THE DAILY BEE
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NEW ORLEANS:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB'Y. 17, 1864.

Sales at Auction To-day.

By E. H. Jacobs, at 10 o'clock, at No. 96 Magazine street, furniture.

Choice Groceries and Sundries.—Attention is called to the advertisement of E S Keep, 62 Poydras street, who has in store and for sale 80 bags prime Rio coffee, assorted teas, choice family brands, together with butter, olive oil, various provisions, flour, rope, soap, bagging, champagne wine, &c.

Important Sale of Whisky.—The attention of dealers is directed to the advertisement of E. T. Montgomery, auctioneer, of an extensive sale, comprising 325 barrels whisky, just landed per bark Carlton, to take place this day, at 12 o'clock, at 28 Common and 46 Canal street. The lot to include raw whisky of very high proof, the celebrated Chieben Cock, "Cabinet," and other favorite brands of old Bourbon; the whole selected with great care by a good judge, expressly for this market, and will be sold without reserve.

Second Clothing.—Planters and plantation agents are referred to the advertisement of the Louisiana Steam Clothing Manufactory, 164 and 166 Canal street, which offers to furnish well made and durable garments for all classes of plantation laborers on short notice and at reasonable prices.

The St. Charles Theatre.—This is announced as the last week of the engagement of the accomplished and versatile artiste, Mrs. Mary Gladstane. She will again appear to night in her great character of Jeannette, in the sensation drama of that name.

The Varieties Theatre.—Benefit of Viola Barrett.—The favorite, charming and withal improving young actress, will take her first benefit at the Varieties to-night. A special bill is provided for the occasion, including Romeo and Juliet, and a pleasant little comedy called a Kiss in the Dark. The fair beneficiary certainly shows an adventurous spirit in undertaking the rather critical and trying role of Juliet. But judging from what she has already done, we should say that if her courage do not desert her in executing the task, she may be expected to produce a very interesting, and perhaps brilliant impersonation of the character. She will have the powerful assistance of Laurence Barbe as Romeo.

The Academy of Music.—*Opening Night of the New Troupe.*—The first great variety entertainment of Lea's combination troupe of artists will be given to night at the Academy. A list of the whole contains the names of some of the leading members, and the remarks in that connection of the manager, Mr. Rivers, afford a general idea of the various talents combined in the company, and the character and design of their performances. The prospect is full of pleasing expectation, and well calculated to attract the amusement seeking public. A crowded house may be looked for.

By the arrival, yesterday morning, of the U. S. transport steamship Ameries, Capt. Shaw, from New York, via Key West and Tortugas, we learn that the U. S. gunboat De Soto arrived at Key West on the 8th instant, with the rebel privateer Cumberland, captured by the De Soto off Mobile on the morning of the 5th February, her destination supposed to have been Mobile, with a valuable cargo on board.

Steamer from New York.—The New York *Shipping List* of the 6th reports the following steamers as advertised to sail for New Orleans: the Matanzas on the 10th, via Havana; the Yazoo, on the 12th, direct; the George Cromwell on the 13th, direct; the Colombia on the 13th, via Havana. The Neva, as we are informed by our New York correspondent, left New York for New Orleans, direct, on the 2d inst. She is overdue.

Gen. Sherman's Advance in Mississippi.

REPORTED CAPTURE OF JACKSON, AND DEFEAT OF GEN. ADAMS, WITH LOSS OF 200 MEN.

The Era of yesterday morning, referring to a previous rumor, via Natchez, regarding recent operations of Gen. Sherman in Mississippi, says:

We have received confirmation of the report, which places the matter almost beyond question. Refugees direct from Jackson, who arrived at Fort Pike yesterday, state that the place was attacked by Gen. Sherman, who advanced from Vicksburg, and that a desperate conflict of several hours' duration ensued.

The rebels fought well, but could not long withstand the impetuosity of the Union veterans, and after sustaining very heavy loss they rapidly retreated.

The cavalry command of Wirt Adams alone lost 200 men, and the casualties of the other commands were proportionate in this.

The amount of stores, number of guns, prisoners, etc., taken by us, is not stated; as besides the fact that rebels had met a severe reverse, little could be ascertained.

Still Further Regarding the Sherman Expedition.

FEDERAL FORCES IN POSSESSION OF JACKSON AND CANTON.—THEIR REPORTED ADVANCE TO MERIDIAN.

We have information concerning the progress of the expedition organized under Gen Sherman, from a gentleman who left Vicksburg on the 12th instant.

Our informant came into Vicksburg from the interior of Mississippi, on the 11th. He states that both Jackson and Canton were then in possession of forces belonging to Gen. Sherman's army.

He was not in the close vicinity of any battle or skirmish, but the conveyance of wounded along the roads in the rear left no doubt that there had been at least some brief skirmishing in front.

He states that the entire army of General Sherman—including, he thinks, Hurlbut's, Smith's and Sherman's old corps, and numbering about 45,000 men—was combined in this movement.

Before he left Vicksburg, news had arrived that the expedition had crossed Pearl river, moving eastward; and the last report, and one confidently believed by many, was that the advance of the expedition had reached Meridian.

The prime purpose of the movement was, of course, left to conjecture. Some thought it was directed against Mobile; others that its object was to penetrate without pause towards the rear of General Joe Johnston in Georgia, in co-operation with the Chattanooga portion of General Grant's army. It seemed to be the impression at Mobile, however, that that city was aimed at, and the military authorities there had been active in preparations for defence.

From the South via Boston.

A New Englander, who left Richmond the last of January, communicates the following facts to the Boston *Journal* which vouches for the truth of his statements:

The rebel Inspector-General of Conscription is Colonel Lay, (who was General Scott's aide-de-camp) and he is at the present time located at Macon, Ga., examining the returns of clerks in the Quartermaster's, Commissary's, Surgeon-General's, Nitre and Mining, and other Departments.

Mrs John Mitchell, who had arrived in Richmond with two daughters, having been nearly captured in the blockade-runner *Vesta*, had brought out a number of copies of the Dublin *Nation* of November 7. This contained a long letter from William Smith O'Brien to General Meagher, which is to be published in every paper in the Southern States. In a long argument against the patriotic course General Meagher has pursued, and warns Irishmen from following his example by soldiering in the Union armies.

Wilmington is now the "port of entry," and trade salts of gloves reported "through the blockade" are held at auction as dry goods shoes, Mr. B. M. Wood acting as auctioneer. One of these sales was advertised to take place January 8th, comprising 325 barrels whisky, just landed per bark Carlton, to take place this day, at 12 o'clock, at 28 Common and 46 Canal street. The lot to include raw whisky of very high proof, the celebrated Chieben Cock, "Cabinet," and other favorite brands of old Bourbon; the whole selected with great care by a good judge, expressly for this market, and will be sold without reserve.

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