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The New Orleans Bee.

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NEW ORLEANS,
MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 30.

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ONE DOLLAR for every TEN lines in each insertion on the first insertion, and half that price for every subsequent one.
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SUBSCRIPTIONS BY THE WEEK.

The carriers of the BEE are authorized to receive subscriptions to our paper at the rate of 25 cents a week, payable in all cases to the carriers themselves.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

McCERREN AND LANDRY'S SALE.—We would call the attention of parties desiring fine furniture, handsome plated ware, looking-glasses, rich carpeting, glassware, &c., &c., to the extensive sale advertised to take place this day, (Monday) 30th inst., at 11 o'clock, at the Masonic Hall, corner of St. Charles and Perdido streets.

The Sheriff sells at auction this day, at 10 o'clock, A. M., on the premises, the contents, fixtures and lease of the Orleans Coffee-house, situate on Orleans street, between Royal and Bourbon streets. See advertisement.

Relief to the Cotton Planters.

The bill before the Legislature authorizing the State to issue Treasury notes to the amount of ten millions of dollars, and to lend them to the planters, taking a lien on their crops, creates very considerable, though not unexpected, opposition in many quarters. The press of New Orleans has, with no exception that we are aware of, raised its potential voice against the scheme, while the mercantile community regard it as in the last degree objectionable. We have read the proposed act with careful attention, and are bound to acknowledge that we have utterly failed to discover any thing in it so excellent as to neutralize the serious objections to which it is justly liable.

As a general rule, it is fundamentally wrong for a Government to engage in the business of lending money, or to involve itself in any manner in the intricacies of finance. The Government travels out of its sphere when it undertakes to become a money broker, and to make loans guaranteed by the security of valuables of any kind. Such a policy is not alone undignified and unworthy of a State, but is eminently dangerous. Governments, under such circumstances, are almost certain to be victimized. Frauds may be easily and successfully perpetrated upon them, which would be impossible if the proposed relief to the planters were extended by those institutions which by their charters are empowered to lend money on proper security. We are not by any means opposed to assisting the cotton planters. We are hostile only to the mode in which relief is contemplated. In the case before us the issue is to bear no interest—certainly an attractive inducement to the planters in the Legislature to give it their support. But suppose it should happen, as it certainly will, that the sudden increase of the currency, by the addition of ten millions of inconvertible and irredeemable Treasury notes, should inflate prices to an extraordinary extent that provisions and clothing, and such supplies as planters stand most in need of, should become twenty five or fifty per cent dearer—would not the recipients of these notes in reality be paying a far heavier interest than if they were charged six or eight per cent per annum? Again: Does the State imagine it can with impunity put forth an additional circulation of ten millions based on the precarious and contingent value of a cotton crop only to be marketed within the next six months, and interfering mischievously with the ordinary relations of trade? A sudden and violent expansion of the currency by such legislation would prove a material element of disturbance in business. With an already enlarged circulation of Confederate notes, kept at par by our confidence in maintaining our independence, we perceive the tendency to augmented prices in every thing—in stocks, real estate and slaves. How fearfully would this be increased were Louisiana still further to prop up a rickety and fictitious plethora of money by throwing into the State ten millions of inconvertible funds? Such an experiment is unquestably dangerous. Surely the pernicious example of Mississippi should not be lost upon us. Let us not ruin our credit and incur the peril of tarnishing our fair fame by unnecessary and profligate expenditures.

Another objection to the bill is that not only does it ignore the just and well founded claims of the cotton factors, but requires them to act as mediums for disposing of the ten millions in favor of the planters, punishing them as fellows if they venture to appropriate any portion of it to the liquidation of the debts due them for supplies to the planter. Now it is inconceivably true that the absence of a market for cotton is a source of suffering to the planter. But this simply deprives him of the opportunity of paying up a part or the whole of the debts contracted by him in obtaining advances from his commission merchant. The planter has still the necessaries of life. He cannot starve. He has his cattle, his corn and other vegetables, and the means of satisfying most of his material wants. The cotton factor, however, is in a far worse plight. He has freely employed his substance and pledged his credit in behalf of the planter—in many instances to an amount far exceeding a single crop. This was done in the belief that he would be gradually repaid by the sale of the cotton. Now, as no cotton can be sold, the commission merchant and cotton factor are completely cut off from their usual sources of income. They are literally doing nothing, and those whose pecuniary resources are not independent of the amounts due them by the planters, are scarcely able to keep their heads above water. Yet the bill in question contains no provision whatever for their benefit—they are not allowed a dollar's privilege, and if the State Law passes in the form in which it has already been adopted in one branch of the General Assembly, the commission merchant will be debarred even legal process for the recovery of the debts due him.

