THE DAILY BEE
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING, SUNDAYS EXCEPTED, AT
No. 73 Chartres street.
NEW ORLEANS:
THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 8.

Auction Sales this Day.

By A. Bonfilay, at 10 o'clock, at the Merchants Exchange—Improved lot of ground.

One Day Later via the River

Gold on the Rise 220.

The steamer Missouri arrived last night at 12 with Western dates of the 3d. No important change in the military situation.

New York, December 3—Gold 233; closed at 225.

TAYLOR'S HOLIDAY PRESENTS—The well known photographic establishment of Anderson & Turner, 61 Camp street, is prepared to supply the most tasteful and elegant productions connected with their art as appropriate presents for the approaching holidays. They offer at home at reduced prices, and photographs at $1 50 per dozen.

HAPPINESS IS STORE FOR THE JUVENILE WORLD.—Signs of increasing force and distinctness point to the strong probability, if not absolute certainty, that the Christmas holidays in this city will be enlivened, and brightened, and signalized by the presence of Howe's Great European Circus. This, suffice it to say, is the most complete institution of the kind, of which there is any record in modern history, comprising not less than one hundred male and female artists, accomplished in every exploit and sport known to the arena.

To these may be added six enormous lions, fresh from the jungles of Africa, in the plenitude of their royal majesty, untamed and untamable, save by one master spirit whose name is the flesh, terrestrially speaking, is Crocket—not the Tennessee Nimrod who grimmed the coon down from the tree—but the "unanimous beast conqueror" who quelled the mutiny in Astley's menagerie, and by his sole mysterious power led back to their cages an infuriated mob of lions, tigers, panthers, hyenas, bears, and the like, after they had broken from their confinement and improvised a banquet on the bodies of several solid men of London, who happened to fall in their way.

Among the lions in the magnificent Crocket's charge is said to be the veritable one which caused such a sensation in London last year by devouring the arm of his feeder. Some have been disposed to excuse this act on the theory that the immutate leonine intellect had only been practically construing certain passages of scripture which declare that all flesh is grass and that the lion shall eat straw like an ox.

The syllogism, it is argued, was good, the scriptural premise, in its literal form, was alone in fault. However this be, let us hope that the lion is now freed from this Biblical error, and that he will not, when promenading the streets, with the great Crocket, consider it his duty to eat the little boys who come out to admire him in the name of straw or any other provender.

In the equestrian line the Great Circus boasts the world's champion rider, James Robinson, and in the comic way has the benefit of no less than four clowns. Just think of it! Four human engines grinding out machine fun in the same ring! Is there room enough in this world, crowded with misfortunes, and cares, and sorrows, for the copious products of such a manufactory?

Well, at all events, a grand and memorable time is in prospect for the rising generation, and we say let it come and be heartily welcome. Verily, they who bring happiness to the young—happiness that has no flavor of sin and plants no germ of remorse—are benefactors of the race; they do more than all the dogmatic and ostentatious schools of reformers and philanthropists to refresh and invigorate the pressed and wearily and sinful the future.

The Legislature.

WEDNESDAY, December 7, 1864.

The *Senate* was called to order at the usual hour.

The Committee on the City Charter made its report, which was received and ordered to be printed.

The joint resolution relative to the adjournment of the General Assembly on the 15th inst. was read a first time and laid over under the rules.

The Senate then took up the Militia bill, and on motion, further action on the bill was postponed.

Mr. O'Connell gave notice that he would introduce a joint resolution fixing the time of meeting of the General Assembly after this adjournment.

The Senate then adjourned to allow the Electoral College the use of the chamber.

The House was called to order at the usual hour.

The Committee on Banks and Banking asked that its clerk be allowed $6 per day, the request was refused.

The Committee on City Charter made its report, the report was adopted and 200 copies ordered to be printed.

Several members gave notice that they would introduce bills.

Several bills underwent their first reading and were laid over under the rules.

The House then took up the bill to provide for increasing the revenue of the State and raise means to pay the State debt, and pending a discussion on the bill.

The House adjourned.

(From the Memphis Argus, Dec. 2.)

Rumors about Cotton and Trade.

We have heard it rumored the past five days, more ship-shape yesterday than on any of those preceding it, that the Government had determined to put the cotton and supply exchange on a basis entirely differing with any of the regulations heretofore enforced, and of, so liberal a character as to give free to unbounded hopes, and the pass go of Rebellation one to the other by cotton men hereabouts. As we generally do in such cases, we have instituted inquiry in every quarter where there have been appearances to trade can usually be had, and have to confess that we cannot yet give our readers even the ghost of a probability in the rumor. The revival of trade depends upon contingencies and the military power. We must hope that the former will be favorable, and the latter liberal.

No Fall Fashions for December.

(From the New York World.)

