The New Orleans Bee.

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NEW ORLEANS:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 9, 1863.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By D. E. Murphy, at 10 o'clock, on the Levee, opposite Jackson square, coal, bran and hay.

By T. Keelar & Son, at 11 o'clock, at their salesroom, No. 73 Camp street, home, coal oil, &c.

By S. T. Montgomery, at 10½ o'clock, at Nos. 99, 101 and 103 Customhouse street, Syndic sale of furniture.

The Prussian bark Varwarte, from Bordeaux, crossed the bar yesterday.

STORES TO RENT.—Mr. Edward Darrive, No. 3 St Louis street, advertises several stores and warehouses to rent.

PONTCHARTRAIN RAILROAD COMPANY.—The annual election for Directors of this company will be held on the 4th next month (January.) See the Secretary's advertisement in another column.

Dealers and house keepers should not lose sight of the fact that the last and closing out sale of the rich stock of furniture in the matter of Nagle & Carpenter vs. their creditors, will take place this day, at 10½ o'clock, at 99, 101 and 103 Customhouse street. The finest portion of the stock, embracing elegant rosewood brocatelle parlor sets, antique carved sideboards and bureaus, French plate mirror armoire, and many articles very rich remain yet unsold and will be included in this sale. Title will be the last chance, and we advise our readers to govern themselves accordingly. See R. T. Montgomery's advertisement under the proper head.

AN ORDER REGARDING SUCCESSIONS.—Gen. Shepley, Military Governor of Louisiana, has issued an order investing the Second District Court of New Orleans with the power to settle all successions that may have been opened or that may be in the condition to be opened, in any parish of the State where no courts of civil jurisdiction have been established by orders from the Military Governor. The proceedings will be such as have ordinarily been taken in regular tribunals with respect to matters of succession.

New York Journals on the Defeat of Bragg.

Nearly all the New York papers look upon the late successes of General Grant near Chattanooga as a fatal disaster to the "so called Confederate States." If not the finishing blow to the military power of the Confederacy, they regard it as not, at most, more than one remove from that so long and strenuously sought consummation. Some of them are confident that, while they speak, Grant is at Atlanta, with Savannah and Charleston at his mercy, while Longstreet's army is cut off and utterly dispersed. Thus the only vital spark left in the Confederate military organization would be with the army of Lee in Virginia. Hence, as they argue, but one blow is wanted to extinguish the military vitality of the Jeff Davis Government; after which its political extinction would follow as an inevitable sequence.

The New York *Express*, however, is not quite so sanguine as others in regard to Grant's immediate and overwhelming advance into the heart of Georgia. That journal says:

But it is not thought to be possible, that Gen Grant can follow up his victory. As there are limits of endurance in suffering, so there are limits to the capacity of Gen. Grant to improve his victory. He is cut off from his base of supplies and transportation, without which he cannot pursue his retreating foe for any distance. Soldiers must eat as well as fight, and the better they are fed, the better they fight; and the commissariat department of the army of the Cumberland is not yet in a condition to furnish the necessary food.

The following extract from an editorial of the *Herald*, of the 28th inst., will exhibit that journal's views of the situation:

Failing, with his profitless battle of Chickamauga to recover the commanding position of Chattanooga, Bragg, it was confessed by lead ing rebel journals, would have to abandon it and he not fought the battle at all. The grain and cattle of Middle Tennessee, and the saltpetre caves and salt works of East Tennessee and Southwestern Virginia were prominent indispensable for the winter's supplies of food and ammunition for Bragg's army, and without their recovery his victory would prove a serious defeat. Hence the desperate expedient, no doubt dictated by Jeff Davis himself, of dividing the army of Bragg for a flank movement by Longstreet against Burnside's isolated army at Knoxville. Subsistence had more to do with this enterprise than military strategy or surely Bragg would not have been weakened by the withdrawal of one third of his troops, when he knew that reinforcements by thousands were daily arriving to the Union army in his front, and that General Grant had been appointed to command them. In all a view the failure of Longstreet and the complete overthrow of Bragg's army must be in measurably more disastrous than such misfortune could be to an army with abundant supplies to fall back upon. When an army enters upon a campaign for subsistence, and is signally defeated, we may pronounce it as good as destroyed.

