THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.

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NEW ORLEANS:
SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 19, 1863.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By F. P. Tchenbard, at 10 o'clock, at his auction sales rooms, No. 42 Gravier street, coal oil, brandy, tobacco, candles, coffee, &c.

By McCerren & Landry, at 11 o'clock, at their auction mart, Masonic Hall, shares of the Crescent City Bank; also, at the same time and place, household furniture.

By R. T. Montgomery, at 11 o'clock, at No. 71 Tchoupitoulas street, sugar-cured hams.

By D. E. Murphy, at 11 o'clock, at store No. 117 Magazine street, manilla rope; at the same hour, at No. 47 Magazine street, coal.

By E. M. James, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants and Auctioneers' Exchange, a lot of ground in Second District, one in Third District, and the privilege of a lease.

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

R. T. Montgomery will sell, at 11 o'clock this day, at the store 71 Tchoupitoulas street, 20 tierces fair sugar-cured hams.

See McCerren & Landry's advertisement. They sell at their mart, this day, bank stock, furniture, &c.

On our second page will be found auction sales this day, and several other advertisements, to which we refer our readers.

We are requested to call the attention of buyers and speculators in coal to the auction sale advertised by D. E. Murphy, auctioneer, for this day, at 11 o'clock A. M., in store No. 47 Magazine street. See advertisement.

A New Play at the Varieties.—This evening will be performed at the Varieties a new play called *Leah the Forsaken*, by Augustin J. Daly of New York. This play has had a great success in the North and in London. It is taken from a novel, by Spindler, called *The Jew*, dramatized originally by Madame Charlotte Birch-Pfeifer, whose work, when it appeared on the German stage, was received with unbounded applause. It will be as popular here as it was in New York, and will fill the Varieties for consecutive nights.

Messrs. Carroll and Woodruff, clerks of the steamer War Eagle, from St. Louis, have our thanks for valuable newspaper favors.

By the arrival of the steamer War Eagle from St. Louis, we have Western papers to the 9th inst., and Memphis papers to the 13th inst., also New York papers to the 7th.

The United States mail steamship George Washington, T. V. Gager, Commanding, will leave her wharf this morning, at 8 o'clock, for New York direct, with a full freight, $190,000 in Gold, the United States mails and the following passengers:

G W Porter, F H Knapp, J J Levy, S Blum, Mrs Rosseau children and servant, Mrs [illegible] two children and servant, Miss Bramblett, Miss C Mayer, W Newton, Mrs E Stern, Dr C Rebeke, John Jackson, E R Montgomery and son, S Jones, C Black, T D Clemens, E Esplanda, J D Wessing, J Castendyke, George G Strong, Colonel Hanks, H S Coher, H Mays wife and six children and servant, Miss S Lereaux, D Foster, F H Steele, J Schonhuth, O L F Walsh, J F Krone, J G Davidson, M Nottingham wife and two children.

The Latest News from the North.

(VIA THE RIVER.)

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER WAR EAGLE.

Important from Washington.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

PROCLAMATION APPENDED TO MESSAGE.

The Army of the Potomac.

NEWS FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

Decline of Gold in New York.

From East Tennessee.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Times.]

Cumberland Gap, December 3.—The road is clear between this point and Knoxville.

Operators leave here this morning to repair the roads between the Gap and Knoxville.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Times.]

Washington, December 8.—General Sherman has been placed in command of all the Federal forces in East Tennessee by order of General Grant, and the order is approved by the War Department. General Foster will retain command of the troops in East Tennessee previous to General Sherman's arrival.

Cincinnati, December 8.—General Cox and staff leave for Knoxville to-morrow, A. M.

General Burnside is expected here during the latter part of the present week, *en route* for Washington. He has been relieved by General Foster.

The Command of the Army of the Potomac.

Washington, December 8.—Rumors generally credited but unconfirmed, are in circulation that General Pleasonton has been appointed to the command of the Army of the Potomac. It is reported that Generals Sedgwick and Warren were personally tendered the command, but declined to accept the appointment.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Washington, December 8.—Advices from the Army of the Potomac, up to last night, state that all was quiet, our troops working like bees on their camps, to make them comfortable.

Major General French has been relieved from his command in the Army of the Potomac, and placed under arrest. His arrest was preliminary to charges of misconduct in the affairs at Mine Run.

New York, December 8.—The *Herald's* army dispatch, dated Culpepper, yesterday, says: Our infantry are apparently going into winter quarters, but our cavalry are busier than ever scouting after guerrillas.

It is rumored that Meade will be relieved by Pleasonton.

38th Congress—First Session.

Senate.—*Washington*, December 8th.—Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, submitted the following resolution:

"That the refusal of the rebel authorities to exchange negro soldiers and their white officers should not prevent the exchange of other soldiers and officers in rebel prisons, on just terms, such as will prevent suffering to our brave officers and soldiers in the hands of the enemy." Laid over.

House.—*Washington*, December 8.—A committee was appointed to wait on the Senate and President, and inform them that the House was ready for business.

Mr. McPherson was elected Clerk, receiving 101 votes against 69 for Etheridge.

Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, offered a resolution presenting the thanks of Congress to Major-General Grant and the officers and soldiers who have fought under him during the rebellion, and providing that the President cause a medal to be struck for General Grant in the name of the people of the United States. It passed unanimously, without a word of debate or explanation.

Mr. Cox said he desired to offer a resolution, respectfully requesting the President to take immediate steps for the exchange of our prisoners in the prisons of the South, and that he communicate all correspondence in the War Department relative to exchange of prisoners—After discussion, the resolution was laid over.

Mr. Arnold gave notice of bills to prohibit slavery forever in the Territories included in the President's Emancipation Proclamation; also, to repeal so much of the Enrollment Act as authorizes the discharge of a person drafted on payment of $300.

Much time was occupied in the selection of seats, and the House then adjourned.

New York Money Market.

Money.—The market is more active at 7 per cent. for Loans on call. Sterling Exchange a shade easier; sales at 164 to 164½ for first class Bills. Gold is irregular and lower, opening at 49, declining to 48⅝, advancing to 50, and closing steady at 49⅝ per cent premium. Government Stocks firm; United States Sixes of 1881, Coupons, 109; 7-3-10 Treasury Notes, 106¾.

The Glasgow *Herald* reports that the naval authorities in the Clyde are instructed to detain the war vessels suspected to be building for the Confederates.

Why is a lawyer like a crow?—Because he wishes his caws to be heard. (Since giving vent to the above, the author has become raven mad.)

President's Message.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate
and House of Representatives:

Another year of health and of sufficient abundant harvests has passed; for these, and especially for the improved condition of our national affairs, our renewed and profoundest gratitude to God is due. We remain in peace and in friendship with foreign powers; the efforts of disloyal citizens of the United States to involve us in foreign wars and to aid in inexcusable insurrection, have been unavailing. Her Britannic Majesty's Government, as justly expected, have exercised their authority to prevent the departure of new and hostile expeditions from British ports. The Emperor of France has by a like proceeding promptly indicated the neutrality which he proclaimed at the beginning of the contest. Questions of great intricacy and importance have arisen out of the blockade and other belligerent operations between the Government and several of the maritime Powers, but have been discussed, and, so far as was possible, accommodated in a spirit of frankness, justice, and mutual good-will. It is especially gratifying that our prize courts, by the impartiality of their adjudication, have commanded the respect and confidence of maritime powers.

Foreign Affairs and Foreigners.

The supplemental treaty between the United States and Great Britain, for the suppression of the African slave trade, made on the 17th day of February last, has been duly ratified and carried into execution. It is believed that so far as American ports and American citizens are concerned, that this inhuman and barbarous traffic has been brought to an end.

