New Orleans Bee.

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THE DAILY BEE
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NEW ORLEANS:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 4.

Sales at Auction This Day.

...H E Morphy, on the Levee, Post 24, 3d District, at No. 47 Magazine street, hardware, tinware, ...ooden ke; at 10 o'clock at No. 34 Gravier street, ...k's bankruptcy, &c.

...R T M Montgomery, at 11 o'clock, at No. 42 Bienville street, furniture and works of art.

...Holloway's Pills and Ointment. — Neuralgia or prostration are among the most difficult diseases to cure from their attacks no therapeutic the human ...s can prompt, salutary, sure, or certain, as are Holloway's Pills and Ointment. Without exaggeration the only safe ...e remedies for these afflictions. Sold everywhere.

...s Band Lithographs.—The new and fine ...ssenger packet *Rusa*, W. E. Greathouse, master, leaves New Orleans regularly on Wednesday and Saturday, at 5 o'clock, P. M., from Bayou Lafourche. See advertisement in another column.

...Montgomery will sell this day, Wednesday, May 4th, as follows, at 10½ o'clock at ...ooms, 89 Camp street, sugar, molasses, butter, eggs, ...indigo, tobacco, whisky, brandy, and a ...e variety of other groceries. At 12½ o'clock ...e Levee, Post 21, foot of Thalia street, 9 ...ds of low lot bags cotton, and at 5 o'clock, ...M on the Levee opposite the Mint, the fast ...ing schooner Albatross will all her cargo ...d vessel as she now lies in the river ready ...ture.

...E Murphy calls the attention of buyers to ...e following sales; at 10 o'clock, at No. 34 ...ravier street, fine old sherry; at 10½ o'clock, ...t No. 56, Third District, 838 bags nuts; at 11½ ...k A. M., at No. 47 Magazine street, bal...ance stock of hardware, etc. See his advertisement.

We are indebted to the police attendants of the ...ffices of Sts. Maria Denning, from St. ...is, for acceptable newspaper favors.

Messrs. Phinney & Amory, U. S. Prize Auctioneers, will sell this day, at 12 o'clock M., at the Cotton Exchange, corner of Carondelet and Richard streets, by order of the U. S. Marshal, 11 bales middlings, 17 bales good ordinary and 65 bales damaged cotton. Also, the ...ner Camille, her tackle, apparel and furniture.

...e catalogue sale of rare rich and elegant ...rniture, costly curtains mirrors, solid silver ...d Bohemian ware, Sevres China and valuable oil paintings of great merit by celebrated ...asters, to be sold by R. T. Montgomery, this ...y. We invite the attention of buyers to the ...ale, at 11 o'clock, at ...ommence No. 42 St. Charles street, between ...ravier and Royal streets, should engage the ...ices and insure the attendance of persons ...n want of refurnishment and all desirous of obtaining ...ese of great elegance and value and fashion ...ed with exquisite taste, many of the articles ...ere selected and purchased at the late ...osition from various cities in Europe, by ...ne with a rare judgement and good taste, a ...ion of them were only obtained by a special ...ss. So large a collection of elegant and ...ble articles of fine ornament and use are ...dom offered for sale to our citizens and would ...e advise them to improve the opportunity ...presented them. It is unnecessary to ...ay any article as all are of great value ...d worthy of attention.

Personal.

Under this head the *Era*, of last evening publishes the annexed paragraphs:

Admiral Porter is at Alexandria.

Major Generals Banks, Hunter and McClernand are in Alexandria, La.

...e that all Banks was hit with a piece of shell, ...e battle of Mosaic Bluff, on the 23d inst.

...eneral Parsons, of the Confederate army, ...s mortally wounded in the battle of Cane ...er on the 26th inst., and he since died. The ...ps were under the command of Major ...n Wharton, of Texas.

...eneral John B. Magruder is said to be on his ...y from Texas to Western Louisiana to join ...y Smith's army.

Constitutional Convention.

TUESDAY, May 31, 1864.

...e Convention was called to order by the ...sident pursuant to adjournment and after ...ading and approving the minutes.

Mr. Sullivan presented a resolution exempting the officers and members of the Convention from jury duty, which was ordered to lie over ...e rules, as was also Mr. Montamat's ...n to close at one hour of session.

Mr. Fredrick, on behalf of the committee on ...e Executive Department, submitted a written ...port, which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Monument, on behalf of the Committee ...n Public Service, reported that Mr. John A. Myers had been appointed and is entitled to his seat, as a delegate from the parish of Jefferson.

The President announced that he had appointed Messrs. Toomes, Wells, Samuel Purcell, ...d Hyams to the Committee to report ...e manner of appointing Presidential ...ors.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on Public ...ebtedness. The substitute of Mr. Sullivan gave ...se to a discussion, which took a wide range, ...ot only the question of advocating ...ces, but also that of compensation. ...fter which, the Convention adjourned without having a vote.