Much more might be said upon the subject, but we are not disposed to indulge in elaborate discussion. We think the bill exceedingly faulty and radically injudicious. We trust it will not pass; but should the Legislature remain deaf to the suggestions of reason and propriety, let us hope that in the last resort the Executive veto will prevent this ill timed measure from becoming a law.

AN EXCHANGE OF SHOTS.—On Friday last two Lincoln gunboats entered the Chef Menteur and engaged Fort Wood. After one of the boats had been struck several times she withdrew, followed by the other one. It is probable this was only a reconnoissance to obtain the range of our guns.

We learn from the Memphis *Appeal* of Saturday that the embroglio between the Federal Generals has been brought to a close. General Smith has been retained in command. General Grant has been superseded by Col. McArthur, commanding one of the Illinois regiments, much to the disgust of Gen. Wallace and his abolition Zouaves. To give vent to their indignation, on Christmas eve the troops friendly to Wallace and Payne seized upon a fire engine, and whirling over they could find water near a public school house, they amused themselves by throwing water upon it until the well or cistern was exhausted. This they call baptizing in the cause of the Union. Gen. Smith placed a strong guard upon all the coffee-houses, otherwise the entire army would have got on a big drunk, and Paducah would have been at the mercy of a lawless set of hireling soldiery.

"Up to Cumberland and Tennessee" is the watchword at Paducah.

The Northern papers say that the captain of the Iroquois is to be court martialed, and will probably be punished in consequence of his failure to capture the Sumter at Martinique. The inquiry suggests itself, why do not the Lincoln-ites constitutional and punish the commanders of blockading vessels on our Southern coast for permitting their vessels to escape, almost every night, "decoration ports" into the broad expanse of waters? Is the commander of the Iroquois to be sacrificed for the wounded pride and ambition of the Yankee Government?

SUPERIOR WRITING INK.—We are penning this paragraph with Clark's Chemical Writing Fluid, manufactured at the corner of Magazine and Bandolier streets. The inventor declares that it will not corrode steel pens. We can assert from experiment that it is flowing, and seem becomes perfectly black. We do not think we have ever used a finer variety of ink.

CARONDELET CANAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.—The annual election for directors of this company will take place on the 20th January, at No. 136 Main street. See advertisement.

WHEN MISSOURI.—Private advices from Missouri were received in this city late last evening, to the effect that some thirteen hundred Lincoln-ite troops assembled at Knob Noster, Johnson county, Mo., intending to join Gen. Price's command, were surrounded by the Federal forces under Gen. Pope, and taken prisoners. The force of the latter numbered ten thousand. Among the prisoners were three colonels and seventeen captains. They also took sixty-five wagons. We were unable to learn any further particulars of the affair.—*Cairo Delta, 27th.*

BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

From Lincolndom, via Richmond.

Lincoln Government Stables Burned.

Richmond, December 29.—Baltimore papers of the 27th inst., received here, report the large Government stables at Washington burnt on the 26th, destroying two hundred horses, together with a large lot of harness, forage, &c.

Federal Congress.

Washington, December 27.—Hale, of New Hampshire, in the Senate to-day, made a powerful war speech, protesting against the United States Government humiliating itself before the haughty insolence of England.

Confederate Steamer Sumter.

It is reported that the privateer Sumter is on the coast of Brazil, destroying all the United States shipping.

Richmond, December 29.—Scott had not reached Washington on the 27th inst. It is rumored his return was caused by having important information which he desired personally to communicate to the Lincoln Government.

A Prize Captured by Confederates.

A schooner from New Jersey, bound for Dayton, Massachusetts, went ashore near Norfolk on Saturday night last, and was captured by the Confederates. She had one hundred and forty tons of coal on board. The captain and crew are jailed.

Fatal Duel on the Peninsula.

A duel occurred on the Peninsula on Tuesday last, between Lieut. Jones, of the Fifth Louisiana Regiment, and Dr. Forwood, a sutler in the same regiment. Weapons, rifles; distance, 40 paces. Both were killed at the first fire. Their bodies have arrived here, en route for Louisiana.

TELEGRAPHIC.

ADDITIONAL BY THE PERSIA.—*Liverpool Cotton Market Liverpool*, December 14.—The Brokers' Circular reports the sales of cotton for the week 35,000 bales. Market firmer and advanced ¼d. to ⅜d. Speculators took 3000 bales and exporters 1000 bales. Sales on Friday 5000 bales, market closing dull at the following quotations:

Fair Orleans, 12d; Fair Mobile, 11¾d; Fair Uplands, 11¾d; Middling Orleans, 10¾d; Middling Mobile, 10¾d; Middling Uplands, 10¾d.

Stock of Cotton in port 597,000 bales, of which 247,000 bales are American.

Manchester advices are unfavorable and the market dull.

Breadstuffs quiet, provisions firm.

