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NEW ORLEANS:
TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 23, 1870.

The New Orleans Bee.

OFFICE 73 CHARTRES STREET. NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 23, 1870. 43d YEAR—Vol. XLIII—Whole—15,144

THE SITUATION OF THE ARMIES.

The latest intelligence from Europe is considered by military men competent to judge of the situation of the armies, to presage the utter defeat of the Prussians. Gen. Geo. B. McClellan, it is stated from New York, is of opinion the tide has turned in favor of France, and that the successes of the Prussians have ended. European engineer officers now in America, who are familiar with the topography of France, say that the line from Thionville south to Nancy is a line easily defended, and that the Prussian army is in a perilous position. Gen. McClellan is reported to have expressed his belief "that Bazaine has succeeded not only in compacting the lines with Metz, but also in so manoeuvering his forces that he has thrown the Prussian army in flank and rear—that the Prussians must now fight a superior force—that should they retreat, a strong force can be thrown in the rear to hold the passes of the Vosges, and if defeated in the coming battle, they will be little else than annihilated."

To understand the position of the two armies, it must be remembered that the French front is to the south and the Prussians to the north. According to telegrams, which we published this morning, Bazaine is in communication with Verdun, Chalons and Paris, his line stretching from Metz to Paris. The Prussian line extends from Pont-a-Mousson in crossing of the Moselle, about twenty miles south of Metz, to St. Dizier, a town on the river Marne, about twenty miles south of Chalons. The King's headquarters are at Pont-a-Mousson, the extreme right of the Prussian line. The centre is held by Prince Frederic Charles at St. Mihiel, a town on the Meuse, about ten miles west of Pont-a-Mousson, and the left by the Crown Prince at Bar le Duc, whose sick-ness may have penetrated still further west. But it is not believed that the Crown Prince at present has any serious intention of continuing his march towards Paris. He cannot have more than 150,000 men in his column, and it would be mere foolhardiness to attempt to besiege Paris with so small an army. As to the remainder of the Prussians, the moment they move in support of the Crown Prince they are in danger of being struck on the flank by Marshal Bazaine, who will in all probability continue to hold the left of the French line, and march towards Paris in parallel columns with the Prussians. The movement of the Crown Prince towards Paris is probably a feint, made with the view of deceiving the French commanders about a movement in some other direction.

It may be considered certain that Marshal McMahon fronts the Crown Prince, and that he is in full communication with Bazaine and with Trochu. The armies are now manoeuvring for position, and if the Prussians do not retreat, a great battle may be hourly looked for, somewhere in the neighborhood of Chalons.

Whatever may be the result of the movements now in course of execution, Marshal Bazaine has firmly established his reputation as a tactician and military leader. The battles of the past week in the neighborhood of Metz, fought as they were against tremendous odds, stamp him as a master of the art of war. His object in keeping the Prussians on the Moselle was to enable Gen. Trochu to go on with the organization of the new army now being collected together at Paris and at Chalons. That object has now been attained, and every day's delay strengthens the army probably by ten thousand men.

Because we do not know the detail of the various operations of Bazaine since Sunday of last week, that is no reason why we should lose confidence in the French commanders, or be ready to accept as true every report coming by telegraph as to their defeat.

We are rather hope that before many days the Prussians will have concluded to turn their face homeward.

Points in France Named in Our Dispatches.

Mars La Tour is on the military road from Metz to Verdun and is ten miles west of Metz.

Briey is 14 miles north-west of Metz.

Homecourt is a station on the Paris and Strasburg Railway, about 22 miles south-east of Chalons.

Doncrille is a small village on the military road from Metz to Verdun, about 4 miles east of Mars la Tour.

Toussaint is 8 miles north-west of Pont-a-Mousson, and about same distance south-east of Thionville.

Fort Le Francais is about 14 miles south-east of Chalons-Sur-Marne.

This is the place where the Crown Prince is said to be.

HOBSON'S CHOICE.—Whoever attempts to restore gray hair with the ordinary preparations, must choose between the tinge it gives and the muddy coloring fluids. Both are dirty. BATCHELOR'S WIGS, No. 16 Union Square, and No. 81 Maiden Lane, New York, are the only wigs in existence capable of changing from any natural shade; it restores straight, fragrant, lasting, and infallible. Sold by all druggists and fancy goods dealers.

CENTENNIAL FELICITY.—Nothing tends more to consumptive happiness, than cheerful spirits. Healthy infants and children. Mrs. Winslow's Syrup is the great children's soothing "cordial."

EUROPEAN WAR NEWS.

[Per Western Papers.]

