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NEW ORLEANS:
SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 2, 1863.

New Orleans Bee.

Office 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 2, 1863. Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXXVI—Whole No. 12,677.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By Wm. P. Vincent, at 10 o'clock, at No. 61 Custom house street, foreign and American dry goods.

By E. M. Bouligny, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchant and Auctioneers' Exchange, lots of ground.

By D. E. Murphy, at 10 o'clock, at No 61 Magazine street, sundries; at 10 o'clock, at No. 47 Magazine street, nails; at 11½ o'clock, at the same place, cotton; at 11½ o'clock, at No 77 Tchoupitoulas street, flour.

By J. B. Crozat, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, a lot of ground in the Third District.

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

By E. M. Jacobs, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, two lots of ground at the corner of Love and History streets; also, at the same time and place, one lot of ground in the parish of Jefferson.

By E. T. Montgomery, at 12 o'clock, at No. 23 Camp street, sugar, tobacco, whisky, brandy, &c.; at 10½ o'clock, at the Delta Warehouse, cotton.

OUR SUNDAY EDITION.—We will publish our paper to-morrow, when we trust the steamer will have arrived with our exchanges, enabling us to give a complete and interesting edition.

We have been favored with a copy of the following dispatch, which will be interesting to the consignees of the ship Amalea:

Quarantine, May 1, 1863.

T. A. Lenard, Sardinian Consul:

The ship Amalea, two months and seven days from Genoa and Marseilles, has just arrived, and is in tow of St. Charles. She has a full cargo of merchandise.

PRIVATE ACADEMY.—By reference to another column it will be seen that Mr. G. H. Gordon, one of the oldest and best known teachers of this city, has removed his school to the local of the old Orleans College on Esplanade street, between Craps and Greatmen streets. This building has, under different professors, been for a series of years an institution of learning, in which a large number of our youths have received the first elements of a scholastic education. Under the management of Mr. Gordon, who in the various capacities of private teacher and Principal of the Third District High Schools, has had abundant experience in the profession, the pupils confided to his care cannot but enjoy the benefit of a thorough education and the acquisition of practical knowledge. Under this and other titles Mr. Gordon well deserves the confidence which he solicits.

JACKSON STORE.—We would call the attention of our readers and of the ladies especially, to the advertisement of Hoban & Larose, of the Jackson store, corner of St. Ann and Chartres street, Pontalba Buildings. They are offering a large and complete assortment of desirable dry goods, at exceedingly low prices. See advertisement elsewhere.

The sale of cotton and other merchandise by R. T. Montgomery, for this day, (Saturday) the 2d inst., will be made at the following hours and places: at 10½ o'clock, at the Delta Warehouse, will be a large and important sale of 49 bales damaged cotton. This should attract a full attendance of buyers of cotton, as the same will be sold unreserved: immediately after, at Merchants' Press No. 5, will be sold a lot of loose cotton; at 12 o'clock, at salesroom No. 93 Camp street, will be sold Rio coffee, loaf sugar, starch, soap, lard, sides, shoulders, and other staple groceries; at 11 o'clock, at the Old Auction Mart, No. 87 Camp street, a large sale of new and second hand furniture, bedding, crockery, &c.

D. E. Murphy, auctioneer, calls the attention of buyers and dealers to his various sales advertised for this day. See auction advertisements.

Furniture at auction to-day, by McCerren & Landry, at 11 o'clock, armoirs, bureaus, bookcases, bedsteads, chairs, sofas, carpets, mattresses, &c.

The Grain Trade of the Northwest.

MEMORIAL OF THE ILLINOIS COMMITTEE TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA.

For several years past, a lamentable waste of cropplacturally harvested has occurred in consequence of the inability of the railways and canals leading to the seaboard to take off the excess. The Northwest seems already to have arrived at a point of production beyond any possible capacity for transportation which can be provided, except by the great natural outlets. It has for two successive years crowded the canals and railways with more than one hundred million of bushels of grain, besides immense quantities of other provisions, and vast numbers of cattle and hogs. This increasing volume of business cannot be maintained without recourse to the natural outlet of the Lakes.

The future prosperity of these States bordering on the great Lakes, depends, in a great measure, upon cheap transportation to foreign markets; hence, they are vitally interested in the question of opening the St. Lawrence, the great natural thoroughfare from the Lakes to the Ocean, through and by which the people of England may enlarge their supplies of breadstuffs and provisions, greatly exceeding the quantity hitherto received from the United States, at one-fourth less cost than it has hitherto been obtained. From actual experience derived from shipments of Indian corn from Chicago to Liverpool, it is shown that the freight charges often cover seven-eighths of the value of a bushel of corn at Liverpool. More than one-half of the cost of wheat is also often consumed by the present very inadequate means of transportation.

