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SUBSCRIPTIONS BY THE WEEK

The carriers of the Bee are authorized to receive subscriptions to our paper at the rate of 25 cents a week, payable in all cases to the carriers themselves.

Auction Sales This Day.

McCorran's Landry sell at 11 o'clock to-day, at their auction mart, furniture of every description. See their advertisement.

Will the Blockade be Raised?

One of the most lively mooted questions among the quid nunes is whether England will raise the blockade, and if so, when? Editors are currently presumed to possess a special fund of information in preference to such talkers, and we, in common no doubt with most of our contemporaries, have been interrogated a thousand times with as much pertinacity as if our opinions were infallible. It is true that the press has opportunities of arriving at information in consequence of having access to numerous public journals and correspondence, but, nevertheless, it is as subject to error as most individuals, and its conclusions are, therefore, not to be received with implicit trust. Now, with respect to the blockade, we profess that the people of the South have wasted much precious time and an infinite amount of anxiety in looking to Europe to accomplish a work to which they themselves might have successfully directed their minds sooner. They gazed at England and France through Southern spectacles, and thought that these powers must needs hasten to break through a blockade which the South knew from its repeated violation to be utterly inefficient. They reckoned likewise too confidently on the omnipotence of Cotton and Tobacco, and concluded somewhat rashly that the want of an ample supply of these Southern staples would speedily prompt the leading European powers to hazard war with the United States, sooner than dispense with them. Had the South, instead of supinely trusting to foreign nations, expanded its labor and means in such maritime contrivances as would have driven off the blockading vessels, and kept the ports open—she would not now be so anxiously engaged in the solution of the problem of European intervention. Before we call upon HERCULES, let us put our own shoulders to the wheel.

Bearing in mind these important truths, we may not unreasonably weigh the probabilities of a formal disregard of the Lincoln blockade by England and France. There is no doubt of the pressure of the cotton famine in the British manufactories. It is equally certain that the embargo on tobacco must be severely felt by both nations. Under ordinary circumstances, however, it may be fairly questioned whether either of them would care to risk hostilities with the United States by an interference with the blockade, at least until the dearth of Southern staples became so terrible as to threten commercial ruin and popular insubordination. But recent events must naturally have modified the views of the English Cabinet, and perhaps those of the French likewise. The uniformly hostile and arrogant tone of the United States towards those powers had gradually aroused a feeling of irritation, which culminated to one of irrepressible anger and stern defiance upon the occurrence of the Trent outrage. Brooding as England is of the mingled blustering and pettiness of that Yankee Government, she anticipates a rejection of her demand for the release of the captured Commissioners, and is actively preparing for the war deemed almost inevitable. When, however, the news of the release of Messrs. SLIDELL and MASON reaches the British Government, and when it learns the shameful exhibition of pusillanimity on the part of the Lincoln Cabinet, Great Britain will justly argue that the threats uttered by the former against all who either seek to recognize the Confederate States, or violate the blockade are mere bluster and promiles. We do not imagine that either England or France is likely to be deterred from any fixed line of policy they may propose by menaces of even a serious character, but it is a rational inference that any scruples they might cherish would disappear when the baseless character of Yankee ferocity is fully understood. Here, therefore, is one obstacle to an intervention pretty thoroughly disposed of.

Again, the lack of American cotton is rapidly producing much distress and suffering in the manufacturing districts of England. The stock of American cotton at this time must be less than two hundred thousand bales, and of this a considerable portion is old and dusty, and consequently of inferior value. The East Indian and Brazilian varieties cannot be worked alone, without such complete changes of machinery as would involve an enormous outlay, and so imperfect and short is the fibre, that nothing but the coarsest fabric can be manufactured with them. Even when mixed with the American staple, they cannot be worked into any thing superior to the cheapest and most ordinary goods. It is apparent, therefore, that Great Britain can hardly afford to await the wholly uncertain termination of the war on the side of the Atlantic, as it may last for years without any relaxation of the blockade. She must make up her mind, in concurrence with other powers which are nearly as much interested as herself to break through the artificial barriers upon her commerce imposed by the illegal, impolitic and tyrannical policy of the North. That this can be accomplished without the absolute suppression of any more dangerous manifestation than a harmless explosion of Yankee wrath and a threat of vengeance at some remote period hereafter, is as clear as the light of heaven itself. If the Yankees drained the bitter cup of humiliation to the very dregs in the affair of the Trent, they will unhesitatingly swallow any draught presented to them by such powers as England, how nauseous and disgusting soever it may be. For these reasons we think there is a probability of the raising of the blockade at a comparatively early day. Meanwhile we repeat—Let us, without reference to these contingencies, do our best to free our harbors from the pressure of the enemy's squadron. The better for us if, unassisted by others, we achieve so momentous and glorious a result.

A SCRIBE IN DIFFICULTIES.

