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NEW ORLEANS:
SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 9, 1861.


## SUBSCRIPTIONS BY THE WEEK.

The carriers of the BEE are authorized to receive subscriptions to our paper, at the rate of 25 cents a week, payable in all cases to the carriers themselves.

## Sales at Auction To-Day.

By E. Roper & Co., at 10 o'clock, at No. 45 and 47 Old Levee street, boots, shoes and hosiery.

By Chas. E. Ford, at 10½ o'clock, in front of the St. Louis Exchange, a pair of family horses; also, at 12 o'clock, at the St. Louis Exchange, a creole mulatto boy.

By Vincent & Co., at 10 o'clock, at No. 28 Customhouse street, French organdies, jaconets, flounced robes, &c.

By D. E. Murphy, at 10 o'clock, at No. 47 Magazine street, tobacco, liquors, wines, &c.; also, at 11½ o'clock, (up stairs) crockery, in packages and lots for the buyers.

By S. W. Lous, at 12 o'clock, at the St. Louis Exchange a creole woman, washer and ironer, together with other valuable servants.

By M. Vigne, at 12 o'clock, at the St. Louis Exchange, a desirable residence in Dumaine street.

By N. Vigne, at the St. Louis Hotel, a lot of ground fronting on Dumaine street, between Dauphin and Bienville streets, with buildings; two lots of ground in the Third District, situate on Bayou St. John; a negro man, aged 29 years, retailer of Pierre Lorsandot.

## WHAT MAY HAPPEN.

Those who, as well in the North as in the South, expected the inaugural address of Mr. LINCOLN plainly and unmistakably to decide the question of peace or war, have reason to be disappointed. Not that the close observer finds much difficulty in plucking out the heart of this mystery, and in beholding the spirit of hostility gleaming forth from an involved and tortuous phraseology, and from passages of equivocal significance, but because a frank and open declaration had been generally anticipated. In stead of this the President of the United States announces a warlike policy, while protesting his desire to preserve peace and avoid bloodshed. In a quarrel with a foreign nation the commencement of hostilities is invariably preceded by a declaration of war, but as LINCOLN refuses to recognize the existence of a Southern Confederacy, he may secretly carry out his preparations for assault on a given point, without holding himself bound to inform the Government at Montgomery, or that of the State against which the first attack is to be directed. Such is the advantage of an inaugural of doubtful construction, and of a determination to ignore the dissolution of the Union.

There is every reason to believe that the Commissioners of the Confederate States will be unable to obtain an interview with the President, and will return home without accomplishing their mission. This would assuredly bring about a prompt solution of this question for if LINCOLN declines responding to the demand for the surrender of the forts occupied by Federal troops in the Southern States, President DAVIS will probably issue immediate orders for attacking Fort Sumter, and thus beginning the work of ridding the Southern Confederacy of every vestige of foreign occupation. It is well understood that the necessary measures towards the accomplishment of this object have been already taken. Fort Moultrie and the batteries on Morris Island have been placed in a position effectually to resist Major ANDERSON'S guns. A formidable floating battery, protected by an immensely thick casing of iron, and armed with ordnance of heavy calibre, will anchor some six hundred yards from the nearest side of the fort, and thus will the stronghold of the United States be exposed to a breaching fire from three different directions at once. General BEAUREGARD is doubtless by this time at Charleston, where his military skill and science will be required to superintend operations. Still a possibility of averting bloodshed may be said to exist. It is in Major ANDERSON'S power to secure so desirable a consummation He has only to yield to the irresistible influence of circumstances, to abandon the idea of prolonging a vain resistance which will not change the final result, but will expose to certain destruction the handful of soldiers under his command. We do not question for an instant this officer's courage, devotion, and habits of obedience to superior authority; but we give him credit for the endowment of common sense By using this faculty he will not fail to comprehend the position of affairs. It will not be South Carolina that summons him to surrender Fort Sumter, but an organized Government of seven confederated States—a Government whose authority is acknowledged and respected throughout the vast domain subject to its jurisdiction Major ANDERSON is a Virginian, and as such cannot but be imbued with that respect for popular sovereignty which underlies the Southern character We may, therefore, cherish the hope that he will decline becoming the instrument of the sanguinary projects of a Black Republican President, and will prefer resigning his commission, or capitulating to a superior force, rather than sully his name by sanctioning a bootless act of carnage. It would be indeed deplorable if at the time when Virginia is about to unite with her sisters of the South, one of her sons should reply to their unbroken bulls and bears of the demands of the only legitimate power in the country in which stands that fortress which was erected to protect, and not to threaten or to injure Charleston.

