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NEW ORLEANS:
THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 10, 1863.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By D. E. Murphy, at 11 o'clock, at No. 47 Magazine street, cotton.

By E. V. Montgomery, at 11 o'clock, at No. 98 Camp street, sloop Slide Along.

By McCerren & Landry, at 11 o'clock, at their mart, furniture.

TO THE PASSENGERS PER STEAMSHIP COLUMBIA.—The attention of persons having engaged passage per steamship Columbia, is called to the advertisement of the agent.

SCHOONER WANTED. — See advertisement relating to a schooner wanted, suitable for Matamoras.

The attention of dealers and speculators in cotton is called by D. E. Murphy, auctioneer, to his sale of forty bales, which takes place this day, at 11 o'clock, A. M., at No. 47 Magazine street. See auction advertisement.

At auction to-day, at 11 o'clock, at their mart, by McCerren & Landry, furniture, carpeting, etc., etc.

Southern News.

PAROLED PRISONERS OF VICKSBURG AND PORT HUDSON—ADDRESS OF GEN. HARDEE.

Enterprise, Miss., August 28—By direction of the President of the Confederate States, I assume command of the paroled prisoners of Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, Texas and Louisiana, recently forming a part of the garrisons of Vicksburg and Port Hudson.

I could desire no greater honor than the command of troops whose sufferings and achievements have added to the renown of their country, and compelled the admiration even of their enemies.

The place of rendezvous for all paroled prisoners from the above named States is changed from Demopolis, Ala., to Enterprise, Miss.

In anticipation of an early exchange the work of reorganization will proceed with energy. The troops must be organized and prepared to take the field when the exchange is effected. All officers and men must be at their posts. They should be there now. To those present at the roll calls no word is needed. Their daily answers are uttered in the manly tones of duty and honor. Many are absent. They must report at once to the proper posts. The appeals that meet us on every side are the strongest that in any age have stirred the human heart.

Fellow soldiers! there is but one path to follow. It leads to the camp. Come to your colors and stand beside your comrades, who, with heroic constancy, are confronting the enemy.

(Official) W. J. HARDEE, Lieut. Gen.
P. R. ROY, A. A. General.

News from Morris Island.

We have received but few additional particulars of the affair on Wednesday night, in which it is reported some sixty of our men of the Sixty-first North Carolina were taken prisoners.

The reported capture of the rifle pits was incorrect. It appears from those who participated that our advance picket line, of eighty men occupying the rifle pits, were flanked and surrounded by an overwhelming force of the enemy, who had been massing all day for the purpose. About twenty only made their escape. The Yankees (advanced with three regiments unexpectedly. Our men fought gallantly, but were overpowered by superior numbers. The enemy, however, suffered severely. Our howitzers kept up a steady fire, raking the enemy's columns with grape shot, and doing much execution.

A severe musketry fight also occurred. One of our men, who escaped after being taken prisoner, reported the enemy, immediately on taking possession of the rifle pits, commenced to throw up more sand, &c., for strengthening their position.

The firing between the land batteries was very slow yesterday, that of the enemy being directed principally on Battery Wagner. Fire was also kept up on Fort Sumter, but with little effect. It is believed the enemy's guns are wearing out from the severe ordeal to which they have been subjected.

The fleet kept quiet yesterday. The ironsides and four Monitors were reported moving up, but they had not opened fire up to a late hour. Nothing authentic has been received in relation to the number of casualties at Battery Wagner on Wednesday night or yesterday.

Gen. Colquitt is now in command of the forces on Morris Island.

(*Charleston Courier, Aug. 28*

SICKNESS AMONG FEDERAL TROOPS—We have a report, pretty well authenticated, that the camp fever is prevailing to an alarming extent among the Federal soldiers in the neighborhood of Yorktown, and that they are dying at the rate of twenty to twenty-five per day. A few days ago they removed two thousand of their sick to Newport News.

From the same source we have a statement that the yellow fever has broken out among the Federals at Norfolk and Portsmouth, and that they are suffering terribly from the disease. *Richmond Examiner.*

KENTUCKY—*More Guerrillas*.—Bands of guerrillas, from one hundred to two thousand strong, have recently appeared in Clinton, Monroe and Cumberland counties. On the 29th one band captured four of Wolford's cavalry at Albany. Small parties of guerrillas are reported in Trimble county.

Southern News.

The New York *Commercial Advertiser* selects the following from the Richmond *Examiner* of the 29th ult.:

SUFFOLK REOCCUPIED.

Passengers by the train from Ivor, yesterday afternoon (says the Petersburg *Express*, of yesterday), brought intelligence that Suffolk has been again occupied by the Yankees. About two thousand infantry, a regiment of cavalry, and a company of artillery make up the force.

The residence of Rev. W. B. Wilcox has been taken for the headquarters of the general in command, and from appearances the place is to be again occupied as a regular military post.