Havre, December 11.—The Canton market has advanced from 1 to 2 francs on the week. Market closed steady. Sales of the week 2200 bales. Tres ordinaire, 112 francs. Stock in Boston in port, 140,000 bales.

FROM LINCOLN AND EUROPE VIA MEMPHIS.—*Memphis*, December 28.—The Cincinnati *Commercial* of the 24th contains later news from Washington and other points.

A special Washington dispatch, dated 23th, says: Private letters from England indicate that the people of that country are universally wrath against America, and even the lowest classes of society bound on the Government to fight America.

Lord Lyons had postponed his official communication at the request of Seward, whose advices from England were not so late as those of Lord Lyons.

The feeling between Seward and Lyons is friendly.

Five tugboats and two gunboats arrived at Cairo on the 24th inst.

The London *Times* says Webb, the American minister, has demanded of the Brazilian Government, that the Governor of Maratan be superseded, for allowing coal to be supplied the C. S. steamer Sumter.

New York, December 24.—It is rumored here that Mason and Slidell have been restored, and were sent to England by the Europa the next day.

The New York *Express* of the 24th says it is rumored there has been an interview between Lyons and Seward. When the latter read a letter from Minister Adams, and said the United States would give up the prisoners it was demanded on the ground of illegal capture and contrary to the law of nations.

It is believed among the Englishmen of New York that the Queen will abdicate the throne on account of grief for the death of Prince Albert.

Jeffersonville, Mo., December 24.—Price's army retreated from Osceola on the 23d inst.

Latest accounts say that Price was at Harmanville, hurrying south.

Nashville, December 28.—A letter from Cairo to the Cincinnati *Commercial* says:

The rebels have sunk in the channel at Columbus scows and wharfboats loaded with rock, and have chain cables across the river. They also have submarine batteries placed in the deepest part, which will be fired by galvanic batteries.

A trial of the gunboats was made at Mound City on Saturday, the distance 500 yards. Two balls took effect, making slight indentations and starting the rivets, but did not splinter the wood behind the iron.

The British Government are about sending non-commissioned officers to drill the Canadian militia.

FROM RICHMOND.—*Richmond*, December 28.—Up to Christmas day the Lincoln Cabinet had not unraveled the Gordian knot of English troubles.

All the prominent European powers sustain England.

The Burnside expedition of small-draught steamers, designed for the Southern coast, is about prepared for leaving.

A lot of gambling paraphernalia was burnt publicly yesterday, according to law.

MISSOURI.

The Memphis *Appeal* has a long and well considered article on affairs in Missouri. After stating that the forces under General Price do not exceed in the utmost fifteen thousand men, and that recruits are in a great measure prevented from joining him by the strict police guard from St. Louis to Sedalia, the article continues as follows:

Our informants allege that the entire Federal force in Missouri will not fall short of from 50,000 to 60,000 men, though the enemy claim as many as 75,000. Of this number 35,000 are along the southwestern branch of the Pacific railway between St. Louis and Sedalia, and about 8000 north of the Missouri river. Besides this, there are some 4000 Jayhawkers in Kansas, under Hunter. At present there are probably less than 7000 men in the city of St. Louis.

These estimates, which we believe to be as near true as can be well arrived at, may prove a little startling to the great mass of our people. Yet the truth, however obnoxious and disagreeable to us, should be known, and under these circumstances it is more than criminal for the journalist or the public functionaries of the country to conceal it. General Price has been left alone to struggle through the fearful odds he is every day forced to confront, without that assistance from the Confederate Government to which his present energy and past success, coupled with the magnitude of the enterprise sought to be accomplished, so eminently entitle him. The Federal Government has, day after day, poured its legions of Hessian soldiery into St. Louis from Illinois, Indiana, and other Northwestern States, and thus succeeded in concentrating a powerful and well appointed army in Missouri more than *four times* as large as that of General Price!

Against such overwhelming numbers, the unequaled courage, zeal and devotion of the patriot, and the superior generalship and strategy of their gallant commander, can avail but little. They must needs force their way farther north, where men will spring up into organized legions like the dragon's teeth sowed by the hand of Cadmus, armed and equipped for the fight. To secure this end Gen. Price should have had the co-operation of Gen. McCulloch's command, now in winter quarters in North Arkansas, as, it is generally understood, was his original desire. Six or seven thousand men, as well drilled and equipped as they, would exercise a moral influence over the new recruits daily joining Gen. Price's standard, commingling with the material aid which it is presumable they would render with their bayonets. The commander of the Missouri forces, from what we can learn, has no idea of going into winter quarters, to let his troops perish of disease and ennui, more destructive than the sword, until forced by the absolute rigor of the season. He designs pushing forward to where a loyal people, crushed by the iron heel of military power, will rise en masse to greet him in his coming with one acclaim.

