THE DAILY BEE.

PUBLISHED BY

G. F. WEISSE & CO.

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NEW ORLEANS,

MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 16

SUBSCRIPTIONS BY THE WEEK

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

Auction Sales This Day.

By G Lenormont, Blanche & Co., at 10 o'clock, at No. seventy-three street, dry goods.

By N. Vignié, at 11 o'clock, at the corner Conti street and Exchange Alley, fine gold watches, clocks, enamel ornaments, &c.

By McCerren & Landry, at 11 o'clock, at their auction mart, furniture, new and second hand.

By Chas. E. Fonstall, at 11 o'clock, at Hopkins's plantation, Gentilly road, milch cows, bulls, horses, mules, &c

By D. F. Murphy, at 10 o'clock, at the corner Gravier and New Levee streets, groceries, liquors, &c.

The attention of persons desirous of purchasing very superior rosewood parlor sets and of splendid mahogany furniture, heavy plate mirrors, Brussels carpeting, silver-plated ware, china, glassware, &c., at their own prices, are referred to the auction advertisement, under its proper head, of Messrs. McCerren & Landry, who will, on Tuesday, 24th December, at 10 o'clock, A. M., sell the contents of those elegantly furnished apartments, No. 40 St. Charles street, between Common and Gravier, to the highest bidders for cash.

The attention of buyers is called to the large stock of groceries, wines, liquors, &c., to be sold by D. E. Murphy, auctioneer, at the store of W. L. Lanier, on Monday, December 16th, 1861, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Public attention is called to the sale of silverware, plated-ware, &c., which will take place to-day, at half-past 10 o'clock, A M., at the auction room of N. Vignié, corner of Conti street and Exchange Alley. Sale positive and without reserve, for account and risk of a former purchaser.

FASHIONABLE FURNITURE.—McCerren & Landry will at auction, at their auction-room, Masonic Hall, this day, (Monday) 16th inst., at 11 o'clock, A. M., a large assortment of fine and fashionable mahogany, rosewood and black walnut furniture, parlor sets, beds, bedding, &c., &c. See advertisement.

THE WAR IN THE WEST.

The Cincinnati and St. Louis papers are continually alluding to the grand expedition of the Yankees which is to transfer the interest and activity of the campaign from Virginia to the Mississippi valley. A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* assures that sheet that the matter is all settled in advance. General HALLECK, with 75,000 men, is to march in the rear of Columbus towards Memphis, thus compelling the Confederates to abandon Columbus and rush to the defence of Memphis, by which means it is expected that the river will be open to the passage of the gunboats and transports. The Yankees declare they will meet with no resistance, as the Tennessee river will be occupied by their gunboats. Then to complete this grand scheme of conquest, General BUELL is to move forward from Louisville with 60,000 men, and to proceed through Kentucky, via Bowling Green and Nashville. As no possible check is anticipated to the execution of the programme, we are coolly apprised that the war will be ended in the course of three months.

It is certainly very kind and considerate on the part of the Yankees to supply us in advance with an accurate outline of their purposes. Supposing their statements to be authentic, they must assuredly imagine the Confederates very decided simpletons, if they decline taking any steps to thwart this extensively arranged project of invasion. We are so loth to believe the Yankees silly enough to reveal their designs that we are almost tempted to the conclusion that they have fabricated a pretended plan in order to conceal their real one. On the whole, however, such disclosures are in perfect keeping with the Yankee character. It is so boastful, arrogant and gasconading, so given to bravado and brag gadocio, that secrecy becomes wholly impossible. The moment your Yankee fancies he has hit upon a device for subjugating the South, he must forsooth blurt it out to the world at large —forgetting that it may reach the ears of the party which it is intended to affect, and that, consequently, adequate measures may be adopted to defeat its execution. From these considerations we have little doubt that the revelations of the Cincinnati print are substantially true.

It is one thing, however, to threaten and another to act. Nothing can be easier on paper than to prate glibly of two armies, numbering in the aggregate 135,000 men, which are to proceed by different routes, converging as they march along, and then to effect a junction and occupy and possess the Confederate cities in the valley of the Mississippi. All this is perfectly simple in appearance. It merely presupposes the ability to collect these vast forces, and to pursue the proposed campaign without experiencing any resistance worth noticing. But how if all the sanguine hopes should be marred by unexpected contingencies? Suppose it should happen that Gen. HALLECK's victorious legions should be cut to pieces before they reach Memphis, and that the elaborate march in the rear of Columbus in order to avoid our army should avail him nothing? Suppose Gen. BUELL should stumble upon certain insurmountable obstacles at Bowling Green in the shape of a formidable host of Southern men prepared to dispute every inch of his progress? Suppose, too, that our troops at Columbus should not feel disposed to forsake their batteries, and suffer the Yankee gunboats quietly to float down the Mississippi? Is there not a possibility in such an event that the calculations of the Yankee commanders and correspondents might prove fallible? We think so, very decidedly. We are clearly of opinion that Gens. JOHNSON, POLK, PILLOW, BOWEN, and the rest of the military leaders in the West having now before them the plans of the enemy, will be able to baffle and overthrow them. Forewarned is forearmed.

