THE NEW ORLEANS DAILY BEE
PUBLISHED DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED) AT
No. 73 Chartres street,
NEW ORLEANS:
SATURDAY MORNING, DEC 16, 1865.

## The Press of New Orleans,

Agreement adopted November 10, 1865.

The undersigned proprietors of the Press in the city of New Orleans, agree to be governed by the following uniform

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

| Squares: | 1 month not. | 2 mon not. | 3 mon not. | 6 mon not. | 12 mon not. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| One square | $12 | $22 | $30 | $50 | $75 |
| Two | 17 | 30 | 40 | 80 | 125 |
| Three | 22 | 35 | 50 | 110 | 175 |
| Four | 28 | 47 | 60 | 140 | 225 |
| Five | 34 | 60 | 100 | 170 | 275 |
| Six | 40 | 70 | 120 | 200 | 325 |
| Seven | 50 | 105 | 135 | 230 | 375 |
| Eight | 60 | 115 | 150 | 260 | 425 |
| Nine | 70 | 125 | 165 | 290 | 475 |
| Twelve | 75 | 135 | 180 | 325 | 525 |
| Fifteen | 85 | 145 | 195 | 350 | 600 |
| Twenty | 95 | 155 | 210 | 380 | 675 |
| Twenty-five | 100 | 165 | 230 | 410 | 750 |
| Thirty | 105 | 175 | 250 | 430 | 800 |
| Forty | 120 | 185 | 300 | 450 | 900 |
| Fifty | 175 | 330 | 450 | 750 | 1200 |

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EDWIN L. JEWELL, *Southern Star.*

☞ Copies of the BEE can always be found at Mr. Auguste Simon's Bookstore, No. 85 Baronne street, between Union and Perdido.

The officers of the New Orleans and Vicksburg packet Magnolia have our thanks for the latest Vicksburg papers.

General Scott left last evening on the United States steamer McClellan for Key West, whence he will soon return to the city. His health is said to be impaired by the recent cold weather.

THE FAREWELL MATINEE.—A farewell grand matinée will be given to-day at the Academy by Thayer & Noyes' Circus. The performance tonight for the benefit of Dr. Thayer, and another to-morrow night, will end the season of this Circus at the Academy, where the Variety Company, enlarged and reorganized, will again appear. The Circus will pitch its mammoth tent in the Third District.

BALLS.—There is to be a dress, fancy dress and masquerade ball this evening at Odd Fellows' Hall, given by Perseverance Fire Co. No. 13, to the managers of which we are indebted for complimentary tickets. We have received similar courtesies from the managers of a grand fancy dress ball to be given at the Mechanics' Institute, for the benefit of the Widows and Orphans of Teutonia Lodge No 10, I. O. O. F., this evening.

ORGANIZATION OF THE ORLEANS MILITIA.—An important notice appears in another column from Col. J. Edmonston, of the Orleans Regiment of Militia, regarding the enrollment and organization of the militia in the parish of Orleans. All able bodied men of the age of eighteen and under forty five are required to enroll themselves at the headquarters of their company districts, and in default thereof are liable to fine.

The company districts are ten, and are described in a list appended to Col. Edmonston's notice.

VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION BY THE SHERIFF.—We are requested to call particular attention to the sale at auction to be made this day, at noon, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, Royal street, by the Sheriff of this parish, of a very desirable dwelling house, situate on Pecanier street, First District, and of a family dwelling house situate at the corner of St Ann and Miro streets, Second District.

For further particulars see advertisement.

**Laws on Labor.**

We think that few will dispute that the four bills relating to labor, recently passed by the State Senate, and which were published at length in our yesterday's edition, are judicious in general conception, and for the most part well considered in detail. One of the most distinguishing qualities of these bills, and, we may add, one of their most conclusive recommendations to discreet approval, is of a negative character. We refer to the absence from them of any distinctions on account of race or color. They do not speak of the white man or the black man, of African or Coolie, unlike certain acts of the Legislatures of Mississippi and Alabama on the same subject, they make no special provisions for regulating the employment and the labor of freedmen. In this respect they may be called positively schematic, and it would pezzle even the morbid spirit of Greeley, Sumner, or Wendell Phillips, to look through them and see the faintest color of a pretext for raising their favorite cry of odious discrimination between the whites and blacks. Should some of their features be regarded as harsh—and there are none whose harshness exceeds that which is common to all the vagrant laws in the country—those features are designed to operate alike upon all employers and laborers, and if there is no protest against them on behalf of the white, or on behalf of Coolies, to whom they may happen to apply, it can only be captious and frivolous to inveigh against them on behalf of the negroes. And none, it may be safely assumed, will thus act except those who are determined, if they can, to make distinctions in *favor* of the negroes.

