New Orleans Bee.

THE DAILY BEE
COMMERCIAL DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED) AT
No. 73 Chartres street,

NEW ORLEANS:
WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 6, 1864

Office 73 Chartres street,

NEW ORLEANS WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 6, 1864

Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXVI—Whole No. 13,069

Sales at Auction To-day.

By the Sheriff, at 10½ o'clock A. M., at the corner of St. Ann and Celeste streets, First District, 10 negroes.

By D. E. Murphy, at 12 o'clock, at the Stock Landing, corner Tchoupitoulas street and Louisiana Avenue, 21 mules. See his auction advertisement.

The Sheriff sells at auction this day, at 10½ o'clock A. M., at the corner of Religious and Celeste streets, First District, twenty negroes or less.

D. E. Murphy, auctioneer, sells this day, at 12 o'clock M., at the corner of Tchoupitoulas street and Louisiana avenue, 21 mules. See his auction advertisement.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. — The delegates elected to this Convention on the 30th ultimo, will meet to-day, at 12 M., in Liberty Hall, otherwise known as Lyceum Hall, contained in the City Hall building. The same hall was occupied by the Secession Convention of 1861, that body having adjourned to New Orleans after adopting the ordinance of secession at Baton Rouge.

The principal topics which will engage the consideration of the Convention about to assemble have been pretty fully indicated already. The primary question will of course be a Constitutional provision against slavery, and as all the delegates are pledged to be Free State in their views, the utmost harmony on this subject is expected. Nor is any material variance of opinion likely to be shown in regard to a basis of representation. There seems to be little doubt that representation will be apportioned according to the number of voters, and not, as heretofore, according to the total population. Thus far there appears little to indicate the agitation of stern rallying in the Convention, as the leading advocates of the measure were understood to abstain from the late canvass, and it was not regarded as an active question in the election. Consequently, it may be expected that the electoral basis will include only white voters.

The Steamship Creole, Jno. A. Thompson Commanding, will leave her wharf at 5 o'clock this morning for New York; with a full freight, the U. S. Mails, and the following passengers:

Mrs N E Sorting, Mrs R Sharp, D Tuson, Lady and child, Miss Hood, Mrs Rockwell, F Thompson, Jas F Kelly, J Pearson, G H Bee, C C Lopez, S Cohen, Jno Claypool, E Thall, T Bain, Lady and four children, F D Reed, Mrs H Bailey and Servant, Geo D Denniston, Mrs M M Smith and three children, Mrs S Gurney, Mrs Shepard, M Thompson, Lady, child and servant, Geo Cranage, J O Lee, J Blank and Lady, and 32 in the Steerage.

Circular from the Commission of Inquiry into the Condition of the Moneyed Institutions of New Orleans.

The following circular, which has been served upon all our city banks except the National, and to which reference has already been made in these columns, was omitted from our monetary report yesterday, and we publish it to-day as matter of financial record for future reference:

Office of the Financial Commission
of New Orleans, No. 164 (Granite) street,
New Orleans, March 30, 1864

To the President and Directors of

Gentlemen—By virtue of a special order issued by Major-Gen. N. P. Banks, commanding the Department of the Gulf, the undersigned are appointed a commission to inquire into and report upon the condition of the several corporations in the city of New Orleans.

We hereby require of you, without delay, a true and exact classified statement, duly verified of the affairs of your institution in the following particulars:

1st. A copy of your charter and all acts supplementary to the same.

2d. Your present actual capital. This inquiry is meant to include all property of every description owned by your institution, whether directly or as collateral, and a full enumeration of your assets.

3d. The liabilities of your corporation of all description. This inquiry is meant to include all notes issued for circulation, all bonds, and all absolute or contingent liabilities.

4th. Whether, and to what extent, the sequestered Confederate property, or any of its agents, has deposited with or received, or drawn from your institution any money, currency, bullion, evidences of debt or valuables of any kind. This question includes the whole time embraced by the present rebellion, and, in answer, you are required to give dates, amounts, names of all parties, and all particulars.

