassed by veteran members, he shrank not from facing Henry Clay himself in a personal way, now, to use the phraseology of Mr. Benton, did he "come out second best," in the contest. In the councils of the nation—in the Senate, in the Cabinet, before the learned Supreme bench, and in the forum of the people, whether as public speaker or writer, or executive officer, he has more than surpassed the reputation engendered by the highest intellects.

What intelligent and reflecting politician of the period of the Tyler administration can suppress the profound impression made upon the public mind by his great letter in favor of the annexation of Texas? Most of grounds that behalf that there were before men tions and fragmentary, based upon the wish rather than the reason of the people, were completely lost in the compact and convincing political arguments of Mr Walker in behalf of that measure. It carried conviction to so great a number of men that its success was insured, though Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Clay opposed what was called "immediate annexation."

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## BY TELEGRAPH.

[To the New Orleans Bee.]

### FROM WASHINGTON.

Democratic Success in Indiana.

Chicago Strikes Subsiding.

Reunion of Presbyterian General Assemblies.

American Medical Convention.

### FROM EUROPE.

France and Prussia Arming.

Distress in Financial Circles.

### Miscellaneous Matters.

*Washington*, May 7.—The case of the Commonwealth of Virginia, versus West Virginia, came up to-day, and is still on argument. This case involves the question of the status of Virginia as a State in the Union, as West Virginia denies the right of her Legislature to make any valid enactments.

The immediate question is jurisdiction over certain counties claimed to have been transferred by fraudulent representations.

A decree is asked restraining those counties to old Virginia. The argument will probably occupy two more days. Stanton, Allison and Beverly Johnson represent West Virginia; Andrew Hunter and Benjamin R. Curtis, of Boston, represent the Old Dominion.

*Washington*, May 7.—Among the President's appointments to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, are Thomas S. Plunkett, of Tennessee; Frank S. Clark, of Kentucky; Perrin Busbee, of North Carolina; and Joseph H. Sands, son of Commodore Sands.

Major Gen Joe Hooker has a year's leave of absence with permission to go abroad.

Convention of the American Medical Association met to-day. All parts of the country are represented. The Convention lasts several days.

*New York*, May 7.—Money market unchanged. The supply exceeds the demand. Call loans on Government collateral 6 per cent. on stock collateral 6 to 7. Prime business paper current at 6@7 per cent, other grades dull. Government securities quiet but firm. Sterling firmer but business light, joint bankers' bills 109¾ to 109¾. Stocks heavy and decidedly lower at the last Board, but after call some rallied 1 to ¾. Petroleum and mining shares heavy and lower. Gold became stronger during the day and closed at 138¾ to 138¾.

The failure of Hall, Drake & Co., a large cotton firm, is announced.

*New York*, May 7.—A joint committee of the two Presbyterian General Assemblies, Old and New Schools, have agreed upon a basis of reunion. These terms will go before the churches for a year before final action is taken.

*Chicago*, May 7.—The troubles growing out of the eight hour system are rapidly subsiding. Work was resumed in many large manufacturing establishments, in some the employés work ten hours for the present, in others, nine and nine eighth hours, with 20 per cent reduction of pay.

*New Orleans*, *Ind.*, May 7.—The entire Democratic city ticket elected to day by a large majority.

*Vicksburg*, May 7.—Passed down Ruth, at 10 A M, Magenta, 6 P M River falling.

*Montgomery*, May 7.—Cotton dull and nominal Middlings 24c, sales unimportant; receipts 300 bales.

*Charleston*, May 7.—Cotton declined ¼ to ½; sales 100 bales; Middlings 26c.

*Richmond*, May 7.—A negro to-day attempted to ride on cars appropriated to whites and was put off. The case was laid before the Grand Jury and the Court.

A large meeting of negroes to night was addressed by Mr Hayward, of Mass., and Marsh, of Va., both favored confiscation.

*Augusta*, May 7.—Cotton market dull, sales 170 bales; receipts 11. Middlings nominally 25.