It is quite time that the American papers stop pedi copying the fashions from the Paris and London journals. All sensible women this side of the south laugh at them. They are wholly useless as guides to what should be worn, as the goods indicated are not now imported from abroad. Some of our monthly and weekly publications are beginning to give American fashions periodically, which is a good and useful feature. The best we have seen are the fashions in the New York *Mercury*, which seem to be just what American women want. We give a specimen of the fashions from that paper this morning.

(From the New York Mercury.)

The gay season may be considered as fairly inaugurated this month, and, to use a phrase, we should judge that it will not be inferior in brilliance and display of fashion to any of its predecessors. The fall months were occupied by the presidential canvass, and elections are always unfavorable to bold business and pleasure, and so the usual stagnation was intensified this season by the enormous prices which were at first demanded for goods.

Against this advance—which represented three or four times, and in some cases five or six times, the cost of the articles four years ago—the ladies rebelled, and an almost complete suspension of trade was the result. This so alarmed leading houses that a real and very decided reduction was made in every department. And this, together with the approach of the holidays and the consequent opening of the regular festivities, has recently given new life to business, and inspired the drooping souls of merchants and *modistes* with fresh hope.

The most noticeable feature in the winter costumes is the variety of color. We have been so long accustomed to a dark or gray uniformity that high contrasting colors, especially in street garments, seem odd and out of place on individuals, although the effect on *masse* is lively and agreeable.

Bill we cannot see why cloaks should be eternally black or gray any more than dresses, or why bonnets should not exhibit any color for which the wearer has a preference, provided, always, that harmony is preserved between the different portions of the attire.

And here is just where lies the difficulty. Most women buy their dresses without any reference to their bonnets, and their bonnets without regard to cloaks, shawls or mantles; and their gloves and ribbons, at odd times, without any thought or care at all. The chances are, therefore, that the moment the variety of color allowed, the more numerous the incongruities in costume and the more flagrant the breaches of good taste.

The second-rate way in which American women obtain their fashions render them peculiarly liable to be imposed upon.

French and English fashion journalists are unusually anxious to seize any opportunity for the discovery and announcement of a novelty, and so it frequently happens that a daring innovation introduced upon a Parisian racecourse and an English archery ground, or a grotesque style applauded for once during the freedom of a royal pleasure-party, is announced here as regularly authorized by the highest standards of fashion, and eagerly adopted by young girls and foolish women, who willingly sacrifice good taste and propriety to the shrine of the fickle goddess.

Men, however, can be recognized instantly. They always represent the last fashion plate. Their bonnets are either three stories, or the brim is bent so low overlies from an to conceal their narrow foreheads and short pug noses. Sometimes they figure in a robe which sweeps the pavement, and anon their dresses are lifted nearly to the knee, over peculiar shirts, white boots, and a small spontaneous for a hat surmounting a mass of hair flying low on the neck and descending by a "cut mate" plume, divide their apparent protuberance between times of a Sequoia and a vivandiere.

The point of these remarks is simply this, that it is very necessary to distinguish in fashion between what is suitable for every day and habitual customs, and what may be excepted and even admired, as exceptional, but would be ridiculed if worn all the time. Very few women in this country can afford to display three expensive toilets; and those who can cannot afford to be careful not to indulge in any occasional departure from the ordinary of lady this month.

The "ones," which will be worn with rest, a fourth of trumpets, half faded, signify. A good fancy ps and to hope been made and sold; but when, where, how, or to whom, is a problem more difficult to solve, than any in Euclid for none are ever seen.

We hope sincerely that this is the last effort to transmit fashions from Paris. As women they occupy an entirely subordinated position, and have their own special and peculiar sphere of influence, but there is nothing more repulsive than mannish women, or women who have adopted masculine ways; and on this point, of fashions prior to so undignified as it is unbecoming.

New Orleans Bee.

Office 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 8, 1864. Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXVII—Whole No. 13,309.

(From the St. Louis Republican.)

Drowning a Vexed Question.

A dispatch from Admiral Porter printed by us on Tuesday, but by omitted a report that the Florida had been run on to Hampton Roads by an army transport, and sank. We have as yet seen no particulars of the collision, but a late despatch states that the pirate vessel lies off Newport News in water so deep that it is doubtful whether she can be raised. We charitably conclude that the sinking of this ship was accidental, lest at all events it finally dispose of any question in reference to her restitution to the Brazilian authorities, a matter that has been somewhat agitated in the papers. Mr. Seward may write to the Government of Brazil that he is exceedingly sorry if the circumstances of the capture of the Florida at Bahia could give any cause of offence to Emperor Don Pedro II or the subjects of his hereditary monarchy; that the United States is not at all disposed to ruffle the temper of the Emperor's Government, and would feel profoundly concerned at the doing of any act to interrupt that cordiality of feeling and true comity of intercourse which distinguish the relations of the United States towards the nations of the world, etc., etc., but he may add as the same time mention the curious circumstance that the vessel which occasioned the correspondence has gone to Davy Jones' locker, and suggest the improbability that Brazil can expect this country to go into the wrecking business for the purpose of restoring sunken privateers to the Southern Confederacy.

