THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.

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NEW ORLEANS:
FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 16.

On our second page will be found sheriffs' and auction sales, bank notices and other advertisements.

Auction Sales this Day.

By Montgomery & Bros., at 10 o'clock, at 108 Canal street—splendid furniture.

Later from the North and the South.

Reports from The War in Georgia via Richmond—Gold in New York on the 9th 230 3-4, Cotton 120.

Morganza, Dec. 15.—The steamer Ida Handy passed here last evening.

The Richmond *Whig* of the 6th says we have reason to believe from what we have heard, that Sherman's army is marching with mounted pace to the coast south or southwest of Milledgeville. We also have reason to anticipate a battle at one point south or north west of Savannah before the close of the present week.

The Richmond *Enquirer*, of the 6th, says we learn this an official telegram, received last night, stating that Wheeler had inflicted a severe blow upon the enemy. The dispatch says that the enemy lost many, and it was reported that Kilpatrick was wounded.

The South Carolina Legislature introduced resolutions protesting in unconstitutional Jeff Davis's propositions to emancipate slaves and abridge the freedom of the press; declaring that the States are not amenable to the Washington Government, and advising other States not to submit to its usurpations.

New York, Dec. 9.—Cotton steady at 130 for middling. Gold closed at 230¾.

News Via Brookhaven, Miss.

GEN. DAVIDSON HEAT OF PEARL RIVER.

(From the Picayune, last evening.)

We have files of the Brookhaven (Miss.) *Telegraph* to the 7th inst., in which we find, on the 5th, the following dispatch from Meadville, Miss. This town is on Pearl River, thirty miles above Columbia:

LATEST FROM MONTICELLO.

The following dispatch was received this morning by Capt. Chamberlain, Post Commandant:

Monticello, December 7, 9 A. M.—Rear guard of the enemy left Columbia at 7 o'clock yesterday morning, going towards the M. and O. R. R., by the way of Monroe and Augusta. They are reported to be from 5000 to 6000 strong, with seven pieces of artillery. They are pressing all horses and mules, driving them along with them. They have mules, and shell corn to carry with them.

G. W. JOHNSTON, Lieut. Com'dg Post.

A Richmond Account of Roger A. Pryor.

The Richmond *Examiner*, referring to the late capture of ex-Brig. Gen. Pryor while exchanging papers on the picket line near Petersburg, remarks:

We style him General Pryor by courtesy, for it is well known that he is, and has for two years been, a private and regularly enlisted soldier, serving in the ranks of the Confederate cavalry as such, having no public importance, no authority, consequence or privilege than any other regularly enlisted soldier. In the first days of the war he raised a fine regiment, of which he was elected Colonel. Later, the Confederate Government commissioned him to be a brigadier-general, and ordered him to duty in command of a brigade, left without a general, we believe, because its commanding officer was wounded. In this command General Pryor often distinguished himself by his gallantry and his judicious conduct. He lost his command by the return of the officer, whose place he occupied temporarily. On applying further duty at the War Department he got nothing but vague promises. His high spirit would not brook the position of a brigadier general without a brigade; he soon threw up his commission, and enlisted as a common soldier in the cavalry, where he has since been serving. Having been a good officer he made an excellent trooper; and by his treacherous capture the Confederacy is deprived of one good man.

The Naval Force of the United States.

[From the Report of the Secretary of the Navy.]

THE NAVAL FORCE.

The subjoined statements present a general exhibit of the navy, including vessels under construction on the 1st of December, 1864.

A tabular statement is appended of the number of naval vessels, of every class, that have been constructed, or are in course of construction, since March 4, 1861:

Description.	No. vessels.	No. guns.	No. tons.
Screw steamers	113	1,416	362,461
Paddle-wheel steamers	154	1,154	171,000
Sailing vessels	175	975	90,000
Screw steamers purchased, captured, &c.	136	614	97,500
Paddle-wheel steamers purchased, &c.	176	921	79,322
Sailing vessels of all classes	157	393	69,542
Total	611	4,573	849,825

VESSELS CONSTRUCTED FOR THE NAVY SINCE MARCH 4, 1861.