There are many observing and reflecting persons who think it will be necessary at last to discard freedmen labor as a principal element in calculations regarding agricultural and industrial enterprises, and it is wise, therefore, in view of such a probability, not to make that labor the special subject and the pivot of legislation aiming at the establishment of a labor system. The proposed system is for all laborers who may choose to accept its conditions. There is no compulsion, the affair is altogether one of choice and contract. If freedmen shall avail themselves of the provisions of the system, and comport themselves thereunder with industry and thrift, the fact would afford sincere gratification on every account, signifying not less for the welfare of the freedmen than for the prosperity of the State. But in default of the freedmen in this respect, the country should never be deprived of the benefit of other laborers willing, perhaps anxious, to supply the void and complete the equation between natural resources and intelligent means for their development. The bills relative to contracts with agricultural laborers and to indentures of apprenticeship contain, changing what ought to be changed, substantially such regulations as have been observed in other countries in the employment of immigrant laborers from China or Hindoostan. It is doubtless contemplated that, among immigrant laborers, they should apply more particularly to Mandoos or Coolies, as the immigration of Chinese seems generally conceded to be undesirable.

Nor do the bills in question imply the exclusion, or tend to the exclusion, of white men, Europeans or natives from agricultural and farm labor. It is true that the bill regulating agricultural labor contracts declares that "all persons engaged in agricultural pursuits shall be required, during the first ten days of the month of January," to enter into certain contracts. But there is no provision in the bill to enforce this requirement, and if there were, the contract would be thereby violated, as it is the essence of a contract that the consent of the parties thereto shall be free. A contract on compulsion, a promise on compulsion, as such on compulsion, are all in law null and void. It might be a little jarring at first with the desires, the character, and the mode of negroes and Coolies, working on their hands, or for general plantation purposes, to enter into such stipulations as are provided in this bill, since methods and other conditions of agricultural and farm employment would not necessarily be closed to white men, or to labourers of any clash or race.

Whatever opinion, however, the State Legislature may frame, its practical operation will be, from many causes, in a great measure experimental; and there can be no assurance as to any solution of the labor question until the policy of the Federal Government, Congressional and Executive, shall be settled and conclusive in regard to the general status of the freedmen and in relation to the importation of laborers from the East Indies. Should a Radical party, in complete control of Congress, think more of political propagandism and domination than of the prosperity of the country, it might be expected to pass laws intended to defeat the immigration of East Indian laborers and other laws tending to render the freedmen unreliable, if not wholly useless as an agricultural laborer. Both sets of laws would be designed to destroy the Southern planting system which the Radicals seem instinctively to regard as, in all circumstances, inimical to their doctrines and schemes.

The recent judgeship in Maine is going a begging. Several applications have been made for it though, and the following is a copy of one of them:

"To His excellency George of Maine the acting Prince By so doing you will Oblige your Servent Jog on your Bench."

# THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.

Office, 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 16, 1865. Vol. XXVII—New Series. Vol. XVII—Whole—13,646.

## Late News from Matamoros.

**Orions and Dispersion of Escobedo's Army.**

We have Matamoros papers from the 26 h November to the 8th December. In the *Empire* of the 6th we find the following relative to the fighting at Monterey.

Gen. Jauningros who commanded the place having been apprised of the approach of the enemy, resolved to get rid of him by a bold and flashing blow. Assured of the firmness and courage of the French under his orders, and of the fidelity of the brave Mexicans, of Colo. Tinajero and Quiroga, he agreed with the latter that he should make a feint of abandoning the position, so that the enemy might establish himself unmolested in the heart of the city Jauningros and Tinajero were to withdraw in the citadel and forts, and in the night the French were to attack the enemy.

Never was a plan better executed. After some slight skirmishing, Escobedo entered the city on the 24th in the rear of Quiroga who slowly retired, while the French passed to the right of the faubourgs and posted themselves so as to cut off retreat. During the night the enemy was engaged with a stratagem intended to check his too near approach to the citadel. At the same time the cavalry performed at a fast gallop a grand movement upon Exanova.

At 5 A. M. the trick was played, and the game was bagged. At a given signal, the artillery opened on the enemy who ran down the street, when they encounter Finigero and his Mexicans who are anxious to avenge their defeat at Las Cabras, and the French who massacre them "*a la fourchette*" He falls back on Coderoitz, where he meets the French cavalry who mows down his soldiers. He attempts a movement to save himself but puts himself in front of the Mexican imperial cavalry who charge him with lance.

