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NEW ORLEANS:
THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 13, 1866.

COAST PACKET—The Carrie Poole, Capt. Lucein, and Mr. Dupuis, clerk, leaves to-day, at noon, for Donaldsonville and all way landings.

THE STEAMER HARLAN.—This steamer which has been completely renovated and placed in the Morgan Line, will leave this evening, at 8 o'clock, for Galveston and Indianola. We congratulate the public upon this occasion to the line, and the additional fact that our friend, Mr. J. Caro, an experienced and polite purser, has charge of the clerk's office.

APPOINTMENT.—Gov. Wells has appointed P. J. Kennedy, the well-known levee contractor of this State, a Commissioner to represent Louisiana in the great Universal Exposition at Paris.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP STAR OF THE UNION.—The steamship Star of the Union, Capt. Cooksey, from Philadelphia the 2d inst., arrived last evening, with a cargo of merchandise and the following passengers:

Mrs S L Brown, 2 children and 2 servants; M Towner, Miss M Milligan, Mrs C Wilson, W Pratt, Geo Brunner, Geo Frazer, Mac Cookesy, James Rutherford, T K Hand, Chas Meerson, and 2 on deck.

AMUSEMENTS.

VARIETIES THEATRE.—The "Past Family" is one of those telling comedies, for which we have reason to be grateful to the French. In general, French spiciness has the least bit of Satanism about it. But Sardou has given a comedy which, while it takes its raciness from home, borrows its morality from the island across the Channel. The result is a decidedly pleasant combination, which affords an amusing insight into the life of the Parisian *demi monde*, and which, although dealing in French names and technicalities, may well apply to Shoddy men everywhere.

Mr. Bradley, as *Mons. Benoiton*, is exceedingly happy. In his hands Father *Benoiton* is not merely pompous, but he is something more. He is the weak, foolish father, who, while he possesses an unlimited capacity to build Castles, has not strength enough to keep himself from being the butt of his own family. Mr. Bradley develops this phase of his character most effectively. Mr. Carden gives a fine representation of the good-hearted, but ever-suspicious, *Didier*. His heartiness in the first act is well rendered, while the results of the moral poison, implanted in him through *Blanche's* foolish reticence are wrought out with feeling, at once deep and natural.

Mrs. Floyd plays the part of *Polydore* as rarely as one can well desire. Her assumption of the nonchalance of the half-fledged man is decidedly merited; and yet, while giving full rein to his manliness, she succeeds in keeping him out of the line of vulgarity. This is not over-easy to do; but Mrs. Floyd has marked the line fairly. Fanfan Duval has no reason, we fancy, to complain of his clever little representative. If we have one fault to find, it is that Willie shows too close a familiarity with the effects of forbidden luxuries. Our word for it, "Fanfan" is a Bishop yet.

Mr. Fisk has a capital character in *Formichel*. We hardly think it can be played better—certainly, no one can put the audience in a merrier mood with it. Mr. Floyd's personation of *Formichel's* hopeful son *Prudence* is as clever a piece of character acting as we remember to have seen. It bears out what we have already taken occasion to say of this finished actor's rendition. Mr. Floyd has always shown an exquisite delicacy of conception; and we regard his *Prudent* as being no exception to this.

The fact is, no strain is necessary for this spoilt child of a full purse and an overgrown conceit. *Prudent* is one of those men, to whom a constant tendency to recall his wealth, gives a self-sufficiency that is too profound to be noisy or vulgar. Cold, selfish, undemonstrative, Mr. Floyd makes him; and this, we take it, is precisely what he would be, if *Prudent Formichel*, alive, were to walk the *trottoirs* of Paris to-day. We regret that we must take exception to Mr. Davenport's conception of *De Champ Rond*. The Viscount is the type of a used-up man of fashion. From Mr. Davenport's idea, one would scarcely fancy he had ever seen life at all. He makes him easy, nonchalant, not to say listless—a little of an unbeliever—and with no enthusiasm worth mentioning. His birth and consequent separate him from the parvenu family into whose circle a ruined fortune tempts him to enter; Mr. Davenport almost makes him scorn one of them. A little care, we suggest, will remedy this. As to Mr. Hillyard's *François*, we do not think he makes much of the character. *François* is poor—but Mr. Hillyard should not forget that he is a trifle *sly*, also. The outward signs of slyness are not generally an open manner, and an unconcerned voice.

