THE DAILY BEE.
PUBLISHED BY
G. F. WEISSE & CO.
G. F. WEISSE, 2 HARSY,
F. LIMET, N. DUFOUX.
Daily Paper one year (in advance).....$12
Country Paper semi-weekly.....5
In all cases, subscribers must give one week's notice in writing before they can be allowed to discontinue. Any person receiving the paper through error of the carrier, or otherwise, will be considered as a subscriber, and obliged to pay, unless due notice is given of the fact to the office.

NEW ORLEANS.
TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 21, 1861.

SUBSCRIPTIONS BY THE WEEK

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

Auction Sales This Day.

By E. Roger & Co., at 11 o'clock, at Nos. 45 and 47 Old Levee street, bonnet ribbons, black silks, curtains, cambrics, &c.

The Sheriff will sell at auction this day, at noon, at the City Hotel, Common street, valuable slaves. For particulars and terms see advertisement.

IS IT ERROR OR FALSEHOOD?

Of the large numbers in the North who are urging and encouraging the Lincoln Administration in its war upon the South, very many are doubtless animated by intense sectional hatred. This is incontrovertibly established by the language of the exponents of Black Republicanism. One and all exult with fiendish joy at the prospect of ruining the South, desolating her fields, destroying her cities, fomenting servile insurrection, and executing as traitors all who fall into the hands of the North. From these demons nothing is to be expected. They desire a war of sections. They seek to visit upon the South the hoarded vengeance of years. They loathe us for our prosperity, our wealth, our refinement, our superior civilization, and they will hound on the Administration in all its reckless and ferocious designs. To reason with this fanatical and truculent crew would be labor lost. They can only be thrashed into silence, as they will be, we trust, in every encounter with Southern steel.

There is another class, however, in the North—perhaps larger than the former—which is composed of men professing to discard and repudiate every idea of a sectional feud in the war waged against the South, and whose organs have certainly within a few days begun to rebuke severely the Black Republican press for its incendiary and infamous counsels. The N. Y. *Express*, the *Journal of Commerce*, the Boston *Courier*, and the Philadelphia *Evening Journal*, are fair representatives of this particular class. One of them, the Boston *Courier*, in its issue of the 15th inst., insists upon a broad discrimination between the masses of those who are engaged in the present contest. It denies that this is a more sectional conflict between the North and South, and says that were it so, "we might as well dismiss our armies, first as last, and let those go from the Union whom it would then be neither possible nor for our interest to hold." What then is the prevailing motive which induces the North to attempt coercion? Why, according to the *Courier*, the real object is to preserve the Union, and maintain American nationality unbroken. And how does it propose to accomplish these ends? Briefly, by applying to all the Southern States the policy which has proved effectual in Maryland. The *Courier* assumes that all over the South there exists an undercurrent of Union sentiment, which, if practically sustained and rendered safe by the power of the Federal army, will of itself suffice to create a political revolution, and to bring the Southern States back into the Union. It asserts, indeed, in plain language that the moment it can convince its old conservative friends at the South that this is no war of sections, the weapons will at once drop from their hands, and then, should the persistent Secessionists determine to fight, the victory over them will be the easiest thing imaginable.

We find it difficult to conceive that an intelligent and well informed sheet, such as we have quoted, can be really sincere in the expression of these opinions—for surely to have imbibed so huge a mass of error, that journal must have neglected every possibility of learning the truth. The Black Republican organs, with all their diabolical frenzy against the South, know better. The New York *World* published lately letters from its correspondents in Virginia and N. Carolina, which stated in unreserved terms the almost entire unanimity of feeling in these Commonwealths in favor of secession, while the *Tribune* itself has repeatedly acknowledged the same fact. The Boston *Courier* may deem our declarations of small value, but they who are familiar with our habitual moderation of tone and freedom from prejudice, will be inclined to regard our testimony as trustworthy. With the seven States which originally constituted the Confederacy, we have every reason to believe that not one per cent, nay not five men in a thousand, either desire a rental in with the North, or would accept it upon any condition whatever. In this conclusion we are guided with regard to other States by what we perceive in our own. Among the hundreds in this city who voted for cooperation, of who were undisguised submissionists, none are to be found at the present time who are not heart and soul with the South, while hosts of them are marshalled in our military service. The same is unquestionably the case in Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, Texas, Alabama and Mississippi. Look for instance at North Alabama, which voted almost as a unit against secession, now sending thousands of her truest sons to fight the battles of the south. In North Carolina and in Arkansas the people are just as united as in South Carolina, as the election will shortly prove. Now with respect to Virginia and Tennessee, we are free to admit that in the western part of the former, and the eastern section of the latter—neither containing a large relative proportion of slaves—there are some Union men, but too few to affect in the slightest manner the overwhelming preponderance of Southern sentiment.