Two Days Later by the River.

ARRIVAL OF THE MARIA DENNING.

ACTIVE PREPARATIONS OF GRANT AND LEE.

Capture of Plymouth Believed at the War Department.

BEAUFORT THREATENED BY SUPERIOR FORCES.

MILITARY AND POLITICAL NEWS FROM ALL POINTS.

Rise in Gold &c., &c.

...n the arrival of the steamer Maria Denning, ...m St. Louis, last night, we have been placed in possession of St. Louis and Cincinnati papers to the 27th ult. We extract from them the following dispatches:

The War in Virginia.

Washington, April 26th.—The *Star* of this afternoon says information has been received in the rebel lines as late as Friday morning, and it is the effect that Lee is not, as has been ...ted, moving towards the Shenandoah Valley, but is in his old position on the Rapidan. ...t is certain of his cavalry as were going ...ecessary to the performance of reconnaissance, ...ertain Grant's purposes.

...ee's army preparing for a sudden move, but ...ently is disposed to wait for Grant to open ...d develope his game.

The movement of our gunboats on the Rappahannock raised an alarm in Richmond that ...ment was effecting a landing there, and a ...w alarm has been raised among the rebels of ...ment up the James river. The rebels are divided between a fear that Lee may be invested in Richmond, should he fall back there, and a fear that he may be outflanked by Grant, should he remain in his present position. Two weeks ago Lee's forces ...mbered 60,000 men, and it is known that since ...ch with the reinforcements he has been able ...o bring up, they do not amount to over 85,000.

[Special to the N. Y. Times.]

Washington, April 25.—Many rumors are afloat this evening that the whole of Longstreet's corps is marching down the Shenandoah Valley toward the Maryland line. It is necessary ...necessary to state he no reliance is placed in them.

[Correspondence of the New York Herald.]

Williamsburg, Va, April 23.—Contrabands are ...ally coming from the swamps of the Chickahominy, within the Union lines at Williamsburg. For some time there has been but few arrivals of this description, and the appearance of this advance guard of colored refugees is an almost infallible indication of movements on the part of the enemy.

From all reports so far received the rebels are evidently massing troops in all the strong positions, in expectation of an advance up the Peninsula.

The Richmond authorities are evidently puzzled at the designs of Grant, and the information is being constantly received of the marching and counter-marching of troops.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee has made his appearance in the neighborhood of Charles City Court House with a cavalry force variously estimated at from 5,000 to 6,000. Gen. Lee's cavalry force is composed of re-enlisted veterans, who have lately returned from a recruiting furlough.

Col. Robins also commands a force in this immediate neighborhood.

Gen. Pickett, who has been in command of the ...ond infantry division, under command of Gen. Elzey, and a regiment of heavy artillery.

A force composed principally of heavy artillery is stationed at Bromelly Station, York river, where they are reported engaged throwing up earth-works.

Troops are also concentrating at all the intermediate points between the York and James rivers.

Contrabands say great excitement prevails among the inhabitants of the region, and a Yankee advance is momentarily expected.

[Reported for the N. Y. World.]

Washington, April 25.—Gen. Grant has taken measures to add numbers enough to the force at arrested in the field, to make them irresistible. Concentrating in the order of the day. The troops are now massed upon such lines as the Lieutenant General believes lead to vital strategic points.

Instead of being discouraged at the apparent weakness of our armies in Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, &c., these points, he says, should be encouraged by that fact, as an indication that our forces are massed against points and armies much more important. When the next shock of battle comes, it will find the Union armies in stronger force than they have ever been before.

It is the rebels who are now parading the conscription policy, hence recent movement in unimportant quarters.

Washington, April 26th.—The town is full of excitement to-day, over the passage through the city of a large portion of Burnside's army, including several regiments of negro troops and one Western regiment, consisting principally of Indians. Many of the officers, the President and General Burnside stood on the portico of Willard's, and reviewed the troops as they passed. The negroes were loudly cheered. The Indians waved hankerchiefs to them, and the men shouted from the houses "Remember Fort Pillow." Both houses of Congress took a recess to see the sight.

New York, April 26.—Gov. Morton, of Indiana, who has been here for some days, has left for Indianapolis. It is rumored he is arranging his business so to take the field at the head of the 21 Legion, recently tendered to the Government for special service. His immense popularity in Indiana will induce almost universal enlistments.

From Newbern.

Fortress Monroe, April 24.—The steamer Moonlight has arrived from Newbern. No news of importance. The Powder mill at Raleigh exploded on the 5th instant, killing several persons.

Gen. Wm. P. White, of Georgetown, S. C., was assassinated by his own men.

New York, April 26, P. M.—Reports from Plymouth have it that our flag floats over our fortifications at that place, though the enemy has possession of the town and river. It is said Gen. Wessells retired with his force into the fortifications with fifteen days provisions. This report is not to be believed.

