New Orleans Bee.

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NEW ORLEANS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 25, 1865

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THE DAILY BEE

NEW ORLEANS:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 25, 1865

Auction Sales this Day.

By E. M. Jacobs & Co., at the Exchange Sales Rooms.

By E. Pilsbury, at 10½ o'clock, at 57 Carondelet street, cooking stoves, etc.

By B. Gonsalez, at 11 o'clock, on the Metairie Road, a fresh Gabert cow, dairy, milch cows, horse, horses, etc.

MARBLE HALL BILLIARD SALOON.—It will be seen that this old and favorite establishment, one of the most spacious and commodious in the country, soon time responded, much to the regret of billiard players, is now re-opened, to the great satisfaction of its former habitues and to the lovers of the ball and cue in general.

Reports of the Firemen's Charitable Association.

We have received in a pamphlet form the Annual Reports of the Officers and Members of the Firemen's Charitable Association for the year 1864. The various documents here collected contain much matter of a statistical, retrospective and prospective character, of great interest, not only to those immediately concerned in the extended fire organization of the city, but to the community at large whose welfare and safety are inevitably affected by the results of that organization. Judging from official exhibits, there is no small cause of congratulating ourselves upon the satisfactory nature of these results within the past year.

We learn from the communication of the worthy President, I. N. Marks, who has for nine years held that position to the Association, that now, when approaching the close of the thirty years of its chartered existence, its general condition was never more prosperous or more rich in capabilities of increasing usefulness. The present charter will expire in March next, when it will devolve upon the new Board of Delegates to create another charter. The President hopes that this instrument will provide a more powerful central organization than the present one, which he thinks inadequate to the proper control of 21 separate companies composed of about 1400 active and exempt members.

The fire contract with the city will expire in December, 1865, to be renewed, as it is expected, prior to the 1st of July next. The President entertains no doubt that it will remain with the Association.

The general Receipts for the year have been $28,346 10, expenditures, $27,316 74. Widows and Orphans' relief has been $13,963 40, general relief $2,915. On the fire contract account $40,000 00 were received, being one year's appropriation, from the city. From other sources the special fund was raised to $61,000 83, giving a balance after expenditures of $10,278 76.

Gen. Terry, says a Washington dispatch, is to be made a Major General for the capture of Fort Fisher.

Gen. Banks with his family was in Washington on the 15th, said to be waiting for the admission of Louisiana.

Mr. J. H. Langwell clerk of the Pontalba Carroll, will accept our thanks for the latest Western and Memphis dates.

ARRIVAL OF THE PETRONA.—The steamer Petrona arrived last evening, bringing us from our agent more complete files of Western, Cairo and Memphis papers, extracts from which we give elsewhere.

The officers of the line and fast steamer will accept our thanks for acceptable attentions.

Gold closed in New York on the night of the 17th at 2[illegible] to 2[illegible].

Admiral Porter's Report of the Second Naval Attack on Fort Fisher—His Order for a Land Assault from the Fleet—His Praise of General Terry—Heavy Estimate of Losses, &c.

Washington, January 23.—The following was received at the Navy Department from Admiral Porter:

Flag Ship, Malvern, off Fort Fisher, January 15, 1865.—Sir: I have the honor to report for your information the operations that have been carried on against the forts at the entrance of Cape Fear river.

I have been employed in filling the ship with ammunition, and the difficulties we have encountered no one can conceive. All our work had to be done with the larger vessels anchored on the coast, exposed, many days, to violent gales that blew here almost incessantly. C[illegible] to break no[illegible] have gone t[illegible] on through [illegible] thing to see [illegible] whatever [illegible] or rot in a heavy [illegible] way in the [illegible] sea in their [illegible] pany, I stea[illegible] for the [illegible]

On the m[illegible] in station, three [illegible] the boats were sent at once to take off troops, who were landed, with about 12 days' provisions, at about 7 o'clock P.M. This time I proposed a different plan in attacking the rebel works. I sent in the new double-ender, Gen. Red Commanding, the monitors Saugerus, Canonicus, Monadnock and Mattapoy. At 7:30 A.M. the forts opened on them, as they approached and, that they might have a more direct position within 1000 yards of Fort Fisher, and when ready they opened their batteries. In this way I imagined the enemy's attention would be drawn, so that we might see what guns they had, and exactly where they were, be able to dismount them by our fire.

Quite a spirited engagement went on between the forts, the ironclads and the monitors. Back of Fisher—A large detachment was landed. It was a rough night and the troops had to wade up to their breeches before they could get the ashore. Gen. Ames commanded the southern angle. Fort Fisher commanded by Lamb very disputated. The guns were silenced one after the other, and only one heavy gun in the southern angle kept up its fire. The fire from this gun was not accurate, as is indicated by the damage on the iron vessels. They were of several times.

My way of getting the enemy know we had some steamers on board the wooden ships, and did not intend to take a back seat, was to have him by using the iron ones alone. I ordered the number one in the line led by Captain Alden, of the Osipee, and the number two, led by Commodore Thatcher, of the Colorado, and attacked the batteries. This was done in the handsomest manner. Not a mistake was made except bring too rapidly and making too much smoke.

The heavy fire of the large vessels shut up the enemy's guns at times, and after firing till under dark the wooden vessels dropped out to their anchorage. The iron ones and monitors maintained their position through the night, firing a shell now and then. They are now lying within one thousand yards of the forts, and the monitors within seven hundred yards, and the fire from a gun at them, thinking no doubt that it is worth of powder.

The firing from the fleet will commence as soon as the guns can be laid and be kept up as long as the ordnance department provides us with shells and guns.

There is a perfect understanding between General Terry and myself. I believe every thing has been done to suit him. I have heard no complaint, and know that we have left every disposition to help the army along.

A detailed report of our operations here will be sent to when we get through.

I see no reason to doubt our success, as the forts will be fired up soon. We have a respectable force landed on Smith Island, which contains guns completely commands, and a place of defence which would enable us to hold out for a very large force. I will report to you soon, at every opportunity. I have the honor to be very respectfully, your obedient servant

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

Friday, Jan. 13.—Nothing going on this morning, the following active operations this morning was read on the order from Admiral Porter was read on the quarter-deck of the Santiago de Cuba by the executive officer of the flag ship:

Before going into action the commander of each vessel will detail as many of the men as can be spared from the guns as a landing party, so can spare from the guns as a landing party, so that we may have a chance on the assault when that we may have a chance on the assault when that we may have a chance on the assault when