THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.

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NEW ORLEANS:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 10.

On our second page will be found sheriff's and auction sales, bank notices and various miscellaneous advertisements.

Auction Sales this Day.

By E. M. Jacobs, at No. 36 Exchange Alley, furniture, dry goods, codfish, &c.

PRISONERS BY THE PAULINE CARROLL.—The steamer Pauline Carroll, which arrived yesterday from St. Louis, brought down 440 Confederate prisoners of war, non commissioned officers and privates, from Camp Chase, Ohio, in charge of Capt. L. W. Nichols, U. S. A. They are to be exchanged.

Unassigned Drafted Men to be Released upon Recognizance.

HEADQUARTERS DEP'T OF THE GULF, }
New Orleans, La., May 9th, 1865. }

General Orders No. 54

The draft having been suspended in this Department, in pursuance of an order from the Secretary of War, all persons not having been assigned to any Regiment, who are detained under orders relating to the draft, will be released upon giving their personal recognizance to appear when called upon for duty.

By command of Major General BANKS,
J. SCHUYLER CROSBY,
Brevet Lieut. Col. A. D. C.
& A. A. A. General.

OFFICIAL:
EDWARD N. POMEROY,
2d Lt. & Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

Reduced Cuba Duties.

The decree recently promulgated by the Spanish Colonial Minister of reducing the duties on flour imported into Cuba and Porto Rico, provides that after the 1st of July, 1865, such importation shall pay, for each barrel of 94 kilogrammes, equivalent to 200 Spanish pounds, (about the weight of American barrels) as follows:

National flour, from Spanish ports and in Spanish bottoms, 2 escudos.

National flour, from Spanish ports in foreign bottoms, 4 escudos.

Foreign flour in foreign bottoms, 10 escudos.

The escudo, a new Spanish coin, is said to be equivalent to 10 reals, the real being equal to 12 1/2 cents of American currency.—EXE.

We are inclined to believe that our cotemporary has been led into error in relation to the value of this new Spanish coin. The new *escudo* alluded to, if we are not mistaken, is worth 10 *reales de vellon*, about 50 cents—the *real fuerte* is worth about 12 1/2 cents. If we are not misinformed in the estimate of values, of course there is a reduction in the new Cuba tariff on flour. The former duties on all foreign flour entering the island, was, if we are not mistaken, $9 59, if in foreign bottoms, and $8 53 if in Spanish bottoms. Our cotemporary's estimate would make the duty now about $12 50, which, of course, would be no reduction in duties on foreign flour, but a considerable increase. Our merchantile interests in this question are very great, and we should be pleased to have it placed beyond the shadow of a doubt.—EDS. BEE.

In the haste of translation it failed to be noted that the new coin was measured by the copper or alloyed real, and not by the silver real. The former, the *real de vellon* in French *real de billon*) was so called from its circular form giving it a resemblance to a seal, *bulla*. It has been in different countries somewhat variously and uncertainly estimated. In France, according to Deschenelle's National Dictionary, it is worth twenty-seven hundredths of a franc. This would make its American equivalence within a small fraction of 5 cents. Accordingly, when in former years Spanish coin constituted a large part of the currency in this country, cheques as well as Congressional authority raised it at that value. But at the same time in computing sums of money 4 *reals de vellon*, represented by the piaster, was accounted equal to 19 cents and 5 mills.

The value of the silver real, *real de plata*, has been even less definitely determined than that of the *real de vellon*, and between the two there seems never to have been any invariable ratio, or fixed relation as multiple and factor. While the latter was comparatively fixed, the former ranged through a variation of 2½ cents, and sometimes even more. The *Cyclopedia* of ——

Webster's Dictionary, we are told, as a fact derived from Webster, that it poeressed the value of 6 pence, or 12½ cents. Returning to Deschenelle's Dictionary, we find the single silver real valued at 54 hundredths of the franc, about 9 cents, and the double silver real, *piecette or peseta*, at one-fifth of a dollar. These last distinctions are worthy of more special note, as they may serve to prevent the confusion of the American quarter of a dollar with the Spanish fifth of a dollar.