At 1 P. M. on the 25th, nothing remained of the Liberal forces. None knows what has become of Escobedo and of the few horsemen who were with him. Dead bodies and wounded men are to be seen everywhere in the country. The slaughter in the streets of the city was horrible. Banditi, who had commenced pillaging, were killed as they were found in the houses drunk

P. S.—It is said probably that Commander Ney's contra-guerrillas had any part in the defeat of Monterey. They are said to be elsewhere.

The *Empire* of the 8th adds:

On the 1st December Escobedo had retreated as far as Camargo, not by the shorter route of the San Juan river, but by the long road of Huiravo and La Mesilla, without attempting to enter those cities.

On arriving at Camargo he issued a ridiculous proclamation, in which he confesses his defeat. He says that they drove it out for good weather, and not the soldiers of the place, which compelled him to raise the siege. His account of the battle of Monterey, where he instead of being victor he was defeated and bagged, is a gigantic specimen of gasconade. He says: "I was in the city, but while I was thinking of going forward, and as far as in the dark, the French stole into the place, I escaped as fast as possible, for I had been informed that, by another road, Jauningros was coming and closely pursuing me, while another column of the same force was advancing by way of Para."

The *Empire*, says that the work on the fortifications continues, and that soon that there will be nothing to fear from an attack of the bandit forces though six times the number of the garrison.

THE MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE REPUDIATED. The incendiarite action of the Mississippi Legislature in relation to freedmen, and its political result in the North, have called down that body the displeasure of nearly the whole Mississippi press It is a pity the same journals did not warn as earnestly as they now condemn. The Vicksburg *Journal* of the 13th thus refers to the situation in Mississippi:

"We are able to state confidently (having received our information officially) that no martial law still exists in Mississippi it cannot be re-established, and that no Military Governor is to be appointed, as has been reported in the city for some days past That disaffection exists on the part of high officials connected with the action of our Legislature, we do not deny, but this evil can be promptly remedied by a meeting of the Convention. The necessity of a speedy assemblage of this body is evident to all, and we hope that Governor Yerger will not hesitate to convene it—Time flies, and matters that work for our ruin are being acted upon at Washington. The Radicals, with our late Legislative action as a ground on which to base their arguments, are clamoring for our destruction, and it is only by a prompt and fearless exercise of the people's will, through the Convention, that we can undo the mischief already done.

SAILING OF THE NESHANNOCK. The steamship Neshannock, Capt. Winchester sails at 8 o'clock this morning for New York, with a full cargo and the following named passengers:

Thos Gill, J H Elder, S W Thomas, O F Reitle, W H Rosecrans, Jno Ryan, Jno Ryan, jr, Jno H Francis, G H Wright, R Tassell, J Cummings, S Quinn, J Mcdonnell, J Hodge, A Smith, Peter Thornton, Robert Johnson, C Robinson, J B Southworth, W Chauncey, Wm. C Phillips, O H Bentley, M Lawrence, T F Andrews, L Hoagan, D E Kelly, S A Slocomb, O E Colby, J Murray and others.

**New Points in Grant's Report.**

With reference to the report of General Grant which accompanied the President's message, says a Northern exchange, we begin by saying for our readers that which is new in the General's narrative rather than to republish the whole of it, containing, as it does, so much that is well known. When he took command of all the forces as General in Chief, he found the armies of the East and the West acting without concert, and, "like a ship manned by two crews pulling together." This gave the enemy the great advantage of using the same force, at different seasons, against first one and then the other of our armies, or else of withdrawing one or other to obtain rest. This he determined to stop, by keeping both of the great armies of the enemy employed all the time, and then, as he says, to "hammer continuously" against them with the greatest possible number of troops he could procure, until there should be nothing left to the enemy but submission. Here we have the whole secret of his "strategy."

A little way further on in the report we learn that General Grant, before starting across the Rapidan, in the Spotsylvania campaign, made known his purpose to put the Army of the Potomac on the south side of the James river, if he could not beat Lee without going there. This revelation surprised us at the newspaper office, mentation that has been indulged in, on the theory that he never *designed* to go there at all, but was forced off his line.

The next thing that attracts attention is the following handsome tribute to Gen Meade:

"I may here state that, commanding all the armies as I did, tried as far as possible, to leave General Meade in independent command of the army of the Potomac My instructions for that army were all through him, and were general in their nature, leaving all the details and the execution to him. The campaigns that followed proved him to be the right man in the right place. His commanding always in the presence of an officer superior to him rarely, had direct from him much of that public attention that his zeal and ability entitle him to, and which he would otherwise have received"

Here, again, is a handsome defeat to the newspapers, and particularly to those which supposed that, because they kept Gen. Meade's name out of their columns, the world would never know that he was the valuable and successful commander of the army of the Potomac.

