THE DAILY BEE

PUBLISHED DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED) AT

No. 72 Chartres street,

Subscriptions taken by the week, at the rate of Twelve Cents for the six numbers, payable to the Carrier.

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NEW ORLEANS:

TUESDAY MORNING, DEC. 23, 1862.

Notice at Auction To-Day.

By D. E. Murphy, at 10 o'clock, at No. 67 Magazine street, fine wood and sawdust; at 12 o'clock, corner of Royal and St. Peter streets, sundries just landed.

By E. S. Sykes, at 10 o'clock, at No. 50 Magazine street, groceries, provisions and cigars; at 11 o'clock, at the Jewell Warehouse, beam shoulders.

By Stephen A. McLean, at 12 o'clock, foot of Canal street, cotton.

By R. T. Montgomery, at 11 o'clock, at New Eagle Bonded Warehouse, flour, beans and lard.

By E. M. Jacobs, at 10 o'clock, at No. 162 Poydras street, unredeemed pledges.

We return our acknowledgments to Colonel John S. Clark, of General Banks's Staff, for a late copy of the Memphis *Appeal*, published at present in Jackson, Mississippi.

THE NEXT STEAMERS EXPECTED FROM NEW YORK.—The steamer Creole, which had been temporarily withdrawn from the trade between New York and this city, was advertised to leave the former place on the 16th inst. The Parkersburg or Cumbria may also have left prior to that time, and we may therefore look for either of the two very shortly. The Creole is a nice day vessel, and if she left on the 16th, she should reach here by the 25th.

THE VARIETIES THEATRE.—The "Honeymoon" drew a very large audience at the Varieties last night. As we have already spoken of the play on a former representation, we will only remark that every actor and actress did justice to his or her part. A fine bill is announced for to night, consisting of "The Gamin of Paris," "The Rough Diamond," and the farce of "The Wandering Minstrel."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The minstrels commenced their week last night with a fine audience, who were greatly amused with their humorous burlesques and side splitting absurdities. Everybody who desires a good laugh should visit the Academy of Music to-night.

STATE LICENSE.—D. W. C. Campbell, State Tax Collector for the Second District of New Orleans, gives notice in another column to all licensee payers indebted to the State for 1862, to pay forthwith their licenses. After the 26th inst., legal proceedings will take place.

Mr. R. T. Montgomery will sell, this day, (Tuesday) the 23d instant, at 11 o'clock, at the New Eagle Bonded Warehouse, opposite Post 42, Third District, extra flour, a large and very choice and fresh lot of canvassed hams, and lard. The above sale is worthy the attendance of the trade, and to be made without reserve.

The attention of buyers is called to the large sale of sundries, just landed, to be sold at 12 o'clock, at the corner of St. Peter and Royal streets, by D. E. Morphy, auctioneer. See his auction advertisement.

Hanlon & McLean, auctioneers, sell this day, at 12 o'clock, M., at the foot of Canal street, superior cotton.

Still Further News from Southern Sources.

From the Memphis *Appeal* of the 16th, published in Jackson, Mississippi, which has been kindly furnished us by Colonel Clark, of General Banks's Staff, we glean the following items:

FROM GRENADA.

We have advices from Grenada that on Sunday our pickets below Coffeeville were driven back some distance by a superior force. This indicates that the enemy is advancing. If so we may expect warm work in that vicinity at an early day. We hear also, of heavy cavalry for important movements on the part of our own troops, from which the most brilliant results may be expected.

NO TELEGRAPH REPORTS.

The storm last evening destroyed the lines south to such an extent, that the greatest exertions have not been able to repair them. We are compelled, consequently, to go to press without any reports.

FROM MEMPHIS.

The Memphis *Bulletin* of the 9th states, on the authority of the physicians, that small pox is prevailing very extensively in that city. The city council has ordered the State Hospital to be fitted up and furnished as a pest house.

Grant has issued an order forbidding the introduction of any goods into either of the districts of the department of the Tennessee, without the signature of the commanding general being first affixed to the invoice as a permit. Steamboat captains are to be held responsible for any goods found on their boats not thus permitted.

COTTON ARRIVING.

