

The Semi-Weekly News.

Published on Tuesday and Friday.

J. N. DICKINSON EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Our Agents;

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 1862.

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.

When subscribers see a Red pencil mark on their paper, it signifies that the time paid for has expired.

We are pleased to again receive the Vicksburg Whig among our exchanges. When the enemy attacked Vicksburg, we feared the consequences would have proven disastrous to the press, but the old Whig has passed through the ordeal and sustained no material damage.

Mr. N. S. Seligman will accept our thanks for his services during our absence from the city. We owe you one, friend Seligman.

We would remind our friends who send us remittances for our paper, that the price of subscription has been slightly increased since the past few months. Always see terms before enclosing money, and send no less.

Lost by a lady, on last Wednesday between Dr. Lawrence's and the head of Texas street, a small green port monnie, with a chain attached, containing about \$23. The finder will be liberally rewarded by leaving the same at this office.

The Homer Iliad is again under headway, but not as a high pressure. We hope your efforts will be appreciated friend Blackburn, and that you will sail along smoothly on the troubled waters of the times.

"But if the pen is mightier than the sword, then we feel that we shall do some available and practical service, and acquit ourselves in a manner that will compare favorably with that of any editor in the South, and give full and cordial satisfaction to every man that reads us."

"The pen is mightier than the sword," this was never more applicable than in the present time, and we think very appropos, therefore, it should be judiciously handled.

In another column we publish a letter from our late New Orleans correspondent, who was to have sent us regular letters from the army near Tupelo, but he has been forbidden doing what he went for.

In answer to all inquiries, we would say that we do not now publish a weekly paper, and will not until there is a better prospect of obtaining a good supply of paper. Also, that we have no paper of any description, or printing material of any kind that we wish to dispose of.

Tones Bayou.

Through the courtesy of our fellow citizen Dr. T. P. Hotchkiss, Provost Marshal of Caddo Parish, we were among the number of citizens who proceeded down the river on the steamer Countess, Capt. George D. Hite, on last Monday. The object of the trip was to examine the state of the river in the vicinity of Tones Bayou, with a view of endeavoring to improve the navigation of Red River.

After arriving at Scopine's cut off, the boat was landed and preparations made to examine the cut off, the bottom of which upon considerable digging was found to be hard red clay (pipe clay), and no sand to be found. It was discovered upon inspection that the fall, from the head of the cut off to the terminus, was, strange as it may appear for the distance, say four hundred yards, to be five feet eleven inches. The fall in the Mississippi river, the distance from St. Louis to Memphis, according to the United States survey, is only about two feet. After a thorough investigation of this point, the party moved towards Tones Bayou which was sounded, with no little difficulty, owing to the powerful current. It was astonishing to see the water pouring down the Bayou, and we have no hesitation in asserting that three quarters of the water in Red River finds its way through that channel, which if not checked immediately, will forever ruin the navigation to and from Shreveport; thus destroying commerce, and blasting the future fair prospects of all the upper Red River country.

We could mention many interesting incidents, but as we do not intend to "write a book," will limit ourselves to the subject.

Dr. T. P. Hotchkiss has been fully empowered by the military authorities to stop the mouth of Tones Bayou, or take such steps as may in his judgment be best towards the accomplishment of the improvement of the navigation of Red River. No more competent person than the Doctor could have been selected for the important work ahead. His thorough knowledge of the nature of these things, and his past experience as swamp land commissioner entitle him, in our opinion to the full confidence of the people, and their hearty co-operation. He has satisfied himself that the desired object can be attained, and the task performed at no very great outlay. When our people reflect upon the evil effects which are soon to show themselves, if this matter is not attended to promptly, they will agree with us upon the necessity of having the work commenced at once. What if attempts have been made to improve the navigation of our stream, and have proved a failure, is this a reason for them to withhold themselves at such a critical period; when the salvation of their section of country is within their reach? No! Let one and all rally again, and all will yet be saved. Even if the cost of the undertaking should be more than would be supposed, (and we doubt it) what, in the name of common sense does it amount to, in comparison with the interest at stake? We are confident that the people of Caddo have already deeply felt the error they have committed in this far neglecting their duty, and that they will with alacrity proffer all the aid they can, now that there is a good prospect of remedying the evil, and counterbalancing all the harm which has already been exhibited and acknowledged.

Special to the News.

CAMP NEAR TUPELO, Miss. July 25th, 1862.

