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NEW ORLEANS:
FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 17, 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

Auction Sales This Day.

By D E Murphy, at 10½ o'clock, at the Home Warehouse, on New Levee street, between Poydras and Lafayette streets, 175 barrels flour; at 11 o'clock, at Lyttle's Merchant's Warehouse, 524 sacks corn.

The Sheriff will sell at auction, this day, at 10½ o'clock, A. M. on the premises, No. 8 Front Levee street, Second District, the contents of a coffee-house and of an oyster saloon; and at 12 o'clock, M., at the City Hotel Common street, a valuable improved lot of ground, situate on Philippa street, between Poydras and Perdido, First District. See advertisements.

LYING BY WHOLESALE.

Northern dispatches and Northern informants, ever since the beginning of the war, have been sedulously engaged in transmitting innumerable fabrications. It would seem indeed that unless some special means are employed to maintain popular excitement in the North at fever heat, it will undoubtedly subside, and hence the unremitting exertions of the Black Republican press to keep the public mind in a perpetual state of effervescence. This is effected in various ways For instance, the people in that section are told that the reports of the bloodless victory at Fort Sumter are without foundation, that a certain German grocer who had secreted himself in the hold of a vessel sailing from Charleston, and escaped to New York, declares positively that the South Carolinians lost a thousand men, and that four hundred in Fort Moultrie were killed by a single broadside from Fort Sumter. As this figment is almost too monstrous and glaring even for Abolition credulity, another imaginary gentleman who left Charleston after the engagement is brought before the scenes, and he avers that while on board the vessel destined to transport him to the North, he counted more than sixty dead bodies taken from the various batteries. All this wretched mendacity is circulated for the benefit of Northern *guidances*, and is eagerly accepted by them although it is to be presumed that the journals which help to give it currency willfully affirm what they know to be false Gen. BEAUREGARD's official report, President DAVIS's express reference to the bloodless triumph, the uniform tone and tenor of the Charleston papers and correspondence thence, stamp the statement as the base coinage of unscrupulous men

This, however, may be regarded as comparatively harmless, and merely intended as a salve to the wounded pride of the North. A somewhat graver slander is the persistent effort to convince the Northern people that there still prevails at the South a strong and vital Union sentiment which may be subdued, but cannot be crushed, and which is ready to assert its potency the moment a favorable opportunity presents itself And by the term "South," we mean or we refer to the Confederate States. To show the crafty and deliberate manner in which these statements are put forth, we will quote a single prominent example One BENSON J. LOSSING, who writes pictorial histories of the Revolution, was in New Orleans about a month ago, and has returned to his native North with as huge a farrago of falsehoods touching the feelings of the citizens here as human ingenuity and industry could well amass. If Mr LOSSING's histories are as authentic as his reports respecting New Orleans, they will be entitled to much consideration as models of romantic invention We cite a passage or two from this profitable story-teller:

I have said that my intercourse was with sound men, and afforded me a good opportunity to learn the true state of feeling in the South, and particularly in New Orleans. Whose population is cosmopolitan, and which consequently lies dependent upon the prosperity of the Union. I feel that I am fully justified in saying that the division sentiment, even on the surface, has no considerable depth—that the people, by the reckless boldness, misrepresentations falsehoods and violent menaces of demagogues, who have seized with iron power, for their base purposes, are in the hands of the politicians, and at present powerless

A sentiment of wealth and high social position, which has lived in New Orleans fifty years, has cowed me on the day after the President's proclamation was received, that if the loyal States would respond to it patriotically, by giving the Government a strong armed full force wherewith to establish the Federal authority everywhere within the borders of the republic, there would go up from Southern lips such a shout for the Union and the Constitution as would shake every traitor mutinously and for ever New Orleans, he said, indubitably, is loyal to the core Impudence and the fear of hurt lives have cheated us of our liberties, but let the people once see the accursed triple arpent flag of the rebels hauled down from the Mint and Customhouse, and the Union banner placed there in a loud strong response to the call, and the people of the outraged city would hail it, and the people of the Union would hail it, and every traitor found within its limits would be hung. This feeling and assurance were confirmed by others.