Description.	No.	Guns.	Tons.
Screw sloops, Ammonoosuc class	7	121	23,677
Screw sloops, Canandaigua class	8	120	21,000
Screw sloops, spar decks, large class	3	200	39,416
Screw sloops, Kansas class	2	30	2,730
Screw sloops, Lackawanna class	1	20	2,900
Screw sloops, Kenosha class	4	60	6,000
Screw sloops, Canandaigua class	4	74	8,000
Screw sloops, Dakota class	2	28	3,000
Screw sloops, Wasatch class	10	92	17,940
Screw sloops, Sonoma class	4	34	6,000
Screw sloops, Niagara class	3	71	8,712
Screw gunboats, Unadilla class	23	138	11,661
Screw gunboats, Delaware class	6	36	3,500
Screw tugs, Pilgrim class	2	4	1,000
Paddle-wheel steamers, Sassacus class	1	4	1,000
Paddle-wheel steamers, Octorara class	13	26	11,654
Paddle-wheel steamers, Mississippi class	20	172	20,934
Paddle-wheel steamers, of less class	7	70	7,319
Paddle-wheel steamer, of large, double-ender, Wateree	1	12	974
	141	1,662	179,966

IRON-CLAD VESSELS.

Steaming armored vessels Dunderberg and New Ironsides	2	70	9776
Sea-going turret vessels, Passaic, Monitor and Sangamon	8	12	9,720
Sea-going turret vessels, Kalamazoo class	4	10	13,200
Sea-going turret vessels, Miantonomoh class	4	61	6,254
Sea-going turret vessels, Canonicus class	1	4	1,250
Sea-going turret vessels, W. Wenderoh	1	4	1,000
Sea-going turret vessels, Dictator class	2	4	7,000
Sea-going turret vessels, Casco class	1	2	1,200
Sea-going turret vessels, Onondaga class	2	4	2,212
Sea-going turret vessels, Oneota class	29	63	13,200
Sea-going turret vessels, Canonicus class	2	4	955
Sea-going turret vessels, Oneota, Shamokin class	2	2	1,614
Coast-guard vessels, Tuscarora class	2	4	791
Total	62	196	76,276
	203	1,858	256,242

The foregoing tabular statement exhibits the number and description of vessels that have been constructed, or are in the course of construction, for the navy since the inauguration of active measures for the suppression of the rebellion. Some of these have been built by contract; others by the Government, in the several navy yards. If we add to the number those constructed under similar circumstances, and within the same period, that have been lost by shipwreck, in battle, &c., viz: the sloops of war Oneida and Adirondack, and the iron-clads Monitor, Weehawken, Keokuk, Indianola and Tecumseh, the aggregate would be 210 vessels, 1,974 guns, and 262,758 tons.

Fleet-boats, and small craft built for especial purposes, are not embraced in this statement.

Cotton Supply in England.

The Liverpool *Mercury*, in an article on the foregoing subject, says:

As far as we can judge from the returns of the cotton imported during the last three years, it would appear as if the supply was increasing, from the lowest point to which it has, quantity, but not very rapidly, and at the rate of about 1,000,000 cwts. per annum. In the year 1860, which preceded the outbreak in America, the quantity of cotton imported into the United Kingdom was 19,413,596 cwts., which was a full supply. In 1861, when the effect of the civil war was scarcely felt, the quantity of cotton imported was 11,252,379 cwts. In 1862, when the American ports were entirely closed, and the failing off in the supply of cotton was greatest, the imports fell to 4,276,680 cwts. In 1863, when supplies from other countries than America began to increase, the imports rose to 8,761,124 cwts. During the first nine months of the present year, the imports of cotton amounted to 6,343,216 cwts.; and allowing the imports of the last three months of the year to be on the largest scale that it is at all probable with probability, it is quite clear that the imports of the present year are not likely to amount to much more than half the amount of 1860. Such a liberal but not excessive supply, and until we get very much nearer that amount there can be no reason to think that the supply of cotton will be at all equal to the demands of the world.

The Legislature.

THURSDAY, December 15, 1864.

The *Senate* was called to order at the usual hour.

The bill to regulate the practice of medicine throughout the State was ordered to be printed and made the order of the day for Tuesday next.

The following bills were read a first time and laid over under the rules.

A bill relative to Harbor Masters of the Port of New Orleans.

A bill relative to the Masters and Wardens of the Port of New Orleans.

A bill ordering a liquidation of the affairs of the Madison Gulf Railroad.

A bill relative to road-bed leases was made the order of the day for Friday next.

A bill relative to the adoption of minors was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A bill to repeal the Brank Code was referred to the same Committee; as also was

A bill relative to Attorneys at Law.

A bill to authorize the building of a bridge over the New Canal, at Liberty street, was referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements.