If Fort Sumter should be surrendered, Mr. LINCOLN would be reduced to the alternative either of ordering the evacuation of all the forts in the Southern Confederacy occupied by Federal troops, or of regularly making war upon us. It is impossible to devine which of the two he would select The attempt at coercion would detach not only Virginia from the Union, but, in all probability, the other States of the South, and the grave question would rise whether the Black Republican Administration would deem it expedient to endeavor to subjugate twelve or fourteen States, and whether it possesses the means of carrying its belligerent intentions into execution We have small doubt of the wishes of the President, but many misgivings of his ability. War is a costly pastime, and a beggar ed exchequer and a drooping credit cannot with all due liberality, be considered precisely as favorable to the royal game.

The evening papers publish the following dispatch received yesterday from Col. Seymour, of the *Commercial Bulletin*.

MONTGOMERY, March 8th, 1861.—Collector Hatch and Deputy Walden have succeeded in adjusting the present difficulties, in regulations of the Treasury Department, so as to avoid any prejudice to the steamboat interest. There will be the least possible delay to river trade and navigation All credit is due to these two officers.

I. G. S.

The steamship Habana, Capt. J. B. McConnell, sails at 3 o'clock this morning for Havana, with the following passengers:

A Garcia, 2 in steer, F. P. King, J. King, E. Rolos, C. de Monsalvo, Miss Keller, Mrs. Farrell and three children, Mrs. Moralles and child, Mrs. F. Rose and daughter, Mr. Balboa and friend, Messrs S Garriga, J. Garcia, Morales, Haley, W. Elliott, E. Goubeau, A. Anglada, Grey, A. Rainaud, J. R.

OPERA HOUSE.—This evening the delicious opera of "The Pardon of Ploermel" will be performed for the third time. We look for a crowded house.

Since the secession of South Carolina one hundred and thirty resignations have been officially received from the army and navy.

SANGUINARY MOCK SOLDIERING.—The New York (N. Y.) *Mercury* says that during the celebration of Washington, Birthday at Easton by the military, some of them became excited, rushed at one another fiercely, and the officers with difficulty restrained them from giving a really bloody turn to matters. Several swords were broken in the fight, and from twelve to fifteen of the men received bayonet wounds about the arms, face, hands and face before the companies could be separated. Finally quiet and good feeling were restored, when all who were engaged in the affair declared that they were actuated by no ill feeling or any thing of the kind, but that they became excited and completely lost all control over themselves.

SOUTHERN NAVY.—Among the subjects which will engage the early attention of the Southern Confederacy is the establishment of a navy. It is fortunate for them that in making this start, they have before them the matured experience of the world as to the best mode of construction, equipment, and armament of ships of war. Great Britain has been put to enormous expense in changing her sailing vessels to steam vessels, and next, in adopting a defensive armor for ships which the inventive genius of Louis Napoleon has just accomplished, and which will be copied by Great Britain of the same size not provided with similar armor. Let the new Confederacy begin right at the beginning.