Patrick Gray, of the dry goods firm of Gray & Turley, mysteriously disappeared on Saturday night, since which time he has not been heard of.

*Cleveland, Ohio*, May 7.—Thirty Fenians boarded the schooner Erie, tore down the British colors and then quietly left the schooner after accomplishing their object.

*Louisville*, May 7.—Additional returns indicate the election of the entire Democratic ticket.

*New York*, May 7.—Stock market closes active. Money 5 to 6. Gold 137¾ @ 138. Sterling 109¾ to 109¾. Coupons 10?'s 104¾ to 105¾; 5s 106 to 106¼. New issued 107¾ to 107¾; 10 40's 103 to 103¾. 7 30's, 1st series, 106¾, others 106¾. Cotton dull, heavy. Sales 1000 bales. Flour heavy, 10c better in sympathy with a strong body of troops. Deeming "possession nine points of the law" he thought that the holding of the fortress would be an irresistable argument in favor of Holland's coming into the new Confederation, but the King was averse to active plots, and hence sought the protection of France, offering to give the Dutch and the sum of twenty million dollars. The offer was not made exactly in this way. Fearing Prussian aggression Holland asked the aid of France, offering to make over Luxembourg by treaty, and pay the above sum for French aid, France accepted the proposal. When this was made known to the people of the Duchy, a large portion of them decided in favor of France, the remainder wished to remain under the House of Orange, none sided with Prussia. But the Graf von Bismarck did not relish the idea of having his plan thwarted, claiming Luxembourg as a part of the old German Confederation, which she had herself dissolved by treaty of Prague, and hence attempted to fire the German heart by appeals against the "aggression of the stranger." As France was called As we have all seen these appeals were not in vain. The Germans were easily roused against their hereditary enemy, and they became clamorous for war. A fear of consequences now made King William hesitate, but he still openly declares the King of Holland, whose property he has seized, as well as the Emperor of the French, whose ambition and friendship for the Netherlands is thus held in check.

We have here endeavored to give our readers a clear and comprehensive review of the Luxembourg difficulty, but it must be seen that there are many things which we are unable to discuss within the limits of an editorial art is the best point from which to look upon the probabilities of war or peace. Should Prussia prove obstinate, and refuse to give up the fortress, or recede from its plan with respect to Holland, then war must come. Even presuming that France could pocket the affront, as great as it has been, Holland is surely pressed and must be defended by her allies, or else the great powers must see Prussia spring to a position dangerous to the liberties of Europe, to mere conjecture as to the cause of the present unfriendly, but determinedly aggressive. If war comes it cannot be confined to two, or even four powers, and it is more than probable that the whole of Continental Europe will be in a blaze.

With a strong garrison in Luxembourg, Prussia has a marked advantage. The fortress is a strong one. "It is another Gibraltar," says Carnot, and it is considered necessary to complete the German fortification along the Rhine.

It was said by the great Vauban, who considered it impregnable. "Here, Sire," said he, as he laid his plans before the king, "here is a fortress that all my art would not suffice to take." Nevertheless, the fortress changed hands more than once before the great engineer's death. Vauban lived before the days of parallels. But Luxembourg would be a more difficult fortress to capture than even Sebastopol.

We have spoken thus at length of this question, believing that either in the event of war or peace our readers would like to have a clear understanding of it.

## CITY INTELLIGENCE.

STAR CAR CONTROVERSY ENDED.—For the present, at all events, if not permanently, this vexed question may be considered settled, as will appear from the following resolutions tested to Lieut. Ramel:

*Lieut. Ramel*.—Have no interference with negroes riding in cars of any kind. No passenger has a right to eject any other passenger, no matter what his color. If he does so he is liable to arrest for assault or breach of the peace.

THOS. E ADAMS, Chief of Police.

*The Reported Crevasse*.—The report of a crevasse having occurred on the opposite side of the river, about twelve miles above Algiers, proves to have been erroneous. The levee at the Waggaman place, however, is represented to be in a very precarious condition.