If, therefore, the Boston *Courier* truly represents a class which is only anxious to coerce the South into the Union, because convinced that there are hosts of Unionists in that latitude, we assert without fear of contradiction that that particular class should at once desist from all other efforts at an impossible end. The North may as well dismiss its armies, first as last, and let those go from the Union whom it will be neither possible nor to its interest to hold. When the North is told again and again, beyond the possibility of error, that the South is as one man against the Union, and determined upon a separate existence, and yet persists in making war upon us, we have no alternative than to consider its pretext flimsy and false, and sectional hostility its secret motive.

An Engagement and Victory.

The *Delta* of last evening contained the annexed interesting dispatch:

Richmond, May 20.—The battery at Sewell's Point, eight miles from Norfolk, was fired into on Saturday and yesterday by the United States armed steamer Minnesota. Yesterday (Sunday) the battery returned fire with great effect. In a short time the steamer was entirely disabled. She made signals of distress, which were responded to from Fort Monroe by sending out steam tugs immediately to her relief. These took her in tow and hauled her off.

We give up Maryland, and think the Confederate States should rejoice at the prospect of her remaining within the Federal Union. Her population, or at least an imposing majority, are so dreadfully alarmed at the idea of war, that they are entirely willing to submit to the most humiliating vassalage. General Butler fills Baltimore with Federal troops, and the papers of that city, with, we believe, one exception, timidly vindicate the policy of coercion. And Maryland is a slaveholding State! "O shame! where is thy blush!"

NORTH CAROLINA ELECTION.—The scattering returns received from various portions of the State, for delegates to the Convention of the people, which met at Raleigh yesterday, exhibit a unanimity in favor of unconditional secession truly wonderful. The change since the election last winter, when the so called Union men carried the State, is without parallel in the history of political revolutions. The old North State is emphatically a unit in resenting the aggressions of the Abolition Administration at Washington.

The Nashville *Patriot* of the 17th inst. has the following:

We are deeply pained to state that yesterday afternoon Cyp Haywood, Esq., met with an accident by which his life is seriously endangered. Whilst descending from a buggy in front of Marr's Insurance Office, College street, a small revolver dropped from his pocket. The pistol on striking the pavement was discharged. The ball from it struck him a few inches below the waist, near the side, ranged upward and passed through his body. Medical assistance was immediately called, but there is little, if any, hope of his recovery.

A SOLDIER DISCHARGED.—Some little excitement was created yesterday by an unusual commotion among some members of Ben. Baker's company, now encamped at the Fair Ground. It seems that one of the men refused to be mustered into the service, and was therefore charged with cowardice. Soon after, a party of his comrades, meeting him in the street, tore the stripes from his pants, and deprived him of other badges of his membership in the company. The poor fellow, we are informed, shed tears at his disgrace and at his expulsion from the camp.—*Mobile Advertiser.*

RHEUMATISM AND DIARRHŒA.—We invite particular attention to the certificate of our advertising columns attesting the efficacy of the remedies for rheumatism and diarrhœa to be obtained at No. 137 St. Ann street.

The New-Orleans Bee.

Office, 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 21, 1861. Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXXIII.—Whole No. 11,989.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

Three Days Later from Europe.

Arrival of the Steamer Canadian—Cotton Firm and Advancing.

Father Point, May 20.—The steamship Canadian, which left Liverpool on Thursday, the 9th, and touched at Londonderry Friday evening, the 10th, passed this point to-day, on her way up the St. Lawrence to Quebec.

Liverpool Cotton Market.

Liverpool, May 10.—The sales of three days, including Wednesday, in the Liverpool Cotton market, comprised 42,000 bales, of which 19,000 were taken by speculators and exporters.

James Hewitt & Co. report the market firm, at an advance of ¼d. on all grades since Friday. They also state that many stocks were withdrawn from the market.

Manchester Trade.

The trade at Manchester for both manufactured goods and yarns was steady. In some cases an advance, but not conceded.

Breadstuffs and Provisions.

Both the Liverpool Breadstuffs and Provision markets ruled steady.

London Money Market.

London, May 9.—The Money market is somewhat more stringent, the demand being active. Consols closed to day at 91¾ to 91⅞.

Political Intelligence.

The political intelligence by this arrival contains nothing of importance.

Count Teleki, the Hungarian patriot, has been assassinated.

The Canadian brings nothing via Londonderry.

A ship *en route* for Liverpool from Charleston is insured at 15 guineas.

The Chamber of Commerce has called the attention of the French Government to the unguarded condition of French shipping in American waters, urging prompt action.

Lord Palmerston deprecates the present dissensions in American affairs.

The English navy yards are actively engaged. A powerful squadron is soon coming to the American side of the Atlantic.

The London *Times* says that the United States have heretofore upheld privateering, and demanded the right of search, both of which are now turned against her.

Two Days Later from Europe.

Arrival of the Steamer Persia—Liverpool Cotton Market Quiet—Commercial and Political Intelligence.