I shall submit for the consideration of the Senate a convention for the adjustment of growing claims in Washington Territory, arising out of the treaty of the 15th of June 1846, between the United States and Great Britain, and which has been the source of some disquiet among the citizens of that now rapidly improving part of the country. A novel and important question involving the extent of the maritime jurisdiction of Spain, in the waters which surround the Island of Cuba, has been debated without reaching an agreement, and it is proposed in an amicable spirit, to refer it to the arbitrament of a friendly power. A convention for that purpose will be submitted to the Senate. I have thought it a proper subject to submit to the approval of the Senate, to concur with the interested Commercial powers in an arrangement for the liquidation of the Scheldt dues, upon the principles which have been heretofore adopted in regard to the imports upon navigation to the waters of Denmark.

The long and pending controversy between this Government and that of Chili, touching the seizure at Lima in Peru, by Chilian officers, of a large amount of treasure belonging to citizens of the United States, has been brought to a close, by awards of His Majesty, the King of Belgium, to whose arbitrament of the question was referred, and the subject was thoroughly and patiently examined by that just and respected magistrate. Although the sum awarded by the claimants may not have been as they expected, there is no reason to mistrust the wisdom of His Majesty's decision, which was promptly complied with by Chili, when intelligence in regard to it reached that country. The joint commission under the act of the last session, for carrying into effect the cation with Peru on the subject of claims, has been organized at Lima, and is engaged in the business entrusted to it. The difficulties concerning the inter-oceanic transit through Nicaragua, are all in course of amicable adjustment, in conformity with the principles set forth in my last message.

I have received the representatives from the United States of Colombia, and have credited a minister to that Republic.

Incidents occurring in the progress of our civil war, have forced upon my attention the uncertain state of the international question touching the rights of foreigners in this country and of United States citizens abroad. In regard to the home Government, their rights are at least partially benefitted by treaties. In no instance, however, is it expressly stipulated that, on the occurrence of a civil war, a foreigner residing in the country within the lines of the insurgents, is to be exempted from the rule which classes him as a belligerent, in whose behalf the Government of his country cannot expect any privileges or immunities distinct from that character. I regret to say, however, that such claims have been put forward in some instances in behalf of foreigners who have lived in the United States the greater part of their lives. There is reason to believe that many persons born in foreign countries, who have declared their intention to become citizens, or who have been fully naturalized, have evaded the military duty required of them, by denying the fact and thereby throwing upon the government the burden of proof. It has been found difficult or impracticable to obtain this proof, from want of guides to the proper sources of information; these might be supplied by requiring the clerks of courts where declarations of intention may be made or naturalization effected, to send periodically lists of the names of persons naturalized or declaring their intention to become citizens, to the Secretary of the Interior, in whose department these names must be arranged and printed for general information. There is also reason to believe that foreigners frequently become citizens of the United States for the sole purpose of evading the laws of their own country, to which, in becoming naturalized here, they at once repair; and though never returning to the United States, they still claim the interposition of this Government as citizens. Many altercations and great troubles have been arising out of this abuse. It is therefore submitted to your serious consideration. It might be advisable to fix a limit beyond which no citizen of the United States residing abroad may claim the interposition of his Government. The right of suffrage has often been assumed by aliens under pretence of naturalization, which they have disavowed when drafted into the military service. I submit the expediency of such an amendment of the laws as will make the fact of voting an estoppel against any plea of exemption from military service, or other civil obligations on grounds of alienage.

In common with other Western powers, our relations with Japan have been brought into serious jeopardy through the perverse opposition of the hereditary aristocracy of the empire to the enlightened and liberal policy of the Tycoon, designed to bring the country into the society of nations. It is to be hoped, although not with entire confidence, that these difficulties may be peacefully overcome. I ask your attention to the Minister residing there, for the damages he sustained in the destruction by fire of the residence of the Legation at Jeddo. Satisfactory arrangements have been made with the Emperor of Russia, which, it is believed, will result in effecting a continuous line of telegraph through the Empire from our Pacific coast. I recommend to your favorable consideration the subject of an international telegraph line across the Atlantic ocean, and also of a telegraph line between this Capitol and the national ports along the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf of Mexico. Such connections, established with any reasonable outlay, would be economical as well as effective aids to diplomatic, military and naval service. The consular system of the United States under the enactments of the last Congress, begins to be self-sustaining, and there is reason to hope that it may become entirely so with the increase of trade, which will ensue whenever peace is restored. Our ministers abroad have been faithful in defending American rights; in protecting our commercial interests. Our consuls have necessarily had to encounter increased labors and responsibilities growing out of the war, that they have for the most part met and discharged with zeal and efficiency. This acknowledgment justly includes those consuls, who, residing in Morocco, Egypt, China and other central countries, are charged with complicated and extraordinary powers.

The condition of the several organized territories, is generally satisfactory, although the Indians in New Mexico have not been entirely suppressed. The mineral resources of Colorado, Nevada, Idaho, New Mexico and Arizona are proving far richer than heretofore understood. I lay before you a communication on this subject.

I can submit to your consideration the expediency of establishing a system for the encouragement of migration although this source of national wealth is now following with greater freedom than for several years before the insurrection occurred, but there is still a great deficiency in every field of industry, especially in agricultural, and all our mines, as well of iron and coal, as of precious metal. While demand for labor is thus increased here, tens of thousands of persons destitute of remunerative occupation, are thronging our foreign consulates, and offering to emigrate to the United States if essential, but very cheap assistance can be afforded them. It is easy to see that under the sharp discipline of civil war, the nation is beginning a new life. This noble effort demands the aid and ought to receive the attention and support of the Government. Injuries, unforeseen by the Government, and unintended, may in some cases have been inflicted upon the subjects or citizens of foreign countries, both at sea and land, by persons in the service of the United States. As this Government expects redress from other powers when similar injuries are inflicted by persons in their service or citizens of the United States, we must be prepared to do justice to foreigners. If the existing criminal tribunals are inadequate to this purpose, a special court may be authorized, with power to hear and decide such claims of the character referred to, as may have arisen under treaties and public law. Conventions for adjusting claims by joint commissions have been proposed to some governments, but no definite answers to the proposition have as yet been received from any. In the course of the session I shall probably have occasion to request you to provide indemnification to complaints. These decrees of restitution have been rendered, and damages awarded by the admiralty court, and in other cases where this Government may be acknowledged to be liable in principle, and where the amount of that liability has been ascertained by an informal arbitration, the proper officers of the treasury have deemed themselves required by the law of the United States upon the subject to demand a tax upon the incomes of foreign consuls in the country. With such a demand may not instructions be an infraction of public law, or perhaps of any existing treaty between the United States and a foreign country? The expediency of so far modifying the act as to exempt from tax the income of such consuls as are not citizens of the United States, derived from the emoluments of their office or from property not situated in the United States, is submitted to your serious consideration.—I make this suggestion upon the ground that that country, which ought to be reciprocated, exempts our consuls in all countries from taxations to the extent that it is indicated. The United States, I think, ought not to be exceptionally illiberal to international trade and commerce. The operations of the Treasury during the last year have been successfully conducted; the enactment by Congress of a national banking law has proved a valuable support of the public credit, and the general legislation in relation to loans has fully answered the expectations of its favorers. Some amendments may be required to perfect existing laws, but no change in their principle or general scope is believed to be needed. Since these measures have been in operation all demands on the Treasury, including that of the Army and Navy, have been promptly met and fully satisfied. No considerable body of troops, it is believed, were ever more amply provided, and more liberally and punctually paid, and, it may be added, that by no people were the burdens incident to a great war ever more cheerfully borne.

