THE DAILY BEE.

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NEW ORLEANS,
TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 27, 1860.

SUBSCRIPTIONS BY THE WEEK.

The carriers of the BEE are authorized to receive subscriptions to our paper, at the rate of 12½ cents a week, payable in all cases to the carriers immediately.

Sales at Auction To-Day.

By J. D. Walton, at 12 o'clock, at the St. Louis Exchange sundry valuable saddlery stores.

By B. Turpin, at 10½ o'clock, at No. 38 Old Levee street, superior French brandy.

By C. F. Foretall, at 11½ P. M., at No. 203 Orleans street, splendid bonnets, dresses, &c.

By F. Robert & Co., at 10 o'clock, at No. 45 and 47 Old Levee street, skirts, prints, domestics, dry goods; also French shirts, damaged.

By S. Vignie, at 12 o'clock, at the St. Louis Exchange, five lots of ground, very elevated. Sale to effect a partition.

By R. B. Sykes, at 10 o'clock, at his auction store, No. 45 Magazine street, auctions, at 11 o'clock, same place, horses, mules and harness.

EXTENSIVE SALE OF VERY ATTRACTIVE LOTS on a VERY LONG CREDIT.—Mr N. Vignie will sell at public auction on TUESDAY, 27th instant, at the St. Louis Exchange—

All very fine sets of ground, situated on and near the Metairie road, all a very short distance from the passenger railroad, and in view of most elegant

Also, sixteen of ground, very elevated, being formerly part of Mexico House & Martin's brick yard, and situate on the chief avenue to the above-named lots. These wish to be very spacious and healthy residences at a short distance from the central part of the city, and those wishing to put up gardens, dairies, &c., cannot find where to find a better property. The long credit on which this sale is made ought to draw the special attention of purchasers. For particulars, we refer our readers to our auction advertisements.

AN UNNECESSARY FUSS.

The capture by the U. S. war steamer *Saratoga* of the two vessels which had been fitted out at Havana for the purpose of helping the desperate fortunes of MIRAMON, appears to have created almost every where beyond New Orleans a very unnecessary amount of excitement. Most of the Northern journals consider the affair the beginning of an inevitable war between our country and Mexico, looking at the capture as an act of actual hostilities, and speculating elaborately in regard to the possible consequences. One of the most intelligent and coolest of the New York papers—viz., the *Express*—declares that the proceedings of our naval officers in seize a tremendous responsibility on the part of the Government, and presents the possibility of such a train of consequences as will mark out a new era in our relations. It maintains further that we have a very bad job on our hands, and one that will not be easily disposed of. The *Herald*, the *Tribune*, and other papers of the same city seem likewise to view the capture of the vessels as an act which will deeply involve us, or at least may involve us, in the "tremendous responsibility" alluded to by the *Express*. We are ourselves inclined to believe that no very grave results will follow Captain TURNER'S summary mode of causing the American flag to be respected. The circumstances which preceded the captures were not under stood at the time the New York press comment ed upon the subject. It was thought that the *Neversink* had fought and taken possession of the two war steamers, simply because they were engaged in the service of MIRAMON, and were intended to co-operate with his land army in the reduction of Vera Cruz. This our readers know to be an error. The steamers were secret and confidential, because they were anxious to shun their orders, they refused, and when warned that they were violating importune maritime usage, they replied by a volley of small arms and a cannon shot, which struck the *Saratoga*. These war steamers conducted themselves as pirates, and were treated as such. Captain TURNER would have been guilty of a gross dereliction of duty if he had permitted such armed vessels to enter the harbor of Vera Cruz without making known their nationality, and would have displayed little manliness or valor had he suffered them to escape after the gross insult and outrage of which they were guilty.

