

The Semi-Weekly News.

Published on Tuesday and Friday.

J. N. 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.

Personal articles will not be published, either as communications or advertisements.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 20 cents from the amount forwarded, for every yearly subscriber.

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 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.

A considerable rise in the river, is reported above; at this point it is about on a stand.

The Barber of the steamer General Hodges will accept our thanks for a late New Orleans paper.

FOR SHREVEPORT.—The steamboat A. W. Quarrier, Captain F. A. Boissat, will leave this evening at five o'clock, for Shreveport. Those wishing to take passage should provide themselves with passports before going on board.

The submarine boat, Southern, left last evening for Red River.

We find the above in the local column of the New Orleans True Delta. What does it mean? Are we about to open trade with the enemy? Or are we to be overrun with spies? We direct the attention of our Vigilance Committee to this, and trust they will take the proper steps in this case, should the boats arrive here.

The Philadelphia Ledger has become alarmed at visions of the gentleman with "yellow eyes and saffron hair," and says: "it is high time the ablest medical men in the army who have had experience of a southern clinic, should be arranging all the devices that can be pre-arranged to save soldiers from exposure, and to counteract in every way the dangers that will soon be upon them."

From an account published in another column, it will be seen the surrender of the city of Galveston has been demanded by the enemy. The people of that city, from accounts will not surrender, how things will terminate, is yet to be seen.

The Same old Tune.

Fault finding with our Generals as well as with the many courses pursued by municipal officials in allowing the enemy to take quiet possession of the different towns and cities in our Confederacy, is more prevalent now, so far as we are enabled to judge, than it has ever been since the commencement of hostilities. We may safely add that this destructive feeling to any cause is on the increase. Why? Because the dispatches do not convey fast enough victory upon victory.

It is a mistaken idea entertained by some people, that if they do not closely scrutinize the various moves made, and censure the actors, things are bound to go wrong. Is this morally right? Do such persons not know the ways of man better? If not, let them at once commence to study human nature, and in a short time they will be wiser, and probably better men. The more faults are found the less may be expected.

It is to be presumed that all which is done by those placed in power, is in their opinion for the best, though it may not prove so, and if we know them to be honorable, let us not by any means hurt their feelings, but on the contrary, if we cannot laud them, let us not say aught against them. By pursuing this course, our people will, in the end, discover the superior advantages of this policy.

If a man is really not fit to occupy the position in which he has been placed, let him be immediately ousted, and a competent person succeed him.

Demand for the Surrender of Galveston.

Houston, May 18th, 1862.

In order to allay excitement and prevent unfounded rumors gaining currency, we have obtained the following from official sources.

Saturday morning the Frigate Santee had a white flag up as a signal of a desire to communicate with the shore. During the day, a messenger came ashore, bearing the following demand:

U. S. FRIGATE Santee, off Galveston, Tex., May 17th '62. To the Military Commandant Commanding Confederate forces, Galveston, Texas.

Sir—In a few days the naval and land forces of the United States will appear off the town of Galveston to enforce its surrender.

To prevent the effusion of blood and destruction of property which would result from the bombardment of your town, I hereby demand the surrender of the place, with all its fortifications and batteries in its vicinity, with all arms and munitions of war. I trust you will comply with this demand.

I am, respectfully, &c.,

HENRY EAGLE,

Capt. Com'g the U. S. Naval forces of Galveston, Texas.

The bearer of the above message stated that an answer could be made anytime within 24 hours.

Owing to the wires being down during the day, this message was not telegraphed up till the evening.

This morning Gen. Hebert has instructed Col. Cook to reply that when the land and naval forces made their appearance, the demand will be answered.

Meanwhile we can assure the people that the Island will not be given up on a mere paper bombardment. Nothing will be left undone to provide for the enemy when he comes.

The General commanding advises the people to keep cool—there is no

danger. When the enemy lands and endeavors to penetrate into the interior, he will be fought on every inch of ground. In the meantime every man should stand to his arms and be ready to take the field at a moment's warning.