The receipts during the year, from all sources, including loans and balance in Treasury at its commencement, were $901,125,674 86, the aggregate disbursements were $895,796,630 65, leaving a balance on the 7th of July, 1863, of $5,329,044 21 of the receipts. There were derived from customs $69,059,642 40; from internal revenue, $37,640,787 95; from direct taxes, $1,485,103 61; from lands, $167,617 17; from miscellaneous sources, $3,046,615 35, and from loans $776,682,361 57, making the aggregate, $901,125,674 86; of the disbursements there were $23,553,01; for pensions, etc., $121,652,059 for interest on public debt, $24,729,846 51, for the War Department, $599,298,600 83, for the Navy Department, $63,211,105 27, for the payment of funded and temporary debt, $181,086,635 07, making an aggregate of $895,796,630 65, and leaving a balance of $5,329,044 21; but the payment of the fund and temporary debt having been made from moneys borrowed during the year must be regarded as merely nominal payments, and the moneys borrowed to make them are merely nominal receipts, and the amount of $181,086,635 07 should therefore be deducted from the receipts and disbursements. This being done, there remains as actual receipts $714,709,995,588, leaving the balance already stated. The actual receipts for the first quarter and the estimated receipts and disbursements for the remaining fiscal year of 1864, will be shown in detail by the report of the Treasurer, to which I invite your attention. It is sufficient to say here that it is not believed that the final results will exhibit a state of the finances less favorable to the country than the estimates of that officer heretofore submitted, while it is confidently expected that at the close of the year both disbursements and debts will be found very considerably less than has been anticipated.

The report of the Secretary of War is a document of great interest. It consists of first, the military operations of the year, detailed in the reports of the General-in-Chief; second, the organization of colored persons into the war service; third, the exchange of prisoners, as fully set forth in the order of General Hitchcock; fourth, operations under the act of enrolling and calling out the national forces, detailed in the report of the Provost Marshal General; fifth, the organization of the invalid corps; and sixth, the separate reports of the several departments of the Quartermaster General, Commissary General, Postmaster General, Chief of Engineers, Chief of Ordnance, and Surgeon General.

It has appeared impossible to make a valuable summary of this report, except such as would be too extended for this place, and hence I content myself in referring your attention to the report itself. The duties devolving on the Naval branch of the service, during the year, and throughout the whole of this unhappy contest, have been discharged with fidelity and eminent success. The extensive blockade has been constantly increasing in efficiency as the Navy has expanded, yet, on so long a line, it has so far been impossible to entirely suppress illicit trade. From the returns received at the Navy Department, it appears that more than a thousand vessels have been captured since the blockade was instituted, and that the amount of prizes already sent in for adjudication, amounts to $13,000,000. The naval force of the United States consists, at this time, of 588 vessels, completed, and in the course of completion, and of these 75 are iron-clad armored steamers. The events of the war have given an increased interest and importance to the Navy, which will probably extend beyond the war itself. The armored vessels in our Navy, completed and in the service, or which are under contract, and approaching completion, are believed to be exceeded in no way by those of any other power, but while they may be relied upon for harbor defense, and sea coast service, others of greater strength and capacity will be necessary for cruising purposes and to maintaining our rightful position on the ocean. The change that has taken place in Navy vessels and Navy warfare, since the introduction of steam, as a motive power for ships of war, demand either a corresponding change in some of our existing navy yards, or the establishment of new ones for the construction and necessary repair of modern war vessels. No inconsiderable embarrassment and delay of public injury has been experienced from the want of such government establishments, and the necessity of such a navy yard to be furnished at some suitable place on the Atlantic seaboard, has on repeated occasions been brought to the attention of Congress by the Navy Department, and is again presented in the report of the Secretary, which accompanies this communication. I think it my duty to invite your attention to this subject, and also that of establishing a yard and department for naval purposes upon one of the Western rivers. A naval force has been created on those interior waters, in little more than two years, exceeding in numbers the whole naval force of the country, at the commencement of the present Administration. Satisfactory and important as has been the performance of the heroic men of the Navy at this interesting period, they are scarcely more wonderful than the services of our mechanics in the production of war vessels which has created a new form of naval power. Our country has advantages superior to any other nation, in our resources of iron and timber, with inexhaustible quantities of fuel in the immediate vicinity of both, and all available, and in close proximity to navigable waters. The resources of the nation have been developed, and its power displayed in the construction of a Navy of such magnitude, which has at the very period of its construction rendered signal service to the Union. The increase of the number of seamen in the public service, from 5000 men, in the spring of 1861, to about 34,000 at the present time, has been accomplished without especial legislation, and extraordinary bounties have been paid to promote that increase. It has been found, however, that the operation of the draft, with high bounties paid for army recruits, is beginning to effect, injuriously, the naval service, and will, if not corrected, be likely to impair its efficiency by detaching seamen from their proper vocation and inducing them to enter the army. I, therefore, respectfully suggest that Congress might aid both the army and naval service by adequate provision, on this subject, which would at same time be more equitable to those especially interested. I recommend to your consideration the suggestion of the Secretary of the Navy, in regard to the policy of fostering and training seamen for the naval service. The Naval Academy is now rendering signal service in preparing midshipmen for highly responsible duties, which in after life they will be required to perform, in order that the country should not be deprived of educated officers, for which legal provision has been made in the Naval school. The vacancies caused by the neglect or omission to make nominations from States in insurrection, have been filled by the Secretary of the Navy. The school is now more full and complete than at any previous period, and in every respect is entitled to the favorable consideration of Congress.

During the present fiscal year the financial condition of the Postoffice department has been one of increasing prosperity, and I am gratified in being able to state that the accounts of the postal revenue has nearly equalled the entire expenditures. The latter amounting to $11,314,000 84, and the former to $11,163,789 59, leaving a deficiency of but $150,417 25 in 1859. The year immediately preceding the rebellion the deficiency amounted to $5,656,705 49, the postal receipts of that year being $2,645,722 19 less than those of 1863. The decrease since 1860 in the annual amount of transportation has been only about twenty five per centum, but the annual expenditures on account of the same has been reduced 35 per cent. It is manifest, therefore, that the Postoffice department may become self-sustaining in a few years, even with the restoration of the whole service. The international convention of postal delegates from the principal countries of Europe and America, which was called at the suggestion of the Postmaster-General, met at Paris on the 1st of May last, and concluded its deliberations on the 8th of June. The principles established by the conference are better adapted to facilitate postal intercourse between nations, and, as a basis for future conventions, inaugurate a general system of international charges at reduced rates of postage, and cannot fail to produce beneficial results.

I refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Interior, which is herewith laid before you for useful and varied information in relation to public lands, Indian affairs, patents and other matters of public concern pertaining to his department. The quarterly returns of lands disposed of during the last of the first quarter of the present fiscal year, was three million eight hundred and forty one thousand, five hundred and forty nine acres, of which 161,911 acres were sold for cash, 1,456,514 acres were taken up under the Homestead law, and the residue disposed of under laws granting lands for military bounties, for railroads and other purposes. It also appears that the sale of public lands is largely on the increase. It has long been a cherished opinion of our wisest statesmen that the people of the United States had a higher and more enduring interest in the early settlement and substantial culture of the public lands, than in the amount of direct revenue to be derived from the sale of them. This opinion has had a controlling influence on the subject of our national domain, as evidence of this, the liberal measures adopted in reference to actual settlers, the grant to the States of the overflowed lands within their limits, in order to their being reclaimed and rendered fit for cultivation, the grant of alternate sections of land upon the contemplated lines of their railroads when completed will largely multiply the facilities for reaching our distant possessions. This policy has received its most signal and beneficial illustration in a recent enactment granting homesteads to actual settlers. Since the first of January last, the above mentioned quantity of one million four hundred and ninety nine thousand five hundred and fourteen acres of land have been taken up under its provisions. This fact, and the amount of sales, furnish gratifying evidence of the increasing settlement upon public lands, notwithstanding the great struggle in which the energies of the nation have been engaged, and has required so large a withdrawal of our citizens from their accustomed pursuits. I cordially concur in the recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior, suggesting a modification of the act in favor of those engaged in the military and naval service of the United States, and doubt not that Congress will cheerfully adopt such measures, as will, without essentially changing the general features of the system, grant the greatest practicable extent of benefits to those who have left their homes in defense of the country in this arduous crisis.