Heretofore the practical importance of the foregoing observations would have been inconsiderable; but at present the particulars to which they refer acquire an interest from the opening prospect of a larger and more liberal commercial intercourse than formerly between the Mississippi Valley and the Spanish Antilles.

It may not be long, indeed, before Spanish currency will enter into accounts as well as actual exchange among our trading circles. At least it is to be hoped that we may finally witness that or some other equally conclusive sign, of prosperous trade with neighboring possessions of Spain. The duty on flour, however, even after its reduction to about $5, is still a somewhat impracticable figure; but by shipping in Spanish bottoms it may be decreased to about $2, and perhaps, at this rate, American flour can profitably compete with Spanish flour at $1. Let us hope, moreover, that the reduction noted is but the initiative to a continued removal of restrictions in the general and uninterrupted amity for which there seems so fair a promise between the two countries.

Through Telegraph from Mobile to the West.

It appears from the Mobile *News* of Monday, which contains Northern dispatches as late as received at the same date in this city, that Mobile has been put in telegraphic connection with the West via Columbus, Ky. This connection, the *True Delta* states, was completed on Sunday. Columbus is about twenty miles below Cairo, the Western terminus of the dispatches forwarded for the New Orleans press.

We are not informed as to whether it is intended at present to close the gap between the two places. Such a link is hardly needed, as, without crossing the river, shorter routes to the North may soon be practicable through Tennessee and Kentucky, and even through the Atlantic States where the lines have been for the most intact and regularly operating except where transiently interrupted by raids or longer suspended by the presence of great armies.

It looks a little singular that Mobile, so remarkably "fast" in former days, should now in the matter of telegraphic news, leap ahead of New Orleans, as a bound as it were, to the extent of about three days. We should remember, however, that formerly Mobile was regarded as telegraphically a little nearer to the news centre of the North than this city which sometimes when the other line failed had to take its dispatches, second-hand, by the Southern line, from Mobile.

EXPORTATION OF ARMS, HORSES, LIVE STOCK.—Secretary Stanton, by order of the President, has announced on the 2d the revokation of the executive order of November 1862, prohibiting the exportation of arms and ammunition from the ports of the States, and executive order of May 13, 1864, prohibiting the exportation of horses, mules and live stock.

"Papa, why do the," plant guns, do they grow and have leaves?" "No, my son; but like plants they shoot, and the others do the leaving."

The buyer needs a hundred eyes, the seller but one.

News from Matamoros and Bagdad

MATAMOROS THREATENED BY A LIBERAL ARMY—SKIRMISH OUTSIDE THE CITY—FRENCH REINFORCEMENTS—REPORTED RETREAT OF THE LIBERALS, &c.—BUSINESS DULL.

[Special to the N. O. Times.]

SOUTHWEST PASS, May 9.

Matamoros, May 2—On the 29th ult., the Liberal forces, under Gen. Negrete, appeared before the city with about forty-five hundred troops, and it was reported demanded its surrender, which was refused. The Imperialists, about 3500, under Gen. Mejia and Gen. Lopez, marched out to meet them, and on the evening of the 30th had a cavalry skirmish and an artillery fight.

Casualties on the Imperial side, three men wounded and one horse killed. The casualties on the Liberal side are not known. On the 1st the stores were all closed, and all public and private business suspended. The Custom-house officials all fled to Brownsville. The streets were barricaded with bales of gunny cloth, in expectation of an attack, but there was none made, and on the evening of the 21 everything was quiet.

The wealthy citizens removed all their valuables and money to Brownsville. On the 1st and 2d about eight hundred troops, under the French flag from Vera Cruz, were landed at the mouth of the river.

On the 3d, took up their line of march for the interior. About one hundred French marines went up by the river on steamers barricaded with cotton.

