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NEW ORLEANS,
WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 18, 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 D. E. Murphy, at 10 o'clock, at No. 47 Magazine street, dry goods, Hats, clothing, shoes, &c.

By F. Fernandez, at 10 o'clock, at No. 185 Burgundy st., household furniture.

By G. Lecomeau, Bache & Co., at 10 o'clock, at their auction rooms, No. 69 Chartres street, men and boys' winter clothing and shirts.

LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS.

We have before us a mass of reports made to the State Legislature at the present session. Several of them are extremely interesting, but our limited space imposes on us the necessity of referring to them somewhat briefly. One of the most important of these documents is the

REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

It is an elaborate and carefully drawn up statement. The history of the war movements of the State, from the period of secession to the meeting of the Legislature, is recapitulated. Within that period twenty thousand two hundred and two troops were organized by the State, and 3375 volunteered independently into the Confederate service—making a force in the field furnished by the State of Louisiana of 23,577.

The Adjutant-General then refers to the different measures adopted for the thorough organization of the militia, and particularly to the General Order of the 28th September last, issued by the Governor, which has proved highly efficient and successful. Of its effect the report says: "Officers proceeded with activity to the organization both in the city and country. Companies daily presented themselves for commissions for their officers. It only remains to arrange them in battalions and regiments, which will be done in a very short time." In the First Division the returns show a force of 30,469, to which add 752 Confederate Guards, and we have a total of 31,351. Nine parishes have made returns to the number of 5,895.

The militia law needs amendment. Says the report:

Officers should have full powers to compel obedience to orders and attendance to drills, musters and reviews. Heavy fines should be imposed, in times of peace, on delinquents, and if the fine be not paid, then imprisonment for a certain term. These provisions, in peaceful times, would seldom be resorted to, for persons subject to militia duty would obey and conform to the laws, if they are made to understand that the law is to be no longer a farce. In times of war, when troops for State service are numerous, or whenever any portion of the militia is called out by the Governor for the performance of any active duty, they should be subjected to the strict and rigid rules and regulations of war. It is only by strict discipline that any good results can be obtained from troops. Where every man in a company believes he is at liberty to do as he pleases, and there is no law to reach him, he will not be a good soldier, and he demoralizes from the path of duty.

Volunteer corps should be encouraged. They should be formed into battalions or regiments, belong to some brigade, and not claim to be totally independent of superior officers. No higher privileges should be granted or allowed to one corps or another.

Numerous tables are appended to the report, giving details of the Louisiana volunteers, militia, foreign companies, &c., &c.

REPORT OF THE LOUISIANA INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB AND THE BLIND.—The Board of Administrators announce the continued good health of the inmates—no deaths and not even serious sickness having occurred during the year. The expense of the Institution for the past year was $19,[illegible]. There is an unexpended balance of nearly $8000 from last year's appropriation, but it will be required for necessary disbursements. The Institution is managed in an efficient and economical manner, and its expenses have been curtailed in spite of the large advance on the prices of necessary articles. The Board ask the repeal of the act requiring the payment of $[illegible] in advance for each pupil possessing the ability to do so, as not a single paying pupil has entered the Institution, while the law has deterred numbers of indigent blind and dumb and blind from applying in consequence of the humiliating necessity of contesting themselves paupers. There are 41 males and 35 females in the Institution. Of these 60 are mutes and 16 blind.

BOARD OF CURRENCY.—This document recapitulates the condition of the banks from time to time during the year, up to the 14th September, when they suspended specie payments. At that time they had in coin $14,173,364 10, and their circulation amounted to $6,873,792 65. The Board considering their duty in the premises limited to the strict observance of the law, concluded to proceed against the banks for a forfeiture of their charters, and gave official notice of the same to the Attorney-General exhausted their power. They complain that Having done this the Board declared they had with the limited powers conferred upon them by law, they are a useless incumbrance—an expense without any corresponding benefit to the public. The Secretary of State concurs in the report, but in regards conferring further powers upon the Board. His opinion is that the responsibility of proceeding against the banks for violation should rest with the Attorney-General. The State Treasurer not concurring in the report, refused to attach his signature thereto.

STATE SEMINARY.—The report of the State Seminary of Learning and Military Academy near Alexandria shows that this institution has not been exempt from the reverses incident to a condition of public war. Three of the professors resigned to serve their country in the field. The Superintendent, W. T. SHERMAN, resigned avowedly on the ground that he considered his allegiance due to the United States. His successor, GEORGE W. LAY, resigned in his turn, to take part in the war. This was followed by the resignation of Professors SMITH, BOYD and CLACKE, and of large numbers of students. The session was therefore closed on the 1st July, and the institution has not yet been opened. Meanwhile Captain BOGGS has been elected Superintendent, and has accepted with the proviso that he is not required to assume the active discharge of its duties during the war. Appended to the report are various statements showing the cost of the annual support of fifty-two cadets, the expenses of the institution, the list of text books, &c. &c.

