THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.

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NEW ORLEANS :
FRIDAY MORNING, JAN. 6, 1865.

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

THE VARIETIES THEATRE—*Benefit of the Charity Hospital*—To-night has been set apart by the management of the Varieties theatre for a benefit to the Charity Hospital.

For this occasion an especial bill is provided. Bulwer's fine play of the Lady of Lyons will be given, with Mrs. Allen as Pauline, and Mr. Hill as Claude—both excellent and effective personations.

The performance will be concluded with the petite comedy of Perfection.

The occasion is eminently one to appeal to theatre-goers of all tastes, and the entire public who have an opportunity thus offered to enjoy at once elegant amusement and to contribute to one of the noblest charities of the city and of the whole country.

The U. S. mail steamship Creole, John Thompson commanding, will leave her wharf this morning at 8 o'clock for New York direct, with $13,200 in specie, a full freight, the U. S. mail and the following passengers :

Mrs Lafone, Ford Wiser, wife and child, Mrs Shultz & 4 in steerage and soon, S Howe, S Saunoirre, S J Wm. Jos O'Toward, G Wood, A C Sady, Miss A D Clark, Mr Di Caie and lady, 10 in the steerage.

The U. S. Transport Steamer Jacob Lawrence, arrived yesterday morning with U. S. troops. When backing out from the foot of Poydras street, about 10½ o'clock, she drifted afoul of the U. S. Gunboat Augustus Dicemore, at anchor in the stream, causing some damage to the boiler and hurricane decks of the Lawrence. Several of the soldiers were thrown over board but no lives were lost.

The Remains of Mr. Dayton, late U. S Minister to France, arrived at New York on the 30th Dec. by the steamer Lafayette. Due preparations were making to extend to them fitting civic and military honors attending their transfer to the authorities of New Jersey.

Mr. Spurgeon, the great Baptist preacher of England, it is said, has renounced the title of "Reverend," and requests never to be thus addressed in future. The claims of Mr. S. to the discarded title were far from conspicuously displayed in his language and conduct.

Captain Hord, of the steamer Missouri, has our thanks for special newspaper favors and other courtesies.

It is stated that the Emperor Maximilian has appointed ex-Senator Gwin Governor General of Sonora.

The Brazil—Florida Affair.

In the correspondence between Mr. Seward and the Brazilian Minister on the Florida affair, the former disclaims for the United States, the acts of Capt. Collins, of the Wachusetts, and the American Consul at Bahia, saying that the first would be suspended and tried by court martial, and the latter dismissed from his position for his admitted instigation of the Captain to commit an illegal act. The crew of the Florida were to be released beyond recapture. As to pecuniary reparation the correspondence, as thus far revealed, has nothing specific.

Late News via Mobile.

[From last Evening's Picayune Extra.]

We have advices to the evening of the 30th inst. from Mobile, and from other points in the Confederacy to the previous day.

AN ALABAMA JOURNAL ON HOOD'S SITUATION.

The Montgomery *Appeal*, of the 27th, admits that Hood has been defeated, and is making his way out of Tennessee, and says :

When he entered the State he had no more hope of remaining, and so expressed himself to his army, except upon the condition of Sherman's defeat, or Thomas's discomfiture. Sherman has accomplished his purpose and saved his army. While Thomas effected his retreat upon Nashville with less of damage to his forces than was sustained by those of the adversary.

Under this state of facts, we see no alternative left Gen. Hood but to place himself on this side of the Tennessee River with as little delay as possible. The enemy is rapidly gathering in strength in his immediate front, while his rear is seriously threatened by a large force from Memphis. He thus stands in great danger of being entirely cut off from the base of supplies at Corinth. Such a thing would be disastrous in the extreme, and we feel persuaded that Gen. Hood is but acting the part of a wise and discreet general in withdrawing his forces to this side of the Tennessee River.

With his army at Corinth, Gen. Hood will occupy the line of defence selected by Gen. A. S. Johnston in 1862, and the enemy will find much of his work for the last two or three years to do over a second time. To the country again and hopeful, these facts are full of cheerful import, and it is only those who are weary in well doing that will give way to gloomy forebodings. The Confederacy is still far more vigorous and powerful for defence than is the North for aggression. Hood is in a much better position for defence at Corinth than he would be at Palmetto or Lovejoy's Station in Georgia, where Sherman is less powerful for mischief at Savannah than he would be at Atlanta.

FEDERAL EXPEDITION FROM MEMPHIS.

The Mobile *Evening News*, of the 30th, has the following account of the raid from Memphis into Northern Mississippi :

The Federal raiders who were reported at Vernon on Monday entered Okalona on Tuesday turned that town, as is supposed, and came on Aberdeen on Wednesday. It appears they met the first organized resistance.

