

The Semi-Weekly News.

Published on Tuesday and Friday.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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TUESDAY, . . . NOVEMBER 4, 1862.

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

There is a very large stock of Tobacco in our market at present. On Friday, we noticed the arrival of a few wagon loads of leather.

The news from the Texas coast is not very cheering; one after the other, our towns fall into the hands of the Federals. Texans, to your duty, if the enemy is thus permitted to take possession of your coast, you may soon expect them marching triumphantly into the interior of your State. The Telegraph says:

We learn that Matagorda, Indianola and Powderhorn have all been taken by the Federals. Our people were concentrating at Lavaca for a fight.—The Federals had but to land at any time since the war began, to take possession of those places.

True, it is that the above places are not of much import, but remember that every point they take and hold, aids them in the prosecution of their aims. Lavaca will, doubtless be the next town, they take.

From our Texas exchanges we learn that a secret organization exists to a considerable extent in Northern Texas. A number of persons suspected were arrested, and after an examination, some forty were hung. The object of the association is supposed to be for the purpose of aiding the Federals. The members of this association recognize each other by signs and grips. We hope it does not amount to as much as the press conjecture, and that the members will be discovered.

We would direct special attention to all the advertisements in to-day's paper.

Adjutant W. D. Douglass, of the 7th Texas Regiment, has laid us under obligations for a late paper.

A meeting will be held at the salt works, in Bossier Parish, on Saturday the 8th inst., for the purpose of adopting measures to defend the Red River valley.

The attention of our readers here and at a distance is directed to the advertisement of Mr. W. J. Carlisle, in this issue. Mr. C. is agent for the Virginia manufactories, and is prepared to fill all orders for this article. He has now on hand not less than 500 boxes of chewing tobacco, and some 600 more on its way to our city. He will be constantly receiving large supplies which he will sell or exchange for wool, hides and leather, on reasonable terms. This affords an excellent opportunity to merchants and consumers to lay in a supply, while they can. Call and see him.

See notice cautioning the public against trading for note.

The steamer Vigo, from Alexandria, passed this place, on her way up the river, with a lot of government goods, from Matamoras.

Eggs, butter, chickens, corn and eatables generally, will meet with a ready sale, if brought to this place.

A tailor put an end to his existence yesterday, by taking strychnine.

Self Dependence.

In looking over an old number of the Southern Monthly, we find a very interesting article on the subject of Self Dependence in nations and individuals. It is replete with good advice, which might well be followed. Alluding to the hope at one time entertained by the major portion of our people, the writer says:

As yet, we of the South must appear, in the eyes of foreign nations, to lack that great element of Roman strength—self-dependence. The sectional treachery which at last drove us to revolution, caused us at first to calculate our value to others, and to seek abroad for help while we should have been investigating and developing the God-bestown powers that would place us beyond the need of it. Our government shared the error and nursed it. The letter of Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston to President Davis proves how far the taint had spread even in the army, where the paramount law should ever be that of self-reliance. The error is now seen; and the only danger to be feared is a reaction of feeling against those nations to which we have vainly unnecessarily turned our help-seeking eyes. We feel now that we can work out our own salvation; but we should beware of such exaggeration of the feelings as many would manifest by a haughty and profitless disregard of the respect due those great empires with whom we must sooner or later interchange courtesies and conduct commerce. They but wait evidence of our self-reliance and power of self-sustenance to bid us welcome to the assembly of nations. The exhibition of hatred to England because, forsooth, she would not hazard the welfare of millions in a war with the United States for our benefit, is silly in the extreme. To expect a great nation to disregard her treaties with another, at the first internal disturbance that may occur within that other, is as unreasonable as to quarrel with John because he will not espouse your quarrel with your late business partner. When the dissolution of partnership has been effected, John, no doubt, will amicably trade with either.

The following forcible language, must ere this be plain to every person:

We must evince to the world that we can feed ourselves, or most assuredly it will be long ere we can stand a self-reliant nation among nations. We must eat the product of our own soil or be indebted for food to our bitterest foe, from none other could we get it.

If the eyes of every citizen is not open yet, they never will be. It behooves us not to look at the work ahead, and contemplate the many obstacles to be encountered, but on the contrary, to proceed without delay and accomplish what we can. Every man, woman and child, rich or poor, is equally interested. We must feed ourselves and clothe ourselves; we must strain every nerve, and endeavor to excel each other, in not only providing for our individual selves, but for the army. It is only necessary to say we will, and it will be; yet, if we only half exert ourselves, under the delusion that, France, England, or some other power cannot refrain now from interfering in our behalf, then we are a doomed people.

The mischief that this same hope has caused to our Confederacy cannot be summed up with ease, for it would exhibit itself in many forms that any one who would venture it, could not but stand aghast, at the task he had undertaken.

