

The Daily Sentinel

VOL. IV.

881

The Daily Sentinel.

JOSIAH TURNER, Jr., EDITOR.

THE AMERICAN BASTILLE DEMOLISHED.

YESTERDAY afternoon the burning report reached this city that Fort Lafayette was on fire. The news was eagerly caught up, and great consternation prevailed among those whose residences were in that neighborhood; but while business called them to New York. The alarm was not groundless, the danger was imminent, and every one was on the qui vive for information. A general rush was made about town, when it was found, that the shelling workshop, and number were all on fire. Every effort possible was made to quench the flames, but without the means of forcing water, without even fire-hose or water-buckets, the most strenuous efforts would have been of little avail, and a panic seized the workmen, owing to their knowledge of the proximity of the powder magazine, a general stampede for Fort Hamilton was made. The engines, and three men, the only soldiers on duty, at the fort, immediately reported to their proper officers, and a number of men were sent over to the fort to endeavor to quell the fire, but with no effect. The undivided work of several steam engines would scarcely have been sufficient to stay the progress of the flames, added to which few could be found nearly enough to brave the reported and greatly exaggerated danger of an explosion. The fort was consequently deserted and the fire given full play, and well did it use the liberty thus given it. The fire was first discovered at ten minutes to 1 o'clock, and in less than an hour from that time the flames were bursting through the roof, casting a red glow, even in the bright light of day. At the time of breaking out of the fire there were ten carpenters and four laborers at work; the fort being in charge of a sergeant and three men. Throughout the whole of the afternoon, the fire burnt fiercely, the flames bursting out in forked tongues, incandescent above the outer walls of the fort, casting their red glow all around and spreading desolation on all sides. At the darkness of night closed, in the zone was grand beyond description. The waters of the harbor reflected the red light of the fire for miles, in the midst of the water, made more somber by the gloom caused by the shore, was to be seen the first walls of the fort enclosing a seething, hissing mass of fire, which ever and anon shot forth in short but bright sheets of flame. Through out the whole of the night, and even now while this is being read, the fire is still raging, for thousands of lumber lay piled in Fort Lafayette, all of which must be consumed before the flames will be allayed.

DESCRIPTION OF FORT LAFAYETTE.
Fort Lafayette was built subsequent to the close of our war with England for the purpose of more effectually guarding the ocean entrance to the metropolis. It stands on the Long Island, east of the bay, about six miles below the city, and almost directly opposite to Fort Wadsworth, on Staten Island. It was built on a reef about three hundred yards from the shore, and at low tide it is surrounded by about six feet of water. The structure was quaint in appearance from the outside as well as within. The lower wall is diamond shaped, and rises five or six feet higher than the wall surrounding it. The top surface of the inner wall slopes towards the centre, and it is upon this strong rampart that the heavy guns of the fort were mounted. For a long series of years this fort has stood like a sturdy sentinel guarding the gate to the Empire City, without once having had the satisfaction of discharging a hundred pounder broadside at a hostile man-of-war. But it has done other service. During the late civil war, it was evidently held by Secretary Stanton during the lead to be made to protect, and the name of the distinguished soldier under whose nose it was situated. During these four years of strife, hundreds of men who, had they been granted a fair trial before any tribunal, could have been found guilty of nothing, suffered confinement for months and years in its dungeons. There will be many victims who will rejoice when they hear of the demolition by fire of this American bastille. About forty-four years ago, Fort Lafayette presented a very different appearance than it does to-day. Then the gallant Lafayette, from whom it subsequently took its name, was visiting the country for whose liberties he had fought, when his government was in course of insurrection. From its walls and cannon had changed fire, timber walls except, and were decked with wreaths of flowers and French and American flags, and mottoes that were typical of the freedom of speech and thought, a part of the grand old principles upon which the new republic had but recently been founded. That most glorious occasion, when Lafayette, in presenting to Washington the flag of the Basilea as a token of that tyranny and intolerance, which he hoped would never disappear, this fair land, he gave utterance to the following words: "Permit me, my dear General, to offer you a picture, representing the bastille, such as it was some days after I had given orders for its demolition. I make you however, also of the principal key of this fortress of despotism." The historian relates that Washington received the key with reverence as the token of the victory gained by liberty over despotism. The friend of Washington, Hale, observed, at that time, that the very fort which it was intended should demonstrate and honor his name, should at last become itself a humble thing which he held in such abhorrence.

OUR HABITS OF SLEEP.
In Turkey, if a man falls asleep in the neighborhood of a poppy field, and the wind blows toward him, he becomes intoxicated, and would die if the country people, who are well acquainted with the circumstances, did not bring him to the next well or stream, and empty pitcher after pitcher of water on his face and body. Dr. Graven, during his residence in Turkey, cured his fits to this simple and effective treatment.

Dr. Graven, from whom this anecdote is quoted, also reports the case of a gentleman, about forty years of age, who, from long continued insomnia, had reduced to a complete state of weakness, unable to stand on his legs. He was made to drink to distract his mind to the sense of opium, until at last,

able to pursue his business, he sank into absolute poverty and woe. Dr. Ried mentions a friend of his who, whenever anything occurred to distract him, soon became drowsy and fell asleep.

A student at Edinburgh, upon hearing suddenly of the unexpected death of a near relative, threw himself on his bed and almost instantaneously, amid the glow of noonday, sank into a profound slumber. Another person, reading to one of his dearest friends seated on a sofa, suddenly fell fast asleep, and, with the book still in his hand, went on reading, entirely unconscious of what he was doing.

A woman at Bremen slept seventeen or even more hours a day for fifteen years. Another is recorded to have slept once in four days. Dr. Remond mentions a woman who spent three hours each day asleep, and Dr. Elliott quotes a case of a young lady who slept for six weeks and recovered, unharmed. So regardless of sleep, the bewitched divided his hours into three partitions to be devoted to sleep, eight to meditation, and eight to converse with the world. Machines are reported, particularly in the German bauschule, to become infatuated with the novices air; while travellers who travel without stopping escape the masses. Intense cold produces sleep, and those who perish in the snow, sleep off till the sleep of death.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FRESH OYSTERS.

It is not very long since that we received word from Mr. K. PERKINS, of Boston, that there is a very large supply of oysters every day.

LOW PRICES ALWAYS WIN!

CENTRAL: MOHRSEN HATZ.

For 25 increments.
Sold in old times for \$5 in gold.

W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

LIVE OR TOURING HATS.

At greatly reduced prices.
Dec 24-25 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

LARGE STOCK OF BOOTS AND SHOES.

Gent's Double Deckers and plain Boots and Shoes.
Dec 3-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FURS! FURS! FURS!

50 sets of Superior Coney and Siberian Skins.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

CLOAKS! CLOAKS! CLOAKS!

Third invoice of Cloaks this week.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT POTATOES, SOUP BEANS, CARRIAGE,

Fresh Butter, Chilled Turkey, etc.
Dec 2-4 W. H. JONES & CO.

SOLE AND UPPPER LEATHER, AND N.C.

Sole Shoes.
W. H. JONES & CO.

LEAVES AND LIQUORS.

Gent's Double Deckers and plain Boots and Shoes.
Dec 3-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

WINE, SPIRITS, &c.

50 sets of Superior Coney and Siberian Skins.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

CLOAKS!

Third invoice of Cloaks this week.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.

Green Apples.
Dec 2-4 W. H. & R. TUCKER & CO.

FRUIT.