It is easy enough, however, to perceive which of the army commanders had the entire confidence of Gen. Grant. This he speaks in the same hearty terms of Sheridan. He made Sheridan a visit before the great campaign of the latter in the Shenandoah Valley as he wished to see the position and surroundings himself. But he was so well satisfied with what Sheridan placed before him that he saw that but two words of instruction were necessary, and those were "go in." Gen. Grant says he never deemed it necessary to visit Sheridan again before giving him orders.

Of Sherman's movement from Chattanooga to Atlanta he says that it was "prompt, skilful and brilliant," and that the "history of his flank movements and battles during that memorable campaign will be read with an interest unsurpassed by anything in history." We learn from this report also that Sherman's "march to the sea" was not a result of Hood's flank movement from Atlanta, as was universally believed at the time, but that he had planned it deliberately and laid out the general features of it before General Grant, more than two months before, he moved, and that one month before Sherman Hood started on his fatal trump to Tennessee Wilson, too, that Grant had doubts about the movement, but finally yielded his consent.

It now appears also that General Grant was very anxious about the outdoor proceedings at Gettysburg, and sent Meade word to be careful while, but he now says that "the field of Hood was so complete as to vindicate the judgment of that distinguished officer, (Meade Thomas) He speaks warmly of Thomas' field, giving him the credit of inflicting a fatal blow to Hood before the battle of Nashville. It is in a far different tone from that he speaks of General Butler, whose military incapacity and presumptuous and insubordinate spirit are exhibited in a calm, clear and conciliatory review of his conduct on the James River and in the Fort Fisher expedition.

In the course of the narrative we find two illustrations of the damage done by indiscreet publications of army movements. While speaking of the preparations for the expedition against Fort Fisher, Gen. Grant says, that through the "impudence of the press" the enemy was warned, and the calling of the fleet back was postponed. The enemy took the advantage, for General Grant says that he learned all about the plans of the enemy through the speech that Jefferson Davis made in Macon, Georgia, in the fall of 1864, and which was fully reported in the Southern press.

AN ENGLISH APPRECIATION OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON.—The London *Telegraph* speaks thus in a late article of President Johnson.

Mr. Johnson may, in one sense, be said to have had "greatness thrust upon him," rather than to have achieved it; but he has already shown that his powers are worthy of his exalted. And it affords, indeed, both a cheering rebuke to the believers in an outworn diplomacy, and a splendid encouragement to those who believe in the capacity of a free people to extract from men, when we see that the self taught tailor of Tennessee, by virtue of his direct sincerity of purpose, and his homely manliness, has fair to succeed in a task which might have sorely tried the statecraft of a Richelieu.

For, let us note, it is not by any moral consciousness that he displays, nor merely the self control which has enabled him to conquer passion and to resist temptation, nor merely that blandness of temperament, that promises to be a fortune, which so frequently characterizes men of the Anglo-Saxon race. What we have also to adopt in him is the Roman characteristic, the calm, which so frequently accompanies men of the purpose of fate to change, the cruelly persistent spirit of the statesman.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

[To the New Orleans Bee.]

**RIVER AND STEAMBOAT NEWS.**

**Mobile Cotton and Gold Markets.**

*Vicksburg*, December 14.—The steamer Continental passed up at 7 A. M. Nose down. River rising. Weather freezing.

Mobile, December 15.—Sales to-day, five hundred bales Middling at 47; sales of the week 5000 bales at 50 cents. Receipts of the week, 10,898 bales. Exports of the week, 4327 bales. Stock, 70,680.

Gold, 42@50.

*Vicksburg*, Dec. 15.—Steamers passed up: Julia, at 5 A. M.; Magnolia, at 9 P. M. Ida Handy passed down at 8 A. M. River rising. Mer of five feet reported at Monroe, La.

Weather freezing.

LOSS OF THE STEAMER D. H. BLUST.—From the officers of the steamer Le Grand, which arrived from Shreveport yesterday, we learn that the steamer D. H. Blust, Captain Thrasher, from Shreveport bound to this port, struck a snag on the 19 h instant, at J. W. Brown's landing, about 150 miles below Shreveport, and sunk on a bar opposite Wyche's landing, one mile below. She lies with her bows out of water, in a good position to be raised. She had on board 296 bales of cotton, of which the Le Grand brought down 196 bales The D. H. Blust is owned by Captain Mead, of Memphis, and is insured for $4000.