Of the ladies, we must commend, unreservedly, both Mrs. Chanfrau and Miss Preuit. Mrs. Chanfrau's *Clotilde* we regard as a superior personation. She has seized the mission of the right hearted widow clearly, and acts and looks her to the life. *Clotilde* is, in fact, the guardian angel of the *Benoiton* household—anxious for its members, and seeking ardently to avert from each of them the consequences of his or her folly. Mrs. Chanfrau's by-play, by the way, is capital. Nothing can be truer to nature than the nervous, frightened look of her face, when *Didier* presses *Blanche* to confess who juice she has drawn the money to pay for her lace. The posture, also, in this scene is equally suggestive of mingled interest and sympathy. Miss Preuitte, as *Blanche*, is very graceful and natural, redeeming the apparent heartlessness of character at first manifest, by the obvious sincerity and depth of feeling she afterwards displays. We have never seen Miss Prentice better suited. Mrs. Nellie Taylor makes an acceptable *Alphonine*, and Miss Sallie Sweatman, as *Camille*, is lively and attractive. Mrs. Leighton's *Rose*, in the first two acts, is full of her accustomed life, although we do not think that she draws, with sufficient clearness, the change that takes place in *Rose's* character after her little accident at the faves. We commend to Mrs. Leighton *Rose* rehearsal.

The "Past Family" is admirably produced. Nothing that can cheat a spectator into a delusion of reality, has been neglected. The stage is brilliant with upholstery. Full length mirrors line the walls, while the centre and side-tables are heavy in those delicate knick knacks, which, allied to luxury, are, strangely enough, endorsed with the name of virtu. The presentation of this comedy is a credit to the "Varieties"—nay, more, it would be a credit to the most elegant establishment in the country. There can be nothing more cosy and cheerful, by the way, than the *Benoiton* parlor in the 1st Act. The "Past Family" will, of course, be repeated to-night.

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—Sunny little Lotta is more than meeting the expectations of her admirers. She has appeared to crowded houses nightly; and the charm of her fresh, fearless as an actress is more and more visible every night. The fact is, there are few cheerful ladies on this Lotta is, on or off the stage; and those who have only heard her spoken of, and have not seen her, should not fail to judge of this for themselves. She is out this evening, as *Beauty* in the "Beauty and the Beast," and in "Nan, the Good for Nothing." Capital parts both.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—To-night, in addition to an entirely new selection of Ethiopianisms, ballads, fancy dances, including elegant divertisements by the Zavistowskis, we are to have the grand Ballet-Pantomime of the "Contrabandist." This popular Pantomime has been in active preparation for some time past. It will be produced with illuminated tableaux, and the whole of the splendid Ballet-Corps will appear in it. If this does not guarantee an entertaining show—one to please the eye, charm the senses, and make the heart light, we hardly know what will.

The justly popular and meritorious Zavistowskis, by the way, are to have a benefit to-morrow, for which a superb bill will be announced.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—At this theatre the Zanfretta, Siegrist and Caron families, in a variety of ballet and pantomime divertisements, and Tommy Leon in comic songs and dances, appear this evening.

NATIONAL THEATRE.—At this establishment performances of a varied and interesting character are given every evening in German.

THE CRESCENT CITY MUSEUM.—No one should fail to visit this museum to see the handsome Maine Giantess, Mrs. Battersby, weighing, by all accounts and to all appearances, 700 pounds, in wonderful contrast to her skeleton husband, of about one-tenth only of her own magnificent *avoir du poid*. Nor should the lovers of the wonderful and beautiful neglect the opportunity of seeing the exquisite specimens of glass blowing by the champion in the art, Prof. Greiner, representing the circulation of the human blood, steam engines of glass in full operation, plain and plaid green patterns, woven entirely of the same fragile material and other works of the Professor equally astonishing. The fearless Lontas, too, may be seen to enter the cages of the lions, and there are thousands of curiosities animate and inanimate to be seen, forming an interesting study for the lovers of art and nature, and a world of wonder for children.

The New Orleans Bee.

OFFICE 73 CHARTRES STREET. NEW ORLEANS, THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 13, 1866. Vol. XXVII—New Series. Vol. XVII—Whole—13,995

THE MEXICAN QUESTION AGAIN.

The Roman question, of which Edmond About wrote so plausibly, never excited greater interest than does the Mexican question to-day. We look anxiously for all kinds of news and read with avidity every scrap of information sent us by the correspondents. To-day we give an unusually interesting budget—especially so to us, since it confirms the views that we presented a day or two ago when speculating upon the probability of events. In that article we noted the probable union of the Conservative and Church parties in favor of the Emperor, and we are informed to-day that this union has not only taken place, but that the faction of the Republicans who gave their support to Gen. Ortega, have also joined the Imperialists. For this Mexico is indebted to the United States. France has tried in vain, for two years, to settle the country; the Emperor used his best efforts to that end, and failed; while the United States Government, in a few week's time, has succeeded in uniting more than three-fourths of the Mexican people in favor of the Empire. The Church party, which had opposed the Emperor, was forced to sustain him through a fear that if he left they would be at the mercy of the Liberals, who would confiscate their property as Comonfort did in 1856. The hatred against the Americans sent over the Conservatives, when they saw that Juarez was bringing a United States army in his train. And one faction of the Liberals was brought to terms by a clever stroke of policy—the arrest and detention of their leader, Gen. Ortega. These things have united all the people, except those adhering to Juarez upon the border, in favor of Maximilian, and have destroyed the party quarrels and bickerings that have been going on for so many years.