But, in a more strictly military view, Bragg's retreat from Chattanooga was a fatal disaster, not only to him, but to the so-called "Confederate States." His defeat gave to East Tennessee and South western Virginia, and opens an easy way for General Grant to Atlanta, to Charleston, to Savannah or Mobile. The whole country, from North Carolina to Mobile is now open to his victorious arms, and there are no opposing forces within it competent to resist his advance to the Atlantic or to the Gulf by any route that he may choose to take. Exhausted of their able-bodied men by sweeping conscriptions, the cotton States are, with this defeat of Bragg, virtually disarmed; for we cannot doubt that the remnant of his army, including the column of Longstreet, will be cut off or followed up till completely dispersed.

Napoleon's Letter to the Sovereigns of Europe in Full.

The much talked of letter of the French Emperor, addressed to the Sovereigns of Europe, having been withheld in the first instance, from official publication in the *Moniteur*, that journal at length republished from a Frankfort journal the following copy which was sent to the German Confederation, and which we find again republished in the *Constitutionnel* of the 12th November:

High and illustrious sovereign Princes and free Cities composing the most serene Germanic Confederation:

In the presence of events which every day arise and press with urgency, I believe it indispensible to speak my thoughts frankly to The sovereigns to whom is confided the destiny of nations.

Whenever found convulsions have shattered the bases, or displaced the limits of States, solemn transactions have ensued for organizing the new elements and sanctioning, while revising, accomplished transformations. Such was the object of the treaty of Westphalia in the seventeenth century, and of the negotiations of Vienna in 1815. The last is the foundation upon which the political edifice of Europe at this moment repose; and yet, as you are well aware, it is crumbling to pieces.

If we attentively consider the situation of various countries, it is impossible not to perceive that, upon all points, the treaties of Vienna are destroyed, modified, misinterpreted, or violated with violation. Hence obligations not clearly defined, rights without title, and pretensions without bound. The danger is the more to be dreaded from the fact that the improvements of civilization, in binding the populations of various countries in a solidarity of material interests, would render war more destructive than ever before.

This is a subject for grave consideration. Let us not delay to come to a conclusion until sudden and irresistible events may occur to disturb our judgment and draw us in spite of ourselves in contrary directions.

I therefore propose to you to compose present difficulties and secure future peace in a Congress.

Called to the throne by Providence and by the will of the French people, but trained in a school of adversity, it is perhaps less allowable for me than any other to ignore the rights of sovereigns and the legitimate aspirations of nations.

Thus I am ready, without a preconceived system, to bring into an international council that spirit of moderation and justice which usually belongs to those who have undergone such a variety of trials.

If I take the initiative in this overture, I do not yield to an impulse of vanity; but as I am the sovereign most credited with ambitious projects, I have it at heart to prove by that frank and honest step that my sole object is to arrive, without a shock, at the pacification of Europe. If this proposition is assented to, I pray you to accept Paris as the place of meeting

In case the allied Princes and friends of France should see fit to enhance by their presence the importance of the deliberations, I would be eager to offer them my cordial hospitality. Europe will perhaps see some advantage in the capital, whence the signal of conscription has so often issued, becoming the seat of conferences designed to establish the basis of a general pacification

I seize this occasion to renew to you the assurance of my sincere attachment and of the lively interest that I take in the prosperity of the States of the Confederation

Whereupon, high and illustrious Princes of the most serene Germanic Confederation, I pray that God may have you in his holy and worthy keeping.

Written at Paris, the 4th of November, A. D. 1863. NAPOLEON.

Countersigned: DROUYN DE L'HUYS.

Official Statement of the Situation of the French Empire.

The French Emperor, in his speech at the opening of the *Corps Legislatif*, made no allusion, beyond mere mention, to the American war. Since the speech was delivered the official statement of the situation of the empire, composed of reports sent in from the various ministerial departments, has been distributed to the members of the two Chambers. In this report the following language is used in regard to this country. We quote:

The end provinces connected by the emancipation of the energetic material used in during three years in the United States have been but too much realized. Blood has continued to flow, while the respective situations of the belligerents do not yet allow us to anticipate a period to this terrible crisis. In presence of such an accumulation of ruins, cold death a sacrifice of life to a struggle hitherto fruitless, we have felt profound regret that the propositions which we made at London and at St. Petersburg, to unite in friendly conference, were not accepted. Compelled to renounce that project by a double refusal, we have however, declared that our desire to contribute to the re-establishment of peace in any form would not be less lively and sincere.

We have given proof of this by suggesting the idea of distributing for the project of an amicable intervention of the maritime powers the expedient of direct messages between the Government of the United States and the Confederates of the South. This new attempt has not been more fortunate than the preceding. From that time we have had nothing left but to follow out the line of conduct adopted ever since the beginning of this war by the Government of the Emperor. This we have striven to do with scrupulous care under all circumstances. We have remained neutral and well-disposed, although it has often been difficult for us to reconcile this part with our duties towards our fellow countrymen.