From Paris.

New York, Aug. 19.—Mr. Guillardet now in Paris, telegraphs to the *Tribune* dated Aug. 18, "Paris has been quiet, and is the Paris of the previous night, with more moderation among the people, but with hardly less feeling, while the Government remains inside the most guarded silence in regard to the movements of the army, which are just now greatly agitating the public. The Minister of War announces these movements, under Bazaine, have been completely successful, and so continue. The defeat of the Prussians, in their continued efforts to cut off the retreat of the French army, gave the greatest assurance to the Parisian people that the preparations continue in Chalons. Men appear everywhere, as decidedly of the self-reliant and confidence and of all the hopefulness of youth. They leave Paris every few hours to join the army at Chalons or elsewhere. The proclamation of Gen. McMahon, who is loved by the French people, has revived the full confidence in the army, notwithstanding its reverses, but as they were against a terrible odds in numbers engaged, are indeed not to be counted as to the final results of the war. A united press has done much to calm the public mind and restore order. The people are quietly setting reconciled to the careful reserve of official journals touching the movements of the army.

Expectations at Paris.

The junction of the armies of Bazaine and McMahon is momentarily expected at Paris. Trochu, near Chalons, where the French are expected to make a new stand.

Main French Army.

The main French army is concentrated at Chalons, which is twelve miles east of Verdun.

Chalons is forty-two miles east northeast of Rheims.

Officers of the French fleet now in the Baltic have received orders to claim at once a commercial port in Prussia sufficient to enable the amount of each contribution exacted by Prussians in those ports of France now under control.

French Accusations.

Paris, August 18.—I have just received express information from trustworthy sources relative to operations at the front. Fighting commenced near Metz at 3 o'clock A. M. Sunday the 14th inst., after the Emperor's departure. The battle was brought on by a Prussian attack on Canrobert's Division, which was in the act of withdrawing from its position. The French corps under General Ladmirault, which formed the left wing of the army, sustained the brunt of the engagement. The attacking force was under Prince Frederick Charles and General Steinmetz. While the French corps was occupying the attention of the enemy the French army continued its march, which was effected in the most orderly manner.

Marshal Bazaine expressed himself to the knowledge of the Emperor that he had killed 14,000 men. He himself said that he was slightly wounded in the foot. The wound was done by the explosion of a shell. Four regiments of the Prussian guard were nearly exterminated.

Three or four French journalists abandoned their positions and fought galantly side by side with the soldiers in this engagement the French lost 3000 killed and wounded, and the Prussians 10,000.

This disproportion is said to be owing to the horrible destructiveness of the mitrailleuse and artillery. On the evening of the 15th the French attacked the Prussians again at Gravelotte, where the Emperor had temporarily established the French headquarters. The Prussian losses were again very heavy, and the French, likewise, lost many.

Gravelotte is a point of bifurcation of two roads, leading to Verdun and Etain. The Fourth corps is in the advanced line, and three or four corps are concentrated in this locality. The bulk of the train and equipments have been sent on to Verdun under a powerful escort. The Emperor is at Chalons where the great battle will be soon fought, the aid of the army now being rapidly pushed forward.

Tuesday's Battle.

Paris, Aug. 18.—The following additional details of Tuesday's battle, near Doncourt and Vionville, are obtained from official sources: Prince Frederick Charles attacked our right and was firmly met. The corps of General Leboeuf, Canrobert's, hastened into action, which ceased only with night. The Prussians repeatedly attacked our left and were as often repulsed. Toward night fresh corps sought to turn our position, but were beaten off. Our losses are of serious. Gen. Bataille is wounded. By 8 o'clock in the morning the enemy was repulsed along the entire line; they had 120,000 men engaged. Thionville is on the high way between Metz and Verdun, and four miles east of Mars La Tour.

A French Reconnoissance.

Paris, Aug. 18.—*La Patrie* gives the following resume of information received from its private sources: The army under General Bazaine is resting upon one of the strongest places in the world, occupying a position near Metz, a position which enables it to check the enemy, and gain precious time. The Prussians, desirous to turn Metz, but Bazaine knew their intention, and crossed the Moselle in several places at the same time. He was not surprised as has been said. He knew he must soon meet the enemy, and was prepared by crossing the Moselle. The French intended to fall back on Chalons, but the Prussians endeavored to cut the French line four times. They attacked and were repulsed with great loss. The corps of Bazaine continued its march, and may be considered as certain to make a junction with Mac Mahon's forces. This result the Prussians have not been able to prevent, and it changes the situation vastly. Bazaine will then be at the head of larger forces than those opposed to him, and when he wishes, he may assume the offensive. This view of affairs is based on information from the scene of hostilities, dated Tuesday, 16th.