But where is the tremendous responsibility to lie, and what are the "terrible consequences which may ensue?" Who has a right to complain? Certainly not Spain, for while she is at peace with Mexico, her authorities at Havana have undoubtedly connived in a sneaking and clandestine manner at the arming and equipment of vessels of war designed to aid one of the two hostile factions now engaged in civil strife in that republic. We may well have reason to expostulate with Spain upon her perfidious policy in secretly aiding a nest of adventurers to overthrow the Constitutional party in Mexico; and may claim from her the observance of strict neutrality, but the idea of her feeling aggrieved at our action is simply absurd. Will England or France find in our conduct a pretext for remonstrance? We think not. It will be hard for a foreign power to censure the United States, or presume to call our Government to account for chastising two corsair vessels which had dared to fire upon our flag. Animus as either England or France may be to discover cause of complaint against the aggressive tendencies of the United States, we fancy their desires will be baffled in this respect. But perhaps MIRAMON himself, the puissant General and President of half of Mexico, may feel disposed to avenge his outraged honor, and to declare war against the United States. This is certainly a possible event—though, unfortunately for the little hero, he has quite as much upon his hands as he can possibly accomplish, in endeavoring to subdue those pestilent Constitutionalists who are even now between his rear and the city of Mexico, and who will not allow him quietly to continue his despotic rule. To be sure MIRAMON may be mad enough to hazard a declaration of war against the United States, though, as far as he is concerned, the termination of his wrath would effect nothing more serious than blackening of sundry sheets of fair paper. Such a step, however, would be almost too foolish for Mexican diplomatists. It would unquestionably settle the fate of President MIRAMON in a remarkably short time, and would quite probably establish an American foothold in Mexico which would prove considerably more permanent than that established by Gen. SCOTT in 1847.

Let us all this as we perceive neither a tremendous responsibility nor fearful consequences.

The wisest plan MIRAMON can pursue is to keep quiet and say nothing. He lost his vessels through the bravado and stupidity of MARI and his officers. Any attempt at retaliation will but ensure his destruction. We should not, however, be at all surprised to see MIRAMON rush blindly on his destiny. He is probably of that class whom the Gods madden, ere they utterly destroy.

The steamship Calhoun, Capt. J. W. Smith, sails this morning, at 9 o'clock, for New York via Havana, with the following passengers:

For New York—Miss Isabella M de Keon, E Hammond, A Wright, S Prats, A B Banks, Lieut H Crowell, Capt Fowler, Lieut Hall, Mrs Capt Fowler and daughter, A F Hillhouse & child, M T Livingston, lady and child, Miss A F Hillhouse, Miss Hulse, Miss Maria M Levy and 2 children, Mrs Bord, child and servant, H Levy.

For Havana—Mr Pidgeon and lady, Mrs Cumper, Mr Morton.

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA.—We acknowledge a polite invitation to attend the commencement exercises of the Law Department of the University of Louisiana, at the Lyceum, on Monday next, April 2d.

NEW ORLEANS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.—Dr. Fenner, Dean of the Faculty, has our thanks for tickets of invitation to the commencement of the New Orleans School of Medicine, at Odd Fellows Hall, on Thursday next, at 12 o'clock.

We call the particular attention of masters, builders and our readers to the sale to be made to-day by J. B. Walton, auctioneer, at 12 o'clock M., at the St. Louis exchange, of a valuable gang of slaves, consisting of carpenters, bricklayers, blacksmiths, plasterers, cabinet makers, boats and dining-room servants, &c., &c., washers, toolers and field hands. For particulars see advertisements.

The particular attention of buyers is called to the large assortment of foreign and domestic dry goods to be sold this day, at 10 o'clock, at the salerooms of E. Rigot & Co., Nos. 45 and 47 Old Levee street. Terms over $200 at three months' credit.

R. B. Sykes, auctioneer, will sell at his auction store, this day, at 10 o'clock, a large assortment of boots, shoes and brogans. Examine and choose to your interest.