With these facts before them, the Richmond authorities can use their own judgment as to whether or not the requisite aid should be offered Gen. Price *before it is too late*, or whether he will be allowed to struggle on in his hard career, insulted by any thing more substantial than the sympathy of the Confederate Government. Shall he buffet with the rude storm of war, and bear its rigorous brunt, while a comrade, almost within sound of the cannon's roar, ingloriously retires to his winter quarters, to let the ill-earned laurels of Oak Hills fade and wither upon his brow?

Letter from California.

GEN. SHIELDS ACCEPTS THE APPOINTMENT OF BRIGADIER-GENERAL.

San Francisco, December 10.—During the past four days the heaviest rains experienced for years prevailed here, causing a severe freshet in the valleys. The river broke through the levee, and flooded Sacramento from one to four feet deep. The morning the people were forced to the second story of their houses, and all business is suspended.

The freshet from the recent heavy rains extended throughout the valley portion of the State, doing immense damage to the property of the farmers, drowning their flocks, carrying off fences, bridges, &c. Part of Marysville and Stockton as well as Sacramento was inundated. The Mission of Dolores is not known. Several buildings had fallen in Marysville.

The loss of property at Sacramento is estimated at half a million. Entire communication with the interior of the State was cut off and business suspended.

Over $50,000 have been subscribed for the relief of the sufferers by the Sacramento flood. The water has been from two to twelve feet deep in almost every house in the city. Over one-third of the city was overflowed. The water, however, at last accounts, was receding.

General Shields has accepted the appointment of Brigadier-General, and is on his way to Washington in the steamer Golden Age. The gold on board is $500,000 in nuggets for New York.

Will the generosity of the citizens of New Orleans never be exhausted? By the annexed card of thanks, which we publish with great pleasure, it will be perceived that, without any extra effort, a very large sum has been raised for the benefit of the Second Kentucky Regiment:

We, the undersigned, a committee, take this method of returning thanks in behalf of the Second Kentucky Regiment, Col. Roger Hanson, now in the field at Bowling Green, Ky., for the very liberal contributions made by our fellow citizens, and by individuals, amounting to $17,795, (seventeen thousand seven hundred and twenty-five dollars) and report that they have bought the materials, and are now having made for said regiment, 1000 overcoats, 1000 pairs shoes, 500 pairs drawers, 500 undershirts, 750 pairs socks.

JAMES REWITT,
A. S. JAMES,
H. T. LONSDALE, } Committee.

An Important Exploit.

The annexed letter to the Richmond *Enquirer* gives the particulars of the destruction of Dam No. 5, on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal:

The First (Stone Wall) Brigade returned to the vicinity of Winchester yesterday, after a most successful expedition to Dam No. 5, on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. This was the third attempt to destroy this dam, and I am glad to state we have at last succeeded. It was defended on the Maryland side by several regiments, (among them the Twelfth Indiana and a New York regiment) and a good many pieces of artillery, consequently we could only work upon it at night; and the men being obliged, while working, to stand in four feet water—of course the water of the Potomac was not the only liquid that flowed there. Our batteries (Chew's and Rockbridge Artillery) were continually firing and being fired at. The Yankees succeeded in burning for us a fine mill and miller's house, but we returned the compliment by destroying several houses and a barn containing a large amount of wheat and corn. One hour after two or three days' firing, was one killed and three or four wounded. Conversations were frequently held with them across the river. One of our men proposed to trade a bale of cotton for a sack of salt. The proposition seemed heartily approved of. On being asked why we did not go to Romney, some one asked why they did not go to Bull Run again? Their reply to this was, a rifle shot, showing that it is still a sore subject with them.

[From the Richmond Dispatch.]

Interesting English Intelligence.

THE RENDEZVOUS OF THE ENGLISH FLEET—PREPARATIONS TO OPEN THE BLOCKADE.

We have had the pleasure of an interview with Mr. Fry, of Alabama, who arrived in our city a day or two ago, after a visit of some months to England. Mr. Fry came in the same vessel, with Mr. Bisbie, of Norfolk, to one of the West India Islands, where Mr. Bisbie is still detained. Their voyage was an unusually long one, having left England on the 5th November. At that early period, the sympathy of the classes in England with the South was universal, and Mr. Yancey expressed the opinion that England would be at war with the United States in thirty days. On the arrival of their vessel in the West Indies, a few days ago, the captain of an English gunboat informed Mr. Fry that orders had been received for the British fleet in the West India waters, numbering some eighty vessels of war, (a larger number than the whole regular United States navy) to rendezvous at Havana, an order which was undoubtedly to be in consequence of the state of affairs growing out of the outrage upon the Trent. As a further exhibition of the spirit of the British people, we learn from our informant that, shortly before he left the West India port referred to, some suspicion having been awakened of the intentions of a Yankee gunboat to attack a Confederate vessel then lying in the port, the batteries in the port were put in an instant in a state of preparation for firing upon the gunboat, and the garrison—five hundred men—were kept up all night, awaiting the attack. We also learn from Mr. Fry that, when he left England, a fleet of merchant steamers were in readiness to take immediate advantage of the breaking of the blockade, and open up a lively trade with the Southern States. We are indebted to Mr. Fry and Mr. Bisbie for a large number of English papers.