IMPORTANT DECISION IN HABEAS CORPUS CASES.

In Petersburg, Va., on Wednesday last, Judge Joyner delivered the decision of the *habeas corpus* cases of the Commonwealth for Charles Baker Raine, James W. Jackson and Meredith T. Brooks vs. Lieut. Col. Davenport and Brig.-Gen. Jenkins. The petitioners sought to be discharged from militia service by reason of having substitutes in the Confederate States army. The Judge decided against the petitioners and remanded them to the custody of Col. Davenport.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 26th, says an interview will be had to-day between Commissioner Ould and the Yankee Commissioner, Meredith, at City Point. Our commissioner left the city yesterday evening for that point. This will be the first interview of the commissioners since the appointment. The question of negro equality with white soldiers will arise, and all the *embroglio* of the cartel will probably be reviewed.

Commissioner Ould will denounce the recognition of negroes, especially stolen from us, as prisoners of war, and there will be a dare up, and an end to the cartel. Our Government, we are glad to learn, is prepared for this.

The New York papers republish the following:

General Beauregard's Retaliation.

[From the Richmond Dispatch of the 27th.]

When Gilmore fired upon Charleston, Gen. Beauregard sent him word that if he repeated the outrage he would retaliate for it. This threat has suggested inquiry as to the manner of retaliation, and the means in General Beauregard's hands to enable him to do so. We do not know in what way it was his intention to have retaliated; but he certainly had one very effective mode at his command that was the confinement of the Yankee prisoners in his possession in those houses upon which the enemy's fire was mainly directed; and in case the direction of the heavy missiles hurled into the city was changed, why, change the prisoners, so as still to make them the targets of the enemy's big guns. This would be a most effectual way of retaliating for an outrage upon the rules of civilized warfare, such as that perpetrated by the Yankee general. Of course General Beauregard would inform the enemy of this retaliation, and make him altogether responsible for the murder of his own soldiers. We take it for granted that the enemy will be made to fight his way regularly, and remove the obstacles to his approach to the city in order as they come. He will not be allowed to skip to conclusions. General Beauregard will hold him to his work.

From Washington.

[Correspondence of the Commercial Advertiser.]

THE COMING SEASON.

Washington, August 31.—The cool days of the past week have sent hundreds of pleasure-seekers from the springs and sea shore to their residences in town. Washington already shows signs of returning life. The long list of arrivals at the hotels, the crowds on the streets and visitors at the Departments are giving abundant evidence that the Autumn here is to be one of the liveliest of seasons.

The demand for places to live in is treble the supply already, and when Congress meets it will be as difficult to accommodate all the people as it used to be on inauguration days. Such a thing as a vacant house is unheard of. Rents here in consequence shot up to a frightful figure. Ordinary houses on the back streets, then once rented for $150 and $200 per annum, are now commanding double that amount, and the tenant often gives a premium of a hundred dollars or so for the privilege of paying such a rent. It is carefully estimated that from five hundred to a thousand vacant houses are needed at this moment. The hotels and boarding-houses are making preparations for a grand harvest, which will last during the long session of Congress. Numerous Senators and members have already arrived, and are looking for places of residence. Only the rich can keep house.

Building is almost keeping pace with the increasing business of the city, and handsome blocks are going up in many sections. Two new hotels, not large, but first class, will be ready by December. One of the finest theatres in the country has just been opened, and another is in course of erection. Besides all this the city for the first time in its history, is paving some of its back streets. That old landmark, the *National Intelligencer* building, corner Seventh and D streets, which was bombarded by the British in 1814, is fast coming to the ground, and a magnificent building will soon occupy its site. In fact, Washington is going through a complete regeneration, that will eventually make it a first class city.

YOUNG, very truly, JOHN ADAMS, JR.

Force of the Attacking Fleet at Charleston.

As the number and character of the vessels engaged in the present attack on Charleston differ materially from those of Dupont's fleet, of which we printed an analysis, we subjoin a statement of the force of the present fleet, its officers, men and guns:

Iron-clads.	*Officers.*	*Men.*	*Tons. Guns.*
Ironsides	500	844	2
Passaic	100	844	2
Catskill	100	844	2
Montauk	100	844	2
Nahant	100	844	2
Weehawken	100	844	2
Patapsco	100	844	2
Wooden Frigates.			
Steam corvette Canandaigua	250	1396	10
Side-wheel steamer Mahaska	140	832	6
Double-ender Cimmerone	150	860	9
Steam gunboat Ottawa	120	507	5
Steam gunboat Wissahickon	120	507	4
Steam gunboat Dai Chang	106	577	5
Steam gunboat Lodona	200	860	7
Total	2180	11,576	60

It will be observed that three of the Ericsson iron-clads, the Sangamon, the Lehigh, and the Nantucket, do not participate in the present attack. As statements have been going the rounds of the papers about the armor of the new Ironsides, at the expense of the New York iron-clads, it is only proper to say, that outside the bows and stern of that vessel sand bags are piled as thick as possible, just as they were piled in Dupont's attack. And it has been proved, by experiments with the ship, that a ten-pound shot would sink her, either fore or aft, without those sand bags. No such thing could be said of the New York iron-clads.