**Louisiana Legislature.**

*Eighteenth Day—December 15, 1865.*

*Senate*—The Senate was called to order at 12 o'clock, M., Lieut. Governor Voorhies in the chair. A quorum present.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Walker, of the Carondelet street Methodist church.

The journal was read and approved.

A communication relative to election returns was received from the Secretary of State.

The Committee on Election reported that from the light before them there was no Senator in the Assembly who held an office in contravention to the Constitution. (Art. 101 and 102.)

The act granting a respite to certain doctors was made the order of the day for the next sitting of the senate.

The act relative to forced sales, amending Art. 680 and 681 of the Code of Practice, was laid on the table, subject to call.

Mr Palfrey introduced an act, granting to the Salt Island, Rockmit Mining Company, (parish St. Mary,) the right of making canals and railroads to a point favorable for navigation. The gentleman gave the history of the discovery of the mines. In the year of 1819, six, and during the war with England, a spring at the foot of a hill on the island gave brine sufficient to make salt for the government and vicinity, but the same neglected by the champions of the salt. During the last war reserves was had again to that salt spring, and examination revealed that the island was on a rock of salt, which yielded salt for the Confederacy, and is now paying a yearly rent to the owner of $25,000 per annum. The act passed and was sent to the House.

An act relative to incorporations of societies for charitable or other purposes, was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The act relative to the liquidation of certain banks, was adopt d with its title.

Another act, authorizing District Judges to fill vacancies of Clerks in their Court till the next election, was passed.

Autagranting $500 relief to J. C. Brown, late Sheriff of the Parish of Winn, to Wm Lockwood, late Custodian of the Penitentiary, $600, and Jno L. Frank, for a five months' salary, $1800 under the laws of the State, $750, Referred to the Committee on Claims.

Adopted, an act to authorize the Auditor to appoint an additional Clerk.

Mr. Palfrey's motion to reconsider the last resolution to vacate the seats of the Judges throughout the State came up. Reconsidering refused.

An act was offered to punish persons for inciting to revolt, or insurrection and rebellion. On motion of Mr. Moses it was referred to Prayer, by publications, sedi'ious, etc., excite such disorders, was added. That gentleman said that a paper, called the *Tribune*, had threatened a mass meeting of the colored people of St. Domingo. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The resolution granting $7050 for fitting up the legislative hall, was adopted.

The act from the House to suspend the collection of taxes for the years 1861, 1862, 1863 and 1864, was after strenuous opposition of the City Delegation, adopted. Mr. Bell thought the act unconstitutional.

An act to compell persons from letting horses and mules roam at large, was passed.

The act to order Municipal elections in this city was referred to the city delegation to report next day.

Adjourned.

*House of Representatives*—The House was called to order at 12 o'clock, the Speaker, Hon. D. S. Cage, presiding. At roll call, 89 members answered to their names. Prayer was offered by Rev Dr. Palmer. The minutes were read and approved.

Mr. Byrne, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill, entitled "An act to expend the collection of all taxes on lands and houses in possession of the Government" as a substitute for two other bills on the same subject, entitled an act for the relief of tax payers, and Mr. Murray's act relative to the collection of taxes.

The Committee on Federal relations reported favorably by substitute on Mr. Fenner's act to adopt the Constitutional amendment abolishing slavery.

The Special Committee of the City Delegation reported favorably by substitute on the act relative to the election of Municipal officers for the city of New Orleans. The recorder, Aldermen, Assistant Aldermen, &c, for the city of New Orleans, which act, shall take effect ten days after the date of said proclamation. The officers elected shall enter upon the discharge of their duties on the second Monday following the election and continue in office until June 1868. The bill, as amended, found little or no opposition and was finally passed by its title.

A joint resolution, offered by Mr Conviliion, fixing the adjournment of the General Assembly, was adopted as amended. The resolution provides that both Houses of the Legislature shall adjourn on Tuesday, the 19th instant, at 4 o'clock P. M.

The Chairman of the Committee on Parochial affairs reported favorably on Mr. Dipotier's act relative to licenses of dwelling houses in the Parish of St James. The bill was finally passed. The Senate bill, prohibiting persons on the premises of plantations from carrying firearms without permission from the owners, was concurred in.

The Senate bill, an act to organize the militia of the State, was referred to the Committee on Militia.

On motion, Mr. Fenner's bill, relative to the adoption of the Constitutional amendment, was then taken up at its second reading.

Mr Fenner said that he ought to bring the State in line with the policy of President Johnson, by passing this bill. Since we have undertaken to send representatives to the Congress of the United States, we ought to strengthen their hands. He further said that we ought to comply with President Johnson's request, and at the same time, close the mouths of the Radicals.