We have some other reports, a notice of which may appear.

LADIES OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY.—We are pained to learn that there is some apprehension of a speedy discontinuance of the philanthropic labors of this most excellent association. Its funds are nearly exhausted, and it has no resources whatever to draw upon. The Society of the Ladies of the Confederate Army has for several months been disinterestedly engaged in the patriotic work of furnishing clothing and comforts of various kinds to our volunteers. They have rejected no application, and have frequently been compelled to make the most strenuous exertions to meet the constant demands upon them. By their organization they have been enabled likewise to supply work and remuneration to a large number of distressed women. During all this period they have relied nearly exclusively on themselves, and on such scanty contributions as unsolicited private benevolence might tender. They have had no benefits, no concerts, no barbecues, no other resources of any kind to fill their treasury, and now in the crisis of their duty they can only appeal to the liberality of the citizens of New Orleans to come to their aid in some substantial and effectual form. If this should be withheld, we learn from undoubted source that this noble association, which has wrought so manifestly and efficiently in behalf of the soldiers of Louisiana, will be reluctantly but unavoidably constrained to dissolve and disband. Shall this be? It is for our generous population to reply!

THE STRAKE MAYER.—Don't forget that this magnificent production will be performed tonight at the Opera House, by a company and orchestra worthy the great maestro who composed it. We have heard the Sinbad Mayer in New Orleans on two occasions before, but we doubt whether it has ever been given as effectively as it will be this evening.

BANK CITY LOTTERY.—Contributions continue to pour in to the Presidio Lottery, and such is the demand for tickets that they are scarcely be prepared fast enough for the purchasers. As the commencement of the drawing is fixed for Christmas, and will continue throughout that week, it is desirable that all who intend making donations to the lottery should do so at once, in order to afford time to the committee to appraise, number and arrange the prizes. Meanwhile the bazaar is daily thronged, and presents a most attractive and tempting appearance.

Valley Mountain, the place where the Confederate under Col. Johnston repulsed the Yankees, is in Western Virginia, near Greenbrier and Cheat mountains. The news was doubtless received by telegraph, if the battle was fought on the 15th, as the distance is too great for it to reach Richmond under four or five days.

BY TELEGRAPH.

(TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.)

From Richmond.

Confederate Sympathy for Maryland.

PLINY MILES, OF S. C., CONVALESCING.

Richmond, December 17.—The *Examiner* this morning publishes a resolution, adopted during another session, that Congress offers the sympathies of the Confederates to the State of Maryland, and expresses sincere desire for her relief and admission as one of the Confederate States.

Northern papers of the 13th are received, but there is nothing important.

Vice-President Stephens is quite sick. Pliny Miles is somewhat better.

From Baton Rouge.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

Baton Rouge, December 17.—In the House a bill was reported, in lieu of many bills on the subject, to suspend for one year after the close of the war the forced collection of debts, and after considerable debate it was made the special order for to-morrow.

After the reading of the minutes reports were made from various committees on misnomers subjects. Among others was a report from the Finance Committee favorably upon the bill authorizing the receipt of Confederate Treasury notes for all dues to the State, and unfavorably upon the bill authorizing the cities of New Orleans and Baton Rouge, and the several parishes, to issue small notes for a circulating medium. The bill reported on favorably for the relief of Sheriffs and State Tax Collectors was taken up and passed through all its readings. The bill extending the time for the collection of taxes to the 1st of December, 1862, but to make settlements of all collections up to 1st of June, 1862.

In the Senate a bill appropriating $3000 for the construction of Taylor's repeating battery passed.

The bill for the relief of cotton planters, after a decided opposition to immediate action upon it, was made the special order for Thursday.

Mr. Tappan introduced a bill appropriating one million dollars for State defense.

Mr. Holmes offered a bill to suspend the quarantine laws.

Mr. Salomon introduced a bill to appropriate $2,500,000 in State bonds to provide a naval force for defense of the State. Referred to a special committee.

The bill relative to the proceedings for the forfeiture of the charters of the banks that have suspended payment of specie was passed by 24 ayes to 3 noes.

The bill authorizing the free banks to issue circulating notes in accordance with Ordinance No. 30 of the State Convention was passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardere introduced a bill, which was passed, for the relief of the Confederate States, the tax levied upon the property of the citizens of Louisiana.

From Richmond.

English Opinion of the Seizure of Mason and Slidell.

Richmond, December 17.—It is reported here that a dispatch has been received in official quarters announcing that a dispatch appears in a recent number of the Louisville *Journal*, stating that on the reception of the news in Liverpool of the arrest of Mason and Slidell an immense mass meeting was held, at which a resolution of the strongest and most emphatic character passed, calling on the British Government to demand most ample and ceremonious reparation for the insult offered the British flag by the forcible arrest and seizure of Messrs Mason and Slidell by Capt Wilkes, of the San Jacinto.