No Advance on the Potomac.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* of the 18th published the following:

There is to be no advance from the Potomac before spring; the Union troops are going into winter quarters; there will be no general engagement this winter, unless brought on by Beauregard. Such is our latest and most direct information from Washington.

The Cincinnati *Commercial*, of the 19th copies this paragraph, and then significantly comments on it:

We do not hesitate to say that if this is true, the cause of the Union is surrendered. The army will be more than decimated by disease during the winter. The soldiers, disheartened utterly by the dreariness of paramount and innumountable stupidity, will die by thousands, and the loss of life will be greater than in the most destructive campaigns. The credit of the Government will sink. The people will become desperate—ready for any thing for relief from the crushing suspense and horrible burden of an immovable army and a war, at once the most costly and the least profitable known in the history of civilized communities. All manner of factions will arise. Abolition fanatics—Red Republican furies—Secession conspirators will grow potent in the unwhelesome atmosphere of a war conducted by imbeciles for the benefit of contractors. It will not do to wait and wait any longer—now or never.

PORT ROYAL.—A gentleman recently from the Ferry narrates nearly as follows:

About two hours before sunset a small side-wheel steamer from Broad river steamed up Whale Branch, and attempted to pass the bulkhead where several of our cannon were in position. The arrangements on our side not permitting at the time the traversing of the guns, three shot only were fired, the first hulled her before the wheel, the second pierced the wheelhouse, and the third tore up the quarter deck. She then clapped on all steam and ran on down Coosaw, till she found herself aground. This being observed, Lieut. McElhenny limbered up his guns and took after her. Before going far, he observed three large flats, densely crowded with men, put off from the little creek to the east of Mrs. Stewart's house, on Port Royal. Justly supposing that he could do more harm to these than to the steamer, he unlimbered and poured into them two round shot and several charges of grape and canister. One of the flats was soon sunk, and the others retreated with evident signs of confusion and distress. Had we not out of grape distance, the supposition is that they suffered severely. Ere this was over, another battery came up, but as the darkness was approaching, it was deemed advisable to let the steamer off, and she escaped with the high tide.

Rumor hints at a disaster to six of our men who were on picket near the shore. From our own observation, we conclude that our men have not yet learned outpost duty, and do not appreciate the advantages of watching the enemy as they would a tiger out prowling around their sheepfold, trusting to nobody, and keeping out scouts concealed from all eyes, and their own wide open at all times when on guard.

THE DRAINESVILLE FIGHT.—A dispatch to the Richmond papers gives the following as the latest information:

Too have doubtless had see the full particulars of the heavy skirmish near Drainesville on Friday. While our loss was so very in killed, wounded and missing, it is much less than the first reports authorized us to believe.

On Saturday our troops took possession of Drainesville. That place was occupied by the Yankees on Friday; and when our forces approached it on Saturday, the Yankees gave good evidence of fleetness in double-quick movements out of our reach—not a gun was fired.

The Federals who were killed and wounded on Friday number about 300, and the Confederate loss was 50 killed, 130 wounded and 40 missing. This report is believed to be correct. Several of the missing have returned to camp, and several of the wounded are regarded as seriously and perhaps mortally wounded.

A SET TO WITH THE BLOCKADERS.—An eye-witness furnishes the Mobile *Tribune* with the following account of a spirited fight, last Tuesday, between the Confederate gunboat Florida and a Yankee steamer supposed to be the Huntsville:

At about 11½ o'clock the Florida steamed past Fort Morgan, and ran out in the direction of Sand Island Lighthouse. The Huntsville had been for some time lying to the west of the island. About the same time the Florida passed the fort, the Huntsville had got under way, and was running along the west bank of the island, in the direction of the block ling vessel outside. The Florida ran pretty close to the light-house, and then proceeded in a point directly east of the point, the Huntsville had left. In the meantime the Huntsville had entered the Gulf, making for the blockading vessel. The Florida rounded to and merrily challenged her, by firing two guns and hoisting the Confederate flag.

The Yankee accepted the challenge, rounded to, and made for her old stamping ground. When she got within some three miles of the Florida she fired a gun, but it fell short. She steadily advanced, while the Florida quietly waited for her. Within a few minutes the Florida opened, and from that time for about an hour it was a very pretty little fight. Capt. Hay managed the Florida beautifully. After some twenty shots were exchanged, the Huntsville drew off in the Round, when the Florida lying in smoothness of the island, and continued the fight. After the Florida had got through with her target practice, she easily retired to the fort, with nobody hurt and no damage done. The Huntsville, it is certain, was struck three times. It is believed a shell struck her quarter and exploded.