Cotton came in pretty freely yesterday. Quite a number of wagons were on the bluff unloading last evening. We heard of one sale yesterday of twelve hundred bales. The ruling prices are from forty-eight to fifty cents per pound. (*Memphis Argus, December 4.*

GEN. PEMBERTON'S ARMY.

We clip the following paragraph from the Charleston *Courier* of the 8th inst.:

Our late accounts from General Pemberton's army represent it in fine fighting order—full of spirit, courage and confidence, well organized and drilled, and (for our service) well equipped. A competent eye-witness and judge writes to the Mobile *Register*: "I have never seen a finer command for its size." We confess that, looking all around the horizon of the war, we feel most uneasy about the Mississippi campaign. The prize of victory there would be worth more to our foes than even the coveted Richmond. As it is the most dangerous and important point, it should be also the best guarded one. Fortunately the Government possesses the means of reinforcement, and a telegraphic order would give to General Pemberton all the troops required to defeat the grand plans of the enemy. We shall be glad to know that the War Department has written that dispatch.

Referring to the rumored speech of General Pemberton; delivered at Jackson on his assuming command, the substance of which has already been published here, the *Appeal* states that the remarks addressed by Pemberton were never uttered by him, and disposes of the matter in the following paragraph:

AN OUTRAGEOUS FORGERY.

The Northern papers are publishing the following as a speech made to his troops by Gen. Pemberton on assuming command. It is unnecessary for us to say that no such speech was ever uttered. It was manufactured from whole cloth, and destined for European consumption doubtless:

A BALL AT FORT SUMTER.

A very pleasant entertainment took place at Fort Sumter on Monday evening. About three o'clock Generals Beauregard and Ripley, with a large number of invited guests, including many ladies and the commander of the French steamer Milan, now anchored in the harbor, reached the Fort in a boat specially provided for the occasion. The battalion of regular artillery, constituting the garrison of the post, was then reviewed by General Beauregard, and the superb precision of the men in every movement called forth universal admiration from the spectators. After some time spent in examining the interior arrangements of the great stronghold, the guests repaired to the officers' quarters, in the south face of the Fort, and there betook themselves to dancing. Excellent music and abundant refreshments had been provided by the hospitable officers, and for hours those grim walls echoed with the sounds of merriment. At nine o'clock the company re-embarked, leaving the garrison to its wonted rest, with no sign of life upon the dark outline of the Fortress, save the sentinels pacing the bleak parapet in their lonely rounds.

Charleston Mercury, 10th inst.

The Richmond *Enquirer*, in commenting on the Northern elections, remarks thus:

"Let us, then, prepare just as if Lincoln had triumphed. Perhaps we should prepare still more energetically. We must be strong enough not simply to repulse but to attack.

"Let the partisans of the United States, whatever their name, and the Governors here and there among them, understand fully and perfectly that separate independence is our irrevocable determination, and will be defended against all comers, with all the fortitude and courage and prowess at our command."

Texas Items.

We clip the following items from the San Antonio *Herald* of the 29d ult.:

We learn that Governor Baylor's command now consists of thirty companies, comprising two thousand men.

A company of partizan rangers was organized at Dr. Hosmer's, in Wilson county. Joseph H. Weyman was elected Captain, Robert Davis 1st Lieutenant, Henry R. d'Hamel, 2d Lieutenant, and Calvin Goodlow 3d Lieutenant. This is a splendid company. Both officers and men may be relied upon.

Gov. Lubbock, in compliance with a requisition made upon him by the commanding general of the military department, has made a call upon certain military districts for 5000 militia soldiers to serve three months, unless sooner discharged, in defending the coast, and repelling the invasion of Texas.

Lincoln's abolition proclamation don't seem to frighten the slave owners of Western Texas much. A lot of text weapons, including women and children, with one blind negro, were sold at auction at LaGrange on the 6th instant, and brought ten thousand two hundred and eleven dollars. We get this information from the *True Issue*.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

We saw a day or two ago an excellent quality of jeans, which was manufactured in this place. The cotton and wool were carded and spun, and the cloth woven by the ladies of one of our wealthiest families. They have produced a sufficient quantity to clothe the family, white and black, and to give liberally to destitute soldiers. We should like to give the names of these model and patriotic ladies, but as true merit is generally modest, we fear such notice might be offensive.