Our prairie soils are filled with the same facility as the alluvial soils of the valley of the Nile. In their natural state they have an abundant growth of the most nutritious grasses which furnish the farmer with food for his cattle and horses at a nominal cost. The cultivation of these lands so largely by improved mechanical means, reduces the first cost of our grain below that of any of the European countries: hence our products have entered largely into competition with the products of other countries, upon which the freight charges from a small part of the English interior. These Northwestern States furnished one third of 10,000,000 quarters of grain imported into England in the year 1861, a season of extremely high freights on the lakes and canals, as well as upon the ocean. The official returns of 1862 are not yet published. It is believed, however, that the proportion of American grain was still larger than in 1861. In this view we may safely conclude that the question of devising cheaper and more expeditious routes for the transportation of this grain to England, has become of equal importance to Great Britain and the United States.

It is the opinion of your memorialists that the cost of transportation may be reduced ten shillings per quarter, or thirty cents per bushel. One half of this sum added to the income of our farmers would give a remarkable stimulus to the production of grain, and would lead in a few years, within five years at the farthest, to the production of a surplus exceeding the total of the present importation of grain into England from all countries, and it is equally true that the present heavy freight charges, consequent upon the inadequacy of the means of transportation, will diminish the production of grain and divert agricultural labor and enterprise into some other and more remunerative channel. We think we are warranted in expressing the opinion that a moderate expenditure devoted to connecting the Canadian rivers with the great lakes in Canada, so as to permit steam navigation to Montreal, and if practicable, a direct trade with Liverpool, will open to England a supply of breadstuffs as large as she now imports from every other country, at lower rates of first cost, and thus give the control of the grain markets of the world to the largest purchaser.

A POLISH HEROINE.—A Paris correspondent of the London *Star* writes as follows:

Divers ladies of the Faubourg St. Germain are raising a sum of money sufficient to buy a fine Hubbard horse for Mlle. Pauline Lucinge, who rode the part of aide de camp to Colonel Czachowski. This lady must still be very young. She can hardly be called a woman of the strong-minded type, but she is gifted with an uncommonly strong intellect. Last winter the Parisian chaser her among the Polish beauties who had enjoyed so much success at the Tuileries. Her manners are very simple, and therefore devoid of affectation in the discharge of her self assumed military duties. I hear that she wears an adjutant's uniform, and that the whiteness and softness of her hands alone betray the delicate way in which she has been nurtured. Her capacity to endure fatigue is said to be almost supernatural. The dauntless way in which she faces the fire of the enemy has a very inspiriting effect upon the men, who entertain for her a veneration amounting to superstition. They think that she is under some special protection accorded to her by Providence, because she has passed unscathed through innumerable dangers. She rises before four o'clock every morning, and the day has not dawned when all her reports are drawn up and ready to be dispatched to Langlewicz.

Singular Encounter Between a Clergyman and a Criminal.

The world of fiction hardly contains a more thrilling chapter than an incident which marked the life of the Rev. Mr. Lee, who was recently cut down in his prime while pastor of the Presbyterian Church in the neighboring village of Waterford. The adventure occurred on the night before Thanksgiving, a few weeks previous to the accomplishment of the sudden illness which resulted sadly and fatally. Mr. Lee was sitting in his study about one o'clock in the morning, preparing a discourse, when he heard a noise behind him, and became conscious that somebody stood in the room. Supposing that a neighbor had dropped in upon some unforeseen errand, Mr. Lee said, "What is the matter?" and turned around in his chair. He beheld the grim face of a burglar who was pointing a pistol at his breast. "Give me your watch and money," said he, "and maybe I'll leave you alive." Mr. Lee said: "You may as well put down your weapon, for I shall make no resistance, and you are at liberty to take all the valuables I possess." The burglar withdrew his menacing pistol, and Mr. Lee added: "I will conduct you to the place where my purse and watch are not placed." He opened a door and pointed to the cot where his two children lay slumbering. "There," said he, "are my choicest jewels. Will you take them?" He proceeded to say that as a Minister of the gospel he had few earthly possessions, and that all his means were devoted to but one object—the education of the two children that were reposing in the adjoining room. The burglar was deeply and visibly affected by these remarks. Tears filled his eyes, and he expressed the utmost sorrow for the act which he had been about to commit. After a few remarks from Mr. Lee, the would-be criminal consented to kneel and join with him in prayer, and there, in that lonely house, amid the silence of midnight, the offender poured forth his penitent remorse, while the representative of a religion of peace and good-will told him to "go and sin no more." Such a scene has few parallels.—*Troy Times.*

THE ADULTERATION OF LIQUORS.—The following is a section of an act passed by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in reference to the sale of liquor which has been drugged:

Be it enacted, That ninety days after the passage of this act it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to make use of any active poison or poisons, or other deleterious drugs, in any quantity or quantities, in the manufacture or preparation by process of rectifying or otherwise of any intoxicating, malt, or alcoholic liquors, or of any person or persons to sell such poisoned or drugged liquors in any quantity or quantities, and any person or persons so offending shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