On the arrival of more gunboats we shall be able to reach Plymouth and ascertain the facts.

Washington and Newbern are much stronger fortified than Plymouth, and with a few more troops and gunboats, which could be sent to us the way, they can be held against all the rebels that can present themselves.

The Capture of Plymouth—Beaufort Threatened.

Washington, April 26.—It is believed at the War Department that our troops at Plymouth have surrendered. The Navy Department makes abundant provision for the iron-clad which has caused so much trouble shall be speedily raised for.

...n indignation over the surrender of Plymouth and the massacre of Union troops adds to the intensity of the feeling against the Government for its failure to adopt any retaliatory measures to compel a relief observance of the ordinary laws of war.

A heavy pressure is being brought to bear on the President, and complaints of his former delays are very loud.

The disaster at Plymouth grows more serious, when it is remembered that we have no iron-clad vessel to cope with the rebel ram, none of them being of light enough draft to enter the inland waters of North Carolina.

Private letters from Beaufort, South Carolina, received by Senator Wilson and others, speak of a heavy rebel force in their front, and express a fear being overpowered before him.

From the South.

Fort Monroe, April 26.—The Petersburg *Express* of the 22d says instructions have been given to the First Advisor to remove his Bureau from Richmond to Montgomery, Ala., next week.

Mobile, April 25.—The Red river has suddenly fallen, leaving the transports above the raft, which cannot get out until the water rises.

From Washington.

Washington, April 26.—The gold bill will be taken up in the House the moment the tax bill is out of the way.

The new tariff bill now in committee will not be reported for a fortnight.

The proposition of Mr. Morrill, of the Ways and Means Committee, to consider his resolution to increase tariff duties twenty five per cent. temporarily, while the committee in Congress can prepare and pass a new tariff bill, is to be taken up this evening, and will probably be passed.

The House resolution temporarily increasing the tariff fifty per cent. has been promptly referred to the Senate Finance Committee, and is expected to report to-morrow. It causes a flutter among business men.

Washington, April 26.—Senator Clark, of New Hampshire, has been elected President *pro tem.* of the Senate, in the absence of Vice President Hamlin.

Special to the New York Commercial.

Washington, April 26.—It is asserted that there is not a member about that does not draw too much water to pass over the bar at the mouth of Albemarle Sound.

Letters and telegrams indications that the Senate will pass Mr. Stevens' joint resolutions for the temporary raising of the tariff, although efforts will be made to extend the debate to 23 inst.

I hear that the Senate Military Committee have agreed on an appropriation of $20,000,000 for the payment of volunteers, to be call 3 out for less than 100 days.

New York Markets.

New York, April 26, P. M.—Money is in good demand, with abundant supply, at 7 per cent. Sterling firm, but not very active, at 201 to 203 for currency. Gold firmer, irregular and unsettled, opening at 81, and closing at 80½ to 80¾. Governments dull and prices are without decided change.

Cotton 1 to 2c better, but less doing—83 to 84 for middling uplands and 79 to 80 for low middlings.

Flour—state and western less active and scarcely so firm—$8 80 to 9 75 for extra state; $8 80 to 9 30 for round hoop ohio; $9 30 to 9 75 for trade brands—market closing dull.

Whisky firmer—$1 25 to $1 27 for State, and $1 27 to $1 28 for Western.

Sugar firm at 10¾ to 11c for Cuba and Muscovado, and 17 to 17¾c for P. R. Molasses dull.

Petroleum quiet and firm; crude, 38 to 40; refined in bond, 52 to 57; free, 67 to 68.

Accord Between President Lincoln and General Grant.

Commenting on the charges of the Copperhead journals that the Administration sought to embarrass the movements of the Army of the Potomac, the New York *Times* remarks:

Precisely as they abused the Administration for the delays of Meilen, they abused it for the advance and defeat of Burnside at Fredericksburgh, not flagging in this abuse until that General, over his own signature, demonstrated that the Washington authorities were free from all blame in the premises. Upon no one subject has their vilification of the President expended itself more recklessly than upon his alleged interference with the plans of the Commanders of the Army of the Potomac. It is simply in keeping with the vile game that the *World* of yesterday says: "By retaining General Halleck as his chief military adviser, and keeping Secretary Stanton at the head of the War Department, Mr. Lincoln refuses to let his hands be the means of quietly thwarting the new General-in-Chief whenever it should suit his purpose, and predicts that Grant will not be suffered to strike a blow until after the Baltimore Convention, so that there shall be no failure of Grant which would damage the Administration, and no success which would bring into the Presidential field a dangerous competitor.