Independently of the sufferings which in our departments, are the consequence of the American crisis, hostilities on the territory of the Union itself have occasioned considerable detriment and loss to French residents. They have often had occasion to make just complaints of the abusive proceedings of the civil and military authorities Our countrymen must understand that their interests, like those of other foreigners, cannot claim an exceptional security in the midst of the tumult of arms, and that in such cases all ordinary guarantee necessarily lose something of their efficacy Moreover a state of war imposes inevitable fetters on the commerce of neutrals. If the progress of liberal doctrines tends to relax them it cannot wholly suppress them The Cabinet of Washington has been able to satisfy itself that we have made, in our reclamations, a large allowance for these difficulties. But the Goverment of the Emperor cannot disguise its pain at seeing so many aggrieved interests, well deserving of its care, making a vain appeal for protection.

In the same document the object which the French Government aimed at in Mexico is declared to be very near its final accomplishment. The document makes the following statement:

The Emperor's Government is on the point of attaining the object which it proposed to itself when it displayed the flag of France on the shores of Mexico. The success of our arms, by rendering the country free to dispose of itself, has confirmed the hopes which we founded in the good sense of the Mexican nation. The capture of Puebla has become a new title of glory for our heroic army; and the acclamations which greeted it in entering Mexico have loudly testified that our soldiers were received there as liberators. The Assembly of Notables has pronounced that Mexico could only expect regeneration from a monarchical institution. It also at the same time designated to the Mexican nation the Prince whom political circumstances appeared to ourselves to indicate as most preferable.

The expression of these wishes, inspired by a just confidence in the high and brilliant qualities of him to whom they were addressed, has been favorably received, with the sole reserve that the whole nation should be called on to ratify the patriotic and spontaneous impulse which decided the sending of the mission charged to offer the crown of Mexico to the Archduke Maximilian. This is how we, on our part, had understood the bearing of the resolution of the Assembly. Whatever might be the authority of the individual opinions to which their decisions, in our opinion, to become definite, must receive from the population a more explicit sanction. We congratulate ourselves on seeing our ideas shared by the eminent Prince whom Mexico calls to inaugurate its new destinies.

The fortune of France and the blood of her soldiers belong to France only. An evident and imperious French interest could therefore alone determine the Emperor's Government to engage in an undertaking of which it had beforehand weighed the sacrifices and difficulties. It had, moreover, foreseen the salvation of Mexico as a possible consequence of the military expedition to which it was exclusively the public feeling of the country and the wisdom of the Archduke Maximilian justify all our hopes in this matter. In an early future we expect to receive from the new Government of Mexico the guarantee which have been wanting to our interests under all the Governments which preceded it. For the moment, important questions necessarily remain to be settled as concerns ourselves; for the military result of our expedition has only prepared the ground for ulterior negotiations. The Emperor's Government will devote all its attention to them.

THE STEAM PLOW FOR SOUTHERN PLANTATIONS.—The American Railway *Times* makes the following suggestion:

The breaking up of the system of slave labor in the cotton States consequent upon the rebellion opens a new field of experiment for our industrial mechanics. The cotton, rice and sugar fields are to be cultivated by free labor, and, as a necessary consequence, by labor saving tools and machinery. Instead of the scratchy hoe and the mule plow for breaking up the cotton lands, there will soon be steam plows introduced and used. The cotton lands are particularly adapted for the use of the steam plow; being mostly quite level, and the soil strong and compact. These lands having been worked for years, mostly on the surface only, steam plows that will go sixteen or eighteen inches deep, will bring to the surface the elements of fertility so long neglected and abused, and plantations that are now comparatively valueless under the superficial cultivation of slave labor, can be made mines of wealth to the country. What is now wanted is *the* steam plow that is best calculated for this service. The population for tending and picking the cotton are all on the ground ready for the service, and under efficient steam plowing and intelligent free labor culture, the crops may easily be doubled. Who has got the best steam plow?

Geography of the Rapidan Campaign.