From Europe, via Richmond.

Richmond, December 17.—The Baltimore *American* of the 14th publishes a dispatch dated Cincinnati, 14th, claiming a victory in a general battle on the Allegheny Mountains. Federal loss about 30, and the Confederate loss 200, including one Major, many other officers, and 30 prisoners. It says the Federals set fire to their camps and retreated to Stanton, leaving the field in good order.

The Norfolk *Day Book* of this morning publishes a synopsis of the proceedings at a meeting held at Liverpool, commented by the British outrage of the arrest of Mason and Slidell. The Northern papers say the meeting was composed of cotton men. The chairman of the meeting, after the adoption of the resolutions, said: "When the news of the outrage reached Liverpool the feeling created was one of surprise, mingled with indignation, and this feeling was shared by the community generally, and it was our duty to press on the Government the imperative necessity of vindicating the power and dignity of the British name and flag." [Loud and continued cheering.] Some slight effort was made in opposition to the adoption of the resolutions, but it was overwhelmingly crushed.

The Yankee papers are down on England for such manifestations.

The London *Times*, from the partial allusions before me, evidently regards the arrest of Mason and Slidell a great outrage of the British flag.

A dispatch dated Liverpool, 28th ult., says the excitement here over the stoppage of the Trent has been most intense, exceeding any thing since the Crimean war.

Friends at London are at quite a loss what course to pursue.

The bark Helen, from Charleston, arrived at Liverpool, affording a further evidence of the inefficiency of the blockade.

The cotton trade of Liverpool now firmly believes that England will promptly interfere in the war and consequent liberation of the cotton crop by raising the blockade.

Sales of the week amount to in Liverpool, now quoted from 10 to 12 shillings.

A letter dated Stanton, Sunday night, 15th inst., says the Twelfth Georgia Regiment lost in killed and wounded about 30, and the Virginia Regiment about 80. The loss of the enemy is not known, but 32 Yankees were buried by our troops.

There is considerable expectation of a Federal attack on the Peninsula indulged, as well as at Manassas, but quiet yet reigns.

Five Days Later from Europe,

VIA MASHVILLE.

Full Details of the Trent Excitement.

ARRIVAL OF THE HANZA.

Sandy Hook, December 12—The steamer Hanza, from Bremen, via Southampton 28th, brings advices that the steamer from St. Thomas arrived at Southampton on the 26th, with the commissioners of the Mason and Slidell, who forcibly taken from the British mail steamer Trent.

Liverpool, November 28.—The most intense excitement exists here to-day under the intelligence that Mason and Slidell, the Southern commissioners, were taken from the British mail steamer Trent.

An indignation meeting was promptly held, and resolutions were carried by acclamation denouncing the insult, and calling upon the Government to maintain the dignity of the flag. Some prominent merchants spoke against precipitate action, and said the matter better be left to the Government, but the feeling of indignation was general.

Sandy Hook, December 12.—The Hanza brings the Liverpool *Times* of the 29th ult., which contains an account of the meeting at Liverpool. The following placard was posted on 'Change: "OUTRAGE ON BRITISH FLAG! SOUTHERN COMMISSIONERS FORCIBLY REMOVED FROM A BRITISH MAIL STEAMER!! PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COTTON EXCHANGE AT 3 O'CLOCK."

The room was crowded to excess. The chair was occupied by James Spencer, who read the following resolution:

Resolved, That this meeting having heard with indignation that an American Federal ship of war has forcibly taken from a British mail steamer certain passengers who were passenger, under the shelter of our flag, traveling from one neutral port to another, therefore, we do earnestly call on the Government to assert the dignity of the British flag, by requiring prompt reparation for this outrage.

The resolution was received with great enthusiasm, and advocated by the Chairman, who considered that he was expressing the feeling of the people of England when he said it was the duty of the people to press upon the Government the imperative necessity for vindicating the honor and dignity of the British name and flag.

John Campbell considered there was reason to doubt whether the facts related and acted upon by the meeting were in reality a breach of international law, and referred his opinion to the law officers of the Crown, he being in some measure inclined to show that the step taken with respect to the Southern Commissioners was justifiable under the existing state of international law, and urged the propriety of postponing the consideration of the subject until to-morrow.

Mr. Law sustained Mr. Campbell's views.

The Chairman suggested to meet the objection of Mr. Campbell by striking out the words "requiring prompt reparation for this outrage," and then amended the resolution passed almost unanimously.

Several merchants expressed views after the adjournment of the meeting that its action was premature.