The special correspondent of the London *Times* is an unfortunate man. His missives seem to create equal dissatisfaction North and South. When he first undertook to enlighten England respecting the quarrel and the war on this side of the Atlantic, he visited Montgomery and said some handsome things of the new Confederacy, whereat the Yankees were highly indignant. After a while, however, RUSSELL got upon his anti-slavery hobby, and, bringing his virulent English prejudices to bear, abused the South outrageously. Yankeedom was in ecstacies. RUSSELL went to Bull Run, where, by the way, he was quite a lady. Distinguished for the rapidity of his flight in McDOWELL's men, and gave a description of the battle, doing as scant justice but still exposing Yankee cowardice with some effect. From that time the Lincolnites grew savage at the mere mention of his name, and even sought to have him expelled from the United States—an act of folly which SEWARD had the good sense to endeave. Unhappily, Yankeedom will make a fool of itself, and RUSSELL will chronicle the fact for the benefit of the Thunderer of Printing House Square. We ourselves hold that he treats the braggart with far more tenity than they deserve, but they are shocked, horrified, and excessively irate at his disclosures. We notice that the Chicago *Tribune* returns to its favorite project of driving RUSSELL out of Yankeedom, while the Boston *Post* berates him in the unlimited truculent style.

Those official persons at Washington who may hereafter extend public courtesies to Dr. Russell, correspondent of the London Times, will forfeit all claim to courtesy from their own countrymen. He has proved himself a gross and wanton calumniator of our country, its Government, institutions and people, and deserves no higher position than the second table in any gentleman's dining-room. The malignity of the creature is only equaled by his mendacity, and he can only be pardoned sensible of his impertinent intrusions and gross insolence by the toe of a boot or the suppression of his nasal organ between thumb and finger.

GAY's fables have made us familiar with the story of the amiable painter who endeavored to please everybody and pleased nobody. RUSSELL's case is somewhat different. He tried, we suppose, to tell the truth, as far as his inveterate and irrefutable prejudices would allow, but he has succeeded quite as thoroughly as the painter in raising up a host of enemies. We suspect, however, that RUSSELL's oldtenrie is as imperviously to the pricksers of the press as is the cuticle side of a rhinoceros to a Indian ball. As an old veteran for public journals, he has probably grown callous, hardened, and smilies alike at panegyric and satire.

The Tuscaloosa *Observer* of the 8th instant says that the two Yankee prisoners who recently escaped from the Confederate Master prison, in that city, after trying to live on raw corn and to sleep out in the woods for a week or two, have given themselves up, and been carried back to their place of confinement.

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BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

From Cuba.

Late News from Havana by the Sloop William Henry, Captain Gibson.

Quarantine, January 15.—The sloop William Henry, Captain Gibson, has arrived, bringing Havana dates of the 9th inst. The following is a summary of her news:

Havana, January 9.—The French fleet left this port on the 3d inst. for Vera Cruz. The fleet consisted of a line-of-battle ship and three first-class frigates and small propellers.

The Spanish fleet left about two weeks previous.

It is reported that Vera Cruz was abandoned by the Mexicans on the arrival of the Spanish forces on the 29th of December.

The combined force was under the command of the Spanish General, Prim. The British fleet was withdrawn.

The Calhoun arrived in Havana on the 6th of January. This vessel makes one hundred and one successful voyages to and from Havana since the blockade was established.

Business here is extremely dull.

Louisiana Legislature.

Baton Rouge, January 15.—In the Senate, a motion was defeated to take up out of its regular order the Cotton Planters Relief bill. A vote to suspend the rules resulted 17 ayes, 12 noes.

Following this was a vote refusing to take up out of its order the General Appropriation bill.

No business of importance was done, and legislation in the Senate is at a dead lock until the Cotton bill can be acted upon.

In the House, the bill to raise revenue for the State Treasury, with substitutes offered by Mr. McDonald, was made the special order for to-morrow, at half past 11 o'clock.

The vote taken in yesterday evening's session defeating the Sugar Planters' Relief bill was reconsidered, on motion of Mr. Kaupp, and placed in order on the calendar.

Mr. Lindsay offered a bill appropriating four thousand dollars for the support of the State normal schools in the city of New Orleans.

Also, a bill extending privileges on crops during the war and twelve months after, which passed.

The report of the Committee of Conference on amendments to the bill to regulate forced sales of property has been concurred in by both Houses. It now waits only the signature of the Governor to become a law.

The House adopted the substitute offered by Mr. Elam to the bill in relation to proceedings against the banks for forfeiture of their charters.

The substitute suspends during the war and twelve months thereafter the 12th and 13th sections of the act of 1842, reviving the charters of banks, and the 19th section of the act of 1855, establishing free banks. The second section prohibits the sale of coin. The substitute is made the special order for Saturday next.

A bill in relation to pledges was passed.

A bill appropriating $2500 to the Mouroe hospital for the returned sick and wounded soldiers passed.