There was a report at Bagdad on the morning of the 6th, by a passenger down the river, that the stage had arrived at Monterey on the evening previous with reports that the Liberals were now about fifteen miles from Matamoros in full retreat. The Corrinas band is in some force dodging about Bagdad and Matamoros, robbing the stages and stealing stage horses.

On the 27th the down stage was robbed of $3500, and on the 29th and 30th they were robbed again. The passengers losing money, watches and all their habiliments.

Business at Matamoros and Bagdad is very dull. Both places are crowded with goods of all descriptions, and there is no market for them.

There is lumber enough there to build a small city—several cargoes being outside the bar to connect with it. Some is high and light-grade, at $7 per barrel, and everything else in proportion. Nothing in demand. The schooner Billy Butts brings the latest news of Stockdale, passengers, three days from Matamoros to bar.

Mrs J Bowling and daughter, Mrs Capt Morrison and son, Miss Fannie, B B Briggle, F Hanson, S B Frost, D Abram, E Siebert, E A Brand, E Barrowman, F Bowman, G Lyllman, Pat Bruner, J Bowling.

(From the True Delta, of last evening.)

The Call for a Mass Meeting Withdrawn.

The advertisement calling for a "mass meeting of the Free State Party" was ordered not to appear this morning, but was retained through mistake. The meeting, we understand, will not be held. Gen. Banks's policy will be vindicated by time, and is now approved by all truly loyal citizens. A public demonstration is not needed on the occasion of his return, and we are informed that the call was issued without his wish or knowledge. This we are authorized to state from the General's headquarters.

The Trial of Congressman Harris, of Maryland.

[Special to the St. Louis Republican.]

Washington, May 3.—But little was accomplished before the court martial to-day, in the case of Congressman Harris of Maryland, charged with violation of the 56th article of war. The prisoner objected to the evidence of the two paroled rebel soldiers given against him, on the ground that the witnesses had been guilty of treason and therefore could not appear against a citizen. They took advocate proposed to prove by a neighbor of Harris that he himself was disloyal, and with the witnesses a mutual enmity of long standing existed, which would not priviledged to make exemptions to their testimony. Harris proceeded to cross the point raised, claiming that treason only was punishable by the constitution, that duelling was not defined by law, and sentiment was not punishable. The court adjourned till to-morrow.

Booth's Burial.

(Special to the Western Associated Press.)

New York, May 3—The vexed question as to the disposal of the remains of Booth is at length settled by the statement which may be regarded as final, that after the head and heart, which have been deposited in the Army Medical Museum in this city, had been carefully filled, the corpse was placed in charge of two men, who, after ——— ——— ——— in a little spot of ground close to the penitentiary, where for some years felons have been buried. Booth's body was deposited here, and the earth over it smoothed and carefully sodded over.

Other graves of less infamous felons had preceded it by several years, and a strong guard is now in charge of the spot, and will continue to keep it undisturbed until the grass has grown sufficiently that no one will ever be able to distinguish the place where the assassin's corpse was interred from other nameless graves around it.

Parliamentary Speaking in England and France Compared.

[From the London News, April 15.]

In reading the debates of the Legislative Body in France one is struck by the literary and philosophical tone and method of the country. This is no novelty in French assemblies.—In the days of parliamentary government, under the Restoration, the Monarchy of July, and the Second Republic, the orderly form of discussion was the invariable characteristic of the speakers. It belongs to the genius of the nation and of the language, the logical precision of thought, and this historical finish of style.—The French language is an instrument of rare precision, clearness, and felicity. But—as the round-faced man who was recommended to wear a "wide-awake" told his hatter, "mine is not a face to take liberties with"—it is a fatal instrument for random talkers. Read for repose, are sonapterous by the absence of thought.—Like the violin, if it is not admirably played upon it becomes a fiddle. It would be impossible to use it in the gross, startibly, utilitarian way to which the unkempt, unpolished orators of Southern Legislatures, and even the members of our House of Commons use their honest homespun sense and syntax. A French speaker has his locale and a cultivated passion for the abstract, the absolute, and the theoretical, and soars instinctively into the empyrean, while the less practical, to which the *grenne pedestris* of an English Parliament sticks as to its native soil. The report of the French debates reads like a series of brilliant, thoughtful, and elaborate essays composed for a lettered and fastidious audience or to be delivered from an imaginary pulpit to posterity.