The Blockade of Wilmington, N. C.

There is no doubt that the blockade of Wilmington is ineffective to a degree that is simply farcical. Not only do blockade runners have almost uninterrupted access to the port, but armed steamers pass the blockading fleet and run in readily.

That this state of thing exists is no fault of the Navy Department. The mouth of the Cape Fear river is so wide that a large number of vessels is required to watch it. Upon either headland are two forts, Caswell and Fisher. For some distance up the river the shores are lined with sand batteries. The bar at the mouth of the river is so situated that the blockading vessels cannot lie close in and command the channels. Consequently the blockade runners, which are very fast vessels, can, under cover of the dark, slip by the blockading fleet and soon gain the protection of the forts and batteries. To pursue them would involve the loss of the pursuing vessel.

For those reasons the blockade is not effective, and cannot be made so unless with a very large fleet, which cannot at this time be spared for the service. Until Charleston falls and the fleet there is released from duty or until Wilmington is captured, neither of events seem imminent, we must expect the blockade of the last named port to be inefficient.—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

We find the following in the Northern papers:

M. F. Maury on the Nature of the Seceded States.

The London *Times* publishes a letter signed M. F. Maury, on the prospects of the Confederates. He says they never were brighter. The North, he pointed out, is fighting for conquest, and makes the attack. The South is fighting to be let alone, and acts on the defensive. The South, therefore, cannot stop the war, but the North can. The feeling, then, of which war is voluntary fraternizing cannot be restored by the force of arms. The Union is gone. Neither party can subjugate the other, and it follows that the war is not to be ended by the sword. Other agencies must be called into play. The war is becoming more and more unpopular in the North. New York is threatening armed resistance to the Federal Government. New York is becoming the champion of State Rights, and to that extent, is taking the Southern ground. There are, besides, dissensions in other quarters. Even now Mr. Lincoln has to keep an armed force not only in New York and Kentucky, but also in Ohio, Indiana and other States. He is even now marching upon Iowa to put down there a fury of peace. He is likely to have occupation for all the recruits his conscription will give him in keeping down his own people. The writer concludes by saying that all we (the Confederates) have to do is to maintain the defensive, watch our chances, and strike whenever there is an opportunity for a good blow.

The Situation of Fort Sumter.

[From the Richmond Examiner August 21.]

We have not heard, either directly or indirectly, that Sumter has fallen, been destroyed or evacuated, but, from the dispatch which is published this morning, it is reasonable to be supposed that it has been much injured, and may become untenable. The event has proved what was hitherto theory, that the heavy ordnance now used will do considerable injury to fortifications constructed of any known materials other than earth, even at the distance of three thousand yards. Wagner, exposed during forty days to the whole artillery of the enemy, at only eight hundred yards, still holds its own, and if in danger only from the cannonade, would evidently last forever; while Sumter, which receives the shot of a single battery, at the immense distance stated, with occasional assistance from some battery on Morris island, and probably would have already crumbled but for the sand bags with which its walls have been strengthened. Sumter's walls are brick and concrete, sixteen feet thick. Wagner is a simple earthwork and is bomb proof. To the general public of this continent the fact has the air of novelty, but the events of the Crimean war have caused it to be quite familiarly known in Europe. The Czar Nicholas fancied that he had discovered the means of rendering walls able to resist cannon shot by building them with blocks of solid granite enormous in magnitude. Yet the fire of a fleet pounded them to fragments at Swaborg and Bomersund. Sebastopol was "the Lilliputian age in piled stones;" but its siege would not have lasted ten days had not the engineer Totleben constructed, in the brief interval between the battle of Alma and the investment, a series of earthworks which exhausted the whole force of England and of France, cost ten months' siege, and the loss of a hundred thousand men. A stream of cannon balls will destroy any thing in the nature of stone, if long enough continued; but, fired into a bank of earth, they render it only a little better protection to those behind it than it was before. Much work can only be taken as the earthworks of Sebastopol were finally taken—by approaching the trenches till they nearly touch the batteries, and then rushing in with an overwhelming assault. But Sumter and Wagner have no necessary connection with the ultimate result at Charleston. That city is on the land, and until a fleet can clear the harbor, no effectual operations can be commenced against it. Even if it should do so, we learn through the highest engineering authority of this country, that Beauregard can maintain himself against any force that has been, or is likely to be, sent against him. If Morris island should fall entirely into the possession of the enemy, he may shut up Charleston as a port of entry, but it will not enable him to take the city while its defenders are determined to fight it out.