The heart of the South is right, but the head is cajoled at present by the grossest deceptions, the most subtle sophistries that bear the semblance of truth, and by a general ignorance of the kindly feeling always held and still entertained by the people of the North towards those of the South. For years the interest of the Northern press have for months pursued an apparently concerted system of misrepresentation and the suppression of truth

My conclusions are that, underlying the secession sentiment that covers the whole surface of society at the South, there is a deep and abiding love of the old Union, silently praying for deliverance from a despotism which has few parallels in the history of the world. It needs only to be assured and assisted to become fearfully explicit. Thoroughly indentured its limbs by the growing arm of Federal power, it will become speedily omnipotent in crushing the ends of selfish treason, out of which are hatched the fiery serpents of disunion Let the Government give the assurance by quick, powerful and effective action, and convey the truth to a deceived people, at the mouth of the cannon, if necessary, and all will be well soon.

It must be acknowledged that while Mr. LOSSING is telling lies, he does his business bravely and by wholesale. What will be particularly admired is his audacity in selecting New Orleans, of all places, as the locality for displaying loyalty to the core to the Union, especially in view of the fact that no city in the South, other things being equal, has made more sacrifices in behalf of the Confederate States, or sent more soldiers to fight their battles Mr LOSSING might to have selected a more obscure spot as the theatre of his fictions, because when applied to New Orleans, they are transparently absurd. We presume that here there are not a score of Southern born citizens who would not prefer even a colonial dependence upon Great Britain rather than remain under the American Union If there are any Northern men amongst us who clandestinely cherish any other sentiments, they may possibly have made confidants of Mr. LOSSING, but nobody else is cognizant of the fact.

The truth is, however, we waste words in refuting the stupid falsehoods which swarm in the Northern prints. They are intended for effect or they would not be published. There are large numbers of Northern citizens who labor under the delusion that if a powerful demonstration were made upon the South, it would elicit a decided reaction in favor of the Union. To this notion is studiously encouraged by the Black Republican sheets, and they press into their service such scribblers as LOSSING and others, whose ignorance and impudence are squarely amalgamated. The Northern volunteers will learn exactly how much we love the Union when once they tread the soil of the Southern Confederacy

THE VOCALIST.—We acknowledge the courtesy of tickets of invitation to the German Volksfest, to take place on the 19th and 20th instant, at the grounds of the Mechanics' and Agricultural Fair Association.

Our thanks are due Mr. McKeever, of Adams's Express, for New York and Louisville papers.

OUR ENEMIES—*Who are They?*—We direct attention to the card in another column—bearing the above significant heading.

Messrs. Holt & Co., No 61 Exchange Passage, have our thanks for late Northern papers.

LOUISIANA CONVENTION.—Our thanks are due J. O NIXON, Esq., Printer to the Louisiana State Convention, for a bulky pamphlet embracing the proceedings of that body, in English and French, together with the ordinances passed by said Convention, and the Constitution of the State as amended.

EXTRAORDINARY ARRIVAL.—Under this head our friends Alfred Munroe & Co., of the Story Building, announce the receipt, not without inspection and partial spoliation, of the last shipment of goods from the dominions of Abraham the Great. Nevertheless there is an abundant supply left of clothing suitable to the warm season, and a limited stock of India rubber goods, &c.

The papers received at our office which are published in small cities and country towns are, for the most part, entirely free of the war spirit which appears in the journals published in the larger cities; of thirty-two Northern country papers which we receive, twenty are denounce the war spirit as sure to lead to hopeless disunion and national ruin.—*New York Day Book.*

The New Orleans Bee.

Office, 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 17, 1861. Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXXIII.—Whole No. 11,986.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[TRANSMITTED TO THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.]

Washington Gossip—Promotion of General Butler—Ten Scotch Regiments Offered the Government.

Washington, May 16.—The President has appointed Gen Butler a Major General in the U S Army.

Prominent Scotch merchants doing business in this country have tendered the Government ten regiments during the war.

James Gordon Bennett, Jr., of New York, and T P Ives, of Providence, have been commissioned Lieutenants in the U S revenue service, and are in command of their respective yachts, which have been tendered the Government.

Two Prizes Already Taken.

The privateers Music and Calhoun took two prizes this morning outside of the mouth of the Mississippi. The Music took the ship John Jarvis, and the Calhoun took the bark Ocean Eagle Both vessels are now on their way up to the city.

Western Virginia Union Convention.

Wheeling, May 15—The Western Virginia Union Convention which assembled here has adopted the report of the Committee on Federal and State Relations, hoping for peace, deprecating the sending of Confederate troops into Western Virginia, and appointing a committee to reassemble the Convention before the 11th of June.

Shipment of Cars to New Orleans Prevented.

Washington, May 16—The Treasury Department has refused to allow the transportation of street cars to New Orleans.