A recent Washington letter says:

It is fifteen miles from Culpepper to the Rapidan. The stream is narrow and can be crossed without pontoons. South of this stream rises a small range of hills, called Western mountains, which, conforming to its course, constitutes the line of natural fortifications hitherto always selected by the enemy to defend the passage. Orange Courthouse is at the northern base of these mountains, about eight miles from the Rapidan, and here General Lee always has his headquarters when his army is on the south side. Ten miles southwest of Orange Courthouse is Gordonsville, the junction of the Orange and Alexandria and Virginia Central Railroads, and the principal depot of supplies for the rebel army of Northern Virginia. From this point it is exactly sixty miles to Richmond by the Central Railroad. Following the same road, twenty-two miles southwest of Gordonsville, we come to Charlottesville, the next important railroad point in Central Virginia, whence the Virginia Central continues westward to Staunton, in "the Valley," and another line runs south to Lynchburg, on the south side of James river.

It will be seen that if Lee gives up Gordonsville, he surrenders the central of the three principal railroads in Virginia north of James river. He must fight at Orange Courthouse, or not at all this side of Richmond, for the range of mountains which afford him a strong defensive position on the Rapidan, pass to the north of Gordonsville, and afford no protection at that point against an army coming from the direction of Orange Courthouse. The surrender of one position involves the surrender of the other, and once driven from the mountains overlooking the Rapidan, he must retreat on Richmond.

CITY INTELLIGENCE

Provost Court—Judge Atocha presiding.—J. W. Jones, of a Massachusetts Regiment was arrested for selling parts of his clothing. He eventually was put on his witness stand and testified that he sold a dresscoat to a one-armed man, named Murphy, who says he is watchman in a foundry. The latter is to suffer two month's imprisonment if he does not return the coat. In that case he will get off with one month's imprisonment.

Pat. Eagen was first arrested for an assault and battery on his wife, and then charged with being a deserter, but then proven to be a fugitive from justice. He was one of the parties found guilty of having feloniously carried off an iron safe with property of nearly $100,000 in value. He, with some others, were sentenced to Fort Jackson for 20 years The judge ordered him to the Tortugas to serve out his term.

B. W. Miller, of Company C., Second New Orleans, thought himself annoyed and threatened by some old acquaintances whom he tried to scare off by firing two shots with his revolver. He was sent to camp to loose two months' pay.

John Fuller, of an Indiana regiment, who carried brass knuckles and was accused of using them, lost the ugly weapon and one month's pay.

A tall soldier, who had been with other soldiers in two establishments, first drinking liquor and then levying black mail from an elderly widow woman in one place, and from a Spaniard in another, was convicted. He had to refund the money, and was sent to his regiment for further punishment.

Mrs. Bridget Kelly was up showing a very black swollen eye. The accusation was, that she had sold liquor to soldiers, resisted officers, and attempted to rescue prisoners. The trial of the case was postponed.

John Bourdelle, of the Parish of Plaquemines, was tried on the charge of having contravened the rules of the Provost Marshal, in slipping certain lots of goods to that place. The Provost Marshal there seized the goods, hence the trial. In this instance it was ordered that the goods be returned to New Orleans, a repetition of the offense to be followed with confiscation of the goods

G B Asford and another soldier, were brought from Carrollton for abusing and brickbatting a darkey. It turned out that the guilty man was not arrested, and scolded were returned to their regiments.

[FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF YESTERDAY.]

Additional Details of the Late Fighting at Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge.

Atlanta, November 27.—Passengers by the 2 A. M. train say that our line of battle is at Chickamauga. The men are not disheartened or disorganized. We lost many prisoners, variously estimated at 5000 and upwards. All our dead and severely wounded are in the enemy's hands. In the attack on Lookout the enemy's loss is comparatively greater than ours. They drove us back by sheer force of numbers.

The *Confederacy* learns from general officers just down, that slight skirmishing began Saturday, intensifying Sunday and Monday, becoming continuous along the line. Tuesday battle began, enemy charging on Lookout forty thousand strong, at the same time comprising the assaulting column of our right wing at the foot of Mission Ridge.

The assault at first not vigorous, but increasing in vigor and volume as the day advances. Hill's corps, commanded by Breckinridge, met the shock unflinchingly and with courage.

Late in the afternoon the enemy's repeated attacks made an impression on our lines.

At 4 P. M. our left centre gave way, the enemy pouring through the valley like a flood.

Our forces on Lookout, seeing themselves cut off, retreated in disorder during the night. The enemy not pursuing, the remnant of our left were withdrawn to Mission Ridge, where our troops massed for to-morrow's battle. Some of our commands on the left were captured on Wednesday before daybreak.