5th. The amount of stock owned by each director, the amount of indebtedness owed by each director whether directly, as surety, or indorser.

6th. An exact and full statement of the situation and character of the business on the first days of January, 1861, 1862, 1863, and 1864, and on the day when you shall render the statement. Your answer to this question must present all the facts tending to show the kind of business, the character of the persons with whom it was transacted, and your solvency at each of these dates, and with reference to the last a full and detailed statement of every pending transaction.

7th. A complete list of all the officers and stockholders of your institution on January 1, 1861, to the present time, giving a complete list of the officers and stockholders who are or have been residing within the Confederate States.

8th. A detailed statement of all expenditures during the last three months, and during the corresponding three months of the past three years.

9th. A general statement of all losses and gains of your institution during the past three years, and the causes from which they arose.

10th. All contributions by your institution made to the Government of the United States, the so-called Confederate Government, or any of the separate States heretofore claiming to be independent, among the United or seceded States. This question is designed to include all contributions, whether by tax, assessment, gift or loan, direct or indirect.

It is further ordered that the above statement be furnished with all convenient speed, and be so classified as to be fully understood, and that your transfer books be this day closed, and that no transfer of stocks, nor disposition of any of the assets of the Bank be made after the receipt of this notification and authorized by the commission.

You are requested to acknowledge in writing the receipt of this communication.

Very respectfully,

L. O. WILSON,
CHAS. W. HOUSTON,
Asst. Qr. Ms. Genls.

Another Work on the River near Memphis.—The Memphis *Argus* of the 31st ult., informs the readers by guerrillas, about 90 miles below Memphis, of the useless trading steamer Ocmulgee. Her owner, Captain John McDonald, having stopped at the town of Austin and transacted some business, was about to return to the steamer in a yawl when the yawl was captured by guerrillas, who with it boarded the steamer, cut her cable, and wrecked her on the shore. The *Argus* says:

The act of pillage at once began, and ended only when there was nothing else to take away. When they had thoroughly sacked her, they set fire to the firebrand and left by the light of the burning boat. The Columbia was a young lady of 170 tonnage, and was valued at about $40,000. She was, of course, there was no insurance.

The [illegible] of the same date says:

Mr. [illegible], the Government aid on this [illegible] of the destruction of which [illegible] we give elsewhere, did not escape [illegible], with the cash box, but was [illegible] by guerrillas, who took from him [illegible], the last from his head, and [illegible] him Mr Gallagher [illegible] was no necessary [illegible] their principal [illegible] A deck hand, named Baker, [illegible] shore it reached the bank, and [illegible] top board of that stove, it is [illegible]

Additional by the Steamer J. C. Swan.

THE WAR ALONG THE RIVER.

The Memphis *Bulletin* of the 31st ult. says:

The steamer Dexter arrived last night from St. Louis; she left Cairo at 4 o'clock on Tuesday evening. There had been considerable excitement there, and fears of an attack. The news we publish this morning of Forrest's retreat to the Cumberland shows that the anxiety was groundless. No further intelligence had been received at Paducah. The officers of the Dexter were warned to keep a sharp lookout at Hickman, but the place was passed without interruption. It is believed some guerrillas landed at that neighborhood. A re-enlisting party had been out back from Columbus, but a somewhat extended tour failed to discover an enemy. A New Madrid all was quiet, excepting some extraordinary movements that seemed to indicate to anxious persons in that quarter. Something of an affair at Fedar-h, the population all around the neighborhood has naturally been in a state of excitement. That no large force was there assembled the country would do something to reassure for the fugitives defeat at Fulton. Everything was reported quiet, where the blow would have been felt.

The *Bulletin* learns the following by the arrival of the Tycoon:

On passing Island 80, a considerable number of rebels were seen on the Missouri side, running to camp fires, but whether of guerrillas or not did not be ascertained; it is certain they were not the New Madrid all was reported. Gen. Brayman was at Columbus; he was understanding in arranging everything for defense. Forrest is closely watched by the Federal troops, and by citizens, and they will promptly receive information of a movement on his part. But further efforts will be made by the rebels and enlisted rebels to come into certain. Where the next blow will fall remains to be seen—some sharp strategy and desperate efforts may be expected shortly.