Official News.

The following news is official:

Gen. Frossard is reported grievously wounded in one of the battles around Metz.

Algerian Volunteers.

Paris, Aug. 18.—Algeria proposes to send 5000 volunteers to France.

Gen. Sarrau takes the place of Major General La Bruigne, who has res gned.

Trochu to Command at Paris.

Paris, Aug. 18.—Evening.—Gen. Trochu has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of all the forces at Paris, and has issued a proclamation consolidating order and calmness, not only in the streets, but a spirit of proclamation under the trials consequent upon the war. He appeals to all men and to all parties, saying that he belongs himself to no party, save that of his country, and declares that all good citizens must by moral restraint keep down those who see in the public misfortunes only an opportunity to satisfy their own detestable designs.

Trenir says that military authorities approve of the retreat to Metz.

The firemen have been enlisted as soldiers, and throng the streets of Paris, the *Gaulois* says, to the number of 100,000. They wear their brass helmets and are armed.

M. Thiers for Resistance.

M. Thiers told the Corps Legislatif, yesterday, that the duty of France was to fight at all cost to the best. He advises prompt action. The surrounding population should be obliged to bring their cattle, crops and food within the walls, and the entire region in sight of Paris should be laid in waste if necessary.

A Series of Engagements.

The *World's* London special says there are continual reports of engagements, but they refer obviously to a series of skirmishes necessarily entailed upon the two armies by their movements and the extent of the lines upon which they are moving. The Prussians will doubtless leave Verdun behind them, as they have Metz. Thionville, Bitsche, Strasbourg and other fortified places.

It is believed, on the best authority that the French will concentrate at Chalons with 300,000 men and a thousand guns, and that the Prussians will attack with 250,000 men and 1000 guns. All the action of this week must be considered merely preliminary to one of the greatest conflicts that has ever been seen. It is thought here to be imperative that both armies to bring on a decisive battle as soon as possible, for political rather than military reasons.

The London Times.

London, Aug. 18.—The *Times* eloquently calls for aid for the French and German sympathizers. The results will depend the development of the reserves of the hostile powers, and declares that the transfer of Alsace to Prussia would violate the sacred principle of national sovereignty, and confuse with the permanent rights of peace.

Russia Becoming Uneasy.

Russia is beginning to press the English government for an understanding to maintain the balance of power.

There are rumors of agitation among the Germans of Baltic-Russia, and of the mobilization of the Russian army for the Prussian frontier.

Corps Legislatif.

Paris, Aug. 18.—Jules Favre requested that the utmost severity be shown the rioters and murderers of the Villette.

M. Thiers suggested that, in case of the siege of Paris, peasants be allowed to enter the city with cattle and carts, and that the remittance them for property. He also recommended the Chambers now meet daily.

Minister Duvernois, in reply, said the Government had intended to fully provision Paris.

The Deputies, after consultation, decided to meet again to-day.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Abduction of the Digby Child—Continued Examination of Witnesses.—The examination of the two colored women, Louisa Murray, of Mobile, charged as principal, and her sister, Ellen Follin, of this city, as accessory, was resumed yesterday before Recorder Houghton. Messrs. Hughes and Palakemer for the prosecution, and Atocha, Hunt and McCay for defense.

A mass of testimony was taken, most of which we omit as ing particularly relevant to our readers.

Officer Pierson, sworn — Testified to visiting Ellen Follin's house at night and searching it on information received, and not finding the child. He was sent to Capt. George. The gate was opened by Ellen's son, George Brass, who, it seems, disappeared. His mother said he was in the habit of going in and out. Officer Jourdain, who went with him and asked her to call the boy, but did not. It is believed that this boy possibly had the child at the time back in the garden, which, it seems, was planted in corn now grown high.)

Officer Jourdain sworn—The search of Ellen Follin's house was made Sunday night, August 7th. The child was returned to Mr. Digby Tuesday. Subsequently I went with Captain Badger and Sergeant Malone to Ellen's house. Questioned her about this child, saying "Why the devil, madam, did you not tell me you had this child, when I asked you on Sunday night about it?" She answered, "You asked me for a stolen child in my possession." Said I, "I did, madam, ask you about a stolen child, why didn't you tell me about it?" She said, "I had no stolen child." Said I, "Madam, we have been informed this morning that you gave that child to Capt. Broadwell to be returned to the parents." She said she did give a child to Capt. Broadwell. She said she sent for Capt. Broadwell on Monday evening, and asked him to take charge of the child.