Washington's Remains.

Washington, May 16—The reported removal of the remains of General George Washington from Mount Vernon by the Virginians, is considered false.

Apprehended Attack on Wheeling.

Harrisburg, May 16—An attack on Wheeling to morrow is apprehended

Gov Curtin will sign the stay law.

Missouri Legislature Adjourned.

St. Louis, May 16.—The Legislature has adjourned till the 1st Monday of September.

The Winans Affair.

Baltimore, May 16—Mr Ross Winans has been sent under guard to Fort McHenry. His friends have nominated him for Congress.

NEWS FROM MONTGOMERY.

The Postmaster-General's Proclamation—Congressional Proceedings.

Montgomery, May 16—The Postmaster-General's proclamation has been received, announcing that he will commence to control postal matters in the Confederate States on the 1st of June.

In Congress to-day no business of an important nature was done.

Captain Lizey, of the Second Regiment U S Artillery, is in the city. He has resigned his commission under the Federal Government, and tendered his services to the Confederate States.

Report from Alexandria—Western Virginia Exempted from Blockade.

Alexandria, May 16 —The Collectors of the ports in Virginia and North Carolina have ceased making their returns to the United States Treasury Department

Western Virginia is exempted from the operations of blockade.

Federal Troops Refusing the Oath.

Washington, May 16—Many of the troops stationed here decline taking the oath, because the municipal authorities at home refuse subsistence to their families, while absent.

Western Virginia Union Convention.

Wheeling, May 15—Resolutions were passed in the Convention to-day condemning the ordinance of secession, and providing for a Convention on the 11th of June, composed of counties favoring separation.

The Convention then adjourned *sine die.*

Baltimore Occupied by Federal Troops.

Baltimore, May 16—The city is occupied by Federal forces.

Regiments are organizing in Maryland to support the Administration.

River Intelligence.

Louisville, May 15—The Ohio river at this point was still falling this evening, with seven feet five inches water in the canal.

Union Men Driven from Missouri.

Louisville, May 16—The Keokuk and Quincy papers say that hundreds of men have been driven from Missouri by order of the Southern Legion

Dr Lemuel Foster, of Liberty, Mo., has been arrested and sent to Jefferson City, for trial under martial law, for raising a company of Union volunteers.

Virginians on Arlington Hights.

Washington, May 16—A uncorrected rumor is in circulation that Virginia to-piece in the rear of Arlington Hights.

U. S. War Steamers Southward Bound.

New York, May 16—The U S steamers of war Chesapeake and Pawnee sailed this evening for Pensacola and Key West, in company with the gun boat Mount Vernon

Representatives in the Ranks.

Harrisburg, May 16—Seventy-five Pennsylvania Republican Representatives, with their Speaker, have tendered their services to the Federal Government.

Erection of Batteries at Aquia Creek, Virginia.

Washington, May 16—It is believed that the Virginia secessionists have erected batteries at Aquia Creek, to prevent approach to Richmond. A decisive demonstration is soon expected to be made by the Federal Government.

Arrest and Discharge.

New York, May 16—Gustave Holland was arrested on the steamship Arago, from Havana. On the examination of his dispatches, they were returned to him, and he was discharged from custody.

Movements of Gen. Butler.

Washington, May 16—Gen Butler's transfer to Fortress Monroe, with large quantities of ammunition and stores, is believed to indicate an important movement.

Cincinnati Markets.

Cincinnati, May 16—Flour closed with sales at $4 50 per bbl for Superfine. Whisky is quoted at 12½c per gallon. Pork, $16 25 to $16 50 per bbl for Mess.

New York Markets.

New York, May 16—The Flour market closed firm, with sales at $4 90 to $5 10 for Superfine State and Western. Wheat declining. Corn 50c. to 60c. Pork $17 50 for Mess.

"HANGING TRAITORS." It is hard to say whether the statements communicated by correspondents of the Northern press, in the army invading Maryland, about "hanging traitors," are or not true. They are, says the *Mobile Register*, at once so incudacious and cruel that when they assert they have put men to death in cold blood, you cannot tell whether they are liars or murderers. But as soon as it is ascertained that such is their game, we must retaliate and hang prisoners that fall into our hands This was the plan by which Washington quickly brought the British to recognition of the usages of civilized warfare. The Britons had the same suitable penchant for hanging "traitors" and "rebels" that the Lincolnites have, but the powerful logic of retaliation in kind brought them to their senses very soon.