Thanks were unanimously voted to the Eleventh Louisiana Regiment of Volunteers, commanded by Col. Marks, and to Watson's battery, commanded by Major Beltzhoover, for gallant conduct at the battle of Belmont.

A bill offered by Mr. Snyder was passed authorizing the Governor to furnish munitions of war to the parish authorities throughout the State for distribution among all the males above 14 years of age.

In the evening session, a bill to amend the charter of the city of New Orleans in regard to qualifications of municipal officers passed.

From Richmond.

Richmond, January 15—John K. Jackson, Colonel of the Fifth Georgia Regiment, and commanding at Pensacola, is appointed a Brigadier-General. He is not a graduate of West Point, but an efficient and experienced military officer. He was warmly recommended by Gen. Bragg for promotion.

From Nashville.

Nashville, January 15—A tobacco warehouse at Henderson, Kentucky, owned by Kerr & Co., of Liverpool, was burned on the 14th instant, together with 90000 worth of tobacco. It was the work of an incendiary.

Gen. Halleck (Lincolnite) has appointed a new board of assessors at St. Louis, to assess levies upon the Secessionists, and no appeal is allowed from their decision.

The Southern Line has been interrupted since 10 o'clock, P. M., depriving us of our Richmond dispatches.

The Chicago *Tribune* says that the United States Senate manifested a wholesome relutance on the 6th instant, in admitting Benj Stark, of Oregon, to the seat of the deceased General E. Baker. His credentials with well attested papers showing his sympathy with "rebels in arms," were referred to the committee. Mr. Bright, adds the *Tribune* man, was on hand to mourn over this departure from precedent.

FROM FORT PILLOW.—We make the subjoined extract from a Fort Pillow correspondence in the Memphis *Avalanche* of Tuesday:

Fort Pillow, January 6th, 1862.—What ails the wind! Gen Polk has said "that shortly Fort Pillow would bristle with bayonets." Colonel Marsh Walker's staple cavalry scouring every nook and corner of the Confederacy. Magazines are being remodeled, and others built. The untiring energy of the commander of the post is on every one's tongue. Cannon are being mounted, and balls arranged. The cavalry regiment is drilling vigorously—the utmost vigilance is observed, and something is up. What is it? Don't know. Col. Walker is silent; Steps are even contoned, and as as powerful in his silence as he is formidable in action.

Fifteen thousand troops at this place could assault themselves against seventy-five thousand, and this is the thing discovery is certain a rear defense, because they may come by the rear. It is possible. But if we should be compelled to evacuate Fort Pillow on account of a rear attack, and for fighting face, why the force force that is now *drilling* in Memphis and fitting itself for the field, could easily laugh a chance to scorn. And we feel secure, in the contemplation of the brave hearts and strong arms that will rally to our assistance in case of a dire necessity.

THE MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL CONGRESS.—A Yankee correspondent, writing from Washington, thus refers to Lincoln's servants in Congress, their general appearance, &c. He remarks in reference to the Yankee women are by no means complimentary:

For a week past every available place has been filling up with members of Congress and their wives. At Willard's, at the National, at Brown's—everywhere there is the same crowd of men, of whom many are simply dingy, tobacco chewing demi-gentlemen. The men themselves are often shabby in dress, or clothed in the best effort of some country tailor, but the women of the party are a great deal worse. A man may pass without observation, or with only a presumed impression that his coat is of ancient style, and his linen by no means faultless; but a woman's costume cannot be unexceptionally lady like, or it is said to outrage one's taste. Such wonderful combinations of color, and such astonishing trimmings, as have appeared of late here, would afford a valuable study for the artists who get up "Paris fashions Americanized."

A BRUSH WITH THE YANKEE GUNBOATS.—Says the Columbus *News* of Monday last:

On Saturday, about half past one o'clock, the Boston and St. Louis, two prominent Lincolnite gunboats, made their appearance about four or five miles above our fortifications, and engaged in a conflict with two of our gunboats—the Polk and Grampus.

There were eight or ten shots fired on each side, but the Yankees failed to injure us at all. One of their balls fell within twenty feet of the Grampus, it is supposed, another passed over the bow of the Polk. From the *report*, the Boston must have guns of pretty heavy calibre. We do not know whether our boys done any harm to the invaders or not. The firing having ceased, our boats came in.

The daring, impetuous little Grampus, after resting awhile, hoisted up the river again at the speed of 2:40, to see to matters and things generally.

There was much excitement, and at a moment's warning our gallant leaders and soldiers were at their posts, ready for any emergency that might ensue.

ENGLAND MUST HAVE COTTON.—The Cork *Reporter* of December 13th says:

It is stated that Earl Russell had assured a deputation which had waited on him that arrangements had been made for the exportation of cotton from the Southern States during the month of February next.