Mr. Hughes—For what disposition?

Ans.—To see if it was Mr. Digby's child or not. Said I, madam, it has turned out that the child of Mr. Digby; how did you get in possession of that child?

She said she got it from a white woman; she believed she was white; she had a white skin. She was standing at her gate on Bellecastle street, at noon, after breakfast, waiting for a boy that she had sent to the grocery. This woman, passing, said, "Ah, Madam, how have this child here until I come back, putting it at the same time at the side of the door, and going off towards the grocery. She did not return. When the boy (Ellen Follin's boy) returned from the grocery, she told the boy to lead the child in off the banquette out of the sun.

Said I, "Madam, how long has that child been in your house?" She could not exactly state, but Tuesday or Wednesday that week previous. Then asked, "Why didn't you tell us when we were here last Sunday that the child was in the house. She answered: You asked me for a stolen child. Said I: "We did, Madam; but why did you not tell us that you had a strange child in your house?" She made no answer. Said she had been out the yard with the child. Cannot recollect his name. He was accused. (His name is Digby.) Rep. I was crying for the child. Was told she was confused. She was sent, and that's court. Left her under charge of her in Seventh Precinct station-house.

To Mr. Hughes.—(Question resumed.) On Wednesday evening the Superintendent of Police, Gen. Murray, in Mobile, Louisiana at home; told her I was sent by her father, who had informed us that she was the cause of her being in trouble and in prison; that she had left the child at her house. She denied it; would not believe her sister had said such thing, and that if she known such a thing she would have gone over before to Mr. Digby's house. She came with me willingly without the requisition on the Governor of Alabama. What I said to her in Mobile about her sister was a ruse to get information from her.

I made some threats under excitement; heard notes from Capt. Badger. I was bluffing when I made the threats.

Capt. Broadwell, sworn—Related the facts in reference to the child coming into his possession. Ellen Follin sent for me to come and see her on important business. My wife wondered what she could want and asked the boy who came if his mother was sick. I took a bath and went immediately where she explained to me what was the matter; that a child had been left there Wednesday before three or four days ago, and that she wished me to take it and restore it to its father if it was the stolen child as she supposed it was, as she was a colored woman and was afraid of being suspected of being implicated. I consented to receive the child, not believing that the woman was guilty, but rather objected thinking it might get her into trouble. I explained to her the advertisements in the papers and told her there was nothing to fear as it would be an act of humanity and expected also some pecuniary benefit. We then took the child and took it home with us in the cars. Before we got home she suggested that we should take it to the police station, I answered as it was late we had better take it home and keep it till morning. This we did. That night I referred to the description of the lost child and told her I had no doubt this was it. I went to see the father of the child. He was out and I told Mrs. Digby I had accidentally come into possession of a child that corresponded with the description Digby had described, and was greatly elated. Then Mr. Digby struck his head out and said he'd go. In course of conversation Digby said I was a lucky man, that I would get several thousand dollars more than the reward. I answered I did not come there for rewards, that this was an affair of humanity. I told him I could tell him how I got the child. He said he didn't want to know, all he wanted was the child. When my wife handed him the child, he seemed amazed, saying, "Is that my Mollie?" The child did not appear to recognize him, and he proposed to take it to its mother for her identification, saying he was not sure it was his child. I said certainly, and proposed to him to see if the child would but followed us ("Mollie's dog," the had called it). There was no demonstration of recognition. [Witness detailed his interview with Capt. Badger—of no special relevancy to the case.]

Cross-examination—I believe Ellen Follin innocent on account of my knowledge of her. I had been her business agent for three or four years since the death of her husband, or the man who passed for her husband—Angelo Blasa, a white man. [Ellen Angelo here cried at the mention of her husband.] He was a white man in principle and color. I don't know if he was married.

I estimate the value of the property of Ellen Follin at $15,000 unencumbered, including a house on First street assessed at $5000. She does not pay taxes on her real estate—about $75 per month. When Ellen Follin gave me the child she said the police would be here after the child, but it was out. Her son also said it did not. She said she had it since the Wednesday previous. I had some talk with Ellen in the presence of Mr. Digby. I sent for my counsel, etc.; had better be in her coffin than go to prison. I knew her several years before I became her agent. I have said that I would claim the reward and expect to claim it.

Re-examination—I know nothing that would go to show that Ellen was a woman of loose character. She helped her husband to make his money by being economical and industrious. She nursed sick men under his direction.