The enemy advanced their whole force with order upon our centre on the top of Mission Ridge; Hardee commanding met the attack with wonderful vigor and success. Charge after charge were repulsed. Five thousand dead lay in front of our works. Our right stood firm. The battle ceased at dark Wednesday. After nightfall the enemy obtained a very improved position on Lookout, posting batteries to enfilade our position on Mission Ridge, necessitated the evacuation of that position. Our loss fell heavy on Lookout and Mission Ridge behind Chickamauga, where it now stands.

The battle was not renewed on Thursday.

Our loss in killed and wounded not more than a thousand. Our loss in prisoners not known. We have six hundred prisoners. Grant commands in person. The Washington and Cobb artillery lost with all their guns. General Walthall is not seriously wounded. He is now here. Our wounded are beginning to arrive.

General Bragg's headquarters are now at Ringgold.

CONTRADICTORY REPORTS FROM KNOXVILLE: *Dalton*, December 2.—Nothing official from Longstreet.

Dalton, November 30, via Mobile, December 1.—News has been received to day at headquarters of the capitulation of General Burnside to General Longstreet.

News from Mexico.

The Havana *Prensa* of the 29th ult. copies the following from the Vera Cruz *Eco del Comercio* of the 10th, which had received from its correspondent in the City of Mexico a letter giving, it says, the latest news:

The conduct of Doblado, according to the letter writer, is as "ambiguous" as ever, that is to say no one understands what he means or what he intends to do, a fact which does not seem to please the enlightener of the Vera Cruz sheet. The "constitutional" General, it is stated, does not obey orders from the San Luis Government, nor do his troops, and Uraga follows his example. Comonfort has a little more regard for Juarez's Government, but Porfirio Diaz is general-in-chief of the guerrillas, which really constitute the strength of the President. Preparations were being daily made at San Luis, adds the correspondent to fall back on Zacatecas

Ghilardi had reached Celaya with two thousand well equipped soldiers Arteaga had sent him. The whole country between Guadalajara and Lagos had been occupied, since the retreat of the Liberal forces, by the Imperialists who were busy bringing in stragglers.

General Yañez had left with General Douai to take charge of the Governorship of Guanajuato; that of Queretaro was to be given to Escamilla, and that of Morelia to Uqarte. Calvo was to be sent to San Luis.

Gen. Miramon was to raise a division in the interior, and had already with him the necessary officers.

The *Socudad*, a paper published in the Capital, states, under date of the 14th, that D José Lopez Uraga had been appointed General-in-Chief of Juarez's army. It is said that he intends to fight the Imperialists in the open field, but that the President thinks it is better to divide the forces.

General Liceaga, superior commanding officer of the Jalapa District, had given an exposition in the hope of scattering the numerous bands of thieves who infest the national road, and of re-establishing communication so long interrupted between Vera Cruz and Jalapa. On the return of the expedition, which of course will prove a success, a "commercial" train is to leave the post for the capital of the district.

The work on the railroad from Mexico was progressing, under the superintendence of Sr. Almazan. Mr. Lyons not having recovered from the serious wounds inflicted by guerrillas The road was completed to El Sordo, one league from Soledad.

Mau'l de Flon, count of La Cadena, and formerly a Colonel in the Mexican army, died in Puebla on the 9th.

The *Estafeta* says that a band of thieves who had captured a stage between Pachuca and the capital, had been attacked by a detachment of Zouaves sent from the latter place and had been routed with a loss of twelve killed and sixteen wounded. Two Zouaves had been seriously wounded

It was known in Guanajuato that the State troops who had advanced as far as Quarétaro were at Celaya and it was believed that they would keep on retreating. Doblado, according to the same letter-writer, had said publicly that nothing could prevent the occupation of the interior of the whole country. Those representants of well wishers to the contrary notwithstanding.

One of Gen. Doblado's daughters was married, on the 7th, to D Rodrigo Rincon Gallardo

Two commissioners from the North American States had recently arrived in San Luis Potosi. Their arrival had been looked upon as an important event, Vidaurri having announced that they had been sent to that city for the purpose of devising, with President Juarez, means for the "defense of liquality;" but it had been subsequently ascertained that the object of the commissioners was to settle matters in relation to the transit of a railroad through Chihuahua, and the sale of some armament

Comonfort had reached San Luis by the Queretaro stage. The object of his visit was not known.

It was rumored that Gonzales Ortega was not on very good terms with the inhabitants of San Luis. The troops called for land and water, but nor had any assistance of any kind been given, and therefore the sheets presumed that a state of siege would be declared in Zacatecas.