*Board of Assistant Aldermen*.—The Board met last night, President Moore in the chair.

The Treasurer's weekly report showed receipts of $101,549 21, expenditures $134,019 95, balance on hand $803,398 87 (principally in State notes).

The action of the Upper Board, sustaining the Mayor's veto of the ordinance taxing vendors of meats outside of the market $500 per annum, was concurred in.

Resolution authorizing the sale, by the city auctioneer, of the steam fire engine Young America. Referred to the Committee on Fires.

Resolution authorizing the sale of a contract for placing a fire alarm bell in St. Bernard Market. Referred.

Memorial remonstrating against a tax factory in the rear of the premises No 35 or 36 Gravier street. Referred.

By Mr Moore—Resolution prohibiting the erection of factories in which combustible material are kept or manufactured, east of the Galvez Canal, in the First District, Galvez street, in the Second District, Claiborne street, in the Third District, Mr Grondelet street, in the Fourth street. Referred.

The Finance Committee reported adversely to the application of the contract to J. N Welsh for the repairs of the Peace street station. Position has closed. But there is one plan which furnishes us with a gleam of hope, and we do not know that this is entirely feasible. If the Congress decides that Luxembourg shall revert to Holland, the difficulty may be settled peaceably. Otherwise it is very likely to lead to war.

But in the event of the Congress deciding for neutralization, there are some contingent circumstances which we have to take into consideration. It is evident that Prussia does not want an immediate war. She would greatly prefer waiting a few months longer until she is a little more secure about this recently acquired State, and she will, indeed, use her utmost to persuade by the ties of mutual interest. If she could maintain her garrison in the Fortress of Luxembourg and still postpone the war, she would be very glad to do so. On the other side, we find France much better prepared for an immediate clash of arms than many suppose, but there is the Exposition, and some forty millions of income—a fact that the Emperor desires to gather. With this state of feeling we can imagine a settlement on the basis proposed because there are hints of an alliance offensive and defensive between England, France, Holland and Belgium. To these four powers, in the event of war, we may add Austria. This combination would make Prussia accept the terms cheerfully, and she would be obliging enough to yield the Fortress of Luxembourg to its proper owner, the King of Holland.

But, it may be asked, is this alliance probable? For many reasons we think that it is. Prussia was too open in her aggrandizement, and in her schemes for enlarging her power and importance. The debates in the Chambers were too public for her own good, and the world saw that she had an eye out for other small game which she hoped to buy. It is highly desirable that a power so great should be a commercial power and have a marine. The seaports are monopolized by Holland. If she would have the ports she must have Holland too, and the King of the latter country seems to have considered his danger imminent enough to call in the aid of other powers. Belgium, fearing the same fate, would not refuse. France would gladly form the alliance, there are many reasons why England should join it, also. Therefore we consider this more than probable, and should Prussia make no objection to the terms proposed by the Congress we should consider it a matter of certainty.

The present occupation of Luxembourg by Prussian garrison is entirely without justification. Although belonging by treaties to Holland, the Duchy was formerly a part of the old Germanic Confederation, dissolved last summer by victorious Prussia. It was a part of Count Bismarck's plan to obtain Holland's adhesion to the Northern Confederation, and as a preliminary step he seized the fortress of Luxembourg with a strong body of troops. Deeming "possession nine points of the law" he thought that the holding of the fortress would be an irresistable argument in favor of Holland's coming into the new Confederation, but the King was averse to active plots, and hence sought the protection of France, offering to give the Dutch and the sum of twenty million dollars. The offer was not made exactly in this way. Fearing Prussian aggression Holland asked the aid of France, offering to make over Luxembourg by treaty, and pay the above sum for French aid, France accepted the proposal. When this was made known to the people of the Duchy, a large portion of them decided in favor of France, the remainder wished to remain under the House of Orange, none sided with Prussia. But the Graf von Bismarck did not relish the idea of having his plan thwarted, claiming Luxembourg as a part of the old German Confederation, which she had herself dissolved by treaty of Prague, and hence attempted to fire the German heart by appeals against the "aggression of the stranger." As France was called As we have all seen these appeals were not in vain. The Germans were easily roused against their hereditary enemy, and they became clamorous for war. A fear of consequences now made King William hesitate, but he still openly declares the King of Holland, whose property he has seized, as well as the Emperor of the French, whose ambition and friendship for the Netherlands is thus held in check.