The above is all that has taken place that is of interest to the public.

We hear it insinuated about the streets, that the reason why no resistance is made by our threatened cities is, that orders that have been issued from Richmond to that effect. This may be so, but we do not believe it.

Admiration is a very short-lived passion, that immediately decays upon growing familiar with its object, unless still fed with fresh discoveries.

FIGHT BETWEEN THE LIBERTY BOYS AND A YANKEE GUNBOAT.

Sunday last, two Yankee gunboats went up North Newport river in search of a small Nova Scotia brig, the Standard, captain Balch, which ran the blockade some weeks ago, and was lying at Busbee's Landing, awaiting an opportunity for going out. The citizens of the county, having heard of their approach the day previous, repaired to the landing and set fire to the brig, entirely destroying her. The gunboats being foiled, tacked about and made for the sound; where upon the citizens who were armed with Maynard rifles and carbines, intercepted them at Half-Moon Bluff, where the stream was narrow and the boats had to pass very close in. The boats opened fire upon the pursuers with shell, and the latter poured volley after volley into the boats, with, it is believed, the best results, as they were quite near, whilst our men were protected in a great measure by the bluff. Finding the work rather warm, the boats put on all steam and were soon out of range of our guns. Not a man was hurt on our side, notwithstanding some 75 shot and shell were fired into the woods where they were.—Savannah Republican.

In the train from Guine's station yesterday morning were two loaded cars, which were brought out of Fredericksburg on Tuesday evening under the following circumstances: The cars were in the Fredericksburg depot, in which was also a quantity of printing paper and machinery belonging to the woolen factory, which has recently been removed to Danville. Mr. John Webb, assisted by two or three other gentlemen and some negroes employed for the purpose, quietly and quickly loaded the cars, and by man power impelled them up the ascending grade for a mile; and when this was surmounted the downward run to Guine's was comparatively easy. The value of the goods is at least four thousand dollars, in addition to the worth of cars.—Rich. Examiner.

The steamboat seized at Minden, mention of which we made in a previous number of our paper, has been released.

DISAPPOINTED.—The Albany (N. Y.) Evening Journal is greatly disappointed in the negroes. "We counted," says that paper "upon insurrections—terrible and wide insurrections—among the servile population," but its expectations, it confesses, has not been realized. "The negro has become half enamored of his chains," it exclaims, and adds gloomily, "this is not a pleasant truth to learn, but we cannot know it too soon."

Lieutenant Colonel Mason, arrived in this city on yesterday evening, from Corinth.

CONFEDERATE PRISONERS IN INDIANA.—We find in the Indianapolis Sentinel of March 15th, a list of the Fort Donelson and other prisoners, confined at that date at Camp Morton, near that city. The following is a list of the regiments, and the number of men:

Table with 2 columns: Regiment Name and Number of Men. Includes 2d Kentucky (349), 43d Mississippi (519), 8th Kentucky (256), 21st Alabama (9), 1st Mississippi (278), 26th Mississippi (373), 1st Tennessee Battalion (222), 26th Tennessee (287), 53d Tennessee (258), 3d Mississippi (112), Kentucky cavalry (72), Tennessee cavalry (26), Kentucky artillery (103), Tennessee artillery (50).

Total 3,233

A RETROSPECTIVE OATH.—The following tells of the passage of a bill of very intolerant character by the madmen who rule at Washington:

United States Senate, April 17.—Grimes, of Iowa, called up the bill prescribing the qualifications of voters in the cities of Washington and Georgetown, D. C. under which those challenged for disloyalty are required to take the oath of allegiance, etc.

Mr. Sumner, of Massachusetts, suggested an amendment allowing six months residents a vote in the municipal elections, but Mr. Grimes objecting, Mr. S. did not press the matter.

Mr. Carlile, of Virginia, inquired as to what the words, at the close of the oath, "that I always have been loyal and true to the government of the United States," really meant.

Mr. Grimes said that, according to his judgement, that would only apply to the commission of an overt act. It was not designed, he thought, to disfranchise any who had not borne arms or aided in the rebellion.