I invite your attention to the views of the Secretary of War, as to the propriety of raising, by appropriation of the legislature, a revenue from the mineral lands of the United States.

The measures provided at your last session for the removal of certain Indian tribes, have been carried into effect. Sundry treaties have been negotiated which will in due time be submitted for the constitutional action of the Senate. These contain stipulations for extinguishing the possessor's rights of the Indians to large and valuable tracts of land, which will result in the establishment of a permanent and friendly relation with each of these tribes as hard been brought into frequent and bloody collisions with our outlying settlements and emigrants. Sound policy and our imperative duty to those wards of the Government, demand our anxious and constant attention to their material well-being, to their progress in the arts of civilization, and, above all, to that moral training which, under the blessing of Divine Providence, will confer upon them elevating and sanctifying influences, and the hopes and consolations of the Christian faith. I suggested in my last annual message the propriety of remodeling our Indian system, subsequent events have satisfied me of its necessity. The details set forth in the report of the Secretary will evince the urgent need for immediate legislative action.

I commend the benevolence of the institutions established or patronized by the Government in this District to your generous and fostering care. The attention of Congress during the last session was engaged to some extent with a proposition for enlarging the water communication between the Mississippi river and the Northeastern seaboard, which proposition, however, waited for further time. Since then a convention has been called at Chicago upon the same subject, a summary of whose views is contained in a memorial addressed to the President and Congress, and which I now have the honor to lay before you. That this interest is one which, ere long, will force its own way, I do not entertain a doubt—while it is submitted entirely to your wisdom as to what can be done now. Augmented interest is given to this subject by the actual commencement of work on the Pacific Railroad. Under auspices so favorable to its rapid progress and completion, enlarged navigation becomes a palpable need to the great road.

I transmit the second annual report of the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture, asking your attention to the developments in that vital interest of the nation. When Congress assembled a year ago, the war had already lasted nearly twenty months, and there had been many conflicts on both land and sea, with stirring results. The rebellion had been pressed back into reduced limits, yet the tone of public feeling at home and abroad was not satisfactory. With other signs, the popular elections then just passed indicated uneasiness among ourselves, while amid much that was cold and menacing, the kindest words coming from Europe were uttered in accents of pity that we were too blind to surrender our commerce, which was suffering greatly from a few armed vessels built upon and furnished from foreign shores, and we were threatened with such additions from the same quarter as would sweep our trade from the sea and raise our blockade. We had failed to elicit from European governments anything hopeful upon this subject.

The Question of Slavery, and of the Manner of Readmitting Rebellious States.

The Emancipation Proclamation, which was issued in September, was running its assigned period to the beginning of the new year. A month elapsed, and the final proclamation came, including the amendment that colored men of suitable condition would be received into the war service. The policy of emancipation and employment of black soldiers gave to the future a new aspect, about which hopes, fears and doubts contended in uncertain conflict. According to our political system, as a matter of civil administration, the General Government has no lawful power to effect emancipation in any State, and for a long time it had been hoped that the rebellion would be suppressed without resorting to it as a military measure. It was all the while deemed possible that a necessity for it might come, and that if it should, the crisis of the contest would then be presented. It came, and as indicated, it was followed by dark and doubtful days. Eleven months, having been passed, we are permitted to take another review. The rebel borders are pressed further back, and by the complete opening of the Mississippi river the rebellion is divided into distinct parts. Practical communication between them and Tennessee and Arkansas has been so substantially cleared of insurgents' control and influence, that citizens in each, and owners of slaves, and advocates of slavery at the beginning of the rebellion, now declare openly for emancipation in their respective States. Of those States not included in the emancipation proclamation, Maryland and Missouri, neither of which, years ago, would tolerate any restraint upon the extension of slavery into their territories, only dispute now as to the best means of removing it from within their own limits. Of those who were slaves at the beginning of the rebellion, fully one hundred thousand are now in the United States military service, about one half of which number actually bear arms in the ranks, thus giving the double advantage of taking so much labor from the insurgent cause, and supplying the places which otherwise must be filled with so many white men. So far as tested, it is difficult to say they are not as good soldiers as any. No servile insurrection or tendency to violence or cruelty has marked the measure of emancipation and arming the blacks. These measures have been much discussed in foreign countries, and cotemporary with such discussions the tone of the public sentiment there is much improved, where the same measures have been fully discussed, supported, criticised, and denounced. The annual elections are highly encouraging to those whose special duty it is to bear the country through this great trial. Thus we have the reckoning. The crisis which threatened to divide the friends of the Union is past.

Looking now to the present and future, and with reference to a resumption of the national authority within the States wherein that authority has been suspended, I have thought right to issue a proclamation, a copy of which is herewith transmitted. On examination of this proclamation, it will appear, as is believed, amply justified by the Constitution. True, the form of an oath is given, but no man is coerced to take it. A man is only promised a pardon in case he voluntarily take the oath. The Constitution authorizes the Executive to grant it on terms as fully established by judicial and other authority. It is also proffered that if any of the States named set up a government, it shall be in the mode prescribed. Such government shall be recognized and guaranteed by the United States, and that under it the State shall, on subscribing to the constitutional conditions, be protected against invasion and domestic violence. The constitutional obligation of the United States to guarantee to every State in the Union a republican form of government, and to protect the State in the case as stated, is explicit and full. But why tender the benefit of this provision only to a State Government set up in this particular way? This section of the Constitution contemplates a case wherein the element within a State favorable to a republican government in the Union may be too feeble for an opposite and hostile element external to and even within the State, and such are precisely the cases with which we are now dealing. An attempt to guarantee and protect a revised State government constructed in whole or in preponderating part from the very element against whose hostilities and violence it is to be protected, is simply absurd. There must be a test by which to separate opposing elements so as to build only from the ground, and that is a sufficient and liberal one which accepts as sound, whoever will make a sworn recantation of his former unsoundness. But if it be proper to require a test of admission to the political body an oath of allegiance to the Constitution of the United States, and to the Union under it, why not also to the laws and proclamations in regard to slavery? Those laws and proclamations were enacted and put forth for the purpose of aiding in the suppression of the rebellion. To give them the fullest effect there had to be a pledge for their maintenance. In my judgment, they have aided and will further aid, the cause for which they were intended. To give up this principle would be not only to relinquish a lever of power, but it would also be a cruel and astounding breach of faith.