Liverpool, November 27.—The ship Hedge, from Charleston, arrived to-day, with a cargo of cotton and turpentine. Capt. Nelson has entered a protest against the company and detention of the Harvey Birch by the Nashville. The Southampton passengers refused. Rebels in warrant to remove the Nashville, referring him to the Secretary of State.

Capt. Pegram and W. L. Yancey had returned from London together, and the latter makes that the Trent was intimated to be a third party that the Nashville had been recognized by the British Government as a national vessel, and will be allowed to land and repair at South-ampton, as was the case with the James Adger, Petrel or Sumter, or applied mediatory between the two contending parties.

From Memphis.

Memphis, December 17.—The gunboat recently discovered in Arkansas is a gunboat fortlet. It originated in Washington city, and was sent through Pemiscot to Arkansas. The men were armed with the Merrill rifle, and the Sharp's carbine. They have signs and passwords, and use to have signs placed over the doors of dwellings to prevent the destruction of their property when the Federal troops pass the destruction of the Northern people. They have lake a horrid oath to assist each other at the peril of life. Many of the members have been arrested, and some have escaped. A similar association existed among the Unionists in East Tennessee.

Nothing new from Columbus.

From Lynchburg.

Lynchburg, December 17.—A letter to the *Republican* from an officer at Camp Allegheny says our loss is 2 captains, 3 lieutenants, and 15 privates killed and 27 wounded. The Federal loss is fully 500. Gen. Milroy commanded the Federals, and it is supposed he was killed.

From the reports made by the prisoners and neighborhood people, Col. Johnson acted most gallantly. He appeared on the field formed like a wagoner, with a musket in one hand and a club in the other.

From Richmond.

Richmond, December 17.—George Brown, brother of Governor Brown, of Georgia, a private in the Hampton Legion, died here to-night at 9 o clock.

Late from Columbus.

Under this head the Memphis *Avalanche* of Monday has the following:

Our advices from Columbus are to the effect that the recent advance of the Federals from Fadeuh upon Camp Beauregard was a failure. They lost. About three thousand Federals marched out as far as Wathen, about thirty-six miles from Columbus, on the railroad, and after burning a lumber yard and a dwelling-house they returned. They did not even come as far as Mayfield.

A report was circulated at Columbus that the Federals, with a force twenty thousand strong, were back of New Madrid, but it was not believed by those well informed.

The opinion prevailed at Columbus that the Federals would never come down as long as that frightful looking thing, the "Manassas," was there. That is regarded as the best defense of Columbus. The Federals are greatly afraid of it, and are certain to run as its approach.

On Friday there was a grand review of the forces, and the scene was grand and imposing in a high degree.

The same day a flag of truce came down from Cairo, but the object of it had not transpired when our informant left.

General Jeff. Thompson, the inevitable, is still at work. His last exploit was the surrounding a Federal force guarding a bridge between Charleston and Bird's Point, killing four and capturing two of the Hessians.

EXTRAORDINARY SHOOT.—There were some good shots in the county of Essex, in Virginia, with the pistol as well as the rifle. A few days since, at a distance of over one hundred yards, Mr. John T. Young, a member of Capt. Gunthorn's Essex cavalry, shot and killed a wild turkey—he on his horse and the turkey running. The same gentleman, while on picket at the Rappahannock, shot and killed a wild duck at a distance largely over that mentioned above. These shots were made with an ordinary five-shooter.

GIN-HOUSE AND COTTON BURNED.—We learn that on the night of the 11th instant the gin-house, together with ninety bales of cotton, was destroyed by fire, on the plantation of Mrs. Chir L. Brown, of Bayou Rapides, who was only partially insured.

SENATORS POWELL AND BRIGHT.—The New York *Herald* publishes the following paragraph from its special telegraphic correspondent, under date of Washington, Dec 9th—

Considerable feeling is manifested here the fact that Powell, of Kentucky, and Bright, of Indiana, have taken their seats in the Senate. Their loyalty is doubted, hence their position is a dangerous one for the Union cause, since they are enlisted if they remain in that body, to aid and the secret sessions of the Senate, where the strength and movements of the army are to be discussed, and other important information is to be communicated, which ought not to be known to the enemy.

THE ENEMY APPEAR IN OSSABAW.—Yesterday forenoon five of the enemy's gunboats entered Ossabaw bar and entered the Sound. Four of them approached within cannon shot of our batteries on Green Island, when Captain Stevens, in command of the post, gave them a touch of his metal, firing several shots, one of which struck within a very short distance of a gunboat. The vessels, not relishing this warm reception, retired without firing a gun.

The latest news from the batteries, when we went to press, 10 o'clock, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and as no second messenger was dispatched, the inference is that the gunboats failed to reappear. We hope they are not discouraged by their first attempt.

[*Savannah Republican*, 16th.