A bill defining the duties and fixing the compensation of the State Printer, was adopted with amendments, at its second reading.

A bill fixing the per diem of the President pro tem. of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, passed its third reading and was adopted with its title.

A bill relative to Justices of the Peace, Parish of Orleans, passed its third reading and was adopted with its title.

A bill to authorize the payment of bills to the amount of $2500 for maps, &c., for the Public Land Office was adopted at its third reading.

A bill relative to the adjournment of the General Assembly was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A bill relative to a Pension Agency in this State was referred to the Committee on Federal Relation.

The Senate then adjourned.

The House was called to order at the usual hour.

A petition from the German Relief Society asking the exemption from taxation of a certain square of ground in this city, belonging to the Society, was read and referred to the Committee on Charitable Institution.

A petition was read from members of the residents of the Parish of Terrebonne asking that a portion of that Parish be added to that of Lafourche as it was several years since. The petition was referred to the Committee on Parochial Affairs.

Several members gave notice that they would introduce bills.

The Committee on Internal Improvement reported favorably on a bill to incorporate the Bayou Lafourche and Mississippi Improvement Company. The bill was made the order of the day for Thursday next.

A bill defining the duties of State Tax Collectors was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The House reconsidered the vote rejecting the bill defining the boundary line between the Parishes of Lafourche and Terrebonne. The bill was read a first time and laid over under the rules.

A bill for the relief of the State Library was also read a first time and laid over under the rules.

A bill to establish the office of Register of Conveyances for the Parish of Orleans, Right Bank, was read a second time.

On motion the Public School bill was postponed until each member be furnished with a printed copy.

The House then adjourned.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

First District Court—Judge Heistand—Eugene Wilson came to stand his trial yesterday on a charge of assault and battery on a military officer detailed for special duty in this city. It appeared in evidence that the prosecutor Mr. J. Beck on thanks-giving day, when coming down Camp street was assailed and struck by accused, who he stated a blow on the lips of complainant without cause or provocation. After the evidence of Mr. McBeth had been given the accused, to save time, withdrew his plea of not guilty and the plea of guilty was entered. The jury was then discharged.

The Turney was put on the trial charged with having dangerously, and feloniously stabbed and cut James Hawkins in the back, inflicting a wound which may have reached the wing of the left lungs.

The wounded man was over a month in the hospital and could hardly be about for two months after. The defence claimed provocation.

The case was taken under advisement by the Jury.

Recorder's Court.—James Russell, charged with an assault and battery on Mrs. Mary Wisely, was sent before the First District Court for further proceedings. Bail $500.

Frank Kasper and wife, charged with improper offence against Pierre Celine, was discharged, the complainant not appearing. Accused were sent to the workhouse for six months.

Clara Brown and other parties, who indulged in amateur fighting, were let off with fines of $5.

Alleged Recruitment for the Federal Armies from Lancashire, England—The Case of the Great Western.

[From the European Times, Liverpool, Nov. 19.]

There seems to be good grounds for believing that agents of the Federal Government are now in England endeavoring by the means at their command to recruit the armies of the Union in violation of the Foreign Enlistment Act. If the letter of the Act has not been overstepped, little doubt can exist, from the known circumstances of the case, that its spirit has been infringed, and the whole affair is in process engrossing the attention of the constituted authorities.

It appears that a person has been very successful in Ashton-under-Lyne and that neighborhood, where the stoppage of so many of the cotton-mills has thrown a large amount of manual labor on the market, in securing the services at a considerable number of young men, whose ages vary from sixteen to thirty, at fifteen shillings a week, ostensibly to work in the manufacture of glass in the city and suburbs of New York. These men, so engaged, arrived at the railway station in Sefton-street, Liverpool, late in the evening, for shipment in an emigrant vessel called the Great Western. They had had no refreshment during the journey, and as its cause subject to be provided with food, plenty of which, they were assured, they could have on board the vessel. Some of them demurred to the delay.

Explanations followed in the hearing of other parties, and one gentleman who was passing at the time was so satisfied that the men were being entrapped into an illegal contract, that he took several of them with him to his own quarters, provided for their immediate wants, and then communicated the facts to the police, when these disclosures reached Ashton, the best constable of that town came immediately to Liverpool, and it appeared that each man, before he was engaged, was subjected to a kind of physical examination, more especially with regard to his teeth, and several were rejected because in that respect they did not come up to the standard.