An extraordinary event in the history of the German Jews has just taken place. In the free city of Hamburg, where a few, ten years ago, was not even eligible for a night constable, a Jew, by the free suffrages of the citizens, has lately been chosen as chief magistrate, next in station to the highest dignity in that Republic. The gentleman elected is a distinguished jurisconsult and writer, Dr Gabriel Riesser, who was Vice-President of the German Parliament that sat at Frankfort in 1848.

The Opelousas *Patriot* has the following:

A man by the name of Cummings while in a difficulty with his wife, pursued her to the house of his brother-in-law, Mr White, a painter. This gentleman, in trying to prevent Cummings from entering his yard or rather to ward him, he (Cummings) stabbed White in the left side, below the ribs. The wound is a dangerous one. Cummings was immediately arrested and lodged in jail to await an examination of the case. On the 23d he was brought before Justice McDonald. The case has been examined and the prisoner remanded to jail to await a trial before the District Court.

We take the following from the Opelousas *Courier*:

On last Saturday evening, just at dusk, the prisoners made their escape from confinement—two negroes and a white man.

This unfortunate occurrence heralded the coming of a most extraordinary natural phenomenon. During the night a negro girl who was put in jail some two years ago, to remain there until after the birth of the child of which she was supposed to be enceinte, was delivered *of a fine male child!*

Query! Will the girl or boy ever be hung now under the extreme penalty of the law?

LATER FROM MEXICO.

By the arrival of the schooner Virginia Antoinette, Captain Bliss, we have received a number of the Vera Cruz *Trait d'Union* of the 14th instant. It contains some interesting items.

The siege of Vera Cruz still continues, without any perceptible result. The besiegers have constructed a new parapet, to the left of the old one, and about one hundred yards nearer the town. The artillery of Vera Cruz had announced the arrival of Gen. Marin at Orizaba, and on the 6th Gen. Marin appeared before the city with this and another steamer, and not observing the usual flag, with detachments from the Savannah and Preble, in steamers Indianola and Wave, was ordered to proceed to the anchorage of Sacrificios, off Anton Lizardo, and ascertain their character. Upon nearing them one of them was seen to be moving off, when a shot was fired on board of her by the Wave, and the Indianola was sent to overhaul her. The hail from the Indianola was replied to by a fire from the two steamers, and the whole artillery of the fortress, when the Saratoga fired a broadside and the action became general, resulting in the capture of both of Marin's steamers, with himself and all his party on board of them. On board, Capt. Jarvis ordered both prizes to this port. The Preble will be here in a few days, with Marin and most of the prisoners on board, the rest being distributed between this steamer and the Marquis of Havana. Your dispatch will reach me here. Please inform me if this reaches you. Shall this news be made public?

Respectfully
R. T. M. MINOR, Lieut. U. S. Navy,
Commanding Prize Steamer Gen. Miramon.
Hon. I. Toucey, Secretary of the Navy.

[Copy of despatch from Lieut. Chapman to Secretary of the Navy.]

VERA CRUZ, March 19, 1860.

To Hon. I. Toucey, Secretary of the Navy:
I am bearer of dispatches to you from Capt. Jarvis. The Saratoga has had an engagement with two Mexican war steamers of the Miramon Government. They are both captured. I raise in charge of one of the steamers, the Preble accompanies the other, with the majority of the prisoners. Loss of life among the crew only, they fired the first shot. I will be in Washington soon after the arrival of the Preble. I am bounded by the sea on the north.

The Saratoga's prize crew consisted of Robert Hunt to the London *Art Journal*, we learn the prominent points of their report. They commence by declaring that the entire picture of cotton and linens, and then enumerate the numerous articles which have been from time to time employed and recommended by different parties to render them fireproof, such as alum, borax, silicate and carbonate of potash, sulphate of iron, sulphate of zinc, the chloride of ammonium and other salts, but state that in no instance have any of these experiments resisted satisfactorily.