Information has been received at the headquarters of the Department of the organization of a force in Mexico of from five hundred to one thousand men under Cortinas—of more probably under Judge Davis and other renegade Americans, for the purpose of invading Texas. The Mexican authorities give their assurance that it shall be prevented; but they are insolent, treacherous, not very friendly to us, and somewhat in the confidence of the Yankees. We have little confidence in their promises. Should such an attempt be made, the invaders should be pursued across the Rio Grande, and exterminated upon the same neutral territory where they have been permitted to organize their unlawful expedition.

We learn with satisfactory motives for a war of extermination upon all classes of our citizens.

No man understands the Indian character better than General Baylor. This knowledge, together with his courage, coolness and bravery, peculiarly qualify him for the duties of the difficult position that he is about to assume. We know of no commander in whose skill, foresight and determination we feel more confidence than in those of General Baylor.

LATEST SOUTHERN NEWS.

We take the following from an extra of the *Picayune*, published last evening:

We have the Memphis (Jackson, Miss.,) *Appeal* of the 17th inst., containing very interesting and important intelligence, which we hasten to lay before the public.

The *Appeal* has the annexed telegraphic dispatches:

SKIRMISH ON THE RIVER.

Port Hudson, December 14.—On the afternoon of the 12th inst., the Yankee gunboat Essex, a wooden boat, name unknown, anchored out of range of our lower battery, when Capt. McClain's company of cavalry crossed the river in the night and hired a negro to hail the Essex. The hail was promptly answered and a boat sent ashore, when the cavalry fired, killing one and wounding two.

Last night Capt. Boone, with his company of light artillery, crossed the river and took a position on the point. Capt. Boone lay quietly down opened a brisk fire on her, which was answered by her and the Essex. The engagement lasted two hours, when the wooden boat retired behind the Essex for protection, and both proceeded down the river.

The enemy fired in all 110 guns. Captain Boone fired 35, of which 20 took effect, some of them passing through the enemy's boat.

The enemy's loss not known. We had one private slightly wounded in the hand. The enemy were fairly worsted and driven off. Captain Boone and company acted with great gallantry. The engagement was extended as far up as Donaldsonville on this shore.

BATTLE IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Richmond, December 14.—An official dispatch received at the War Department, from Gen. Evans, states that the enemy had made a demonstration yesterday on Kingston, N. C., on the Neuse river, by landing a force of gunboats, and that he fought them successfully and damaged some of the vessels very badly, when the enemy retired.

It is supposed the object of the enemy was to cut the railroad at Goldsboro'.

A telegram from Goldsboro' estimates the enemy's force at 10,000, and says they approached within ten miles of Kinston.

FROM VIRGINIA.

Richmond, December 14.—The following dispatch has been received by Gen. Cooper:

"General Hampton reports that he entered Dumfries and captured twenty wagons with forage and fifty prisoners, all of which he brought to the Rappahannock. Signl is expected at Dumfries to-morrow. R. E. LEE."

DISASTER IN ALABAMA—MOVEMENTS IN MISSISSIPPI.

Mobile, December 15.—The *News* has a special dated Okaloosa, December 14th, which says: We learn from an official source that the Federals attacked and routed Roddy's cavalry day before yesterday at Tuscumbia. No particulars.

Thirty Federal cavalry came as far as Carrollville, two miles west of Baldwin, to-day.

Scouts report a large force of infantry and cavalry encamped six miles south of Rienzi last night, and advancing in that direction to day.

FROM CORINTH.

The *News* also has the following special: "Nine Federal prisoners, captured at Danville by Barteau's cavalry, and brought hither last night, reports that the Yankee strength now at Corinth is between 50000 and 60,000, mostly raw troops. They state that the Yankee army is tired of the war, and that bets are freely offered in the camp that peace will be made before the 1st of March.

Corinth is defended by eleven forts, and the prisoners think it could not be taken, even now, by a force of less than 20,000 men.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE BATTLE OF MARTINVILLE.