Cape Race, May 20.—The Cunard Royal mail steamship Persia, Capt. Judkins, from Liverpool on the 11th, via Queenstown on the 12th inst., passed off this point to-day.

She was boarded by the new yacht of the Associated Press, and furnished the following summary of her intelligence obtained:

Liverpool Cotton Market.

Liverpool, May 11.—The Brokers' Circular reports the sales of the week in Liverpool the week ending with Friday, the 10th, at 91,000 sales, of which 22,000 were taken on speculation and 15,500 for export.

The week's business opened at an advance of ¼d. The market subsequently became quieter, but the advance was fully maintained.

The sales on Friday included 10,000 bales, including 3,000 taken on speculation and for export, the market closing quiet and steady at the following authorized quotations:

Fair Orleans, 8¾d.; Middling Orleans, 7¾d.; Fair Mobile, 8¼d.; Middling Mobile, 7¾d.; Fair Uplands, 8¼d.; Middling Uplands, 7 11 16d.

The stock of Cotton in port comprises 957,000 bales, including 500,000 of American description.

Manchester Trade.

The advices from Manchester and other manufacturing districts are of an unfavorable nature.

Breadstuffs and Provisions.

Messrs. Richardson, Spence & Co. report the week's business in Liverpool as having closed with an advancing tendency.

Provisions steady.

London Money Market.

London, May 11.—The amount of bullion in the Bank of England increased £35,000 during the week.

Consols for money 91¾ to 91¾.

Political Intelligence—England and Her Subjects in America.

A doubtful rumor was in circulation that vessels had left the port of Liverpool with letters of marque from the Confederate States Government.

Lord Derby expressed a hope in the House of Lords that the forthcoming proclamation by the Government would give emphatic warning that if British subjects join privateers, or become involved on either side, their blood would be on their own head. He said there would be no redress from England.

Latest via Queenstown—Liverpool Cotton Market.

Liverpool, May 12, P. M.—The amount of Cotton sold in Liverpool yesterday reached 10,000 bales, the market closing quiet at Friday's prices.

Breadstuffs and Provisions.

The Breadstuffs market rules firm. Provisions steady.

London Money Market.

London, May 12, P. M.—The closing quotations for Consols to-day were 91¾ to 91¾.

Domestic Intelligence.

Detention of the Steamer Lorenzo at Cairo.

Cairo, May 20.—The steamer Fred Lorenzo, laden with a large quantity of provisions, has been detained, pending the correspondence with Washington, whether supplies nominally consigned to Kentucky ports are contraband.

The Tug Yankee's Prizes.

Philadelphia, May 20.—The proceeding against the vessels captured by the tug boat Yankee as prizes commenced in this city to-day. It is very probable that nothing will be done beyond detention.

Louisville Races.

Louisville, May 20.—Molly Jackson won the four mile dash to day over the Woodlawn race course.

Time—7:34¾.

Won't Serve in Lincoln's Cabinet.

Louisville, May 18.—Hon. John Young Brown not desiring a seat in Lincoln's Cabinet, Judge Bigby has withdrawn his name from among the list of candidates.

New York 8th Regiment.

New York, May 18th.—The New York 8th Regiment was sworn in to-day.

Arrest of the Baltimore Collector.

Chambersburg, May 18.—Collector Mason, of Baltimore, a secessionist, has been arrested.

Sinking of the Bark Pierce at Norfolk.

Boston, May 18.—Capt. Gale, of the bark Pierce, reports that his vessel sunk at Norfolk Assistance to himself and crew was refused, especially by the English Consul, Mr. Myers.

Gossip.

New York, May 20.—Three Baltimoreans, indicted for being concerned in the recent uprising gave bail in the sum of $500.

The mouth of the Rappahannock river is blockaded.

Gen Cooke, at the head of 6,000 troops, is at Culpepper. 3,000 men are stationed between Culpepper and Alexandria.

It is probable that the first engagement will take place at Culpepper.

Gov. Wise is lying dangerously ill.

Large Fire in Nashville.

Nashville, May 20.—A warehouse containing military stores was destroyed by fire yesterday morning, involving a loss of $17,000, on which there was an insurance of $10,000.

The flames spread over to the house adjoining, occupied by Porter, Johnson & Co., as a wholesale hat store, which was also entirely consumed. The hat establishment was fully insured.

The Confederate Congress—Probable Adjournment from Richmond.

Montgomery, May 20—The business transacted publicly in Congress to-day is of no general importance.

It is reported that Congress will adjourn to morrow. Virtue precipitated its adjournment to about the probable place of reassembling, Richmond, in July, seems to be the most popular belief.

Camp Dennison, Ohio.

Cincinnati, May 20.—Sixteen thousand volunteers are at Camp Dennison; also three companies of United States artillery.

Arrest of a Secessionist on Incursion into Southern Pennsylvania.

Chambersburg, Pa., May 20.—A gentleman named Mason was released on the Maryland line. Though notoriously a Secessionist, his high character precluded the suspicion of his being a spy.