How to End the War and Restore the Union.

The *National Intelligencer*, in publishing the following letter, says that it is "from a gentleman of intelligence and honor, whose statements of fact are entitled to full credit;" and that he is, moreover, a "thorough loyalist, and has been a uniform and decided friend of the Administration:"

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer:

Norfolk, Aug. 26, 1863.—Having just returned from a tour through portions of the States of Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and Kentucky, and having made in my travels many of the former prominent politicians of those States, and, as was most natural under the circumstances, had frequent conversations with them on the subject of the war, its origin, objects, bearing on the present and future of our country, and its probable result, I feel assured, to some extent, that a brief synopsis of the impressions made on my mind will not be altogether inacceptable to your readers.

The war, they argue, was instituted for the purpose of securing further guarantees to their own peculiar institution—Slavery—and to repress Abolitionism, or Northern aggression on their rights. Its bearing on the institution has been to render it endanger its entire overthrow. They admit that they have been deceived by their political leaders, and that nearly all their promises have proven failures. They say, they feel, the crushing effects of the war upon the Slave States, and admit it is indefinitely conceivable that the institution of Slavery may only be in danger of annihilation, but that their former slaves will be drafted into the army of the United States for the purpose of continuing the war on the South.

The same weight fact bears more heavily upon them than any thing connected with the war; and to escape this now apparently inevitable fate they express a willingness to accede to any terms which will not humiliate and degrade them. They affirm (in fact, they expect, they hope, they pray for it,) that it is not for them to beg for peace, but for the President to hold out the olive branch; and if the President were to issue a proclamation holding their leaders to a strict accountability for the rebellion, and offer the people protection in person and property, leaving the institution of slavery to the constitutional immunity of State laws, they will not only accept it, but will hail the act as magnanimous, noble, great.

This I will be perceived that the great masses of the Southern people are standing on a point of honor, which, to them is of far greater import than defeat in battle, the loss of strongholds, or the reduction of their armies. All this they can bear, but dishonor they cannot bear, and they hope, they expect, they pray that the President will spare them this unspeakable humiliation.

In view of these simple truths I would ask, Messrs. Editors, through the medium of your invaluable journal, if the President cannot afford to be magnanimous? If, after the fall of Charleston, he cannot afford to offer some terms which shall induce the great body of the Southern people to return to their allegiance to the Federal Union and the Government of the United States? If he has ambitions of enviable fame, he will do it; if he desires to be remembered as the second Washington, he will do it; if he wishes to secure to himself the appellation of a Christian hero, he will do it; if he wishes to imitate the example of Him who said, "Go then and sin no more," he will do it; and, I may add, if he wishes to proclaim the popular sentiment of the American people, and the sentiment of humanity, Christianity and Christianity throughout the world, he will do it; which God grant, for peace's sake.

Yours, very truly, JOHN ADAMS, JR.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Run Over and Killed by the City Railroad Cars—Fred. Mathias Kroel, a newspaper carrier of the *Picayune*, without hailing the driver, or signalizing him to stop in any way, attempted to jump on the front of the car while it was in motion, catching hold of the railing for assistance. From some cause which could not be ascertained, probably the slipping of his foot, he swung round in front of the car, and was knocked down across the track. Before the car could be stopped the wheels had passed over his body, literally smashing him, and of course killing him instantly. The accident occurred at half past 7 o'clock yesterday morning, on Dauphin street, between Clouet and Louisa streets. The Coroner held an inquest in the afternoon, and a verdict according to the facts was rendered.

Judge Atocha's Court.—The meagre report of this Court's proceedings of yesterday was in consequence of the fact that the Court, if it knew itself, was decidedly unwell, and therefore the docket was put through at "double quick." The fixed cases for trial were postponed till Friday. In the meantime, the Judge expects to be well enough to preside to-day—in his usual style, "tempering justice with mercy."

[FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF YESTERDAY.]

The Siege of Charleston.

On Board Flag-ship Philadelphia, Off Charleston, Aug. 24, 1863.

Our occupation of Charleston depends upon our success in the reduction of the fortifications, and, judging from the obstinacy with which Wagner has stood out against us, *I believe that the siege of Charleston will probably be three months longer, and probably six.*

This opinion is predicated upon the continuance of our present operations. Of course if we had a large enough army, we could march from some other point, and, going inland, cut off the rebels' communications, thus possessing ourselves of their fortifications by starving out the garrison.

It may seem strange that since we have reduced Sumter to a mass of almost shapeless ruins, why we do not occupy it. But it cannot be permanently occupied by us until we have silenced or reduced the rebel fortifications which command it.