If Brazil has any particular pecuniary interest in the Florida we have no doubt that, as a measure of conciliation, prompt compensation might be tendered, but at the same time it can not be charged to Uncle Sam, with full liberty on the part of the Confederacy to make it out of him.

The principal concern of our people has been an apprehension that the State Department, after examining the questions involved, might conclude to restore the privateer and thus place the whole matter in *status quo ante bellum*. Provided, or the commander of an army transport, or both, have, however, disposed of this danger, if it be necessary or right to apologize to Brazil, we can at least reflect that so far as the Florida is concerned the rebels will not be much the gainer.

Brain Work and Longevity.

The philosophers ought to have length of days for their portion, seeing how their pursuits enable them to elevate them above the disturbances of life. And such is, in fact, the operation of life, by which their faculties are furnished with constant entertainments on subjects which would seem to lie outside the range of uneasy passions, while creating or exciting the noblest moral emotion. And an unusual amount of health, long life, is, in fact, found among philosophers—whether mathematicians, naturalists, or speculative students. Such things have been heard of as strike in these scene fields of thought, such sights have been seen as have furrowed with fretfulness, or working with passion, but the old age of many philosophers is, at this moment, an honor to their vocation.

Peter Barlow was, when he lately died at 82, the same brilliant man that he had been to two generations of friends and disciples. Sir David Brewster is still occupied at the same age. The late Mr. Tooke did not puzzle his crowded with miscellaneous and cares, and sorrows, for the copious products of such a manufactory?

Well, at all events, a grand and memorable time is in prospect for the rising generation, and we say let it come and be heartily welcome. Verily, they who bring happiness to the young—happiness that has no flavor of sin and plants no germ of remorse—are benefactors of the race; they do more than all the dogmatic and ostentatious schools of reformers and philanthropists to refresh and invigorate the pressed and wearily and sinful the future.

The Legislature.

WEDNESDAY, December 7, 1864.

The *Senate* was called to order at the usual hour.

The Committee on the City Charter made its report, which was received and ordered to be printed.

The joint resolution relative to the adjournment of the General Assembly on the 15th inst. was read a first time and laid over under the rules.

The Senate then took up the Militia bill, and on motion, further action on the bill was postponed.

Mr. O'Connell gave notice that he would introduce a joint resolution fixing the time of meeting of the General Assembly after this adjournment.

The Senate then adjourned to allow the Electoral College the use of the chamber.

The House was called to order at the usual hour.

The Committee on Banks and Banking asked that its clerk be allowed $6 per day, the request was refused.

The Committee on City Charter made its report, the report was adopted and 200 copies ordered to be printed.

Several members gave notice that they would introduce bills.

Several bills underwent their first reading and were laid over under the rules.

The House then took up the bill to provide for increasing the revenue of the State and raise means to pay the State debt, and pending a discussion on the bill.

The House adjourned.

(From the Memphis Argus, Dec. 2.)

Rumors about Cotton and Trade.

We have heard it rumored the past five days, more ship-shape yesterday than on any of those preceding it, that the Government had determined to put the cotton and supply exchange on a basis entirely differing with any of the regulations heretofore enforced, and of, so liberal a character as to give free to unbounded hopes, and the pass go of Rebellation one to the other by cotton men hereabouts. As we generally do in such cases, we have instituted inquiry in every quarter where there have been appearances to trade can usually be had, and have to confess that we cannot yet give our readers even the ghost of a probability in the rumor. The revival of trade depends upon contingencies and the military power. We must hope that the former will be favorable, and the latter liberal.

No Fall Fashions for December.

(From the New York World.)

It is quite time that the American papers stop pedi copying the fashions from the Paris and London journals. All sensible women this side of the south laugh at them. They are wholly useless as guides to what should be worn, as the goods indicated are not now imported from abroad. Some of our monthly and weekly publications are beginning to give American fashions periodically, which is a good and useful feature. The best we have seen are the fashions in the New York *Mercury*, which seem to be just what American women want. We give a specimen of the fashions from that paper this morning.

(From the New York Mercury.)

The gay season may be considered as fairly inaugurated this month, and, to use a phrase, we should judge that it will not be inferior in brilliance and display of fashion to any of its predecessors. The fall months were occupied by the presidential canvass, and elections are always unfavorable to bold business and pleasure, and so the usual stagnation was intensified this season by the enormous prices which were at first demanded for goods.

Against this advance—which represented three or four times, and in some cases five or six times, the cost of the articles four years ago—the ladies rebelled, and an almost complete suspension of trade was the result. This so alarmed leading houses that a real and very decided reduction was made in every department. And this, together with the approach of the holidays and the consequent opening of the regular festivities, has recently given new life to business, and inspired the drooping souls of merchants and *modistes* with fresh hope.

The most noticeable feature in the winter costumes is the variety of color. We have been so long accustomed to a dark or gray uniformity that high contrasting colors, especially in street garments, seem odd and out of place on individuals, although the effect on *masse* is lively and agreeable.