I may add at this point, that while I remain in my present position, I shall not attempt to retract or modify the Emancipation Proclamation, nor shall I return to slavery any person who is made free by the terms of the proclamation, or by any act of Congress. For these and other reasons, it is thought best that the support of these persons shall be included in the oath, it is believed the Executive may lawfully claim in regard for pardon and restoration of forfeited rights which he has a clear constitutional power to withhold altogether or grant upon the terms which he shall deem wisest for the public interest. It should be observed also that this part of the oath is subject to the modifying and abrogating power of legislation. The proposed acquiescence of the National Executive in any honorable temporary State arrangement for the freed people is made with a view of the possibility of modifying the confused and distressed destitution which must at least attend all classes by a total revolution of labor throughout the entire States. It is hoped that the already deeply afflicted people in these States may be somewhat more ready to give up the cause of their affliction, and to this extent this vital matter is left to themselves, while no power of the National Executive to prevent an abuse is abridged by this proposition. The suggestion in the proclamation as to maintaining the political framework of the States on what is called reconstruction is made in the hope that it may do good without harm. It will favor labor and avoid great confusion. But why any proclamation now upon this subject? This question is beset with the conflicting views that the step might be delayed too long or be taken too soon. In some States elements for resumption have been ready for action, but remain inactive apparently for want of a rallying point—a plan of action. Why shall A adopt the plan of B, rather than B that of A? And if A and B should agree, how can they know but the General Government here will reject their plan? By the proclamation, a plan is presented which may be accepted by them as a rallying point, and which they are assured in advance will not be rejected. This may bring them to act sooner than they otherwise would. The objection to a premature presentation of a plan by the Executive consists in the danger of committing errors on points which could be more safely left to further developments. Care has been taken to so shape the document as to avoid embarrassment from this source. In saying that on certain terms certain classes will be pardoned with their rights restored, it is not said other classes on other terms will ever be included. In saying a reconstruction will be accepted in a specified way, it is not said it will never be accepted in any other way.

The movements by State actions for emancipation in several of the States not included in the emancipation proclamation, are matters of profound gratification, and while I do not repeat in detail what I have heretofore so earnestly urged upon this subject, my general views and feelings remain unchanged, and I trust that Congress will omit no fair opportunity of aiding these important steps to the great consummation. In the midst of other cares, however important, we must not lose sight of the fact that the war power is still our main reliance. To that power alone can we look yet for a time, to give confidence to people in contested regions, that insurgent power will not again overrun them. Until that confidence shall be established, little can be done anywhere for what is called reconstruction. Hence, our chief care must still be directed to our Army and Navy, who have thus far borne their harder part so nobly and well, and it may be esteemed fortunate that in giving the greatest efficiency to their indispensable arms, we do also honorably encourage gallant men, from commander to sentinel, who compose them, and to whom, more than all others, the world stands indebted for the home of freedom, disenthralled, regenerated, enlarged and perpetuated.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Washington, December, 8 1863.

Proclamation Appended to the Message.

Whereas, On and by the Constitution of the United States, it is provided that the President shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment; and

Whereas, A rebellion now exists, whereby the loyal States and governments of several States have for a long time been subverted, and many persons have committed and are now guilty of treason against the United States; and

Whereas, With reference to said rebellion and treason, laws have been enacted by Congress declaring the forfeiture and confiscation of property and the liberation of slaves, all upon terms and conditions therein stated, and also declaring that the President was thereby authorized at any time thereafter, by proclamation, to extend to persons who may have participated in the existing rebellion, in any State or part thereof, pardon and amnesty, with such exceptions, and at such terms and on such conditions, as he may deem expedient for the public welfare; and

Whereas, The Congressional declaration for limited and conditional pardon, accorded with well established judicial expositions of the pardoning power; and

Whereas, With reference to said rebellion the President of the United States has issued several proclamations, with provisions in regard to the liberation of slaves; and

Whereas, It is now desired by some persons heretofore engaged in said rebellion to resume their allegiance to the United States, and to inaugurate loyal State governments within and for their respective States; therefore,

I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do proclaim, declare and make known to all persons who have directly or by implication participated in the existing rebellion, except as hereinafter excepted, that a full pardon is granted to them and each of them, with restoration of all rights, if the said parties shall have ——, and upon the condition that every such person shall take and subscribe an oath, and thenceforward keep and maintain said oath inviolate, and which oath shall be registered for permanent preservation, and shall be of the tenor and effect following, to wit:

"I do solemnly swear, in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Union of the States thereunder, and that I will in like manner abide by and faithfully support all acts of Congress passed during the existing rebellion with reference to slaves so long and so far as not yet repealed, modified or held void by Congress, or by decision of the Supreme Court; and that I will in like manner abide by and faithfully support all proclamations of the President made during the existing rebellion having reference to slaves, so long and so far as not modified or declared void by decision of the Supreme Court—so help me God."

The persons excepted from the benefits of the foregoing proclamation, are all that are or may have been civil or diplomatic officers, or agents of the so called Confederacy; or all who have left judicial stations under the United States to aid the rebellion; all who shall have been military or naval officers of the rank of colonel in the army or lieutenant in the navy; all who left seats in the United States Congress to aid in the rebellion; all who resigned their commissions in the army and navy of the United States and afterward aided the rebellion, and all who have engaged in any way in treating colored persons or white persons in charge of such otherwise than lawfully as prisoners of War, and which persons may be found in the United States service as soldiers, seamen or in any other capacity, and I do further proclaim, declare and make known, that whenever in any of the States of Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, and North Carolina, a number of persons, not less than one-tenth of the number of the votes cast in such State at the Presidential election of the year of our Lord, 1860, each having taken the oath aforesaid, and not having since violated it, and being a qualified voter by the election laws of the State, existing immediately before the so-called act of secession, and excluding all others, shall be established a State government, which shall be republican, and nowise contravening said oath; such shall be recognized as the true government of the State, and the State shall receive thereunder the benefits of the constitutional provision, which declares that the United States shall guarantee every State in the Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion, and on application of the Legislature or the Executive, when the Legislature cannot be convened, against domestic violence; and I do further proclaim, declare and make known, that any provision which may be adopted by such State Government in relation to the freed people of such State, which shall recognize and declare their permanent freedom, and provide for their education, and which may yet be consistent as a temporary arrangement with their present condition as a laboring, landless and homeless class, will not be objected to by the national Executive and it is suggested as not improper that in constructing a loyal State government in any State, the name of the boundary, the subdivision, the constitution and the general code of laws as before the rebellion, be maintained, subject only to modifications made necessary by the conditions hereinbefore stated, and such others, if any, not contravening said conditions which may be deemed expedient by those framing the new State government. To avoid misunderstanding, it may be proper to say that this proclamation, so far as it relates to State governments, has no reference to States wherein loyal State governments have all the while been maintained, and for the same reason it may be proper to further say, that whether members sent to Congress from any State shall be admitted to seats constitutionally rests exclusively with the respective Houses, and not to any extent with the Executive; and still further, that this proclamation is intended to present to the people of the States wherein the National authority has been suspended and loyal State governments have been subverted, a mode by which the National authority over every loyal State government may be reestablished within said States or any of them; and while the mode presented is the best the Executive can suggest with his present impressions, it must not be understood that another possible mode would not be acceptable.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, this 8th day of December, A. D., one thousand eight hundred and sixty three and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty eighth.

By the President

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

Report of the Secretary of War.

The report of the Secretary of War is of considerable length. It reviews our victories and pays high tribute to the bravery and skill of our troops. He says the combined operations of our army and navy against Charleston have not as yet accomplished what was expected of them.

In Texas a large force is operating under Banks, and will give protection to the people of that State and cut off a chief avenue of the rebels for foreign commerce and foreign aid.—The armies of Lee and Meade now occupy relatively the same position as they did at the date of the last annual report. Western Virginia is now clear of rebels, and the people of that State are enjoying comparatively peace and the blessings of civil Government.