Experimenting upon the sulphate of ammonia, as recommended by Gay Lussac, they further state that a solution containing seven per cent. of the crystals, or sixty-two per cent. of sulphate of ammonia, will render linen incombustible. "Tungstate of soda ranges among the salts which are manufactured on a large scale, and as a cheap salt. Its solution penetrates readily per fectly, renders the muslin perfectly non-flammable. It acts, apparently, by firmly enveloping the fibres, and thereby excluding the contact with the air. It is only necessary to be careful to wash out and rinse the fabric, when the process is complete, and the muslin will then possess its original softness and flexibility."

Cotton is King.

A late number of the London *Cotton Supply Reporter* says:

Upwards of 500,000 workers are now employed in our cotton factories, and it has been estimated that at least 4,000,000 persons in this country are dependent upon the cotton trade for subsistence. A century ago Lancashire contained a population of only 300,000 persons, it is now more than 2,300,000. In the same period of time this enormous increase exceeds that on any other equal surface of the globe, and is entirely owing to the development of the cotton trade. In 1856 there were in the United Kingdom 2,910 factories, running 28,000,000 spindles and 299,000 looms, by 97,000 horse-power. Since that period a considerable number of new mills have been erected and extensive additions have been made to the spinning and weaving machinery of those previously in existence. The amount of actual capital invested in the cotton trade of this kingdom is estimated to be between £80,000,000 and £70,000,000 sterling.

The quantity of cotton imported into this country in 1859 was 1,083½ million pounds' weight, the value of which, at 6d per pound, is equal to £30,000,000 sterling. Out of 2,859,110 bales of cotton imported into Great Britain, America has supplied no less than 1,961,341—that is, five-fifths of the whole. In other words, out of every 7 pounds imported from all countries into Great Britain, America has supplied 5 pounds. The United States sent about 300,000 bales, Egypt 160,000, South America 124,000, and other countries between 80,000 and 90,000 bales. In 1850 the total value of the exports from Great Britain amounted to £130,950,785, of which £47,930,720 consisted of cotton goods and yarns. Thus, more than one-third of the £11 out of every £35 of our entire exports consists of cotton. Add to this the proportion of cotton which forms part of the twelve millions more exported in the shape of mixed woollens, haberdashery, millinery, silks, apparel and slops. Great Britain alone consumes twenty-four millions worth of cotton goods.

Two conclusions, therefore, may safely be drawn from the facts and figures now cited—first, that the interests of every cotton worker are bound up with a gigantic trade, which keeps alive the enormous mass of capital, and that capital, machinery and labor depend for five-sevenths of its employment upon the slave States of America for prosperity and continuance; second, that if a war should at any time break out between England and America, a general insurrection take place among the slaves, likewise any of those states in which the cotton crop fell short in quality, whether from severe frosts, disease of the plant, or other possible causes, famine and misery would be the result of action, employers would be ruined, and famine would stalk abroad among the hundreds and thousands of work people who are at present employed in the cotton factories. Calculate the consequences for yourselves. Imagine a dearth of cotton, and you may picture the horrors of such a calamity from the scenes you may possibly have witnessed when the mills have only run on "short time." Count up all the trades that are kept going out of cotton—the clothing trade, the independent of builders, mechanics, engineers, colliers, &c., employed by the mill owners. Railways would cease to pay, and our ships would be rotting in their ports, should a scarcity of the raw material for manufacture occasion a stoppage.

Non-Inflammable Fabrics.

In the long list of casualties that we are frequently called upon to read, support often the accounts of women and children burned to death by the spreading of their clothes. The frequency of these accidents is startling and painful, not only here, but in those countries where the same style is the leading fashion. As these cases generally occur in consequence of an immediate contact with the burning coals of a grate or stove, it seems but just to conclude that the person, under the wearing of such skirts renders the risk much greater, and increases the danger of a fatal mortifice to fashion Some of the materials of dresses are extremely inflammable, and these are worst so near to the person that it becomes next to impossible, in case of their ignition, to check the progress of them until she is seriously injured. This is particularly the case with the lighter materials of which part of the evening dress is composed, and the fact should impress itself upon the public mind here, as it has in England, where the Queen, a short time since, requested the Master of the Mint, Professor Graham, to institute a series of experiments, with a view to determine if these fabrics could, by easy means, be rendered non-inflammable. The Professor entered on the inquiry to two distinguished chemists, Dr Oppenheim and Mr Verdemann.