Bill we cannot see why cloaks should be eternally black or gray any more than dresses, or why bonnets should not exhibit any color for which the wearer has a preference, provided, always, that harmony is preserved between the different portions of the attire.

And here is just where lies the difficulty. Most women buy their dresses without any reference to their bonnets, their bonnets without regard to cloaks, shawls or mantles; and their gloves and ribbons, at odd times, without any thought or care at all. The chances are, therefore, that the moment the variety of color allowed, the more numerous the incongruities in costume and the more flagrant the breaches of good taste.

The second-rate way in which American women obtain their fashions render them peculiarly liable to be imposed upon.

French and English fashion journalists are unusually anxious to seize any opportunity for the discovery and announcement of a novelty, and so it frequently happens that a daring innovation introduced upon a Parisian racecourse and an English archery ground, or a grotesque style applauded for once during the freedom of a royal pleasure-party, is announced here as regularly authorized by the highest standards of fashion, and eagerly adopted by young girls and foolish women, who willingly sacrifice good taste and propriety to the shrine of the fickle goddess.

Men, however, can be recognized instantly. They always represent the last fashion plate. Their bonnets are either three stories, or the brim is bent so low overlies from an to conceal their narrow foreheads and short pug noses. Sometimes they figure in a robe which sweeps the pavement, and anon their dresses are lifted nearly to the knee, over peculiar shirts, white boots, and a small spontaneous for a hat surmounting a mass of hair flying low on the neck and descending by a "cut mate" plume, divide their apparent protuberance between times of a Sequoia and a vivandiere.

The point of these remarks is simply this, that it is very necessary to distinguish in fashion between what is suitable for every day and habitual customs, and what may be excepted and even admired, as exceptional, but would be ridiculed if worn all the time. Very few women in this country can afford to display three expensive toilets; and those who cannot should be careful not to indulge in any occasional departure from any style which do not come strictly within the boundary of lady this month.

The "ones," which will be worn with rest, a fourth of trumpets, half faded, signify. A good fancy ps and to hope been made and sold; but when, where, how, or to whom, is a problem more difficult to solve, than any in Euclid for none are ever seen.

We hope sincerely that this is the last effort to transmit fashions from Paris. As women they occupy an entirely subordinated position, and have their own special and peculiar sphere of influence, but there is nothing more repulsive than mannish women, or women who have adopted masculine ways; and on this point, of fashions prior to so undignified as it is unbecoming.

Gen. Washburn and the Vicksburg District.

The Memphis *Argus* says:

The order assigning Major General Washburn to the command of the District of Vicksburg was published in the *Argus* two or three days since, and we presume he will leave in a short time for his new field of operations.

In relieving Gen. Washburn from his present command, Gen. Dana has paid him a high compliment, as he was selected to command the large District of Vicksburg, which includes several of the most important posts on the Mississippi, because of his high character as a soldier and his unsullied reputation for strict integrity and manly straightforwardness. In a military point of view, the District of Vicksburg is now a more important command than that of West Tennessee—in fact, is one of the most onerous and important in the West.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Recorders' Courts—Th. Warren charged one Edw. White with malicious mischief in defacing Theater pieces. The prosecutor was fined $10 for bringing a ridiculous charge.

Mrs Moran was sent to the workhouse for thirty days, on the charge of having stolen a shirt, valued at $1 50 from Mary Stock, No 8 Tonyschore street.

Mrs Roberts was charged with having purchased a bbl. of sugar knowing it to have been stolen. The property in question is supposed to be part of the 8 hhds. stolen some time since. The case was continued.

Joe Hunt, a chicken thief and vagrant, was sent to the workhouse for six months by Recorder Woolfley.

Provost Court—Judge Lieber.—In the case of J Q Helm, it was shown that there were no charges on file against the prisoner. He was discharged.

The charge against Jose Bonaparte, Captain of the schooner Mary Boyd in the Old Hand, was partly examined. The accusation was that the vessel had aboard a quantity of goods not mentioned in the military or customhouse permits. The prosecution claimed the confiscation of the vessel. The defense aimed to prove that all was in good faith. The case was continued.

Pierre Cayton, tried on the charge of having a Government mule in his possession, was acquitted, as it was not marked U. S. The property was restored.

First District Court—Judge Heatland.—Rosannah Thomas was tried on the charge of having on the 30th of November last, stolen $60 from Beline No. 20 Carondelet street. The second complaint was next in that of prosecuting witness and the money had been taken from the armoir.—The jury found a verdict of guilty without leaving their seats.

Margaret Hayes, a cook in Bean's saloon was found guilty of an assault and battery on a waiter of that establishment.

Augustus Brown, a 14 years old colored girl, was accused of having stolen a watch from Mrs Knox. Two days after, the arrest of accused the watch was found in the gutter of the yard. She was acquitted.

The Electoral Vote of the State—The electoral college for this State met yesterday in the house of representatives and Vice President of the United States for the next term.