The train that left there Wednesday reports the fight was progressing. It commenced at 7 o'clock. The result is not known, but our forces were at the time inferior to the enemy, and a portion of them had to be commanded. A part of the Irish regiment lately mustered into the Confederate service was in the fight and fought with great persistency and gallantry. A report says, we hope safely, that a portion of these men were surrounded and captured by the enemy.

A train loaded with troops, some of them veterans, was stopped by military orders at a point some eighteen miles from the fight, from 8 o'clock Tuesday night to 2 o'clock next morning. Had the train proceeded on Tuesday night it is said the additional force it conveyed could have made victory certain at Egypt, and saved a great deal of valuable property.

The down train, which was heavily laden, was attacked by the enemy, and it was necessary to uncouple a portion of it to save the remainder.

Five passenger cars, one mail car and four box cars fell into the enemy's hands, and were immediately fired.

The raiding party is reported to have come out from Memphis, and is variously estimated from 1200 to 3000 strong. They are all mounted, have no waggons or artillery, and it is believed the injury to the road is confined to burning depots, crossings, trestle work, etc.

The raiders, at last accounts, threatened West Point, where Taylor was collecting a considerable force—cavalry and infantry—and if they come to a fight, the enemy should be well whipped. The probability is, however, that they came out to destroy communications with Corinth, and having accomplished this they will return as rapidly as possible.

LETTER FROM GEN. JOHNSTON.

In response to a resolution of the Virginia Legislature, inviting him to a privileged seat, Gen. Johnson replied with the following brief note :

Richmond, December 13, 1864.

Hugh W. Sheffey, Esq., Speaker House of Delegates :

Sir—I had the honor to receive, this afternoon, your letter of yesterday, in which, in accordance with a resolution of the House of Delegates, you tender me a privileged seat in the hall of the House.

I fully appreciate the honor thus conferred upon me. In my estimation it is the highest to which a Virginia soldier can aspire. I am most grateful for it; the more because I am conscious that I am indebted to Virginian kindness for the distinction. It is a subject of deep regret to me that my services in this great and long war have been so small, and that I have done so little for the honor and defence of Virginia. Should the privilege of serving in the field be restored to me, I promise to exert myself to the utmost to earn them the reward now bestowed.

I shall avail myself, as soon as possible, of the privilege the House has bestowed, and hope, in doing so, to become acquainted with all its members.

Thanking you sincerely for the cordial and flattering manner in which you have expressed this invitation, I am, with the highest respect,

Your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

Capt. Semmes in Mobile.

In the Mobile *Advertiser* we find the following correspondence :

MOBILE, Dec. 27, 1864.

Capt. Raphael Semmes, Confederate States Navy, and late Commander of the C. S. steamer Alabama :

Dear Sir—The undersigned, representing the universal sentiment of your countrymen and fellow-citizens, having watched your long and brilliant career in the Confederate cruisers Sumter and Alabama, in which you have carried our infant flag on all seas, gloriously to our country and with terror to its enemies, and desiring to testify our admiration of your patriotism as a Southern officer, your daring as a seaman and your services to our common cause, respectfully request that you will make some day when your fellow-citizens of Mobile and Alabama may have the pleasure of waiting upon your triumphs, such a welcome to your home, after so many trials and dangers.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully, your friends and fellow-citizens.

R H Slough, Mayor,	Samuel G. Battle,
W. H. Redwood,	J. Nott,
Percy Walker,	William B. Hamilton,
John Parham,	Thomas St. John,
H. Ballentyne,	W. A. Smith,
A. J. Ingersoll,	L. E. Smith,
Lloyd Bowers,	R. H. Smith,
Charles P. Gaze,	W. D. Frost,
M. Waring,	Richard Brisbt, Jr
Charles Walsh,	R. Westfeldt,
L. M. Wilson,	E. S. Dargan,
Joseph E. Murrell,	John F. Taylor,
John Scott,	W. G. Jones,
Charles A. Marston	Wm H Dunn,
Robert W. Smith,	H. G. Humphries,
John Forsyth.	

MOBILE, Ala., Dec. 29, 1864.

Gentlemen—I have had the honor to receive your communication of this date, written on behalf of the citizens of Mobile, welcoming me upon my return home, and expressing the desire that I would meet my fellow-citizens at some suitable time and place, to receive their congratulations, etc. Thanking you very kindly for the flattering terms in which you have been pleased to couch the invitation, I take pleasure in accepting it, and will be pleased to receive each of my fellow-citizens as feel inclined to call upon me, at the Battle House, on Saturday next, between the hours of 11 and 1 o'clock.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. SEMMES.

Messrs R. H. Slough, Mayor, W. H. Redwood, Percy Walker, John Parham, and others.