The rebel forces in Missouri have been driven beyond the Arkansas river. No military operations of any magnitude have taken place in Virginia or North Carolina. The Federal forces are now firmly planted in every rebel State. The successes of our armies during the past year has enabled the Department to make a reduction of over $200,000,000 in the estimates for the ensuing year.

The trouble in regard to the exchange of prisoners is reviewed at length, and the blame for non-exchange is thrown entirely on the rebel authorities. He alludes to the good treatment the rebel prisoners have received at our hands, and denounces the rebel authorities for the cruel manner in which they have treated our prisoners in their hands.

He then discusses the acts of Congress for enrolling and calling out the national forces, and says that the law has been enforced in twelve States, yielding 50,000 soldiers and $10,000,000 for the procuring of substitutes. The $300 clause is alluded to, as are also the conflicting opinions of its justice and injustice.

He says a large proportion of the troops whose terms expire next year will re-enlist, it being stipulated by the Government that they shall have at least one month's furlough before their present term expires. The indications are that the force required will in a great measure be raised by volunteering and without a draft. An immediate appropriation for bounties should be made.

He then alludes to the valuable service the Invalid Corps has rendered to the Government. The corps now numbers 20,000 officers and privates. He says, immediately after the issuance of the President's proclamation general efforts were commenced and have continued, until the present time for raising colored troops; 50,000 colored men are now organizing, and the number will rapidly increase as our armies advance. The freed slaves make good soldiers, are easily disciplined and are full of courage.

The slave has proved his manhood and capacity, and makes a good infantry, artillery or cavalry soldier, as has been evidenced on several occasions. The colored troops have been allowed no bounties under the instructions given by this Department. They can only, by the existing law, receive ten dollars per month for their services, while white soldiers receive thirteen dollars, with clothing and a day's ration.

The fortunes of war have brought within our lines large numbers of colored women and children, and some infirm persons. A solemn trust rests upon the Government for their care and protection. The Adjutant General recommends that the term of enlistment in the regular service be fixed at three years, instead of five, in accordance with the act of 1861, which expires by limitation on the 1st of January, 1864.

The Secretary gives a list of the principal ordnance material in the control of the Department at the beginning of the war, and the quantities of those articles which have since been procured, and the quantities of those articles on hand June 30th, 1863. The figures are immense. The operations of the Chief Engineer connected with the Northern and Northwestern Lakes have been continued, and during the past season have consisted in the survey of portage entry, or Lake Superior, and in resuming the survey of Green Bay and Lake Michigan; also the examination of the channels of the St. Clair Flats and of St. George's; also of St. Mary's river, etc.

The details of the Quartermaster-General's Department are also given; also the report of the Commissary-General of Subsistence. It is believed that the troops at every point have been supplied with an abundance of wholesome food, and that if in the movement of the armies temporary want has been felt, it has not been due to any want of foresight or attention on the part of the Commissary-General's Department. The Paymaster's report, and the Acting Surgeon-Generals report, with full details, are also given. A compliment is paid to the Military Telegraph and the valuable service it has rendered the Government under the superintendency of Col. Anson Stager and Major Eckert. After alluding to some claims against that department, and saying that further legislation or a larger appropriation will be required to carry them into effect, he concludes as follows: "I may be permitted to express the hope that the next annual report from this department may announce the complete overthrow of the rebellion and the restoration of peace and the establishment of the Union on a sure foundation in all the bounds of the United States."

The Steamer Chesapeake Seized by Privateers.

Washington, December 8.—The Treasury Department this morning received information, by telegraph, from an officer of the revenue at Portland, of the seizure of the steamer Chesapeake. The Treasury Department immediately telegraphed to Collector Barney to send a revenue cutter in pursuit of the pirates, but before this message reached him a telegram was received that he had already dispatched the Miami on that business.

It is suspected that the seizure was made by some of Morgan's men.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Fire.—Last evening, shortly after 5 o'clock, a fire broke out in the brick building on Gravier street, back of Jacob Barker's Bank. The fire department was on the alert, and worked earnestly and perseveringly; but in spite of their exertions and the floods of water thrown, Nos. 57 and 59 Gravier street, forming the corner of Bank Alley, were in flames and claimed all the attention of the devoted and heroic department, to prevent the devouring element from spreading. The house No. 59 was formerly used as a tobacco establishment, but we learn was lately used as a grocery. The loss is estimated at about only $10,000 to $12,000. As from appearances the walls of the houses, though the roofs are taken off, seem still serviceable. The lower part of the building No. 57, occupied as a grocery store by Mr. K. Wheatman, was partly insured in the Crescent and Home Insurance offices. In the second story of that building was the office of Mr. Boyd. In the corner house of Bank Place, No. 57, were offices and that of Capt. Pitsfield. Mr. Boutigny is agent for the burned property. Amount of insurance not known.

First District Court—Judge Hiestand.—A. J. Burke is charged before this Court with having obtained, under false representations, of Messrs. Lambert & Beck, coopers, 2000 molasses barrels. He gave them in cash payment a check on the City Bank for the sum of $596 and a draft on the Bank of America in New York for $2500, which were not paid for want of funds. The District Attorney preferred to let the case rest on the check given by accused, as alleged, for a swindling purpose, as he knew that he had no funds at the bank to have it paid. We left before the case was concluded.

Suffocation.—Dr. Delser, coroner, reports an inquest held on the body of a new born infant, at the house No. 19 Annunciation street, Fourth District. Verdict: "Died of suffocation."

Second District Recorder's Court—Chas. Leaumont.—Joseph Gaspard surreptitiously cut a sack of coffee and appropriated a quantity. He had to pay $1 per lb. for that substitute.

A number of persons for disturbing the peace, or being drunk, were fined $2, $3 and $5.

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

BEE OFFICE,
FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 18, 1863.

The late accounts from New York, which we publish in another column, had a depressing effect on our specie market to-day, but in other departments of money affairs there appeared to be but little change. The leading staple was also somewhat depressed by the news, but without causing buyers of desirable lots of the higher grades to operate at much if any, easier rates.

Bills on New York were in good demand at [illegible] premium, and sight at [illegible] discount and [illegible]. The Banks continued to check at par, [illegible] discount for sight and one day's sight. [illegible] The Banks sold at [illegible] and [illegible] premium. The outside market is quoted at [illegible].

Before the news we noticed sales of Gold [illegible] premium, but subsequently buyers offered only [illegible]. The dealers were not disposed to sell at [illegible]. Nothing was reported in Mexican dollars. We notice among the clearances by the steamer Washington for New York, $190,000 in gold shipped by the Citizens' Bank.

Legal Tender Notes circulate freely at par with our currency, but when wanted for special purposes the dealers charge [illegible] per cent premium. Citizens' Bank notes are at [illegible] per cent premium. Demand notes [illegible] but we hear of none. Bank of Louisiana notes command [illegible] per cent, and Merchants' [illegible]. There has been some demand for Crescent City at [illegible], but dealers offer only [illegible].

Nothing transpired in Stocks and Bonds. City Bank [illegible] and the [illegible]. Consolidated City Bonds are held at [illegible]. Nothing has transpired in Insurance Scrip.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
FRIDAY EVENING, December 18, 1863.

COTTON.—The market opened with a fair inquiry this morning, which was subsequently checked by the later accounts from New York, but still the sales were to a fair extent, amounting in the aggregate to some [illegible] bales, embracing in Low Middling (before the news) at [illegible], Middling (after the news) said to be at the same, another lot of which we did not get the particulars, and [illegible] bales at auction, (after the news) as follows: [illegible] [illegible] Good Middling at [illegible]. Also, late in the day, yesterday, 87 bales Low Middling [illegible].