Forts Moultrie, Beauregard, Bee, Johnson, Gregg and Ripley all command Sumter, and in case we should at night succeed in throwing into Sumter a garrison of occupation, and hoist our gold old flag, still the morning light would bring upon us such a fire that we should hold our prize with little comfort.

To run up the Stars and Stripes over the ruins is our intention, but we shall do it only when we are able to keep it up, its halliards untouched by rebel shot. But Sumter, as a fortification, is no good. It is not *in* it in every sense of the word, except its ruins, and I doubt if General Anderson would now recognize the scene of his former trials.

If one doubted that the rebels are not in earnest, one day's observation in this locality would change his opinion. I do not believe any garrison ever withstood such a siege as Wagner. Sumter, the rebels deserted as soon as its fate became evident, but Wagner to-day, notwithstanding the thousands of shells which have been thrown into it, stands it, and over it, loomp up as meteorically as ever, and I believe would repel an assault as it did a month ago. These men, the Wagnerites, deserve the praise of all men, not for their cause, but for their persistent bravery, which they have shown from the moment of our advance against them.

The defense of Charleston will be the rebels' grandest effort of the war. The people of Charleston and the rebel troops thereabouts know that the Southern Confederacy is doing at them with argus eyes. They expect the city which has always agitated secession and war to the knife, will contest every inch of our advance, and yield to the execrated Yankees only in the last extremity.

The newspaper correspondents on Morris Island have indeed come to grief. Owing to the premature disclosure of operations which had been made in a New York journal, the correspondents with the army have been obliged to submit their letters to Gilmore's staff officers before they could be sent northward. The War Department, however, thinking that the interests of the service demanded, as it does, the strictest secrecy concerning all prospective operations, sent an order to General Gilmore to arrest all the correspondents and send them to Hilton Head, where they should be kept until our operations in this locality shall have been completed.

Gen. Gilmore, however, knowing that a certain correspondent was connected with the navy, who persisted in writing all the contraband information he could gather in an official capacity, modified this order somewhat, and merely placed the correspondents on Morris Island under arrest, and assigned them limits, so that they will be after within under the incubus of the strong arm of the law.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

[From the New York Herald of the 1st.]

Charleston—The Latest Rebel Telegrams.

From late files of Richmond papers we are enabled to lay before our readers the latest news from Charleston. Coming from rebel sources a wide margin must be allowed in any extraordinary statements that may occur.

TELEGRAMS TO RICHMOND PAPERS.

Charleston, August 25, 1863.—The enemy's land batteries have been maintaining a steady fire on Fort Sumter all day.

The fighting at Fort Wagner was chiefly confined to the firing of our pickets on the enemy's sappers, who continue to approach Wagner.

This evening, about dark, the enemy's batteries opened a furious fire on Wagner, preparatory, as was supposed, to the assault.

The following official dispatches have just been received:

Fort Sumter, 7:35 P. M.—There is an assault now being made at Battery Wagner.

ALFRED RHETT, Colonel Comd'g.

Fort Johnson, August 25, 7:45 P. M.—The enemy is assaulting Battery Wagner, vigorously in heavy force.

C. H. ARMSTEAD,
Colonel Commanding.

LATER

The musketry has ceased. The enemy is firing a few mortar shells at Battery Wagner. The first assault had been repulsed.

No more shells have been thrown at the city since daylight on Monday morning.

Charleston, August 27, 1863.—The enemy's attack on our rifle pits on Wednesday night was made about seven o'clock, in overwhelming force. On Thursday the fire on both sides was very slow and deliberate. We hear of no unusual incidents.

Charleston, August 28.—The bombardment of Fort Wagner and Sumter proceeds slowly. The enemy is working hard in the trenches in front of Fort Wagner. No further attempt has been made to shell the city.

Baltimore, August 31.—The Richmond *Enquirer* of Saturday says: The War Department is in receipt of nothing later from Charleston than up to last night. It is understood however, that Fort Sumter, although seriously breached in the wall, will not be abandoned and that Gen. Beauregard has expressed his determination to hold it to the bitter end.

It is thought that this will be done by the erection of a temporary fortification.

The fire of the enemy continues to be divided between Forts Sumter and Wagner.

The bombardment, up to our latest advices, was progressing slowly, without any decisive results.

News from Washington.

[Telegraphed to the Herald.]

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S FORTHCOMING LETTER.

Washington, August 31.—The letter which President Lincoln has written to be read at the Union mass meeting at Springfield, next Thursday, and a copy of which will be read at the same time at Syracuse at the meeting of the Young Men's Union Convention, is understood here to embrace the views of the administration touching the relations of the Federal Government to the Southern people. Such being the case, there is much anxiety manifested touching its contents. It is understood that the letter is in fact the substance of a proclamation which was drawn up some time since by President Lincoln at the instigation of Secretary Seward, but the publication of which was prevented by Chase and the republicans. It has been known for some time that the President was willing to do anything to stop the war and restore the Union. He, however, is bound by his relations with the Republican party to consult in a measure the views of its leading magnates, and hence the proclamation which he proposed to issue after the fall of Vicksburg he concluded to postpone until the fall of Charleston. In the meantime this letter, which he will address to the nation through the medium of the two conventions to meet Thursday, will be of a character to prepare the public mind for the policy which the President has finally determined to pursue with regard to the Southern States.