Additional from Our Western Files.

THE WILMINGTON EXPEDITION—ITS ATTEMPTED ABANDONMENT—INCIDENTS OF THE ATTACK ON FORT FISHER—OPINIONS OF THE PRESS—STRENGTH OF THE FORT.

The Associated Press correspondent with Foster's expedition, says it is the opinion of those best competent to judge of such matters, that Fort Fisher is the strongest earthwork in America, and may be briefly described as a square-fashioned earthwork, enclosing about five acres, and mounting 36 heavy guns.

FAILURE OF THE GREAT FLOATING TORPEDO.

[From Admiral Porter's dispatch.]

Previous to making the attack, a torpedo on a large scale, supposed to contain powder enough to explode the magazine of the fort, was carefully prepared, under command of Commodore A. C. Rhind, and exploded under the walls of the fort. So much had been said about the terrible results of powder explosions recently in England, that great results were expected from the experiment.

The boat selected was the Louisiana, and after being prepared at Norfolk, she was towed round to Beaufort and filled with powder. The Louisiana was disguised as a lumber-schooner by painting her white and adding another smoke-stack. Every preparation for her success was completed at Beaufort. On the 23d, Commodore Rhind was ordered to make ready to explode his torpedo under Fort Fisher. At 10:30 P. M., the Louisiana started in tow of the Wilderness. As soon as the lights of the fort were in sight, the Wilderness cast off and proceeded under steam to within 300 yards of the beach and 500 yards from Fort Fisher, where she was anchored. A boat was then sent ashore, and went indirectly ahead of her, enabling Commodore Rhind to make preparations without suspicion. After everything was ready, the fires were lighted, and the party escaped to the Wilderness, which immediately steamed out to sea. The explosion occurred at 2 A. M. on the 24th, and was distinctly heard on the 25th, and was not at all like what was expected. The vessels in the fleet were shaken but little.

A press dispatch says :

In exploding the torpedo boat, the fuses were arranged to be fired by clock work, and as a further precaution, against any accident it was arranged to set the vessel on fire at a point removed from the powder.

[From the Cincinnati Commercial, Dec. 31.]

The fitting explosion of the powder boat within three hundred yards of Fort Fisher, and which, so far as is known, failed to explode the powder that was burned, reminds one of the catamaran expedition, fitted out by the English to destroy the French fleets off Boulogne, during the summer of 1801. The boat failed were in favor of expectation of the threatened French invasion, and every body from the Pope downward (of forty-four men, the Prime Minister down) to the peasantry on the Southern coast, was in a chronic state of a scare. Nelson twice attempted to cut out the flotilla and came off more damaged than the enemy. Finally, a resort was had to vessels filled with combustibles, level with the water or below it, which were to be sent in, in charge of fire-boats and blow them up. Test formed the famous catamaran expedition, and great expectations of the result were entertained by the projectors of the enterprise. But they were not realized. The powder and combustible craft ran against the piers, or exploded before they came to the point of attack, or passed on quietly through the fleet, which parted to let them through, and as totally failed of accomplishing any purpose for which they were designed, as the powder-boat which Rear Admiral Porter blew up within three hundred yards of Fort Fisher. Nothing but mortification was the result. The French shut their laugh over the defeat, and the English did not repeat the experiment.

BUTLER'S LOSSES UNDETERMINED—HIS TROOPS TO BE SENT HOME.

The dispatch remarking that the losses of the land forces were not stated, adds :

Admiral Porter closes by saying "there are about a thousand dead left on the shore by the army who have not yet got an account of the surf on the beach. These will be taken off in the morning, and the soldiers will then be sent home."

DISPATCH FROM GEN. LEE REGARDING THE CAPTURE OF SALTVILLE.

Headquarters Army of Northern Virginia,
Dec. 24, 1864.

Hon. J. A. Seddon—General Breckinridge reports that the enemy, after having been roughly handled in the engagements of Saturday and Sunday last, near Saltville, during which two guns were lost, and wounded, gained possession of Saltville during the night of the 20th. The enemy remained there but a few hours, and retreated that night and morning of the 21st, toward Abingdon and Bristol. Our troops are bearing the fatigue and exposure with great cheerfulness. The damage to the salt works can soon be repaired. Many bridges and depots on the railroad have been burned.

R. E. LEE.

AN EDITORIAL REVIEW OF THE EXPEDITION.

From the Chicago Tribune, Dec. 31.