The brave little steamer Theodora, which has won for her name so prominent a place in the history of the Confederate States, is still "doing doing" on the high seas. A dispatch from Capt. Thomas J. Lockwood announces that she has arrived safe, "as usual," in the flourishing Confederate seaport of ——, after paying a flying visit to several foreign lands, and running half a dozen times under the very noses of the Yankee cruisers.

(*Charleston Courier, Dec. 27.*

Incidents of the Battle of Allegheny.

A letter from Camp Allegheny states that in the bloody fight of the 14th Col. Johnson appeared upon the field in citizen's dress, gave his commands in the most emphatic manner, and led the fierce charges in person. After the Yankees had been driven to the woods the Lee Battery, of Lynchburg, opened upon them with marked effect. Captain F. B. Anderson, who commanded this battery, seeing a number of men partially concealed by fallen timber, supposed they were our pickets, and called out to them to come into the ditches. Hardly were the words out of his mouth when a shower of musketry was poured upon him, and the noble old hero fell from his horse and died in about fifteen minutes. The command of the battery now devolved upon Lieutenant W. W. Hardwicke, of Lynchburg, who displayed the shots admirably, and exhibited much personal bravery. Capt. Miller's battery, from Rockbridge, opened upon the enemy in the thicket with canister shot, and sent many a poor Hessian to his last account.

From another letter, addressed to a gentleman in this city, we glean the following incidents:

In the second charge, while leading in the front, Lieut. Lewis Thompson received a shot through his body and another in his arm, just as he had shouted "Come on my brave boys, follow me!" He fell into the arms of Colonel Johnson, who says he was as brave a man as he ever saw.

Captain Thompson also behaved with great gallantry. He was surrounded once, but extricated himself, receiving many bullets through his clothing, but sustaining no personal injury.

It is stated of Captain Anderson, the veteran hero who fell early in the engagement, that this was his *fifty-eighth* battle.

Col. Johnson said on the battle-field that he could storm Arlington Heights with 10,000such troops as the boys from the Northwest. Johnson was always in the thickest of the fight, sometimes with a club in his hand, but generally armed with a musket, and another officer has since remarked that he could load and shoot faster than any man he saw.

The enemy in the early part of the engagement got between our commissary stores and the Confederate troops, and afterwards two dead Yankees were found close to our tents, who are said to have been shot by a sick man lying in one of them.

Many of our men had bullet holes through their clothing, and it is miraculous that our list of killed and wounded is so small. Fifty five of the enemy were buried by our troops, and some of them recognized as "Union men" from Marion county, by their old neighbors. It is stated by one who saw a good many of the dead Hessians, that none of them were shot lower than the breast, and many through the heart.

A little hero named Musgrove, from Ritchie county, shot through the arm by a man concealed behind a log. He immediately got a friend to load his musket, and jumping over a pile of brush, shot the rascal who had wounded him, and secured his off-cloak coat, with a name on it.

Every account which we have seen concurs in representing the rout of the enemy to have been complete, though it is not probable that we shall ever learn his actual loss.

THE LATEST ITEM.—A colored boy the servant of Capt. Miller, of the Washington Artillery, of New Orleans, now in the Confederate army in Virginia, having made his escape to Federal lines, has made his "statement." He claims to have been at the battles of Ball's and Ball's Bluff, and alleges that he left Centreville on Saturday, the 7th inst. We extract the following:

There are two regiments of colored men at Centreville, under the command of Jordan, an old colored veteran of the war of 1812, having been a commander under General Jackson. One of these numbers eleven hundred, and the other fourteen hundred. Two other colored regiments were sent to Missouri since the battle there. These regiments are composed of both free and slave. They are not allowed to do picket duty, but are drilled and encamped separate from the white men. Their officers are all colored.

The Savannah *Republican* of the 24th has the following:

FROM THE COAST.—The accounts brought up by the steamer yesterday indicated no particular change of affairs in Port Royal and its vicinity.

The large transport which went ashore on the north breakers some days ago still maintains her position, and will probably go to pieces the first rough sea.

The Yankees have a derrick erected on the Martello Tower, and the presumption is that they intend to man it with one or more guns. They had thrown up no new works on the island at last accounts.

Passengers who came up last evening report the disappearance of an Irish volunteer named Barr. He was corporal of the picket guard, and Sunday last took a small boat saying he was going to visit a friend. He had not returned when the boat left, and at the Fort many unfavorable suspicions were indulged with regard to him. We feel very reluctant to believe that we have in the ranks even one man capable of the crime of desertion, and hope that not so vile a wretch until the fact shall have been settled beyond doubt.

