

The Semi-Weekly News.

Published on Tuesday and Friday.

JNO. DICKINSON
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

To Correspondents.

We will be pleased to receive contributions from our friends, in and around Shreveport. An occasional article from our planters, relative to the crops, will be very acceptable. In fact, we desire correspondence from every section of the States.

Personal articles will not be published, either as communications or advertisements.

Those friendly to our undertaking, who may hear of any local, or other items, that may prove of interest to our readers, will favor us by handing in the same at the office of the News.

In writing, be brief and concise, bearing in mind, that lengthy communications are seldom appreciated by newspaper readers.

Our Agents:

Mr. N. SELIGMAN, Shreveport.
Mr. J. H. LOFTON, Bellevue.
Mr. H. C. CLARKE, Vicksburg.
Mr. D. D. O'BRIEN, New Orleans.
Mr. JOHN W. TABER, Natchitoches.
JASON MEADORS, Mansfield.

Postmasters can act as Agents, & retain 50 cents from the amount forwarded, for every yearly subscriber.

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1862.

Single Copies, 10 Cents.

See Every Page.

Persons sending us remittances will be good enough to send no other paper money than Louisiana State or Confederate Notes, or Shreveport Corporation bills, none other will be received. Individual and other corporation bills are of no use to us, as we cannot get them off our hands.

"From the above, we infer that our cotemporary of the News, from some cause seems to be unwilling to circulate any other exchange than that of the Corporation of Shreveport, and we hope he is well authorised in his conclusions, but for ourselves we must confess that we can not see why the corporation of Shreveport should be better or more responsible than other responsible paper, we see that that corporation has recently extended a considerable loan of its means, and in order that our readers may be informed, we would suggest that it would give some satisfaction for that institution to give a full statement of its circulation, and of its means to redeem we do not handle much money, but we want to know that what we do handle is perfectly good and safe."

We find the above in the Confederate News, published by our friend J. A. Carpenter, in Jefferson, Tex. We would inform our cotemporary, that the business people of Shreveport, as a general thing refuse any bills now issued, with the exception of those enumerated above. It is wrong, but we are not to blame. We are continually returning money sent to us by mail and are of course, losers by it. We know of some corporation issues, which are, beyond doubt, as good as ours, yet we refuse them on the grounds stated. The corporation has loaned out several thousands, to the Parish, this we presume is what our confreres allude to, and there is enough on hand not included, to satisfy this amount. For every bill issued the equivalent is deposited in the bank at this place, to make it secure. We agree with the News, and think that a full statement of its circulation should be made public, in fact, it would be but justice, to publish a weekly or monthly statement of the same; we can see no objection to this, and presume it will be done. We understand that forty one thousand dollars have been issued.

There may be other loans, but none that we know of.

General Butler.

In the last issue of our paper we had the pleasure of laying before our many readers the pronouncements of that King of rascals Picayune Butler. This man is sufficiently known by reputation, we opine, to need no notice from our pen to introduce him to the people of the South; however we must say a word relative to his impudence, at the present time. Though he professes to be very lenient, according to his proclamation in some respects, his sole object is to put the Southern people off their guard, and induce them to place confidence in his assertions, which we hope no person will ever think of doing. In the very commencement of the production named above, he utters an infamous falsehood, if we are to believe the published proceedings of the City Council of New Orleans, when he says:

The city of New Orleans and its environs, with all its interior and exterior defenses, having been surrendered to the combined naval and land forces of the United States.

If we understand the General's meaning, the people of Caddo are under his special control, and, of course subject to pay due respect to all orders emanating from him. That's pretty good, and our citizens will appreciate the joke, for it appears he intends including the whole State, when speaking of New Orleans. Here is what he says:

"The Major-General commanding the forces of the United States in the Department of the Gulf, hereby makes known and proclaims the object and purposes of the Government of the United States in thus taking possession of the city of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana."

Whether the General is deficient in the Geography of the South, or has included the State, with a view of intimidating the people in the interior, we do not profess to know, but we are of opinion that before he can succeed in making the State surrender, he will discover that New Orleans is not the State, and in extent, is no more than, as the map exhibits, a small dot. We feel confident in saying that since the possession of the city by the Federals, the people are more determined than ever; for the fall of their beautiful and prosperous city, has had a tendency of instilling in them a sacrificing spirit, not before evinced, and their feelings are now wrought to such a point, that they would defy the devil himself were he to make his appearance before them. Our enemies need therefore not expect anything but stern resistance from this quarter.