The results of their labors are contributed by Robert Hunt to the London *Art Journal*, we learn the prominent points of their report. They commence by declaring that the entire picture of cotton and linens, and then enumerate the numerous articles which have been from time to time employed and recommended by different parties to render them fireproof, such as alum, borax, silicate and carbonate of potash, sulphate of iron, sulphate of zinc, the chloride of ammonium and other salts, but state that in no instance have any of these experiments resisted satisfactorily.

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BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

STEAMBOAT SUNK.

MEMPHIS, March 26.—The steamer ——, one of the packets plying between New Orleans and Fort Smith, Ark., sunk near the town of Van Buren, on Arkansas river, on Wednesday last.

The number of passengers lost is not given. It is, however, supposed that all aboard were saved.

The boat and cargo are a total loss.

BARGE SUNK ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

MEMPHIS, March 26.—A barge in tow of the steamer Philadelphia, coming down from Cairo, sunk a few miles above this point.

At the time the accident took place she was laden with a heavy freight.

The loss is estimated at $25,000, which amount is mostly covered by insurance.

VANITY FAIRGROS.—In consequence of the immense, ponderous, enormous, and most copious excitement which will attend the proceedings of the Charleston Convention, *Vanity Fair*, instead of sending artists and correspondents to that city, will go itself! The arrangements are all completed. The entire establishment will proceed to Charleston simultaneously. The place will be reached by a new steamer, built expressly for the occasion, at an expense such as would ruin any other—or all other—newspapers in the world! For the trip, the forward part of the *Vanity Fair* steamer will be fitted up as a publishing establishment, and the paper will be regularly issued on board! If, on arrival, the lively proprietors like the looks of Charleston, they will buy that city, and bring it home with them as a free gift to the corporation of New York, to be placed in the Central Park! This brilliant enterprise gives *Vanity Fair* a better opportunity for correctly reporting the doings of the Convention than any other paper in the country, not excepting the Charleston papers, the publication of which will be suspended during the *Vanity Fair* sojourn.

More Deceitful Outrages.—There is talk in Washington of two new equestrian statues by Clark Mills.

A Joke (by Governor Wise.—*The Kidnapper's Nuance.*—"Ketchup."

Distressing Casualty.—President Buchanan, last week, spoke well of a gentleman who had been such a kindness during the Presidential campaign.

To get up the "Comfort of Ages."—Ask two rival beauties how old they are.

Can by a Rebellious Jour. of Lyon.—Why is our composer like the Red Sea? Because he is of the Bay-phorus.

Temper for Congressmen.—A babe in the House is a well spring of pleasure. Soin Order.

The Seeds of Rebellion at Massachusetts.—Lynn-seed.

Andrew's Lament.—"A loan, a loan, ah! woe, a loan!"

VULGARITY IN HIGH LIFE.—Why do not the American electors send *gentlemen* as Reprosentatives?

Why is a summer like Pride? Because it goeth before a Fall!

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A CATHOLIC POLITICAL REFORMER.—We copy the following paragraph from the Cincinnati *Times* of the 19th:

Mr Thomas Ferris, a resident of Shelby ville, Tennessee, passed through the city yesterday with a fugitive slave, who voluntarily accompanied him to his old home, having made his escape from there. Mr Ferris is a candidate for the next Presidency, and is now in this city, and assures the public that the next Fourth of July's office he could tell them who they belonged to and orange matters. They had gone up to Colonel Wallace's plantation, and after they had been in were waiting for him when they were arrested. They said they travelled in the woods during Sunday and only went one mile that. He was on horseback, and dismounted to look at a track in the road, which he thought was that of his negro. Upon doing so, which he galloped off as fast as he could ride. In a few days he was overtaken by the posse of which he was a member, and came down to the city along the track. They saw the track, and supposed it was that of the negro. Fearful that he would be captured and taken back to slavery, he made his escape to Canada.