FIGHTING ON THE PENINSULA.—The Richmond *Examiner* of the 26th has the following:

We have intelligence of a sharp skirmish in the neighborhood of Bethel. On the day before yesterday a detachment, consisting of three companies of the Eighth Alabama Regiment, commanded by Col. Wilson, Capt. Sinclair's company, of the Thirty second Virginia Regiment, and some Virginia cavalry, consisting principally of the New Kent Troop, was sent out on a reconnoitering expedition. The cavalry, who were in advance, fell into an ambuscade of the enemy, the first notice of their presence being their fire, which killed three horses of the company, but fortunately did no other damage. The cavalry immediately made by the infantry, who drove the enemy from their ambush across New Market Bridge to the other side of Black river. Six of the enemy were left dead on field, and one taken prisoner, who was hailed and compelled to drop his arms and wade across the river to his capture. It was not known under whose command the Yankee force was, but it is said to have exceeded our own. Our loss was one man killed, (an Alabamian) whose name we were not able to learn.

FROM PADUCAH.—A friend just from Paducah informs us that the notorious Dick Conner, who boasts of having shot Judge Milliken, at Mayfield, some few weeks since, and who, to save himself, permitted his brother to suffer for his act by the forfeiture of his life, has been appointed Assistant Provost Marshal, and is daily causing all persons with Southern sentiments in the neighborhood of Mayfield or Graves county to be arrested and brought into Paducah and incarcerated in the guard-house. The result of the foray of the Conestogas, up the Tennessee river, has not been received when our friend left. It was universally conceded that no movement of troops would be at present made down the Mississippi river. Preparations were being made at Cairo for a demonstration on the Cumberland or Tennessee river, or probably both. Pilots for those rivers being in "active demand" and quoted plenty. For Columbus and Memphis none were to be had at any price.—*Memphis Appeal.*

BARBARIANS OF THE SEA.—Incidents like the following do not add to the respect (?) which is now felt for the Lincoln navy. The Boston *Guardian* says:

The Nova Scotia brig Thomas Tilleston, which arrived yesterday from Manzanilla, bound to New York, was boarded by an American man-of-war in the Gulf, when her papers were examined. The brig had been long days out, having encountered very heavy weather, and being out of provisions, the captain asked the lieutenant of the man-of-war if he would sell him some provisions. He replied that he could neither give nor sell any, but he would mention it to his captain when he returned on board. The captain of the brig remarked that a British man-of-war would not suffer him to leave, and requested him to do so. The man-of-war steamer had recently towed an American vessel to St. Thomas. The American man-of-war left without relieving his wants, and before boarding the British brig, had fired a shot. The brig afterwards fell in with an American merchant man and hoisted her flag union down. The vessels were standing towards each other before the latter perceived that the former was in distress, when she tacked and stood off.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

An Opportunity.—Lieut. Eugene de Lagrange, Thirteenth Regiment Louisiana Volunteers, will leave for Columbus on the 31st. Letters destined to soldiers of said regiment may be left at our office, where Lieut. Lagrange will call and take them before leaving the city.

The Funeral Ceremony.—The remains of the late Captain Samuel C. Sisk were interred yesterday with unusual honors. The funeral service was preached by Dr. Palmer, at ten o'clock in the morning, in the room of the Lincoln Hall, where the body was lying in state. After this came the Masonic funeral service, and at about three o'clock the cortège left the Lincoln Hall, where the body was lying in state, and moved down Camp, Canal and Bienville streets. The Masonic lodge and Odd Fellows took the lead, escorting the hearse, which was tastefully decorated with the Confederate flag. The hearse followed the family carriage, and after them came the Typographical Union, the Benevolent Benevolent Association and the Metropolitan Benevolent Association. The military wound up the procession.

Appointed Commissary.—We learn that H. R. Jonathan, Esq., has been appointed Commissary of the Third Louisiana Brigade, stationed at Columbus with the rank of Major. We have reason to congratulate both Major Jonathan and the Brigade.

The City Fire Guards.—This company presented a splendid appearance on the streets Saturday evening, being under the command of First Lieutenant John Kennedy. They complimented our office with a serenade.

Incipient Fire.—About two o'clock yesterday morning a dwelling house and part of a fence in the rear of a dwelling on Coeny street, near St. Joseph, were seen on fire by a person unknown and caused an alarm for the fourth fire district.

Determined Attempt at Suicide.—About noon yesterday, a man named Schulze, who is subject to temporary fits of insanity and has tried to perform self-destruction several times before, cut his throat and then leaped out of a second-story window of a house in the corner of Magnolia and New Levee streets. Officer Quinlan took him to the Charity Hospital, where he is lying in a critical condition.