SUGAR.—The brisk inquiry noticed during the past week has prevailed to-day, but the receipts being light, the sales were confined to [illegible] bales, leaving very little in first hands at previous prices, those Common new crop [illegible]; Fully Fair [illegible]; and Prime [illegible]; Good Common old crop [illegible], and Good Fair to Fully [illegible].

MOLASSES.—The demand continues good, and the receipts meet with ready sale at firm prices. About [illegible] bbls. sold at [illegible] for Common, [illegible] for Prime, and [illegible] for Choice. By auction, [illegible] bbls. sold at [illegible] gallon.

HIDES.—A lot of [illegible] country sold yesterday at [illegible].

PORK.—[illegible] bbls. Mess Pork sold, in one lot, at [illegible].

FLOUR.—The only sale to-day was a lot of [illegible] bbls. [illegible].

FEED.—The sales comprise [illegible] sacks Louisiana yellow Corn, in two or three lots, at [illegible] bushel; a lot of [illegible] sacks Bran on the landing at [illegible], and one of [illegible] sacks, in store, at [illegible]. Northern Hay is selling to retail lots at [illegible], subject to inspection.

ESCULENTS.—Potatoes sell on the landing at [illegible]; Apples at [illegible].

FREIGHTS.—We quote as the rates [illegible] for Cotton to New York, [illegible] hhd for Sugar, and [illegible] for Molasses.

MISCELLANEOUS.—A day or two since [illegible] bbls. [illegible] Flour sold at auction at [illegible]; today, [illegible] damaged Flour sold at [illegible], and [illegible] sacks damaged Bran at [illegible].

Cattle Market.

JEFFERSON CITY, December 18, 1863.

Arrived during the week 276 Beeves, 440 Hogs, [illegible] Sheep and 130 Veals. Amount of black sold was [illegible] Beeves, [illegible] Hogs, 146 Veals and 41 Cows. Stock remaining on sale [illegible] Beeves, [illegible] Hogs, [illegible] Sheep, [illegible] Veals and [illegible] Cows. We quote:

Western Beeves, 1st quality, ⅌ lb net	[illegible]
Western Beeves, 2d quality, ⅌ lb net	[illegible]
Western Beeves, 3d quality, ⅌ lb net	[illegible]
Texas Beeves, 1st quality, ⅌ head	[illegible]
Texas Beeves, 2d quality, ⅌ head	[illegible]
Veal, 1st quality, ⅌ head	[illegible]
Veal, 2d quality, ⅌ head	[illegible]
Hogs, ⅌ lb gross	[illegible]
Milch Cows, ⅌ head	[illegible]
Sheep, according to quality, ⅌ head	[illegible]

MARINE NEWS.

Port of New Orleans, Dec. 19, 1863.

CLEARED YESTERDAY.

Steamship George Washington, Gager, for New York, A Moulton

Schr Hermillage, (Mexican) Candal, for Matamoros, Master

Steamer Belle Creole, Whiteman, for Thibodaux, Master

Steamer Jennie Rogers, McQuaid, for Baton Rouge, Master

Steamer Lafourche, Sharp, for St Charles Parish, Master

Steamer Solois, Ward, for Thibodaux, Master

ARRIVED YESTERDAY.

Brig Rival, Applegate, 16 days from Philadelphia, to master—4th district.

Schr Italienne, Chicara, from Plaquemine, to master

Schr Juliana, Trepeol, from Lafourche, to master

Schr Emilie, Nicole, from Plaquemine, to master

Lugger Union, Carriere, from Coast, to master

Lugger Flying Dutchman, Walser, from Pointe a la Hache, to F Martin—2d district

Lugger Belle Creole, Paolini, from Pointe a la Hache, to master—2d district

Lugger Lady, Vernaglia, from Fort Jackson, to master—2d district

Lugger Venice, Schott, from St John Baptist Parish, to master—2d district

Lugger Trident, Faraulon, from Donaldsonville, to master—2d district

Steam barge Clara, Brennan, from St Charles Parish

STEAMBOATS.

War Eagle, from St Louis

New Orleans, May, from Baton Rouge

Fawn, Greathouse, from Quarantine Station

Lafourche, Sharp, from Thibodaux.

TOWBOAT REGISTER.

The towboat G E Tyler, McCoy, from the Passes—Brought up brig Rival

BELOW, COMING UP.

Bark Investigator, Carver, from New York, 31 days

Bark Old Hickory

EXPORTS.

NEW YORK—Per steamship George Washington—[illegible] bales cotton [illegible] hhds sugar 46 half bbls molasses [illegible] bbls [illegible] 4 do pecans 2 kegs gold [illegible]

MATAMOROS—Per schr Hermillage—[illegible] bbls apples [illegible] bbls potatoes 5 kegs butter 10 bxs cheese [illegible] bxs [illegible]

THIBODAUX—Per steamer Belle Creole—[illegible] bbls flour 7 sks coffee and sundries

BATON ROUGE—Per steamer Jennie Rogers—[illegible] bbls pork [illegible] bbls flour [illegible] bbls potatoes [illegible] bbls apples [illegible] [illegible] kegs lard [illegible] and sundries

ST CHARLES PARISH—Per steamer Lafourche—[illegible] empty bbls

THIBODAUX—Per steamer Solois—[illegible] bbls pork 5 bbls beef 7 bxs cheese and sundries

IMPORTS.

PHILADELPHIA—Per brig Rival—Coal to U S Quartermaster

RECEIPTS FROM THE INTERIOR.

PLAQUEMINE—Per schr Italienne—[illegible] hhds sugar [illegible] bbls molasses to J F Waters

PLAQUEMINE—Per schr Emilie—[illegible] hhds sugar to [illegible] [illegible] to order

LAFOURCHE—Per schr Juliana—[illegible] bbls molasses to Louis & Charpentier—[illegible] do P H Foley

COAST—Per lugger Union—[illegible] bbls molasses [illegible] to order

POINTE A LA HACHE—Per lugger Flying Dutchman—[illegible] sacks rice to F Martin

POINTE A LA HACHE—Per lugger Belle Creole—[illegible] to Pinard & Pelton—[illegible] bbls sweet potatoes [illegible] Paolini

FORT JACKSON—Per lugger Lady—[illegible] lemons to order

ST JOHN BAPTIST PARISH—Per lugger Venice—[illegible] bbls corn to order

DONALDSONVILLE—Per lugger Trident—[illegible] bbls corn 7 do pecans 5 coops turkeys 3 do geese and chickens [illegible] dozen eggs to order

ST CHARLES PARISH—Per barge Clara—[illegible] bbls molasses to [illegible]

ST LOUIS—Per steamer War Eagle—[illegible] [illegible]

BATON ROUGE—Per steamer New Orleans—[illegible] [illegible]

QUARANTINE STATION—Per steamer Fawn—[illegible] [illegible]

THIBODAUX—Per steamer Lafourche—[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Foley—[illegible] do 27 bbls sugar [illegible] [illegible] Tate—[illegible] do [illegible] hhd sugar [illegible]

Per New Orleans, [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

SPALDING & ROGERS, ... PROPRIETORS.

SATURDAY EVENING, Dec. 19, 1863

MID DAY PERFORMANCE AT 12 M.

EVENING PERFORMANCE AT 7½ P. M.

All the features of the TRIPLE CIRCUS at each Entertainment.

☞ Great preparations are being made for the HOLIDAYS by the TRIPLE CIRCUS.

☞ Special performances for the accommodation of Ladies and Children will be given every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 12 o'clock, M., to which entertainments Children and Servants will be admitted for 25c.

