

The Semi-Weekly News.

Published on Tuesday and Friday.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Our Agents:

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- Mr. H. C. CLARKE,.....Vicksburg.
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Postmasters can act as Agents, & obtain 50 cents from the amount forwarded, for every yearly subscriber.

TUESDAY,.....JUNE 24, 1862.

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.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Owing to the enormous high price of paper and the difficulty of obtaining supplies, besides the rapid increase of our subscription list, we are compelled, in justice to our patrons and ourselves, to increase the price of subscription. (See terms on first page.)—It must be borne in mind that we do not furnish our readers with ONE paper every week BUT TWO, one on Tuesday and the other on Friday, being a decided advantage to news-seekers. Besides this, we are striving regardless of expense, to make such arrangements as will enable us to get the latest intelligence possible. We will continue to do this whenever an opportunity presents itself, and hold ourselves in readiness to compensate any one who will furnish us late reliable news.

Our present subscribers will be privileged to renew their subscriptions at the expiration of their time, at the Old Rates, if they wish. That we will not be compelled to stop the publication of the "SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS," for the want of paper, can be relied on as a certainty. We thank our patrons for past favors, and hope to merit their patronage. We still do Job Printing at low prices.

We are pleased to learn that the Committee of Safety in Alexandria, La., have voted that no more steamboats shall go from that place to New Orleans.

WONDER WHAT IT WAS?—In the local column of the N. O. True Delta of the 15th inst. we find the following:

Military Excitement.—We witnessed the excited movements of the military last night, from the sending up of the rockets to the turn out and marching of troops, cavalry artillery, and infantry, but made no mention of what we saw, for the reason that we supposed mention of such movements would be considered contraband.

Tyranny at Nashville.

Andy Johnson is playing the tyrant at Nashville with a high hand. Among the other acts he has ordered all who sympathize with the South to be sent below the Federal lines, and to facilitate the movement the following order in blank has been issued to the Provost Marshal:

State of Tennessee Executive Dept  
Nashville June 2 1862

Col. S. Matthews Provost Marshal:

Dear Sir: Mr. ——— is hereby remanded to your custody, there to remain until arrangements can be made for his transportation South, in connection with such others as may be ready and are required to be sent beyond the Federal lines, there to be left, with the distinct understanding that if he recrosses and comes again within these lines during the existing rebellion, he shall be considered a spy and dealt with accordingly.

Very respectfully,

ANDREW JOHNSON,  
Military Governor.

P. S. If Mr. ———, before he is remanded to prison, determines to take the oath of allegiance and give bond in the sum of \$1000 for its faithful observance, he will be relieved on so doing. ANDREW JOHNSON.

We Look for It.

In a short time, we expect to lay before our readers, news of a very important character. The reports from Vicksburg are to the effect that all of the enemy's gunboats above that city were heaving in sight, and those below were on their way to the same place, thus, we may prepare ourselves to hear of the enemy's taking possession of that point. The brave people of Vicksburg say that they are determined to show fight at all hazards; this they will do, and probably lay their city in ashes before it falls into the enemy's clutches. We glory in the spirit exhibited by the gallant sons of Mississippi. They have already shown by their works that they talk little, and work much. Had the citizens of the different towns and cities, now in possession of the Federals, shown as much resistance as Vicksburg, what a different appearance could be seen, and what advantages we would have at present.

It is preposterous to entertain for a moment, the idea that Vicksburg can hold out against the bombardment which will soon be commenced, but the pages of history will teem with eulogies about its patriotic defenders.

The report of an armistice having been entered into between the Confederate States and the United States for sixty days, from the actions of the enemy, cannot be true, and we hope it is not, for the advantages of such a course to the enemy may prove of great consequence, enabling him to make his arrangements, and repair any damages from which he may be suffering. The cessation of fighting for a short time, unless accompanied by evident signs of an immediate settlement, and peace, we think is not the will of the people.

As regards the interference of European powers, there is something on the tapis of which we are kept in ignorance, the Richmond Examiner's informant reports that sixteen English war vessels, and four iron clad are now in Hampton Roads, this has a bearing in that way. The dispatches received of late are so indefinite that it is a matter of impossibility to arrive at a correct understanding of what is being done anywhere, editors must therefore draw their own conclusions, as best they can, for the benefit of the reader. The greatest rumor of the day is that France has recognized the Confederate States, this appears in a letter published in the Natchitoches Union, which appears elsewhere under the telegraphic items.