Richmond, December 9.—An official dispatch dated Murfreesboro', December 8, says:

"An expedition under acting Brigadier General John H. Morgan attacked the outposts of the enemy at Hartsville, on the Cumberland river, yesterday morning, killed and wounded two hundred, and captured eighteen hundred prisoners, two pieces of artillery, two thousand stand of arms, and all the other stores at that point.

"On the day previous, a small foraging train was captured by Gen. Wheeler near Nashville, with fifty prisoners.

"On the 6th, Col. Hoddy, of the Alabama cavalry, captured a train near Corinth, with its escort and a number of negroes.

"Our loss at Hartsville was about one hundred and twenty-five killed and wounded. We sustained no loss at either of the other places.

"BRAXTON BRAGG,
"General Commanding."

Late and Important Southern News.

A GREAT BATTLE NEAR FREDERICKSBURG.

The *Advocate* yesterday published an extra edition containing the following additional important news from Southern sources:

We take the following dispatches from the Mobile *Evening News* of the 13th:

Reports of Deserters at Charleston—Great Disgust in the Federal Fleet—British Action as Prisoners, N. C.—Emphatic Declaration of Napoleon—Seward's Dispatches to Minister Adams—President Davis at Murfreesboro', Tenn.

[Southern Associated Press.]

Charleston, December 12.—Five deserters from the Federal fleet off the Florida Coast, between Jacksonville and St. Andrews, arrived here to day in charge of Dr. L. Crews. One name Grigor claims to be one of Capt. Semmes' men of the Sumter, and says he was captured by the Yankees and put on board their own vessel, from which he deserted. These deserters are from the Uncas, Huntsville and Albatross. They say that both officers and men are sick and disgusted with the service, and would quit it if they could do so with decency.

The British ship Ariadne, of twenty-six guns, which called off this harbor yesterday, leaves to-day.

[Richmond Associated Press.]

Petersburg, December 12.—The *Express* has the following particulars of the battle of Plymouth, obtained from an official dispatch to General French, on Wednesday morning last:

That before day five companies of the Seventeenth regiment of North Carolina troops, and a squadron of Evans's cavalry, under command of Lieut.-Col. Evans, dashed into Plymouth, N. C., and drove the Federals pell mell from the place. We killed and wounded many, took twenty-five prisoners and seventy-five negroes. Our troops being fired at from houses, Colonel Lamb ordered Moore's battery to batter them down. About two-thirds of the town was burned. Moore's section drove the Federal gun-boat down the river, seriously disabling her. The negroes and prisoners were all brought away. Our loss was six wounded, Captain Galloway severely.

Richmond, December 12.—The Paris correspondent of the New York *Herald* of November 14 says that Count Cowley was invited by Napoleon that his conviction was so strong of the absolute necessity of mediation, that if England hesitated for any length of time in refusal, he would not hesitate to act without her, in conjunction with whatever European powers would associate with him.

The New York *Times* has published several columns of dispatches from Seward to Minister Adams, at different periods during the war. In several of these dispatches, intended for foreign effect, he argues to show that the Administration is hostile to the institution of slavery.

In a dispatch dated July 28th, he says: "We will induce or oblige our slaveholding citizens to supply Europe with cotton if we can, and the President has given respectful consideration to the desire informally expressed to me by the Governments of Great Britain and France for some further relaxations of the brigade in favor of the cotton trade, and an answer will be reasonably given." He closes by saying that this Government relies upon the respect of her sovereignty by foreign powers, and if this reliance fails, the civil war will, without our fault, become a war of continents, a war of the world, and whatever else may revive the cotton trade, built upon slave labor in the country, will be irredeemably wrecked, on the abrupt cessation of the heretofore bondage within the Territories of the United States.

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Murfreesboro', December 12.—President Davis arrived here from Richmond to-night at 6½ o'clock. He was accompanied at Chattanooga this morning, and proceeded with a salute of 13 guns from the Washington Battery at Bridgeport. The President is accompanied by Gen. Davis and Col. Lee, members of his staff.

[Southern Associated Press.]

Richmond, December 12.—The City Council of Richmond held a special meeting to-day, with reference to the prevalence of the small-pox in the city.