Nevertheless we must not be supposed to make light of the intentions of the Yankees. There is no earthly doubt that a desperate effort will be made to effect the conquest of Kentucky and Tennessee, with an ulterior view to the descent of the Mississippi, and the capture of New Orleans. The enemy rightly conclude that the possession of the principal city in the Confederacy would work infinite mischief to the cause of the South, paralyze our exertions, and give to the Lincolnites a power and advantage of which it would be very difficult to deprive them. They fancy, no doubt, likewise, that if they can only get into the Crescent City, they can seize and confiscate all the cotton, and throw open the port for the benefit of the Federal Government. We need not point out the monstrous fallacy of such expectations. We need not assert that not a bale of cotton would, under any circumstances, fall into Yankee hands, but that it would be consigned to the flames, even as noble South Carolina is now doing with her Sea Island crop. But the cupidity of the Yankees blinds them to this fact, and even if they were willing to admit its probability, the capture of New Orleans offers an irresistible bait to their avarice, rapacity and instinct for rapine. Hence, therefore, the necessity on our part of looking to the subject seriously. We have unlimited confidence in the defenses of our city, in the courage and devotion of the population, in the skill, fidelity and unwearied zeal of our Generals. We trust that nothing has been, and that nothing will be neglected to baffle the approach of the Yankees by a descent of the river impossible. This is the only danger. Their armies we laugh at, but their fleet must be encountered by every possible impediment known to naval and military science. The suggestion thrown out by Dr. CARTWRIGHT of a series of rafts anchored near the batteries for the purpose of keeping the enemy's gunboats under fire seems to our unmilitary and crude perceptions at once feasible and effective. We doubt not, however, that this, in common with other powerful means of defence, has already received due consideration. Should the Yankees ever reach Memphis, and attempt to invade New Orleans, they will, we opine, meet with a reception, which will quench forever their curiosity to examine the Crescent City.

CITIZENS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—We invite attention to the annual report of the affairs of this company. Considering the partial suspension of business, and the effect of the blockade on navigation, the company makes a very fair exhibit. It pays the annual interest, and declares a scrip dividend of twenty per cent.

IMPORTANT ORDER.—Attention is directed to the order of Gen. Lewis, of the First Division Louisiana Militia. It will be seen that in conformity to the Governor's proclamation, the volunteer companies of this division are required to organize into battalions or regiments, under penalty of forfeiting their arms. The order is an important one, and should admit no possible complaint.

We are greatly obliged to our friends in the Legislature for copies of the most interesting and important public documents. We shall go for to some of them particularly hereafter. Messrs. Lisle, Patterson and Bodli will accept our thanks for favors.

Martial law has been proclaimed at KNOXville by Gen. Carroll.

The New Orleans Bee.

Office, 73 Chartres street. | NEW ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 16, 1861 | Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXXIV.—Whole No. 12,260.

TELEGRAPHIC.

FROM RICHMOND.—*Virginia Legislature—Richmond, December 14.*—In the Virginia Legislature the contest for Confederate Senator is animated, and there is considerable rivalry between Hunter and Barbour. The chances of both appear confident. William Ballard Preston seems to be the favorite candidate of the Whig side. The time of election is not determined.

President Davis's Message Relative to the Calamity at Charleston, S. C.—Richmond, December 13.—In Congress to-day this following message was received from President DAVIS:

To the Congress of the Confederate States: Gentlemen—The calamity which has laid in ashes the larger portion of the city of Charleston calls for our sympathy and seems to justify the offer of aid in the manner hereinafter suggested.

The State of South Carolina will no doubt assist Charleston in her hour of need, but as her resources are taxed to the utmost in resisting the invasion of her soil, the prompt intervention of this Government may not be deemed unsuitable to the occasion.

The State of South Carolina, in common with other States, has made a liberal advancement on account of the war, and this Government is unquestionably her debtor, and with the existing pressure upon her resources, it is probable her desire to aid the suffering city of Charleston may be restrained by other demands upon her available means. Under such circumstances we may exhibit our sympathy with her people by an offer to place at the control of the Legislature of the State, now in session, a portion of the sum we owe her. The magnitude of her calamity affords good reason for making an exception in her favor, and the promptness of your action will manifest in the most appropriate manner the sincerity of our regard for the people of that gallant State and our entire sympathy in all that concerns them.