A REBUFF.—One of the Northern journals has the following:

Several of the kind clergymen of Boston have recently been solicitous for the spiritual welfare of the political prisoners confined in Fort Warren, and accordingly made propositions to appear before them for the purpose of tendering religious consolation. The gentlemen addressed accepted the tender with becoming gratitude, and departed one of their number to pen an appropriate response, which was in this wise: Thanks were returned for the offer made, and one of the clergymen was requested to preach, on the ensuing Sabbath, a discourse from the following text:

25th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, 27th verse: "For it seemeth to me unreasonable to send a prisoner, and not withal to signify the crimes laid against him."

It is needless to say that the spiritual consolation was not afforded, and the sermon not preached.

The London *Herald* of December 5th contains the following advertisement:

This day is published, price 1s., "The South, its Products, Commerce and Resources, by Col. Thomas Jordan, Adjutant-General to Major-General Beauregard, First Corps, Confederate Army of the Potomac. William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh, and 37 Paternoster-Row, London."

The Richmond *Whig* remarks upon this:

Col. Jordan is among the most intelligent and accomplished officers in the Confederate service, and we have no doubt that in the pamphlet he has chosen his work well. Nothing could be more timely than its publication.

Late Northern Intelligence.

The Memphis *Appeal* has received Cincinnati, Louisville and St. Louis papers to the 7th, from which it makes up the following synopsis of news:

The *Republican* says that Gen. Siegel's reputation was dashed on the 31st ult., and the *Post* (German) says that some twenty or thirty other officers in command at Rolla have likewise tendered their resignations. Major Hassendorbel is mentioned as one of the number.

The Cincinnati *Commercial* had information from Cairo as late as the 6th. Some deserters had arrived from Columbus, giving information of the resignation of Gen. Pillow, and in addition the following "stunning" intelligence: "There are 150 rifled cannon mounted on the bluff at Columbus; also a chain stretched across the river supported by barges, with an interval where two torpedoes are planted. Fifteen hundred troops left Columbus last week for Bowling Green. The force now at Columbus is between 25,000 and 30,000. Sixty day soldiers are all gone. The Confederates are impressing men that, of all classes, and none are excepted. Whisky is worth $2 50 per gallon." The "veritable gentleman" has departed the land of Dixie and reached Yankeedom.

A fire recently occurred in Philadelphia, in the business portion of the city, which at one time threatened great results, but the flames were stayed after causing a loss of $75,000.

Senator Trumbull's amendment to Sherman's bill reorganizing the Supreme Court is as follows: Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and North Carolina constitute the fourth circuit; South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida constitute the fifth circuit; Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Tennessee constitute the sixth circuit; Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota constitute the seventh circuit; Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Iowa constitute the eighth circuit. Sherman's bill put Ohio and Michigan together.

It was expected that a bill empowering the New York assay office to coin gold and silver would be introduced in Congress on the 7th.

A special to the *Commercial*, dated Washington, January 6th says: At 4 o'clock this afternoon Gen. Jackson and Gen. Lander were still shelling each other across the river at Hancock. Although Gen. Jackson's forces are altogether stronger, he has done no harm to the men or town up to that hour.

The Legislature of the Governor and State officers of Wisconsin took place on the 6th inst.

The *Commercial* of the 8th says that during the previous three weeks nine hundred and fifty wagon loads about four thousand tons had been forwarded to the Federal army under Gen Buell.

The Missouri *Democrat* of the 6th states that the Nish Mingoni Railroad, which had been destroyed by the Confederates, would be put order with 7th when trains would commence making regular trips.

Lincoln's Message in France—Opinions of the French Press.

[From the Paris Moniteur, Dec 18.]

The language of President Lincoln, such as results from the analysis we have received, is no way implies the sentiment of a fault committed and of a reparation to be made in the matter of the arrest of the Southern Commissioners. The President considers his conduct prudent and wise towards foreign nations. At New York the message was considered moderate, which they say ought to account for any excitement in the public mind. At London, on the contrary, a very different view is taken of it, and the journals declare, according to a telegraphic dispatch, that the document is no less satisfactory and that it appears to inaugurate war.

[From the Paris Siecle, Dec. 18.]

President Lincoln, besides, by calling on the Congress, in the message, to adopt ample measures for the defense of the coasts, lakes, rivers and ports, shows that his resolution is taken and that he expects war. The question whether the President would maintain silence on slavery, or would adopt a wise and firm line of policy with respect to the redoubtable institution, excited much curiosity as that of the Trent. The President discusses the problem, and proposes to solve it by paying an indemnity to the proprietors of slaves. Mesdames, he says, may be taken for establishing colonies of emancipated slaves in a climate which would suit them better; and the black population may be comprised in such colonization? . . . Transportation is the expression which should have been used, for the measure referred to in the message cannot be seriously regarded. The negroes of the South have never complained of the climate of America; and, in fact, their facility in supporting it is one of the reasons by which attempts are made to prove the necessity of slavery, and to justify its maintenance. As to the fate, negroes of the Northern States, they live very well under the severe climate of that country, and the question may be asked by a fair right, they could be doomed to exile? The North, in emancipating the slaves, has trumpled over its political fears, but not over its prejudices against the race. There are in the North three races in presence, and perhaps the whites would think it very clever to take advantage of the occasion to get rid of the negroes, and to send them, by a pretext of emancipation, to die in a new Liberia. But it is not such a solution which is expected from America under present circumstances, and we have no need to say how much the American character would be lowered by it in the public opinion of Europe and the whole world.