California.

By the overland mail we have California dates to the 1st instant. We give the annexed items:

The Assembly have reconsidered the vote which defeated the bill calling a Congressional election on the 20th of May, and passed it by a large majority.

The prospects is that the Senate will concur and California will be represented in the Lower House as well as Senate during the extra session of Congress

Collector Washington, of San Francisco, has received a present of a service of plate, valued at $2000 by the subordinates of the Customhouse He improved the occasion to write a long letter on national affairs, justifying the South in every particular, and laboring acknowledging their independence without an appeal to arms It is believed the Breckinridge Unionists of the State, numbering from 25,000 to 30,000 voters, will take the position, which renders fusion with Douglassites more difficult than ever The secession flags on the United States Marshal's office of San Francisco, have been hauled down Twenty five members of the Independent National Guards have made a tender of their services to General Sumner, in the event of any necessity for additional troops in the Fort, which, however, is not very likely to be the case.

E. W. Church, of the banking firm of Sather & Church, died at San Francisco on the 30th ult., of typhoid fever.

The Chairman of the Breckinridge State Central Committee, in obedience to a letter signed by 101 Breckinridge politicians, has called a meeting of the committee May 7th, at San Francisco.

The Douglas Committee meets at the same time and place, and the majority of the Breckinridge politicians are for a consolidation of the two parties. The scheme is regarded by Douglas men in this city as totally impracticable

The Santa Clara land troubles remain unsettled, and there seems a probability that the Governor will soon call out the militia, from 600 to 1000 strong. Very serious troubles are apprehended from this course. The settlers are represented to number 700, mostly armed, though imperfectly, and determined to fight rather than be ejected.

WESTERN VIRGINIA NOT OPPOSED TO SECESSION.—A private letter from a most reliable gentleman, a clergyman resident in Wheeling, received in Alexandria, says:

There is no truth in the statements that Western Virginia is opposed to secession. The anti-secessionists are in a minority; as to dividing the State, it is all moonshine. This city is not much excited now. It was reported, but without foundation, that ten thousand Virginia troops were to be put here to "protect the interests of the commonwealth;" but it is not the case.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Letters of Marque and Reprisal.

Our citizens who embark in the service of the Southern Confederacy under letters of marque and reprisal should bear in mind that a judicial enquiry must pass upon every case of capture; for the present enlightened practice of the commercial nations has subjected captures to the scrutiny of judicial tribunals, as the only sure way to furnish due proof that the seizure was lawful. It is a well recognized principle of the law of nations, that the property is not changed in favor of a neutral vendee or recaptor, so as to bar the original owner, until a regular sentence of condemnation has been pronounced by some court of competent jurisdiction, belonging to the sovereign of the captor; and the purchaser must be able to show documentary evidence of that fact, to support his title. Until the capture becomes invested with this evidence of prize by a sentence of condemnation, the right of property is in abeyance or in a state of legal sequestration. It cannot be alienated or disposed of; but the possession of it by the Government of the captor is a trust for the benefit of those who may be ultimately entitled. This salutary rule, so necessary to check irregular conduct and individual outrage, has been long established in the English Admiralty, and is now everywhere recognized as the law and practice of nations. The condemnation must be pronounced by a prize court of the Government of the captor, sitting either in the country of the captor or of his ally. The Prize court of an ally cannot condemn. The question of prize or no prize is one belonging exclusively to the courts of the country of the captor. The reason of the rule is said by Rutherforth to be, that the sovereign of the captors has a right to scrutinize their conduct, because he is responsible to other nations for the acts of the captor. But Mr. Justice Johnson, as the organ of the Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of *Hudson* (1 Wheaton,) held that the Prize Court of one country has the views of Vattel on the subject as the most reconcilable to reason and the nature of things, and furnish the easiest solution of all the questions arising under this head. That it is a consequence of the equality and absolute independence of the sovereign States on the one hand, and of the duty to observe uniform, impartial neutrality on the other. Under the former, every sovereign becomes the acknowledged arbiter of his own justice, and cannot consistently with his own dignity stoop to appear at the bar of other nations to defend the acts of his commissioned agents, much less the justice and legality of those rules of conduct which he prescribes to them. Under the latter, neutrals are bound to withhold their interference between the captor and the captured; to consider the fact of possession as conclusive evidence of right.