As originally drawn up I learn from well informed sources that this proclamation embraced the following points:—

In the first place, a promise of amnesty to all the Southern people, with the exception of its civil and military rulers, provided they would lay down their arms and return to their allegiance to the United States.

Next, a promise that the extreme penalties of the confiscation act would not be enforced, save against the leading military and civil rulers of the Confederacy.

Thirdly, a declaration that those slaves only could be considered free who had escaped within the Union lines, or had made an actual effort to comply with the terms of the emancipation proclamation.

It also expressed a willingness to receive the Southern States as States into the Union, provided the voters will take the oath of allegiance to the Federal constitution, and the States so recognized will bind themselves to abolish slavery within a term of years.

These are understood to be the conditions upon which Mr. Lincoln is willing to see the Union re-established as it was:

As a matter of course it is the slavery question which has given him the most concern. He is willing, and the majority of his advisers in Washington are willing, that the Southern people should be permitted to return to the Union with their State rights and the right to their personal property, with the exception of slaves being conceded intact, provided the leading chiefs of the rebellion are prohibited from hereafter holding office in the Southern States. Mr. Lincoln, for the sake of peace, was willing to do what has been frequently suggested by the Tribune—concede only those slaves free who had been made free by the march of our armies and their own efforts, and leave those in slavery who had not taken advantage of the President's proclamation. This last clause is fought by Chase and the radicals, and the compromise is now understood to be that those slaves in slavery shall remain slaves, but that no State shall be admitted into the Union without a pledge of the final extermination of slavery.

It may be that before Thursday some further modification may be made in the letter, but as I can learn from those who are in the confidence of the administration, the document about to be addressed to the country through the medium of these conventions will be of the highest importance, and will include a platform upon which the Administration proposes to carry the fall elections. I have reason to believe that Mr. Lincoln will disavow the intention to make arbitrary arrests hereafter; that he will consider the rebellion so far under way that all the extreme measures which have been deemed necessary will be set aside, and that hereafter law and order will be allowed to resume their sway. The idea of a proclamation to the Southern people was originally suggested by Mr. Seward; but this informal letter, preparing the way for the proclamation after the fall of Charleston, was, it is understood, of Mr. Lincoln's own motion; and the recent trip of Secretary Seward to the lakes, with the diplomatic corps, was to relieve the country of the impression that the letter was inspired or dictated by Secretary Seward.

NAVAL EXPEDITION UP THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

The steamer Baltimore, Capt. Mitchell, arrived here this morning from Fortress Monroe. She reports that the gunboats Reliance and Satellite, captured from us on the Chesapeake, near the mouth of the Rappahannock, are at Urbana, on the Rappahannock. The wounded men, among whom was the commanding officer of the Reliance, have been liberated. Last night a fleet of gunboats accompanied by a Monitor from the coast squadron, went up the Rappahannock for the purpose of destroying the rebel port at Lowrey's Point and recapturing the gunboats. Among the rebels who captured the steamers was a portion of the old Merrimac crew.

CONFIRMATION OF THE DEATH OF MOSBY.

A dispatch has been received by the military authorities here from General King, announcing the death of Mosby at a farm house just beyond the Bull Run Mountains.

THE CAPTURE OF THE BRIG ATLANTIC.

The Navy Department has received information of the capture of the brig Atlantic by the United States steamer Princess Royal, off the Rio Grande, Mexico.

From the statement of Acting Master Chase, late in command of the gunboat Antona, it appears that the Atlantic had cotton on board, direct from the Texas shore, and the captain of the brig told him he would swear to the fact, and if his private interview could be granted it would be to the advantage of the United States Government. The cause of the captain's singular proceeding was, he says, in consequence of a misunderstanding between him and the parties chartering the vessel, and he states he was taken into Key West in this same Atlantic, while bound for Texas, by the United States vessel, as a prize, and lay there thirty-six days, that he was smart enough to fool the authorities, notwithstanding he had contraband of war on hand. He escaped from there, said the United States Government, and obtained judgment for $10,000. He then went off and delivered his cargo all right, which cargo went into Brownsville, Texas, via Matamoros, Mexico.

The captain of the vessel further said—"If you don't look out, I'll fool you again. I have got a schooner loaded with tobacco now, and the blockade during the Russian war, and if you are not very sharp I'll get to the windward of you again."