Wm T. Stocker presided and Spencer G. Hatch acted as secretary.

The votes (7) were unanimously given, for Abraham Lincoln of Illinois as President and for Andrew Johnson of Tennessee for Vice President.

The Hon. C. W. Boyce was elected as Messenger to bear the vote to the seat of government.

FROM OUR YESTERDAY EVENING EDITION

THE VARIETIES THEATRE.—Mr. Daly had ample reason to be satisfied with the well-filled house which his benefit drew last night, and with the sincere endorsement of his merits as a comedian which the occasion attested. As Richard III Mr. Daly gave another signal proof of the honest efforts of which he makes, and the cultivation he has acquired, towards fulfilling the dramatic *beau ideal* of a finished villain.

His acting was circumspect and modeled upon approved traditions. Yet it was obvious that along with his copy from standard examples Mr. Daly gave somewhat too much of the familiar outline and color of Mr. Daly.

To-night Aurora Floyd will be given at the Varieties the second time.

THE ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—A decided change is observable at this theatre, since the commencement of Mr. Eddy's season, both as regards the character of the performances and the composition of the audiences. The place is not near so redolent of Bowery tastes and surroundings, which are now gravitating to more congenial centres.

Mr. Eddy's percouation of Jean in the Rappicker gave evidence of his easy mastery of the traditional and rudimental, and many of the higher and untouchable requisites of tragic delineation. Had so been more suitably supported, the play would have been highly interesting and effective.

To-night Mr. Eddy will appear as Brutus in the tragedy by that name.

ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH CORVETTE LA MEURTE.—The French vessel of war, *La Megere*, a steam corvette commanded by Capt Le Bastard, arrived from New York yesterday afternoon to replace the Amphion which is about to take her departure.

Later and Additional via the River.

The *Era* of this morning has the following from the special agent up the river:

The War in Tennessee—Severe Fighting near Nashville—Attack of Hood on Forrest.

Nashville, November 30, midnight.—The enemy, at 4 P. M., made heavy assault on Franklin with two corps, but after persistent fighting was repulsed at all points, with loss of 5000 killed and wounded, 1500 prisoners and a rebel Brigadier General captured. Our loss about 50.

Nashville, November 30.—Army movements for a few days past have been simply for position. The Rebel forces have not reinforced, except to improved locations. We occupy Nashville to-day, but will probably retire for better a place much nearer Nashville. Skirmishing has occurred, with little or no advantage either party. It is believed are that a battle will be fought within the next forty-eight hours. Our forces are in the best position and quite hopeful and confident. Large reinforcements of troops have reached here, and have been sent to advantageous positions. Small detachments of rebel cavalry are operating not far from Nashville, doing no great damage. Railroad communication with Chattanooga intact, and trains running regularly. Much excitement among citizens on account of the near approach of Hood's army. Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith's corps reached here to-night.

EXCITING RUMOR OF A COMBINED MOVEMENT AGAINST RICHMOND.

New York, Dec. 1.—The city was filled with rumors last night that Grant's forces, in conjunction with the navy, was moving on Richmond; that the fleet had passed up the Dutch Gap Canal, and that an important movement was making in the Shenandoah Valley. Nothing has been received confirmatory of these reports this morning.

MORE PARTICULARS OF THE NEW CREEK AFFAIR

The *Herald's* Martinsburg correspondent says of the affair at New Creek: Col. Latham McMillan, from Pennsylvania, who was in command, being warned of an engagement at Mysfield, had his men prepared for an attack, watching all night; but the enemy not arriving, vigilance was relaxed the next day, when Rosser pounced on his pickets and got inside his lines before his men could be gathered. We lost six or seven guns and 300 men. Col. Latham, who was missing until the 30th, turned up at a distance from the scene of strife.

ATTEMPT OF FEDERAL PRISONERS AT SALISBURY, N. C., TO ESCAPE.

The Richmond *Enquirer*, of November 28th, says that on Thursday last a serious attempt was made by the Federal prisoners confined at Salisbury, N. C., to make their escape, which was rapidly and effectually foiled at the expense of considerable Yankee blood. It appears that a plot had been formed among the prisoners, of whom there are at Salisbury some 1300, to overpower the interior guard of the encampment, then break through the line of the parapet guard, and after securing all the arms they could, to march through Western North Carolina into Tennessee, and make good their escape, and in the first part of their programme they succeeded.

The interior guard was overpowered, and two of the unfortunate men were killed while resisting. They then attacked the parapet guard, who fought bravely against the terrible odds until the alarm had been fully communicated to the garrison, and some pieces of artillery were thrown into position bearing upon the encampment. Two of the parapet guard were killed in the gallant defense.

It good time the artillery opened, and after a few raking discharges of grape and cannister the insurrectionists cried out for mercy, and declared that they would make no further effort to get away.

By this time they were completely surrounded, and it was well for them that they ceased their demonstration and cried for mercy. In ten minutes more the whole camp would have been one scene of slaughter. As it was, about forty were killed and a large number wounded. Thus a very foolish attempt to escape from Confederate durance failed.