The prize court of the captor may sit in the territory of an ally, but it is not lawful for such a court to act in a neutral territory. Neutral ports are not intended to be auxiliary to the operations of the powers at war, and the law of nations has clearly ordained that a prize court of a belligerent captor cannot exercise jurisdiction in a neutral country This prohibition, it is said, rests not merely on the impropriety and danger of converting neutral ports into a theatre of hostile proceedings, but it stands on the ground of the usage of nations.

The jurisdiction of the courts of the captor to determine the validity of captures made in war under the authority of his Government is exclusive of the judicial authority of every other country, with two exceptions only. First, Where the capture is made within the territorial limits of a neutral State. Second, Where it is made by armed vessels fitted out within the neutral territory.

In either of these cases the judicial tribunals of the neutral State have jurisdiction to determine the invalidity of the capture, and to continue the inviolability of the property of its own subjects, or of other States in amity with it, to the original owners. A belligerent has no right to make captures within the territorial jurisdiction of a neutral, or within a marine league of the shores of a State of locality are universally regarded as an infringement of neutral rights, and the belligerents of the neutral State, whose inviolability is thus violated or abused, have a clear and indisputable right to decree restitution of the captured property to the original owner. It is equally a violation of neutral rights for a belligerent to fit out and arm vessels within the limits of neutral territory.

So long as a nation does not interfere in the war, but professes an exact impartiality toward both parties, it is its duty as well as right, and its own safety, good faith and honor demand of it, to be vigilant in preventing its territory from being abused for the purposes of hostility against either of them. This may be done, not only by guarding, in the first instance, as far as the civil authorities can, against all warlike preparations and equipments in its own waters, but also, by restoring to the original owner such property as has been seized within its jurisdiction by the vessels of either belligerent. In the performance of this duty all belligerents must be supposed to have an equal interest; and a disregard, or neglect of it, would inevitably expose a neutral nation to the charge of partiality, and to the just dissatisfaction and complaints of the belligerent, the property of whose subjects should not, under such circumstances, be restored.

It was once supposed that a prize court, though sitting in the country of its own sovereign, or of his ally, had no jurisdiction over prizes lying in a neutral port, because the court waived that possession which was deemed essential to the exercise of a jurisdiction in a proceeding *in rem*. The principle was adjudged to be correct by Sir William Scott, in the case of the Twee and Maria (4 Rob., 43) and he acted upon it in a prior case. But he considered that the English Admiralty had gone too far, in supporting condemnations in England of prizes abroad in a neutral port, to permit him to adopt the practice of the court to the acknowledged principle, that the English rule is now definitively settled agreeably to the old usage and the practice of other nations The Supreme Court of the United States has followed the English rule, and it has been held valid the condemnations by a court of the belligerent of prizes carried into a neutral port, and remaining there. This was deemed the most convenient practice for neutrals as well as for the parties at war, for though the prize was in fact within a neutral jurisdiction, it was still to be deemed under the control of the captor.

These well settled principles of prize law are important to all who hold letters of marque and reprisal from the Government of the Confederate States. We have entered into no treaties of alliance with any other nation, and have, therefore, no allies in the present war. But we have no reason to doubt that other nations will unhesitatingly maintain towards us the relations of neutrals. It is absurd to suppose that they will ceaselessly assume towards us the attitude of enemies So long as they observe the obligations of neutrals, our captors will be permitted to carry their prizes into their ports, and in cases of necessity, judicial decisions of a evidently contemplated by the Congress of the Confederate States, as will appear by reference to the act authorizing letters of marque and reprisals. It declares "that before breaking bulk of any vessel which shall be captured, or other disposal or surrender thereof or of any articles which shall be found on board the same, such captured vessel, goods or effects shall be brought into some port of the Confederate States, *or of a nation or State in amity* with the Confederate States, and shall be proceeded against in a competent tribunal"

Whenever a prize is taken into a neutral port, it will at once become the duty of the prize master to transmit the documents found on board the vessel, through the agency of a Consul, if there be one, or through some other trustworthy medium, to a court of the Confederate States, which alone has jurisdiction to determine the validity of the capture.

T. H. M.

ANOTHER MASSACRE AT ST. LOUIS.—It appears from the St. Louis papers of the 13th that in addition to the terrible outrage of the 10th inst, another act in the bloody drama was performed the next day. During the evening, while a large body of the German Home Guards were entering the city, crowds collected who hissed and hooted them, and one man fired a revolver and shot a soldier. The head of the column immediately wheeled and fired promiscuously, as well at the rear of their own ranks as at the crowd. Six persons were killed, four of whom were members of the regiment, and a number were wounded. On the night of the 11th the city resumed its tranquility. Immense numbers of people had left St. Louis, traveling up and down the river, or into the interior.