It appeared, moreover, that the men knew nothing about the net of glass blowing; so that all the features of the case had a suspicious appearance. It may be stated that some of the men had commenced to go on board the Great Western, which was on the point of sailing. But before she left the dock, the whole of the passengers on board, numbering some 300 or 400, were asked, in the presence of the police—still there, if they wished to go on shore or go to New York, and only four, who were Ashton men, elected the first named alternative.

Those who remained were principally Irishmen and Germans, mingled with a few Englishmen, and the latter declared that as no they had been starving in their own towns, any change would improve their condition. There can be no doubt that the time is favorable for inducing this kind of illegitimate emigration, but it must done delicately, and now that the attention of both the municipal and imperial authorities has been called to the subject, it will be surrounded with great additional danger. When fraudulent representations are indulged in, the act is infamous, and ought to be severely punished; but when men, with their eyes open, are willing to enter a foreign army, the offence assumes a much lighter hue.

A Letter in Etiquette—The following letter in etiquette, from a Boston exchange, may be equally applicable to concert and theatre goers in this city:

It is a universal habit in Boston for the audience to rush pell mell from the theatre just before the close of the performance. The play produced on the occasion was one of Miss Mercier's compositions, and she, as authoress and actress, rightly deemed herself entitled to more respectful attention. With stately mien she advanced to the front of the stage, and indignantly protested, in language like the following: "The respectable portion of the audience will remain to witness my poor effort; the rest of the canaille may go." It is well to add that the deserted regiment greeted salsatory *Lear* a complete conversion was experienced, and the entire audience remained their seats until the curtain fell.

Young couples, if they are wise, will not depress their whole honeymoon to merely amusing and consuming each other. Let them remember the pantaloons, who, when his appointment ended, always gave them 6 months of pies to insure their subsequent faithfulness.

The Tale of the Great Saratoga Trunk.

Old Anthracite has a very dear wife—so dear that she costs him on her own private account about fifteen thousand dollars a year. Mr. Anthracite always has the latest fashions, so when the great Saratoga trunk was exhibited in Broadway, Mrs. A. instantly purchased one for her summer trip.

The trunk knows that the great Saratoga trunk is an unexceptionable trunk. It is colossal. Titanic proportions. Cheops, the builder of the great pyramid, might have found ample accommodation for her entire household in the Saratoga trunk.

Accordingly down went Mrs. to the great western palace with her great trunk.

She had not been long there, however, when old Anthracite receives a private telegraph dispatch from a friend to inform him that Mrs. A. was flirting desperately with young Beelzebub, the son and heir of old Bee'zebub the great soap boiler. If anthracite instantly takes the train, arrives at the hotel, and, inquiring the number of the wife's room, quietly walks up stairs. His wife's door is shut. Anthracite knocks. Door opened before some delay. Mrs. A. flutters, while flutter increases to dismay when she sees her husband. Husband enters coolly; explains that he just came to see how she was getting on, and went himself on the Saratoga trunk. Drops a glove, the picking up of which enables him to look under the bed. Hmm! Mrs. A. looked as if some one ought to be there. Husband talks of the weather, and the pair are sitting down to a little light conversation when old Anthracite remarks quietly:

"Mrs. A., there's a rat in your trunk."

Mrs. A. turns pale through her paint.

"My dear, I heard it squeak. The rat is in widow not. They are always in there, those rats. Husband is sure it is in the trunk. He smells him; he will exercise. Mrs. A. very much as should not. He can't. The trunk is shut, and she has lost the key. Husband begs to contradict. The key was in the lock—the lid was open.

Husband, amid the protestations of Mrs. A., half raised the lid. No crinolines, no shawls, no lace, no furbelows, in the great Saratoga trunk, only young Bee'zebub's glossy curls and killing moustache are visible. Mrs. A. inwardly feints. It is a partridge of her own to such conquests. What does husband do? Shoot young Beelzebub? Not a bit of it. He smiles grimly and shuts the lid down again, locking the great Saratoga trunk. He rings the bell, tells the waiter to bring him a gimlet. Bores a few holes through the great trunk. Orders up the carpet, and goes off to New York accompanied by the great Saratoga trunk.