Friend Dickinson: I embrace an opportunity of penning a few lines for the "News" from the Army of the West. Our noble army is here encamped on the beautiful hills of North Mississippi, with an abundance of good water, thereby rendering the sanitary condition of the troops, excellent, and in the best possible condition for active operations. The other branches of our army have had their fun long enough, as our turn will come soon, when you may expect to hear of one of the grandest fights or footraces (the latter most probably) of the war. Of course prudence forbids me to tell anything concerning army movements, but I can assure you of "good tidings of great joy" soon. The masterly retreat of our forces from Corinth, has been a stunning blow to our enemies. They are perfectly nonplussed, and will very likely remain so—well—till Gen. Bragg pleases. The climate of North Mississippi is lovely at this season. Mosquitoes are unknown, or rather unfelt. With massive oaks to shade us, and pure water, with plenty to eat we can laugh at the poor deluded followers of Abe, as they "enjoy the scorching heats of our Southern climate."

The glorious news from Kentucky, foretells the disenthralment of that gallant State from Yankee rule. Our Morgan, Ferret and Stuart, are making themselves known and felt. The first named is not far from Louisville, by this time. Kentucky bids fair to be the theatre of active operations at the coming fall. Our spading policy is at an end; onward! is our motto! The latest news from the North is awful depressing to their cause. Their credit is ruined, at home and abroad, and what is better their fighting material is ditto. The effort to make Sambo shoulder the musket is futile and they have come to the conclusion that he is only fit to do the "dirty work." Their new levy of looser warriors will be enlisted for one and not for three years. Nothing is said about (or for the war); so we presume that we are to be wiped out by the end of that time. On the other hand, we are arising Phoenix like from the ashes of defeat, and pushing forward to the great prize, Independence, which seems to be almost within our grasp. So will we all ere long raise our united voices and cry we are free! we are free!! So mote it be!

Ever of thee DIXIE DOODLE.

Passengers on Wednesday contradict the report that the Arkansas was blown up, and say that she crippled or sunk two of the enemy's vessels.

Flour is selling here at from \$12 @12.50 per 100 pounds.

Col. Wilkes, who arrived in our city during the forepart of the week, we are told reports that he could only get money at Richmond, for his own regiment, and that Carter's brigade is disbanded.

We would advise planters coming to Shreveport, to bring all the surplus jeans or socks that they may have on hand. They can readily find sale for such articles, and they will at the same time being doing a vast amount of good.

The N. Y. Herald alluding to the arrival of Hon. Pierre Soule to that city as a prisoner, says:

No one was allowed to converse with the distinguished Southern prisoner. They were locked in the Marshall's inner office in the care of two aids; but from a furtive glance we were able to see that time or the cares of this distracted country, had whitened his once dark hair. Mr. Soule appears to be about sixty years of age, with the keen eye of Daniel Webster, a head like the first Napoleon, and a figure mid-way between the rotundity of both.

Upon the arrival of Marshall Murray, he telegraphed to Washington for instructions as to where the prisoner of war should be sent, he not having any official instructions. The telegram was sent at ten minutes to three o'clock; but at the closing of the Marshall's office at half past five o'clock, no reply had been received. In the meantime Messrs. Soule and Mazureau were provided with accommodation at the Astor House for the night. We may further add that up to a late hour last evening no reply from Washington was received as to the final disposition of the prisoner. The matter may, however, be brought up to-day.

CANNON HEARD AT A GREAT DISTANCE.—The guns at Pensacola were heard by the negroes 130 miles distant, who called the attention of their masters to the sound. The firing of cannon at Port Royal was heard at Jacksonville, Florida, a distance of two hundred miles on an air line.

The Telegraph Question.

In a few issues back, of our paper, we advised the erection of a Telegraph from this point to Monroe, to connect with the line which will soon be complete to that place. Since then we have conversed with some few of our fellow citizens on the subject, and, strange to say, could meet with no encouragement whatever. Because, forsooth, a line was once started from here in a different direction, and proved a failure, for want of good management intermixed with rascality, is it to argue that this will be the same?

We are necessitated to have this line built, if not now, at some future period; and why not now? The growing importance of this section, cut off as it is, demands it. If Shreveport is ever to be the place it was destined to be, we must have this telegraph connection, in addition to our railroad. Who ever heard of a commercial city, bearing the name abroad that this does, not having a telegraph communication to some leading point? Not we.

Our people should not let these glorious opportunities pass by unheeded. We can not be too enterprising if we desire distinction; and if we intend to profit by the natural advantages of the situation of Shreveport, making it a truly commercial city, we must to the task at once. Nature has formed for us a beautiful location, not surpassed by any, and it is now with the people to say whether or not they will finish the work.—Every dollar invested in enterprises here, will be forthcoming with interest into the coffers of the venturers. Mark us! If there are any enterprising gentlemen in our midst who can afford it, let them come forth, and count us in. We are willing to do our share and assist as far as our limited means will admit. Give us good navigation, railroads, telegraph, and manufactories, and in a few years the change will be magical, and the citizens of Shreveport be justly proud of their efforts. Otherwise, it will be pointed at as a place that wans.

We append below a letter just received, the suggestion in it we commend to the people, believing as we do, that if a few individuals will make the attempt, all can be accomplished in a short time.