The Attack Upon Paducah.

[FURTHER PARTICULARS.]

Cairo, March 26—The Paducah force in the field, under Colonel Hicks, engaged with Forrest's numbered 600 men, composed as follows:

First Battalion Hicks's Kentucky, 300 men, new recruits, under Major Smith; three companies of Hicks' Regt., 60 each; Twenty-second Illinois, 200 men, under Major Chesney, and part of the First Kentucky heavy artillery (colored), under Lieut. Cunningham, Brigadier-General Beltridge, in charge of the Forces.

The rebel Brigadier-General Morris was also there. He is a son of Governor Harris, of Tennessee. The rebel Brigadier General A. P. Thompson, who was killed, was a prominent lawyer of Paducah before the war.

The Fresco and Parrow, rebel steamboats, were also participating in the late battle at Paducah. They passed five simultaneously with

[FROM OUR EVENING EDITION OF YESTERDAY.]

Dramatic.

It could be safely said that Miss Matilda Heron was really the first actress who succeeded in naturalizing the play of Camille upon the American stage. And it is not too much to add that the Camille of no other on this side the Atlantic has yet approached hers in graphic force, quaintness of color, and pathetic power.

It is needless to revert to the moral question of the presentability of a drama whose heroine is drawn from the precincts of the *demi monde*. We will only remark that, as regards obnoxious scenes and associations, there is not a bit more to offend propriety in Camille than in Marble Heart, against which no moral outcry was raised. The two, indeed, were pro exactly intended as sketches of character from the same class of persons.

In Camille, Dumas, Jr., wished to excite sympathy by holding up to view the highest type of the *demi monde*. On the other hand, the actors of Marble Heart produced that drama as an offset to the previous play of young Dumas, and in Marco endeavored to inspire horror and detestation for all the women of her class.

They are extreme pictures—one giving the angelic, the other the satanic phase of women whose steps have deviated from the severe path of virtue—and while neither is beyond the possibility of truth, both would no lead it regarded as expressions of the whole truth.

As to Miss Heron's personation of Camille, it would be tame and commonplace to call it acting. She is, to all appearance, the very Camille of real life. All stage conventionality vanishes from the warm, electric atmosphere in which she moves. The quotes of passion, the silent agonies, are unlike any conception suggested by the word theatrical. And yet in her voice—full of tears as it often is, not less than her eyes—and in her whole delivery and action, while she seems to be living the character instead of acting it, we behold a splendid illustration of the old maxim that the consummation of art is to conceal art.

Miss Heron justified last night at the St. Charles our previous remark that she was, *par excellence*, the Camille of the American stage. She appeared before a crowded house, which witnessed her performance with profound interest throughout, and was overpoweringly affected, in particular, by the death scene.

Mr. Chaplain, it is just to say, did exceedingly well as Armand. He was much less cold and stagy than usual, and showed a capacity which he should by all means try to develop still more fully.

Lawrence Barrett's Benefit.—The theatre going public generally, and Mr. Barrett's personal friends particularly, lauded that young artist with honors at his complimentary benefit last night. The house was overflowing, the plaudits frequent and genial, and besides the abundant receipts at the box, splendid gold watches and gold-headed canes were presented to the beneficiary showed how thoroughly, as an artist and a gentleman, he had won the good opinion of our public.

Occupation of Matamoros by the French.

We are permitted to make the subjoined extract from a letter just received in this city from Brownsville, Texas:

All communication with the interior is for the present interrupted. Two regiments of French troops arrived yesterday at Matamoros. I will give full particulars in a few days.

Another Fight Up Red River.

[Special Telegraphic Dispatch to the N. O. Times.]

Baton Rouge, April 4—9 P. M.—Some pickets who have just come in from the other side report another fight on Red river.