What would the trunk not have given for a cigar in a baggage wagon, when it smelled the lobsters? Or for a sip to liberally puffed about. The trunk, although nearly suffocated, thought best to keep quiet. Arrived at New York, old Anthracite called the trunk on his own property, and ordered it to be taken to the depot, loud enough for the great Saratoga trunk to hear him, that he would leave his baggage at the office for a few days, when he would send for it. This did, and more than the great trunk could bear, so it kicked, shouted, and made a noise until it was broken open, and to the amazement of everybody, Bee'zebub was found out in a limping condition. He tried to tell the people that it was done for a bet, but somehow the truth leaked out, and I predict that next summer there will be fewer great Saratoga trunks at the springs. I think old Anthracite got the best of it, don't you?

FROM OUR YESTERDAY EVENING EDITION

EXCHANGED PRISONERS FROM TEXAS.—The transport steamer Clinton which arrived on Wednesday from off Galveston, brought 242 Union prisoners received by flag of truce under command of Col. Chas. C. Dwight, Agent of exchange. Besides the prisoners, the families of Gen. Hamilton, Judge Duvall and others, came on board from Galveston.

Matamoros.

There are now two papers at Matamoros, established since the Imperial occupation of that city, the *Monitor*, in Spanish and English, and the *Morning Call* in English. Their columns already show, in commercial and marine news, the great activity and progress which have followed the advent of the new authority and the opening of trade on the border. Gentlemen and civil strifes of which the "heroic city" was formerly the centre.

The *Morning Call* of the 1st instant has the following price current:

Whiskey—Bidding cotton, 30 to 32c.; good ordinary, 35c.; ordinary, 33 to 34c. No demand for lower grades, unless for good clean cotton. Extra flour, $14 50 per barrel; corn, per cargo, $31 per 100 lbs.; crushed sugar, 18c.; Havana, light brown, 9 to 12c.; ordinary brown, 9 to 10c.; boxes, 14 to 15c.; hams, 18c.; rye goods, 25 to 35c.; Bannock, 50c. to $1 a piece, 12 to 22c., brogans, $15 to $18 per dozen; ladies' shoes, $12 to $30 per dozen; domestics, 25 to 35c.

Special Orders.

Important Police Order from Military Headquarters.

The following order, just issued, explains itself:

Headquarters, Department of the Gulf, New Orleans, December 14, 1864.

[*Extract.*]

1. The police officers of the City of New Orleans, are hereby authorized and required to arrest all persons whatsoever, who may be guilty of felony, or breach of the peace, or violation of the peace, or violation of the laws. In case of officers and soldiers of the United States service for these offences, they will be turned over as soon as possible after arrest to the provost marshal of the night, to the officer on duty at the Provost Marshal General's office.

2. Notice of the arrest of persons belonging to the United States Navy, they will be turned over as above stated, and turned over to the Naval Headquarters as soon as practicable.

3. Fifteen shillings a week, voluntarily to work in the manufacture of glass in the city and suburbs of New York. These men, so engaged, arrived at the railway station in Sefton-street, Liverpool, late in the evening, for shipment in an emigrant vessel called the Great Western. They had had no refreshment during the journey, and as its cause subject to be provided with food, plenty of which, they were assured, they could have on board the vessel. Some of them demurred to the delay.

Explanations followed in the hearing of other parties, and one gentleman who was passing at the time was so satisfied that the men were being entrapped into an illegal contract, that he took several of them with him to his own quarters, provided for their immediate wants, and then communicated the facts to the police, when these disclosures reached Ashton, the best constable of that town came immediately to Liverpool, and it appeared that each man, before he was engaged, was subjected to a kind of physical examination, more especially with regard to his teeth, and several were rejected because in that respect they did not come up to the standard.

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Young couples, if they are wise, will not depress their whole honeymoon to merely amusing and consuming each other. Let them remember the pantaloons, who, when his appointment ended, always gave them 6 months of pies to insure their subsequent faithfulness.

New York, December 8.—The Richmond *Examiner* of the 6th says: Foster undoubtedly thought thorman near Savannah when he advanced from Port Royal to co-operate with him, but it fortunately for us happened that Sherman was some forty miles off.

New York, Dec 8.—By the steamer Trade Wind we have Port Royal advices of the 6th. The Palmetto *Herald* says that on the 27th the expedition left Port Royal and went up Broad river, accompanied by several gunboats, and the troops landed at Boyd's point. They then proceeded inland several miles, meeting with rebel pickets only. The next morning the cavalry appeared in force on the road leading to Grahamville, with cavalry, infantry, and artillery. We advanced and drove them gradually back to a battery and intrenchments, where they made a stand. A hot engagement of seven hours ensued, during which there were charges and counter charges, each side meeting with considerable loss. Night put a stop to fighting, the lines on both sides remaining the same. We took a few prisoners and lost a few. Our casualties are variously estimated at from 600 to 1,000. During the evening we fell back a short distance.