M. Godard, the celebrated French aeronaut, has recently constructed an immense balloon of 4300 metres. The car is provided with an apparatus which enables the aeronaut to ascend without either gas or ballast, and to descend or go higher up at pleasure. This apparatus consists of a kind of stove formed by three cylinders, separated from each other by insulating substances, whereby all danger of fire is averted. The flame is completely under the control of the aerial traveler, and is prevented from rising too high by a cap of wire gauze. M. Godard asserts that he can inflate his balloon in thirty minutes, and load it with from 500 to 800 kilogrammes over and above the weight of his person and his accessories; and, moreover, that his balloon may be pierced with a bombshell without endangering the aeronaut, who can himself cast projectiles of any kind with impunity. Should this new invention succeed, this balloon may be of considerable service in time of war.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Race for the Orphans.—After several postponements, the great trotting race for the benefit of the Orphan Asylums of the city came off yesterday afternoon. At least one-half of the 1500 spectators, (perhaps there were 1500,) went out in buggies, carriages and on horseback—half were pleasantly conveyed to the course by the Bayou road cars. A goodly portion of the crowd consisted of ladies.

The Judges were John Woods, J. G. Robinson and J. Vairin.

At the appointed hour the horses appeared in sulkies, in the following order: May Queen, Mod Pree, Fritterfoot and Grey Eagle. On the second start, in the first heat, Mod Pree shot ahead, but was passed by Grey Eagle in the first quarter, the two keeping a short distance apart all the way round—Grey Eagle winning the heat in 2:48¾, Mod Pree close behind. May Queen third, Litterfoot distanced.

After this heat occurred an interlude, which was not in the programme, but furnished more excitement and interest than the whole of the main race. It was an impromptu race, without competition, except wind and bottom against muscle, skill, and nerve. Two gentlemen of the Provost Marshal's staff were in a carriage drawn by a pair of fine match horses. As they approached the crowd about the stand, the horses took into their heads to give a specimen of their racing qualities, and started off into a run. One of the gentlemen, forgetting that it is the wisest policy to stick to the wagon, threw himself out in front of the stand, and fortunately was successful in his escapade; but the other took a fresh turn on the reins, and "let 'em fly." The first mile was run in good time, but muscle prevailed in some measure the first half of the next round. Taking in a *compagnon de voyage*, the Captain seemed determined to give his horses more of the sport they had thought proper to indulge in, and put them into the second run, which was kept up for about a quarter of a mile on the third round. Victorious, then, the race ended, and the Captain came back to receive the plaudits of the crowd for his skill and pluck.

A friend suggested to us that this interlude had not been provided by the managers, and it was worth four bits, at least, additional, from each of those who came to see the race.

But to return to the race. In the second heat, Mod Pree led off, but was overtaken by Grey Eagle as before, and the two went round closer together than in the first heat. Grey Eagle, however, won this heat in 2:40—Mod Pree being next, and May Queen being distanced.

In the second start of the third heat, only Grey Eagle and Mod Pree got off, in the same fashion as before, but kept closer all the way round. This heat was won by Grey Eagle in 2:47½, Mod Pree coming in about a length behind.

The race, therefore, was won by Grey Eagle, who was the favorite from the start, though Mod Pree seemed to be to be the finest trotter of the two—Grey Eagle breaking very often, though the latter quickly brought back to her work by her good driver.

We understand that "the pools" amounted to about $1000—five per cent. of which goes to the orphans, and as we presume many bought tickets who were not regular pool-sellers, it may be safely calculated that near $1500 was the result of the benevolent enterprise.

Great Nuisance.—The nuisance whereof which for some time has been in operation opposite the Lower Cotton Press, in the Third District, has recently been removed two squares lower down to Louisa street, in the vicinity of Washington and Annunciation, the Washington school-houses. This being a thickly set neighborhood, the inhabitants are remonstrating vehemently against the innovation, and are getting up petitions to the Mayor to have the nuisance abated once and for all time. We hold that the dedicated to this sweet and necessary purpose was a quarter of a mile below where it is now located, and those who are so deeply interested are praying that it may be restored to its original locality.

Half Drowned.—A boy named Hurlbert Reid, 12 years old, fell into the Bayou Bend Basin yesterday, and was fished out by the spectators more dead than alive. Some of them, however, happened to be posted up as to the *modus operandi* in such cases, and going to work scientifically, by rolling the unfortunate body, and by divers other manipulations, succeeded in relighting the vital spark.

King Cotton.—We found yesterday at the First District station five racks of cotton, which had been captured by an active policeman while on his beat. Two boys were lugging the last along, when the valiant officer, one of the boys ran as fast as his legs could carry him, but the other could not give up the ship, so he was nabbed, and taken with the cotton to the lock-up—where he gave his name as Lewis Allow.