We suppose this is intended for effect; otherwise it would not have been written. But the stupidity that can seriously expect to palm off such stuff upon the American people is hardly conceivable. It is substantially saying that President Lincoln deliberately risks the very life of the Republic in order to better his chances of a reelection. The charge, is so monstrously overdrawn on its face as to elicit an excess only contempt and loathing. The selfishness imputed to Abraham Lincoln is beyond anything known in human history; it transcends flesh and blood; it is utterly diabolical. The implication implies that Abraham Lincoln is not only a devil, but an idiot. It is seven weeks before the Baltimore Convention. No man with any particle of intelligence believes that President Lincoln could stop Gen. Grant nominations during that period without losing every vestige of the most popular indignation. He would be fatuity in Mr. Lincoln himself to imagine it. Of course, he has not imagined it. He is no nearer a fool than a demon.

All such scurrility against the President is bootless. Even did not the character of Mr. Lincoln at once give the lie to it, the lapse of a very brief time would be sure to do so. It is as certain as anything future can be that General Grant will move against Lee in a few days, and with all the strength it is possible for the Administration to impart to him. There are not two men in this country who are in more perfect accord in spirit and purpose, and plan, than President Lincoln and Lieut. Gen. Grant. The President has, with unhesitating confidence, remitted to Gen. Grant the entire shaping and control of the campaign; and Gen. Grant is justifying that confidence by the vigor, energy, conception and a methodical directness of action that augur the grandest results.

The Fremont Programme.

[From the New Nation, N. Y.]

We make the following reply to our correspondents, requesting each of them to consider it as specially addressed to himself:

First. All letters relating to the interest of Gen. Fremont are handed over by us to the Secretary of the Fremont Committee at New York, to be answered by him as the Committee may deem fit.

Second. We advise every one at once to give up all idea of taking part in the Baltimore Convention, as that Convention is a nonentity.

Third. To hold meetings in every State, county, city, village, or township, to come together of their own free will, and solely by virtue of sovereignty of opinion with regard to the rights of the people, and the manner of exercising those rights, above all, to avoid the political leaders who are now assembled in every city and village, and are paid for influencing the votes of the people. These men always harp on the same string; "If," say they, "you do not vote for our candidates, or if you do not submit to the Baltimore Convention, you divide the Union party, you imperil the cause that we are defending, and the country will hold you responsible for future events."

Learn to know yourselves, and hold yourselves in readiness for reply to the call which will soon be made upon the whole people of the United States, to meet at Cleveland on the 21st of May.

Do as we do; tell these gentlemen you are big enough to take care of yourselves; that your intelligence is certainly as bright, and your patriotism more sterling than theirs, and that, as their choice of men has not been a fortunate one up to the present, you intend choosing for yourselves. Push the doctrine of moral independence among yourselves, hold yourselves in readiness to go in large numbers as possible to the place which will soon be indicated for the great popular convention, at which the people, freed from all those petty domestic tyrants called Bishoprics, will make those powerful votes heard.

Therefore, for the present our opinion (and it is that of a minority related of the people) may be summed up in a few words: We advise no immediate propagandism from man to man, tending to convince people that they must rely on themselves and themselves alone; that they should learn to know their true friends, that is to say, the most thoroughly opposed to old organizations, such as the Baltimore Convention and old parties, but above all, opposed to the politicians. The great crusade to be undertaken is that which will free the people from those men as Wood, Seward, the Blairs and certain others of the same stripe.

Let the people thoroughly understand that these politicians have all an interest that the three great vital questions of the moment should not be settled. Those questions are:

First. The prosecution of the war.

Second. The immediate and radical solution of the slavery question.

Third. The labor question, which comes so many poor men and women vainly to wring their bands.

Miscellaneous Items.

"Another Fool."

(From the Detroit Advertiser.)

A good story is circulating among the wags and jobs lovers of the town, at expense of a chap who recently advertised for a wife. As we hear the yarn, it runs about as follows:

The matrimonial chap received an exquisitely-worded *billet doux*, in a feminine hand of the purest copper-plate stamp on delicate paper, redolent with the aroma of a lady's boudoir, which requested a meeting on Michigan-avenue at half past eight o'clock on Sunday evening. The delighted recipient was prompt to the hour, and just a lady closely veiled, who took his arm and conducted him in silence to one of the handsomest mansions on the avenue. They entered the gate, and then with a thrilling "ah-heh!" the lady led him by the hand in at the basement door, through along passage into an apparatment shrouded in darkness. A chair was placed behind him and he sat down. Immediately afterwards he felt a pair of hands at his feet, and his boots were dexterously withdrawn; his coat was next slyly whipped off, then his vest was untied and removed from his neck. The young man's phthinks during this operation may be imagined, but didn't have a stronger sensation before him. Suddenly the gaslight flashed up, and as soon as he could accustom his eyes to the glare he discovered himself in a kitchen, surrounded by a bevy of servant men and maids, who made the room resound with laughter. To add to his horror the door opened, and the lady of the house entered, clad in beauty and silks, and bearing a pair of woudering blak eyes. Young man exhibited signs of fainting but the assistance of the courtmen was safely moved to the outside of the house, where he donned his boots and other raiment, and departed with a whole regiment of fleas buzzing away in his ears. Future applications for "meetings" with that young man will be treated with "silent contempt."