I recommend, therefore, that Congress make an appropriation of such an amount as may be deemed sufficient for the purpose proposed, to be placed at the control of the authorities of the State of South Carolina.

(Signed) JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Mr. Kenner, of Louisiana, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, to make an advance to the State of Carolina on account of her claims against the Confederate States:

Resolved, That the sum of $250,000 be and is hereby appropriated as an advance on account of any claims of the State of South Carolina upon the Confederate States, and that the same be paid to such person as may be authorized by the Legislature of South Carolina to receive the same.

Confirmations by Congress of Commissioners under the Sequestration act, viz: George F. Scarborough, of Virginia; Thos. C. Reynolds, of Missouri.

Walker Brooke, of Miss., is appointed Confederate District Attorney, and John C. Mitchell, for Georgia, also, W. M. Randolph, for Eastern District of Arkansas.

Nothing interesting from camps up to 6 o'clock this evening.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

From Kentucky.

[Special to the Nashville Union and American.]

Bowling Green, December 14.—The Cincinnati *Commercial* of the 11th inst. says:

A court of inquiry has pronounced General Sherman, the commander of the Federals in Kentucky, insane. Gen. Buell's advance to Green river is to be the signal for a general advance of the Federals.

The following gentlemen are elected to the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States, viz:

For First District, H. C. Burnett; Second District, John Thomas; Third District, Geo. W. Ewing; Fourth, D. F. White; Fifth, T. Barnett; Sixth, John M. Elliott; Seventh, S. H. Ford; Eighth, Thos. B. Monroe; Ninth, Thos. Johnson; Tenth, Geo. B. Hodge.

Scouts from Green river report the Federals repairing the railroad bridge over the river, and they have batteries planted on the north side to protect the workmen. There are no Federals south of Green river.

From Nashville.

General Zollicoffer Advancing.

SKIRMISHING WITH THE FEDERALS.

Nashville, December 15.—General Zollicoffer has crossed the Cumberland river at Mill Spring and advanced four miles towards Somerset on the 8th inst. A skirmish took place between his pickets and those of the Lincoln army at Somerset, resulting in 13 Lincolnites being killed and 14 taken prisoners. The loss on our side was one man wounded and one horse killed. The enemy's killed and wounded both belonged to the Seventeenth Ohio regiment. A company of Lincoln cavalry on picket duty, and while fishing in a creek, were attacked the same day by our cavalry, and chased six miles. In a panic the Lincolnites threw down their guns, pistols and blankets. The people in that section of Kentucky gladly welcomed Zollicoffer's army, and furnished them subsistence at ordinary market prices.

SUICIDE.—Mr. Bernard Dupuy, residing at Magnolialville, near Baton Rouge, committed suicide on Thursday by shooting himself in the head. Mental derangement is supposed to be the cause.

ARKANSAS INTELLIGENCE.—The Bourrsville *Banner* of the 7th gives the particulars of a serious accident near that place. Messrs. W. W. Jackson and H. O. Hanner were quietly hunting deer by means of the fire light, when Mr. Hanner came upon Jackson, "shined" the eyes of his mule and shot, killing the mule instantly and seriously wounding Mr. Jackson, two shots having penetrated the abdomen. Mr. Jackson at latest accounts was lying in quite a critical condition.

A challenge recently passed from Edmund Burgevin, of Little Rock, to C. C. Danley, of the *Gazette*, of that city, which was borne by Gov. Rector. In the correspondence published, Mr. Rector says Mr. Danley "declined to return an answer of any sort;" whereupon Mr. Burgevin, in his card, consigns Mr. D. "to the position of a coward," &c.

GLEANINGS.

The subjoined items are taken from the columns of the Memphis *Appeal* of Saturday:

FROM COLUMBUS.—From a gentleman who reached the city yesterday, by river, we learn that in consequence of intelligence received at Columbus Wednesday night, from Camp Beauregard, at Feliciana, accompanied by a request for reinforcements, two regiments were sent down early Thursday morning to join General Bowen's command. One of these was from Mississippi, the other from Louisiana. Late on Thursday afternoon Colonel Smith's Tennessee regiment was sent to the same destination. The rolling stock of the railroad was used in the transportation of troops, consequently passengers have been compelled to come by river. Our informant made the trip to this city on one of the Government boats in twelve hours. The impression at Columbus, when he left, was that a fight at Feliciana was imminent.

The Knoxville *Register* of the 12th has the particulars of the execution of C. H. Hans, of Greene county, who was convicted of being engaged in burning the Lick Creek bridge. The prisoner was escorted from the jail by a military guard, and met his fate with hardihood. He confessed upon the scaffold that he had been engaged in the incendiarism of the bridge, but proof of which, indeed, was full and positive before the court—and said that under similar circumstances he would do it again.