Can't Understand it.

We were not a little surprised on last Friday to learn that the steamers held in custody, were permitted to depart, and take with them provisions. After the terrible ado made by the people generally, in this city relative to the boats and sending on them necessities of life to the suffering in the city of New Orleans, we were lead to believe that all was right on that question. A meeting was called at the Court house with the view of getting the sense of the public on the important matter; resolutions were presented, read and adopted; remarks innumerable, from different persons, were listened to and applauded; but one determination seemed to be entertained; and after the assembly dispersed, but one opinion prevailed—that was—that the boats were to be detained, yet in the face of all this, the boats are gone. Strange are the ways of man.

From the commencement to the

end of this procedure, we took no side, nor did we exchange opinions, on the subject, with any one, looking upon ourselves in the light of an outsider, yet we must now, for we can't keep in any longer—give our views, humble as they may be.

We are probably, as much, if not more interested in the city of New Orleans, than any other person in Caddo parish. We are identified with it; prior to coming to North Louisiana, we were a citizen of that city, the pride of our heart,—having lived in it twenty odd years,—the only relatives we wot of in this world are there, the only property, with the exception of this establishment, that we own, is there, and may be confiscated, or destroyed. Despite all this not a mouthful of food should be sent from this city in that direction, unless we had more and better proof of the people's getting it, than the mere say so of that infamous personage dubbed Picayune Butler. We are the last person to oppose any benevolent steps, but we must have satisfactory evidence of the ways and means to be adopted before we could be induced to participate in them.

We admit that should the Federals seize the articles sent to New Orleans it will be to them like a drop of water to the ocean, but gentlemen, small as the amount sent may be to them, it is large to us, should they apply it to their own use; and how are we to learn to the contrary? After this section of country has been emptied of its sustenance, our turn comes next, and we will then perhaps ponder the question as we should have done before, but it will then be too late. That there is plenty of provisions below, cannot be doubted, it is held by speculators, but before the people will starve, they will be made to deliver all the requisites of life to a famishing community, willing or unwilling. The preposterous argument advanced that the enemy will become exasperated at the behavior of the people of Red River, and come in haste to chastise us, is mere child's talk and should have no weight, for come they will, beyond doubt, but not a whit sooner than they feel disposed to, for they have long since arranged their programme. They are striving to accomplish what they intended in the beginning—to starve us out.—They will endeavor to hem us in; cut off all our communication; and thus think to scare us into submission. Does any one of common sense need more evidence of their infernal purpose, than that before us? It cannot be possible. We may talk as much and as loud as we please, we may make the most strenuous efforts to prevent or retard their progress in reaching this point, yet, mark us, it will avail nothing, if they conclude to come. If our people wish to stop anything, let it be the breathing of spies.—for they are more dangerous than all the gunboats combined. Keep cool, friends, be sedate; be watchful!

Our fellow citizen, Mr. R. White Chairman of the Committee of Safety received a letter from the Committee of Safety of Minden La., stating that a small steamer had arrived there, having a passport from the Federal vessel Brooklyn, with a view of getting provisions to take to the city. The committee, very properly seized her and intend holding her. We glean these particulars from the letter which was politely shown us by Mr. White.

Lieut. Matthews of the Caddo Rifles, has laid us under obligations for late papers. He will accept our thanks for the same.

From the Mobile Telegraph we learn that the people of Vicksburg are preparing for any attack from the gunboats. All valuables not necessary to defend the place, are being removed. From the same paper, we learn that the Federals took quiet possession of Pensacola.

We were told that there was a female spy in our city last week.

We would be under many obligations to our city Marshals if they would seize by the collar, and make a public example of, every person they suspect contemplates visiting our office with a view of getting a paper for nothing. Those persons appear dumb founded when told that papers are sold, and not given away.

Persons finding loose money in the streets are notified that they must bring the same to this office for identification.

We know of a gentleman—a book keeper—who is at present out of employ. Any one wishing to secure the services of such a person,—no salary expected—can take our word for the correctness of what we say: He can't be beat in keeping books.