Terrific Explosion of a Powder Mill—The Old Marine Hospital Torn to Atoms.—At twelve o'clock on Saturday night the old United States Marine Hospital, on the right bank of the levee, opposite Hevia street, was burst into millions of fragments by the explosion of five tons of gunpowder contained there, in its different conditions of manufacture. The noise of the report, and the concussion it produced upon the city, were tremendous. It was heard for many miles around, and in the city and all its suburbs it aroused every one who was asleep, and startled those who were awake. The buildings of the city were shaken as if by an earthquake, and in those near the levee and opposite to the powder mill the glass window panes were nearly all broken. Opinions differed, as a matter of course, concerning the cause of the report, but many took it to be the broadsides of an enemy's fleet in the river, and hundreds of them donned their uniforms and ran to their respective armories. Several military companies were under arms in less than half an hour, and awaiting orders, when they learned what the affair was. Other people took it to be the blowing up of the Arsenal on St. Peter street, or that of the new Marine Hospital on Common street, or perhaps a steamboat at the landing. The wharf was soon crowded with people, who wondered the hard glass of the fire that resulted among the ruins.

On the right bank of the river there was a general rush toward the scene of the conflagration, and the bells sounding for the alarm of fire, their ceaseless propriety equaled to the scene, which was one of appalling destruction. The building was constructed with brick, with exterior galleries and ornamental work of wood, here stories in height. It was used as a powder mill and considered a little over ten thousand pounds of powder, made or in process of making. With the exception of the southeast corner, in which was the engine room, and a little office at the northeast corner, the once stately edifice was now nothing more than a mound of broken pieces of brick and splinters of wood. Some of the latter were driven into the ground from three to five inches, so that they were pulled out only with difficulty. So complete was the wreck that there did not appear to be a single piece of timber left unbroken. It had been cut through two sides—in front toward the river, and on the side toward the north. The trees in the yard were broken, twisted and stripped as if by a hurricane. The outer wall, which is of brick, and a large gap created on both sides, and bricks from it were carried to the river in front and for a square to the lower side of the building houses the windows were broken, the doors and knocked loose and articles of furniture overturned.

The mill was at work at the moment of the explosion, but fortunately there were only four men within it. John Walker, the engineer, Wm. Hammel, who was in the cylinder room, and M. Quest, the watchman, were standing in the engine room, engaged in conversation. Robert Allbright, who superintends the cylinder work, was seated in a chair in the door of the cylinder room. Allbright was thrown into the cylinder room, which probably saved his life, and the other three were tossed into the coal pile. As soon as they could recover from the shock they crawled out into the open air, and made the best of their way. Walker, Hammel and Quest escaped with only a few slight contusions and bruises, but Allbright was badly strained in the small of the back and severely confused on the side and head. He was carried home.

The factory belonged to the State Government and was under the superintendence of Mr. Kolzer. It was not in active operation, and its loss is a serious one to the South, but above the actual value destroyed. Fortunately it is not the only one working for the State. The powder has been estimated at twenty thousand lbs., and the loss of the building about the same. The men were in it at the time, and express their opinion that it originated in the drying room.

The Algiers Guards.—The Algiers Guards, Capt. N. Trepagnier and Lieutenants H. Fortier and W. Whitney, enjoyed an agreeable day yesterday. In the morning they marched to the Schoolhouse, opposite the Catholic Church, where they were presented with a beautiful flag by Miss Pelagie Fossat, whose elegant remarks will be found, as they were spoken, on the French side of our paper. The flag was received by Capt. Trepagnier, who spoke as follows:

Ladies: In the name of the Algiers Guards and in my name, I thank you for the honor you have done us for the very beautiful flag you have so gracefully presented us.

All we can do to thank you for further compliments you have in your presentation address, so generously delivered, is our sympathy. And we promise that this flag will ever be held most dear by us, coming as it does from the fair daughters of this parish whose patriotic sentiments I know and who are always ready to aid, and assisting our volunteers now battling for our beloved South, in their independence, and driving a hideous and unprincipled foe from our soil.

We will unfurl this banner to the breeze, and in time of danger we will rally around it, and if necessary, and hope by our deeds to prove that we are worthy of the noble trust you have reposed in us.

Never, never shall this flag be left without a friend and death shall unfurl the banner and sink into oblivion to fall on the hands of an invading, insolent, corrupt and cowardly enemy.

And now in the Sacred Brotherhood I invite the fair donor and other fair friends in our city to be our sponsors, and to present us with a Bible.

The company then marched into the Catholic church, where their standard was consecrated. After this ceremony they proceeded to the Fortier plantation, where they passed the time in convivial pleasures and in taking a supper. In the evening they returned and serenaded several of their friends.

Costly Feeling.—Constable J. G. McGuire arrested Catherine Little Saturday evening, on Magazine street, between St. Andrew and Josephine, on the charge of having feloniously taken from him one hundred dollars in bank notes, and unmercifully chewing them up. The bills were recovered, in a mutilated state.

COMMERCIA