On the night of the 9th a man was shot while attempting to enter the fortifications at Bowling Green. He was ordered to halt, which he refused to do, when the sentinel, in prompt discharge of his duty, fired, the ball taking effect, it is thought, in his shoulder. The man fled, and was tracked a considerable distance by the blood that flowed copiously from the wound. His body was not found, though he no doubt died before reaching say great distance.

ARREST OF TRAITORS.—Several prominent Union men of Bowling Green have been arrested, a series of secret conspiracies being carried on by them with the enemy having been intercepted. A letter from that point says this is but a preliminary step to a grand riddance of the prominent and avowed Unionists in that section.

FARE HIM ROUND.—We take pleasure in recording instances of true patriotism and generous devotion—and the more so because we know that citizens who exhibit such conduct do not expect or seek publicity. Charles B. Rouse, of Winchester, Va., dispatched an agent lately to the salt works in Southwestern Virginia to buy one thousand sacks. Owing to the destruction of bridges and other causes, the order was delayed, and the following correspondence will tell the story:

STRASBURG, November 28, 1861.

C. B. ROUSE: There are one hundred sacks of salt here of your's, and I am offered *one thousand dollars* for it. Answer. JOHN FLEMING.

WINCHESTER, November 28, 1861.

JOHN FLEMING: *Ten thousand dollars would not buy it.* C. B. ROUSE.

The Winchester *Republican* continues:

On the arrival of the salt at Winchester, and before it was unloaded from the wagon, Mr. R. was offered *fourteen dollars per sack* for the lot, but he refused the tempting bait, on the ground that he had purchased it for the purpose of accommodation, not speculation. The entire lot of salt was disposed of at *five dollars per sack*, as purchaser being allowed more than one sack. We call this a noble consolation of knowing that in refusing a large pecuniary gain he has added to the comfort and health of a large and worthy class in this community. In the article of sugar, molasses, &c., the same spirit is displayed by Mr. Rouse. Hogshead after hogshead has been retailed out by that gentleman at *twelve and a half cents per pound*, when twenty-thirty-five cents per pound could have been obtained.

Destroying the Cotton.

The Charleston *Courier* has the following:

We learn from a friend that on Wednesday night a mounted detachment of the Beaufort Artillery, under their captain, amounting to twenty-five men, passed over to the island, United Beaufort, whose utter destitution and abandonment was relieved only by the presence of one light and the barking of a dog. There was no signs of the enemy, either on land or on water. Our men commenced their work of destruction. The chief object of the expedition was to destroy the crops of cotton and provisions on Paris Island, which, being near to the enemy, was crowded by the negroes who had flocked there to escape from the control of their owners. Owing to the absence of boats, this object was but partially effected. A canoe, holding three men, passed over from the battery, and soon consigned to the flames, on Dr. Thos. Fuller's plantation, seventy bales of cotton and seven hundred bushels of corn. Returning to the battery plantations, the work was resumed, and the torch successively applied to the cotton of twelve other planters, while the contents of five large barns, emptied by the negroes and consumed on the ground, also contributed to amounting to nearly four hundred bales, were thus effectually removed from the flange of the destroyer. The portions of the island most exposed are safe. The remainder is nearly all secured—perhaps is already beneath their reach, as two distinct parties went over on Saturday night, and a large fire was visible near midnight.

Our planters in that neighborhood have vindicated most patriotically our cause. Scattered as they were in every direction it was found impossible to get the contemplated destruction. Enough has now been effected, and they have cheerfully consigned to the flames the labors of their year.

Our enemies have received a great check to their ambition. Let them learn from the light of this conflagration, which must have startled them from their quiet security on board their ships, the spirit which animates our people, and read our firm resolve to employ every weapon of defense, and when other means fail to fight them with fire.

SUCCESSFUL FORAGING.—We learn that a force from Columbus, composed of small infantry detachments under Capt. J. D. Layton and Capt. Montgomery, and about thirty cavalry from Capt. Montgomery's corps, the whole under the command of Major J. C. Cole, made an important movement on Sunday night last, which resulted in securing to the provision resources of our forces at Columbus, in the vicinity twenty-six hundred head of beeves, and three hundred and fifty-three head of fat hogs. The whole lot was intended to supply the enemy at Paducah, but the activity of our boys, at the proper moment, saved the stock. It had been weighed, and perhaps accounted for, prevented its use for the purpose originally intended—i. e., to furnish supplies to the enemy. The stock was removed to a place of safety, and is estimated to be worth at least $50,000.

[Memphis Appeal.