Loyal people can bear to be told that there is a probability that the great combined land and naval attack on Wilmington proves to be a "reconnoissance in force." The annals of the war have abundantly familiarized the reader with the meaning of the phrase, which does not, however, set it down among the odes of operations whereof the movement of the King of France with forty thousand men is the familiar type. There was a purpose in this great movement, a power grand and terrific in its execution, and yet the summing up thus far possesses it over to the list of operations that deserve success from the valor of their participants, and cease because there are points where discretion is the better part of valor. Briefly summed up, the story will take its place in permanent war history, as the long delayed assault on rebel positions up to this time unassailable to this ware made at a season when the natural and ordinary difficulties of approach are unimeasurably heightened by the terrors that have fringed that coast for mariners. In all time, A fortress is strongly manned where the cuffs of stormy Hatteras keep guard. Some one has blundered, or the great expedition would not have scented a wintry tempest off the Capes of North Carolina. It was presuming too much upon our recent successes, to muster Eurovolusion into Government service, and the event has so proved it.

Admiral Porter, always prompt and descriptive in his despatches, has the report of four thousand words in the hands of the Department, and a full abstract is given elsewhere. It is impossible not to admire the gallantry of our troops and tars under circumstances that might well appal the stoutest hearts, and it is wonderful that so few lives have paid the forfeit of this venture. It was the design to hold the enemy in the fort in cover, by an artillery tempest which should reduce and weaken these works. This end was sought to be reached by the novel experiment of a great floating torpedo, three hundred tons of powder exploded at once. The idea was borrowed from late Examinations of the great gunpowder catastrophes that have taken place there. It came so far short of its looked for effects that none are reported. Butler's troops landed, rushed up under the fire of our own guns, and performed numerous deeds of valor amounting to a complete proof that Fort Fisher was practically unchanged and too strong to be reduced in that manner.

The re-embarkation was less fortunate, and the dispatches leave a detached portion of Butler's force looking across a line of pitiless surf too violent to permit their escape. The land forces have returned, doubtless, to Fortress Monroe. The fleet are in naval rendezvous, and the blockading squadron is again all that lightly impedes the rebel schemes in the Cape Fear river. There is a hint, indeed, that the attempt will be resumed, but we do not look for it. There is a better way to take Wilmington now we find out how strong its immunity has made it. Sherman and Grant will find it. Meanwhile the glorious proof that the rebel power is waning in its more vital seats, will give us philosophy to endure the disappointment, which the rebels will find far too small to minister to them consolation. Wilmington is like the fast locked door of a safe, whose top, bottom and sides have been battered in.

TREASURY AND FINANCIAL MATTERS IN WASHINGTON.

Washington, December 29—Secretary Fessenden to-day issued orders, in effect, that the 10-40 loan will be withdrawn from market on Saturday, January 7th, and various bond agents are ordered to close their books then, and at once render their accounts to the Department. Within this week the following only the 7-30 loan will remain. The future policy of the Secretary relative to loans is not yet announced. About seventy-eight millions of 10-40 bonds remain, the greater part of which will be taken before the loan is withdrawn.

The Ways and Means Committee, most of the members of which have remained here during the holiday recess, will resume its labors and prepare the important financial measures that will engage the immediate attention of Congress. The committee has already placed on record its opposition to authorizing the issue of any more gold interest bearing bonds. The Secretary of the Treasury is urgently pressing a request to be authorized to issue a sufficient amount of legal tenders to meet the requirements of the government, but the request meets with steady opposition in the committee. It is most probable, in fact it is already definitely settled, that a compromise action with a view to put rebel military, and were anxious to renew the fight.

FROM BEAUFORT—REPORTED ATTACK ON FORT FISHER—BUTLER AND PORTER ATTACKED BY THE PRESS.

The information from Fort Fisher is to the effect that heavy cannonading was kept up during Wednesday and Thursday nights, as well as during the day, and that the explosion of the boat in front of Petersburg, several cartridges are reported. There was considerable firing in front of Richmond on Wednesday afternoon, and also a grand picket guard.

There were recent engagements of the rebel lines and comm. from along them, but nothing of importance. Gen. Lee's forces have been sending reinforcements towards Lynchburg to oppose Sheridan's advance to Wilmington, and to prevent the landing of our expedition against the city. Two hundred and fifty prisoners took the oath at City Point on Tuesday, and were sent north yesterday since then for the same. Deserters are coming within the lines, as the general belief of the enemy's forces are not favorable for escaping.

A rebel deserter who came in a few days ago, declares the state of affairs in rebeldom indicate early offensive movements on some of the points of the rebel lines. He says he was told General Lee was shortly to take the country in a project which would astonish the world.

General Butler [illegible] headquarters on the James river yesterday. He left the land forces of the Wilmington expedition under the command of General Weitzel.

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS AND BOATS.

Nashville, Dec. 29—Major-General Thomas headquarters were [illegible] last night.

Our attack on Hood's [illegible] following Hood, who, it is believed is trying to cross the Tennessee river.