Seven hundred Virginians are opposite Williamsport, on the Potomac. It is feared they intend to make an incursion on southern Pennsylvania.

Neutrality of Kentucky—Governor Magoffin's Proclamation.

Louisville, May 20.—After an eloquent preamble, Gov. Magoffin proclaims by notifying and warning all other States, whether separate or united, and especially the United States and Confederate States, that he solemnly forbids any overland one occasionally, we may be sure that it would not be harmed, for it has been the policy of the Montgomery Government, from the start, to do nothing in any way to hasten the ill will of Great Britain. We may reasonably assume, then, that the fleet has a political as well as a commercial mission to perform—the result of which, as like as not, will be intervention on behalf of the Southern Confederacy, on the ground that a blockade which was employed to justify intervention in the war between the "States" on the River Plate, the "States" of Central America, and in about all other countries where internal divisions have been a temptation to interference. Hence it behooves our Government to keep an eye on this coming British fleet and its movements in the Southern waters. Communication between it and the Confederates must on no account be permitted, and for any attempt to violate the blockade, Her Majesty's commanders must be held to the strictest responsibility. We don't like to have that fleet on our seaboard at all, at this peculiar crisis; but as it rights to be there under the law of nations cannot well be denied, be it our especial care to see to it that the right is not abused or perverted to our prejudice.

Let the *Express* remember that the United States, shorn of a third of her physical strength, half of her territory, and much of her former prestige, has ceased to present to the eyes of Europe the same formidable appearance she did a year ago. Threatening England now days is more empty bravado.

Naval Engagement on the Potomac—Four Killed—Several Wounded.

Washington, May 20.—The coast guard steamer got ashore at the mouth of the Potomac, and was attacked by a propeller from Richmond.

During the engagement four Government soldiers were killed, and five wounded.

The propeller withdrew, pursued by an armed steamer.

A collision at Harper's Ferry is regarded as inevitable this week.

Gossip.

Washington, May 19.—A new military district, including Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee, is announced, with Gen. Butler as commander.

Scott, Butler, Mansfield and Cameron were in consultation all day.

The Fifth and Eighth Massachusetts Regiments have been ordered to prepare to march.

An eleven-gun battery and extensive earthworks have been discovered at Aquia Creek, Va.

By Wednesday 10,000 Abolitionists will be encamped on Arlington Hights.

Secretary Cameron refuses the four Maryland regiments to defend Maryland and Washington.

Daniel E. Sickles's command is moving.

Gen Mansfield, commanding 20,000 volunteers and 5000 regulars, will advance on Virginia.

General Reeder will probably command the Harper's Ferry expedition.

Contingents are to be established at Getzburg, for the inland, and at Staten Island for the seaboard reserves.

Postal Service in the Confederate States.

The Montgomery *Advertiser* of the 17th instant contains an elaborate and comprehensive article on this subject. Its explanations are so important that we extract liberally from them:

The proclamation of the Postmaster General, announcing that on and after the first day of June next he should assume the entire control of the postal service of the Confederate States, has already been made public. This control is to be assumed in such a manner that very slight, if any, inconvenience will be felt by the public in consequence of the change. The Postmaster-General has wisely concluded to retain, for the present, in the service of the Confederate States all route agents, postmasters, and other officials within their borders, now in the postal service of the United States; and with the exception that these will necessarily be some changes in the rates of postage, and the withdrawal of United States stamps from circulation, there will be very little to indicate that so important a matter as that of the postal service of this Government has passed from the control of the United States into that of the Confederate States.

Until this proclamation was issued—while the postal service of the Confederate States was really in the hands of the United States Government—the Postmaster-General could not consistently call upon the various postmasters, route agents, etc., to make reports of the sum of their names, amount of compensation, receipts, expenditures, routes, and amount of service performed, but now that he assumes control of the Department, it will be absolutely necessary that those reports should be thus made. In this proclamation the various deputy postmasters are especially directed to make their returns to the Department at Washington in full up to the 31st of May, 1861; taking care in rendering an account of their receipts and expenditures, to forward to Washington all postage stamps and stamped envelopes remaining on hand, belonging to the Government of the United States; and they are further required to retain in their possession, subject to the orders of the Postmaster General of the Confederate States, all revenues which may have accrued from the postal service prior to the first day of June.

The question of all the officers within the Confederate States, now in the United States postal service, is absolutely necessary to a proper organization of the new service, at least until all parts of it are placed in good working order. It would cause almost endless confusion and delay if an attempt was made to establish a postal system on an entirely new basis, with employes unaccustomed to the service. The Postmaster General has therefore wisely determined to retain them all in the service at present, and we presume so few changes will be made in future as are found consistent with the public welfare.