TRADE WITH THE SOUTH.—Says the Washington correspondent of the New York *Herald*:

Upon the strength of permits issued, or at least promised by Government, to some thirty or certain parties in the North, among them Senator Simmons, fitted out vessels to trade with the South, exchanging articles with the loyal men on the seaboard, required for cotton and rice. Government, however, has since had the matter under advisement, and now refuses to give any permits, and the vessels, some of which have reached Fortress Hatteras, were a day or two since brought to Baltimore, and there disposed of their cargoes.

HOW THE YANKEES TREAT CUFF.—We learn that the Yankees are now sporting the negroes they have stolen in South Carolina like dray horses. All day they are at work on entrenchments and picking out cotton, and at night they are lashed, to keep them from escaping. Cuff is now upon Mr. Edwise Mrs. Stowe to go to South Carolina and get the materials for another book. Her relations and friends can furnish her with the richest sort of materials.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Mr. S. M. Hite, of New Orleans, who has been in this city for a week or two past awaiting the arrival of some machinery designed to be sent thence, was found dead in his bed, in room No. 31, Spotswood Hotel, yesterday morning about 6 o'clock. An inquest was held by acting Coroner Sanzay, and it was ascertained that he was seen in his room, lying down, the previous afternoon, and when found yesterday morning the door was partially open and the gas burning. A gentleman who had known him for thirty years past stated that he was a highly respectable man, and of temperate habits. Dr. John H. Bayle, who examined the body, gave it as his opinion that he died in a fit of apoplexy, and a verdict was rendered accordingly. He was about 60 years of age, and leaves a wife and four children in New Orleans.—*Richmond Dispatch*, 14th.

GIVING THE YANKEES THE MEASLES.—The rebels in Missouri, it seems, are up to all sorts of devilment. A Yankee paper thus tells of some of their recent roguery in that State:

Capt. Curtis received instructions to day of an authentic character that the introduction of molasses into our camps at Rolla and other posts was through rebel soldiers, who have acknowledged that they were sent into our lines by the rebel leaders for the purpose of spreading the malady among the Federal troops. The epidemic is still prevailing to a fearful extent, with fatal consequences in the majority of cases. One third of Generals Asboth and Siegel's divisions are now prostrated by this terrible malady.

Burglars appear to abound in Memphis. Witness the subjoined from the *Avalanche* of Monday:

Yesterday morning, about 3 o'clock, Mrs. Symmes's boarding-house, on Second street, between Madison and Monroe, was entered by two burglars. They first entered a room occupied by a family recently from Charleston, South Carolina, and helping themselves to some clothing, proceeded to an adjacent room, where the children of the family were sleeping, and with inconceivable nonchalance rifled their pockets of the hitherto sacred contents. Their next move was to enter the room of Mr. Rastfield, on the first floor, which they did with an outsider, taking his watch and chain, worth $250, and pistol from under his pillow, and a set of diamond jewelry from the mantelpiece; but in trying to open his trunk, they awoke him. On his springing out of bed, they rushed from the room, snapping two caps at him in the hall, and when he reached the front door, calling loudly for the watch, who were out of hearing as usual, one of the villains turned and deliberately fired a pistol at him, the ball just grazing his person, and striking the door behind hear the door, the indentation is made being very distinct.

This and other similar outrages recently committed show that our city is infested with a gang of the most desperate incendiaries and criminals. The impunity with which they stay here and perpetrate their villanies also shows that there is a radical defect in the police. Where were the night police that neither the loud cries of Mr. Rastfield for them nor the firing of the pistol could attract their attention? There is criminal delinquency somewhere.

THE MILITARY FORCE OF VIRGINIA.—Says the Richmond *Dispatch*:

The Adjutant-General of Virginia, in his annual report to the Governor, estimates the population of men in the State enlisting in military duty at 150,000 or 160,000, notwithstanding the desertion and treachery of a large portion. Of these below 18 and above 45 years of age, and consequently exempt, many are now in active service, and many more will be there if needed. There are now in commission, including three regiments of cavalry, 136 regiments of infantry, 18 battalions of artillery, 40 of light infantry, and 5 of riflemen; and the State has now in the service of the Confederate Government about 65 regiments of volunteers, including cavalry, artillery, light infantry, and riflemen, and twelve independent and one brigade of militia of the line. The issues of arms and ordnance stores of every description have far exceeded the supposed resources of the State, and have exhausted almost the entire contents of both the depot at the armory at Richmond and that at Lexington.

During the last twelve months there were landed from the State Ordnance Department at Richmond 969 pieces of artillery, 69,402 muskets, 32,36 rifles, 243 carbines, 114 shotguns, 7106 pistols, and 1002 swords, besides a vast amount of ammunition and accoutrements of every description.