We spoke of the troubles in Mexico up to Santa Anna's first Presidency in 1833, but a brief review of subsequent events will serve to show how much this Government has benefitted Mexico. The year 1836 found Santa Anna in power, and saw him preparing to declare himself dictator. He enjoyed this dignity but a short time, when he was defeated and captured at San Jacinto. Bustamente succeeded as President, but in 1839, Santa Anna being released, he again took the office. During this year Bravo was President for one week, after which there came a period of confusion, during which the laws were suspended, and Santa Anna and Canalizo took turns at dictatorship, one overturning the other by revolts and revolutions. This see saw game went on until the year 1844 which found Santa Anna in power—and called President; but in the same year he was deposed and banished. Canalizo was made President, but in December he was sent after his predecessor, with a mob at his heels. Then came Herara, who was deposed by the revolution of 1845, and was succeeded by Gen. Paredes, under whose administration the war with the United States began. This ended in 1848. Santa Anna was again President, but he was deposed to make room for Gen. Arista, who was also compelled to resign by a revolution in 1853, and by a decree Santa Anna was again recalled and for the fifth time made President. He then endeavored to make his rule perpetual—meditating a *coup d'Etat*—but before he could strike a blow for monarchy, Alvarez, "the painter of the Pacific," then Governor of Guerrero, raised an insurrection at Acapulco, and in 1854 Santa Anna, the would-be king, sought safety in flight, with the "panther" officer upon him. Then came Carera, who was President for seven and twenty days when he, too, was forced to flee by a revolt. Comonfort succeeded him in 1856, and at once took measures to make a strong government. He was active against the clergy, and began confiscating their property, holding that the Church had no right to own lands. This led to another revolt in 1857, which was suppressed after much difficulty; but in the following year it broke out again, and Comonfort was forced to resign. Gen. Zulouga was then made President by the Conservative party. At that time Benito Juarez was Chief Justice. He promptly began a revolt, maintaining that the resignation of Comonfort left him President. His claim was supported by the Liberals alone, and he became the leader of that party, which has since made so many struggles to get into power. Juarez raised an army which was defeated by Zulouga, when the former retired to Vera Cruz, and established himself as President of the Liberals, as the latter did at Mexico, of the Conservatives. Zulouga was followed by Gen. Robles, who made a futile effort to unite the two parties, and failing, was succeeded by Miramon. From him the Conservative support descended to Gen. Ortega, while Juarez still claims to be President of the Liberals. From this hasty sketch our readers can form some idea of the claims of these two parties. The United States Government determined to recognize Juarez, and the latter gave some fine contracts and grants to influential Americans, to secure their aid and countenance. Ortega, while attempting to go back to Mexico was arrested by the United States authorities, and a General in the United States army ordered the surrender of an army opposing the partisans of Juarez.

Taken altogether, this Mexican question is "a middle; but from the news which we publish to day it there are indications of a settlement of the vexed matter. The course pursued by the United States has had a direct tendency to unite the people in favor of the Empire—that is against American interference—and the popular demonstrations show that in a wide-spread public feeling has been aroused. The Emperor Maximilian seems to have pursued a wise policy. He made himself a Mexican, and even at the risk of losing the throne he would not join in party cabals or the quarrels of faction. His course has been wise and pacific; and, if all accounts are true he has now completely won the hearts of the Mexican people. Many proclamations have been read in Vera Cruz within the past five and twenty years, but none that met with a better reception.

What the result of all this will be, cannot be foretold. The people have really decided in favor of an Empire, this government can do no more. If we understand the matter, Mr. Seward was acting upon the principle that the people desired a Republic, but that they were prevented from exercising their own free will and therefore the United States would see justice done. They would assist in making Juarez the ruler, then let the people decide. But the question now is, have not the people decided without the trouble of making Juarez President? These events must be followed by others equally interesting, and within the next four or five weeks we may expect news of the most exciting character.

Mexico—Official Confirmation of Maximilian's Intention to Remain Emperor.

The following is the proclamation of Political Prefect D Bureau, the highest representative of the Emperor at Vera Cruz:

PROCLAMATION.

"*Veracruzanos*. One of the most fortuitous events for all true Mexicans has just taken place in the nation

"His Majesty, the Emperor, who has already made so many sacrifices for the welfare and happiness of our dear country, has now given us the last proof of regard which we merit.