One of the most wonderful conceptions and executions of the projects of the Yankees is the attempt to "sink up" Southern harbors by sunken vessels loaded with stone. Conscious that they will never again enjoy the monopoly of those channels and harbors, they wish now to clothe them forever to commerce and to the world. Such a deed can only be prompted by Yankee ingenuity and Yankee hostility. Accordingly in Lincoln's Cabinet, and most recent upon their own heads.—*Louisville Courier*, 13th.

The Louisville Journal on Cameron.

The subjoined article appears in the Louisville *Journal* of the 6th. It will be remarked that the writer's hostility to the Abolition sentiments of the Federal Administration, has in no wise abated:

We this morning publish the official report of Secretary Cameron. As respects the question of slavery, the report confirms our worst apprehensions. And the most grievous fact of all is that the report on this head can be regarded only as an expansion of what the President says in the same relation. The report of the Secretary is of course sanctioned by the President. What is said by the one concerning slavery is but the illumination of what is said by the other. The Secretary in this respect is no worse than the President; and the President is no better than the Secretary. The country has little to hope from either, except in the disposition that we trust both have to heed the counsels of the country's own better judgment and better nature. But these counsels must be heard unmistakably to be heeded. When we hear, we believe they will be heeded. We now, however, dismiss the Secretary, and shall hereafter deal with the principal in the case.

The conviction we expressed in our columns yesterday, and the course of action we then proposed, gather additional strength from the developments of every hour. The radicals in Congress appear to have things their own way. The character of the propositions they introduce, and the favor the wildest of their propositions receive, are positively frightful. Congress has opened with a fanatical howl, and seems ready without a pause to leap into the darkest depths of radicalism. The winds of sectional passion are unchained. The tempest is abroad. The billows of anti-slaveryism are running mountain high at Washington. Their hoarse roar is deafening the ear of the nation. The lashed and raging sea of fanaticism is thundering against the barriers of the Constitution, and threatens to sweep them utterly away. Behind those barriers stands the President alone; and he, instead of rebuking the storming waves, throws over them the witching moonlight of its countenance. He bends before the storm. It is not manifest, that, if the President is not promptly and resolutely supported by the conservative sentiment of the nation; by that beneficent and mighty genius whose real spell has as yet, we fear, been felt only partially at Washington, there is most serious danger that the uproarious sea of anti-slaveryism will presently burst through all constitutional barriers, and carry away him and them alike upon its raving waves? Nothing appears more plain or more manifest to us. It appears too plain for rational dispute.

Let, then, the conservative sentiment of the nation come up promptly and resolutely to the support of the President. Let the great genius of conservatism shake off its slumbers, and at once lay his spell truly and deeply on the officer charged above all others with the conservation of this glorious era of human liberty and of human hope. We repeat what we said yesterday, with the added emphasis of strengthened conviction.

ANOTHER FIGHT REPORTED.—The Nashville *Gazette* of the 11th has the following:

The Fight Between Zollicoffer's Forces and the Enemy.—From a gentleman who arrived in the city yesterday, we learn that the fight heretofore mentioned as having taken place between a portion of the troops under General Zollicoffer and the Yankees, occurred at Long Bottom. He confirms the news of the death of Colonel Hoskins, and reports many others of the Federal regiment killed and wounded. He also speaks in glorious terms of, Lieutenant-Colonel F. N. McNairy, who, with a detachment of 80 men, had been surrounded during the night by a force of 400 Yankees. On discovering the next morning the critical position of himself and men, he addressed his command briefly, telling them there was only one way to go through, and that was to fight their way out, and taking the lead, he requested his men to follow him, which they did, and in the charge made one of their weapons to advantage. Strange to say, not one of his men received a scratch.

FRANCE, ENGLAND AND AMERICAN AFFAIRS.—The London correspondent of the New York *Herald* gives the following gossipin *nuce* saw item:

The Paris correspondent of one of our journals states that the French and British Governments have been negotiating for some time past about taking steps to raise the blockade of the Southern ports of the Union, which interrupts the supply of cotton. At first France appeared disposed to act with England as to the adoption of such a measure, and even urged it on with greater warmth that was quite agreeable to the British Cabinet, who were not sure whether Napoleon might not propose them in what would have amounted to an intervention in favor of the slave States against the free North Latterly, however, the cotton famine had at turned such proportions, and so pleasing a prospect of distress was raised from the manufacturing districts of England, as to overcome the scruples of the British ministers, and the Emperor Napoleon was applied to by Lord Palmerston to join with him in notifying the Washington Government that their blockades would no longer be respected. Greatly to the surprise of the English Cabinet, however, Napoleon suddenly changed his tone, and in the full integrity of such a proceeding, and finally backed out altogether, leaving his faithful allies highly mortified at his slippery behavior, and the *entente cordiale* in considerable danger of being broken up than ever it was since the Crimean war.