Experience has proved that no ship, or squadron of ships, is a match for a fleet unless it is protected by the new defense of iron plates, and that, with these, vessels can silence fortifications. An iron plated frigate like the French Gloire, or the English Warrior, would cost, it is true, some what more than a frigate of the same class unprovided with armor, but then it would be more than equal to the largest squad ron the United States ever had in the Gulf. One or two of these iron-plated frigates, and a few iron gunboats, ought to be built by the Confederate Government as soon as possible.—*Richmond Dispatch*

THE VULNERABLE NORTH.—In case Lincoln and his Administration choose war with the South, one of the first steps in Southern enterprise will be the issuing of letters of marque to whoever works that have been copy righted by Northern men. From this source alone an immense profit has been annually drawn from the Southern people. In addition to this, would be the establishment of works for the manufacture of Northern patented articles. A sewing machine for which the Northern patentee receives fifty dollars can be made here for ten. The Southerner can sell for twenty five dollars and realize an immense profit. So with Colt's pistols or rifles, or agricultural implements, and a thousand other articles, that I do not remember at present. No limit could be set to the demand as nothing compared with the coming up of Northern commerce by privateers. The Southern people can stay at home under the eyes of the North. They now stand on the defensive. They await an invasion. But when it commences they will strike the North in every vulnerable point.—*Marietta (Ga.) Advocate.*

The foregoing suggestions are worthy of public consideration.


# The New Orleans Bee.

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## BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

### Additional Foreign News by the Steamship Bremen at New York—The English Income Tax—Opening of the Italian Parliament.

NEW YORK, March 8.—The steamer Bremen, which arrived at this port yesterday, from Southampton the 20th ult., brings the following additional intelligence:

In the British Parliament the income tax was carried against the Government.

The Russian proclamation providing for the emancipation of the serfs would be made on the 3d of March.

Fresh disturbances had again sprung up against the Syrian Christians.

### Important from Missouri—Resolutions in the Convention.

St. Louis, March 8.—Among the resolutions submitted to the Convention yesterday was one for the appointment of a committee to confer with the border States concerning the best means of keeping the Western States in the Union, declaring secession a political heresy, that there is no excuse for coercion, and Missouri will not furnish men and arms for that purpose; that the Federal Government by reprieving the Cotton States, has invited them to surrender the custom houses and other offices in the seceding States to those States, and that a National Convention be called on the basis of the Crittenden resolutions.

### Louisiana Legislature.

Baton Rouge, March 8.—In the House Mr. Allen, of the Special Committee, reported unfavorably upon the claim of Patrick Kennedy referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Beyer introduced an act to amend an act providing for the administration of the government in New Orleans.

The act creating a portion of the Parish of Carroll into a levee district passed.

Mr Allen introduced an act to regulate the furnishing of stationery to the Legislature by only allowing ten dollars' worth to each member Passed.

The resolution to pay the contractor the balance of the appropriation to finish the levee in the Parish of Plaquemine was, after some debate, lost.

The act to incorporate the Clinton Female Seminary passed.

The act providing a mode for cancelling the bonds of executors, administrators, &c., passed, also the act reapproprating $10,000 for building a levee on the right bank of Red river.

The act relative to the juries in the Parish of St. Landry caused an excited discussion among the members of that parish. The bill finally passed.

The bill to define the line between the Parishes if Claiborne and Morehouse passed.

The bill to reduce the *per centum* of the school fund to five dollars on each child passed.

The Senate bill ordering a thousand copies of the school laws to be published for distribution in each school district was concurred in.

Mr. Adams introduced an act that the Master Wardens of New Orleans be allowed the exclusive right to survey the damaged wares delivered from sea, entitling their sale at auction, and fixing a penalty for infringement. Passed.

The report of the Board of Health and their expenses for 1860 was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The act to allow the Police Jury in the parish of Livingston the right to levy a special tax for road purposes.

The Financial Committee report favorably on the appropriation of $5,000 for the relief of the Mechanics Society of New Orleans. Laid over one day.

An act providing for the authentication of legal records and documents was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Martin introduced an act for the relief of the volunteer and regular soldiers of Louisiana. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

In the Senate, Mr. Patterson introduced an act relative to the Levee in the city of New Orleans. Referred to the city delegation.

The same member also introduced an act relative to the Harbor Masters of the port of New Orleans.

Mr. Solomon offered an act for the relief of Armand Guyol Referred to the Finance Committee; also an act relative to the Medical University, which was referred.

The same member, on behalf of the Finance Committee, reported a memorial from the Senate's Home in New Orleans, which was favorably recommended to the favorable consideration of the next Legislature

The bills relative to the management of the Charity Hospital and other institutions were made the order of the day for Wednesday.