It seems that soon after our troops left Alexandria, a large rebel force, commanded by Dick Taylor, attacked our fortifications, but were gallantly opposed by the Thirty-eighth, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth and One Hundred and Twenty sixth New York Infantry, all commanded by Col. Smith, of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth New York.

The Eastern boys displayed courage and fought bravely for several long hours, with a considerable loss in killed and wounded.

The enemy's loss is considerable.

No more facts have arrived. AMERICUS.

Additional from Mexico.

The *Era* gives the following as additional to the previous news by the transport Mary:

The fight at Monterey was with the traitors under Vidaurri instead of the French, and resulted in a victory for the Liberals under Corbajar. On Wednesday he fires a salute in honor of his success was fired at Mata moros.

Ten thousand bales of cotton had been ferried over the Rio Grande at Eagle Pass within the past month, and was soon to be hauled down the Mexican side of the river for shipment at Matamoros.

On Wednesday evening last boats' crews from the French war vessels were taking soundings off the bar, at the mouth of the Rio Grande, as though they intended attempting a landing. Two brigades and a small rig boat comprised the naval force.

Cortinas returned to Matamoros on Tuesday last, and expressed his detestation of defending Matamoros to the last extremity. A force had been sent by him to Bagdad to oppose any demonstration the French might make in the way of landing, and defenses or works are to be thrown up. Bagdad is a small town at the mouth of the Rio Grande.

Later via the River.

The War in Georgia and Virginia

GOLD 160¾.

The *Times* of this morning had, exclusively, by the steamer J. C. Swan, St. Louis and Memphis papers respectively of the 29th and 31st ultimo, containing among the rest the following items:

Cincinnati, March 28.—N. W. Thomas, a prominent merchant, died yesterday.

The *Commercial's* Chattanooga dispatch says the rebels are very strong to-day in front at Dalton, with 30000 cavalry the side.

Deserters report Bishop Polk reinforcing Johnston's army.

Longstreet's cavalry, under General Martin, had arrived at Marietta, Georgia.

Numerous deserters still coming in.

The rebels are moving up their artillery from the rear.

The army is in splendid condition.

Washington, March 28.—General Grant, General Ingalls, and a few staff officers, spent Sunday at the War Department.

The rebel vessels are to be dealt from service, appalling seamen, the War Department but allowing the transfer from the army to the navy of the thousands of seamen who have made application.

Very few officers are now in Washington, all having been imperatively ordered to the front.

It is stated the decision in the quicksilver mining case will not be delivered until next week.

New York, March 28.—E. A. Pollard writes to the *Times* that the rebel General Stuart had recently made an extensive arrangement for the destruction of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, but his plans have been frustrated by the promptness of our cavalry under Gen. Pleasanton.

New York Markets.

New York, March 28.—Stocks better. Gold 160¾. Money and Exchange unchanged. U. S. 5-20 81, registered, 112¾; coupons, 113; 6-20s, registered, 110¾; coupons 109¾. 7-30s 113, certificates 99¾.

Cotton steady at 75c.

Flour steady at $6 95 to 7 05 for extra State $7 25 to $7 40 for round hoop Ohio.

Pork firm—$22 50 for mess. Lard 13¾ to 13¾c.

Whisky quiet. Western held at $1, $1 02½ offered.

Petroleum firm at 32½ for crude; 50 to 51c. for refined in bond, and 59 to 61c. free.

Smith O'Brien on the Fenian Brotherhood.

Mr. Smith O'Brien has written a letter to the Dublin *Morning News*, declining to preside as chairman at a lecture. "The uproar and strife, he says," which took place at the Rotunda meeting have brought disgrace on the Nationalists of Ireland." He utterly despairs of any advancement of the cause of the country, when he finds that even in the Irish metropolis men who call themselves patriots demean themselves like a "mob of ruffians," and exult in the disorder they create.