GEN. ZOLLICOFFER STILL ADVANCING.—The Cincinnati *Gazette* of the 5th says:

Zollicoffer's demonstrations against Somerset is still progressing. We have news of an artillery skirmish there, which terminated without decisive results. Gen. Thomas's brigade has been ordered, and it would seem that they have most fight or retreat. Somerset is about forty miles from the Tennessee line.

A dispatch of the 5th, from Frankfort, Ky., to the Cincinnati *Commercial* says:

Zollicoffer is on the south side of Cumberland river, in the neighborhood of Mill Spring, with 7,000 men and some good artillery. Gen. Schoepf is on this side, and will be ready to engage him as soon as the river, which is swollen, recedes. A fight is soon expected.

An Exploit of Jeff. Thompson.

A Columbus correspondent of the Baton Rouge *Gazette* sends that paper quite an amusing account of one of Jeff. Thompson's exploits. It is too good to be lost:

COLUMBUS, KY., Nov. 30, 1861.

Bear Comet.—Gen. Jeff Thompson, the Marion of Missouri and the hero who has so often led his gallant band of patriots to victory and renown, seems determined that his name shall be written yet higher on the scroll of fame. When his name is mentioned some daring feat, some brilliant victory is expected to be heard of. On Sunday, November 17th, he was encamped at New Madrid and on his memorable night in the information that a boat, having on board one hundred pieces of cannon, had left St. Louis for Cairo. Gen. Thompson, with his usual fearless daring, formed a plan to capture or destroy this valuable cargo. Leaving his camp at 5 P. M. the same evening he marched to a point near Price's Landing with about seventy-six men and a small cannon, and waited for the boat. At 4 o'clock next morning, he immediately went to work, and by 6 o'clock had two guns mounted and prepared for the enemy. He then, with his men, returned to their camp, and quietly blasted the ends, and masked them also. Concealing his men, he impatiently awaited the expected boat. Soon one hove in sight, but upon the approach of the gunboat it beat, to let it pass, as it was a gunboat, with which he wished to form no acquaintance. In the course of an hour or so his patience was rewarded by the sight, as he hoped, of the object for encounter. When she came near enough Gen. Jeff had her surrounded to and asked what was wanted. "To come aboard," answered the General. The plank was soon run out, to allow him to do so when he ordered his men to fall back and unmask the brass battery. Turning to the *log battery* he gave the order to unmask the rifled gun, when behold eighteen guns were pointed at the devoted boat. Surrender was the word. Thompson, but the order was needless, as the crew and passengers were already in confusion and dismay. "Are you a——— Black Republican, or I will blow you into a thousand atoms." His command was instantly complied with, and they crowded ashore. One captain and two lieutenants belonging to the United States army, *three hundred* and *fifty* privates, also the wives of four officers, and thirteen women and two preachers. The order was given to search the boat, when, to looking into the steam, two spies were found. Full drawings of our whole encampment at Columbus (especially the batteries and works of defence), perfectly executed. The instruments required for a splendid brass band were also found in the same place. Descending to the bar-room a barrel of good old rye turned up; this was taken ashore. The preachers were then called up, ordered to form a "Ring of Zion," which was sung with great feeling to the tune of "Old Hundred." A prayer for the welfare and success of the Confederate States was now regularly put to the throne of grace, but rather lacking in fervency in their petition, he ordered them to roll it out in double-quick time, when they had arisen from their knees. Gen. Jeff, turning to the rest of his prisoners, said, judging from their sour looks that they were deficient in religious feeling, determined to regale them in another way. Calling twelve of the "boys in blue" to the front and ordering a jig on any instrument, having no music in their souls, placed the twelve brass instruments in a heap and, and ordered them to play "Dixie for the benefit of the rest of his prisoners. Can be imagined by the proficiency of the musicians. A circle was formed and all ordered to participate in the dance, threatening those who refused with a shower of lead. The night of dance having finished to the entire satisfaction of their entertainer, the oath of neutrality was administered to the captain and crew of the boat. The preachers swore that they would preach the Gospel only and let the war and Union take care of themselves; the United States officers that they would never bear arms against the Confederate States; the men that they would go home and take care of the children; the women that they would never render aid or comfort to the names of the United States. And now, with three cheers for Jeff, they wished a pleasant and speedy journey back to St. Louis. On his return his subsords brought in intelligence that he was pursued by the enemy. He wrote a postcard and sealed it on a tree, telling his pursuers that he had taken another route to New Madrid. Cramming his men in the bushes, he stowed them until they had passed, and then following after burned all the bridges, cut down the trussel work on the railroad, and then made his way through the woods to another road, and arrived in New Madrid safely, dark of the same day. Point Coupee Artillery all right.