Second District Court—Judge Whitaker.—A case of peculiar character was tried in this Court yesterday. It was entitled Dwight vs. Bellocq, Noblom & Co. The plaintiff is a merchant of Philadelphia, and the defendants are a firm doing business in New Orleans. Before the war Dwight borrowed $6000 from the defendants, giving them as collateral 111 shares of the Good Intent Tow Boat Company, the boats of which were afterwards sold to the Confederate Government. The defendants having occasion to use Dwight for the $6000 in the Confederate Courts, in his capacity of a resident of the United States, was appointed to represent him, and the stock was ordered to be appraised and sold. It was accordingly appraised and sold, or rather adjudicated to the plaintiffs at $80 per share. Shortly after a dividend of 67 per cent was declared upon the stocks, which was collected by the holders of the stock. Suit is now brought by Dwight on the following grounds: That he was not properly in Court at the trial; that the *curator ad hoc* had no right to consent to the transfer at such a rate by such a process; that the appraisement was fraudulent; and that the whole proceedings are null. He claims, also, that the original stock shall be returned to him, with the dividends collected. Durant and Horner for plaintiff—Mills and Fellows for defendants.

Sixth District Court—Judge Hurell.—The sealed verdict handed in by the jury in the case of Mrs. McNeil vs. Bauer and Ensinger, being opened, showed that the rent of the store on Magazine street, occupied by defendant, should be further reduced from $2000 per annum to $100 per month.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS AT THE SOUTH.—A Charleston correspondent says money is tighter there than at any time during the war, and that the withdrawal of so very large amount of bills fundable in 8 per cent bonds has reduced the circulation, and caused a contraction in the bank accommodation. He says:

This was evident at the last sale here of bank stock and other securities. We learn also that cotton has fell it seriously, there being a marked decline in Augusta, and in some other interior towns in Georgia, amounting to from 4 to 5 cents per pound, or $25 per bale. We are not surprised at this, for cotton has attained a ridiculous height. What prudent banker will loan money to speculate in cotton at 30 cents per pound, or what sane man who obtains 7 per cent Confederate bonds would in preference invest his money in cotton at such prices quoted as above? We find amongst honest men an earnest desire that the Confederate Tax bill should become a law immediately, and to take effect on the first of May. Nothing that Congress can do will go further to benefit the country, restore confidence, and give a tone and strength to our paper circulation and place the currency on a sound basis.

The work on the new ordnance foundry at the Washington navy yard has been resumed. The dimensions of the building will be seventy-five feet ten inches front, two hundred and fifty feet long and forty feet high, and will contain in one end six furnaces—three on each side—being connected and the whole six arranged so that they may heat the metal for one gun. Enough metal may be heated in these furnaces to cast a gun weighing one hundred thousand pounds. At the opposite end of the building there will be twelve furnaces of a similar size, capable of running metal enough for an ordnance gun.

A SAD SIGHT.—We noticed in this city on Monday last, a wounded soldier, formerly belonging to the New York Sixty-ninth, and it was a sight that we do not wish to behold again. His right arm and leg were both off, and a bullet had passed from his upper lip to his forehead, taking off his nose and a portion of the lip.—(*Louisville Journal.*)

[FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF YESTERDAY.]

ARRIVAL OF THE REMAINING PASSENGERS OF THE MARION.—The schooner Etta, Captain Kelsey, arrived last evening from New York via Double Headed Shot Keys, having left the latter place on the 12th ult., bringing the following passengers from the wreck of the steamship Marion:

Mrs. Hodge, Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. McChesney, Mrs. Izard, Mr. G. Czarnowski, G. Kepler, E. Goldman, Billy Mitchell, Mr. Coullogan, and five of the crew of the Marion.

The Latest News from Southern Sources.

FROM THE JACKSON APPEAL OF THE 25TH.

Federal Columns in North Mississippi.

VICKSBURG BATTERIES AGAIN PASSED.

Important from the Rappahannock.

BATTLE IN NORTH CAROLINA.

The *Picayune* published this forenoon, in the shape of an extra, late news from Southern sources, taken from the Jackson (Mississippi) *Appeal* of the 25th instant. We copy the following:

From North Mississippi.

FEDERAL MOVEMENTS.

Panola, April 24.—One reports states the Federals are massing north of the Coldwater, in force from five to ten thousand, composed of the usual proportions of infantry, cavalry and artillery, but we have later advices stating that they moved back again.

The force which passed New Albany was composed of from fifteen hundred to two thousand cavalry, with five pieces of artillery. They left New Albany on Sunday morning, and on Monday night reached a point six miles beyond Pontotoc.

From there they sent back one hundred men and one piece of artillery as an escort for persons captured and horses stolen.

Early on Tuesday morning the remainder of the force moved towards Houston.