New York, December 8.—The steamer Trade Wind brings a large number of Charleston papers, were still under arms, doing guard duty, in consequence of General Foster having taken all the available troops to co-operate with General Sherman, leaving a few hundred on the coast.

A member of Foster's wounded had been brought to Hilton Head, and since then no additional news was received from him.

Nashville, December 8.—Matters at the front present no change from that of several days previous. There was low cannonading to day between the lines. A battery is established on the bluff fourteen miles down the river. Last night seven gunboats went down and engaged the batteries, but without dislodging them from their position. The boats returned to-day, one of them considerably damaged.

A reconnoissance was made to-day by our forces between Franklin and Hillsboro pikes. After proceeding a short distance, the enemy were discovered in considerable force. Our troops charged upon the hill which they occupied, and drove them off.

Two or three men were killed, seven severely wounded and a few slightly. Col Johnson, who commands a brigade in Gen. Post's division, was slightly wounded by a bullet from the rebels. Two prisoners were brought in, belonging to Tennessee and Arkansas regiments.

Louisville, December 8.—Yesterday's *Nashville Press* says: Skelling the rebel lines and their working parties was kept up on the 6th, but hardly so vigorously or passionately as on day before.

Forrest, with his command, is said to be across the Cumberland. We cannot vouch for the truth of this statement, but give it as we heard it. The impression among both soldiers and citizens is, that the Confederates are overstating. If this be so, the end on Kentucky may be said to have commenced. We think it quite possible, indeed probable.

FROM RICHMOND.

New York, December 7.—It is reported from the capitals, now a prisoner, that the ship Arcole was captured by the Olustee, during her visit of Sandy Hook early last month.

The Richmond papers state that Hood won a victory at Franklin, adding the fact that our forces fell back at night to the defences at Nashville, no proof of which the *Sentinel* notices Sherman's movements, and Sherman for further concentration, claiming he had done nothing serious to the Confederacy, and that he will lose a large number of horses and has left Hood to win successes in the West.

The *Tribune's* special says Morris's expedition to Loudon Valley returned with 2000 head of cattle and 1000 head of sheep, besides horses and mules. The rebels burned 200 houses. Morris's expedition left Port Royal advices of the 6th. The Palmetto *Herald* says that on the 27th the expedition left Port Royal and went up Broad river, accompanied by several gunboats, and the troops landed at Boyd's point. They then proceeded inland several miles, meeting with rebel pickets only. The next morning the cavalry appeared in force on the road leading to Grahamville, with cavalry, infantry, and artillery. We advanced and drove them gradually back to a battery and intrenchments, where they made a stand. A hot engagement of seven hours ensued, during which there were charges and counter charges, each side meeting with considerable loss. Night put a stop to fighting, the lines on both sides remaining the same. We took a few prisoners and lost a few. Our casualties are variously estimated at from 600 to 1,000. During the evening we fell back a short distance.

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New York, December 7.—It is reported from the capitals, now a prisoner, that the ship Arcole was captured by the Olustee, during her visit of Sandy Hook early last month.

The Richmond papers state that Hood won a victory at Franklin, adding the fact that our forces fell back at night to the defences at Nashville, no proof of which the *Sentinel* notices Sherman's movements, and Sherman for further concentration, claiming he had done nothing serious to the Confederacy, and that he will lose a large number of horses and has left Hood to win successes in the West.

The *Tribune's* special says Morris's expedition to Loudon Valley returned with 2000 head of cattle and 1000 head of sheep, besides horses and mules. The rebels burned 200 houses. Morris's expedition left Port Royal advices of the 6th. The Palmetto *Herald* says that on the 27th the expedition left Port Royal and went up Broad river, accompanied by several gunboats, and the troops landed at Boyd's point. They then proceeded inland several miles, meeting with rebel pickets only. The next morning the cavalry appeared in force on the road leading to Grahamville, with cavalry, infantry, and artillery. We advanced and drove them gradually back to a battery and intrenchments, where they made a stand. A hot engagement of seven hours ensued, during which there were charges and counter charges, each side meeting with considerable loss. Night put a stop to fighting, the lines on both sides remaining the same. We took a few prisoners and lost a few. Our casualties are variously estimated at from 600 to 1,000. During the evening we fell back a short distance.