"When oppressed by those natural sentiments with which he was struggling, and which still remain in all their force, on account of the indisposition of our dear sovereign, his august and noble wife, it may have been supposed, for a moment, that he would temporarily leave the country, in devotion to the sacred duty of rendering to his meritorious consort that care which she so much needs in her present delicate condition. Yet the Emperor sacrifices himself for us; defers his duty as a man to that which his honor as a ruler lays upon him, and in these critical moments, which are passing through the country, solemnly declares that he will continue his aid, and fight without ceasing, even to shedding the last drop of his blood in defense of the nation."

"*Veracruzanos*: Let us congratulate ourselves, let us give thanks to Providence for having saved the integrity of our country, and with all the strength of our hearts, let us hail the day of the resurrection of our nationality from the dark gloom in which it seemed about to disappear.

"The Superior Political Prefect;
"Vera Cruz, Dec. 3, 1866. D. BUREAU."

CONGRESSIONAL RECONSTRUCTION.—We hear a great deal of the so-called plan of Congressional reconstruction, and it is recommended as a sovereign panacea for all the ills of the times. But it seems to possess what the rhetoricians consider a very essential element of the sublime in poetry—obscurity. We have never heard this alleged as an advantage in favor of any amendment to the Constitution. In order, therefore, that the country may act understandingly on this important matter, we respectfully ask the supporters of this amendment to give us their interpretation of it.

There does really seem something so extraordinary at war with old ideas in placing a State with a vast colored population in the dilemma of permitting universal suffrage, or suffering a loss of a large portion of its political power, that if such be the purpose of the amendment, the people of the United States should be permitted to understand it distinctly.

We take it for granted that the revolutionary organs will have no desire to smother up such an important matter as this, and we therefore call upon some of them to vouchsafe to grant light to the country on this point.—*National Intelligencer*.

Of the Constitutional Amendment, Governor Worth, of North Carolina, says:

This proposed amendment contemplates under *one article* to change the Constitution in eight particulars, some of them altogether incongruous, to be ratified as a *whole* or rejected as a *whole*. We are not allowed to ratify such of them as we approve, and reject those we disapprove. This is the first attempt to introduce the vice of omnibus legislation into the grave matter of changing the fundamental law of the land.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Highly Interesting Decision of an Ejectment Case.—It cannot but prove an item of much significance to landlords to learn, that the decision made by the Fifth District Court of this city, in the case of McNeil vs. Knapp, the correctness of which we at the time greatly questioned, has just been reversed by the Supreme Court, and that the decree of that tribunal recognizes the principle that where the lease provides that the tenant shall not introduce in the premises articles susceptible of bringing about the forfeiture of the policy and the lessee allows the admission of such by a sub tenant, the landlord is entitled to the rescision of the lease, with damages if asked, although the property has not been destroyed by fire.

The Court deeming that ground sufficient to award the relief sought, did not deem necessary to pass upon the other motives alleged for the nullity of the lease;—that the form of the building had been changed, and its delineation altered, with injury. As a matter of course, the defendants will have either to come to terms or vacate the premises in question.

E. Bernudez, Esq., represented the plaintiff, M. M. Elmore and King the defendants.

Coal and Wood for the Needy.—Under the provisions of the ordinance of the Common Council, making provisions for coal and wood for the poor, it will be of interest to the needy to know the names and residences of the members of the City Council from whom they may obtain the necessary certificates for procuring these articles as far as provided for by the ordinance:

First Ward—Aldermen Williamson Smith, on Magazine street, near Poyfarré; office in Commercial Place.

Second Ward, Gasquet street, near Tremé, or at the *Picayune* office.

James McCloskey, on Camp street, near Calliope; office Gravier street, opposite St. Charles Hotel.

First Ward—Assistant Aldermen T. H. Higginbotham, Magazine street, near Felicity Road. F. H. Cummings, St. Charles street near Enterpe.

2d Ward—James B. Pragoe, Calliope near Annunciation.

Francis Lemges, corner of Magholia and Clio streets.

3d Ward—Wm. McCulloch, at the Gas Works.

Thomas S. Moore, 200 Girod street.

Second District—Alderman George Clark, corner of Tremé and St. Ann streets.

Norman Whitney, 50 Bienville street.

Assistant Aldermen—4th Ward—J. B. Cunningham, 40 Robertson street.

H. F. Sturcken, Marais street, near St. Louis street.

5th Ward—John P. Montamat, corner St. Ann and Chartres.

6th Ward—V. Prados, St. Ann, near St. Claude.

3d District—Alderman E. D. White, Mandeville, near Moreles.

F. A. Wolcoffey, 90 Piety street.

7th Ward—Assistant Alderman John Paisley, 334 Elysian Fields.

8th Ward—G. D. Kaus, 224 Mandeville street.

9th Ward—D. E. Goldman, corner Louisa and Dauphin street.