Burning of the Steamboat Prioress.

Panola, April 21—The Cincinnati *Enquirer* of April 17, gives the particulars of the burning of the mailboat Prioress, on the Ohio. She had one hundred passengers aboard, all of whom, except one, escaped with their baggage, &c.

From Port Hudson.

Port Hudson, April 24.—The Albatross and Switzerland came in range of our batteries today noon, but were not fired on. They sent a boat ashore on the opposite side of the river, which was fired into by our pickets, causing the enemy to shelt the woods on that side for three hours. They went around the bend, out of sight, before sunset. Two vessels are in sight below.

Latest from North Mississippi.

Panola, April 24.—Telegraphic communication with Senatobia has been reopened. The retreat of the Federals from that place is confirmed.

Two regiments of infantry and one of cavalry, with a battery of artillery, have come on from Memphis to a point four miles beyond the Coldwater.

Report from the Rappahannock.

The Lynchburg *Virginian* of the 15th has highly important but rather conflicting reports from this line. One report says that the Federal army, to the number of forty thousand, crossed the river, on the 13th, at Kelly's and United States fords, without any molestation from the army of Gen. Lee, and are receiving constant reinforcements, drawn up on the south bank of the river.

The other report says the crossing was attempted on the 4th at Kelly's ford and the Rappahannock bridge, and was prevented after a spirited contest.

Letter from Vicksburg.

[Special Correspondence of the Memphis Avalanche.]

Vicksburg, April 24, 1863.

Yesterday morning there was considerable excitement viewed in regard to the humiliating spectacle which had been visited on the night previous, in the passage of a few harmless transports. Chagrin seemed to be depicted on the countenance of many of the patriotic.

Yesterday I heard a report that two of the transports had been so badly riddled that they sunk in the neighborhood of Warrenton, but we have no definite information. I also heard the report of another boat that was said to have been sunk above the point by our batteries. This would make seven boats which started down, out of which we sunk three—if the reports are all true. This makes a proportion of almost half, and will do well enough, as our batteries are not so indifferently managed after all. If any of the boats escape it is not the fault of the gunners, as they do their best in their power to sink them.

There was no movement of the troops yesterday, and the talk was palpably directed to the scenes of the previous night, a general depression of spirit seemed to prevail on account of our inability to sink the enemy. On this occasion no blame can be attached to any one in the gunboat fleet. Officers and men fought nobly alike, and the boats did not come upon us unexpected nor unprepared, and the firing from our guns was good and rapid. Why they were not all sunk can only be explained upon the theory that cotton clad vessels are more formidable than iron clad. This fact having now been demonstrated to a certainty, it will not be surprising to see the enemy adopt the plan of lining all their boats with cotton instead of iron.

Yesterday, our pickets, who were stationed on the other side of the river, dabbed three Federals who were prowling about in the woods, seeking whosever chickens they might devour. In the morning there appeared to be a number of transports lying at anchor below Federal landing above. Everything remained apparently quiet during the day, and the mysterious silence of the batteries denoted that some new devilment was going on over there, the nature of which we have not yet been able to learn.

With the fleet of gunboats below, it is expected now an attack is contemplated from that quarter. Thirty thousand Federals are reported to be at New Carthage, and the transports were no doubt sent down for the purpose of bringing these over the river, under the cover of the gunboats. I have reason to believe that our preparations below are such that all the Federals who attempt to land on Mississippi soil will be treated to the hospitable grave. The reliability that a force, no matter how strong, will ever be able to march from Warrenton to Vicksburg, and it will be death to all who may undertake such a journey; but it is evidently in contemplation, and no one cares how soon it may come off.

I feel more apprehensive of danger immediately in front of Vicksburg than anywhere else. But I will not croak, and let the matter rest in the hands of the military commandant of this post, whose knowledge in such matters takes precedence to any thing a civilian might suggest. NESTOR.

Fighting in North Carolina.

A letter from Kinston, North Carolina, April 15th, to the Raleigh *Journal*, says:

Rapid cannonading has been going on in the direction of Washington for about two days. On yesterday the booming of the cannon was most terrific—the like has never been heard before in North Carolina since the outbreak of the war—but we have nothing definite from that quarter this morning. We expect to hear something to day.

I have just had an interview with a reliable and intelligent gentleman right from Swift creek, who informs me that he has direct information from Newbern within the last day or two. The enemy are in heavy force at that place, supposed to number from twenty-five thousand, and more reinforcements expected daily.

They admit a whipping at Blount's creek, and say their loss was very heavy, considering the number engaged in battle, not less than three hundred being killed and wounded. They admit having twelve thousand there, but disown having more than three regiments in the engagement. They had eighteen horses and two men drowned by the foundering of a boat in crossing the Neuse from Barrington's ferry to Newbern, on the retreat from Blount's creek.