Resolutions were adopted requesting the Confederate authorities to remove all cases out of the limits of the city, and to take measures to prevent the disease spreading. Voluntary or compulsory vaccination was recommended.

Later from the Rappahannock—The Federals Repulsed at Two Points.

[Fitchburb's Press.]

Richmond, December 12.—The *Enquirer* of this morning contains additional particulars of fighting at Fredericksburg yesterday. The enemy attempted to lay down pontoon bridges at three points—one at the site of the railroad bridge, which spanned the river at the lower end of town; another at the ford above the town, between it and Falmouth, and the third below the mouth of Deep Run, which is three miles below the city.

The attempts at the first named points were repulsed with considerable loss to the enemy. Our sharpshooters and skirmishers so operating with artillery. In the affair at the lower point, the pontoons were protected from the fire of our artillery by the enemy's guns, which rendered the sharpshooters ineffective. The half past twelve the bridge was reported as nearly complete. There had of course been no attempt at crossing troops. Longstreet's canonooading was very severe.

A dispatch from Fredericksburg, dated at six o'clock, says that the enemy were then crossing on their pontoon bridges—reaching the southern bank they will be in a sheltered nook between the bluff and the river. The space is of horseshoe shape, and sufficient, perhaps, to contain 10,000 men above and below. It is said that the bluff approaches the river and obscured on the southern shore, so that the enemy cannot march up or down the river under cover of the bluff. We shall not be surprised to learn that the assault of the bluff was made under cover of last night's darkness, and that the attempt brought on a night attack.

The house of Wm. H. Vaughan, on the river road, was set on fire by a shell and burned, also that of George King, near the depot. Shells passed through the house of the Rev. Dr. Broaddus and that of Mr. J. A. Scott. The steeple of the Baptist Church was cut away and some houses in the upper part of the town were destroyed. About thirty of our wounded were brought down last night in the train.

Richmond, December 12.—On Saturday evening our batteries stationed above and below the town of Port Royal, on the Rappahannock, opened fire on the gunboats which were anchored in the stream just opposite, consisting of the Freeborn, Anacosta, Live Yankee and Resolute. The firing lasted about an hour and a half. Eleven houses were struck, four of which were completely riddled. No one was hurt, though grape was fired upon the women and children as they were leaving the town.

No notification was given by the Federals of their intention to shell. After the bombardment they dropped down the stream some seven miles, and it is thought the gunboats were struck several times. The people of the town, like those of Fredericksburg, are now scattered in the farm houses and cabins of the adjacent country. During the night many of the women and children were in the open air, having no other shelter than the woods. Truly are the Federals waging a war of extermination, and no quarters given to women and children.

Dispatch from Murfreesboro'.

Murfreesboro', December 12.—Colonel R. C. Tyler leaves to-morrow for Chattanooga, en route for Richmond, with a number of Federal officers who were taken prisoners at Hartsville. Things are working.

Cotton Burned.

Okaloosa, December 12.—Colonel Bartean's scouts have burned about 15,000 bales of cotton on the river and in Bluff prisoners, all of which he brought to the Rappahannock. Signl is expected at Dumfries to-morrow. R. E. LEE."

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Resolutions were adopted requesting the Confederate authorities to remove all cases out of the limits of the city, and to take measures to prevent the disease spreading. Voluntary or compulsory vaccination was recommended.

Later from the Rappahannock—The Federals Occupy Fredericksburg—Fierce Fighting Yesterday—Active Skirmishing in Progress.

[Southern Associated Press.]

Richmond, December 13.—The morning papers furnish some interesting particulars of the events at Fredericksburg yesterday (Thursday) night.

The *Enquirer* says the enemy, under cover of their artillery firing, crossed the river and occupied the city.

The pontooniers commenced at 11 o'clock in the night of Thursday, and at daylight on Friday their artillery opened, and the firing reached as high as 60 per minute, and at this rate continued all day.

Under its cover the bridges were thrown across the river, and the first adventurous Yankees that thronged the Southern shore were speedily captured. The enemy approaching this side, our sharpshooters would rise from the ground and fire into the bridge builders, and many of the enemy were killed and wounded while thus engaged. The bridges escaped.