We have here endeavored to give our readers a clear and comprehensive review of the Luxembourg difficulty, but it must be seen that there are many things which we are unable to discuss within the limits of an editorial art is the best point from which to look upon the probabilities of war or peace. Should Prussia prove obstinate, and refuse to give up the fortress, or recede from its plan with respect to Holland, then war must come. Even presuming that France could pocket the affront, as great as it has been, Holland is surely pressed and must be defended by her allies, or else the great powers must see Prussia spring to a position dangerous to the liberties of Europe, to mere conjecture as to the cause of the present unfriendly, but determinedly aggressive. If war comes it cannot be confined to two, or even four powers, and it is more than probable that the whole of Continental Europe will be in a blaze.

With a strong garrison in Luxembourg, Prussia has a marked advantage. The fortress is a strong one. "It is another Gibraltar," says Carnot, and it is considered necessary to complete the German fortification along the Rhine.

It was said by the great Vauban, who considered it impregnable. "Here, Sire," said he, as he laid his plans before the king, "here is a fortress that all my art would not suffice to take." Nevertheless, the fortress changed hands more than once before the great engineer's death. Vauban lived before the days of parallels. But Luxembourg would be a more difficult fortress to capture than even Sebastopol.

We have spoken thus at length of this question, believing that either in the event of war or peace our readers would like to have a clear understanding of it.

LOSS OF AN ESTIMABLE LADY.—We have been unable to retrain our tears at learning the circumstances attending the fate of Mrs Mary Jones, of New Orleans, one of the passengers swept overboard from the steamer Sarah, on Tuesday last. She was a widow, seventy six years of age, and the mother of sixteen children, one of whom is our friend, Frederick W Jones, of this city, late 1st Lieutenant of the 2d Louisiana Regiment, and 1st Louisiana Battalion, to the command of which Company he succeeded on the fall of its captain in one of the severe days' battles before Richmond. His mother was returning from a visit to him when the fate overtook her, which is in most fearful and sudden. As they were about to part, it was announced that a boat was about to start, it was embarked on the mail boat, but was by the kind and thoughtful attention of Capt. Stone, with whom she had come to Mobile, she chose to return with him. When she took leave of her son she anticipated the thought that it was their last earthly farewell, an idea which seems to have impressed itself even more strongly upon her mind when, since she repeated it to one of the officers of the boat, while going through Grant's Pass, during the injunction to bar her to bury her here, should it be found, in the Protestant Cemetery of New Orleans.

Mrs Jones will be affectionately remembered by many of the former friends of the Louisiana Hospital at Richmond, Va. At the time of the battles we have referred to, she visited her son in camp, and continued for a week afterwards to make Richmond her abode, devoting herself to labors of the most self-sacrificing among the sick and wounded soldiers. In any truly benevolent then a good Southern woman has passed away from all the troubles of this world.—*Mobile Tribune*.

Over $200,000 worth of steel have already been shipped from Norfolk, Va., to Sheffield, since this season.

## Robert J. Walker.

[From the National Intelligencer.]

A Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune* speaks of Robert J Walker as "one who did the Republican party good service during the war." He adds, "I believe it to be the attorney, and not the man, who puts the plea [in the Supreme Court] to overthrow the will of loyalty." The correspondent then proceeds, in much the same vein, to betray the idea, that notwithstanding the eccentric influence of Mr. Walker's manner to effect results in a forcing direction, yet, after all, "he is such a hearty and genial, and well-informed gentleman, that you like him, in spite of crabs and spite," in spite of reason and judgment.