TO CLEAN A CARPET.—To clean a carpet, shake and beat it well; lay it upon the floor and tack it firmly; then with a stiff flannel wash it over with one quart of ballock's gall mixed with three quarts of soft cold water, and rub it off with a clean flannel, or housecloth. Any particularly dirty spot should be rubbed with pure gall.

How the Expedition May Affect the Blockade.

[From the London Shipping Gazette, Nov. 19.]

The expeditionary force which will shortly be assembled in Mexican waters, under the flags of England, France and Spain, has naturally excited great attention, especially in the Northern States, where it is thought that occasion for suspicions and surmises which have taken expression in language by no means complimentary to the Powers engaged. The British contingent consists already to 850 guns and 10,000 seamen and marines.

The Spanish admiral, Rubalcaba, commands twelve steamers, mounting 300 guns, and the French Admiral, Jurien de Graviere, probably a grandson of ten sail and 219 guns. The assemblage of this force in the Gulf of Mexico, while the Federal squadron is laboring to effect a blockade, the inefficiency of which has been demonstrated in numerous instances, and the recognition of which is solely due to the courtesy of the maritime States of Europe, is not an agreeable subject of contemplation for the Cabinet of Washington, if we may judge from the press. It has been designated as a movement uncalled for, "and justly open to suspicion." "We are free," says the New York *Herald*, "to conclude that this expedition, heavily armed squadrons of Spain, England and France have other objects in view than the settlement of their outstanding accounts with Mexico, and the protection of their commerce against our rebel privateers, and against the accidents of our Southern blockade." If was not to be supposed that this Mexican expedition could have been organized and set on foot without exciting the suspicions of the North, and yet there is no prospect whatever that the triple alliance just concluded will be directed towards an interference between the American belligerents. If France or England, or both powers combined, have determined on raising the Southern blockade, they need only have united their forces on the West India stations, and ordered them to do that service. It was surely not necessary to take the roundabout course of concluding a convention with Spain, and enlisting the aid of that country in an undertaking in which she could have no direct concern. The closing of the Southern ports is of no great consequence to Spain. Her commerce is but slightly affected by the blockade, and the Cabinet of Madrid would not seriously move in our the cost and trouble of equipping an expedition to give a coloring to the designs of France and England. The Mexican expedition is seriously not directed against the Southern blockade, though we can understand why the Northern press should resent that it is. If the blockade was really efficient, if the Federal government had at their command a force sufficient to interdict commerce in conformity with the received maxims of international law, we should have nothing of the nature of a blockade to be seriously open to suspicion. It is because the Federal Government well know that they are maintaining a blockade on sufferance, and embarrassing commerce through the forbearance of the neutral powers, that they have taken offence in the Gulf of Mexico of a combined fleet belonging to those Powers. The Federal Government must establish on this point. Whatever the wont of this country, or of France, at the war assistant, which is stored in abundance at the present moment in the Southern States, there is no intention of resorting to force to open the South ern ports, or even to announce the Federal Government into a respect for the obligations imposed by the laws of maritime warfare. It is quite possible for the Cabinet of Washington to consider the Northern States to a collision with this country. The decisions of the Northern Prize Courts, the imprisonment of British subjects on frivolous and groundless pretenses, but above all, the constant threat of an invasion of Canada, may induce the British Government to take a very prompt and resolute course for the protection of British interests in the Northern continent. But, without some such provocation, we are quite satisfied no action will be taken by our Government in reference to the existing struggle, nor would any such action be sanctioned by the British public. The New York *Herald*, and the other journals which it is necessary to stimulate the Northern feeling against this country, may spare the threats of the extinction of "England and her Confederates," of which they are so lavish. The Mother Land, if provoked, will find it necessary *to take steps to uphold their interests in the West, they will do so*, notwithstanding the warning that when "the Southern rebellion is suppressed, the North will be free to turn its attention to the British dominion in the North, or to Spanish intervention in the South." This, however, is perfectly consistent with the innocuous presence of the combined fleets in the Gulf of Mexico, and with the solution of the question to which the expeditionary force is subordinate. That question has nothing whatever to do with the existing troubles in the States, and the Powers represented in the Gulf of Mexico, France, are superior to making it the pretense for the assembling of a force with another and a very different object.