Last, however, his expressions should be considered too strong, he qualifies them thus: "Believing that there are to be found, among the Fenians, many enthusiastic young men who are animated by noble impulses, and who are sincerely desirous to serve Ireland, I earnestly advise such men, even as I exhorted them in 1858, and at successive intervals, to abandon an organization which has, during the last five years, obstructed all the other national movements, and which has brought disgrace upon those who would otherwise have been proud to call themselves "Nationalists."

[From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, March 28.]

The Rebel Navy Report.

It was charged by Mr. Maury in London, that the report of the rebel Secretary of the Navy, as published in the papers at the North, was a forgery. We see by the papers of this city, lately said that the Secretary himself has declared that *Sue* has not denied. The *News* now publishes a letter signed by Secretary Mallory, and addressed to the rebel Secretary of State, in which he says:

I have the honor to hand you herewith a paper, purporting to be an official report made by me to the Hon. Mr. Boocok, speaker of the House of Representatives. This paper forgery, is wholly circulated and presented Government, is in England and France, originated in the United States, and bears intrinsic evidence of having been concocted by persons having access to the Navy Department of the enemy. The main purpose of it seems to be to present the Government of the Confederate States as engaged in building iron clads and other ships in England and France, and as it may possibly be regarded as authentic by foreign Governments, I deem it proper to apprise you that it is, upon be pointing to end, a forgery.

There is surely enough to condemn in the rebel Confederacy, without a resort to manufactured accusations, and the worst of this is that while the forged report has done no no nor will be abused, the reaction caused by its exposure will do us great harm. Feeble confidence has been seldom down in the most wanton manner.

The London Times Printing Office.

A correspondent of the *Evangelist* has paid a visit to Printing House Square, and passed through the various offices of the London *Times*, excepting the "Lion's den," which no one is permitted to enter, or have communication with unless by writing. This is the office of the Editor in Chief. The writer says:

At the right hand of the square is the office for advertisements, looking like a busy and well-conducted post-office advertising of the *Times* is immense. Everything about the *Times* office is done with the utmost system and economy—there is a place for everything, and everything is in its place. There is a perfect division of labor, and a place for each division. You enter a long room on the first floor where the *forms* are worked by stereotyping; for when the exemption of a single page, left open till the last moment for the latest intelligence, every part of the paper is stereotyped before it goes to press. A part of this room, as well as one of the same size above it, is used by the compositors, there are always at work, day and night, having forces of fifty men.

In another room were two telegraphic apparatuses—one communicating with the office of Reuter, the King of telegraphs, the other with the Houses of Parliament. What sounds from Louis Napoleon or Palmerston's brain, is here almost as soon as it is there. The department of proof-readers is prominent and complete. Every word and point must be correct, or there is a fearful storm brewing. The stereotyping was to, me the, point of most interest. To set up a single page of the *Times* takes six men about an hour, and there are sixteen pages. From the moment the "form" is finished until it is reproduced in stereotype is exactly twenty-five minutes. Another is whirled to the press, and three men quickly follow. In stereotyping, tissue paper is laid on the types, and over that asbestos; the whole is then placed in a box, and the melted lead is poured on it, and the work is done. Sixteen thus obtained is inclosed in a mould, the metal is poured on it, and the work is done. Sixteen pages of paper are consumed each day. From the *Times* office, 130,000 sheets are sent forth daily.

I have not time to speak of the luxury of the reporters' room, of the library or the multitude of things, curious and useful, that were shown to me.

"And now," said I, when the gentlemanly conductor had taken me through the establishment, "can you let me see Jupiter, the lion? He is, I am told, very tame, and very much invisible. He is to be communicated with only by writing."

"Jupiter is dead," was the reply.

American Enlistments in Germany.

(From the Liverpool *Mercury*, March 8.)

In yesterday's *Mercury* we mentioned the arrival of one hundred and forty Germans at this port from Berlin, which, we stated, had been engaged by Federal agents to proceed to America for the purpose of joining the Northern army. These men were that they came there under an agreement by the Federal Government to the extent of twenty-five dollars per man, and also to the extent of twenty-five dollars per man, and also to the extent of twenty-five dollars per man, and also