The fighting yesterday was in Bernard's woods, two and a half miles this side of the town. The occupation of Fredericksburg was obtained with equal opposition on our part, and gives a questionable advantage only to the enemy. We yet believe the Rappahannock will be more to our advantage behind the enemy than when it was in their front.

Up to last accounts the capture of the train from Hamilton's Crossings, the two armies had been engaged in skirmishing, which had commenced early and continued briskly.

The special correspondent of the *Examiner*, writing at 12 M. yesterday, says:

About 5 o'clock our forces relinquished the place to the enemy, and during, or shortly after, the skirmishing the enemy fired the post-office and Methodist Church; the Bank of Virginia and all the houses on this square were consumed. Of several hundred citizens left in the town on yesterday, there were but three women, whose husbands had previously gone over to the enemy, and claimed protection of the Federalists.

[Richmond Associated Press.]

Richmond, December 13.—Passengers state that a considerable portion of Fredericksburg was destroyed yesterday by the enemy's shells. There was a skirmish yesterday between the two, but nothing decisive. The two armies are still skirmishing. The people here are in good spirits.

MOVEMENTS OF THE GUNBOATS AT CHARLESTON

Charleston, December 14.—One of the enemy's gunboats off the Stono, shelled our pickets on Battery Island and Legare's, below Secessionville, for about one hour, and a small force landed, but went back almost immediately. Nobody hurt.

Great Battle at Horse-Shoe Shoals, near Fredericksburg — Dispatch from Gen. Lee.

The following is from the *Mississipian* of the 15th:

Richmond, December 14.—The following dispatch was received from Gen. Lee late last night:

At 9 o'clock this morning (Saturday) the enemy attacked our right wing, and, as the fog lifted, the battle ran along the line from right to left till 5 P. M., the enemy being repulsed as usual at all points, thanks be to God.

We have to mourn the loss of many brave men. I expect the battle will be renewed at daylight to-morrow morning. R. E. LEE.

Charleston, December 14.—A private dispatch, dated Richmond, December 13, received here, says the fight to-day resulted in our favor.

Generals Maxey Gregg, of South Carolina, M. J. R. Cobb, of Georgia, and Hood, of Texas, killed in the morning.

General Hooker, United States Army, reported killed.

Mississippi, December 15.—Quite an exploit on the Yazoo.

On Thursday last, we are informed, two Federal gunboats approached Blake's lower plantation.

They were fired upon by an ingenious and secret contrivance of Captains McDaniel and Ewing, of the Navy, and went back.

On Friday they returned with three rams and two gunboats. The first gunboat was sunk and the others retired.

The *Advocate* publishes the following paragraph:

The New York *Herald* of the 9th is in the city, and says the United States must prepare for war with France. Rather sensational, we are inclined to think.

The *Advocate* says that it has been promised papers of the 17th and 18th. One of these papers state that Fredericksburg has been reduced to ashes.

Additional News from the South.

The *Picayune* published in its evening edition of yesterday the following intelligence, which we copy below:

We have the Mobile *Tribune* of the 11th instant; it contains the following telegraphic dispatches:

FIGHT AT HARTSVILLE, TENNESSEE.

Chattanooga, December 9.—Murfreesboro' dates to the 8th inst. have been received, containing the following intelligence:

Two regiments of Hansen's brigade, composed of the Second and Ninth Kentucky, under Hunt, also Morgan's command, attacked the enemy at Hartsville, Tennessee, yesterday, killing about three hundred and capturing the balance—fifteen hundred. Our loss about one hundred. The Second Kentucky lost seventy-five.

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

Richmond, December 10.—Three French gentlemen arrived in the city this morning, from Washington, via Winchester and Staunton, who, it is understood, are bearers of dispatches from the French Government.

THE IRON-CLAD STEAMER PASSAIC.

Charleston, December 10.—The rumor here from Fortress Monroe that the Ericsson steamer Passaic had proved a complete failure, and came near foundering at sea, is regarded authentic.

SPIRIT OF THE RICHMOND PRESS.