CUT OFF THE BACK LEGS OF YOUR CHAIRS.—I will tell you a secret worth knowing. A thousand things not worth half so much have been patented and elevated into a business. It is this:

If you cut off the back legs of your chairs so that the back part of the seat shall be two inches lower than the front part, it will greatly relieve the fatigue of sitting, and keep your spine in much better shape. The ordinary position in sitting comes from your sliding forward and thus straining the ligaments and muscles in the small of the back. The expedient I have indicated will obviate this difficulty. It is also suggested, add greatly to the comfort and healthfulness of the sitting position. The front edge of a chair should not be more than fifteen inches high, for the average height of our men than fourteen for the average woman. The average chair is now seventeen inches high for all, which no amount of dangling in the seat can make comfortable.—*Lewis's Gymnasium.*

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Christmas and New Year's Free Gift Lottery.—The tickets for the great popular bazaar on tap in the St. Louis Hotel are being sold faster than they can be printed, and we hear of parties intending to be made yesterday, for tickets received, to furnish them as soon as they could be procured. It is going to be one of the greatest of all and the most popular success ever yet seen in the city of New Orleans. Many persons desirous of connecting themselves with an enterprise of such unquestionable honor and reserve, having nothing that they desire to part with to contribute as a gift to the bazaar, have issued their subscription in appropriate gifts and sent them there. Every storekeeper can give some present for his stock. But Christmas time is drawing nigh, so let every one hurry up their preparations and hand in their contributions, which will be acknowledged in more a dollar or a hundred. The bazaar must be completed and open for the first grand exhibition on Christmas evening.

The Pantechnopticon—Leo Mallery's beautiful illustrations of the present war, with his wonderful mechanical figures, are in excellent working order, and attracting ladies and gentlemen to the Academy of Music who were not acquainted to visit pieces of amusement before. The scenic effects produced by the four different series of moving canvas are such as have scarcely been seen before on any stage, and the acting of the automatic figures is quite astonishing. Mr. Mallery has proven himself to be a perfect genius in originating and perfecting such an extensive and complicated arrangement. The scenery, painted by Mr. J. V. Cornell, reflects great credit upon that artist's well known ability and talent. The Pantechnopticon is worthy patronage and deserves the support of all who wish to see.

New Regiments.—Two new regiments of Louisiana soldiers were formed yesterday, styled the Continental and the Sumter. The Continental Regiment elected Gen. Clark Colonel, Thos. E. Adams Lieutenant-Colonel, and Geo. W. Hynson Major. It is composed of the Continental Guards, Company B, Dunbar Rifles, Sumter Rifles, Citizens' Guards, Company A and B, Jefferson Blues, Waterman Guards, and Kirk Guards.

The Sumter Regiment elected J. P. Gravit Colonel, G. A. Breaux Lieutenant-Colonel, and Thomas Boyle Major. It is composed of the Louisiana State Guards, Companies A, B and C, Sumter Grays, Companies A and B, American Rifles, Company B, Chenault Blues, Company B, Crescent City Cadets, and Lewis Guards.

Board of Assistant Aldermen.—This was the only Board of Council that held a meeting last evening. Mr. Gropp presided.

The Treasury announced a balance on hand of $2118, and up issue of small notes to the amount of $320,000.

Mr. Scott offered a resolution authorizing the City Railroad Company to build certain bridges on Dauphin street, which was referred.

Mr. Doerr offered a resolution asking a 3 per cent. of the income to pay the interest on the city bonds issued to railroad companies, which was adopted.

The Finance Committee recommended the appropriation of $[illegible] to the Orleans Guards battery, $[illegible] to complete Wingate's new gun, and $500 advance to each of the City Assessors. All three adopted. The Streets and Landings Committee made a report, which was also adopted, and the Board then adjourned.

The Auditor and Solomon Affray.—Yesterday we felt confident in justice bound to give a brief account of Mr. Audler's version of this affair. We have since received a written statement from Mr. Jas. Solomon, attested by three members of the Legislature. It is to the effect that Mr. Solomon, while in the act of unlocking his stateroom from the table of the steamer St. Charles, found Mr. Audler other room and, on turning round, beheld him pointing a revolver at him (Mr. S.) with one hand, and with the other attempting to draw something concealed about his person. Mr. Solomon sprung upon him, seized the pistol, and dashed him to the ground. On being released, Audler removed the attack, drawing a cheap knife from his pocket. Solomon dashed towards him, and knocked him down, cutting his knife which fell from his hand, and he fell on his knees. In further stated that he was then held by several persons, and at the time Audler struck him with his fist, and drew a cowhide, which was taken from his hands by Mr. Davidson. Solomon knocked him down again, after which he (Solomon) was surrounded and taken from the boat.

This statement is signed by Messrs. Davidson, Elam and Bullion, as witnesses of the affair. We have been endeavored to Solomon to both parties, and shall publish decision shortly pending to any further statements.

Fire Market.—The following [illegible] cotton press yesterday, there being 1[illegible] bales supplied, as follows: 1000 bales of Wood, 100 bales Cross and Mitchell, 12 bales unclaimed, 1 box sundries, 11 barrels sundries, 18 bales unclaimed, 18 bales sundries, 1[illegible] bales, 200 bundles press, 200 do hoops, 200 do ties, 15 sacks tamping, 4 do, salt, 400 pumpkins.