Sale of Slaves Postponed.

THE sale of slaves advertised by J. B. Walton, Auctioneer, to take place on Saturday, the 24th inst., at the St. Louis Exchange, has been postponed until TUESDAY, the 27th inst., when it will positively take place. See advertisement.

Saunders.

LANDING ex ships Victoria and Pilgrim, from Bordeaux, 12 casks Monopole and Claret, 16 bales Sauterne Wines, 16 do White Wine Vinegar, 24 casks St. Emilion Claret, 18 quarter do Labrede Brandy, 1826, 18 eighth do do do, 1858, 30 baskets Champagne, Heidsieck 22 baskets Cortet, for sale by S. D. ORATIAN & CO.

mh26 No. 59 Commandeur st

POTATOES—1300 bbls Mackenicks and Pinkeyes in store.
ONIONS—100 bbls choice Reds in store.
DRIED FRUIT—150 bbls and casks Apples and Pears low.
BEANS—25 bbls white Kidney, landing from steamboat. Gumbo Western.
CANADA PEAS—100 bbls choice Northern in store.
SPLIT PEAS—150 packages Northern in store.
For sale by CUCULLU & JULIAN,
No. 20 (late 24) Pavdras st.

LANDING ex ship Pilgrim, from Bordeaux—100 bales prime Saumur, Medoc claret, Superior 1855 St Emilion wine, 30 do do 1856, 20 do do 1857, 20 do do 1858, for sale by S. D. ORATIAN & CO.
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A Card.

I think it is due to the Inventor of the ARABIAN BITTERS and to the public that I should state that, being afflicted with pains in the stomach, I used that excellent compound and am now entirely cured. Although eighty years old, I no longer feel that heaviness in the stomach and in the head which I formerly experienced. The use of the ARABIAN BITTERS has also cured me of the want of sleep. These facts are communicated to sufferers for the benefit of their health.

AN OLD CITIZEN.

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The Murder of Thomas Maguire.—Coroner's Inquest.

Coroner Schmidt held the inquest preliminary upon the body of Ellen Harrigan a few days since, and the testimony elicited in the following extract from a letter written by a British seaman to his wife. It was the first evidence taken, the jury having been sent on shore with a boat's crew of mariners to silence a fort and take some guns:

"We dispersed and a few hundred yards distance from the beach to keep the coast clear, while the boat's crew made prizes of the guns. The enemy had advantage of the wood, and they fired from behind the trees, and a troop of them showed in advance. We were ordered to fire. I took steady aim and fired at my man at about sixty yards. He fell on a stone. At the same time a broadside from the —— went in among the trees, and the enemy disappeared, we could see them running off. The Captain then put me up to 4cm and see whether he was dead or alive. He lay quite still, and I was more afraid of him lying so than when he stood facing me a few minutes before. It is a strange feeling to come over you all at once that you have killed a man. He had unbuttoned his jacket, and was pressing his hand over the left side. I saw the fellow's wound was. He breathed hard, and the blood poured from the wound, and also from his mouth, every time he breathed. His eyes were white as death, and his eyes looking so big and bright as he turned them and stared at me. I never forget it. I was sorry for the young fellow, not more than five and twenty. I went down on my knees beside him, and my breast felt so full as though my own heart would burst. He had a real English face, and did not look like an enemy. What I felt I never can tell, but if my life could have saved his, I believe I should have given it. I put his head under my knee, and he grasped hold of my hand and tried to speak, but his voice was gone. I could not tell a word he said, and every time he moved, or spoke the blood poured out. I knew it would soon be over. I am not ashamed to say that I was more than he, for he never shed a tear, and I couldn't help it. But his eyes were closed when a gun was fired from the —— to order aboard, and that aroused him. He pointed to the bench, and I knew what he meant. Pleading for the guns which we had taken, and where our marines were waiting to man the second boat, and then he pointed to the wood where the enemy was concealed. Poor fellow! he little thought how I had shot him down! I was wondering how I could leave him to die, and no one near him, when he had something like a convulsion for a moment, and then his face relaxed over, and without a sigh he was gone. I was the Almighty has received his soul. I had sent the Almighty down on the grass and left him! It seemed so strange when I looked at him for the last time. I somehow thought of every thing I had heard about the Turks, and the Moorcans, and the rest of them, but all that seemed so far off and the dead man so near."