Gen. Steedmans are on Hood's right flank, and the gunboats are shelling the positions, which he has as yet been unable to evacuate upon.

River 10 feet and falling slowly.

Philadelphia, December 30—The *Bulletin* has the following special, dated Nashville, December 29th. The statement that Hood has crossed the river is doubtless untrue. The very latest news from the front is that yesterday while Thomas was pressing Hood in the river bank, he was trying to lay his pontoons but could not make any progress, as our gunboats were shelling his working parties.

Steedman reached Decatur with a large force on the 27th, and was also threatening.

CAPT. SEMMES AT MOBILE.

New York, December 31—A Mobile dispatch of the 29th says :

Captain Semmes arrived at Mobile on the 18th from Europe, via Matamoros.

New York, December 30—The steamer Ara has arrived last night with Captain Marchman and 17 persons of the steamer North America, from Nassau for Wilmington, which foundered at sea. She had 203 sick soldiers, twelve cabin passengers, and a crew of forty-four men; 52 persons were saved and 197 lost.

She sprang a leak on the 22d at 2 P. M. She spoke the bark Mary E. Sobby, which promised to stay and render assistance if it was necessary. At 2:30 P. M. the water put out the fires. The boats got ready at 3:30 and started, in the rear was the chief engineer and all the Confederate States, third captives at Johnson's Island, was a boat present expedition ordered and undertaken under authority of the Confederate States of America against the United States and that the Confederate States assumes the responsibility of answering for the acts and conduct of any of its officers engaged in the expedition and especially of said Bennett Henry, an Acting Master in the navy of the Confederate States, and I further make known that in orders given to officers engaged in said expedition, they were especially directed and enjoined to obtain from the vessels any laws and regulations of the Canadian or British authorities, in relation to neutrality, and that any combination necessary to effect the purpose of said expedition must be made by Confederate soldiers, and such assistance as they might draw from the enemy's country."

Says the Richmond organ of Jeff. Davis :—"The operations of the enemy, which were lately published as all quarters, are now resolved into a few leading enterprises. The attempt against Gordonsville, the raid into southwest Virginia, the attempt on Weldon, the march across Georgia—they are now at an end—few months of energetic industry will wipe out the tracks of the foe in all these demonstrations. We have but to go to work with diligence to have our roads in order again in short time."

The evacuation of Savannah by our troops, and the occupation of that city by Sherman's army, both on the 21st instant, simply gives the enemy another point on our coast. The ocean front of Georgia will be exposed, like the ocean front of North Carolina and Virginia, to a reign of hostilities that will annoy without weakening us, and occupy without strengthening the foe. It is probable, however, that a formidable attempt for the reduction of Charleston will be made at an early day, in consequence of the fall of Savannah. Foster holds a fortified post but little within a mile of the Georgia state, a point on the railroad, between Charleston and Savannah, forty-three miles from the latter city, and sixty-one miles from Charleston.

The rebel commander-in-chief has made no halt between Savannah and Coosawatchie, and abandoned that section of the railroad, and placed himself where he can co-operate with Charleston would be more secure. The expedition against Wilmington has developed itself, and fighting has commenced, whether the enemy will divide his attack on Wilmington and Charleston, to pursue the enterprises contemporaneously is, we think, doubtful. One will, probably, be the feint and the other the real attack in the operations which the future will develop. If Savannah be used as a base for offensive operations, the possession of the city of Augusta and of the railroad leading from Wilmington through Florence and Branchville to Augusta will be prominent aims of the enemy. Whether Grant will take part in the attempts which Sedan is prompting further South, or whether he will merely hold himself ready to honor Sherman's falsehoods with allotted salvos, we shall soon know.

We learn that the famous Dutch Gap Canal, for which the world has been waiting for months approaches completion. The diggers have shown themselves in the dykes or will left at the upper end of the cut to keep out the water, and we presume the same is being done at the lower dyke. This done, the remaining portions are to be blown out with gunpowder—before many days we may expect to hear the explosion, and then what next? Not much we think. It is the opinion of many that the enemy designs removing the best of war, as far as the principal operations are concerned; farther South.

GENERAL MCCLELLAN.—General McClellan it is reported will sail for Europe in February his wife and child will accompany him. "Ba

FROM OUR YESTERDAY EVENING EDITION.

Two Days Later from the North.

BY THE STEAMER MISSOURI.

Gold on the 30th December in New York 227 1/2, 226 1/2—Cotton 218.

By the arrival early this morning of the steamer Missouri, Capt. Hord, from Dairo, we have from our agent full files of Western papers to the 31st ult. inclusive.