Richmond, December 10.—The *Examiner* reviews the course of the great Powers on the American mediation proposition, and says that all the circumstances of the case go to show that the French proposition would have been much stronger, but for the effect of that Government to accommodate its proposals to the caprice, caprices and timid solicitudes of the two Cabinets, whose co-operation was necessary to its success.

The *Dispatch* comments on the report of the Yankee Secretary of War. It says the wonder is not that they are so numerous, but that they should have done so little. Eight hundred thousand men ought to conquer the world, but the next time we defeat the Yankees we shall hear them attribute their reverse to overwhelming numbers.

The *Enquirer*, in an article on the necessity of reducing prices, denounces the spirit of extortion, and says that the evil must be abated, and that the military law which exempts from duty only such as confine their profits within seventy-five per cent. should be rigidly enforced.

SALT IN VIRGINIA.

Richmond, December 10.—The price of salt is coming down rapidly. Two weeks ago this article sold in Richmond at $1 50 per pound. It was sold yesterday in Petersburg for fifty-five cents per pound.

FEDERAL SHIPS ROUND SOUTH.

Augusta, December 10.—Large number of Federal ships have been passing Charleston south ward for several days.

FROM GALVESTON.

We copy the following from the Houston *News* of the 21st ultimo:

"By the train just in from Virginia Point, we learn that a steamer, supposed to be the Consolidation, ran the Galveston batteries yesterday. She is understood to be the supply steamer which the Federals have been looking for.

Telegraph Extra had a telegram from Virginia Point yesterday, which says Mr. League went on board Commodore Renshaw's ship, with Mrs. Strother, to see what was to be done with Mr. Strother, who was captured a few days since, and learned that he was detained as a spy, and would not be paroled, and that he was allowed the privilege of the quarter deck.

"There was outside the bar the bark Island City, with coal, and the English frigate Greyhound—the latter to leave to-day.

"The schooner with provision had left, the English frigate Greyhound not allowing her to come in, as the port was not free to the English, and it should not be to the Yankees. There were two gunboats, the Harriet Lane, and two or three small schooners in the harbor. All quiet in the city."

THE ENEMY'S VISIT TO GENERAL BRAGG'S PLANTATION.

A letter from Natchez, dated the 13th, says: "Mrs. Bragg, wife of Gen. B. Bragg, and her mother, Mrs. Ellis, have separately been burnt out by the Abolitionists, and are on their way to this place. Their plantations are on the Bayou Terre, near Thibodaux, Louisiana."

Later from the North.

Arrival of the Continental—Three Days' Later Intelligence.

By the arrival of the United States steamtransport Continental, Northern dates to the 9th have been received. From the gleanings of the *True Delta* we copy the following: The *Herald* of the 9th contains the subjoined advices:

NEWS FROM BURNSIDE'S ARMY—REPORTS FROM THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

Headquarters, December 8.—Reports from the river stations note several deaths from exposure during the past forty-eight hours.

Large quantities of supplies are perserved from landing at Aquia and Potomac creeks by low water and ice. The latter is fully 2 inches thick. Notwithstanding this the army generally is provided for twelve days ahead. Delis is due to the army quartermasters and commissaries for their energy in overcoming great obstacles and expediting the supplies now on hand.

There have been no movements of importance to-day. Many regiments are industriously engaged in erecting huts, as if preparing to spend the winter hereabouts. The impression, however, is prevalent, that the present quiet will be of short duration.

REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON.

Washington, December 8, 1862.—It is regarded as certain at the ordnance bureau of the War Department, that an advance train of one hundred and thirty or forty six-horse wagons, loaded for the Rappahannock, have fallen into the hands of the rebels.

Officers of high and low degree have come up to-day from the army, and report that there can be no forward movement in the present condition of roads, streams, weather, &c.

At Belle Plaine, which is a depot of supplies, the ice prevents the approach of supply vessels, and at Aquia landing, where the Potomac River expands broadly at that point and is quite shallow towards the landing.

The boat had trouble in getting up from Alexandria this evening, and if the present cold weather keeps up, the river may be closed with ice beyond the power of the tug boats to break through.