Gen. Scott, who is in excellent health, considering his great age, is preparing an autobiography of his life and times, which will form a valuable mine for future historians. The proof-sheets have already been taken of a portion of the work, and the whole will soon be given to the public.

Sidney Smith observed a child stroking and tickling the bottney back of a small pet bottney. "What are you doing that for, my boy?" "Oh! the tortoise likes it very much, sir; he's sensible." "Gives him pleasure! why you might as well tickle the dome of St. Paul's, to please the dean and chapter."

At a public meeting in a country town, an eloquent advocate of popular education thus delivered himself: "Mr. President, I rise to get up and kem not backward to come forward in the cause of education, for half it not been for education, I should be as ignorant as you are, Mr President."

Apart.

At sea are tossing ships,
On shore are dreaming maids,
And the waiting hearts, the loving eye,
Blossoms and bridal beds.

At sea are sails agleam,
On shore are floating eyes
And their hearts's haunting dream
Of ships that rain the skies.

At sea are mariners of the
Like waterfowl on the deep,
On shore are the ghosts of dwelling cries
That scream the waves of sleep.

At sea are wrecks astrand,
On shore are shells that moan,
Oh! maids, wives, on the sand,
Beasmist and dreams alone.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S BABY.—"Grand mother, said the seriously, to Mrs. Partington, have you heard the report that the Prince of Wales's baby has not got all his fingers on one hand, and that both his legs are not right?—Lor' bless me!" exclaimed the old lady. "Then how could he ever wield the sceptre of the realm or walk as he ought to do? He, however, pretended not to hear the remark, but began cripping the ace's wankers, and groaning to think that his grandmother did not see that nobody had all his fingers on one hand, nor anybody two right legs.

Necessary evils—butchers and bakers. If it were not for them the wary young people would cumulnitize, would be a caution to mothers But there is a stubborn reality about "twenty five cents a pound for beef," that robs the orange blossoms of a large portion of their attractiveness.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Sudden Death.—On Sunday night, officer A. Obio was compelled to enter the coffee-house at the corner of Hospital and Front levee, to quell a disturbance. It appears that he got considerably excited on his duty, and fell dead.

[FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF YESTERDAY.]

Amusements.

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—The well-informed reader is of course aware that the original Ravels—we mean Gabriel and Francois Ravel—who gave their name to that combination of pantomime, dancing, gymnastics, jugglery &c., known as Ravel performances, have long since retired from business, well rewarded for their artistic talents and labors. But it does not follow that there are no longer any such entertainments as those to which they first gave in this country so much celebrity.

Painting did not end when the first painter died; people did not cease to dance when the first fiddler hung up his fiddle the last time and so, though the Ravel brothers have vanished from the boards, their art and the amusement it affords may still remain. Of this fact an observer is very sensibly impressed on beholding the performances at the St. Charles of the Martinetti and Marzetti troupe, many of whom were trained in the original Ravel school and contributed largely to its reputation. This is particularly true of the airy and graceful dancing of Mlle. Desirée and others of the female artists, and of the evident artistic experience and cultivation of the leading male performers.

The programme of this troupe is changed nightly, and a noon-day entertainment is given on Saturday for the accommodation of families.

The Opening Campaign in Virginia.

In the old Homeric days, when two renowned heroes met in combat on the battle-field, the general strife paused for a spell, and the opposing armies looked on in breathless suspense, feeling that victory hung upon the issue of that fearful duel. A similar intensity of interest seems at this moment to fix attention, both North and South, upon the Virginia campaign, in which the two most famous captains of the war are to contend against each other for the first time. Incidents of the general contest are not wanting elsewhere; there are skirmishes, assaults, repulses, captures, disasters. But it seems by common consent to be conceded that these are all only overtures, preludes, by-plays, to the momentous Virginia drama, in whose catastrophe is involved an issue of import as grand and fearful as ever was announced in the trumpet's blare or proclaimed from the hot throat of the cannon.

What interest, what hope or expectation is not tremulous with anxious pregnancy, what calculation is not arrested short of its result, what problem does not solve its most incisive element, because this issue itself has yet to be resolved in the dreadful trial of battle?

For this reason, more than for any other contemporary cause, commerce is in a fever and wildly oscillates between syncope and spasm; for this reason, more than ever, financial logic is bewildered, and the money market throbs and palpitates with a nightmare of horrid visions and conjectures of the future.

A glance at the leading journals in the North ern as well as the rebel States will satisfy any one that these, or similar to these, are the feelings and reflections with which the campaign in Virginia is contemplated by observers in both sections.