The principal differences between the postal laws of the United States and those of the Confederate States are that the rates of postage will be somewhat increased, the franking privilege will be abolished, and the Postmaster General, his chief clerk, the chief of the Contract, Finance and Appointment Bureaus, the Auditor of the Treasury for the Post Office Department, and Deputy Postmasters are allowed to frank letters on official business only, and the letter registration system now in force in the United States is by the new law entirely repealed. The importance of these amendments to the postal laws of the United States will be apparent to every one who examines the subject. Under the old United States postal laws, the Post Office Department, instead of being self-supporting, was a heavy tax of several millions annually on the property of the country. It needs no argument to prove the injustice of compelling any persons, except those who write and send letters, to pay the expense of their transmission. Nearly every one will be ready to admit that the Department should be made self-sustaining, and in order to effect this a slight increase on the present rates of postage will be absolutely necessary. We are sure the increase will be cheerfully borne by all good citizens.

The almost entire abolition of the franking privilege is a very long step in the direction of reforming the abuses which have crept into the old United States postal laws, as it will at once relieve the service of an immense and useless burden.

The letter registration system which has been in operation in the United States for the last half dozen years, we are pleased to see, has not been perpetuated in the postal system of the Confederate States. As the Government were never responsible for the safe carriage of registered letters, all on the only effect of securing the contents on the outside of a valuable letter was to give any rogue who saw fit to rifle the mails the advantage of knowing which letters were valuable and which were not. The system was useless, to say the least, and has been wisely omitted in our postal laws.

The law which goes into operation on the first proximo requires prepayment in money until the necessary stamps and stamped envelopes can be procured, at the rate of five cents per letter weighing not more than half an ounce, for any distance not exceeding five hundred miles; and five cents additional for every half ounce or fraction of an ounce; over five hundred miles double these rates. Advertised letters will be charged two cents in addition to the regular postage. All drop letters, and letters placed in the office for delivery only will be charged two cents; newspapers, circulars and other printed transient matter placed in the office for delivery only, will be charged one cent. The postage on weekly newspapers with the Confederate States will be ten cents per quarter, for a paper published six times per week six times that amount, and for other publications in proportion. Monthly magazines weighing not more than one and a half ounce will be charged two and one half cents per quarter, and periodicals published quarterly or bi-monthly will be charged two cents per ounce. Transient newspapers, pamphlets, periodicals, engravings, etc., not exceeding three ounces in weight, and published within the Confederate States, two cents. For all matter coming from beyond the Confederate States double postage will be charged. Publishers of newspapers are allowed to send and receive from their respective offices of publication one copy of each publication free of postage.

The postage system of the Confederate States will go into operation in about two weeks. We are confident the Postmaster General has done all in his power to make the transition from one Government to another as little felt as possible. If any of our citizens should be at all inconvenienced by the change, we hope they will endeavor to bear it in the best manner. In a short time, we have no doubt, every thing connected with the Department will be found to work smoothly and harmoniously.

Suspicious Strangers.

The Europa, from Liverpool, brings intelligence that a British fleet has been dispatched to the coast of the United States. The Northern journals comment upon this significant mission in rather a discontented tone. They look like it at all. Says the N. Y. *Express*, one of the least violent of the papers:

We have looked for some such demonstration as this, in accordance with the uniform practice under like circumstances, not only of Great Britain, but of the other leading European powers. We all know, however, that "looking after British interests" with British men-of-war means. The meaning is, that England is anxious to occupy a convenient position near our shores, to enable her to take advantage of events as they occur. In the course of a few days, therefore, we expect to hear that a number of those steam frigates with heathen names are cruising off Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, the passes of the Mississippi, &c., and making themselves as much as possible at home there. There are not many British British vessels in the ports of the seceding States just now, and even if Jefferson Davis's privateers should chance to overhaul one occasionally, we may be sure that it would not be harmed, for it has been the policy of the Montgomery Government, from the start, to do nothing in any way to hasten the ill will of Great Britain. We may reasonably assume, then, that the fleet has a political as well as a commercial mission to perform—the result of which, as like as not, will be intervention on behalf of the Southern Confederacy, on the ground that a blockade which was employed to justify intervention in the war between the "States" on the River Plate, the "States" of Central America, and in about all other countries where internal divisions have been a temptation to interference. Hence it behooves our Government to keep an eye on this coming British fleet and its movements in the Southern waters. Communication between it and the Confederates must on no account be permitted, and for any attempt to violate the blockade, Her Majesty's commanders must be held to the strictest responsibility. We don't like to have that fleet on our seaboard at all, at this peculiar crisis; but as it rights to be there under the law of nations cannot well be denied, be it our especial care to see to it that the right is not abused or perverted to our prejudice.

Let the *Express* remember that the United States, shorn of a third of her physical strength, half of her territory, and much of her former prestige, has ceased to present to the eyes of Europe the same formidable appearance she did a year ago. Threatening England now days is more empty bravado.

[From the London Morning Chronicle, April 27.]