Formula, antithesis, and epigram abound in these compositions; but the form is very seldom declamatory, it is rather that of sententious and sparkling table talk—the sort of table-talk that is never heard in real life. With a few exceptions, which may be counted on the fingers of one hand, the speeches in our House of Commons, on the contrary, resemble nothing so much as the table-talk that is heard in private life, or, what is not so tolerable, the table-talk of Board meetings, and occasionally, in its higher flights, the pompous table-talk of public dinners. Our spoken language is not capable of the nicelies, the gradations, and the happy turns of the French; it abhors formulae and abstract propositions, and the long use of perfect liberty has given it a roughness and straight forwardness which are the last cerebral vir tues or defects to be found in a nation long broken and subdued by military power, long trained to conspire in whispers and to stab with compliments; to wrap treason in allusions; to fence with censorships, to daily with destroyers, to dance the fetters of a tolerated liberty, and to accept a capricious favor as its indulgence. Something of the "Philistinism" with which Mr Matthew Arnold so daintily reproaches English public writers and speakers is partly due to the liberty which has become their second nature, and has encouraged a rankness and recklessness of thought and a vulgarity of expression. Who knows what a year of French regimen might do for the literature of ideas and the cultivation of phrases in this country?

General Lee Expected to Visit Canada.

[Hamilton Correspondence of the Toronto Leader.]

The *Times* announces, this evening (the 26th April) that General R. E. Lee has already engaged apartments at the Royal Hotel, but I learn that the visit will not be made. There is some ground both to believe and discredit the rumor of General Lee's visit to our city. That he has relatives here is our correspondent is aware, but large gifts with "deposed mysts and ——" some certainly is mentioned by our people to see the great chieftain of the South, and it is to be hoped that the rumor may prove true

"*Sic transit gloria.*" The anecdote of Gen. Sherman is said from, according to which the General, upon being congratulated on his national popularity, took occasion to remark the similitude between popularity and mercury, and said "If I should make a blunder to-morrow, I would be hung as McClellan." His declaration is already verified.

A sweetener in everything is generally good for nothing.

Napoleon's Son "Seeing Life."

[Paris (April 13) Correspondence of London Star.]

It appears that the Prince Imperial made an appeal to the Empress on the subject of his state duties, and remonstrated on being sent out in a close carriage, preceded by outriders, and escorted by half a squadron of cavalry, and begged so hard to be allowed to walk about with his tutor and see something of common life, that the Empress sent for M. Monnier and communicated to him her acquiescence in the boy's wish, begging of him to take him out occasionally to walk in the streets. The latter refused to undertake the responsibility without the special permission of the Emperor. An audience was demanded. His Majesty discussed the subject with M. Monnier, and terminated by "*Faites, cependant vos conditions, je me fie à votre discretion.*" The result is that the Prince has enjoyed several walks, or rather runs, as, notwithstanding the remonstrances of his tutor, he scampers about at a most undignified pace. Yesterday he saw a dog attacking a poor little girl. The Prince beat the dog off, who instantly flew at him; he, however, fought him till gallantly, and, on perceiving the terror of his tutor, said, "*Vous avez cru que je pouvais pas les tenir tous, vous.*" The last time he went out to walk, he dived into a circle of *gamins* and seized a baby, which was the central object of the group, kissing its mud-begrimed faces as if he had never seen any thing so attractive. The boy is a fine, manly fellow, and might easily be mistaken for an English schoolboy. He rides capitally, and takes a fence as well as any boy of his age could.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Police Cases.—Sophie Wilkinson and Mary Dadley, for obscene language on Race street, were fined $10 each.