The Juaristas were very hopeful as to the final result of Forfirio Diaz's expedition. They supposed he already was in Tehuacan with 8000 men, that he would be joined at the latter place by 4000 soldiers expected from Oajaca, and would be enabled to threaten Puebla, Orizaba, Jalapa and even make their appearance near Mexico.

The Guanamé and Crucas plantations had been seized and the owners had to pay from $75,000 to $80,000 to have the order rescinded.

Letters from Moreliа to the 9th state that the force under Chares, an Interventionist, had occupied Encouderao and Tanhuanda, and were marching on Zamora.

The Latest News from San Domingo.

We read in the Havana *Diario de la Marina* of the 3d of December:

We have letters from San Domingo, written by reliable parties, as late as the 24th of November, which confirm what has already been stated regarding the state of affairs in that country. The letters say that all the southern portion of the island may be looked upon as having been pacified.

Three of the insurgent leaders presented themselves to the legitimate authorities and implored their pardon Several bodies of insurgent troops, quite numerous, laid down their arms and made their submission.

News had been received at San Domingo of the arrival at Porto Rico of the war vessels Colon and Isabel, with reinforcements on the Peninsula with troops The first of these vessels has been sent to Mayaquez to convey a battalion of marines.

On the 24th November the transport steamer Pelayo arrived at San Domingo with 250 soldiers and eight officers.

Comments of Southern Papers on the Late Reverses of Bragg.

The *Daily Clarion*, Meridian, Miss., of Nov 29th, remarks:

According to the dispatches published yester day morning General Bragg has sustained a disastrous defeat, and has been driven from all his positions on Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, and is now beyond the Chickamauga, not far from the scenes of his first conflict. The fighting was evidently desperate, and our losses heavy, as is indicated in the language of the dispatch "We lost many prisoners, variously estimated at five thousand and upwards. All our dead and severely wounded are in the enemy's hands," etc., etc.

All this is bad, very bad, yet it should not lead to discouragement or despondency, nor will it, for the public mind, in and out of the army, was fully impressed with the idea that Bragg continue was bound to attend as long as General Bragg remained in command. This impression may do injustice to General Bragg, but with that impression he could have anything to do. The bare fact speaks for itself. The man, whether the charges against him are founded in justice or injustice, has lost the general confidence; and the only way in which he could possibly retrieve his fortunes would be in winning some splendid victory, fraught not solely with the loss of thousands of inestimable lives, as his battles heretofore have been, but with some valuable, and useful results to the Confederacy. So far, his battles and victories have resulted in the loss of Kentucky and Tennessee; and his late bloody, but bootless victory of Chickamauga, which cost eighteen thousand men, without acquiring that many miles of territory towards the front, valuless at that, has been followed by a defeat which foreboded the advance of the enemy to wards the centre of Georgia.

We feel no enmity towards General Bragg. His warmest friend could not wish him success more ardently than we do. But we have a country, the welfare of which should be rated above all other considerations, and we do not think him the man to promote the interest of that country, no matter how honest, well-intentioned and patriotic he may be. His brilliant exploits, marvelous strategy and Roman self-sacrifice have already lost us Kentucky and Tennessee, and as we are getting rather poor in territory, we respectfully beg leave to suggest that it would be wretched policy to allow Bragg to serve Georgia and Alabama the same way. When we were rich we could afford to stand these losses; but now, when we are almost stricken with downright poverty, we cannot. The thing must be stopped one way or another, or we are bound to "go up."

The disaster which has befallen General Bragg, however, does not discourage us as to the ultimate result in the least. Bragg has a noble army, and all that is requisite to enable it to win splendid triumphs in the future is a proper commander. Right here, in this obscure part of our meridian, is one of the first military minds of the Confederacy—General Joseph E. Johnston—competent, if he is allowed to take over in Charleston, there is Beauregard, whose work is done, whose glory for the defense of that place is perfect, no matter what the future may have in store for it, and who might be transferred to another scene of action. Any one or the other of these great men be put in command of the army of Tennessee, and we are persuaded the future will prove as promising and glorious as the past has been gloomy and disastrous.

[From the Selma Dispatch, 27th.]

Disaster, instead of deliverance has again fallen with stunning effect upon our cause. Bragg has been beaten upon ground of his own choosing, and dislodged from a position which he counted upon as being so strong as to render it impregnable. The exact bitterness of this bloody cup, which the inefficiency of Bragg has again commended to the lips of a weakened, though nobly struggling, godlike and heroic nation, is as yet hid from our astounded view, and the extent of our defeat and humiliation known only to those who were present at the scene of strife.