Yours, as before, E. A. S.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Battalion of Italian Guards.—The Battalion of Italian Guards, under Major Delhi Valle, made quite a gala day of it yesterday. They formed at ten o'clock in the morning, and marched down to the residence of J. Vizoza, Esq., on Esplanade street, where they were presented with a regret standard, at the hands of Miss Alice Perry, whose remarks will be found reported on the French side of our paper. Major Delhi Valle received the colors in behalf of the battalion with appropriate remarks. The flag was then blessed by the clergy of St. Augustin's Church. After this the battalion paraded through the principal street's and marched to the Tivoli Garden, where they sat down to a collation, and took up a collection of $36 50 in behalf of the Louisiana volunteers. They afterwards serenaded our officers and presented a fine appearance on the street, having out about three hundred men in three companies, under Captains J. Lavisso, E. Piaggio and G. Vitlot.

Mechanics Native Guards.—Our office was complimented with a serenade last evening from the beautiful musicians of the Native Guards, Captain Lenaers, who were out in strong force.

Barroom Affray.—About two o'clock yesterday morning a serious affray occurred at the corner of History and Camp street's, Third District, in which a man named Cyprien Mondeau was stabbed in the left shoulder by some person unknown. Officer J. Lemaitre arrested Francois Hyppolite, *f. m. c.*, as an accessory to the stabbing.

Charged with Perjury.—Clara Fisher was prosecuted before Recorder Gastinel on Saturday, by the Chief of Police, on the charge of malicious mischief, in having thrown filth upon the gallery of her neighbor, Mr. Schmidt. The Chief relied for her conviction upon the statement which had been made to him and to special officer Dick Howard by a woman living in her house, named Mary Shaw. On the examination of the case she denied what she had said before however, and Clara was discharged, but Mary was held for perjury.

Shooting Affray.—Last Friday evening Ignace Bayard was shot by Robert Dennyville, while he was passing the corner of a coffee-house on Main street. Hubert had come in and went up to the bar, when he turned round and deliberately shot Bayard, saying: "That's for you," and then coolly walked away, but was soon arrested. Bayard is in a very critical condition.

Smothered to Death.—A little child about six months old, whose father is Mr. John Adams, residing at No. 31 Delord street, was discovered by its parents to be dead in bed yesterday morning, having been accidentally smothered during the night. The Coroner was sent for and an inquest was held.

Accidentally Drowned.—Officer J. Devonshire, of the Third District police, reports that at about 10 o'clock on Saturday night, a white man whose name has not been ascertained, fell overboard from the steamer Junius Scales, and was drowned. His body was not recovered.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
SATURDAY EVENING, Dec. 14, 1861.

COTTON.—We did not hear of a sale.

TOBACCO.—Nothing reported.

SUGAR.—The demand has subsided, and with liberal receipts prices have declined. About 300 hhds. sold at 2½@3c for Common to Good Common, and 3¾@4c for Fair to Fully Fair.

MOLASSES.—With liberal receipts and a moderate demand prices are easier. About 2100 bbls sold at 17½ @18c for Fermenting, according to quality, and 19@19½ and 21c for Prime to Choice, a few small lots of the latter realized and extended. No shipments were reported, sold at 23c, and to-day 100 at 20c for Dark Fermenting, and 28c for Prime.

FLOUR.—The rejected sales are declined to a few small lots at $4 75@5 for Superfine, and $5 10@5 for Extra, which is now scarce. It was recently held at 25c per bbl.

COFFEE.—228 bags Rio sold yesterday at 22½c, and 71 at 23c @ lb.

CORN.—Sales are retailing slowly at 55c. Bibb and Shiloe 55c. Clear Sides 17@18c. Plain Hams 12@ 13c., and Sugar-cured 15c @ lb.

WHISKY.—Retailed to retailing at the advanced rates of $1 10@1 15 @ gallon.

PORK.—Sold to retailing slowly at $14@$15 @ bbl.

LARD.—Prime in kegs is retailing at 10@10c @ lb.

Cattle Market.

JEFFERSON CITY, Dec. 14, 1861.

Arrived Saturday and yesterday, per Jefferson Railroad, Western Bureau, 4th Ward, 178 Sheep and 19 Veal Cattle. Amount of stock sold was 178 Texas Cattle, 941 Hogs and 55 Veal Cattle. Stock remaining on sale is as follows: Texas Cattle, 76 Western Cattle, 70 Hogs, 600 Sheep and 211 Veal Cattle. We quote

Western Beef Cattle,	@ 100 lbs.,	1st qlty.	@3	@3 50
" "	"	2d "	2	@2 50
" "	"	3d "	1	@1 50
Cows,	@ head,	1st "	30	@35 00
"	"	2d "	25	@30 00
Veal Cattle,	"	"	12	@15 00
Sheep,	"	"	2	@2 50
"	"	"	1	@1 50
Hogs,	@ 100 lbs., gross,		3	@3 50
"	"	net,	4	@4 50
Milch Cows,	@ head,		35	@40 00

MARINE NEWS.