ADMIRAL PORTER'S REPORT OF THE ATTACK ON FORT FISHER—IT IS DECLARED IMPREGNABLE TO ASSAULT, &c.—DISASTROUS EXPLOSION OF PARROTT GUNS

New York, December 29—Admiral Porter's full report of the operations against Wilmington is received from the Navy Department. It is dated off New Inlet, December 26, from the flag ship Malvern.

Accompanying the report is a letter from General Butler with Admiral Porter's reply to General Butler. He says upon landing the troops and accompanying General Weitzel on a thorough reconnoissance of Fort Fisher, they were both of the opinion, that the place could not be carried by assault, as it was left substantially uninjured by fire from the navy. There were 17 guns protected by traverses, only two of them being dismounted. The bomb-proof being directly on the beach and closing the only practicable route.

Gen. Butler's engineers sustain his opinion that Fort Fisher was practically uninjured by the bombardment.

Admiral Porter, in reply to Gen. Butler's letter, said he had ordered the large ships to go to Beaufort for ammunition, and he ready to receive the attack in case it is decided to continue the operations.

During the heaviest of the attack 115 shells per minute were fired. The enemy's guns were silenced so quickly that no one on our fleet was injured by them. The 150 pounder Parrott guns on our fleet exploded, killing and wounding in the aggregate forty gunners and men. These explosions were on the Tecumseg, Ashuelot, Mackinaw, Quaker City and Susquehannah, and were attributed to the defective quality of the guns. The Mackinaw was blown to pieces, and had ten persons badly scalded. The Osceola was struck near her magazine and made water rapidly, but was saved from sinking by pumping. Her officers and crew and those of the Quaker City. The Keystone State, Sassacus, Santiago de Cuba and Fort Jackson, are especially mentioned, and also the Brooklyn, Colorado, Sonoma and Monongahela. Powhatan, Tecumseg, Susquehanah, Pawnee, Vanderbilt and Minnesota, and the Iron-clads Canonicus, Mahopac, Saugus, Monadnock, Patapsco, Montauk and Eutaw, were not engaged.

The following resolution was adopted :

A resolution that from and after this day, no clerk of any committee shall receive a greater salary than $2 per day.

A resolution that hereafter all bills shall be numbered, and to come up in their regular order.

A resolution that the office of Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives be declared vacant, and that an election be held on Friday next at 12 M.—it then adjourned.

A Senate joint resolution appointing a joint Committee of both House to inform the Governor that the General Assembly was now organized and was ready to receive any communication he might have to make, Messrs Baum, Creigh and Seymour were appointed on the part of the House.

The Committee on Internal Improvement reported a resolution to refer the investigation of the affairs of the City Rail Road Company to the Common Council of the City of New Orleans, with instructions to make a full examination of the charges against the company and to report the result to the General Assembly. The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported that it had made a lengthy examination of the affairs of N. O. Gas Light Company and find that the Company have complied with the requirements of its charter. The report was adopted.

The Special Committee on examining the books of the Auditor of Public Accounts and the State Treasurer reported that it had found all the books to be correct, and recommend the adoption of the following joint resolution :

Be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened, That the Joint Committee appointed to examine the books of the Auditor of Public Accounts and State Treasurer to be correct, and are hereby authorized to certify that the accounts of both officers are correct, and kept in accordance to law.—The report was adopted.

A bill to repeal Article 111 of the Code of Practice was adopted at its second reading.

The House then adjourned.

THE FRENCH EMBASSY.—Mr. Henry J. Raymond, of the New York *Times*, announces that he is not a candidate for the French embassy, left vacant by the death of Mr. Dayton, saying that he "neither seeks, expects, nor desires any other office under the Government." The New York *World* thinks Hon. Edward Everett, in all respects the fittest man for the position, and next to him Mr. Evarts, of New York, whose claims have been overlooked by the Administration, and whose ability and accomplishments admirably qualify him for the vacant embassy.

New York Financial and Commercial.

MARKETS OF THE 30TH AND 29TH DEC.

New York, December 29—In the stock market to-day the feeling was unsettled and prices weak and irregular. Governments lower. State bonds dull, without any special change. Mariposa stocks suffered a further depreciation, and sold down to 9 1/2. The Public Petroleum Exchange will soon open.

New York, December 29—The Gold market was strong under the manipulations of the bulls. A Washington dispatch was handed around stating that the rumor of disaster to Butler was more than true, and Fort Fisher was not injured. Then at the price up from 221 1/2 to 222 1/4. Subsequently the telegram lost its effect, and the price receded to 222 1/2.

New York, Dec. 30—The Mariposa swindle continues to excite attention in Wall street. There is talk about foreclosure, the stockholders have a meeting to-morrow.

The bull combination carried go'd up this morning, on receipt of the Wilmington news about noon, there was a fall of 2 per cent. notwithstanding the heavy export.