The bill was then passed.

THE SHREVEPORT NEWS.—Since the enemy have gotten the control of the Mississippi we will doubtless meet with great difficulty in receiving newspapers published east of the river. We know of no paper west of the river, published more than once a week that can meet the wants of the people, that will thus be created more fully than the Shreveport Semi-Weekly News, published at Shreveport La. at \$4 per annum.—Times, Henderson, Texas.

We return Mr. S. R. Johnson, the Editor of the Times, our thanks for the above notice.

A MOST PLEASANT SUMMER DRINK.—To the many thirsty souls in this city, and elsewhere, who suffer inconvenience from malarial law, we recommend the following drink, which has not been inaptly called "Cream Nectar," as a first assuager, and at the same time a most refreshing and delightful beverage. It is better than the best "snow drop julep" that was ever manufactured, and sherry cobbler cannot begin to compare with it in quality:

Take 3 lbs. white sugar, 3 ounces tartaric acid, and 1 quart cold water, put them into a brass or copper kettle and when warm, add the white of 3 eggs; beat up with 3 teaspoonfuls of flour; stir till it boils 5 minutes, when cold, add 1 gill of essence, and bottle up.

Directions for use.—Two dessert spoonfuls of the nectar to each glass; then fill them two thirds full of ice water, if it can be had, and add a little carbonate of soda.

THE SOUTHERN SLAVES—What a Federal Officer Says of Them—Col. Gibson, of the 49th Ohio Regiment, recently wrote a letter from Tennessee, from which the following is an extract:

In this region every one owns one or more slaves. Here, as elsewhere, where I have been, the slaves are well treated and well provided for. They appear happier and certainly live and dress better than the poor whites or the free negroes of Ohio or the North. They all supposed we are about to liberate them. This lie had been trumpeted in the South, and hundreds of honest people, aside from slaves, believed it. But the negro here instinctively dreads the North. They love the South and are devoted to their masters.

I have witnessed some touching scenes between exiled masters, returned to their homes, and their faithful slaves. It is strange how few try to escape or run away. I doubt if 20 have come to the army with which I have been connected since last September.

About the farm houses and in the city the white children and the black play together like brothers and sisters. It is my deliberate opinion that, in their present state of ignorance the slave rather fears than desires emancipation. They only regard their appetites and comforts. They are well housed, well dressed and well fed. They appear to want no more. These facts constitute no excuse for slavery, but I mention them as tending to show that statesmen had better let the "nigger" alone at present, and address themselves to suppressing this great rebellion.

The steamer Gen. Hodges, from Minden, reports that the Federals are shelling Vicksburg. The gunboats are at a distance of four miles from the city. We learn that we have some forty thousand troops near Vicksburg ready, when the gunboats make a landing, to give the enemy fight.

EXPLOSION AT THE CONFEDERATE LABORATORY.—Two of the workmen at the Confederate States Laboratory on 7th street, named Timothy Sullivan and Patrick Cartlow, were dreadfully injured yesterday, about half past twelve o'clock, by the explosion of a conical shell, which burst while they were endeavoring to unload it. The leg of one of the unfortunate men was so badly injured as to require amputation. A portion of the foot of the other was blown off and his injuries are of such a character as may necessitate the removal also of his leg below the knee. The explosion was not due to any want of caution on the part of those who suffered by its effects, but was one of those unaccountable occurrences that the best care is sometimes unable to prevent. No one we believe, besides the two workmen whose names are given, were hurt.—Dispatch.

From the San Antonio Herald 12th.

Mr. Eisemann, formerly a business man of this city, brings us the following intelligence from El Paso: Gen. Sibley's troops were encamped at Alamo, on the right side of the Rio Grande, and Canby was on the other side, but three miles off from Sibley. Reinforcements from Col. Steele and Maj. Harrison were daily expected.

It is reported that 1,000 Federals from California arrived at Tucson to reinforce Col. Canby.

On last Friday and Saturday we had very heavy rains.