Mr. Simonds objected to the second section of the bill, which reads as follows:

"*Resolved*, That, according to the sense of the General Assembly, the power granted to Congress by the second section of the foregoing amendment, is strictly limited to legislation appropriate and necessary for the prevention and prohibition of slavery or involuntary servitude within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction, and that any attempt on the part of Congress to legislate otherwise upon the political status or civil relations of freedmen slaves within any State, would be a violation of the Constitution of the United States, as it now is, or as it will be, altered by the proposed amendment."

He objected on the ground that by the adoption of this section no good can be obtained, on the contrary, it might do a great deal of harm.

Mr. Eustis said, that, as the Governor had not called upon the General Assembly to do, what the Legislatures of other Southern States have done, the further discussion on the bill should at once be dispensed with.

A motion to postpone further action on this bill was lost; 45 yeas, 46 nays. The bill was then passed as its second reading; 55 yeas and 5 nays.

On motion the House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-day.

HORRIBLE TRAGEDY IN MISSISSIPPI.—One of the most horrible tragedies that have occurred for many years was enacted lately in Mississippi near Brookhaville. A man named James Thompson left his home some months ago, and some years ago. About a year since he returned from the house of his father, near which time some idea of bereavement and the failure of his property seems to have unseated possession of his mind. Lately, recently, he approached the home, and inquired of the negroes if the *Yard* if all were well. He then entered the house, and in the presence, she was in the act of dressing.

A second report followed, and the mother was found dead, shot in the right should and side. The mother and the daughter must have died instantly. The murderer then entered the room of his brother, Clay, who he shot in the top stated shoot and turned their door; but the open. Jemima slipped by him, rushed down stairs and on the threshold of the door, she was shot in the back and the blood with the shot. The daughter then went up stairs

The last and fatal report was heard. The young girl slay mover, dressed herself, the man hence, and proceeded towards the river. He stood deliberately at the bank of the spring, composed. He fired the second time, but it was intercepted by a bystander, and lodged harmlessly over his head and fired twice, one shot taking effect in the breast of the fellow, who now attempted the desperado, and after a fierce struggle he was bound. The murderer is now in Jackson jail.

JUDICIAL DECISION AGAINST THE MISSISSIPPI SHOT LAW.—The Vicksburg *Herald*, of the 13th, says:

Judge Cobbens, of the recent term of the Tallahatchie Court, and Judge Chalmers, of the Yazoo Court last week, declared the stay law of 1861 unconstitutional. Referring to Judge Campbell's opinion, the Yazoo *Banner* says:

It is to be regretted that this case will go no further, and that the lawyers generally cannot see in the occurrence of the law. It is believed that no Court will decide otherwise.

All any have and all other laws impairing the obligation of contracts, are declared of no effect.

## The late Mr. Van Amburgh, the Lion Tamer.

INTERESTING REMINISCENCES.

Lions Van Amburgh, the world renowned lion tamer, who died in Boston, is recorded elsewhere, in the spring of 1838 played at the old Richmond Theatre, New York City, under the management of J. W. Willett, senior, but called for Boston, in July of this year. He made his first appearance in London, at Astley's Amphitheatre. He started a sensation was created that he was soon engaged by Mr. Bunn for Drury Lane, where he appeared in some drama written expressly to introduce his performances.

His career at this theatre was singularly successful, the interest in his exhibitions was intense, and the crowds that came to see them were without parallel. There was, however, some opposition, on account of the last partly the Queen's Consort, who attended at the same time at Covent Garden in Shakespeare characters.

The young Queen Victoria, early in 1839, made several visits to Van Amburgh, and witnessed his management. On one occasion she remained till the audience had gone, to see further performances, including the feeding of the lions. They had been kept without food for thirty-six hours, and were fierce and ravenous—so that the lion and tiger simultaneously plunged at a lamb which was taken into the cage, and which had been two months of it, but Van Amburgh lashed them with severity and drove them into their corner, where they remained perfectly quiet.

While Van Amburgh was in London, a painting of him and his performing animals was made for the Queen, by her order.

In company with several Americans, a firm was established to exhibit in a town of England a menagerie, which became known as that of Van Amburgh & Co. The exhibition was conducted like similar exhibitions here, by carrying coins, the company sometimes staying only one day in a place.

Van Amburgh returned to the United States in 1842. He brought 8 gilded wagons and harness and eight large Bengal tigers, whom most persons will remember. From that time the menagerie of Van Amburgh & Co has been travelling throughout the United States and the Canadas, yearly; and their operations are sufficiently well known.