Army Chaplains.

The bishops of the Methodist E. church in the Confederate States, in a recent pastoral address, gives the following excellent and animating advice to such of their ministers as are serving as chaplains. We extract it from the charge to the ministers generally:

But we will suppose that the preacher is already in the army as chaplain. How does he meet the responsibilities of his position? Does he remember the object of his mission there? Is he the faithful, sympathizing friend, and often the nurse of the sick and wounded soldier? Does he mingle kindly among the soldiers in their tents, thus winning their confidence and opening the way to do them much spiritual good, by his kindly and goodly advice? Or does he affect too much the company and conversation of ungodly officers, who are either scoffers at religion, or perfectly indifferent to its claims? There is great danger that young

chaplains should be lead into this snare, and whenever it is so, they very soon become useless to their regiments, and had better leave for home at once, unless they immediately mend their ways. We have heard of some who entered the army chaplains, who seemed to suppose that all their duty was to preach when they could get a suitable place to do so, or when it pleased the colonel of the regiment to afford them a suitable opportunity. Now, if you are a chaplain, as a faithful minister of God, you are, to a great extent on these points, independent. What though there be no pulpit and suitable arrangements for you to preach to the soldiers, often in due form Your Master preached to a solitary hearer at the well; and to a faithful chaplain hundreds of opportunities will present themselves of preaching to larger or smaller groups of redeemed souls—many of whom would rejoice to hear the truths of salvation from your lips. Thus you might sow much precious seed as you pass on. Many of the soldiers were pious church members when they entered the army, but the snares and temptations incident to camp life will be apt to lead them astray, if they are not vigilantly and tenderly watched over. To you it belongs, O, man of God, to feed these lambs and sheep of your Master's fold. Watch the first symptoms of declining piety and endeavor earnestly, prayerfully and perseveringly to stop the wanderer before he strays from the fold.

You will encourage by every means in your power a diligent attendance on all the social means of grace—prayer meetings, and meetings for social Christian intercourse; and if wounds or sickness shall fill your hospitals, oh, what a field is offered you besides the sick and dying. We beseech you, brethren, do not neglect those golden opportunities, but go promptly to the call of the sick and dying husband, father, son or brother. Go, point him to the lamb of God who died for him and is ready to save him; and supply as far as you may, the place of the loved ones who are far away. If there be any chaplain who will not do this work cheerfully and faithfully, let us beg such to resign and go home immediately, as his longer continuance in his chaplaincy will only prove a curse in his regiment, a disgrace to his character as a preacher, and a reproach to the cause of God.

The Jackson Mississippian, of the 14th, says that a dispatch has been sent to that office from President Davis, alluding in indignant terms to an article in the Raymond Gazette implying that he has preserved his cotton on the Mississippi, while that of his neighbors has been destroyed. He states that engaged as he is, by pressing public duties, he has given no attention to his private affairs, and supposed that his cotton had been destroyed by the military authorities, as such, as their instructions were peremptory to burn all which is in danger of capture by the enemy.

We learn that his entire crop has been destroyed.

The Richmond Examiner of the 28th says:

Major Gen. Magruder has been assigned to take command in the trans-Mississippi district but will not, we learn, proceed to his post for several days, in view of the impending crisis in the immediate neighborhood of Richmond. This will be good news for our Arkansas friends.

Affairs In New Orleans.

By the Beaumont train Saturday, we received only the following particulars from passengers: Our readers will recollect that, when the Federal flag was placed on the Mint upon the arrival of the Federals at New Orleans, Mumford led a few men who pulled it down. Mumford was tried, convicted and hung on the 7th inst., in front of the customhouse. He made a speech, which was published in the Sunday Delta.

Dr. Stone refused to attend some sick Federal soldiers. For so doing he was arrested and sent to Fort Jackson, where he now is.

The flag ship Hartford is supposed to be sunk above, as another has been sent to New Orleans as the flag of the squadron.

It is believed that Farragut is a prisoner, as he has not been seen or heard from for some time.

Picayune Butler is across the lakes building a residence, with a sufficient force to protect him.

Only 4000 Federal soldiers now remain in New Orleans; but our enemies have guns all around the city pointing towards it.

No man can open his mouth, or give utterance to the slightest sentiment disparaging to the enemy, with out being arrested by men in citizens clothes, and sent no one knows where.