The freezing snow weather has set in full a month earlier than usual. Under all circumstances, the want of clothing, supplies, forage, tents, &c., by the army, as described by the Republican press, makes things look gloomy indeed.

REPORTS FROM FALMOUTH.

Falmouth, Va., December 8, 1862.—The severe weather of the past two days had not abated this morning. It is reported that five men were frozen to death during the last Saturday night. One of these was a band, belongs to the Sixth Rhode Island battery.

IMPORTANT FROM TENNESSEE—CAPTURE OF A UNION BRIGADE.

From the news summary of the *Herald* we copy the following:

The Union arms which have been so long successful in the West at last met with a disaster at Hartsville, Tennessee, and one involving the intelligence is our possession it appears that the rebel guerrilla Morgan made an attack upon the brigade commanded by General Moore at that place, which consisted of the Ninety-Ninth Illinois, Colonel Moore commanding brigade; One Hundred and Sixth Ohio, Col. Lafel; One Hundred and Eighth Ohio, Col. Limberg; Bickles's battery and a small detachment of the Second Indiana cavalry.

After fighting an hour and a quarter our forces surrendered, and the enemy burned our camp, capturing nearly all the brigade, train and teams, and burning what they could not carry away. Two guns of Bickles's battery were also captured. Our loss was between fifty and sixty killed and wounded, who were left on the field. The rebel loss is not reported. Morgan's force consisted of three regiments of cavalry and two of infantry. It was said that Morgan made another attack upon General Fry's position at Gallatin the same afternoon, but met with a serious repulse. General Fry was speedily reinforced and pursued the enemy. It would appear that in the attack at Hartsville some of the troops behaved badly, while others fought gallantly to the last.

A deserter from Murfreesboro' reports the rebel Generals Cheatham and Breckinridge there with 15,000 men. Buckner at Shelbyville, and Kirby Smith sick at Manchester. General Joe Johnston, it is said, was certainly at Murfreesboro' on Saturday.

THE NEW FINANCIAL PLAN OF THE GOVERNMENT PRESENTED TO CONGRESS—A BILLION DOLLARS OF UNITED STATES BONDS AND FIVE HUNDRED MILLIONS OF LEGAL TENDER NOTES TO BE AUTHORIZED.

The *Herald* makes the following editorial reference to the resolutions introduced into Congress on the 8th, by Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania:

The Government would seem to contemplate the introduction of a new financial policy, if we can judge from the resolutions introduced into Congress yesterday by Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means. He reported a bill which provides for the issue by Mr. Chase of a thousand millions United States bonds, similar in amount and form to those authorized by the act approved February 25, 1862, with the interest payable semi-annually in the lawful money of the United States, and the principal payable in twenty years in gold or silver coin of the United States; also to issue United States notes of the United States, the amount not to exceed, with those already authorised, five hundred millions, to enable him to call in all the five-twenty and seven-thirty Treasury notes now in circulation or held to cancel them, and authorising him to redeem the United States legal tender notes held as a loan and bearing interest. The law authorising such loans to be repealed.

The bill sums at the virtual suppression of the banks by the imposition of a tax of fifty per cent upon all their capital paid in, to go into operation ninety days after the passage of the bill.

NEW YORK MARKETS.

Subjoined is the *Herald's* summary of the markets:

The stock market was dull yesterday, without any material change in prices. Gold fluctuated between 131¾ and 131⅞, closing late in the day at 131¾. Exchange fluctuated between 145 and 146. Money was in good demand at 6 per cent. The bank statement shows a decrease of $5,369,939 in deposits, $1,478,407 in loans, and $286,218 in specie.

The cotton market was very dull, and prices were nominally a trifle lower yesterday. The movements in breadstuffs were more extensive, having embraced sales of nearly 25,000 bbls. flour, at a partial rise of 5c.; 180,000 bushels wheat at a shade firmer rates, and 180,000 bushels corn at an advance of 1c. There was also considerable activity in provisions, mess pork closing as high as $13 31 to $13 50. Rio coffee sold to the extent of 1000 bags, at full prices. New Orleans molasses was in more request. Sugars, rice, spices, iron, lead, tin, tobacco and whisky were very sparingly inquired for. There was a much lighter business reported. There were no remarkable chang