HOW THE FLORIDA WAS SUNK.

New York, December 1.—According to the *World's* Fortress Monroe correspondent, the Florida had been ordered to Norfolk to coal, and just before dark starting she was run into by the transport Alliance, very seriously damaged; she was in a very bad condition when captured, and the steam pump was kept going constantly after the last collision. She filled at the rate of eight inches an hour. An additional pump was set to work, and every effort was made to keep her afloat, but all to no purpose, and before she could be towed to shoal water she went down.

GENERAL GILMORE EN ROUTE FOR NEW ORLEANS.

New York, December 1.—Major General Q. A. Gilmore leaves to-day for New Orleans, where he will report to General Canby for the purpose of inspecting the defenses of the various fortifications and points in the Western Military Division.

FROM RICHMOND PAPERS.

Washington, December 2.—Persons who have seen Richmond papers of the 29th, say they contain dispatches from Augusta 26th, which states that Sherman had not approached that city, and doubt the statement in Richmond papers of the 25th, and that he had been defeated in his efforts to cross the Oconee river, and that his attempt to march eastward had been baffled.

The rebels claim that they still occupy Macon. The Richmond *Enquirer* argues that Sherman cannot reach that city.

New York, Dec. 1.—A Richmond paper of the 28th says: Firing distinct in passing troops on his left, and if the weather continues favorable he may make an effort in this direction.

The Tribune's Washington special says: Judge Holt has been selected to succeed Attorney Gen. Bates.

Collingwood, C. W. Dec 1.—Customs authorities yesterday seized boxes containing gun carriages, canister and grape shot, etc., for an eighteen pounder.

The steamer Georgian is daily expected.

GOLD AND COTTON.

New York, Dec. 1.—Cotton quiet. Flour dull, 10c lower. Wheat, $2 30 to 10; extra, $11 to 11 20. Western pork decidedly lower, $32 to 33 50. Lard $21 50. Prime lard dull and drooping, 21 to 22½c. Whisky firmer, $1 87 to 1 92.

Stocks firmer. Gold, 225.

Current Rumors at Memphis.

(From the Memphis Bulletin, December 3)

For several days there have been in our city rumors that the General Hood has died of pneumonia, and that Gen. Forrest has been killed, by being accidentally shot by one of his own men. These rumors come from rebel sources and appear better authenticated than most of the grape-vine telegrams that we ordinarily receive, but we do not place much confidence in them.

Our military authorities have been in possession of the rumors relative to the deaths of Generals Hood and Forrest for several days. They obtained them from parties who came up the Mississippi river. The same rumors brought entirely through rebel sources, were current on Thursday at White's Station. Hood could not have been well for a long time, and in his case the rumor seems not improbable. In almost every instance between Atlanta and the rebels threatened Memphis, we had previous thereto accounts of Forrest's death, and of accidents to other rebel Generals, and, though this is not likely, the present rumors may have originated in the desire to put our military authorities off their guard.

Mystery of the Movements and Designs of Hood and Forrest.

(From the M ngis Bulletin, Dec. 3.)

The movements of General Thomas and the rebel General Hood are, at this distance from the scene of action, exceedingly perplexing. Why should Hood, unless he was stick almost to death, hesitate so long about making an advance northward, or, in other words, southward? Why should General Thomas, who is an old and brave soldier, commanding an ample and gallant force, fall back towards Nashville from a naturally strong position? Why should Forrest play a part so different from his usual role? Why should our forces, up to the present time, occupy an Johnsonville, and destroy the depot, houses that Forrest did not take when he captured the boats, and made the lying report of his success?

Is the movement against Nashville real or a feint? Is Corinth, though far distant, the only point of attack? Is Hood's army, or is it intended to be the base for other movements? We can no more answer these questions at this time, than we can tell whether Hood has died of pneumonia.

A New York dispatch of the 30th ult. says:

To-day the attachment against General Butler was up before Judge Cordozo, on motion to transfer the case from State to Federal, but the motion is opposed by Judge Pierpont for the New Orleans plaintiffs.

(From the St. Louis Republican, Dec. 1.)

Miss Lee's Arm Not Broken Yet.

The statement is made that Gen. Lee has destroyed twenty thousand troops from his army to go to Georgia for the purpose of resisting the march of Gen. Sherman. We regard the statement. We place small reliance in the story, unless it be that a recent article in the Richmond *Whig*, containing the idea that place (Richmond) possesses military importance no longer, foreshadows the evacuation of the Rebel Capital. Gen. Lee has no needed all his men to resist the armies of Meade and Butler, and the dispatching of so large a contingent as twenty thousand to another quarter, could certainly to give Gen. Grant advantage which should result in the immediate capture of the Confederate stronghold in Virginia. It may be that the report of Sherman's expedition was partly to compel Lee to weaken his forces, though it seems to us that the enemy's policy is evidently to concentrate from every other section before resorting to this expedient.