[From the Paris Debats, Dec. 18.]

Unfortunately this document is far from giving satisfactory information relatively to the question which now occupies public attention. It contains no explicit mention of the affair of the Trent. We hesitate to judge of President Lincoln's intentions from the extracts reported by telegraph. But if we were asked to state what impression it has produced in our mind, we should admit that we do not think it is a pacific message. We regret to find in it recriminations, more or less founded, but in any case inopportune, which seems addressed collectively and indiscriminately to all foreign nations. The President appears to think only of his grievances against foreign "states," and resort to the subject two or three times in order to express his sentiments in language of a decidedly hostile character. But the question worthy of attention and most significant of the message—the only one in which it is possible to find an allusion to the affair of the Trent, is that in which Mr. Lincoln says "it is not the purpose to review our discussions with foreign States, because, whatever might be their tone or temperament, the integrity of our country and the stability of our Government mainly depend upon the loyalty, virtue, patriotism and allegiance of the American people. Certainly, this is high-toned language, but, before we can give it our approbation, we must be convinced that it is in harmony with the reality of the position in which the American Government and people are now placed. The more favorable interpretation we can put upon it is, to regard it as a concession made to popular passion. On the whole, this document, so far as we know it, is far from being a conciliatory act. We might reasonably have expected under existing circumstances.

From Arizona.

The Mesilla *Times* of the 18th ult. furnishes the annexed information:

The District Court for the First Judicial District of Arizona, Hon. Judge Hare presiding, commenced its session on the 9th. This is the first business session of a District Court in Arizona for a number of years.

We are informed that a difficulty occurred between the Americans and Mexicans at Pino Alto, a few days since, in the fight a twelve pound howitzer was used. Two Mexicans wounded. Capt. Helm's company, the Arizona Guards, have been ordered to that point.

The small-pox is prevailing at all points in the Mesilla Valley, though generally in a mild form. It is prevailing to some extent among the Confederate troops at Fort Fillmore, about twelve sick with the disease. Up to this date two have died in the army. The sick are provided with comfortable quarters, and receive every care and attention.

The party we spoke of last week as being in pursuit of the Indians have since returned. They only recovered some six hundred head of sheep, on account of being misled by the wily savages.

The Arizona forces are at present all in comfortable quarters at Fort Fillmore and the neighboring towns of the Mesilla Valley. Drilling seems to be the order of the day—foot, mounted and mountain drills.

The regimental band of the Second Texas Mounted Rifles regiment is stationed at Mesilla, consequently we are daily favored with the best of music.

The troops receive full rations, although we suppose they will soon have coffee and bacon taken out of the ration list; but Uncle Sam's stomachs in New Mexico are overflowing with bacon as well as all other army supplies.

[From the London News, December 21.]

The Paris *Patrie* of the 19th instant receives from London the following information, which it claims to be "news":

If the answer to the English note should not be favorable, Lord Lyons will leave Washington in three days, and will transmit the orders of his Government to Admiral Milne, who will in that case immediately leave Jamaica (!) with the squadron to take up a position at Norfolk, a Virginia port at the confines of Carolina, which will be the basis of the English naval operations. France, we are assured, will maintain an attitude of armed neutrality.

Admiral Milne will leave at Havana a division of frigates destined to take part in the operations against Mexico. Seven ships of war, recently armed, have already started one after the other for the Antilles, and it is thought that all the vessels ordered to reinforce Admiral Milne will be at Jamaica from the 25th to the 30th of December. In case the Washington Cabinet should persist in the pretensions taken from the Trent, that affair will, of course, be settled; but a new question will then be raised by Lord Lyons viz: whether the blockade of the Southern ports is effective, and negotiations upon this point will be actively carried on. These negotiations will be of a very different character from the first, for they will bear upon a question affecting the commercial interests of all the powers.

The twenty-first anniversary of the return of the Imperial remains of Napoleon from St. Helena has been celebrated at the Hotel of the Invalides. The old soldiers of the first empire crowding in the Department of the Seine attended the religious ceremony celebrated on the occasion. The greater number of them were attired in their ancient uniforms. Among them were Chasseurs, Cuirassiers, Artillerymen, Grenadiers, and Light Infantry of the Old Guard. Beside them were veterans, relics and pupils. The ceremony, created at the conclusion of the empire, produced the greatest number of survivors.

Louisiana Items.