When the heart is pierced the extremities will assuredly stiffen; when the root of the tree is cut, the leaves will soon fall, the branches wither, the trunk decay. Of Northern policy it may be especially said at this moment that its central idea is to cut the war to the heart, to kill the tree of rebellion at the root, by a stupendous concentration of forces upon the Rebel stronghold in Virginia. There—as the Union leaders, both civil and military, see the matter—the insurgent Confederacy has gathered up its hopes, and there must either live or bear no life. And upon that fateful field, it is also virtually confessed, must flourish or must fade many a darling hope and scheme connected with the existence of the Union. Even the jargon of the Presidential canvass is forced to silence for a while, and there are those who go so far as to think the Presidency itself a matter not worth consideration should the mighty question confided to the charge of General Grant fail in the titanic struggle before Richmond. Echoing this thought in a recent article on the war, the New York *Herald* says:

Richmond is the grand goal for which we are to strike with all our force; and it is hardly possible that anything should happen of such magnitude as to turn us aside from that. Suppose that city for any cause to be buried with all the impulse that now gives it its strength can give. Richmond in our hands, and the rebellion must fall, though rebel detachments could destroy every road of the small bodies that we may have left infront of the way please; but if Richmond still stands, it matters not how efficiently we may guard our minor posts, the rebellion will still defy us. Richmond has almost come to be synonymous with the rebellion, and to destroy it would be nearly then the Southerner themselves. If Richmond is taken says the Richmond *Examiner*, "no corner of the country will be exempt from the ravages of the Yankee host. Over all the plains, down every river, through every city, village, hamlet, and up to every settler planter's door, will the torrent of lust stream and devour." Such is a Southern estimate of the importance to the confederacy of its capital; and it is hardly overestimated. Richmond is our hands, and the confederacy will lose at once the great States of Virginia and North Carolina, and will be cooped help South Carolina and Georgia, and its ultimate annihilation will be merely a question of so many weeks.

The Policy of France with Regard to American Affairs.

The Paris correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* writes on the 8th April:

The authorities here, under whose guidance the *Moniteur* is published, have taken a very satisfactory step in ordering the retraction by the official journal of an article which lately appeared in the *Courrier des Etats Unis*. The policy of France is there very broadly stated to have been always, during the past, a policy of non-intervention and neutrality as regards American affairs. It is emphatically declared that her present policy is still the same, and that her future policy will undergo no change in that respect. France is made to declare, by the mouth of her foreign minister, that as regards the Southern States she "has no policy," except "to wait the issue of events." The only two occasions, it is there said, in which the Imperial government has departed from its attitude of a looker on, have been when it endeavored to bring about an amicable mediation with the aid of Great Britain and Russia, and again when it recommended a conference, without armistice, between the combatants themselves. These friendly endeavors having failed, France awaits events," and so long as these remain unchanged, so long will her policy remain the same. The whole of this declaration of principle and intention is stopped without reserve by the *Moniteur*, and that too just at the moment when renewed rumors of "intervention" are wasted to us from the United States, and when the Mexican project is attempted to be transformed into a hostile demonstration. The incident has attracted a good deal of attention here in diplomatic circles, and has afforded considerable satisfaction to the quarter where most interest is felt on the subject, viz., at the American Embassy.

An Overflow Threatened.

The Plaquemine *Gazette*, which for some time has been expressing apprehensions regarding the precarious condition of the levees on the Western bank of the river, in a recent number thus refers to the matter:

If the river continues rising for a short time longer as it has been for a week back, almost all the country west of us, in a circuit of some thirty miles, will be submerged, and owing to the lateness of the year, will probably not be relieved till some time in August. Grand Levee having caved in, together with the numerous breaches in the levee on West Baton Rouge, will probably cause the river to be lower here and below than it has been while these latter breaks remain unrepaired. But it will be ruinous to our Grosse Tete and Maringouin friends—particularly the poorer classes who live on the low lands—as, in conjunction with the back water flowing up from Bayou Plaquemine, an overflow must occur of a depth and breadth as never heretofore occurred; and, connecting with the lands of Bayou Sorrel, is to overflow, although free from it except at extraordinary seasons, be the fact of the existence of three large mounds of earth on Bayou Grosse Tete, about twenty feet high, and grassing to think that his grandmother did not see that nobody had all his fingers on one hand, nor anybody two right legs. ancient-looking oaks, and 5 upon which, also, are the residences respectively of Captain Keep, Dr Campbell and Mrs. Woolfolk.

Items from Memphis.

The Memphis *Bulletin* of the 26th ult. has the following derived from the steamer Curlew which arrived from Arkansas river on the 25th:

The steamer Kinsey, while aground at Johnson's Island, on Saturday, the 16th, was attacked by a party of from ten to twelve of these outlaws. Some soldiers, however, who were upon the boat, went out on shore to give the rascals fight, and succeeded in driving them off after killing their leader, the notorious guerrilla and bush-whacker, Jim Hinson, or better known as the Wild Irishman. One of these brave boys was fatally wounded while pursuing the guerrillas from the bank of the river. Soldier Carlisle escaped, and the boat was no further molested, until she got off.