Mr. Haggart, of New York, now at Matamoros, can testify that the brig Atlantic purchased her cotton at Brownsville, Texas. The United States gunboat Cayuga was in sight at the time of the capture.

The Atlantic has been sent to New Orleans for adjudication. She hails from Nassau.

The above facts are communicated by Commander Woolsey, of the Princess Royal.

CAPTURE OF BLOCKADE RUNNERS.

Acting Master Smith, commanding the steamer Bermuda, communicated the following captures:

On the 14th instant, the British schooner Cadmiss, loaded with one hundred and sixty one bales of cotton, bound from Velasco, Texas, to Belize, Honduras.

On the 15th instant, fell in with the British schooner Lizzie, from Nassau. When hailed she said she was from Havana, and Mr. Frazier, acting boarded her, he was informed that her captain was dead, and, there being no navigator on board, they had lost their reckoning.

Commander Smith, however, found that the chronometer worked up to the 15th instant, and the octant set at meridian on that day. She was loaded with liquors, cigars, medicines, &c., and he felt justified in seizing her as a lawful prize.

FROM PRESIDENT LINCOLN TO MAJOR GENERAL GRANT.

Executive Mansion,
Washington, July 13th, 1863.

To Major-General Grant:

My Dear General—I do not remember that you and I ever met personally. I write this now as a grateful acknowledgment for the almost inestimable services you have done the country. I wish to say a word further. When you first reached the vicinity of Vicksburg, I thought you should do what you finally did—march the troops across the neck, run the batteries with the transports, and thus go below and I was very much afraid at first, that you had done so (as we all say here) without much of any object except to get your army across the river safely, and probably would have already crumbled but for the sand bags with which its walls have been strengthened. Sumter's walls are brick and concrete, sixteen feet thick. Wagner is a simple earthwork and is bomb proof. To the general public of this continent the fact has the air of novelty, but the events of the Crimean war have caused it to be quite familiarly known in Europe. The Czar Nicholas fancied that he had discovered the means of rendering walls able to resist cannon shot by building them with blocks of solid granite enormous in magnitude. Yet the fire of a fleet pounded them to fragments at Swaborg and Bomersund. Sebastopol was "the Lilliputian age in piled stones;" but its siege would not have lasted ten days had not the engineer Totleben constructed, in the brief interval between the battle of Alma and the investment, a series of earthworks which exhausted the whole force of England and of France, cost ten months' siege, and the loss of a hundred thousand men. A stream of cannon balls will destroy any thing in the nature of stone, if long enough continued; but, fired into a bank of earth, they render it only a little better protection to those behind it than it was before. Much work can only be taken as the earthworks of Sebastopol were finally taken—by approaching the trenches till they nearly touch the batteries, and then rushing in with an overwhelming assault. But Sumter and Wagner have no necessary connection with the ultimate result at Charleston. That city is on the land, and until a fleet can clear the harbor, no effectual operations can be commenced against it. Even if it should do so, we learn through the highest engineering authority of this country, that Beauregard can maintain himself against any force that has been, or is likely to be, sent against him. If Morris island should fall entirely into the possession of the enemy, he may shut up Charleston as a port of entry, but it will not enable him to take the city while its defenders are determined to fight it out.

Yours, very truly,
A. LINCOLN.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Arrival of the Governor.—Among the arrivals by the steamship Columbia last night, we notice the name of General Shepley, Military Governor of this State. We heard some "notes of preparation" to serenade him this evening, but do not know what the result was.

City Mortality.—The report of the Board of Health for the week ending September 6th is as follows:

Males, 102; females, 43. Total, 145.

Diseases.—Angina, 1; angina pectoris, 2; apoplexy, 3; bronchitis, 2; cancer of uteris, 2; catarrh, 1; cholera morbus, 3; congestion of the brain, 4; congestion of the lungs, 1; consumption, 6; convulsions, 1; infantile, 4; croup, 3; debility, infantile, 1; diarrhea, 4; diarrhea chronic, 15; dropsy, 4; drowned, 4; dysentery, 16; dysentery chronic, 1; diphteria, 5; enteritis, 1; epilepsy, 3; erysipelas, 1; fever, 3; fever congestive, 7; fever pernicious, 2; fever intermittent, 2; fever typhoid, 10; gas enteritis, 2; heart, disease of, 1; inflammation of the bowels, 1; inflammation of the brain, 3; inflammation of the lungs, 6; inflammation of the throat, 1; marasmus adult, 1; marasmus infantile, 4; meningitis, 1; old age, 1; rheumatism, 1; still-born, 6; teething, 1; tris nascentium, 2; wounds, gunshot, 3; not stated, 1. Total, 145.