A DOUBLE MURDER.—The Clarksville *Chronicle* gives the particulars of a most revolting case of double murder which occurred on Monday last in Christian county, Ky., about ten miles from Clarksville. The scene of the tragedy was Brindley's blacksmith shop. William Broadbent had separated from his wife, and she instituted suit for a divorce. Charles Bowles, who, we believe, boarded with Broadbent, was the constable who served the notice upon the husband, and when he had done so, Broadbent said to him, "If it had not been for you this would not have happened"—alluding to the supposed intimacy between Bowles and his wife. Thereupon Bowles went away and returned with a double barreled gun, loaded with buckshot, renewed the shot him dead on the spot. Brindley then said when the latter made his communications which it caused by the opposite door and presented his gun, which Brindley seized and depressed so that when it fired the load entered his thigh instead of his breast. Brindley has since died, and Bowles has escaped.

The Murder of Thomas Maguire.—Coroner's Inquest.

Coroner Schmidt commenced the preliminary investigation into the circumstances of the killing of Maguire, at the corner of Canal and Front Levee streets, about half-past five o'clock on Sunday morning, yesterday morning at half-past five o'clock. The first witness sworn was Robert McGrath, who testified as follows:

I was coming up the levee from Bayou's street on Sunday morning, about twenty minutes either before or after five o'clock. I was on the opposite side of the street, and wanting a broom, cart, with another man with a mule-team and cart, was coming down the street. I then called to the man with the team, and went into the coffee-house on the corner of Canal street and Front Levee, where I went into the Central Police Station, and asked for a drink. When I came out, immediately after, I saw two men quarrelling on the same side of the street as the coffee-house. The man whom I have described as the driver of the team, was one of the men quarrelling. I saw one of the men on the ground. Capt. Jarvis ordered both prizes to this port. The Preble will be here in a few days, with Marin and most of the prisoners on board, the rest being distributed between this steamer and the Marquis of Havana. Your dispatch will reach me here. Please inform me if this reaches you. Shall this news be made public?

Respectfully
R. T. M. MINOR, Lieut. U. S. Navy,
Commanding Prize Steamer Gen. Miramon.
Hon. I. Toucey, Secretary of the Navy.

[Copy of despatch from Lieut. Chapman to Secretary of the Navy.]

VERA CRUZ, March 19, 1860.

To Hon. I. Toucey, Secretary of the Navy:
I am bearer of dispatches to you from Capt. Jarvis. The Saratoga has had an engagement with two Mexican war steamers of the Miramon Government. They are both captured. I raise in charge of one of the steamers, the Preble accompanies the other, with the majority of the prisoners. Loss of life among the crew only, they fired the first shot. I will be in Washington soon after the arrival of the Preble. I am bounded by the sea on the north.

The Saratoga's prize crew consisted of Robert Hunt to the London *Art Journal*, we learn the prominent points of their report. They commence by declaring that the entire picture of cotton and linens, and then enumerate the numerous articles which have been from time to time employed and recommended by different parties to render them fireproof, such as alum, borax, silicate and carbonate of potash, sulphate of iron, sulphate of zinc, the chloride of ammonium and other salts, but state that in no instance have any of these experiments resisted satisfactorily.