### WASHINGTON ITEMS.

#### President Lincoln for Peace.

Washington, March 8—President Lincoln last night, in responding to a Southern gentleman, said his inaugural meant peace

#### The Southern Confederacy Commissioners.

The Southern Confederacy Commissioners dined with Senator Wigfall yesterday. In conference this morning they agreed to postpone a few days their communication to President Lincoln, till Mr. Seward has an opportunity to develop his policy towards the seceding States. Senator Wigfall urges immediate action, so as to allow President Davis to capture Forts Sumter and Pickens before reinforcements could reach them.

#### The Mexican and Spanish Missions.

It is generally understood that Hon. Cassius M. Clay will receive the appointment of United States Minister to Mexico.

Senator Johnson, of Tennessee, is strongly urged for the Spanish mission.

#### The United States Army.

The army interests oppose the promotion of Major Anderson from the position he now holds to the rank of brigadier General. Several of facial removals have been made.

#### River Intelligence.

Louisville, March 8.—The Ohio river at this point continues to swell this evening, with 8 feet 9 inches water in the canal.

#### The Law of Evidence.

We are indebted to the Hon J. B. Leefe, of the Louisiana Legislature, for a copy of the annexed important bill, which passed the Senate on the 5th instant. We believe it was pre sented by Hon. Randall Hunt:

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE LAW OF EVIDENCE.

Whereas the inquiry after truth in courts of justice is often obstructed by incapacities created by the present law of evidence, and whereas it is desirable that full information as to the facts in issue, both in criminal and in civil cases, should be laid before the persons appointed to decide upon them, and that such person should exercise their judgment on the credit of the witnesses adduced, and on the truth of their testimony:

SEC. 1.—Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened. No person shall be incompetent as a witness because of his or her conviction of crime, or his or her interest in the issue or question before any court or officer authorized to administer oaths.

SEC. 2.—Be it further enacted, &c., Nothing herein shall render any person, who in any criminal proceeding is charged with the commission of any offense against law, competent or compellable to give evidence for or against himself or herself, or shall render any person compellable to answer any question tending to criminate himself or herself.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, &c., Parties shall be competent and compellable to testify on behalf of themselves or of others, in any suit or other proceeding pending in a court, or before any person authorized to administer oaths. And the husband or wife of the party to any suit shall, except as hereinafter excepted, be competent and compellable to testify on behalf of any party to the suit or other proceedings.

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, &c., Nothing herein shall render any husband competent or compellable to give evidence for or against his wife, or any wife competent or compellable to give evidence for or against her husband, in any criminal proceeding, or in any proceeding instituted in consequence of adultery.

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, &c., No husband shall be competent or compellable to disclose any communication made to him by his wife during the marriage, and no wife shall be competent or compellable to disclose any communication made to her by her husband during the marriage.

SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, &c., Accredited ambassadors shall be severally competent witnesses for or against each other, in all suits or proceedings, civil or criminal.

### EFFECTS OF THE SECESSION REVOLUTION ON THE TRADE OF THE NORTHERN CITIES.

When it was predicted that the Southern revolution, now in and career, would have a disastrous effect on the trade of the North, many of the publican journals ridiculed the idea. We are, nevertheless, beginning to realize the fact, and if, as it appears from the indicated policy of the incoming Administration, the Union are to be united into with the seceding States, we are likely to go on for years suffering more and more from its influence. As an evidence of the disastrous effects it has already produced, we need only point to the falling off which has been occasioned by it in the business of our large hotels. In one instance the proprietor of these that last few of them are paying their expenses. In Philadelphia, the Girard House, one of the finest houses in the country, was compelled to close its doors the other day, and another large hotel in the same city is about to follow its example. In New York, the Albemarle Hotel, which two years since could not be bought for $250,000, has just been sold under the hammer by the Sheriff for $147,000. The large hotels at Saratoga, Newport, and other fashionable watering places, will, as the cold wind up the summer season in the same way, for it is not to be expected that they will make their expenses when the city establishments are going to ruin. On Fifth avenue property and real estate generally the influence of the existing state of things will be equally disastrous He will be a fortunate house or lot owner who will realize fifty per cent on this year's valuation of his property should the new Administration attempt to carry out its projects of coercion against the South.—*N. Y. Herald.*