Ages—Under 1 year, 28; 1 to 2 years, 16; 2 to 5 years, 2; 5 to 10 years, 7; 10 to 15 years, 4; 15 to 20 years, 3; 20 to 25 years, 10; 25 to 30 years, 6; 30 to 40 years, 20; 40 to 50 years, 12; 50 to 60 years, 8; 60 to 70 years, 3; 70 to 80 years, 2; 80 to 90 years, 1; 90 to 100 years, 1; unknown, 30. Total, 145.

Nativities—England, 4; France, 3; Germany, 9; Ireland, 10; Italy, 1; Prussia, 1; Scotland, 1; Spain, 2; United States, 82; not stated, 32. Total, 145.

Blacks, 16; mulattoes, 5. Total, 21.

Killed.—The Coroner was notified that a man was run over by the Dauphin street cars at the corner of Louisa and Clouet streets. Dr. Beach made preparations to hold the inquest.

Provost Court—Judge Atocha—(Wednesday)—Jno. Kennedy had to go to the workhouse for two months, on the charge of being an habitual drunkard.

A tall mulatto woman was fined $5 for pulling a white girl's ears, who beat her boy.

J. Lane, arrested drunk and shouting for Southern rights, sent to the workhouse to get sober.

Rolling a wheelbarrow on the sidewalk cost a party $3.

J. McDonnell, just from Baton Rouge, got tight. Workhouse one month.

Anne Donnahue confessed to a drop too much and was fined $5.

Armand Dupont, for disturbing the peace of his residence, was let off with $5 fine.

Two young men, being drunk and having a Confederate emblem, were sent to the Workhouse.

Ann Martin, who stole a new saucepan, was workhoused for two months.

A darkey, Ch. Fox, said he got out of funds, and it was to raise a supply that he stole some chickens. Two months Workhouse.

John Francis, who attacked a man with a knife and cut him, was locked up for three months.

THE SIGHT.

I belong to no Faculty; I have not the least diploma, but I have seen so many diseases of the eyes, for the last twenty-five years I have been selling spectacles, that this long practice has given me some right—at least I think so—to speak of the sight, in the name of experience, if not by the authority of legal science. I do not wish to write an interested notice; my pretensions are higher; my object is to attempt to bring about a revolution, overthrow old prejudices, and lead the public out of long-standing and injurious prejudices. Should I succeed, they will have been more benefitted by it than myself.

I have made a discovery, a very simple one, as all discoveries are when found. I have found out that fraude, yes crimes, are daily and hourly perpetrated, against which the laws are powerless.

The Druggists who sell medicines and potsons of all kinds is compelled by the statutes to show that he has gone through a course of studies by which he is enabled to know the virtues of the articles he deals in, and the public are thereby protected.

To a dealer in spectacles, who, in nine cases out of ten, sells poison to the eyes, the law asks no diploma; nothing is required of him. It is a great public misfortune.

I will not cease denouncing that imposition which the community is an accomplice of, and I call on all enlightened and generous men to assist me in enlighting them that the selection and application of glasses to increase or strengthen the sight, is an act of the highest importance. Grave and often irreparable disorders may arise from a bad selection.

The public, through habit or imitation, buy spectacles as they would glove or shoe pinchers, suspenders, &c. In very few exceptions, selle spectacles as he would any other article, and allows the purchaser to select for himself. One of the persons who have been wearing spectacles for the last five years, and have bought them indiscriminately, five at least are afflicted with diseases of the eyes arising from the use of glasses so carelessly applied. Let no one believe that I am purposely exaggerating the fact, when I here state the plain truth, and I invoke the testimony of scientific men, physicians, especially to prove that I am actuated rather by feelings of humanity than by any intention of benefitting my establishment, which stands in no need of puffs.

Twenty-third of the diseases of the eyes which the world is afflicted with are caused by the use of bad spectacles, or the spectacles improperly adapted.

Badly selected and badly applied glasses are a poison which destroys the sight as surely as arsenic takes away life.

A dealer in spectacles, like the druggist, should be required to have some special study or diploma.

The public should cease to look upon an article as the use of glasses which they do not know how to select, and which dealers do not know how to sell. Some laws must apply to special dealers.

J. BUHAMEL, Optician,
No. 46 Chartres st., New Orleans.

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
WEDNESDAY EVENING, September 9, 1863.

We have no change to notice in the condition of financial affairs further than that the rates of Sterling and Foreign Exchange have been advanced by the receipt of the advices received last night per steamship Columbia, bringing dates from New York to September 1st inclusive. The demand for Specie to-day was decidedly better, and the premium on Gold was higher, the rates ranging at 31 @ 32½ ⅌ cent. premium in Coin, and 3 @ 3½ in Legal Tender Notes for Gold in exchange, and premium in Silver ranging at 32 @ 32½ ⅌ cent. in Legal Tender Notes for Silver.

In Foreign Exchange there is nothing doing of any moment, the ruling rates being with Specie operations. Sterling are advanced to 160@165 and francs to 5 @ 5 ⅌ cent. Legal Tender notes