Particulars of the Running of the Vicksburg Batteries.

The Vicksburg *Whig*, of April 24, says:

At the time of penning the paragraph in our issue of yesterday (24 M) nothing definite was known as to the amount of damage the enemy sustained in running the gauntlet on Wednesday night, April 22, and indeed no one was perfectly certain that the first craft which came down was a gunboat, as the fires on the opposite shore were not at that time sufficiently brilliant to indicate what she was; but from the way she moved in the water, the noise of her wheels and peculiar puffing, we soon made out her down as an iron-clad. When the others came, however, the fires were large enough to light the river all the way across to this shore, giving our men a good view when the boats came between them and the fire. The first boat injured was the Moderator, a stern-wheeler.

A shot entered her hurricane roof, passed down and tore away the steam pipe, when the crew took to the small boats and went on shore, with the exception of one man, who got out on the bank and was afterwards taken prisoner by our pickets. The Moderator drifted along close to the Louisiana side, and finally the steam in the boilers, which had been burning out of the broken pipe, ignited the powder, and exploded, making a most unearthly noise, was exhausted, and soon it entirely died away amidst the whistling of shot and bursting of shell from cannon below, above and in the city. The other three were moving almost noiselessly along about a mile apart, receiving the fire of our upper guns, which, from the crash amidst the wood work of the boats, seemed doing good service. The fourth passed by the upper light on shore, plowing through the water as fast as steam would permit, when a shot was heard to strike her, and all ears were eagerly listening to hear if she had ceased steaming.

In this we were disappointed, for the passed the lower fire just above Seale's house puffing as rapidly as ever, after which the effect of our shot could not be ascertained. Then all eyes were turned above again—another was coming, we were told by the continual belching of the upper guns. About the time this one's bow was entering the streak of light spanning the river from the upper fire, a percussion shell came whizzing along and burst in her wheel. Then her propelling power was gone, and she floated by, turning round with the current as she went. Shot after shot was still sent after her, one of which tore away her bow, and another her pilot-house, killing her second pilot, the first having previously been killed by our musketry.

This boat proved to be the stern-wheel steamer Anglo Saxon, a craft well known in these waters in times of peace. While all were watching this helpless vessel, the guns in the bend were admonishing us that still another and the sixth was coming down. In a short time she too appeared in front of the upper fire, sliding through the water with the fleetness of a roundeer. At this juncture the boats which had gone past were receiving the respects of the lower batteries, but the night was so dark that nothing could be seen of them after they passed the front of the city, and hence all felt anxiety as to the two boats opposite the bayou.

The sixth boat ran over the disabled Anglo-Saxon, floating about in the river, and communicated with her; came back to the centre of the river again, and, we can say, took hold of a floating barge and went on down. Our batteries were, of course, firing all the time, but with what effect could not be ascertained. After she passed the city her steam pipe was cut, or else the engineers were letting off steam, as she suddenly burst from her, almost similar to that which came from the Moderator. A few shots were next directed at a barge, after which the firing here ceased, but the Warrenton batteries had by this time opened on the first boat which passed here, and firing was heard there until about 3 o'clock.

Yesterday morning one of the transports was at Brown & Johnson's sunk to the boiler deck, and in the afternoon she had settled down and careened over until nothing was visible but the pilot-house and chimney. Twenty-two boats from Diamond Bend in the afternoon, state that but four boats passed that point, two of which were lashed together terribly shattered, and one without chimneys. This would show that our batteries sunk two boats.

Affairs at Vicksburg.

Story of a Refugee—Strength in the Fortifications—Housing on Red River and the Yazoo.

A correspondent of the Chicago *Times*, writing from Cairo, April 9, communicates the following narrative derived from a gentleman direct from the coveted city, (Vicksburg,) and who has resided there and in the vicinity during the past six years:

He came away from there on the 24th of March, and never having taken the oath of allegiance to the Confederacy, was glad to be free to relate all he knew about affairs in that particular part of it. His relatives reside in the North and he is now en route to a home in the East. My informant states that most of the citizens of Vicksburg are yet there and have the intention of leaving. Some time ago, when less confidence prevailed, many of the women and children were sent away, but they have all returned.

Provisions, such as beef, bacon and corn meal are plenty, immense quantities having been brought from Texas, down Red River, and stored away. It is said they have enough to supply the army for two years, and even now are daily in receipt of large amounts. Coffee, tea and whisky are scarce. The former two articles are difficult to obtain at any price, and burnt rice is substituted. The latter readily brings twenty dollars per quart—rather an expensive luxury. Clothing is easily got, but prices are high. Sixty to one hundred and twenty five dollars will purchase a coat, seventeen to thirty dollars a vest; twelve to twenty dollars, a shirt; twenty to thirty five dollars, a hat; and from eight to eighty dollars, a boot, &c. Women's apparel is more scarce than men's, and is proportionately higher.