Money quiet, active and quite firm at 6 per cent. Sterling exchange quiet at 1 60 3/4 for specie.

Gold active and firmer, opening at 222, declining to 221 3/4, advancing to 226 3/4 and closing at 225 3/4.

(EXTRA EIGHT DISPATCH.)

New York, Dec. 30—Gallaghers sold 226 3/4, Emigrant 1/4, the ratio was steady, after call gold sold at 226 3/4.

New York, Dec. 30—Cotton firmer at $1 18 for middling. Flour, state and Western, 5 to 10c better.

Whisky rather more steady, at $2 21 for state, and $2 22 cash, and $2 22 1/2 @ $2 23 regular way for western.

Coffee quiet Rio at 43c. Sugar steady. Muscovado at 20c, Havana at 21c to 21c. Molasses dull.

Rosin firmer, crude at 5, refined in bond at 7 1/4 to 7 1/2.

Lard firmer at 20 1/2 to 21c.

Clover quiet and steady at 13 to 13c.

Butter quiet but firm; yield at 40 to 45c for Western and 45 to 50c for State.

New York, Dec. 29—Stocks much excited to night. Large transactions in Gold 225 3/4.

During the heaviest of the attack 115 shells per minute were fired. The enemy's guns were silenced so quickly that no one on our fleet was injured by them. The 150 pounder Parrott guns on our fleet exploded, killing and wounding in the aggregate forty gunners and men. These explosions were on the Tecumseg, Ashuelot, Mackinaw, Quaker City and Susquehannah, and were attributed to the defective quality of the guns. The Mackinaw was blown to pieces, and had ten persons badly scalded. The Osceola was struck near her magazine and made water rapidly, but was saved from sinking by pumping. Her officers and crew and those of the Quaker City. The Keystone State, Sassacus, Santiago de Cuba and Fort Jackson, are especially mentioned, and also the Brooklyn, Colorado, Sonoma and Monongahela. Powhatan, Tecumseg, Susquehanah, Pawnee, Vanderbilt and Minnesota, and the Iron-clads Canonicus, Mahopac, Saugus, Monadnock, Patapsco, Montauk and Eutaw, were not engaged.

The following resolution was adopted :

A resolution that from and after this day, no clerk of any committee shall receive a greater salary than $2 per day.

A resolution that hereafter all bills shall be numbered, and to come up in their regular order.

A resolution that the office of Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives be declared vacant, and that an election be held on Friday next at 12 M.—it then adjourned.

A Senate joint resolution appointing a joint Committee of both House to inform the Governor that the General Assembly was now organized and was ready to receive any communication he might have to make, Messrs Baum, Creigh and Seymour were appointed on the part of the House.

The Committee on Internal Improvement reported a resolution to refer the investigation of the affairs of the City Rail Road Company to the Common Council of the City of New Orleans, with instructions to make a full examination of the charges against the company and to report the result to the General Assembly. The report was adopted.

The same Committee reported that it had made a lengthy examination of the affairs of N. O. Gas Light Company and find that the Company have complied with the requirements of its charter. The report was adopted.

The Special Committee on examining the books of the Auditor of Public Accounts and the State Treasurer reported that it had found all the books to be correct, and recommend the adoption of the following joint resolution :

Be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened, That the Joint Committee appointed to examine the books of the Auditor of Public Accounts and State Treasurer to be correct, and are hereby authorized to certify that the accounts of both officers are correct, and kept in accordance to law.—The report was adopted.

A bill to repeal Article 111 of the Code of Practice was adopted at its second reading.

The House then adjourned.

THE FRENCH EMBASSY.—Mr. Henry J. Raymond, of the New York *Times*, announces that he is not a candidate for the French embassy, left vacant by the death of Mr. Dayton, saying that he "neither seeks, expects, nor desires any other office under the Government." The New York *World* thinks Hon. Edward Everett, in all respects the fittest man for the position, and next to him Mr. Evarts, of New York, whose claims have been overlooked by the Administration, and whose ability and accomplishments admirably qualify him for the vacant embassy.

New York Financial and Commercial.

MARKETS OF THE 30TH AND 29TH DEC.

New York, December 29—In the stock market to-day the feeling was unsettled and prices weak and irregular. Governments lower. State bonds dull, without any special change. Mariposa stocks suffered a further depreciation, and sold down to 9 1/2. The Public Petroleum Exchange will soon open.

New York, December 29—The Gold market was strong under the manipulations of the bulls. A Washington dispatch was handed around stating that the rumor of disaster to Butler was more than true, and Fort Fisher was not injured. Then at the price up from 221 1/2 to 222 1/4. Subsequently the telegram lost its effect, and the price receded to 222 1/2.