The Franklin *Banner* of Saturday has the following:

THE LOVELL SCOUTS.—Captain David Kerr made his appearance on the streets of Franklin last Monday, at the head of the splendid cavalry company which he organized in Jeanerette's, and called "The Lovell Scouts." They number nearly a hundred well armed men, and as fine horsemen as we have in the State. They presented an interesting appearance as they paraded through the place, and were much praised by our citizens. There ought to be such a company at Franklin, and another at the Bay. Each of the companies possessed of two six pounders, they would prove formidable arms of strength to the parish. Captain Kerr deserves the praise of the whole parish for organizing such a company, and setting so patriotic an example for others to follow.

WILD BRUSHERY.—There are in Attakapas great numbers of wild scrubs and trees growing in the forests of this country which may be easily transplanted into front yards and set out in rows for ornamental purposes. Among these are the magnolia, the holly, wax myrtle, wild peach, and live oak, all of them evergreens; and if properly trained, they are highly ornamental. The wild grapes other trees and numerous vines which may be taken from our forests for such purposes, and they are in variety enough to suit any kind of taste. All we can conveniently do so, should transplant some of this native shrubbery. If these trees were not native of this country, but were importations from Europe or the East Indies, they would be considered very beautiful, and high prices would be paid for them.

PLANTING TREES.—We notice already, this season, many people planting trees and ornamental shrubbery. This shows that our people are resolved to have plenty of fruit and to improve their places, war or no war. We are happy to believe that this spirit of improvement is on the increase in St. Mary, and that eventually our parish will be the paradise which prophetic imaginations have officiated it.

Trees transplanted any time during the winter or spring until the buds begin to swell will do well, if the work is well done. When a winter is unusually cold, it is better to transplant in the latter part of February or the first of March. In transplanting small trees and shrubs it is necessary to preserve tiny roots which extend out from the main roots. If these are all taken up with a lump of earth of good size, the top of the tree cut back, and the trees planted carefully and staked, it will be pretty sure to live. A good digging hole is a retentive subsoil to plant trees in. Standing water around the roots of most trees ruin them. A little leached ashes and well rotted manure mixed with the soil, will nourish trees, improve it, and will conduce much to the future growth of the tree. The tree should be well staked the first year after planting it, if it has a top large enough to be affected by the wind.

The Situation—Its Alternative.

The Cincinnati *Commercial* has the following plain talk for the Yankee Government in a recent issue:

The Government must now do one of two things—make peace or war. We see no hope of an honorable peace except through a successful war, and therefore we hope for the war. But there is one thing of which we are painfully conscious—we have no military force for the benefit of contractors. It seems impossible to overcome the inertia of our armies. There is the end of regiments marching across the Ohio, the Mississippi, and the Potomac, and discounting upon the Southern coast, and we hardly hear of them after they march or sail, except in reviews, recommissions and hospital lists. There seems to be a mighty Dead Sea into which we are pouring our resources, to be lost in everlasting stagnation. If we can't do better than this we ought to quit. If we are a nation of cowards, let us at once acknowledge scoundrels, insatiable to honor, without a drop of hero blood in our veins, and unassailable of fighting at the Chinese, let us cease pretending to be a people, and let us take the place and degradation that claim us. Perhaps if we are not fit to be citizens we can make good serfs. There are plenty of persons ready to stand to us in the relation of masters. The Southern States, Alabama and Lancashire would have no objection to riding over us. The one has black negroes to raise cotton, and the other white negroes to spin it. We have no negroes, and are, therefore, poor devils.

Gen. McClellan has had plenty of time upon his hands lately, which he was called to Washington to prepare for the spring campaign, and do something. He has had time enough since Gen. Scott was so grossly and fulsomely shipped to Europe to mature his plans. Now the people desire him to do something, or to abate all pretensions. If there is any thing awful and mysterious in the matter with us that we have not been informed, please inform us. We have been told that every thing is going on right so frequently that we don't believe it, and it is hard to believe that there is any thing which is not all right.

There is something and somebody wrong and stupid at Washington. Is it Gen. McClellan, or the Congress, or the Cabinet, or the President? So far as we know or conceived, we have treated General McClellan with the highest consideration. We are not inclined now to charge the blame for the infinite stupidity which we have witnessed upon him. We must know that his time of probation has expired. He must go back to the world, or be admitted to full companionship. We must have decide henceforth. We cannot stand this sickening, tedious, stupid reviews, or artillery practice, or skirmishes. The army of the Potomac and the army of the Ohio must move and must fight, or the country ought to know why. It will be impossible to maintain the credit to the Government through the winter with Washington for the leading place of our great army. The people will demand a change. If it is the fault of our army that we do not do something. They don't think such an elephant The Secretary of War talks of seven hundred thousand men in the field. Where are they? We have called for them so often and so long that we have ceased to think of them. We have called for them until when writing the last of his report, which was so effectively read by the President with his modifying mouth The people will be sickened to wait for the prodigious power, the vast number of troops, the vast number of our boasted advertised our inexpressible. It seems to us that we are not numbers, and we have not heard the Asiatic powers ranked among the great nations of the earth. We have we done, aside from the Port Royal boast, anything to show that we are more entitled to the respect of the military monarchies of Europe than the Asiatic?