The revolution in the United States has passed beyond the domain of talk, and has entered upon that of action. The bombardment and capture of Fort Sumter by the troops of the Southern Confederacy is another proof of the superior vigor and decision which that Government has manifested ever since Mr. Lincoln's election. It is natural that it should be so; for while the cotton States have throughout shown themselves to be at unit on the great question of secession, the statesmen and counsels of the Northern section have been divided as to whether it should be war or acquiescence. Besides, the South had been deliberately preparing for the blow, and to these preparations the Republican party was blind from first to last. Neither Lincoln nor Seward seems to have believed in the earnestness of Jefferson Davis and his coadjutors, and probably some such feeling as that still lingering caused them to be too late in their tardy attempt to reinforce Fort Sumter. That General Beauregard possessed a great advantage in being with his army on the spot is true; but that alone will not account for the fact of the Washington Cabinet allowing the place to be bombarded and captured without even an attempt being made to relieve it, although that Government had plenty of soldiers and ships of war at its command. It is said that a storm delayed the expeditionary relieving squadron; but the dispatches state that while the bombardment was going on the United States ships of war remained quietly at anchor outside the harbor. When Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet decided upon not recognizing the Southern Commissioners, and upon treating the seceding States as still in the Union; when it had taken its resolve to keep possession of the Federal places and property still in the hands of its officers in those States, it ought, one would have thought, at the same time to have adopted effective modes of carrying those resolves into action. If they did not mean submission of the Southern Confederacy they meant war; but instead of the decisive promptitude and preparedness which a warlike resolve implies, six weeks were allowed to pass away without any thing being done. Mr. Lincoln's attitude was from the first an attitude against rebellion; construing the Constitution of the United States as he does, and looking to the obligations of his oath, he had no option; yet his Government, from whatever cause, held back from pursuing the only line of conduct open to it. Nor can we forget the debates which occupied much of the time of Congress during this period—precious either for making peace or commencing war with advantage and which showed that Mr. Lincoln's policy and intentions were not understood even in that assembly.

It would be a useless task to endeavor now to fix the immediate culpability of bringing about the first act of war. *It is not for us to pronounce censure upon either section of the disrupted Union. Paper constitutions we hold, however, to be nothing when opposed to the wishes and feelings of any considerable section of a community, and it is clear the South has a perfect right to secede, any thing in the Federal Constitution to the contrary in the thitstanding.* An independent Southern Confederacy is an absurdity, as long as it lasts, although even a friendly Government holds fortresses and *places d'armes* within its borders. As the Southern Confederacy proclaimed its independence, it follows inevitably that it must claim the evacuation of the Federal forts. Had the Cabinet of Washington been able to see its way to the recognition of the Government at Montgomery, the undoubted claim of the Federal Government to these forts as Federal property could have been easily arranged by friendly negotiation. But this, it seems, the conscription of the United States forbade. We cannot blame Mr. Lincoln for taking that view of his duty; but we may be allowed to regret its necessity. In offer to the Southern Confederacy peaceful possession of the fortress of Fort Sumter, leaving only two or three men, and so let the fort remain until, to use the words of the New York *Tribune*, these troubles should be over—thus relieving Charleston and South Carolina of all fear that they would be in any manner annoyed or imperiled by that fortress the aspect of a desire for peace, and the rejection by the Government of the Southern Confederacy, followed up it has been by the bombardment and capture of Fort Sumter, will lead many to denounce the South as guilty of unnecessary resort to violence. We can pronounce no such hasty condemnation. Looking to the at best ambiguous attitude of the Government at Washington, and to the certain fact that the war of reconquest has been ardently advocated by the Republican organs *the continuance of which, we need a sound discussion in the country, is not taken.* Probably it could not understand the meaning of the phrase, "until these troubles should be over," supposing it formed any part of the offer, any more than we can understand it. If they were intended to reinforce Fort Sumter, and thus by a peaceful solution, why should not Mr. Lincoln have said so at once? But he could not mean that, for peaceful solution is neither more nor less than the recognition of the independence of the Southern Confederacy. He could not mean that the cessation of these troubles meant the suppression of the rebellion, as Mr. Lincoln finds it to be, by force, the substantial withdrawal of the garrison of Fort Sumter seems to have had the effect of inspiring the South with neither the use of force nor the peaceful recognition of the South, it must, nothing at all, he nobody can pretend to believe that the cotton States will voluntarily surrender the right conceded to re enter the Union upon any terms of modification of the Constitution that the free States of the North either would or ought to sanction. The Southern Confederacy has, we have been told good reason to reject the offer in question, and so the act of war accomplished in Charleston harbor on the 13th of the month became inevitable.