This tribute to the conversational powers of Mr. Walker is an acknowledgment simply that they produce conviction.

The secret, if it is a secret, of the great success of Robert J Walker as a statesman or a jurist is, that he has instinctively aided with what he conceived to be right, and what has generally proved to have been so. We do not hesitate to say that he has never occupied the position, so degrading to honor, of supporting, from party or selfish considerations, "the wrong, when knowing the right." In his past political career, in what may the opinions of differing men, he has been remarkably conspicuous among American statesmen for taking high and advanced positions. In defence of the administration of Andrew Jackson, in which he was regarded at the date of his advent in Congress as unsurpassed by veteran members, he shrank not from facing Henry Clay himself in a personal way, now, to use the phraseology of Mr. Benton, did he "come out second best," in the contest. In the councils of the nation—in the Senate, in the Cabinet, before the learned Supreme bench, and in the forum of the people, whether as public speaker or writer, or executive officer, he has more than surpassed the reputation engendered by the highest intellects.

What intelligent and reflecting politician of the period of the Tyler administration can suppress the profound impression made upon the public mind by his great letter in favor of the annexation of Texas? Most of grounds that behalf that there were before men tions and fragmentary, based upon the wish rather than the reason of the people, were completely lost in the compact and convincing political arguments of Mr Walker in behalf of that measure. It carried conviction to so great a number of men that its success was insured, though Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Clay opposed what was called "immediate annexation."

The next great triumph of Mr. Walker, in a series of statesmanship marked at so many points by monuments whose inscriptions are forever ineffaceable, was the adoption by Congress of the tariff of 1846, twin measure in date and fame, in principle with the abolition of the corn law imposition of Great Britain, which was carried by the great abilities of Sir Robert Peel. Mr. Walker, by his grasp of thought, ability of statement, force of argument, depth of knowledge of his subject, fertility and boldness of illustration, and technical skill in presenting success over amazing obstacles, could in no sense be regarded as the superior of Mr. Walker in the Secretary of the Treasury of the great Cabinet of James K Polk.

That he is not now acting as a lawyer or feed counsel is patent from the fact that statement put by Judge Bailey, has issued a card repelling the Radical falsehood that the State of Mississippi has made an appropriation for the employment of counsel to represent that State before the Supreme Court of the United States. Mr. Walker, as one who can date back to the early days of the republic for his rise and useful continuance in exalted public station, is now no more actuated by mercenariness than he was during the war. When Mr Chase became disheartened concerning the financial condition, and Congress was paralyzed, if not hostile to him, Mr. Walker stepped into the arena, and, by the intense force of his intellect, revived a despairing and almost defeated cause.

Though many in the South blame Mr Walker for not rigid and brusk attacking himself to the cause of the Union of States, even to the extent of enlisting it at the cannon's mouth, there is not one who does not know that he was deaf and dumb and blind to the many outrages that were committed under the name and guise of loyalty, that he did not give aid and comfort from the beginning to Mr. Lincoln and to Mr. Johnson for practical restoration of States and of people to those relations of amity which would speed every interest on the common road of a mutual prosperity. No greater thoughts of statesmanship and of philanthropy were ever uttered than in the words that were by Mr Walker to the 22d of February, 1865. They dashed along the wires and fell upon the public mind with a force in consistence with the satisfy that conveyed them to the country

## The Aspect for War.

ARMAMENTS OF THE ALLIANCES—FRENCH IDEAS OF A QUADRUPLE COMBINATION AGAINST PRUSSIA.

[Paris Special Correspondence of London Times.]

With reference to that part of my yesterday's letter which up to all proportions reported to me on foot for an alliance, offensive and defensive, between France and England, I have to mention another version suggested yesterday, and which seems to be less inadmissible than the first. It is to the effect that overtures for a quadruple alliance between Holland, Belgium, France and England are going on. The idea is said to have been started not long