New York, December 8.—The steamer Trade Wind brings a large number of Charleston papers, were still under arms, doing guard duty, in consequence of General Foster having taken all the available troops to co-operate with General Sherman, leaving a few hundred on the coast.

A member of Foster's wounded had been brought to Hilton Head, and since then no additional news was received from him.

Nashville, December 8.—Matters at the front present no change from that of several days previous. There was low cannonading to day between the lines. A battery is established on the bluff fourteen miles down the river. Last night seven gunboats went down and engaged the batteries, but without dislodging them from their position. The boats returned to-day, one of them considerably damaged.

A reconnoissance was made to-day by our forces between Franklin and Hillsboro pikes. After proceeding a short distance, the enemy were discovered in considerable force. Our troops charged upon the hill which they occupied, and drove them off.

Two or three men were killed, seven severely wounded and a few slightly. Col Johnson, who commands a brigade in Gen. Post's division, was slightly wounded by a bullet from the rebels. Two prisoners were brought in, belonging to Tennessee and Arkansas regiments.

Louisville, December 8.—Yesterday's *Nashville Press* says: Skelling the rebel lines and their working parties was kept up on the 6th, but hardly so vigorously or passionately as on day before.

Forrest, with his command, is said to be across the Cumberland. We cannot vouch for the truth of this statement, but give it as we heard it. The impression among both soldiers and citizens is, that the Confederates are overstating. If this be so, the end on Kentucky may be said to have commenced. We think it quite possible, indeed probable.

Further Details from the North via the River.

The *Picayune* has further items of late news via river as follows:

MOVEMENTS OF SHERMAN'S ARMY.

New York, Dec. 8.—The Richmond *Examiner* of the 5th says Sherman's army has passed Milieu without entering the town, and the column is now marching on some line in the neighborhood of Macon. He left the main army and gone off to the main army. It is unable to say where the main is, but presumes that it is the column which is said to have passed Milieu. Neither can it say where the main body is going, but it believes that Sherman is making all speed for Brunswick, on the coast, and may reach there with some of his army, but before he reaches Blue Water he will probably have to fight one or two general actions: as any rate the campaign is drawing to a close, and the end will be Sherman making for the coast, or his defeat, or perhaps surrender at some point near where he is.

The Richmond *Dispatch*, of the 5th, says it is not known where Sherman is. It is not certain he has yet reached Milieu, though the fact is asserted that at 4 P. M. last Friday the telegraph operator at Milieu announced that Sherman was within four miles of the place. Nothing had been heard from there since. He had been within twenty miles of Milieu for a week.

The Savannah *News*, of the 24, says: Sherman seems to be making no progress. He is no nearer the coast than he was several days ago. He appears to be hesitating, and acting as though he was caught in a bad box, and don't know how to get out; afraid to go forward, and cannot go back, his men and animals tired and hungry, with our forces rapidly closing in around him. All these things excite the liveliest hopes of his utter destruction.

The Richmond *Whig* says the rebels at Donaldsonville captured the steam-works from the Yankees.

The Mason *Telegraph* says they charged through an open field to within fifty yards of the works, and were then withdrawn.

FOSTER'S EXPEDITION—THE FIGHT AT GRAHAMVILLE.

Hardee, under date of Grahamville, Ga., claims that he has repulsed Foster on the railroad at that point, and also a force of marines under Admiral Dahlgren at Coosawatchie.

The Richmond *Dispatch* says it is now observed Sherman's objective point is Darien, and he has massed his forces to march there. This is near the mouth of the Altahama, fifty miles south of Savannah.

The Richmond *Whig* says the Yankees appropriated over 3000 horses and mules in Hancock and Warren counties.

The Songs of Old.

The songs of old—How deep a spell
Lies in the old familiar words,
Come song by those we loved so well,
In other days, in happier years,
Voices of hope and love and cheer,
Come over the head or hope and need,
And like remembered strains of prayer they
Who recently sang the songs of old.

Where are they? Some in silence sleep
Beneath the mournful, yew tree's gloom,
Others, within the boundless deep
Have found in coral caves a tomb
Dim are the eyes that brightly shone,
Pale are the cheeks that blushed so cold,
And hush'd for ever, for ever gone,
The voices that sang the songs of old.

Where are they? On some foreign land
Far many a weary day they roam,
Cherishing fond the wanderer's hand,
From which fate, alas! has gone home.
Do they not long to hear once more
The kindly tones of the well loved throng,
And mingle, as in days of yore,
Their voices in the olden song?