What ought now to be done? *is the question Adjusting over answer, save a palpitation of the heart.* Yet we fear the feeling of the North. There will be exasperation at what will be regarded as a military defeat; the British feeling will be manifesting the hope of the Union disintegrated, and the cry will be war. Yet there is really no occasion for such a feeling as there can be no rational object in coercing the South. The military honor of the Union has received no stain. Major Anderson and his garrison, we are told, defended themselves and the fort to the last. The fire on both sides was hot and spirited, and the bombardment lasted forty hours. Without the least doubting the bravery either of assailants or assaulted—without questioning the unbridled recklessness of safety with which both sides performed their duty, we may yet be allowed to say that the carnage is reported as the result of this fierce deed of arms. The modern Americans seem to have revived the secret of the Italian Condottieri of the Middle Ages, and can attack and defend, bombard and capitulate strong works without the loss of life, or even a limb, on either side. The bloodlessness of the engagement ought to be a reason with our American friends, North and South, to tempt war no further.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Great Bienville Street Fire—Supposed Loss of Life.—The unmoistened pipe bids fair to be slight before it to approach the scene of conflagration and gave assent upon the awful and sublime conflict of the elements. The flames swept onward with furious pace, ensweeping and quickly destroying every house with which they came into contact. In vain the fire men fought every inch of ground. The houses were destroyed around them as they stood to their pipes. Two members of Engine Company No. 12 had a narrow escape with their lives. While they were directing a stream of water in Duffy's grocery, the chimney fell upon them, bruising them severely, but fortunately knocked them out of the door instead of crushing them.

When the fire was first discovered in the back of Mr. Belchar's stables, a member of American Hook and Ladder Company went up into one room above and although the smoke was so thick as to obscure him to see, he felt the body of a man lying upon a cot only a few feet from the approaching flames. Failing to wake up the sleeper, he overturned the cot, and then dragged out the man, with the assistance of the Chief Ruffe. Another man had to be rescued from his bedroom by a ladder and when it was put up he was so overcome by his feelings that he could not remember how to go down it and had to be assisted. A great deal of furniture was lost, some of it left to the flames by its panic-stricken owners, when they had time to carry out many of the most valuable pieces.

The rear is a terrible and sick-rising sight of the burning up of a mother and her child to the fire. While the smoke was filling the row of two story frame tenements on Marais and Bienville streets, and the flames were licking their gable ries and cornices, an assistant of the Fire Wardens, who was in the middle of the square, saw a woman sit red in a bedroom in the yard of the third house of this row from Bienville street, on Marais. He was attracted to her by her agonizing cries of "My baby, my baby!" Looking up he shouted to her, "Come away from there for your life, your child must have been carried out before now." she only responded: "No, no, it is in there, my baby, my baby!" and rushed frantically into the building. He made an attempt to get to her but it was too late; a wall of fire sprang up before him as he attempted to follow her in, and the house soon fell in. As it did so he is positive that he saw the forms of a woman and child sink with the blazing crash. The sight so affected him that he stag cred back and nearly fainted at the overwhelming sight. The sad facts are obtained from his own lips, and know him to be an old, experienced fireman and entirely reliable. At the same time we are informed that the police have not learned of any person inhabiting the burned district being missing. So fierce was the fire that it has left little on the ground but ashes, among which it would be useless to look for traces of a human body.

The square bounded by Bienville, Customhouse, Marais and Villiré streets, before so closely built up, is now but a mass of ashes and brick chimneys, except at the corner of Marais and Customhouse streets, where a clump of fire-brick but dings were saved, part of them their strong fire walls, and part from the wind blowing in a direction away from them. One frame house and kitchen on the lower side of Bienville street were destroyed, and here was the hottest of the fight, as it was the first inroad of the fire on a second square. The energies of the Department were nearly all concentrated up in this spot, and with final success. The principal places burned were Duffy's grocery, Cassinave's undertaker establishment, and Belchar's livery. The total loss cannot fall short of $80,000, of which about half will fall upon various insurance offices of the city and elsewhere.

Warm Weather.—The weather is oppressively warm at present, and even the nights are not cool enough for pleasure. Yesterday afternoon a man named Mike Cooley was so struck on Dryades street, and we cannot find a name in a critical condition.

Explosion of a Soda Water Fount.—About half past eight o'clock last evening, the soda water generator in S. A. J. Abrams's drug store, corner of Gravier and Camp streets, exploded with a loud report, a portion of it flying up thro ph the ceiling of the lit le shed in which it was kept. A negro boy about 8 years old, who was standing over it at the time, had his face almost torn off. He was carried, then dreadfully mangled, to the Charity Hospital, where he lies in a critical condition.

[From the New Orleans Recorder, April 27.]