4th District—Alderman A. W. Bosworth, Washington street, between Camp and Magazine.

Thos. McKnight, corner St. Charles and St. Andrew.

11th Ward—Assistant Alderman, Peter Kaiser, 850 Magazine street.

10th Ward—J. F. Krautz, Soraparu street, near the market.

The Douglas Fraud Case.—The case of N. Dreyfus, charged with obtaining goods from Taylor, McElroy & Co., of this city, to the extent of $1019, under false pretenses, a lengthy report of the proceedings in which, before the First District Court, we gave in the *Bee* of yesterday, was not concluded till yesterday morning, when it was submitted to the jury about 12 o'clock. After about one hour's consideration the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, but with a strong recommendation to the mercy of the Court.

Another case of similar character between the same parties is pending, in which Messrs. Taylor, McElroy & Co. complain of having been defrauded to the extent of $2628 97. As it will have to be tried by a separate jury, it will not come up till next month.

First District Court—Judge Abell.—Eugene Williams and Berry Lewis, both colored, were tried yesterday on a charge of stealing a lot of jewelry, worth $300, the 12th October last, from Gustave Entrecayer. Williams was found guilty and Lewis was acquitted.

Ed Tobin and John Tucker, charged with highway robbing P. Randolph, the 6th of August last, corner of Circus and Perdido streets, were released by *nol. pros.* on account of the absence of witnesses.

Remanded.—An affray took place yesterday afternoon in the store of Lopez's Confectionary store, on Dauphin street, between J. Wickliffe and Andrew Steward. We did not learn the cause. Steward was wounded on the right side of the head with a blunt instrument and a cut on the lower lip, the latter supposed to have resulted from a fall in the scuffle. The wounds have been pronounced not dangerous by Dr. Cleary. Wickliffe surrendered himself

Supreme Court.—The following gentlemen have been appointed by the Court a Committee to examine applicants for admission to practice in the Louisiana Courts: E. Bermudez, H. M. Spofford, E. T. Merrick, G. Legardey, W. W. King, M. M. Cohen, Julien Michel, Henry Rightor, Geo. S. Lacey, E. E. Schmidt and H. D. Ogden.

The Recorders' Courts.—Thomas Long, charged with biting and maiming Thomas Carroll some time ago, was examined, yesterday and sent by Recorder Abern for trial before the First District Court.

Patrick Brennan, charged with the murder of his wife about two weeks ago, by cutting her head open with an axe without any known provocation, was examined and sent by Recorder Gastinel for trial, also before the First District Court.

Sudden Death.—Dr. Alfred Lapraire, a passenger on board the steamer Countess, died suddenly on the late passage of the boat from Mobile to this city. He had indulged very freely on board in eating fruit and oysters, and, according to the verdict of the Coroner's jury yesterday, died of cholera. Deceased was 35 years of age and a resident of Mobile.

Late and Interesting News from Mexico.

[From the Mobile Advertiser of the 11th.]

Col. John J. Fisher, formerly an officer of the Mexican army, under the government of Comonfort and Juarez, and more recently of the Confederate army, arrived in this city last evening, having left the City of Mexico on the 19th ult., and Vera Cruz on the 5th inst. From a conversation with Col. Fisher we have learned the views of an intelligent and impartial observer, familiar with Mexican society and politics, and altogether more reliable than most of the crude and interested statements received in this country from anonymous correspondents of the press and other irresponsible sources. The statements of Col. Fisher are in direct opposition to many of the current impressions, derived from such sources, which now prevail in this country. We give a brief outline of the information that obtained, endeavoring to express the ideas, as nearly as possible, of our informant.

Col. Fisher agrees with the statements of the American press, that the French authorities have, or had been for some time, desirous that Maximilian should abdicate. The reason for this desire was that the Emperor had become too thoroughly a Mexican, and was devoting himself too exclusively to the Mexican, to the neglect of the French interests. Under these circumstances, and under the depression indicated by news of the calamity that had befallen the Empress Carlotta, as well as other troubles, there is little doubt that he contemplated leaving the country.

A few weeks ago he withdrew from the capital to Orizaba, and a portion of his baggage was actually sent to Vera Cruz, as has been stated by the newspapers.

It is not true, however, as currently reported, that Marshal Bazaine interfered to hinder the departure of the Emperor. On the contrary, his circumstances that prevented it were these:

A deputation, consisting of many of the principal clergy and of distinguished officers and citizens, went, Wednesday, 18 days from Vera Cruz, either invited by the Emperor to meet him, or else of their own accord. In any case they were received by him, and the result of the interview was to induce him to change his plans and determine to adhere to the country. He was believed by these gentlemen that the only hope for Mexico lay in the maintenance of the Empire, and they evinced the sincerity of their opinions by at once raising a large amount of money for its support. The clergy contributed fifteen millions, and the wealthier citizens and capitalists pledged themselves for an amount which we are unable to specify, but which is supposed to be equally great as that raised by the clergy. Maximilian then returned to the capital and ordered his baggage back from Vera Cruz. There was no interference with his movements by the French.