Frances Ballingue was tried for breathing and abusing Adam Coucour, and was compelled to give peace bonds for three months.

Jane Hall, charged by J. Ferrone, No. 79 Bourbon street, with having stolen $10 in currency, and H. Mairhoff, charged by F. Roder with a murderous assault and battery, were sent before the First District Court for trial.

First District Court—Judge Abell.—The Grand Jury was in session yesterday, and, then, was discharged to the 11th inst.

The District Attorney filed informations against Thomas Bellingue, charged with rape, and Mrs. Murphy, Fahey and Hennessey, charged with larceny.

The case against Mr. Pauline, charged with receiving stolen property, was continued indefinitely.

Victorine Gondelaine, charged with larceny, was discharged.

United States District Court—Judge Durell.—The demurrer and claim in the case of the United States vs one lot of ground, the property of W. Brickell, were, on motion of District Attorney Dunn, ordered from the record, and it was then adjudged that the libel be taken pro confesso and the property condemned.

The case of Mrs. Brickell against the homestead effects of W. Brickell, two rules were taken, one by Mrs. Hedges Ritchell and another by Mr. Dunn, for Geo. Smith, Esq., Bank notes to be vindicated by time, and is now approved by all truly loyal citizens. A public demonstration is not needed on the occasion of his return, and we are informed that the call was issued without his wish or knowledge. This we are authorized to state from the General's headquarters.

FROM GALVESTON.

By the courtesy of Capt. Crowell, of the gunboat Augustus Dinsmore, we have Galveston and Houston papers to the 24th ult.

The surrender of Lee's army was known in those cities on the 21st ult., by telegraph from Shreveport; and the Washington assassination was known, in the same way, on the 23d ult.

There was a war meeting at Houston immediately after the receipt of the first news, and resolutions of persistent resistance were adopted; but the tone of the Houston *Telegraph* regarding the surrender indicated popular consternation and despondency.

The *Telegraph's* chief argument for hope as to affairs east of the Mississippi was in the supposition that Johnston's army comprised the flower of the Southern armies and was invincible and able to win victories.

The same paper pronounces the killing of President Lincoln "astounding intelligence," and "more wonderful than the capitulation of armies." It says also: "With the perpetration of these deeds we can have no sympathy, nor for them can the Southern people be held any way responsible."

Gen. J. G. Walker had been put in command of the cavalry Corps lately commanded by Gen. Wharton, killed by Col. Baylor.

The New York Tribune on General Sherman.

The divergence of the New York *Tribune* from the ultra Radicals in the matter of peace and amnesty, is followed by a separation from them not less marked on the subject of Gen. Sherman's late conduct in North Carolina. How bitterly and generally that officer was attacked and with what a singular justice and charity, as it appeared to his friends, he was defended by the *Tribune*, may be inferred from the following note:

To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune:

SIR—Allow me to thank you most sincerely for your generous and charitable article in to-day's *Tribune* in reference to Gen. Sherman. Here is a man who has been away from family and home for four years, fighting in the cause of the Union, and has never before made a blunder, but has done more to crush out this accursed Rebellion, than any other of our Generals, and yet he is assailed with these facts before us, we see the whole press of the North turn around, at the end of the Secretary of War, and denounce him as a traitor.

This is his first mistake, if it is one, and yet all is forgotten, and he is hounded down as if he was a second Booth. Suppose he had killed Davis, how popular? Why not wait until we hear from Gen. Grant about the affair? What must be Sherman's feelings when he reads the denunciations of the press on his first and only mistake?—papers that were but yesterday eulogizing him in double headed editorials are now cursing him. I think Babel's letter to you "did him a traitor" Therefore I thank you for your just and charitable article of this morning. It will do much to stay the storm of a good man and a soldier. Yours, &c.