NORTH CAROLINA.—The Wilmington *Daily Journal* says:

We presume from the indications which have been received so far, that the State will go for a Southern Confederacy. It is true we have a large opposition vote in some of the central counties, but we think the West will be all right, and the East goes so overwhelmingly for Convention that we hardly see how it can be defeated.

The election and its excitements are over for the present, as we have already remarked, but they are not closed. If we are to have a Convention, it will be difficult to tell exactly its composition, there are so many contingent secessionists or contingent Unionists, that there are so many circumstances upon which the action may be contingent, that even after the Convention has assembled, there will be no certainty of its being of any particular distinctive character or decide upon its position with reference to Union or secession, and even after the Convention has acted, which it will probably do promptly, there will be room for still action or the ordinance it may pass will have to be advertised for something like a month—then a popular vote taken on them and the result of that vote announced by the Governor of the State. It will be hard to tell where we stand before the first of June, even if it can be done then, and in the meantime the public mind will be kept in a state of suspense and irritation, which we would gladly see dispensed with.

### LOUISIANA CONVENTION.

NEW ORLEANS, Friday, March 8.

The Convention assembled at noon, 72 members present at roll call, and President Mouton in the chair.

Mr. Gardère, of Jefferson, presented a claim of Mr. Connell for square block paving on the streets in front of the new Custom-House, which, on his motion, was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Marks, of Caddo, presented the following resolutions, which he desired to have referred to the Committee on State Constitution:

Resolved, That article 63 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be so altered and amended as to read thus: The Supreme Court shall be composed of one Chief Justice and four Associate Justices, any three of whom shall constitute a quorum. The Chief Justice shall receive a salary of $4000 per annum, and each of the Associate Judges a salary of $3700 per annum. The Court shall appoint its own clerks. The Judges shall be appointed by the Governor during good behavior.

Resolved, That article 81 of the State Constitution be so altered and amended as to read thus: The Chief Justice shall be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Legislature shall divide the State into four districts, and the Governor shall appoint one Associate Justice from each of the said districts. That articles 65 and 66 be, and are hereby, repealed.

Resolved, That article 67 of the State Constitution be so altered and amended as to read: Any vacancy that may occur in the Supreme Court, from resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by appointment of the Governor.

Mr. Olivier, of St. Mary, objected to its reference to the Committee on Constitution, and thought it better to appeal directly to the Convention, as the question had already been before the committee, and its members were unable to decide. Mr. Marks then moved to refer it to the Judiciary Committee, to which Mr. Olivier also objected on the same ground. Mr. Marks persisted in his latter motion of reference, which was supported by Mr. Eiges. Mr. Bozier, of Orleans, suggested to add to the motion that the committee be instructed to report on Monday. Mr. Bouford, of Orleans, was satisfied the committee would not have time. Mr. Wiltz, of Orleans, moved to lay the whole subject on the table, which was lost by a vote of 40 ayes to 57 nays. Mr. Marks then added to his motion of reference to have the resolutions printed for the use of the Convention, and the motion, in this form, was carried.

Mr. Eiges, of Rapides, moved to instruct the President of the Convention to telegraph to the Secretary of Treasury not to draw on the bullion fund until further advice, as he had been informed by Mr. A. J. Ginrot, State Depository, that this fund was in bullion and could not be converted into coin for sixty or ninety days Mr. Hodge, of Caddo, was opposed to it, as there would be trouble about that. Any bank in the city would cash checks of the Treasury Department on the State Depository. Mr Hodge's motion to lay the resolution of Mr. Eiges on the table was carried.

The time having arrived for taking up the order of the day, the following resolution, emanating from Mr. Lewis, of Claiborne, was then read:

Resolved, That this Convention approves the action of the Montgomery Convention in relation to the slave trade, and will not, under any circumstances, consent that the African slave trade be reopened.