The Crescent is confiscated, sold, and old Barker the purchaser.—Houston Telegraph.

YANKEE VICTORIES.—Speaking of Gen. McClellan's dispatches claiming a victory near Richmond the Examiner of that city says:

We have now the means of verifying the worth of McClellan's romances. In these battles near the city of Richmond we were witnesses of a complete defeat to the Federal army and a victory to the Confederates. We saw the Federal ranks wilt, break and retreat under the tremendous fire of Johnston's lines of battle; saw them wholly disappear from the field on which they were first seen drawn up before their camp; saw that camp taken and occupied a day and a night; saw their splendid bronze howitzers standing in the rear of the victors, entered their redoubts, and looked on thousands of dead men in Federal uniforms, and know that a flag of truce came to the Confederate commander from McClellan himself to ask permission for their burial. In these battles, therefore, the Federals were entirely defeated, the Confederates were surely victorious, and remained undisturbed masters of the the ground as long as they pleased to maintain it.

The Memphis papers of 20th ult. announces that nearly, if not all, the cotton on store in that city, was burnt about midnight on the night of the 29th of May. The sacrifice was ordered by the civil authorities and executed by the home battallion.

PREPARING TO PAY THE PIPER.—We learn from the Post that the Boston Board of Trade have published a report on systems of Internal Taxation, which should command the attention of the country and of Congress. "The subject," says the Post, "has evidently received the enlightened and careful consideration of the Board; the suggestions offered evince practical knowledge and common sense, and we hope the facts and reasoning presented may find their way to congress." Among the propositions thus endorsed by the Post, we find the following:

As a just, comprehensive, and fruitful source of internal revenue,

your committee recommend that there should be a stamp duty imposed on all sales of articles, goods, wares, merchandise and produce, whether foreign or domestic, except sales made by persons whose business does not exceed in the aggregate — dollars a year.

The committee also recommend, that all internal dues shall be collected by the sale of Government stamps, to be distributed and obtained through the post office department.

BEECHER ON NEWSPAPERS.—The Reverend Henry Ward Beecher, in the course of a sermon delivered in Plymouth Church, last week, thus spoke of newspapers: "There is a common, vulgar objection about newspapers, that 'they lie' so; they don't lie any more than you do. Man is naturally a lying creature. Truth is a gift from Heaven, and very few of us possess it before we get there. The newspapers give both facts and rumors, and they would be blamed if they did not do so. It is for the readers to judge of these rumors. The last economy should be in regard to newspapers. It is better to deprive the body of some ribbon or jewel or garment, than to deprive the mind of its sustenance."

The Atlanta Intelligencer speaking of Gen. Johnston's Wound, says:

A distinguished gentleman sojourning in our city for a time, has permitted us to make the following extract from a letter received by him on yesterday from his accomplished daughter, dated at Richmond, June 2d, where she was during the recent battles before that city, on Saturday and Sunday last:

General Johnson was wounded by a Minnie ball in the shoulder. The ball passed down his back, and has not been found yet. At the same time a spent shell struck him in the breast. He fell from his horse and broke two of his ribs; so, of course he suffers very much. To-day he is much better, although the ball has not been extracted.

THE GALLANT COL. ASHBY.—During Adventure.—The Richmond Whig of the 24th ult. says: We learn that the gallant Ashby a few days since, while falling back before the enemy, who pursued along the valley turnpike, alighted to aid a few men in destroying the bridge across the Shenandoah. The last caisson of his artillery had thundered by, and the Yankee cavalry pursued so closely that a number had crossed the bridge before it could be destroyed. Springing upon his noble grey charger, Ashby sped along the turnpike followed by 80 of the enemy. His pistols were unfortunately empty, and he had no resource but flight. The chase continued for nearly two miles, the Yankees firing at him as he ran. As he neared a place of safety, two of the Yankees, who had outstripped the rest were nearly abreast of him, when one of them was shot by one of his men, and the other was killed by Ashby with his sabre.

During the latter part of the chase a shot fired by a long range gun at a distance of nearly half a mile, struck his horse in the side. The faithful animal continued with unabated speed and served his rider, but the wound was mortal. He was led along the line of a regiment under arms. Our informant says he never imagined so magnificent and spirited an animal. He was as white as snow except where his legs were stained with his own blood. His mane and tail were long and flowing, his eyes and actions evinced distinctly the rage with which