New York, Dec. 30—The Mariposa swindle continues to excite attention in Wall street. There is talk about foreclosure, the stockholders have a meeting to-morrow.

The bull combination carried go'd up this morning, on receipt of the Wilmington news about noon, there was a fall of 2 per cent. notwithstanding the heavy export.

Money quiet, active and quite firm at 6 per cent. Sterling exchange quiet at 1 60 3/4 for specie.

Gold active and firmer, opening at 222, declining to 221 3/4, advancing to 226 3/4 and closing at 225 3/4.

(EXTRA EIGHT DISPATCH.)

New York, Dec. 30—Gallaghers sold 226 3/4, Emigrant 1/4, the ratio was steady, after call gold sold at 226 3/4.

New York, Dec. 30—Cotton firmer at $1 18 for middling. Flour, state and Western, 5 to 10c better.

Whisky rather more steady, at $2 21 for state, and $2 22 cash, and $2 22 1/2 @ $2 23 regular way for western.

Coffee quiet Rio at 43c. Sugar steady. Muscovado at 20c, Havana at 21c to 21c. Molasses dull.

Rosin firmer crude at 5, refined in bond at 7 1/4 to 7 1/2.

Lard firmer at 20 1/2 to 21c.

Clover quiet and steady at 13 to 13c.

Butter quiet but firm; yield at 40 to 45c for Western and 45 to 50c for State.

New York, Dec. 29—Stocks much excited to night. Large transactions in Gold 225 3/4.

During the heaviest of the attack 115 shells per minute were fired. The enemy's guns were silenced so quickly that no one on our fleet was injured by them. The 150 pounder Parrott guns on our fleet exploded, killing and wounding in the aggregate forty gunners and men. These explosions were on the Tecumseg, Ashuelot, Mackinaw, Quaker City and Susquehannah, and were attributed to the defective quality of the guns. The Mackinaw was blown to pieces, and had ten persons badly scalded. The Osceola was struck near her magazine and made water rapidly, but was saved from sinking by pumping. Her officers and crew and those of the Quaker City. The Keystone State, Sassacus, Santiago de Cuba and Fort Jackson, are especially mentioned, and also the Brooklyn, Colorado, Sonoma and Monongahela. Powhatan, Tecumseg, Susquehanah, Pawnee, Vanderbilt and Minnesota, and the Iron-clads Canonicus, Mahopac, Saugus, Monadnock, Patapsco, Montauk and Eutaw, were not engaged.

Western Markets.

Cincinnati, December 30—There is rather better local demand for flour at $9 00 for superfine, and $10 50 to 10 75 for fancy and family brands.

Whisky firm at $2 24.

Provisions active speculative demand. Mess pork at $37 00 for cash; and $31 for city. Bulk shoulders at 15c. Sugar cured hams at 20c.

Lard advanced 1/2 @ 3/4c, and is in demand.

Hogs advanced 10 @ 15c, sales at $8 50 to 8 75 for the latter for extra; receipts not large.

The market continues dull, with very little business.

Lumber—Only a little offered at the yards, which is held at $40 00 per thousand feet for common shipping grades, and $45 00 per thousand feet for select.

Flour—Receipts 1,000 barrels; the latter for extra, and $9 00 for superfine. Corn—Receipts 2,000 bushels; market unchanged. Oats—Receipts 2,000 bushels; market unchanged. Rye—Receipts 1,000 bushels; market unchanged. Barley—Receipts 1,000 bushels; market unchanged.

Nothing was reported in Union Bank to-day. Banks are anticipating that their resumption at par will be announced next week. The Bank of Kentucky continues to redeem the twenty dollars deposited here with City Treasury Notes and gives specie for the latter. Exchange on Louisville, Nashville and Memphis, unchanged. Gold is in demand, and is paying in some instances, while currency commands a premium of one and a half per cent. City Treasury notes, when the latter are sold, the general impression is that they will remain stable, and recovered for both Gold and City Issues.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
TUESDAY EVENING, January 3, 1865.

COTTON—The week opened quiet in sympathy with the Eastern markets, and the sales on Monday, as on the previous week, were fairly over yesterday's figures, but on Tuesday the market was quiet, receiving an ordinary to [illegible] at 47 @ 47 1/2c. Wednesday and Thursday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling, and 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling fair. Friday and Saturday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling, and 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling fair. Monday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling, and 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling fair. Tuesday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling, and 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling fair. Wednesday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling, and 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling fair. Thursday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling, and 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling fair. Friday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling, and 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling fair. Saturday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling, and 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling fair. Monday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling, and 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling fair. Tuesday there was a fair demand, and sales were made at 47 @ 47 1/2c for ordinary to [illegible] at 48 @ 48 1/2c for middling