Notwithstanding what the *Whig* may say, the loss of Richmond would not be compensated by the defeat of Sherman's plans, unless at the same time Sherman's army could be destroyed, and we do not believe it to be in the power of the South to do that by any combination practicable.

Since the recent Presidential election the troops on the James and Appomattox rivers must have been reinforced very largely. The country has been surprised that no movements are in progress by Gen. Grant against Lee. We suppose the Lieutenant General knows what he is about, and does not think this the right time to strike. Of course we cannot question the judgment of an officer of his experience, but it is certain that this judgment is being interpreted to mean that Petersburg and Richmond cannot be taken as at present defended.

CANADIAN DEFENCE—Canada' papers, says a New York dispatch of the 30th November, announce that officers deputized to examine the Canadian and American frontiers, to report on the system of defence, reported that Canada can be effectually defended by a moderate force against aggression. They have devised a scheme of defence approved by military authorities.

Capt. Hall's Arctic Expedition.

Capt. Hall's Arctic expedition has been heard from. On the 27th of August Captain Hall was at Rowe's Welcome, boxing up. The vessels from Hudson's Bay are all in for the year. No further delays are expected until September. The Monticello will winter at Fox Brothers' Bay, north of Chesterfield Inlet, and the schooner — at Marble Island.

John Mitchell, of the Richmond "Enquirer," Challenges Henry G. Foote, of the Robel Congress.

(From the Richmond Enquirer, Nov. 26.)

FELONY COURT—Mayor Chalmers—Wednesday, *November 23, 1864.*

Hon. Henry S. Foote, member of the House of Congress from Tennessee, and Mr. John Mitchell, were charged in a warrant recently issued, with a breach of the peace. The parties are now in the city, with being about to break the peace of the commonwealth by engaging in a duel with deadly weapons, and Hon. Wm. G. Swan, a member of the House from Tennessee, was charged with being the bearer of a challenge from Mr. Mitchell to Mr. Foote to fight a duel with deadly weapons, contrary to the laws of the commonwealth.

The parties who had been previously mentioned and bailed for their appearance, were in court, Mr. Foote represented by John H. Gilmer as counsel.

Mr. Foote was first called to state upon what evidence he based his presumption that a duel was about to take place between Messrs. Foote and Mitchell. He knew nothing about the affair personally, but learned enough to satisfy him that a hostile meeting was probable, and deemed it his duty as a good citizen and as a personal friend of one of the parties (Mr. Foote) to lodge the information with the authorities: knew nothing of the anticipated duel except what he was told, but was a witness to the scene that occurred at the Ballard Hotel on Monday night, upon the occasion of the personal collision between Messrs. Foote and Swan, which scene witness proceeded to describe.

Cross-questioned by Mr. Mitchel—Is a very intimate friend of Mr. Foote. Does not know Mr. Swan or Mr. Mitchel at all; would not know one of them from the other.

Mr. Mitchel—Mr. Fowle, you came and swore against these two speakers, whom you did not know, than you had reason to believe they were going to commit a breach of the peace.

Mr. Fowle—Yes; I had the strongest moral conviction.

Mr. Mitchel—Did Mr. Foote tell you to come and make that information?

Mr. Fowle—No, sir.

Mr. Mitchel—Did he tell you not to come and swear that information?

Mr. Fowle—No, sir.

Mr. H. Riley—Witness testified that he never knew Mr. Swan until the evening of the occurrence, when he was introduced to him. Mr. Foote then at the Exchange office looking for Governor Foote's residence, and Mr. Foote told witness that he knew where Governor Foote lived. Mr. Pollard replied that he did, stating the street, house, &c. Mr. Swan offered witness a dollar if he would show Governor Foote the way, but witness declined, and Mr. Pollard offered to show him the way. In this way Mr. Pollard accompanied Mr. Swan to Mr. Foote's room.

Arriving at Governor Foote's room, Mr. Pollard suggested that they should send in their cards; that perhaps it might not be convenient or agreeable for Governor Foote to receive them at that hour; but Mr. Swan did not think that formality necessary; tapping at Governor Foote's door, a voice said "Come in," he opened the door, and saw Mr. Foote sitting at the fire; Mr. Foote, who was sitting before the fire, apparently in a drowsy state, arose and seemed wishing very cordially, inviting him in. Mr. Swan following; witness saw Mr. Foote and Mr. Swan was a colleague of Mr. Foote, simply said: "Your colleague, Mr. Swan, Mr. Foote." Witness then left the room, Mr. Foote turned aside and replied: "I cannot recognize that man; he is not a gentleman," and repeated the expression, turning his position to witness, as witness had left the room, for the purpose of making an explanation to him. It was then that Mr. Swan struck Mr. Foote over the head with an umbrella he carried in his hand.