New York, April 27, 1865.

[From the Cincinnati Commercial, 2d.]

General Grant and General Sherman.

There was a typographical error in the report, given in our special North Carolina telegraphic correspondence, published yesterday, of what General Grant said about General Sherman's success at Goldsboro *facilitated* my own at Richmond. The Railroad word was printed *necessitated*. General Grant's remarks were received by the public admiration of Sherman's report at that time. It will be recollected by all who reflect upon the matter, that the Secretary of War was not under obligations to publish any thing about the Sherman-Johnston conference. The Lieutenant-General said further:

"Sherman has done too much for the country to be slighted now for a single mistake, not of treachery, of which General Sherman is utterly incapable, by one which grew at once out of sincere patriotism."

Letter Written by J. Wilkes Booth on the Day of the Murder.

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer, April 27.]

We present below a literal copy of a letter written by John Wilkes Booth on the day of the assassination of the President, which was found in his room at the National Hotel, Washington, on the day on which the assassination took place. The letter is directed to "Mrs. M. A. Booth, No. 28 East Nineteenth street, New York," and bears a Washington, D. C., Post-office stamp, date April 14. It bears the appearance of having been written in considerable haste, and is all contained on one side of half a sheet of note paper.

"APRIL 14—2 A. M.

Dearest Mother—I know you expect a letter from me, and am sure you will hardly forgive me for not writing, but I have nothing to write about. Every thing is dull, that is, has been till last night. (The illumination.) Every thing was favorable and prosperous. More so in my case than it had been a display on a nobler cause. But so goes the world. Might makes right. I only drop you these few lines to let you know I am well, and to say I have not been heard from you.—Excuse brevity; am in haste. Had one from Rose. With fee love to you all, I am your affectionate son ever,

"JOHN."

"CARRIED OFF INTO THE DARKNESS."—The Washington correspondent of the N Y. *World* writes on the 28th ult.:

Yesterday the Secretary of War, without instructions of any kind, committed to Colonel Lafayette C. Baker, of the secret service, the search for J. Wilkes Booth. The secret service never fulfilled its volition more secretly. Only a few hours before he said to the body I said I to Baker, "That is known," he answered, "to only one man living besides myself it is one. I will have him or know the reason why." The man who knows is sworn to silence. Never, till the great trumpeter comes, shall the grave of Booth be discovered." And this is true. Last night, the 27th of April, a small row-boat received the carcass of the murderer; two men were in it, they carried the body of into the darkness, and one of them knows it will never return. In the darkness, like his great crime, may it remain forever, inpalpable, invisible, nondescript, condemned to that worse than damnation, annihilation.

The New York Herald on the Offer of the French Mission to James Gordon Bennett.

The following occurs in the editorial columns of the New York *Herald* of the 29th ult.:

The offer of the French mission by the late President Lincoln to Mr. James Gordon Bennett, and his declination of the offer upon the ground that he could serve the country better at home, have been the subject of comment in all the leading journals of this country and of Europe, the *Herald* alone excepted, and the topic of gossip and discussion in the *salons* of New York, Paris and London—the world's three capitals—and of society everywhere that the news has reached. We have not yet heard from India, China and Japan; but we presume that the papers and courriers of those remote regions are equally engrossed in this absorbing bit of information. Judging from the sensation which the report has caused at home and abroad, Mr. Bennett will soon have the pleasure of being carefully enwrapped at the extremest potato to which civilization extends, and a letter or newspaper finds its way.

The time to break the silence has not yet arrived, but it will arrive shortly. The offer of the French mission was one of the last acts of the great and good man who has been taken from us, and it will remain as part of his history and of the history of the country. At the proper time the public will be made familiar with all the circumstances and the objections of the declination, with the full and complete reasons upon both sides. It will be, of course, a very interesting chapter in the history of the times. Mr. Bennett's decision was approved by the late President, and the grounds that it is based upon will be found to be of the most patriotic character