Accidentally Drowned.—Jacob Graff, a youth seventeen years of age, was accidentally drowned in the Old Basin, at half-past four o'clock yesterday afternoon by falling out of a small boat in which he was playing. The body was recovered and taken to his father's residence. An inquest was held, and a verdict of accidental death was rendered.

Incendiary Fire.—Fire was twice set, at two and three o'clock yesterday morning, in the house of Mrs Spong, on Sterrville street, between Villere and Robertson streets, burning the back stairway and part of the ceiling. A woman named Martha Flores was arrested on suspicion, but afterwards released, as no proofs of her criminality were obtained. Very little damage was done, thanks to the early discovery and prompt action taken.

Supreme Court.—John Ferris, convicted of murder, has obtained a new trial from the Supreme Court, though the act very and ability of his counsel, A. Hamblin, Esq., and his associate, M. Hahn, Esq. The Supreme Court has also affirmed the "mixed decisions" of the District Court upon the old controversy between Mayor Monroe and Recorder Emerson.

Recorder Gautier's Court.—Charles Jager, *alias* Urbin, of corner St. Philip and Bourbon streets, was arrested and sent to prison to await his examination on the charge of breach of trust, preferred by Adelaide Jaque, who alleges that on the 13th instant she gave to Charles, to collect for her account, a note of $45, on which he collected $39, and now keeps and has used for his own benefit the same and the proceeds.

F. J. Walsh was committed by trial before the Criminal Court, for having shot at officer Vernat with a revolver on the 24th of May last, when Vernat tried to arrest him for having committed an assault and battery on Conscript Guard, Walsh was also committed for the assault on Comerford.

Domingo de Altausas, of corner Julia and Franklin streets, New Basin, gave bonds in $[illegible] to appear for trial before the First District Court, on the charge of beating Francisco de Eguanjas, of the schooner Elisabeth, at the Old Basin.

Pierre Courtinier was held to answer for having committed an assault and battery on Mrs. Mary Hoffman. Paul Lazaro, of the schooner Revolution, for selling his last of wood without inspection. The charges of breaking the peace, made against H. Wiedemann and Mr. and Mrs. Grofort, were both dismissed.

Dominique Erostigue was arrested and held to answer for the serious charge of having violated the person of Mary Eliza, of Jefferson street, on Monday night, between the hours of ten and eleven o'clock.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
TUESDAY EVENING, Dec 17 1861.

COTTON.—There was some enquiry for future delivery to-day, but no sales. 100 bales on plantation sold yesterday at 8½c for middling, deliverable here.

TOBACCO.—Nothing reported.

SUGAR.—The supply is liberal, and the demand is freely met at a material decline in prices; the sales embracing about 700 hhds. at 2½@3½c for Common to Common, 3½@4½c for Fair to Fully Fair, 5½c for Prime to Choice, and 6½@6½c for Clarified Yellow. Yesterday's sales reached upward of 1000 hhds.

MOLASSES.—The demand is fair, and the sales embrace about 400 bbls. at 26½@27c for Fermenting, and 18@19c for Prime to Choice. Also, 100 half bbls. at 22c for Choice.

FLOUR.—Sales 1200 bbls. and bags sold, in small lots, at 6½c for Common, 6½c for Fine, $[illegible] for Superfine, and $11 [illegible] bbl. for Extra.

CORN.—50 sacks White sold at 50c ⅌ bushel.

BRAN.—[illegible] sacks sold at 62½c ⅌ sack.

HAY.—[illegible] bales Cow Grass sold at $[illegible] ⅌ cwt, and at $[illegible] ⅌ ton.

COFFEE.—185 bags Rio sold at 27c ⅌ lb.

BACON.—Shoulders are retailing slowly at 7½c., Ribbed Sides, 8½c., Clear Sides 9½@10c. Pickle Hams 9½@10c., and Smoked Hams 10c ⅌ lb.

WHISKEY.—Rectified is retailing at the advanced rates of $1 10@1 15 ⅌ gallon.

PORK.—Mess is retailing slowly at $14 [illegible] ⅌ bbl.

LARD.—Prime in bags is retailing at 10@10½c ⅌ lb.

Quotations Wholesale.

JOURNAL OFFICE, Dec. 17, 1861.

Arrived yesterday, 32 Veal Calves and 15 Hogs.

Amount of stock sold since last Tuesday, 50 Western Cattle, 38 Milch Cows and 63 Veal Calves. Stock remaining unsold, 11 Western Cattle, 45 Milch Cows, 5 Sheep, 485 Sheep and 17 Veal Calves. We quote

Western Beef Cattle,	⅌ 100 lbs. net cwt.	$[illegible]	$[illegible]
" "	⅌ head,	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cows,	"	[illegible]	[illegible]
Veal Calves,	"	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sheep,	"	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hogs,	⅌ 100 lbs. gross,	[illeg