Experimenting upon the sulphate of ammonia, as recommended by Gay Lussac, they further state that a solution containing seven per cent. of the crystals, or sixty-two per cent. of sulphate of ammonia, will render linen incombustible. "Tungstate of soda ranges among the salts which are manufactured on a large scale, and as a cheap salt. Its solution penetrates readily perfectly, renders the muslin perfectly non-flammable. It acts, apparently, by firmly enveloping the fibres, and thereby excluding the contact with the air. It is only necessary to be careful to wash out and rinse the fabric, when the process is complete, and the muslin will then possess its original softness and flexibility."

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Murder of Ellen Harrigan.—Deputy Coroner Schmidt held the inquest preliminary upon the body of Ellen Harrigan a few days since, and the testimony elicited in the following extract from a letter written by a British seaman to his wife. It was the first evidence taken, the jury having been sent on shore with a boat's crew of mariners to silence a fort and take some guns:

"We dispersed and a few hundred yards distance from the beach to keep the coast clear, while the boat's crew made prizes of the guns. The enemy had advantage of the wood, and they fired from behind the trees, and a troop of them showed in advance. We were ordered to fire. I took steady aim and fired at my man at about sixty yards. He fell on a stone. At the same time a broadside from the —— went in among the trees, and the enemy disappeared, we could see them running off. The Captain then put me up to 4cm and see whether he was dead or alive. He lay quite still, and I was more afraid of him lying so than when he stood facing me a few minutes before. It is a strange feeling to come over you all at once that you have killed a man. He had unbuttoned his jacket, and was pressing his hand over the left side. I saw the fellow's wound was. He breathed hard, and the blood poured from the wound, and also from his mouth, every time he breathed. His eyes were white as death, and his eyes looking so big and bright as he turned them and stared at me. I never forget it. I was sorry for the young fellow, not more than five and twenty. I went down on my knees beside him, and my breast felt so full as though my own heart would burst. He had a real English face, and did not look like an enemy. What I felt I never can tell, but if my life could have saved his, I believe I should have given it. I put his head under my knee, and he grasped hold of my hand and tried to speak, but his voice was gone. I could not tell a word he said, and every time he moved, or spoke the blood poured out. I knew it would soon be over. I am not ashamed to say that I was more than he, for he never shed a tear, and I couldn't help it. But his eyes were closed when a gun was fired from the —— to order aboard, and that aroused him. He pointed to the bench, and I knew what he meant. Pleading for the guns which we had taken, and where our marines were waiting to man the second boat, and then he pointed to the wood where the enemy was concealed. Poor fellow! he little thought how I had shot him down! I was wondering how I could leave him to die, and no one near him, when he had something like a convulsion for a moment, and then his face relaxed over, and without a sigh he was gone. I was the Almighty has received his soul. I had sent the Almighty down on the grass and left him! It seemed so strange when I looked at him for the last time. I somehow thought of every thing I had heard about the Turks, and the Moorcans, and the rest of them, but all that seemed so far off and the dead man so near."

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Dangerously Wounded.—Mr. Harry Copland, of the Varieties Theatre, who was lately shot in the leg during an affray in Sam's saloon, on St. Charles street, is in a very dangerous condition. It is thought that a portion of the ball is still lodged in the wound and the fear-ful that the limb has exhibited every symptom of approaching mortification. Dr. Warren Stone's opinion is that amputation is unavoidable, and yet Copland's condition is considered so precarious that the operation would, in all probability, result fatally. The weapon from which the ball was fired is a cartridge loading one, the cap and ball being attached. Philip Prestwell, who is also in the saloon at the same time, is recovering fast from his wound, and was walking out yesterday.

The Big Quarrel about the Little Woman.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Carter, Mr. and Mrs. A. Benoit, the Town-Dog and the "Big Indian" appeared in the Second District Court, yesterday morning, to give evidence in the case of Mrs. Benoit vs. Mrs. Carter. The story of which all the respective claims of the Carters and the Benoits to Miss Rebecca Langley Mrs Carter claims her because she is her daughter, and Mrs Benoit claims her because she is her niece, and