In supporting it, Mr. Lewis said he wanted to obtain a fair, full and free expression of opinion on this subject by members of the Convention.

Mr Estlin, of Orleans, moved to strike out the words "and will not, under any circumstances, consent that the African slave trade be reopened." Mr. Marks, of Caddo, moved to amend Mr. Estlin's motion, by striking out all after the words "Montgomery Convention." He then moved the introduction of this resolution gratuitous and unnecessary. There was no reason to suspect any member of favoring the reopening of the slave trade, and the Convention was not called to gratify gentlemen by giving them a public opportunity to express their individual opinions Many members, himself for instance, had no views on the subject, and were not elected to act on it. The time of their sessions was too short, and hence it would be embarrassing to them to be called upon to vote

Mr. Elam, of De Soto, could not vote to approve the entire action of the Montgomery Convention. He thought their action in regard to the slave trade wrong, as it was purely a matter of State policy, and should not have been acted upon by them.

Mr. Lewis rejoined that members ought to be free to express their views on every subject in regard to the principles of the new government. He was ready to place himself on the record in regard to every topic, and had the Provisional Government delayed so long in taking and direct taxation it would have met his unqualified approval.

Mr. Elgee, of Rapides, "arose in the most solemn spirit to express his views upon the troubled waters." Although he was personally in favor of the original resolution, he thought the discussion injudicious, and offered as a substitute a resolution declaring it to be inexpedient at the present time to express any opinion on the proceedings of the Convention at Montgomery

The amendments of Messrs Estlin and Walker, of Orleans, being withdrawn in favor of this substitute, Mr. Marks, of Orleans, moved to lay it on the table, which was lost by a vote of 45 to 51, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson, Bermudez, Bush, Conner, of Concordia, Conner, of St Tammany, Davidson, of Sabine, De Blanc, Dorsey, Duffel, Farnn, Gardere, Garrett, Gaudet, Gayarre, Griffin, Hodge, Hollingsworth, Kuhl, Labatut, Lewis, of Claiborne, Manning, Marks, of Orleans, Martin, of Assumption, Miller, Morris, Patterson, Pemberton, Pike, Pope, Polk, Richardson, Smart, Sompayrac, Scott, of Claiborne, Scott, of East Feliciana, Stocker, Tappan, Taliaferro, Thomasson, Warren.

Nays—Messrs Ainsworth, Barrow, Bonford, Bonner, Briscoe, Burton, Butler, Caldwell, Cannon, Cook, Cottman, Dupre, Elam, Elgee, Estlin, Finacher, Ghoiden, Hart, Hatch, Hebert, Bertron, Hodge, Kennedy, Lagrone, Lewis, of Orleans, Marks, of Caddo, Martin, of Carroll, Miles, Moore, McFarland, McNeely, O Bryan, Olivier, Peck, Pierson, of Winn, Swayze, Stewart, Smith, Talbot, Taylor, of St Landry, Texada, Todd, Towles, Valentine, Walker, Williams, of St. Helena, Williamson, Wilson, Wiltz, Winn, Wylie.

Noes—Messrs. Adams, Bermudez, Bonford, Barton, Butler, Caldwell, Clark, Cook, Conner, of Concordia, Conner, of St Tammany, Cottman, Davidson, of Sabine, De Blanc, Dorsey, Duffel, Garnier, Garrett, Gaudet, Griffin, Hodge, Hollingsworth, Johnson, Kennedy, Kohl, Labatut, Lewis, of Claiborne, Manning, Martin, of Orleans, Martin, of Assumption, Magee, Mellon, Miles, Morris, Moore, Nott, Pemberton, Richardson, Roselius, Smart, Semmes, Sompayrac, Scott, of Claiborne, Scott, of East Feliciana, Stocker, Taliaferro, Texada, Thomasson, Warren, York

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Mr. Martin, of Assumption, remarked that the reason he desired to have a vote of the Convention upon the original resolution was that a slave trade, and will not, under any circumstances, consent that the African slave trade be reopened.

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