NEW YORK, May 11—The Bank of Albany has suspended temporarily, owing to the discovery of a discrepancy in some of its accounts. It bills are taken at par by all the banks.

RUNAWAY SHOT.—The Alexandria *Constitutional* says:

On Monday night last a runaway slave named Isaiah, belonging to W. J. Beatty, Esq., was shot at or near the plantation of Capt J D Martin, by the overseer The negro, on being hailed and ordered to stop, attempted to run upon the overseer, whereupon the latter fired, killing him dead on the spot The deceased boy was a valuable hand, a bricklayer by trade, and had run away from his master but a day or two before he met his fate

THE FIRST PASSAGE AT ARMS.—A detachment of Captain Randolph's Howitzer Company, of this city, engaged in constructing a battery on York river, saw one of Lincoln's piratical craft prowling in the stream below, last Wednesday morning, and served notice on it to quit. In the shape of a shot from one of their guns. The fire was returned, and some six or eight exchanges took place, when the Lincoln craft, following the illustrious precedents of the war thus far, turned tail and disappeared. It is not known whether any shot took effect upon her. Two spent balls from the vessel came within the works of the howitzers, one striking a gun carriage, but neither doing any damage. The battery was in charge of our young townsman, John Thompson Brown.

[*Richmond Whig*, 11th.

A monthly review of journalism in France is a new feature in its periodical literature. The first number contains a full history of the *Siecle*, its management, and biographies of its editors. No less than twenty eminent writers are employed on it, each having an appropriate department. Some of the editors have secretaries to assist them. It has besides a large number of reporters, who are styled the rifle battalion. The leading journals of Paris are very ably edited, and their writers are generally learned and brilliant men, familiar with every thing worth knowing.

THE ULTIMATUM.—Handbills originating in Boston, posted up in that city and distributed over the North, announce the following as the objects and limits of the war. Read it, and enjoy its richness:

"*Conditions of Peace Required of the So-Called Seceded States.*

ART. 1. Unconditional submission to the Government of the United States.

ART. 2 To deliver up *one hundred of the arch traitors*, to be hung.

ART. 3. To put on record the names of all others who have been traitorous to the Government, who shall be infamous and disfranchised forever

ART. 4. The property of all traitors to be confiscated, to pay the damages.

ART. 5. The seceded States to pay all the balance of expense and restore the stolen property.

ART 6. The payment of all the debts due to Northerners, and indemnity for all the indignities to persons, loss of time, life and property.

ART 7. The removal of the cause of all our difficulties, which can only be done by the immediate and unconditional abolition of slavery.

ART. 8. Until a full compliance with all the above terms, the so called seceded states to be held and governed as United States territory.

The above is the least that an indignant people will accept, outraged as they have been, by the foulest, most heinous and gigantic instance of crime recorded in history.

These terms are so modest, so liberal, that we really think they should be taken into early and serious consideration. Meanwhile we wonder what the Northerners who profess to be fighting only to preserve the Union have to say to this nice little programme.

English Opinions on the Fort Sumter Affair.

[From the Manchester Guardian.]

* * * * * * * The battle of Charleston, or by whatever name it may be called in history narrowly escapes, if it does escape, being ridiculous If the interchange of shots went on, as it appears to have done, for two days and yet the most reconcilable to reason and the nature of things, and furnish the easiest solution of all the questions arising under this head. That it is a consequence of the equality and absolute independence of the sovereign States on the one hand, and of the duty to observe uniform, impartial neutrality on the other. Under the former, every sovereign becomes the acknowledged arbiter of his own justice, and cannot consistently with his own dignity stoop to appear at the bar of other nations to defend the acts of his commissioned agents, much less the justice and legality of those rules of conduct which he prescribes to them. Under the latter, neutrals are bound to withhold their interference between the captor and the captured; to consider the fact of possession as conclusive evidence of right.

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So long as a nation does not interfere in the war, but professes an exact impartiality toward both parties, it is its duty as well as right, and its own safety, good faith and honor demand of it, to be vigilant in preventing its territory from being abused for the purposes of hostility against either of them. This may be done, not only by guarding, in the first instance, as far as the civil authorities can, against all warlike preparations and equipments in its own waters, but also, by restoring to the original owner such property as has been seized within its jurisdiction by the vessels of either belligerent. In the performance of this duty all belligerents must be supposed to have an equal interest; and a disregard, or neglect of it, would inevitably expose a neutral nation to the charge of partiality, and to the just dissatisfaction and complaints of the belligerent, the property of whose subjects should not, under such circumstances, be restored.