For your country's sake, build no more castles, but set to work with a will, look not at your neighbor, for you lose time, but attend strictly to what you have undertaken, after you have finished, commence again, and you will be astonished at your self.

A new hope now entertained by many is, the success of the Democrats in the past and approaching election

in the North; this though will not have the effect many suppose. The only real benefit to accrue to us is the weakening of the enemy; for by being divided, they cannot present as bold a front as heretofore;—this is all. *Per contra*, will not the Black Republican administration, seeing that it is short lived, be urged to commit still greater atrocities; unprecedented in the annals of history. The opposing party does not favor us any more than the other; the only thing is, that they propose waging war on a different principle. But war it is to be, and therefore the beneficial results comparatively speaking, amount to nothing. War is war, and we can see no preference as to which we fight. Readers, you have not yet seen anything, and may prepare yourselves for what never occurred to you. We are only at the ending of the commencement. Conclude now, that this war is to be one of extermination, and be in readiness for the worse. Plant while you can and make while you may, for you know not what the morrow may bring. Abandon now and forever all hope of foreign interference or a speedy termination of this war of wars, and with the blessing of the Omnipotent, your country will pass through this fiery furnace, unharmed. We have studied the subject well, and hope our readers will sufficiently appreciate our efforts, by heeding the advice.

Fire in Houston.

The Houston Telegraph contains the following particulars of a disastrous conflagration in that city:

About 4 o'clock this morning an alarm of fire aroused the town. The fire broke out in the back building of the bakery, next to the Baptist church, and had gained considerable headway before it was discovered.

A heavy norther blowing at the same time, soon fanned the blaze into raging fire. The scarcity of water, as well as of men to work the engines, rendered the efforts to confine the fire to its original locality abortive.

It soon caught in the large three story frame building, formerly Baker & Thompson's sack factory, but lately occupied by Judson's carriage repository and shop, Parsons' sack, doors and blinds, and Breittlings' furniture store. The building was a very large one, and but a few moments elapsed before it was wrapped in flames.

The fire thence devoured the small dwelling houses and shop south of this building and fastened upon the Presbyterian church, which together with the dwelling in rear was soon consumed.

Masonic Hall on the East side of Main street, another large three story building, was next seized by the fire and but a moment elapsed before it too was a mass of flames.

The fire then swept down the South face of the Masonic Hall block, taking in its course the dwelling of Col. D. J. Baldwin, and D. O. Allen, Esq., together with the small building on the corner, and was here arrested.

The loss, as near as we now estimate it, will reach fifty or sixty thousand dollars, and perhaps more.

Hermes, writing to the Charleston Mercury from Richmond, says: I have heretofore spoken of the money-making spirit in this State. Here is an incident in proof of its effects. In the town of B., a great revival was going on. One night the minister of the church in which the revival occurred, publicly rebuked his elders for not attending except on Sunday. Brother Diggs excused himself on the ground that his business had increased so much that he could not possibly leave it on week days. Bro. Piggs then rose and said: "Brother Diggs has stated my case exactly. He sells tobacco and I manufacture it, and you all know that it is a big business at this time. Why, brethren, even lugs is eight dollars, and how kin I leave my factory." This really occurred.

THE QUESTION.—Thinking, intelligent, independent men of the former Union party of East Tennessee are rapidly declaring their adhesion to the Southern cause. They would not have the country overrun by liberated slaves who shall compete for employment with the laboring whites, who shall become as they have everywhere in the State an idle, thieving and wretched population.

The municipal authorities of Chicago have refused admittance into that city of 1,500 negroes now congregated at Cairo. What must become the condition of East Tennessee, should all the slaves of the South be turned loose to prey upon society?

The above is from the Knoxville Register. It will be seen that when the pocket is to be effected, the "poor negro" is looked upon in a different light. The momentous question among the fanatics now, is, "what shall we do with them?"

They are exceedingly anxious to liberate the slave, not for any love that they bear towards them, but with a false view of weakening and injuring us; after the contrabands get in their possession, they are sorely puzzled about the disposition to be made of them. So much for their christianity.

At a public meeting held in the city of Shreveport, on Saturday November 1, 1862, in accordance with previous notice. Col. B. L. Hodge was called to the chair and N. E. Wright appointed Secretary.

On motion, of W. A. Lacy, Col. J. L. Hodges, of Bossier, Mr. Graves, of DeSoto, and Col. M. Watson, of Caddo, were appointed Vice Presidents.

Col. B. L. Hodge explained the object of the meeting in an eloquent speech.

On motion, Hon. J. M. Sandidge, R. J. Looney, J. M. Gatlin, Judge T. T. Land and M. Estes, were appointed a committee to prepare resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. After the committee retired, General Sibley, of the C. S. A., was called for, who made a few stirring remarks.