The Recruiting Affair.—The officers of the Company of Turcos to whose rendezvous Messrs. Aaron, Wagner and Basch were brought as recruits, disclaim any participation in or knowledge of wrong in the case. They desire us to publish their statement that the men were brought in by a recruiting officer and signed their names at once, and that they saw no violence or threats used toward them. That after signing they asked why they had been compelled to do it, saying they belonged to another company. That they seemed to be a unit on the great question of secession, the statesmen and counsels of the Northern section have been divided as to whether it should be war or acquiescence. Besides, the South had been deliberately preparing for the blow, and to these preparations the Republican party was blind from first to last. Neither Lincoln nor Seward seems to have believed in the earnestness of Jefferson Davis and his coadjutors, and probably some such feeling as that still lingering caused them to be too late in their tardy attempt to reinforce Fort Sumter. That General Beauregard possessed a great advantage in being with his army on the spot is true; but that alone will not account for the fact of the Washington Cabinet allowing the place to be bombarded and captured without even an attempt being made to relieve it, although that Government had plenty of soldiers and ships of war at its command. It is said that a storm delayed the expeditionary relieving squadron; but the dispatches state that while the bombardment was going on the United States ships of war remained quietly at anchor outside the harbor. When Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet decided upon not recognizing the Southern Commissioners, and upon treating the seceding States as still in the Union; when it had taken its resolve to keep possession of the Federal places and property still in the hands of its officers in those States, it ought, one would have thought, at the same time to have adopted effective modes of carrying those resolves into action. If they did not mean submission of the Southern Confederacy they meant war; but instead of the decisive promptitude and preparedness which a warlike resolve implies, six weeks were allowed to pass away without any thing being done. Mr. Lincoln's attitude was from the first an attitude against rebellion; construing the Constitution of the United States as he does, and looking to the obligations of his oath, he had no option; yet his Government, from whatever cause, held back from pursuing the only line of conduct open to it. Nor can we forget the debates which occupied much of the time of Congress during this period—precious either for making peace or commencing war with advantage and which showed that Mr. Lincoln's policy and intentions were not understood even in that assembly.

It would be a useless task to endeavor now to fix the immediate culpability of bringing about the first act of war. *It is not for us to pronounce censure upon either section of the disrupted Union. Paper constitutions we hold, however, to be nothing when opposed to the wishes and feelings of any considerable section of a community, and it is clear the South has a perfect right to secede, any thing in the Federal Constitution to the contrary in tuithstanding.* An independent Southern Confederacy is an absurdity, as long as it lasts, although even a friendly Government holds fortresses and *places d'armes* within its borders. As the Southern Confederacy proclaimed its independence, it follows inevitably that it must claim the evacuation of the Federal forts. Had the Cabinet of Washington been able to see its way to the recognition of the Government at Montgomery, the undoubted claim of the Federal Government to these forts as Federal property could have been easily arranged by friendly negotiation. But this, it seems, the conscription of the United States forbade. We cannot blame Mr. Lincoln for taking that view of his duty; but we may be allowed to regret its necessity. In offer to the Southern Confederacy peaceful possession of the fortress of Fort Sumter, leaving only two or three men, and so let the fort remain until, to use the words of the New York *Tribune*, these troubles should be over—thus relieving Charleston and South Carolina of all fear that they would be in any manner annoyed or imperiled by that fortress the aspect of a desire for peace, and the rejection by the Government of the Southern Confederacy, followed up it has been by the bombardment and capture of Fort Sumter, will lead many to denounce the South as guilty of unnecessary resort to violence. We can pronounce no such hasty condemnation. Looking to the at best ambiguous attitude of the Government at Washington, and to the certain fact that the war of reconquest has been ardently advocated by the Republican organs *the continuance of which, we need a sound discussion in the country, is not taken.* Probably it could not understand the meaning of the phrase, "until these troubles should be over," supposing it formed any part of the offer, any more than we can understand it. If they were intended to reinforce Fort Sumter, and thus by a peaceful solution, why should not Mr. Lincoln have said so at once? But he could not mean that, for peaceful solution is neither more nor less than the recognition of the independence of the Southern Confederacy. He could not mean that the cessation of these troubles meant the suppression of the rebellion, as Mr. Lincoln finds it to be, by force, the substantial withdrawal of the garrison of Fort Sumter seems to have had the effect of inspiring the South with neither the use of force nor the peaceful recognition of the South, it must, nothing at all, he nobody can pretend to believe that the cotton States will voluntarily surrender the right conceded to re enter the Union upon any terms of modification of the Constitution that the free States of the North either would or ought to sanction. The Southern Confederacy has, we have been told good reason to reject the offer in question, and so the act of war accomplished in Charleston harbor on the 13th of the month became inevitable.

What ought now to be done? *is the question Adjusting over answer, save a palpitation of the heart.* Yet we fear the feeling of the North. There will be exasperation at what will be regarded as a military defeat; the British feeling will be manifesting the hope of the Union disintegrated, and the cry will be war. Yet there is really no occasion for such a feeling as there can be no rational object in coercing the South. The military honor of the Union has received no stain. Major Anderson and his garrison, we are told, defended themselves and the fort to the last. The fire on both sides was hot and spirited, and the bombardment lasted forty hours. Without the least doubting the bravery either of assailants or assaulted—without questioning the unbridled recklessness of safety with which both sides performed their duty, we may yet be allowed to say that the carnage is reported as the result of this fierce deed of arms. The modern Americans seem to have revived