It was once supposed that a prize court, though sitting in the country of its own sovereign, or of his ally, had no jurisdiction over prizes lying in a neutral port, because the court waived that possession which was deemed essential to the exercise of a jurisdiction in a proceeding *in rem*. The principle was adjudged to be correct by Sir William Scott, in the case of the Twee and Maria (4 Rob., 43) and he acted upon it in a prior case. But he considered that the English Admiralty had gone too far, in supporting condemnations in England of prizes abroad in a neutral port, to permit him to adopt the practice of the court to the acknowledged principle, that the English rule is now definitively settled agreeably to the old usage and the practice of other nations The Supreme Court of the United States has followed the English rule, and it has been held valid the condemnations by a court of the belligerent of prizes carried into a neutral port, and remaining there. This was deemed the most convenient practice for neutrals as well as for the parties at war, for though the prize was in fact within a neutral jurisdiction, it was still to be deemed under the control of the captor.

These well settled principles of prize law are important to all who hold letters of marque and reprisal from the Government of the Confederate States. We have entered into no treaties of alliance with any other nation, and have, therefore, no allies in the present war. But we have no reason to doubt that other nations will unhesitatingly maintain towards us the relations of neutrals. It is absurd to suppose that they will ceaselessly assume towards us the attitude of enemies So long as they observe the obligations of neutrals, our captors will be permitted to carry their prizes into their ports, and in cases of necessity, judicial decisions of a character evidently contemplated by the Congress of the Confederate States, as will appear by reference to the act authorizing letters of marque and reprisals. It declares "that before breaking bulk of any vessel which shall be captured, or other disposal or surrender thereof or of any articles which shall be found on board the same, such captured vessel, goods or effects shall be brought into some port of the Confederate States, *or of a nation or State in amity* with the Confederate States, and shall be proceeded against in a competent tribunal"

Whenever a prize is taken into a neutral port, it will at once become the duty of the prize master to transmit the documents found on board the vessel, through the agency of a Consul, if there be one, or through some other trustworthy medium, to a court of the Confederate States, which alone has jurisdiction to determine the validity of the capture.

T. H. M.

ANOTHER MASSACRE AT ST. LOUIS.—It appears from the St. Louis papers of the 13th that in addition to the terrible outrage of the 10th inst, another act in the bloody drama was performed the next day. During the evening, while a large body of the German Home Guards were entering the city, crowds collected who hissed and hooted them, and one man fired a revolver and shot a soldier. The head of the column immediately wheeled and fired promiscuously, as well at the rear of their own ranks as at the crowd. Six persons were killed, four of whom were members of the regiment, and a number were wounded. On the night of the 11th the city resumed its tranquility. Immense numbers of people had left St. Louis, traveling up and down the river, or into the interior.

NEW YORK, May 11—The Bank of Albany has suspended temporarily, owing to the discovery of a discrepancy in some of its accounts. It bills are taken at par by all the banks.

RUNAWAY SHOT.—The Alexandria *Constitutional* says:

On Monday night last a runaway slave named Isaiah, belonging to W. J. Beatty, Esq., was shot at or near the plantation of Capt J D Martin, by the overseer The negro, on being hailed and ordered to stop, attempted to run upon the overseer, whereupon the latter fired, killing him dead on the spot The deceased boy was a valuable hand, a bricklayer by trade, and had run away from his master but a day or two before he met his fate

THE FIRST PASSAGE AT ARMS.—A detachment of Captain Randolph's Howitzer Company, of this city, engaged in constructing a battery on York river, saw one of Lincoln's piratical craft prowling in the stream below, last Wednesday morning, and served notice on it to quit. In the shape of a shot from one of their guns. The fire was returned, and some six or eight exchanges took place, when the Lincoln craft, following the illustrious precedents of the war thus far, turned tail and disappeared. It is not known whether any shot took effect upon her. Two spent balls from the vessel came within the works of the howitzers, one striking a gun carriage, but neither doing any damage. The battery was in charge of our young townsman, John Thompson Brown.

[*Richmond Whig*, 11th.