Last winter saw the winter before last, the company had a magnificent collection of animals at the Chinese building on Broadway, and it was frequently referred to in this journal.

The establishment is now laid up at Connecticville, Ind., for the winter.

Van Amburgh, in the course of his career, had many severe contests with the animals, in some of which he was more bitten and torn, but he always came off the victor. On one occasion he right wrist was literally chewed and mangled by a lion. He never fully recovered from the effects of this injury.

There are many good stories of Van Amburgh's contests with the animals, but they are mostly destitute of foundation, or nearly so. The statements were in some instances based on fact, but they were much altered, they consisted of sudden attacks, which Van Amburgh was usually able to finish at once, though sometimes, as has been explained, the beasts left their marks upon him. The tendency of the various accounts was, of course, such as to injure and damage the work itself.

Eight or nine years ago, Van Amburgh was obliged to cease his performances, but he always accompanied the menagerie in its travels when he was able to do so. Some time ago he resigned the active management of the concern, and it has since been under the direction of Mr Hyatt Frost. The business of the concern will probably be carried on by the surviving partners under the name it has hitherto borne.

Mr. Van Amburgh possessed great physical strength and fearless courage. He had a commanding presence; his movements were graceful; he was firm, and, under all circumstances, cool possessed

## CITY INTELLIGENCE.

*First and Fourth Districts Recorder's Court—Judge Campbell.*—John Bennett, charged by Wm Bohner with having in his possession a gold watch No. 43,461, which was stolen from him, was discharged at the request of the prosecutor to whom the watch was returned.

F. Bourgeois, for disturbing the peace on Perdido street, paid a fine of $2 50.

Louis Ley, charged by Thomas McMahon with having insulted and abused him on Dryades street, was fined and paid $2 50.

Edward Byrnes, John Hayes and John Williams, arrested on Camp street, charged with disturbance and suspicious character, were sent to Parish Prison for 30 days each, for default of furnishing bonds of $300 each, for six months.

Joseph W. Bradley, disturbing the peace at the Poydras Market, was fined $5 or five days in prison.

Henry Cotlar, charged by George H Webber with having stolen the lower portion of a pair of pantaloons, valued at $5, was acquitted that there will be a more lively demand to morrow by the country. Nothing was reported in Silver excepting some small lots at previous rates.

The market for Gold was firmer, and there was a much less liberal sale than yesterday. The supply of Sterling was ample, but A No. 1 bills were held somewhat above the views of buyers. Exchange on Paris at 5 37½ (2 to 5 35½), and Hamburg at 36 (2 to 35½). Specie shipments have been quite active, and the rates for Gold were firmer, under the influence of the offer of Mr. Martin was fixed $110 and Margaret $5.

*Inquests.*—The following inquests were held by Dr. Tainer, Coroner, for the Parish of Orleans:

On the body of Lucien Lambert, native of France, aged 57 years, found dead in a house corner of La Harpe and Johnson streets, of apoplexy.

On the body of Robert C. Frank, aged 45 years, native of Pennsylvania, found dead in house No. 14 Constantinople street. Deceased committed suicide by shooting himself in the head. The ball entered the skull, at the right temple, and passed out at the left temple, fired by a pistol, revolver. No reason is known for the rash act.

On the body of Thomas Orgone, aged about 45 years, native unknown, found drowned in the New Basin, near Howard street. Drowned accidentally on the 14th inst. at about 7 o'clock P. M., from a memorandum book found on his person. It appears that he had been in the Dubose Rifles, 5th Regiment Louisiana Volunteers, and was recently an applicant for a position in the Legislature. He resided at No. 369 Franklin street.

## COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
*Friday Evening, December 15, 1865.*

COTTON.—The market opened this morning with a very fair demand, but the movement was checked by the high pretensions of holders for the reduced supply (Eating, and the sales were confined to small lots taken by twelve brokers, at about yesterday's prices. With the remark that in some instances desirable lots were found at inside figures, while in others buyers were compelled to pay rather more than the inside rates. We may conclude by saying that the good ordinary of 44@45c. low middling at 47@48c, and middling at 50@—. These figures show a strong market for the lower grades, which were in pretty good request. The demand was partly for foreign export, buyers for Liverpool, Havre and Spain participating in the business. The antebellum quote Mobs good ordinary at 45@46; and strict low middling at 48@49c. The week's sales sum up 17 500 bales.

STATEMENT OF COTTON

Stock on hand December 1st, 1865, bales.... 99,899
Received to-day.... 1 261
Received previously.... 319,983—419,093

Cleared for Liverpool.... 1 493
" " continent.... 207 319—251 812

Stock on hand and on shipboard not cleared.... 167,281

The clearances comprise 1183 bales for Liverpool, 207 for Havre, and 310 for New York.