Three steamers are reported lying at the mouth of White and Arkansas rivers, in which the guerrillas are receiving large supplies of clothing, etc.

In the same paper it is said:

On Sunday night, a negro was met with eight miles out on the Germantown road. Among other matters, was found a barrel, apparently of flour, its principal contents for among the flour were found a pair of pistols, two bolts of shirting, ten gallons of whisky, a lot of percussion caps, and other articles. The contraband offered the boys five hundred dollars in greenbacks for permission to go on, but the boys knew their duty too well to be bribed, but owing to the darkness and rain, he contrived to escape before the day was ended.

Some time since, the cavalry patrol of Gen Grierson's command arrested Martin Smith, who was formerly a conductor in Confederate on the Mississippi Central railroad, in the country beyond the city, for having in his possession between four and five hundred thousand percussion caps, and several hundred pounds of powder, which he was in the act of smuggling to the enemy. He had taken the oath of allegiance to the United States government. Supplying the enemy with munitions of war is a capital offence, and the sentence on Smith was that he should be executed. The execution is to take place in this city on Friday next.

The Wheat Crop.

WHEAT IN IOWA.

The Lyons (Ia.) *Register* of the 16th, inst says: We are informed that in this vicinity, and indeed in this whole region of country, winter wheat is a total failure. Next to fences, and in other places where the snow remained undisturbed through the winter, the grass has sprung up, but in the open fields no crop has appeared.

The late favorable weather during the whole season has badly interfered with seeding, and spring wheat is not even yet all in. In this county, farmers tell us, more wheat than in former years is being sown, the ground being occupied with oats and corn, for which grain there is now a great demand.

WHEAT IN INDIANA.

The wheat in this county looked remarkably fine when the snow disappeared about the last of January, but the severe freezing since that time, when the ground was bare, has badly injured it. The late rains, however, have revived it to some extent, and the probability is that there will be an average yield if the season continues favorable.—*Bedford Ind.) Democrat.*

WHEAT IN OHIO.

Wheat is rapidly improving under the influence of the protracted wet weather. Where it has not been wholly winter killed, it appear- to be doing well.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

WHEAT IN MICHIGAN.

The Detroit *Tribune* has the following letters from farmers in regard to the wheat crop in Michigan:

Berlin, Ottawa County.—The wheat never looked better in this county than it does now. It is of a dark green color, and is thick on the ground.

Vernon, Shiawasie Co. April 15.—The prospect of the wheat crop in the eastern portion of this county is favorable. Estimate from one fourth to one-half is winter killed. That which is living is looking well under the present unfavorable weather. The greatest amount of injury seems to have been done during the early part of March. I fear Michigan will have to be registered one-third short of an average crop

Grand Blanc, Genesee County.—There is no promise for over half crop of wheat for this season in this vicinity. It is badly winter killed, as far as I can hear.

Grass Lake, Jackson County, April 15.—The wheat crop in this region is considerably injured by the extremes of the past winter, but the rebound raises the hopes of the farmers very much. I think the prospect fair for two thirds or three-fourths of a crop.

Salem, Washtenaw County, April 13.—The present cool, wet weather has made a decidedly favorable appearance in the fields of wheat in this vicinity. In many places where the farmers pronounced it dead both top and root, buds have put forth strong shoots in the last few days, and the general conclusion is that there will not be over one half of a crop the present season, and that somewhere part of the reason must be very favorable to obtain that.

MAXIMILIAN'S JOURNEY TO MEXICO.—*An Imposing Programme.*—The *Journal du Havre* of the 4th ult., says:

An English frigate left Malta yesterday for Trieste, and the same day the French frigate Themis, act as escort to the Novara The Empress and Empress of Mexico, after leaving Trieste, will go to Civita, Vecchia, thence to Rome, and pay their respects to his Holiness the Pope.

The three frigates will successively stop at St. Cross (de Tenerife) Antiaque and Martinique. The Spanish Government has sent orders to the Captain General of Cuba to receive them with the honors due to a foreign." The steam transport Marie Teresa, with the baggage of the Prince and Princess, will leave Trieste on Tuesday next for Havana, and there await the arrival of the Imperial squadron.

English at the Bottom.

An illustration of the traditionary suspicion with which England is looked upon in France is given in the following paragraph from the Paris correspondence, April 8th, of the New York *Journal of Commerce*:

The same court of Paris recently condemned Maxilla, in default of appearance, to a year's imprisonment for life, as implicated in the late plot. The law officers of the crown repeated, with further details, their insinuations against James Stansfield, the English brewer and Lord of the Admiralty, and even involved his wife "Caroline" in those imputations. The consequence has been that that gentleman has had to resign his office and made the defence which you will read in the London papers." Here the imperialists talk about shooting a man in that manner is always an *Anglais* at the bottom of every plot against the Emperor!