"WHAT WILL BECOME OF MY REVENUE?"—The following is a comparative statement of the imports of foreign dry goods at the port of New York for the week ending April 27:

For the Week.	1858.	1860.	1861.
Entered at the port.	$1,742,475	$1,776,688	$368,061
Thrown on the mt.	1,684,386	1,650,799	866,964

The imports of dry goods this year are very small, probably the least reported for many years.—*Express.*

Well may Mr. Lincoln ask, "What will become of my revenues? Importations of dry goods reduced already to one-fourth of the usual amount! This is bringing things to a focus in a summary way.—*New York News.*

RIVER INTELLIGENCE.

NEW ORLEANS BEE OFFICE, Friday, May 17, 1861.

STEAMBOATS LEAVING THIS DAY.

RIVER.

Red river.....Comet, Harrell.....5 P.M.

PONTCHARTRAIN RAILROAD.

Mobile.....Mail boat.....8 A.M. cars.
Covington.....Arrow, Hoffman.....10½ A.M. cars.

We have but to repeat the stereotyped old story of stagnancy in business on the quay. Yesterday the steamer Grand Duke for Red river, Gen. Quitman for Vicksburg, and Era No. 7 for Ouachita river, succeeded in getting away with tolerable fair trips, but several packets that were up to print to leave were obliged to lay over until they can secure a cargo. The Rapides from Grand Ecore, T. W. Roberts from Ouachita, and R. J. Lockland, from the United States, were among the arrivals yesterday. We understand last evening that the Captain of the last named boat had received a telegram from St. Louis ordering him to lay the boat up at this port.

The Atlantic, we understand, has been laid up. She is the last Louisville packet to do so, and judging from present appearances we should say that we will have but few Louisville packets hereafter this season.

The Cumberland river was rising rapidly at Nashville on Sundry last.

FOR LAKE BISTENEAU.—The fleet and fairly passenger steamer Comet, Captain W V. Harrell, with Mr. J. T Reeder as clerk, will positively back out at 5 P. M., to day, for Minden, Mooreu, and intermediate landings on Red river and the Lake. She also takes passengers to all the coast landings at coast packet rates

[COMMUNICATED.]

Our Enemies—Who Are They?

The papers of our city have given the names of numerous men who have amassed fortunes in the South, but are now contributing money for our destruction. A recent number of the New York *Herald* records the names of one more firm to be added to our *black list of traitors*. This firm, which now comes forward and presents a stand of colors to a regiment of Northern vagabonds, is the well known manufacturers of Sewing Machines *Wheeler & Wilson*—a firm which has made a fortune out of the extensive patronage which has been given to them by the South. Agents for this firm of Wheeler & Wilson are now found in every town and town in the South, and the Sewing Machines *continue to be sold at immense profits*, which profits this firm of Wheeler & Wilson are yet realizing from the men they are so anxious *to destroy*.

The following is the editorial notice taken from the *Herald* of Wednesday, May 8:

PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO COMPANY D, THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.

Departure of the Reliance of the Regiment To Day.

On Saturday evening last Company D of the Thirteenth Regiment New York State Militia—Brooklyn—had a splendid stand of colors presented to them by Messrs Wheeler, Wilson & Co., evening matters were made up for a sumptuous dinner, Mr. Bacon, the commander of the company, received the presents in their behalf. Yesterday morning the company left the armory, and marched down Broadway to the Fulton Ferry, to this city, for the purpose of parading their new colors They passed up as far as Bleecker street, when they halted at Wheeler & Wilson's. After using the route they were most enthusiastically cheered. The reliance of the Thirteenth will be well off to-day, and we bid them godspeed from Brooklyn this morning to the rallying point to aid the cause of war. Mr. Philip McDermott long a resident of the New York press, has undertaken the duties of the regiment, and is a valuable *aide* member for such important military duties.

[From the Guardian 29th.]

Another Prize—The privateer Music captured a prize off the coast of the Gulf, which was brought up in charge of a company with the prize captured by the Calhoun. This was the ship John Jarvis.

An Irrepressible Conflictor—We have seen the model of a war projector, a sort of "irrepressible conflictor," as it is called, the design of which is an improvement upon the Winans's "cigar pattern." We do not know who is the originator, but understand we are indebted for it to Southern ingenuity We forbear to give any description, lest we throw too much light on the subject, but we may say, in general terms, that it is the good of a Southern invention, and that it will be found to be a very effective machine. It is a machine for the destruction of life and property, and it will be found to be a very effective one. It is a machine that will be found to be a very effective one. It is a machine that will be found to be a very effective one. It is a machine that