Vicksburg is heavily fortified, from the river to the summit of the hill, by 225 cannon. There are all large siege guns, carrying shot weighing from 64 to 128 pounds, one of which are planted on Washington street, pointing up and down the river, the balance are placed along from there up to the hill-top. Two miles from the Court house, on the river's bank, concealed in thick woods, are three very heavy guns. These are so well hidden that one would not discover them, though he were within a few yards of the battery. Two miles below the city, there is a battery of 17 guns, also concealed by a thicket. All these guns are well manned, and are ready to open fire, at a moment's notice, on our gallant troops should they be led against them.

At the present time there are only enough soldiers in Vicksburg to man the guns, which they number 4000, but, in case an attack should be made by General Grant, reinforcements could be obtained in a short time. About the time the Yazoo Pass expedition commenced moving, there were 35,000 troops in Vicksburg. Now, only about half that number are there, when Fort Pemberton was threatened.

Notwithstanding the enemy has so many cannon in the fortifications and great security is felt, yet mounting is going on every day. Wherever there is a place which appears to be weak, it is immediately strengthened, and the strong places are made still stronger. One hundred and seventeen guns, varying in size from a 12 pound Parrott to a 9 inch Dahlgren, are lying about the city, ready to be put up wherever they may be placed. At Fort Hill, 30 miles, are continually arriving, being in pieces from Jackson, Miss., where they have been received from Alabama and South Carolina.

Up the Red river three gunboats are in course of construction, which are to be iron clad. Two of them will be finished in less time than one month. On this river, at a town called Pinkance, just above Alexandria, the Indianola is reported to be lying, all ready for Admiral Porter. The report of this is, that she was run up and down river one night, and concealed for the purpose of preventing Admiral Porter from sending down other boats to recapture it. When the Indianola was taken by the rebels, it was towed up to Plaisance, where it was over powered.

On the 24th of March, as has been stated, the gentleman referred to left Vicksburg and went to Gaines's Bluff. Here he saw seven heavy siege guns on the top of the bluff, and below, about five hundred men belonging to Withers's artillery, with twenty-seven pieces, some of which twenty-one are rifled. These extend to Blake's farm, three miles distant, and are exposed, with the exception of about half the distance, where they are concealed from view by woods. Rifle pits have been dug all along in front of the farm. An immense raft, reaching from the bluff to a point four miles up the river, has been placed in the Yazoo, to obstruct navigation and keep Federal gunboats from coming down, should they, by any means, get through the river. Admiral Porter has built at the mouth of the Yazoo two iron clad gunboats, and have them almost finished. They expect to get them down through the raft, as they got several boats up some time ago. Two thousand troops protect Admiral Porter.

From Haines's Bluff my informant proceeded to Jackson, Mississippi. It is generally supposed that the Confederates have a large number of troops in reserve at Jackson, but this, I am assured, is a mistake. There are but few place fortified. It might be stated right here that there have been twenty thousand troops in Jackson, but twelve thousand of them were sent to Murfree-boro when Bragg called for reinforcements, and eight thousand to Port Hudson. Besides these, Bragg received fifteen thousand from Vicksburg. Twenty thousand guerrillas have been compelled to form themselves into regiments and enter the regular service.

But, notwithstanding Jackson has been deprived of its army, it is an important place yet. It contains seven large two-story warehouses, full of bacon and corn from top to bottom; three large houses stored with ammunition, an extensive foundry, where two hundred hands are constantly employed in the manufacture of cannon, shell, solid shot, &c.; a powder manufactory, where two hundred and sixty persons put up cartridges, and two mills where cotton fabrics are produced. In and around Jackson are 800,000 bales of cotton, which will not bring 12½c per pound in Confederate funds. Some 50,000 bales are hid away in swamps and in the woods, where, no doubt, it will be discovered only by the flashing of Federal gold.

On the 27th of March, the narrator left Jackson to come North. He purchased a horse for three hundred and fifty dollars, and, after numerous adventures with guerrillas, pickets, &c., whom he could not avoid, though he kept off the main roads, and after floundering about in the Tallahatchie river for an hour and a half, he finally reached the Federal lines at Davis's Mills. Upon presenting himself to the commander of the post, he was required to take the oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States, and sent up to Memphis, whence he came to this city and has gone North. He said the Confederates were rolling iron in Selma, three inches thick and five inches wide, to cover gunboats.

From conversation with numerous persons who have come from the scene of operations below, I am convinced that the only way to capture Vicksburg is to adopt Gen. Grant's plan of attacking it in the rear via Jackson, while the navy operates from the river in front.

Confederate Prisoners at Camp Douglas.

The Richmond *Examiner*, of the 4th inst., has an article on the recently arrived prisoners from Camp Douglas. We make the following extracts:

Among the prisoners brought up by the flag of truce boat, on last Monday, were some from the West, who have been confined at Camp Douglas, at Chicago. The very sight of the poor fellows is enough to strike pity to the heart.