"What Will Was There My Countrymen?"

The Chicago *Tribune* draws a contrast between the United States of eighteen months ago and the dis-United States of to-day, which rivals any thing of the kind that has come to our notice from the most graphic pen of Southern journalists.

"But a year ago," it asserts, our people, from Maine to Georgia, were in the actual enjoyment of more of the blessings and happiness attendant upon a state of peace and the operations of a government based on the loyalty and patriotism of its citizens. Than ever fell to the lot of any nation. Our national debt was small and our taxes light. Our commerce, internal and external, was nowhere exceeded. At home every branch of industry was prosperous, and abroad we were respected and feared in every quarter of the globe. No nation could insult us, and our friendship was sought, and an alliance with us courted by all.

Then hear the picture but truthful contrast of the present:

"In the short space of a twelve month this happy picture is reversed. Peace, prosperity and happiness, has become *discord and misery with national disaster and degradation*. Now we are realizing all the dreadful scourges of a civil war. Instead of *bankrupt treasury* we are in the face. Our national debt is counted by hundreds of millions. *Taxes more increased and oppressive than were ever imposed upon a free people are being levied against us*. Our commerce is preyed upon by the piratical privateers of rebels and traitors, and worse, far worse, than all, *we are becoming a by word and a reproach for the nations of the earth*. Our great hereditary enemy dares to insult, and we unabashedly await each foreign arrival to learn the extent of our humiliation."

Blind to the South the North has lost its resources, her statesmanship and her support from the rotten concern at Washington, it has been tottering like some stupendous Parthenon, deprived of its columns, and now it lies a shapeless mass of rubbish and rotten timber, destined to fall with a deafening crash, and envelope multitudes of victims within the fold of its ruins.

[*Memphis Appeal.*]

SALTPETER CAVE.—The editor of the Atlanta *Commonwealth* has recently made a visit to this interesting natural curiosity, which is situated in formerly Cass, now Bartow county. He gives a detailed account of his wanderings through its labyrinths and closes with the following allusion to its importance to commerce:

The deposit here has been pronounced by Professor Ryan, of Oglethorpe University, and by Professor Emmons to be the richest in fibre of any they have examined, and to be inexhaustible. There are numerous passages which have never been followed to their termini; they are believed and some of them known to extend to other counties, containing immense piles of the dirt. An analysis has demonstrated that it contains from twenty five to thirty three per cent. of nitre—each bushel yielding from fifteen to eighteen pounds of nitre.

Messrs. Massey & Lunsdell, druggists of this city, have recently purchased a half interest in the cave, and are preparing with their well known energy to develop its vast and valuable deposit. The dirt will be raised by steam power, the engine being by this time on the ground—furnaces with capacity for twelve hundred will soon be in operation, and negotiations are now pending with the manufacturers. When all the arrangements are complete it is estimated that one thousand pounds per day will be made. This will be sufficient to make the tween thirteen and fourteen hundred pounds of powder. E. D. Cheatlire, Esq., a gentleman of popularity, energy and fine business qualifications and capacity, who for several years has been with Roach & Root, of this city, has the superintendence of the works, and we doubt not that under his management the most satisfactory results will be realized by proprietors and Government.

GOTTSCHALK & MAGNER,
NOTARIES PUBLIC,
No. 98 Gravendeer street.
(Second floor, back office.)

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Funeral Escort.—The remains of the Hon. John Campbell and of Col. Hugh McLeod, which arrived yesterday and were laid out in the Mayor's office, are to be escorted to the ferry landing of the Opelousas Railroad this evening, at four o'clock, on their way to Texas, by the Louisiana Legion brigade, under command of Col. Moses Augustin.

The Lafe Guards.—The fine company of volunteer State troops in the Third District, who have honored for their title the name of the present Comptroller of the city, Mr. J. B. Lafe, completed their organization on Tuesday evening by the election of the following officers: Captain, George McKnight; First Lieutenant, A. Wilson; Second Lieutenant, John A. Lahye, Capt. McKnight, the able and sprightly "local" of the *Delta*, has our best wishes for his success and that of his excellent company.

Bold and Successful Escape from Jail by Sawing through Iron Bars.—One of the boldest and most skillfully made of jail-breaking escapes recorded in this city was successfully carried out yesterday at the station house of the First District, by a daring thief named John Williams, who was being kept there, by the order of Recorder Leonard, to await his trial, before court martial, for desertion. To show the boldness of the manner in which he was confined would convince almost any one that escape from such a stronghold was next to impossible. Few men would have attempted it, and yet a prisoner there thought himself sufficiently emboldened, and was on the street an hour or two before his absence was known or suspected.