Measures were immediately taken for reorganizing the army and commencing active operations against Juarez and other (so-called) Liberals. General Marquez, recently returned from Europe, has been ordered to the command of the Department at Puebla; General Miramon to that of Guanajuato; and General Mejia to that of San Luis Potosi, embracing Monterey, Matamoros, and the whole section of country now occupied by the Liberal forces.

Colonel Fisher believes that there is no truth whatever in the report current on our streets to-day, that Mr. Campbell and General Sherman had been refused permission to land at Vera Cruz. The truth is, they were sent out in the expectation of finding the country abandoned by Maximilian. They are not accredited to his government, which has never been recognized by the United States. Finding the City of Mexico, Vera Cruz, and the whole intervening country still in possession of the Imperial government, with no probability of its withdrawal, there is no occasion for them to land. To do so would be to place themselves in a very embarrassing, if not ridiculous attitude.

It was understood, however, at Vera Cruz, that the way was entirely open to these gentlemen, if they should think proper to land and to visit the city of Mexico. They had not landed, however, but were lying off the harbor in the steamer that carried them there. This was on the 4th inst., when Col. F. left Vera Cruz.

Col Fisher believes that the French government, although lately desirous that Maximilian should abdicate, will sustain him. As an evidence of their intention to do so, he passed on his way from the capital, a division of French troops, three of four thousand strong, marching to *attack* Oaxaca, now held by Porfirio Diaz. It was believed in Mexico that the arrangements for the withdrawal of the French troops were *entirely* revoked and abandoned, and that the Emperor would be sustained by France, even at the risk of war with the United States.

Col. Fisher denies emphatically the current statements of the unpopularity of Maximilian with the Mexican people. His own personal sympathies, from old association and services, are with the Liberals, but his convictions appear to be decidedly in favor of Maximilian.

This news, in connection with the positions taken by the government of the United States and the temper of the Northern people, is interesting if not ominous.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[To the New Orleans Bee.]

WASHINGTON NEWS.

Proposed Repeal of Act of 1790 Limiting Prosecutions for Treason.

The Louisiana Levees.

Gen. Griffin Dispatched from Galveston to the Rio Grande.

Cotton Firm, Gold 137 3-4 in New York.

By the Cable.

Liverpool and London Markets.

Commercial and Other News.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Gen. Bloomfield, of New Orleans, is here on business, connected with the rebuilding of the Louisiana levees. His success is very probable.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The Senate bill reported by the Committee on Judiciary to the House repealing the act of 1790, which limits prosecution for treason to three years, has created profound sensation and the finest legal talent of the body has been promptly arrayed against the proposition as monstrous under our idea of Government. Many of the leading Republicans including Stevens will resist the proposition as an ex-post facto law.

SENATE.—The Chair laid before the Senate a petition from William Hoyle, of Washington, asking that no distinction be made as to suffrage on account of race or sex. Laid on the table.

Mr. Wilson presented a petition from a number of army officers asking an increase of pay, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Morgan introduced a joint resolution presenting the thanks of Congress to Cyrus W. Field. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Wilson offered a resolution that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to pay the funeral expenses of the late Wm. Hickey, chief clerk of the Senate, out of the contingent fund. On motion of Mr. Fessenden, the resolution was referred to the Committee to audit the contingent expenses of the Senate.

Mr. Brown, of Missouri, maintained that suffrage should be universal without any restriction as to race, color or sex. He says his theory was supported by his constituents, to whom he has made a speech on the subject.

The District of Columbia suffrage bill was then taken up, the question being on Cowan's amendment to extend the franchise to females.

Mr. Trumbull introduced a resolution requesting the President to inform the Senate whether any persons have been appointed since the last adjournment of the Senate to fill vacancies existing prior to that adjournment, and particularly, if such is not the case in regard to the Surveyor of the Port at Philadelphia. Adopted.

Mr. Davis expressly denied the assertions made by Radicals on this floor, originated in some Conservatives, that the sentiments of the people of this country had been proclaimed in favor of negro suffrage. It was a fixed American principle that suffrage pertained exclusively to white men. The States had always reserved jurisdiction over this subject to themselves, although Congress had been given entire control over the District, yet for many years its people had been allowed to select their own municipal officers and manage their local affairs.