The death of one man at Camp Douglas has been appalling. One of our prisoners estimates that in the short space of three months there were over seven hundred and fifty deaths. This was caused by the combination of the exposure to cold, wet and marshy situation of the camp, being half in water; the filth and vermin of the place, and the long and desolate confinement of our men. In fact, some of the prisoners who came up by the last flag of truce had languished there for nearly two years, and their dejected, sorrow stricken and emaciated faces bore testimony of more than all they told of their suffering.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Race This Afternoon.—Everything being propitious, we presume the race for the benefit of the Orphan Asylums will positively take place this afternoon, as has been decided, at half-past 3 o'clock. The Bayou Road and Esplanade cars will make a trip to the Fair Ground Course both pleasant and convenient.

Provost Court—A. De B. Hughes presiding. (Friday Morning.)—James Brown, a black man, was up on the charge of burnshing for Jeff. Davis. The novelty of the offence, coming from such a quarter, and the testimony not being very heavy, induced the Court to let the accused go on his way rejoicing.

Frank Baynes, a black boy, about 16 years old, was hauled up on the same charge, with the usual variations of burnshing for "The Red, White and Red," and flying a Confederate flag. He also boasted to some white boys that he was a better Confederate than they. For the number of days and nights dedicated to the deluge, Frank was given a ticket of admission to the parish jail.

Mag. Kelly, for assaulting and battering Mary Connelly, was Workhoused for 60 days; and Mrs Flannegan, for a drunken disturbance of the peace, was also sent down for thirty days.

A black fellow, named Lindsley, for suffering a nuisance to spill from his cart, was fined $20.

E. Bouligny, who had been fined $10, and who had been taken down into the guard-room till he paid it, was brought up again on the charge of burnshing for Jeff. Davis and swearing he would not pay the fine. The Court adjudged him to one month's imprisonment.

The two months' imprisonment of Walter Heffner, for buying a sack of oats from a negro belonging to the Government stables, was commuted to a fine of $30.

Joseph Sherman was charged with assault and battery. The story of the prosecutor was, that they were playing cards in a coffee house out on the Bayou road, and after finishing their game and taking a couple of drinks the accused, without any provocation followed, knocked down and kicked the prosecutor. The defense was impotent, and two months in prison was the judgment of the Court.

John Barnes was examined on a charge of assaulting and beating Margaret Baily, who according to her story was his "own dear Mag," or had been for two years; but he unfortunately got tight and hammed her, which cost him $25.

Ann Layton, for being very drunk on Gravier street yesterday, and singing the "Bonnie Blue Flag," while in that condition, was sent to the Workhouse for thirty days.

Two grocery keepers were fined $30 and $25, for selling liquor by the glass without license.

Fred Kinberger was charged by a policeman with selling liquor to a soldier. The officer testified that he saw the sale and tasted the liquor, and followed the soldier to his quarters; he was sure he was a soldier from his wearing a sabre. Counsel urged that this was no proof of his being a soldier, as any gentleman could wear a sabre. The Court was of the opinion, however, that that fashion was obsolete, and fined the accused $40.

A youth named Nunes was charged with going to a fair, and in company with some other small boys, tearing a Union flag which some boys were trying to sell on the occasion. Mr. Wilder stated that he had procured the permit for the fair, and it was with the express understanding that no emblems or flags of any kind should be allowed. The flags had, it seemed, been sent to one of the lady managers in a letter, and in consequence of her instructions she had put the flags away but somehow the boys got hold of the flags and were trying to sell them, when the accused and his comrades seized and tore them. The youth of the boy, 13 years old, was urged by his counsel as a mitigation but the Court thought he was old enough to know better, and sent him to prison for thirty days.

Manuel Adams, a tall f. m. c., was tried on the charge of rescuing a prisoner from the police. It was shown that the accused was loudably engaged in the affair as a good citizen, and that at last he took the prisoner himself to the lockup. Discharged.

Henry Williams, colored, dressed *a la militaire*, with a blue scarf around his neck, in which was stuck a large silver heart, and to which was pinned a small flag—was arraigned on the charge of making a disturbance in a grocery, and being put out, he drew a pistol, declaring that he was a soldier, and that no one could know him. When arrested he also resisted and threatened to shoot those who had him in charge. The testimony was overpowering, and the only defense was that the pistol was not loaded. Three months to prison was the punishment.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
FRIDAY EVENING, May 1, 1863.

COTTON—On Wednesday, not previously reported, 150 bales Strictly Low Middling sold at 58c. ℔ ℔.

SUGAR—The sales to-day embrace 52 hhds raw cane, principally Grocery Fair to Good Fair, the latter paying the tariff.

MOLASSES—The only sale reported today is a lot of 50