But to the most common observer of mankind and their actions, the inference conveyed by the official dispatch to our Government is the most startling character. What Confederate General has ever been forced to admit that the whole left of his army gave way "in considerable disorder!" Nor was the primary signification of the term "considerable," if ever known to General Bragg at all considered by him on the dreadful occasion of its use.

In attempting to limit the confusion with which his left wing was beaten back, he uses a most unfortunate expression, viz, in truth, the route of his left wing was not as complete as the Federal General might have wished. He has withdrawn some fifteen or twenty miles from the scene of disaster, and there, we pray God, the proud foam of Yankee victory may be stayed by the rock of desperate resolution, and the waves of Grant's second great triumph be broken by the stubborn heroism and madened despair of our retreating forces.

Bragg, by his low estimate of the numbers and mettle of our enemies at Chattanooga, has been led into a course of tactics the beginning of which, although dreadfully disastrous to our arms, may end still more fatally by the serious defeats and partial destruction of both his own and Longstreet's commands.

By sending the latter General into East Tennessee he so weakened his force as to invite a thorough concentration of the Federal legions in his front, and an immediate assault from their commander. This reduction of his strength was, we fear, still further increased by a strong detachment dispatched to meet the late demonstration of Sherman on his left which although a feint, still had the effect to exhaust his men and derange his lines of defense. Then at the juncture of Bragg's greatest weakness his wily antagonist dashed the whole weight of his tremendous army squarely against our lines, with what result the country, alas, too well knows.

[From the Mobile Evening News, November 27th]

We have been advised by telegraph of a conflict of arms near Chattanooga, more or less general in its character, and attended with varied incidents of success and reverse. At most points the enemy was either held in check, or repulsed with loss; while on one point our lines were too weak, and were broken, necessitating a change of the Confederate position. This event could hardly have taken the public by surprise. Our line was a very extended one; portions of that line had to contend advantages, and the enemy from his position, could concentrate at such points as were most favorable to him, and most disadvantageous to our troops.

After it became apparent that the Federals could take possession of any one line of nothing to be gained by our holding the segment of a circle seven miles long, the foe holding the inner lines, and therefore having great advantages of position, while there was little to protect by our troops in that exposed position.

As the question of the Federal advance into Georgia must necessarily be decided by an open field fight, military prudence would suggest the selection of the best battle ground for an army.

These are positions in the rear of our recent lines deemed almost impregnable to successful assault, and if the Federals attempted to flank, then a strategic contest for victory in detail would ensue. Our people must surely have learned that mere movements, forward or retrograde, by opposing armies, signify little and decide nothing

Gen. Lee has moved backward and forward over the same country again and again; but he moved at all times with an eye to present advantage and ultimate victory. In the present instance, a new position became still more important, inasmuch as our forces had been weakened by the detachments of Longstreet's corps for the capture of Burnside. The latest advices from Knoxville seem favorable to that result. But in the meantime the enemy had massed all his available strength at Chattanooga for the purpose of making a vigorous assault upon our diminished numbers.

From the report we now have, we are led to infer that we have lost no military advantage by falling back, and that the enemy has paid dearly for the barren possession of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. We must regret, in common with all, that indecisive battles have to be fought. But such are the concomitants of all great wars.

THE NUMBER AND CONDITION OF THE FATTENING HOGS AND CATTLE.—The hog cholera, says the October report of the Agricultural Department, Washington, continues to extend in the Eastern and Middle States, but in Indiana and Illinois it prevails in so many counties, that there is great danger of its spreading among the fattening hogs. In these States a large number of hogs have died of this disease during the summer and fall.

The *number* of hogs in the great feeding States of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois, is twenty-two per cent less than last year, owing a reduction in the number intended to be fattened for market. Their condition in those States is still lower, being 30 per cent below a general average It is believed that but few hogs will be sufficiently fattened to make mess pork, or to produce a supply of lard

The exports of animal productions of the United States are shown in the reports to be as follows: 1860, 24,666,769 lbs., 1861, 27,715,392, 1862, 43,298,906. The amount of pork which surrounded the interior of the country in 1862 was 323,458,360 lbs., of which there was exported in the form of bacon, lard, and barrel pork, 86,900,000 lbs., leaving for domestic consumption, 236,559,375 lbs., of which the Southern States took 134,386,400 lbs., leaving for the consumption of the Middle and Eastern States, 52,028,886 lbs. The cessation of commercial intercourse between the loyal and disloyal States cut off the Southern consumption of pork, and so much of the pork as was left in the Northern States must necessarily be decided by an open field fight, military prudence would suggest the selection of the best battle ground for an army.