Wanted immediately at this office, a silent partner with ten thousand dollars in gold. Applicants must not crowd our sanctum, but watch their chances, to communicate with us in person. Credentials of character must be exhibited before a word is spoken.

A new burning fluid has been discovered at Camden, S. C. It is called Terebene, and is prepared mainly from the gum of the pine tree, by means of a chemical process yet unrevealed. The fluid is described as beautifully transparent, has no unpleasant odor and is not explosive, and will burn nearly as long as Kerosine oil, making as brilliant a light. It can be used in the ordinary lamps, with slight alteration, and is manufactured at one dollar per gallon by the retail.

Articles for burning purposes are, at this time very high, in fact they are not attainable, we therefore publish this, thinking that some chemist may take the trouble to look into the matter, and give the people, something cheap, for it is greatly needed. Such a man would be a benefactor.

While comfortably sitting in our sanctum, we were startled from our reverie by the falling down of some one at our back, on looking around, we discovered our devil stretched out on the floor, one foot in the paste pot, his head against the wall and a scrap of paper in his hand; he was out of breath, and having just returned from the postoffice, we concluded from his gestures, that there was some terrible news to chronicle.—Rushing to his assistance, he handed us the following, which threw us back upon our dignity: "Why is the mail from Vicksburg, like a child, who weary of playing, lays down and falls asleep?"

"Because its played out."

We knocked under, and gave him permission to go and loaf for three minutes.

MILITARY.—The different Regiments composing the Brigade from Texas under command of Gen. M. T. Johnson, have been ordered by Gen. Roane to hasten to Little Rock. Gen. Johnson and his party left here on Monday, on his way direct to report in person. All of the regiments under his command with the exception of the first (at Corinth) are already either there or hastening on their route. We last heard of Sweet's Regiment between Pine

Bluff and Little Rock, hastening to the latter place last Saturday. Col. Moore's Regiment was at the same time, at Camden, crossed the river there last Sunday and is no doubt at the Capital. The remaining regiment, (Col. Fitzhugh's) have partially passed this place, six companies having gone through and the others are at this time in the neighborhood passing on. We learn that Col. N. H. Darnell's regiment (not yet attached to any Brigade,) is just behind the rear of Fitzhugh's and will soon be along. Also the regiment of Colonel Burnett, from Crockett, Texas, commanding a regiment and a battalion, are on their march to Little Rock through this place. The probability is that several infantry regiments now raised in Texas, will be directed here.—Washington (Ark.) Telegraph.

The following is from a Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Herald:

Since the French steamer Gassen-di, with the French Minister, returned to this port from Norfolk, it has leaked out that the mission of M. Mercier was for the purpose of opening preliminary negotiations with the rebel Confederacy in regard to Mexican affairs.

It is alleged that the French Government proposes to acknowledge the rebel Confederacy, and guarantee to its interposition to bring about a peace (peaceably if she can, forcibly if she must,) provided that Davis & Co., will agree to non-interference with them perpetually in any measure she may take for the subjugation of Mexico and making it a dependency of France. Certain territorial lines have been named as the boundary line between the two new governments, allowing the rebel Confederacy a considerable slice more than she now covers by her arms.

It is said that Davis likes the proposition as far as it goes, and is willing to send the Monroe doctrine to the dogs; but it is said that he will enter into no negotiations with any government unless they guarantee to him the territory of the new Confederacy comprised in all the slave States. Thus the matter stands—Davis is to consider the French proposition, and vice versa. It is said that among the French propositions is one requiring the Southern Confederacy to furnish a certain number of troops to assist in conquering Mexico. The expenses of which are to be borne by the French Government. There is a deal of plausibility in this statement, and the manner in which the visit was made, and the secrecy attached to it, at least should make us suspicious as to its nature.

We had a slight shower of rain on Saturday morning; the river having just learned the propriety of keeping low is still falling.

Our facilities for printing shipplasters, are inferior to none; besides we have the advantage of being immediately opposite a Drug store, and can make them adhesive, so that any one who circulates them need entertain no fears of ever getting them back.

THE INVASION.—Our community have been for a week hearing rumors of the invasion of the State from Missouri. We suppose there is no doubt of the fact. We gather from the rumors that they come in large force (how large no one seems to know, the estimates being from 6000 to 22000) down White and Black rivers to Batesville. Some four or