This negro element which it was now proposed to introduce was obnoxious, hurtful, unreasonable and unnecessary. The white female population of this country at the last census was 13,000,000, and the negro population less than 4,000,000, yet those who advocated negro suffrage frowned upon female suffrage. The character of the negro was then dilated upon by Mr. Davis, who alleged his inability to elevate himself from barbarism even under the most favorable circumstances, alluding to the failure of negro self-government in the West Indies. After a debate the bill was recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Washington, Dec. 12.—HOUSE.—Mr. Blaine, of Maine, introduced a resolution authorizing the Committee on the War Debts of the loyal States to report a bill authorizing a taxation of two-and-a-half per cent. on National Banks for the payment of such debts. Objection was made and the bill went over.

Price, of Iowa, introduced a resolution which was also objected, relative to regulating the issues of National banks. Laid over.

Mr Miller, of Pennsylvania, introduced a resolution, which was laid over, declaring that no State of the South refusing to adopt the Constitutional amendment be entitled to representation.

Mr. Cooper, of Tennessee, presented the credentials of Hon. H. H. Eppersom, representative from the Western District of Texas. Referred to the Committee on Elections.

The bill heretofore reported from the Committee on the Judiciary by Mr. Lawrence, of Ohio, was taken up. It provides for the repeal of the law of 1790, which provides that no trial for treason shall take place three years after the Commission of the act. Messrs. Jencks, of R. I., and Rogers, of N. J., argued against the passage of the bill.

Mr. Blaine, of Maine, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the President to confer the brevet rank by and with the consent of the Senate upon the officers appointed to the regular service, for gallant and meritorious action in the volunteer service. Passed.

Mr. Schenck, from the Military Committee, reported back the Senate bill of the last session, to regulate the peace establishment of the army. It was laid on the table.

Mr. Bromwell was appointed a member of the Committee on the Civil Service of the United States to fill a vacancy.

The bill to regulate appointments and removals from office was then taken up. A number of amendments were offered.

Washington, Dec. 12.—In discussing the bill extending the three years limitation for treason trials, Mr. Stevens took the ground that time did not count in the case of refugees, instancing in this connection Slidell, Mason, and others. He was opposed to the pass laws, and to hanging after the hanging offence had been committed for the purpose of hanging him. Regarding Davis, Mr. Stevens said he could not be tried for treason; he was not guilty of treason; his offence was that of being a belligerent, not a traitor.

The House was engaged and adjourned discussing the bill regulating appointments.

The Treasury Department has repudiated the settlement made by Mr. Morse, Consul at Londonderry, with Frazer, Trenholm & Co., in the matter of blockade running. It is alleged the settlement was made without consulting Minister Adams at London, or Consul Dudley at Liverpool.

Messrs. Durant and Fish were before the New Orleans Riot Committee to-day. The Committee leave for New Orleans on Monday. The gold in the Treasury amounts to $96,000,000, of which $21,000,000 is subject to draft on certificates.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Telegraphic dispatches have reached the army headquarters, from Gen. Sheridan, detailing the occupation of Matamoros by the Imperial government by Gen. Sedgewick. It is understood that the official report does not differ materially from the accounts already published.

Chicago, Dec. 12.—At a meeting of the Western Associated Press, held in this city, the journals of the following towns were represented in full: Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago, Cleveland, Pittsburg, Louisville, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Wheeling, Springfield, and also a number of representatives from other towns in the West not connected with the association. The meeting was called to order by the President at noon. It was agreed by parties representing the New York monopoly, that the journals from towns not belonging to the Association should not be allowed to vote.

After a protracted discussion this was agreed by yes 5, nays 25. The five affirm. votes were cast by the Chicago *Republican*, Chicago *Journal*, Detroit *Advertiser*, Detroit *Post* and Springfield *Journal*. The Board of Directors then made their report embodying in it the present action of the Executive Committee in New York. The Board of Directors assumed that under the by-laws of the Association, the action of the Executive Committee was the action of the Association, without taking the vote of ratification, but for the purpose of satisfying all parties they consented to a motion that the action should formally be adopted.

A debate on this motion was in progress at the hour of adjournment. There is no probability that more than half a dozen votes in the entire Association can be mustered in opposition to the action of the Executive Committee. The Association adjourned to meet again at 10 A. M. to-morrow.

San Francisco, Dec. 12.—Further Mexican advices say that Corona had received a commission as commander-in-chief of Western Mexico. It was rumored at Cuyamas that Martinez had raised the standard of revolt in favor of Santa Anna.

The arrival of Lieut. Gen. Sherman and Minister Campbell, and the approach of Major Gen. Sheridan are regarded as unfavorable by the natives who desire to be let alone.

The condition of affairs in Western Mexico is as bad now as when held by the French. Plunder and robbery are rife.

The Pacific mail steamer Tarlight was at Manzanola and carried away a large amount of treasure. The British war ship Albert took $500,000 from Mazatlan and Guaymas.