These are positions in the rear of our recent lines deemed almost impregnable to successful assault, and if the Federals attempted to flank, then a strategic contest for victory in detail would ensue. Our people must surely have learned that mere movements, forward or retrograde, by opposing armies, signify little and decide nothing

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MARINE NEWS.

Port of New Orleans, Dec. 9, 1863.

CLEARED YESTERDAY.

Brig Rolling Wave, Collins, for New York, Master
Schr Zanoni, (British) Leon, for Vera Cruz, master
Schr Imbosia, Fiessler, for Boston, U ballast, Master
Steamer New Orleans, May, for Baton Rouge, Master
Steamer Gertrude, Atzalon, for Baton Rouge, Master

ARRIVED YESTERDAY.

Ship Gorilla, (British) Cutten, from Liverpool, to master—32 district, 46
Ship Arcole, Horsham, 21 days from New York, to G W Hynson & co—1st district, 17
Bark A C Adams, Hemingway, 21 days from Boston, to G A Fosdick—1st district, 17
Bark Texas, Horton 26 days from New York, to master —34 district
Bark San Edeo, Reed, 17 days from Philadelphia, to master—2nd
Bark Greenland, Thompson, 17 days from New York, G W Hynson & co—3d district, 37
Schr Hartshine, Horn, 24 days from New York, to G A Fosdick—24 district, 23
Schr Zorro Colorado, Robinson, from Tampico, 14th Nov, to ballast, to S Fernandez—L P T
Schr H S Tyler, Magee, 20 days from Philadelphia, to master—1st district, 22
Schr Fleur d'Italie, Levit, from Parish St James, to A Scoole—21 district
Schr Belle Madeleine, Kelsor, from Ship Island, to G A Fosdick—Bayou
Schr Norma, from Upper Coast, to master—2d district
Schr Leonard, from Upper Coast, to master—2d district
Schr L'Eclair, Parillo, from Upper Coast, to A Scoole
Sloop Isabel, from Coast, to master
Sloop Tonnerre, Semotis, from St Charles Parish, to A Scoole
Barge Walker, Walker, from Donaldsonville—24 dist

STEAMBOATS.

New Orleans, May from Baton Rouge
Belle Creole, Whitmore from Bayou Goula
Fawn, Greatorex, from Fort Jackson

TOWBOAT REGISTER.

The towboat Landis, Wagner, from the Passes—West down light—brought up ship Arcole, barks Greenland and A C Adams, and schr H S Tyler
The towboat Gladiator, Warren, from the Passes—Towed down and towed up, 6th instant, bark Minnesota and schr Fleur d'Eclair—brought up barks San Edeo and Texas, and schr Zorro Colorado
The towboat Alert, Kidder, from the Passes—Towed down and towed up, 8th instant, brig T W Rowland—brought up ship Gorilla and schr Hartstine

BELOW, COMING UP.

Ship Messina (British)
Ship Henri etta (French)
Ship Jerald, (British) from Liverpool, to master
Bark Martha's Vineyard, Luce, from New York, to G A Fosdick
Bark Adelaide, Hoyt from Bordeaux, 19th Oct
Schr Henry Ward, (British) from Vera Cruz
Schr Isabel, from Matamoros

PASSENGERS.

Per schr Zorro Colorado, from Tampico—6 passengers

EXPORTS

NEW YORK—Per ship Rolling Wave—248 bales cot ton 199 hhds sugar 3 0 bbls molasses
VERA CRUZ—Per schr Zanoni—25 bales cambric 19 bbls sugar 20 bbls molasses 61 bbls potatoes 1700 feet lumber 12 000 shingles and sundries
BATON ROUGE—Per steamer New Orleans—194 pkgs sugar
BATON ROUGE—Per steamer Gertrude—25 sacks salt 10 bbls pork 2 cks bacon and sundries

IMPORTS

NEW YORK—Per steamship Morning Star—11 bbls alcohol 6 Demijohns 1 bbl 1 bbl filters Elliot & McKeever 23 sks coffee 3 cks bacon 5 bbls lemons Schneider & Zoller 2 cases 1 bbl 1 bbl 1 bbl Ricketts & parts of do Eastern and Middle States, but in Indiana and Illinois it prevails in so many counties, that there is great danger of its spreading among the fattening hogs. In these States a large number of hogs have died of this disease during the summer and fall.

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