[During the examination of this witness there was some sharp sparring between Judge Hunt and Mr. Palakemer of opposing counsel. Judge H. wanted to know if Mr. D. expected him to receive anything from the witness by rearing like the King of the Beasts. Mr. D. replied that he was not the King of the beasts—that there were greater beasts than the king.

[The repartee was taken good naturedly, with a smile on either side.]

My wife has received an anonymous communication by penny post since the inception of this trial.

Col. McKay proposed to read it in evidence. Major Hughes asked witness if he knew the author; Capt. Broadwell said he did not, and Major Hughes objected to the admission of the communication. The Court concluded to admit it for what it is worth, saying it was of trifling importance without signature or proof of handwriting. [The communication volunteered a statement that Ellen Follin was the Capitalist's mistress, etc., as a reason for his taking an interest in the woman.

The court took a recess of five minutes, after which Mrs. Broadwell was to be placed on the stand.

Her testimony was not likely to be important.

Duel.—A duel was fought Sunday morning near Ocala, on the Jackson Railroad, between Capt. S——— and Gen. M——, both of this city, in consequence, it is reported, of some reputed remark of one of the contestants about a member of the other's family. Capt. S——— was slightly wounded through the calf of the right leg, and received the first fire. Gen. M——— was more severely hurt in the thigh, and though not dangerously wounded, remained in the neighborhood with his surgeon. Both parties are Germans. We suppress the names by request.

Pic Nic and Soiree.—We are in receipt of tickets to a pic nic and soiree to be given by the Gem Lodge, No. 8, W. M., September 4, at the Fair Grounds.

New Orleans Customhouse.—The domestic exports of New Orleans for July foot up $2,986,987, including for cotton $2,502,977, valuation of 29,905 bales, weighing 13,643,-647 pounds. We are indebted to Special Deputy Collector Herwig for detailed figures.

BY TELEGRAPH.

(To the New Orleans Bee.)

The Franco-Prussian War.

Prussians Surrounding Verdun.

Mezieres Occupied by the Prussians.

Toul Bombarded on the 16th.

Plan of the Crown Prince.

Two Sons of Bismarck Wounded.

Bazaine Supplied with Food and Ammunition.

Frightful Loss of the Prussians in the Last Battle.

Emperor's Illness Contradicted.

Destruction of Bois de Boulogne.

The English Press on the Queen's Conduct.

Latest from Havana.

Heavy Fight Near Santiago de Cuba.

HOME NEWS.

The President's Proclamation of Neutrality.

Trial of Prisoners in North Carolina.

Miscellaneous.

Paris, Aug. 18.—In the Senate to-day a Senator stated that after a suspension of news for forty-eight hours, the Government had received a dispatch from Bazaine confirming his former dispatches regarding the affair of the 16th inst. After a battle of nine hours, Bazaine held all his positions. The Minister could say no more, but would affirm that Bazaine was full of confidence, which feeling was shared by the Secretary of War.

Paris, Aug. 20.—The remnants of the regiments of cavalry, Cuirassiers and Lancers, so terribly cut up in the late battles, arrived here last night, and were received with great enthusiasm.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes a circular from the Minister of the Interior to the Prefects of Departments, announcing that orders have been given for the distribution of arms to the people from the arsenals. The Minister continues: "arm without delay, we are in a crisis when we must come forward for the defence of the country. Inflame the young men by your patriotism, and use every means to make soldiers of them."

The *Constitutionnel* has an editorial, evidently inspired by the Government, reviewing the conduct of the neutral powers. It says: Austria and Italy, at the breaking out of the war, showed a friendly disposition, but with an act of humanity and expected also some pecuniary benefit. We then took the child and took it home with us in the cars. Before we got home she suggested that we should take it to the police station, I answered as it was late we had better take it home and keep it till morning. This we did. That night I referred to the description of the lost child and told her I had no doubt this was it. I went to see the father of the child. He was out and I told Mrs. Digby I had accidentally come into possession of a child that corresponded with the description Digby had described, and was greatly elated. Then Mr. Digby struck his head out and said he'd go. In course of conversation Digby said I was a lucky man, that I would get several thousand dollars more than the reward. I answered I did not come there for rewards, that this was an affair of humanity. I told him I could tell him how I got the child. He said he didn't want to know, all he wanted was the child. When my wife handed him the child, he seemed amazed, saying, "Is that my Mollie?" The child did not appear to recognize him, and he proposed to take it to its mother for her identification, saying he was not sure it was his child. I said certainly, and proposed to him to see if the dog would but followed us ("Mollie's dog," the had called it). There was no demonstration of recognition. [Witness detailed his interview with Capt. Badger—of no special relevancy to the case.]

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