Mr. Pollard immediately sprung between the parties and attempted to keep them apart. Mr. Foote rushed back to his bedroom, and from the trams corner of the room and seized a revolver and rushed towards Mr. Swan, when witness caught him, and, with the assistance of Mr. Swan, held me. I'll shoot the damned scoundrel," or words to that effect. The parties were separated, Mr. Swan retiring into the passage and Mr. Foote remaining in the room. Witness was made an explanation to Mr. Foote, that he was not aware of the mission of Mr. Swan, nor of the motive which impelled him in assaulting him. Mr. Foote was perfectly satisfied, and acquitted witness on the spot of any connection with the affair.

Mr. Wynne testified to facts touching the relationship existing between Messrs. Foote and Swan; which, furthermore to the fact that a note amounting to one hundred dollars on Monday night from Mr. Foote to Mr. Swan.

Mr. Thomas testified that Mr. Foot complied with the request of Mr. Swan, and Mr. Pollard informed him on Tuesday morning that he had made up his mind, had resolved to challenge Mr. Foote. Tuesday morning Mr. Foote showed witness a note addressed to Mr. Swan, stating that witness could read it in confidence; read it, and think it amounted to a challenge, as it left Mr. Swan and consulted him upon the point.

Nothing transpired in Stocks, which in the present condition of the money market appear to be quite insignificant. City Bonds are quoted at 97½@98; for Consolidated and 90 for the old Bond.

The notes of the Bank of Louisiana continued in fire request and sold at various rates from 60 up to 62 and 63c per dollar. The improvement indicated by these figures is attributed to a rumor that Congress has fixed a liberal rate considering the market value of the notes, as the Bank of New Orleans was also in request at 60@62, and Merchants at 62½@63. Crescent City are quoted at 70@75 and 50. Bank of Louisiana continues to rule down its 6s and smaller notes with City Treasury notes, and give old State bonds unbound coupons off, in exchange for its 5s per notes, at par. Our quotations are predicated on payment in legal tender notes, which command a premium of 190@195 per cent over City Treasury notes. Gold, which the latter are still the general medium of exchange in our local trade, and received for both State and City taxes.

COMMERCIAL.

OFFICE OF THE SUN,
WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 7, 1864.

COTTON—A further decline in Domestic Exchange have still more shaken buoyant of the New York necessitated a further decline in the price of cotton, which now sells very fairly 2½c @ 3c, the latter, at for ordinary to fair middling, or 2½ @ 2½ for low ordinary, 2½ for low middling, or 2½ @ 2½ for strict middling, or 2½ @ 2½ for middling, or 2½ @ 2½ for low middling, or 2½ @ 2½ for strict low ordinary. Receipts of the week, including 211 bales in 2 lots and reported yesterday, 1,611 bales.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES—There were no receipts this morning, and we have no sales to report. Yesterday not unusually opened in 50 hhds. of sugar, sold for a part to the North at 31½c for common, and 33@35 and 35@37½ for white clarified. Of Molasses 70 bbls. were sold at 61c for good, 61@62 for prime, and 61@67 gallon for choice.

TOBACCO—There were sales to city manufacturers of 1 hhd. common to fair at 10c, and 1 hhd choice at 35c.

WESTERN PRODUCE—A steamer arrived from St. Louis last night, with assorted cargo, and only 300 sks flour for the trade. A steamer arrived from Louisville yesterday, with 1,000 sks. Operators are looking for other arrivals, meanwhile the holders are buying very sparingly. The produce market is extremely dull, and holders are very anxious to sell, but the transactions follow now days, to confined to the city trade, and to specially of a small character. We note the complaint 125 bbls low superfine at $10 75; 100 do do at $11; 40 bbls. standard superfine at $10 75; 100 low extra at $12, and 50 do at $12 50; 100 bbls. fancy family flour at $14 50; 100 bbls. extra family at $15 50; 100 bbls. family at $16; 100 bbls. superfine at $9 25; 100 bbls. superfine at $9 50; 100 bbls. superfine at $9 75; 100 bbls. superfine at $10; 100 bbls. superfine at $10 25; 100 bbls. superfine at $10 50; 100 bbls. superfine at $10 75; 100 bbls. superfine at $11; 100 bbls. superfine at $11 25; 100 bbls. superfine at $11 50; 100 bbls. superfine at $11 75; 100 bbls. superfine at $12; 100 bbls. superfine at $12 25; 100 bbls superfine at $12 50; 100 bbls superfine at $12 75; 100 bbls superfine at $13; 100 bbls superfine at $13 25; 100 bbls superfine at $13 50; 100 bbls superfine at $13 75; 100 bbls superfine at $14; 100 bbls superfine at $14 25; 100 bbls superfine at $14 50; 100 bbls superfine at $14 75; 100 bbls superfine at $15; 100 bbls superfine at $15 25; 100 bbls superfine at $15 50; 100 bbls superfine at $15 75; 100 bbls superfine at $16; 100 bbls superfine at $16 25; 100 bbls superfine at $16 50; 100 bbls superfine at $16 75; 100 bbls superfine at $17