SUGAR.—Holders ask about 55 hhds Sugar and 250 bbls Molasses have been received since yesterday. The market for Sugar is very dull and depressed, in fact there is scarcely any demand. Molasses is in fair local demand at about previous rates. The sales of Sugar are confined to 35 hhds fair at 15½ per lb, three of Molasses comprise 650 bbls and 20 half bbls, in various lots, at 40c for Common, 70c for fair, 80 to 85c for good and prime and 90c per gallon for strictly prime. Received during the week 500 hhds 50 bbls Sugar, 2217 bbls Molasses. Cleared 19 hhds 103 bbls Sugar, 1424 bbls Molasses. The imports comprise 3936 hhds Sugar, 365 hhds and 385 bbls Molasses.

WHISKIES FRUITS AND PROVISIONS—Owing to the probability of an interruption of navigation in the upper rivers, by the 1st of of cold weather, the supplies are more firmly held and there is a strong more disposition to purchase The market for Flour is quiet but for as previous prices, provisions are more in request at firmer and better rates. Corn is in good request at yesterday's prices, Bacon has advanced 19c per lbs and Oats are in active speculative demand at an advance of 2c per bushel on yesterday's nightly sales. We refer to the following remarks for full particulars of the market.

FLOUR—The market is quiet, there is not much demand, but the stock is firmly held at previous prices. Only about 700 bbls were sold to the city trade to day, (of which 120 fine at $7 45), 125 fine at $7 62½, 160 common at $6 75, 100 fine extra at $9 12½, 50 fair extra at $10 75, and 65 good do at $11 50 per bbl. Received during the week 80,233 bbls—cleared 7613 bbls.

CORN—There is a better demand which is being supplied to the detriment of the 1865 crop, which is now the only grade to day, (of which 120 fine at $1 42½, 300 and 300 yellow and 397 white sold at $1 40, and 1000 white sold at $1 10 per bushel. $1 10 per bushel was offered and refused for a lot of 500 sacks white and yellow. Received during the week 55,567 sacks—cleared 2680 sks.

OATS—Holders are pretty representative enquiry to-day, but holders were very firm and in the rows and the sales are confined to 500 sacks at 82 and 200 at 60, per bushel, the latter in bulk, and 100 sacks at 70 per bushel, and 1000 bbls at the good order. Wholesale & Retail—10 do per bushel. Received during the week 1 two hundred bushels together 7,000 sacks. Received during the week 19,075 sacks.

HAY—The stock is very firmly held and an advance of 10c per 100 lbs has been realized—500 sacks Western sold at $1 50 per 100 lbs. Received during the week 1,000 sacks.

MALT—A lot of 100 bags Northern sold at $2 07 per bushel.

BUTTER—A lot of 600 old cold at 32c—some an advance of 2c.

CHEESE—A lot of 25 bales was sold to a retailer at yesterday at 32c per yard. To-day 32c was realized for a lot of 100 bales—Western Reserve and Ohio at 30c per lb large per one hundred.

GALVESTON AND INDIANOLA—For steamship Ann Lo—200 bbls Rye 110 bbls whisky 60 do cotton 30 bales.

GALVESTON—For steamship Wabash—Sunday 60 bales.

GALVESTON AND INDIANOLA—For steamship Texas—21 bbls whisky 3 bbls apples, etc.

GALVESTON—For steamship Magnolia—120 shs coal and 100 do and 20 bales hay 3 bbls whisky and 1 do apples.

LIVERPOOL—For ship Matilda—3125 bales cotton

HAVRE—For bark Amazy—997 bales cotton 22 bbls rosin.

MANZANILLA—For schooner Ophelia—60 shs corn 700 empty bbls 10 half bbls tar.

PENSACOLA—For schooner Marie—12 bbls flour 16 bbls pork 4 do pickles 10 do lime 50 bales hay 1 do oil 1 do paint.

BY LOUIS—For schooner W R Arthur—Sundries to order.

IMPORTS.

MOBILE—For steamer Creole—4 bales cotton Stewart & Hyde—24 packages Southern Express—sundries to order.

RECEIPTS FROM THE INTERIOR.

CHICKASAW—Per steamer Magnolia Knox—40 bbls whisky 1 do alcohol 1 do 20 bbls sheets P Kent 5 do 10 do Sheets Lewis Lamb 1 do 10 do Sheets Wm Lamb 2 do 10 do Sheets Lewis Lamb 1 do 10 do Sheets Lewis Lamb 1 do 10 do Sheets Lewis Lamb 1