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL.

SEE OFFICE.
TUESDAY EVENING May 3, 1864.

We have only a limited business to notice in Exchange to-day. The Banks checked at New York at 1 P. M. to-day, and another at 2, at which it sold $100,000. Outside, we continue offer at 4 P. M. premium. The dealers asked 1½. Foreign Exchange very firm. One of the Banks sold a small amount of Sterling at at 201; another sold at 200 for drafts more, making it equal to about 210. The others declined to sell. Francs are very firm, and offered at 5 for silver or 215. Nothing occurred outside to establish any price for prime bills. The Banks paid Francs at 5 17½ for bar and bought at no rate. Private bills nominal.

The Gold market has been dull and nominally unchanged. Early in the day $2,000 sold at 57 @ 57½, and another at 57, at which it sold freely. Later in the day $2,000 sold at 57 @ 57½, and at the subsequent sales offered at 57½ and $15,000, in one lot, at 57 @ 57½, and some small sales at one or two at 57½, $4,000, in invoices, at 57. $3,000 at 57½, $2,000 and some thousand dollar lots at 57½. Another lot of $5,000 at 57, and towards the noon $5,000 at the extreme rate of 58. Dealers paid 57½ and proclaim for the small sums offered at their counters. Merchants are dull, and do not buy. Shipping of any consequence transacted in Silver, which was offered at 57½ @ 58 premium. The last sale of Mexican dollars was at 56, but they are now held higher.

There was some demand for Citizens Bank notes preferring to sales to a moderate extent at from 2½ up to 3 per cent premium. Offers of 2½ and 4 were refused. There were a no sales of Canal at 4 @ 5 premium and of Bank of Louisiana at 60 @ 62 dollar. Nothing changed or offered in any other of the Banks. Exchange remained 100¾ @ one per cent City Treasury notes which are the standard of our local currency.

Yesterday we noticed a sale of City Railroad stock at 6144 but to-day we hear of $13 being bought offered and refused. Nothing was reported in any other stocks nor anything in Bonds.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE BEE,
TUESDAY EVENING, May 3, 1864.

COTTON.—There was only a moderate inquiry to-day and the sales were not large, the total amount reaching 53 bales low middling at 36—38 bales, classification not given, at 36—1 bale strict good ordinary at 36—and 76 bales at auction, as follows: 2 bales prime at 38—14 bales country do at 37½—1 bale do at 35—6 bales do at 36—1 bale Natchez, at 42—3 bales damaged at 32—and 1 bale at 30—1 bale rejected, 1 do at 35—1 bale low ordinary at 31—1 bale rejected at 31—1 bale mixture, stained ordinary, and 4 bales do, good ordinary, at 36½ round—1 bale strict ordinary at 36—1 bale rejected, low middling, at 34½—19 bales low middling at 37½—and 3 bales ms damaged at 36½ @ bale. There appeared to be no quotable change in prices.

SUGAR.—The quantity offering is still firmly held at the rates quoted yesterday, and there was not a sale to report by the regular trade. By auction 15½ hhds sold, as follows: 2 choice prime, 20 bbls fully fair 11¾—35 do at 9¾—4 hhds fair 11¾—10 hhds light yellow clarified at 12—also common at 12¾ @ 13—2 hhds at 12—2 bbls at 12½—and 2 packed at 12 @ 12½. The supply offering by the trade is held at rates considerably above those named by auction.

MOLASSES.—Owing to the very light supply to-day's sales amount to 200 barrels, at 90c for good and 80 @ 85c for prime to choice.

FLOUR.—There was some inquiry mostly for extra, but we have not a sale to report, excepting to barrels superfine at 8½ @ barrel. Although the bulk is for it is firmly held at prices beyond the views of buyers.

PORK.—A lot of 70 barrels full weight Mess sold at 31 @ barrel.

LARD.—A thrree, one lot, sold at 15¾ @ lb.

PEAS.—A small lot of 70 bushels white, in store, or order, sold on private terms.

BEANS.—Sales of 200 bushels fair at 1 75 @ 1 80, and 400 sacks at $1.40 @ 1 50—and 200 sacks at $1.60 @ 1 65 @ bushel—100 sacks Bean at @ 2 10 @ 2 20 and @ 1 90 @ New York Red, on private terms.

COFFEE.—Rio is retailing at 50@55c @ lb.

FREIGHTS.—The rate for C.stton by steamships for New York is 1¾c @ lb.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Sales at auction to-day—10 barrels Sugar at 12c—11 Brahe Butter at 33c—14 barrels and 5 boxes Star Candles, at 16 @ 17c—and