Port of New Orleans, Dec. 16, 1861.

The clearances at the Custom-house Saturday.

ARRIVED SATURDAY.

Schr Elodie, from the Coast, to master—2d inst.
Schr Bronco, from the Coast, to master—3d inst.
Sloop Solomo, from the Coast, to master—3d inst.

STEAMBOATS.

Republic, Clark, from Memphis
Homer, Williamson, from Alexandria.
Natchez, Leathers, from Natchez.
Acadia, Vinesse, from Donaldsonville.
Lafourche, Brown, from Yellow Bend.
Quitman, Ayres, from Vicksburg.
J M Sharp, Dye, from Liddell's Store.
Iberville, Orton, from Fort Adams.

ARRIVED YESTERDAY.

STEAMBOATS.

Natchez, Leathers, from Memphis.
Mary T. Dugas, from Donaldsonville.
Ste Rebecca, Reynolds, from Fort Adams.

RECEIPTS FROM THE COAST.

COAST.—Per steamer Ste Rebecca—30 bbls sugar 10 bbls molasses 4 B Eddy & co
COAST.—Per steamer Bronco—75 half bbls molasses to Carroll, Hoy & co—26 bbls do Rotenkord, Brown & co.

RECEIPTS BY THE RIVER.

MEMPHIS.—Per steamer Republic—100 empty hhds 19 tons iron 7 bxs wafers, Galbreath & Putnam—15 shs rye 17 do shorts 252 bbls flour 382 sks do R G Ruthber & co—75 bbls flour 75 sks do Wm Hall—100 sks do Hall & Lee—121 sks rice S L & E L Levy—31 bbls flour 10 bbls potatoes 6 B Levy—20 bbls flour 2 B Hall & co 30 do H H Hall & co—100 sks flour 100 do Wm Hall & co—40 bbls flour 20 bags seed 4 bbls beef Black & Fly—1 bag—166 sks bran 45 do fruit 31 bbls flour 631 sks do Wm Hall & co—100 sks flour 100 do Wm Hall—100 sks flour 200 sks flour 45 sks do 75 sks potatoes 20 sks oats 3 bbls apples 3 bbls flour 3 bbls beef 111 sks potatoes 1 bbl flour 10 do flour W A Johnson & co—145 bbls flour 18 bbls potatoes Poindexter & co—10 bbls eggs J O Dobbins—30 bbls flour 600 sks do Oglesby & Mandeville—13 sks potatoes 214 do salt 15 coils rope 21 bbls flour 20 bbls flour 32 sks do 10 bales cotton 1 bbl flour 1 do potatoes 1 do apples 21 bbls flour 50 sks do 1 bbl potatoes 1 do apples 1 do flour 50 do rice H T Lore, Hallam & co—20 sks potatoes 3 bbls lard 1 can do 2 bbls flour 1 do potatoes 1 do apples 1 do flour 1 do 1 bbl flour 2 D Stein & Sons—3 bbls whisky Nixon & co—20 bbls flour Capt Palfrey—15 sacks rice Wood & Lowry—45 do do Dunbar & Hall—100 sks potatoes 1 bbl flour 1 do apples 1 do lard 1 Hughes & co—8 sks potatoes 30 bbls flour 20 bags middlings Lyle Hutchinson & co—20 sks potatoes 30 salt and Grisel, Byrnes & co—50 sks corn to Bradley, Wilcox & co—additions to order.

ALEXANDRIA.—Per steamer Homer—82 bbls sugar 40 bbls molasses J S Nugent & co—20 bbls sugar to order 2 bbls molasses Rome, Taylor & co—50 bbls sugar to Hall & Redd—lot cattle and sheep and sundries to order.

LAFOURCHE.—Per steamer Arkansas—bbls sugar 20 bbls molasses 20 half do sugar 1 bbl do Wm Hall & co—1 bbl flour 1 do potatoes 1 do apples 1 do lard 1 do 1 bbl flour 1 do potatoes 1 do apples 1 do lard 1 do sugar D Sabatier—50 do Trenchard & Heydel—20 do Lobdell & Dunbar—22 do LaFourche Bank—1 do do Hall & Redd—20 do Bayou Bank—1 do do Wm Hall & co—1 do Landry—5 do do 75 half bbls molasses 11 Pete & co—bbls molasses 75 half do do.

DONALDSONVILLE.—Per steamer Acadia—50 bbls sugar 1 do molasses 1 do potatoes 1 do apples 1 do flour 1 do lard 1 do 1 do 1 do