The private cells on the second floor of the building are double cages of iron bars, with massive locks, three on each side, divided by a passage way. The doors are protected with sheetiron to prevent a hand and arm being thrust out to pick the lock. Four small windows in the side wall, that give air and light to the apartment, are firmly grated, and the only entrance is held by a pocderous outer door, secured by lock and bars. It was out of this place that Williams escaped, with no assistance except a fine steel saw, probably made of a watch spring, and which he carried in his skin.

It is supposed that this saw was concealed about the person of some one who, for a short interval, was to pass in jail. By climbing up to the ceiling in one of the lower cells, it could have been passed up to Williams, who, if he did not have it before, from some of the thieves confined in the cells below, it is better to trace it to the place where, by cutting out a piece of one of the iron bars, he might crawl through the hole made and get into the passage way. The plan succeeded, he must have worked long and diligently to have sawed through the bar in two places, as he did, taking out a piece two feet in length, which was also an inch in thickness. The sawing must have been very slow to be in the position he was found in, for many of them were and have called in the police station, and they obtained no intimation of what was going on. The piece was sawed out so nearly that it fell of perfectly in its place, and in the dim light of the prison never could have been noticed by any person. This work may have been finished several nights ago for all that was known, and Williams may have waited until yesterday morning to get out, only because he did not have a favorable opportunity before. There was but one other prisoner on the same floor, and he must have been fully aware of the attempt of Williams to escape.

George, the colored porter of the lock-up, opened the door of the room at half-past four o'clock yesterday morning, and went to jail to bring pitchers of fresh water to the prisoners. Williams had then got out through the hole he made in the bars, and replaced in position the piece he had sawed out. He was probably standing by the door, ready to slip out, if George ventured him, and then waiting where George had his back turned, he probably slipped out and went down stairs without making any noise. It was before daylight and quite dark in the room at the time. Having placed the water before the two cells, George turned to leave the room without knowing that a bird had flown. At six o'clock another colored boy, recently employed at the lock-up, saw Williams coolly eating his breakfast in the "Opera Market." Nothing then thought that he must have escaped, and instead of informing the nearest officer he came to George with the news some time after George immediately reported what he was told of Williams having been seen in the market, and his cell was visited, when it was discovered that he had escaped and by what means it had been accomplished. The prisoner who failed to have Williams arrested was sent down to the police jail to remain twenty five hours, and it was believed he must have been bribed by the thief.

Singular Explosion at a Foundery.—There was a very singular explosion at Mr. Conn's foundery last evening, at six o'clock, or at a time when the hands are at a loss to account for it. It took place underneath the cupola at the moment they were emptying its contents. In the cupola he had intended for casting is cooled, and the hands were at work on it, when a sudden explosion of some sort, prompted shot from the ground, so that in case of a cannon, proposed the prop could be instantly knocked away and the cupola emptied. It is the custom to do this every evening, consequently there was no need of any other explosion than which may be left in. It was by accepting this that the explosion occurred.

Beneath the cupola the ground was believed not to be composed of three or four feet, and the rule had filled this with water. The dropping into it of the molten iron may have developed such a large portion of the water as to have caused the explosion by the expansion of the gases, but for some time thereafter the foundery was filled with steam. Perhaps it was imprudent in conn and it is not straight of impropriety in the question taking place in the open yard, moved the buildings from danger. There were fifty or sixty persons standing around or near at the time and most of them were knocked down, while all of them were more or less startled.

One of them, a negro, was the cause of blood, which has been having some rankings under of the foundery and and there is no doubt but he will be black face and such are dirty nasty. He did not hamper with the cupola, but he endeavored to wash off the mud with which he had been splattered. The explosion made a hard report, which accused the whole neighborhood, every one supposing it to be a cannon. The hands in many of the workshops passed in the foundery were broken.

Serious Duel.—A duel was fought near this city on Tuesday morning by two French gentlemen, which resulted very seriously to one of them, who, it is feared, expect recovered from his wound. The unfortunate gentleman thus fallen with his adversary, if in the chalice gallantry did not shoot, owing to his using the wrong trigger. A second and a third are reported have fought. At the fourth fire the challenging party did not hit his field. Which was the time called for. When both guns were discharged simultaneously, and both parties were struck. The challenged party received the other's ball through both arms, fractured the bone in one of the left arm. The challenging party received the other's ball through both arms, fractured the bone in one of the left arm. The challenging party received the other's ball through both arms, fractured the bone in one of the left arm. The challenging party received the other's ball through both arms, fractured the bone in one of the left arm. The challenging party received the other's ball through both arms, fractured the bone in one of the left arm. The challenging party received the other's ball through both arms, fractured the bone in one of the left arm. The challenging party received the other's ball through both arms, fractured the bone in one of the left arm. The challenging party received the other's ball through both arms, fractured the bone