Yes, they whose wrists are bound in fetters,
Amid the ruins of the past,
Tending the weary's weary hours,
Where the beautiful is not;
Bringing to memory's eyes again
The vision of their friends, in exile's cause,
Making the past with scene and strain,
Seem realer amongst her's sadness song.

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

BEE OFFICE.
WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 15, 1864.

The commercial world shows to-day very rather more activity than it exhibited on last Thursday. The supplies of Sugar and Molasses, although still limited, are of a character to meet the wants of consumers, and for the West and the North. Our limited supply has shown a favorable reaction, from the depression it suffered during the early part of the week and is in a position to command remunerating full prices. In other department of trade, however there is but little movement.

With the approach of "market day" there was a somewhat better feeling in Domestic Exchange, but without any a notable improvement in rates. New York sight sold in our outside market at 1-4 @ 1-2 P cent. discount; sight on other cities at 5@1½, three days at 2, five days at 2½, 10 days, 10 days at 3@3½, and fifteen days at 3½. Boston sight sold at 2 discount. A fair amount on New York changed hands at the above rates. The Banks and dealers checked on New York at 1-2 discount, but met only a limited demand. There are no sacrifices checks on the United States Treasury offering.

In Foreign Exchange we noticed sales of Sterling at 16, 20¾@20 for commercial, 16, 20¾@20 for commercial on the City Jobbers; to inquiries into the expediency of passing a law denationalizing persons who go abroad to escape the draft, and requiring naturalization in case they wish to be restored to the privileges of citizenship.

A message was received from the President that Hon. Winslow and Hon. Gurley, of the Navy, receive a vote of thanks. Referred to Naval Committee.

The various branches of the President's message were referred to Standing Committees.

A bill introduced to drop from the army rolls unemployed officers, and referred, has been adopted.

The House then at 2 o'clock adjourned until Monday.

Value of Intellectual Labor.

On this topic the New York *Journal of Commerce* has an article demonstrated in a practical spirit, and of which some of the most curious and matter-of-fact observations are below:

There is a very plain rule for those who wish to live and make money by selling the product of their brains. As the first place, make the product practically useful to a large class of purchasers, and there is a tolerable certainty of remuneration. The most money-making department of book-making is in school books. A good spelling-book, which proves useful to teachers and scholars, though sold at only twenty-five cents a copy, may repay the maker more than a hundred thousand dollars. A few large fortunes have been made by such books. It is not worth every one's while, however, to go into this business, for out of fifty elementary school books published, it is not likely that five are really good books for will sell well. We mention it here as a curiosity to the public, who read of immense sums realized by successful authors, that more money has been made by the authors of school books within the last twenty five years than by all the novelists in England and America combined, and perhaps more than by all other book-makers in addition.

The other method to be followed by the man who seeks to "coin his brains," is to study the tastes of the people, and not attempt to compel them to change those tastes. Be it remembered that we are now prescribing a rule for money making, not a rule for good book-making. That is another affair altogether. If the author wishes to make a living out of the product of his literary work, he must turn out of shop like shop work of a quality to suit the tastes of the public. Here is the secret of one branch of which is called unsuccessful authorship—that the quality of the article produced is not suited to the market. Some authors are successful in winning pay. We refer to this class, of course. It is not so rare for a manufacturer of cotton goods to insist that people shall buy his goods because their quality or the pattern is the prize gold his taste. He must suit the public taste. Some one will say that this is debasing rule to lay down for authors. We have nothing to do with that. This debasement commences when the author proposes to exchange his brains, or their product, for money. When that is determined, then it is too plain to be questioned that remunerative rules must govern the trade. There is a great deal of nonsense in the complaints made by unsuccessful authors. Here are hundreds of admirers of books which will not sell. They feel ill-treated, and consciously want their feelings in misanthropic ways. This is exceedingly stupid.

The author comes into the market and asks money. He places himself on the same footing as any other tradesman. He must submit to the rules of trade, or, to be more exact, to the rules which people want to buy. The same rule applies in the offering of books to publishers. Authors often complain bitterly when publishers refuse their manuscripts. But the publisher is, in reality, in the position of a broker who sells the author's product to the public, and he is a very foolish broker who does not study carefully the pecuniary value, the salable quality, of an article before he makes a heavy advance on it. And the expense of printing a book is a very heavy advance