Capt. W. A. Lacy was called for and made a pithy speech after which Hon. Roland Jones was called for, who addressed the meeting in a few appropriate remarks.

Capt. W. Harrison of Bossier, was called for, and made a pointed address.

After a short time, the committee appointed for the purpose, through their chairman, Hon. J. M. Sandidge, reported the following resolution, and supported the same by an able appeal to the people to come to the rescue of the Red River Valley, and the necessity of relying on our own strong arms for support.

Resolutions were read and adopted unanimously.

Resolved, 1st. That his excellency, the Governor of Louisiana, be urgently requested to take immediate steps for a vigorous military organization, of every white male citizen in Louisiana West of the Mississippi river, capable of bearing arms, in its defense.

Resolved, 2d. That, in view of its necessity, and without waiting for the action of the Governor in this matter, the people of Caddo parish now determine that they will unite with the people of the neighboring parishes in a determined effort to defend our own immediate country, by blocking up Red River, and, with such weapons as can be had, fight the enemy from along every rail of its banks.—And that, to carry this resolution into effect, the President of this meeting be instructed to appoint two proper men in each ward of the parish, for the enrollment of every fighting man who may be willing to give his personal service to the cause; and that the persons thus enrolled be called together by the President of this meeting, for the completion of matters necessary to carry out the object in view.

Resolved, 3d. That the Police Jury of the parish of Caddo, be invited to convene at some proper time, for the purpose of taking such action as may facilitate the defense contemplated; and that the people of the neighboring parishes be urged to unite with the people of Caddo in the

adoption of measures for the general defense, and to send delegates to a meeting to be held in Shreveport on the 22d day of November.

Resolved, 4th. That the Governor of this State, and Major General Taylor, through a committee to be appointed by the Chair, be requested to urge upon the Confederate authorities at Richmond, the propriety and necessity of permitting the retention for its defence, of all conscripts in Louisiana, west of the Mississippi river.

On motion of N. E. Wright, the chairman, Col. B. L. Hodge, was added to the committee, to wait on the Governor.

Resolved, 5th. That the Committee contemplated by the 4th resolution be instructed to visit the Executive of the State, at Alexandria, and Major General Taylor, in relation to all the matters referred to in the foregoing resolutions and report to the meeting to be held on the 22d Nov. instant.

Respectfully submitted,
J. N. M. SANDIDGE,
Chairman Com.

Resolved. That the Chairman appoint a committee of three, whose duty it shall be, to correspond with the Presidents of the Police Juries of Parishes on and contiguous to Red River, and urge on the various Police Juries to make such appropriation as may be required to carry out the object of the 2d resolution.

Resolved, further. That the several Police Juries be requested to appoint a suitable person to canvass their respective parishes and arouse the people to immediate action.

Mr. R. J. Looney offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved. That we heartily recommend and urge our citizens, not in the military service of the Confederacy, to aid and assist by recruits and otherwise, the effort of Capt. W. A. Lacy and others, to form an efficient artillery company, in this and the adjoining parishes.

The committee appointed to correspond with Presidents of Police Juries:

D. Elder, R. Jones, T. P. Litch-kiss.

B. L. HODGE,
Chairman.
N. E. WRIGHT, Sec'y.

CHARLESTON AND SAVANNAH DEFENSES.—A Washington dispatch to a Northern paper says:

At Charleston the streets are defended by rifle pits, and the bay is obstructed by piles, fire rafts, etc. There are three gunboats in the harbor, and everybody seems to think Charleston will be attacked soon, and Gen. Mitchell is maturing plans. Our force is considerably increased. The health of the troops is excellent.

The Fingal ram is nearly completed at Savannah, and two others, which will probably prove failures.

STATE TREASURY NOTES.—There have now been issued from the State Treasury Department nearly a million of the new one dollar treasury notes, and about \$600,000 in notes of the denomination of five dollars. This issue has tended vastly to relieve the wants of the State for small notes. Some three or four hundred thousand dollars more of the former and about \$400,000 more of the latter denomination are yet to be issued. The issue of the State treasury notes of the denomination of \$100 will probably be commenced next week. Tens, twenties and fifties are also yet to be issued.—Richmond Enquirer.

The Greenock (Scotland) correspondent of the N. Y. Herald in a letter to that paper says:

One of Mr. Mason's agents is here now, looking after some of our crack Clyde steamers for the South. He has already purchased one called the Iona, a river boat; her usual speed is about eighteen to nineteen miles an hour. Though used for river purposes only, she is quite fit for a sea voyage. I believe he has his eye on three others. They are at present engaged in the Greenock and Liverpool, and Greenock and Dublin trades. They would answer admirably for despatch boats, all having great speed and splendid accommodations for passengers.