THE PRESS,
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THE DAILY PRESS.

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The Press.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1865.

THE NEWS.

From Heart's Content we hear that the British war steamers Terrible and Galatea arrived at St. Johns, N. F., at nine o'clock on the evening of the 15th. The Great Eastern had returned on the 11th to Sheerness. Captain Napier reports that the cable parted on Wednesday, the 2d instant, in 1,950 fathoms of water. It was three times grappled for, and each time raised 1,200, 900, and 600 fathoms, every time the grappling broke, but the cable remained unbroken. The Great Eastern, therefore, returned to England for better grappling gear, when another attempt to raise the cable will, in all probability, be made one hundred miles east of the break, where the water is scarcely over fifteen hundred fathoms deep. One of the electricians said that no difficulty whatever was incurred in grappling even in the greatest depths. The buoy, being fastened with pieces of condemned cable, rides the gale well. The news by the Terrible and Galatea is corroborated by the journal of Cyrus W. Field, which we elsewhere print. Other facts are also given by Mr. Field among the causes of the breaking of the cable.

Gen. Merritt, with nine thousand cavalry, was at San Antonio recently. A letter has been published by the rebel General Slaughter, exculpating General Mejia and the Imperial forces from the charge of assisting the Confederates, and states that not a rifle or a musket had ever crossed the Rio Grande, or in any other manner entered the Confederacy through the lines of the Imperials; but that, being offered four guns, he spoke to Mejia about getting them into Texas. The latter, however, unhesitatingly replied that he would endeavor, by all means in his power, to preserve strict neutrality, and that consequently he could not purchase them. The bandditti (Confederates) are not allowed to straggle through Brownsville wearing side arms.

From New Orleans we hear that the report of the Jackson, Mississippi, Convention, is complete. Resolutions were offered to so amend the Constitution as would require the probate judge of each county to act as ex-*officio* judge. Referred to Committee on the Constitution. The Convention adjourned pending action. The committee appointed on Wednesday, to revise the Constitution, were to report to-day.

At the stock market a better feeling prevailed yesterday than for many days. We are enabled to state that the losses by the New York robberies and forgeries in no way affect the standing of any Philadelphia house; and it is generally believed that scarcely a dollar will be lost by any of our brokers or business men. The markets are therefore in a more settled condition, and rapidly recovering from the effects of the recent panic.

At the Democratic State Convention, which met in St. Paul on the 12th inst., resolutions were adopted sustaining the reconstruction policy of the President, favoring the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine, opposing a protective tariff, and denouncing the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus.* On the evening of the 13th inst., a caucus was held to consider the propriety of adjourning until October.

On Wednesday afternoon, while some workmen were raising a large stone on the south wing of the Capitol extension, at Washington, one of the traverse beams of the derrick and several of the guys broke. The derrick fell from an elevation of thirty feet or more, with a tremendous crash, almost completely demolishing the scaffolding. One of the workmen, named JAMES DORSEY, ran towards the middle of the street, but a falling timber intercepted him, and a small block struck him on his head, completely smashing his skull, scattering his brains about, and causing the blood to spirt in a perfect stream, and, of course, causing instant death. Another of the workmen leaped from the scaffold, thus injuring himself in both legs, but not seriously. Several ladies were standing in the street, watching the work, men, and made a narrow escape from death as they were but three or four feet from the timbers when they fell. Only a few moments before the accident a large funeral passed by, and had it then occurred no doubt many lives would have been lost, as the carriages were moving very closely together.

President Johnson's Policy—Speech by Secretary Harlan.

Major General CURTIS was serenaded tonight, and acknowledged the honor in a patriotic speech. The party then proceeded to the residence of Secretary HARLAN, and after the band had played several airs he was called out, and spoke as follows:

I have no doubt that nothing but a feeling of friendship for me can account for the presence of the greater number of you here tonight. If any are prompted by any other motive, I do not doubt that it is on account of their respect for the Government, which now dominates over our entire and common country, and for the administration that is now enforcing the laws of the Republic, from Maine to California, and from Minnesota to Texas; and possibly I may be indebted for this compliment on account of my connection with this Administration. You must not expect me to-night to develop what will be in the future the policy of the individual district to the highest position in the gift of the American people. No one is authorized to speak for him but himself, and I doubt very much whether he now knows what will be the policy which he will be compelled by circumstances to follow in the future. We may, however, judge of the future from his official acts in the past. I know a large portion of the American people feel a deep solicitude on the subject of the probable success of his administration, and there are those who are the enemies of this Administration as they were of his predecessor, and who are anxious to have a pretext for saying that we have been betrayed by our President, as that would deprive them of all hopes of resuming their former ascendency. He is in great hopes that all will be well.

(By Associated Press.)

Postal Arrangements.

The Postmaster General has ordered a contract with the Central and North Carolina Railroad for the daily conveyance of the mails from Goldsboro' to Charlotte, North Carolina, including the intermediate offices. The distance is two hundred and twenty-one miles, and the service will be resumed on other Southern routes from time to time, as soon as it shall be reported that the roads have been repaired and are in running order.

Fatal Accident.

Yesterday afternoon, while some workmen were raising a large stone on the south wing of the Capitol extension