☞ Box Office open at 9 o'clock A. M. Doors open at [illegible] o'clock; Curtain rises at 7½ o'clock P. M. de 19

VARIETIES THEATRE.

LEWIS BAKER .... Stage Manager.

SATURDAY EVENING, December 19, 1863

First night of the entirely new Play, which has been obtained at great expense from the author, entitled

LEAH, THE FORSAKEN,

written by Augustin J. Daly, and produced in New York and London by Miss Bateman and pronounced "The Great Success of Two Continents." It will be mounted with appropriate Scenery, Costumes and Accessories, together with a large staff of auxiliary talent. de 19

GRAND MASK AND FANCY DRESS BALL.

To be given by the

New Louisiana Benevolent Association of New Orleans,

At their Hall, corner of Greatmen and Elysian Fields streets, Third District,

On New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31st, 1863.

—Managers—

A. P. Valencia,	F. Camagli,	J. Dulla,
J. Rivas,	J. Lleda,	M. Masero,
K. Ripoll,	V. Fontaleut,	A. de Freitas,
Theo. Gallela,	J. J. Wagner,	Wm. Thayer,
J. F. Adams,	M. J. Davis,	F. Kirch,
L. Dubose,	J. Powers,	R. Clarke,
C. Aumont,	Joseph Leblanc,	

—Floor Managers—

A. Degruise,	Chas. Lenn,	M. Peleys,
H. Behnder,	Juan Bunel,	K. Bessier,
	Chas. Weiss	

Invitation Committee.

Ladies' Invitations can be had from any of the Managers or the President, at the Hall of the Association. Tickets ......$1.

Ladies will please to bring their invitations, as none will be admitted without.

de 17 19 21 23 25 28 29 30 31

AUCTION SALES.

Sugar-Cured Hams.

BY R. T. MONTGOMERY, Auctioneer.

WILL be sold THIS DAY, (Saturday) 19th inst., at 11 o'clock, at store 71 Tchoupitoulas street—20 tierces Sugar-Cured HAMS. Terms cash. de 17

The Fast Sailing Schooner Ceres at Auction.

BY R. T. MONTGOMERY, Auctioneer.

WILL be sold on MONDAY, the 21st inst., at 12 o'clock, foot of Canal street—

The fast sailing schooner CERES, with all her apparel, and tackle, twelve tons burden, as she now lies foot of Canal street—

Terms cash. de 17

COAL.........COAL.

100 Tons Coal at Auction.

BY R. T. MONTGOMERY, Auctioneer.

WILL be sold on MONDAY, the 21st instant, at 11 o'clock, on the Levee, opposite Spain street, Third District—

100 tons Delaware and Hudson Grate COAL. For Sale, and in lots to suit purchasers.

Samples can be seen at the auction. Terms cash. de 19

15 Shares Crescent City Bank Stock at Auction.—Succession of J. Gonzales.

BY McCERREN & LANDRY,

G. W. McCERREN, Auctioneer.

Office and Salesrooms, Masonic Hall, St. Charles St.

WILL be sold at public auction on SATURDAY, December 19, at 11 o'clock at their auction mart, Masonic Hall, by virtue of an order from the Hon. John S. Whitaker, Judge of the Second District Court of New Orleans—

Fifteen SHARES Crescent City Bank, belonging to said succession of J. Gonzales.

Terms Cash. de 8

Succession of H. Gridley.

SECOND DISTRICT COURT OF NEW ORLEANS—No. 16,175.—Notice is hereby given to the creditors of this estate, and to all other persons herein interested, to show cause, within ten days from the present notification, (if any they have or can) why the account presented by the testamentary executrix of this estate should not be homologated and approved, and the funds distributed in accordance therewith.

By order of the Court. A. MOREL, Deputy Clerk.

de 19 23 29

Bank of America,

New Orleans, December 17, 1863.

AT an election by the Stockholders of this Institution, on the 14th instant, the following named gentlemen were unanimously elected Directors for the ensuing year:

Chas. Cavaroc,	D. Fatjo,
W. H. Schmidt,	Aug. Olivard,
A. B. Charpentier,	J. J. Fernandez,
G. J. Leeds,	J. A. Bellanger,
J. Viosca, Jr.,	Chas. LaCroix,
M. Puig,	F. Castavie,
A. Thibaut,	

And at a meeting of the Board, held this day, Charles Cavaroc, Esq., was unanimously elected President.

de 19 1w AM. FORTIER, Cashier.

LANDING ex ships Henriette and Valparaiso from Bordeaux—

26 casks Claret,	Chateau Gaubert,	
8 hhds Claret,	superior old Chateau Gaubert,	
80 " "	Chateau Beaucouet,	
12 " "	St. Julien,	
30 " "	St. Emilion,	
300 boxes "	Chateau Beaucouet,	
160 " "	St. Julien,	
100 " Vermouth, Noilly, Prat & Co.,		

For sale by J. H. CURRIEN, No. 42 Toulouse street. de 18 3t

St. Louis Church of New Orleans.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

NOTICE is hereby given to the pewholders of said Church, to call at my Office, No. 59 St. Anthony Square, before Monday, 28 December inst., and settle for the amount of their pews for the year 1864, at the same prices as the present year, 1863, and all pews not retained and paid for on said date, shall be rented by the undersigned according to custom. de 19 23 26

Private Lessons.

A YOUNG CREOLE LADY, who possesses many years experience in teaching, wishes to give lessons to children in private families. She teaches French, English, Arithmetic, Geography, History, &c. Prices moderate, and good city references given. Apply at the office of the Bee, or at No. 30 St. Bernard street, between Morales and Good Children Streets. de 19 2t

NOTICE.

Office of the N. O., Opelousas and G. W. Railroad Company,

New Orleans, December 18th, 1863.

IN conformity with the 14th Section of the Charter of this Company, a meeting of the Stockholders will be held at this office, on MONDAY, the 18th January, 1864, at 12 o'clock, M. W. H. McLEAN, Secretary pro tem.

de 18 12

NOTICE.

Office of the N. O., Opelousas, and G. W. Railroad Company,

New Orleans, December 18, 1863.

IN conformity with the Eighth Section of the Charter of this Company, an Election by the Stockholders for Eighteen Directors, to serve for one year from the First Monday in February, 1864, will be held at this office on WEDNESDAY, the 20th of January next, between the hours of 9 o'clock, A. M., and 3 o'clock, P. M. W. H. McLEAN, Secretary pro tem.

de 18 12jan

MILLINERY GOODS

AT WHOLESALE,

97 .... Magazine street 97

(Store formerly occupied by C. YALE, Jr.)

JUST received, by late arrivals, a large and desirable stock of

RIBBONS, SILKS,

MILLINERY and

STRAW GOODS

For Ladies, Misses and Children.

The attention of MILLINERS and the trade generally is solicited.

A choice selection of the newest and most desirable Goods in the above line will be received by every steamer.

DANIEL GORREN, No. 97 Magazine street

nov 19 3m

SUNDRIES.

THE subscribers offer for sale—
ANISEED—3 barrels;
CANARY SEED—3 barrels;
MUSTARD SEED—10 kegs;
GERMAN CAMOMILE—[illegible];
SENECA ROOT—1 bale;
SERPENTARIA ROOT—1 bale;
VALERIAN ROOT—2 bales;
PERUVIAN BARK—2 bales;
BORAX—4 barrels;
TURMERIC—10 barrels;
IRISH MOSS—10 barrels;
WHITE WAX—3 cases;
ORANGE FLOWER WATER—[illegible] cases;
CAYENNE PEPPER—3 barrels;
MANNA FLAKE and sorts—4 cases.

E. J. HART & Co.
73 and 75 Tchoupitoulas street.