The steamers Continental and Panama, were both seized at Mazatlan by the Liberals. The former was released and arrived here last night. The Panama was to remain at anchor till Juarez's decision can be obtained.

An American citizen named Schleiden, had had been arrested, charged with carrying on communication for the Imperialists. Captain Shirley, of the United States steamer Suwannee had demanded his release, which was refused on the grounds that Schleiden was a citizen of Mexico, born at Vera Cruz.

Vicksburg, Dec. 12—Passed down: Dodge Fletcher at 8 and Westmoreland at 9 A. M., and Mary McDonald and Julia at 7 P. M. River rising fast. Weather fine.

Galveston, Dec. 12—Dunn's decay declines acting as Assistant Commissioner. Col. Lain's removal being persona, Maj. Lathrop is appointed.

Richmond, Dec. 12.—The Legislature is occupied with the stay law, but without definite action.

The tariffs on the Virginia Central Railroad have been reduced ten per cent.

New York, Dec. 12, evening.—Gold 137¾; Sixes 112¾; Missouri's 91. Cotton closed heavyant with sales of 5000 bales Middlings at 24¼c for Uplands, and 26c for Orleans. Flour dull; sales 300 bbls Southern at $10 75 to $16. Wheat steady. Corn 1 to 2c better. Oats easier. Pork firm with sales of 800 bbls Mess at $21 25 to $21 75. Naval Stores firm and unchanged. Rice dull; Carolina 8¾ to 9¼c. Groceries quiet.

Wilmington, N. C., Dec. 12.—Crude Turpentine unchanged. Spirits of Turpentine firmer at 56 to 59c. Rosin $2 75 to $5. Middling Cotton 31c.

Cleared, steamer Empire, for New York.

New York, Dec. 12.—The steamer Eagle, from Havana, with dates to the 8th instant, has arrived. The steamer had arrived at Havana with Vera Cruz dates to the 2d instant, and the city of Mexico to the 28th Nov. Gen. Aymard's troops had reached Perote *en route* for the coast. The French garrison was evacuating Zacatecas. The greater portion of Michoacan was in the hands of the Liberals. Juarez had withdrawn his offers to foreigners in Mexico to join him. Mejia was about retiring from San Luis Potosi to retreat to Sierra. The French were being driven from Sinora. Puebla was declared open to commerce as long as Vera Cruz was occupied by French troops.

New York, Dec. 12.—Arrived: Heela, from Liverpool, and Bavaria, from Hamburg.

Boston, Dec. 12.—Arrived: Tibbetts, from Savannah.

Philadelphia, Dec. 12.—Arrived: Pioneer, from Wilmington, and Wherwind, from Charleston.

Memphis, Dec. 12.—A special to the *Avalanche*, from Little Rock, says the report of the Senate's Committee on the Arkansas Constitutional amendment gives the following reasons for their objections: Arkansas does not believe that the Amendment was adopted by such a Congress as the Constitution provides—first, two-thirds of the States were unrepresented; secondly: it was never submitted to the President for sanction as the Constitution requires; thirdly: the enormous power sought by Congress which would virtually abolish all local and domestic State laws; fourthly, its effect to force negro suffrage on the States, as shown in the second section. The fifth and third sections disfranchise the wisest and best citizens of the State, who, having performed all the conditions of surrender and general amnesty, are entitled to restoration as before the war, and there are no reasons for believing the adoption would secure restoration, and recommending a calm and dignified course of endurance, rather than purchase restoration at a sacrifice of the principle of self respect.

Louisville, Dec 12.—Wm. McKee, who stole horses in Campbell county, Ky., and escaped to Arkansas, was brought here to-night.

A man named Rosenbaum has been arrested here for passing counterfeit U. S. money.

The steamboat Emperor, from Cincinnati to New Orleans, with a valuable cargo, sunk this evening at the head of the canal, in ten feet of water. Her stern is on the dam. Her cargo is considerably damaged. The boat can be raised.

Baltimore, Dec 12, night.—Wheat firm; receipts small. Corn 2 to 3c higher; receipts 55,000 bushels. Oats steady. Rye firm at $1 25 to $1 30. Flour very quiet. Seeds firm. Provisions inactive. Groceries very dull. Coffee 17 to 18½c. Whisky dull.

St. Louis, Dec. 12.—Tobacco is nominally lower; factory dried leaf $6 to $10; fine leaf $1 to $20. Cotton—Middling 30c. Flour more active and unchanged.

Louisville, Dec. 12.—Tobacco is improving; sales of 100 hhds. Flour quiet, at $7 to $10 for superfine. Cotton firmer, sales 74 bales Low Middling at 30¼ to 30½c.

Cincinnati, Dec. 12.—Flour steady and more doing, $9 50 to $10 for superfine. Whisky dull at $2 28 in bond. Cotton buoyant.