MT. LEBANON, LA., Aug. 12, 1862.

Editor Shreveport News: Dear Sir—I notice in your issue of the 8th inst., a suggestion to the good people of your city, the importance and practical capability of establishing a telegraphic line in connection with the one terminating at Monroe.

This is important and well-timed. Urge forward the enterprise, and send subscriptions to all important points along the line. The amount necessary to erect the wire can be raised almost without an effort.

Truly, C. G. THURMOND. The above is cheering, and we suggest the propriety of calling a meeting with a view of opening subscription books, and adopting measures for the further accomplishment of this much needed improvement.

The citizens of St. Tammany parish it seems have petitioned to Gen. Ruggles for permission to trade with the Federals at New Orleans. The General, of course, would not sanction such a procedure, and informs them that any one detected in attempting to do it, will be brought to condign punishment.

ON THE WANE.—Lincoln's call for 300,000 more men to defend the "National Capitol," is not being obeyed with much alacrity it seems Ohio has a quota of 12,000 and yet she has only 2,000 in the field. According to Northern accounts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Massachusetts have done almost nothing.

According to the official report of Gen. Johnson, of the Battle of Seven Pines, we took ten pieces of artillery 6000 muskets, one garrison flag, and four regimental colors, besides a large quantity of tents and camp equipage.

Major General Longstreet reports the loss in his command as being about 3000 Major Gen. G. W. Smith reports his loss at 1283

Total 4283

That of the enemy is stated in their own newspapers to have exceeded ten thousand—an estimate which is, no doubt, short of the truth.

The alarm of fire was given this morning between two and three o'clock, resulting in the complete destruction of the dwellings of Messrs Sour, Jacobs, Levy, and Frisbey.—The house of the latter was unoccupied. Loss about \$20,000. No insurance.

THE WAR IN MISSOURI.—Information of the following character was received here by Col. Marsh this morning, from Jefferson City:

At noon, yesterday, the Federal forces at Moore's Mills, seven miles east of Fulton, were attacked by the rebels, nine hundred strong. The Union troops were under the command of Col. Guitar, and consisted of his own force and some reinforcements under Lt. Col. Scheaffer and Majors Caldwell and Clopper, in all six hundred strong. They were attacked at noon by the rebels, who evidently relied on superior numbers for victory. A desperate fight instantly commenced, and lasted until 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The rebels fought well but were finally routed by the Federal troops. One hundred Confederates were killed and wounded, and one taken prisoner. The Union loss was forty-five.

A considerable quantity of ammunition, baggage, etc., was captured, and a good many guns. Col. Guitar immediately resumed pursuit of the rebels, and prospects are that he will overtake them again. Cobb, one of the Confederate leaders, is reported killed.

Col. Guitar's force consisted of the 9th Missouri State militia and 3d Iowa.

The principal officers engaged, besides Col. Guitar, were Lt. Col. Schaeffer and Maj. Clopper of the Missouri troops, and Maj. Caldwell of the Iowa force.—St. Louis Republican.

The Rev. W. C. Crane, D. D. will preach at the Baptist Church on next Sabbath morning, at 11 o'clock.

SKETCH OF GEN. POPE.—The following brief sketch of Gen. Pope, which we find in one of the Northern papers, is made interesting by the promotion of its subject to the command of the Yankee army in the Valley of Virginia:

Major General Pope is a man nearly forty years of age, a native of Kentucky, but a citizen of Illinois, and a graduate of West Point, which academy he entered in 1838. He graduated in 1842, standing high in a large class, and was appointed to the army from the State of Illinois, entering the service as a brevet 2d Lieutenant of Topographical Engineers. He was engaged in Mexico, and was brevetted 1st Lieutenant for gallant and meritorious conduct in several conflicts in Monterey—the brevet bearing date from September 23d, 1846. On the 23d of February, 1847, he was brevetted Captain for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Buena Vista. In 1849 he conducted the Minnesota exploring expedition, having accomplished which, he acted as a Topographical Engineer in New Mexico until 1853, when he was assigned to the command of one of the expeditions to survey the route of the Pacific Railroad. From 1854 to 1859 he was engaged in the exploration of the Rocky Mountains, during which time—viz: on the 1st of July 1859—he took the actual rank of Captain in the corps of Topographical Engineers. On the 17th day of March, 1861, he was made Brigadier General of volunteers. He held a command in Missouri for some time before he became particularly noted; but when Gen. Halleck took charge of the disorganized department, he, having great confidence in Brigadier General Pope, gave him the charge of the district of Central Missouri.

A NEW WORD COINED.—Two Generals overheard a conversation a few days since between two little girls in a public square.

The first reported to the second that young Master said he was much in love with her, and was nearly dead to see her. The second disbelieving her friend, very significantly pronounced it a Yank.

They thought the coin too good and significant to be lost.—Mobile Tribune.