

front of her, whilst a sable crowd poured bales of cotton on board, piling them on the bow deck until they reached the level of the top work ; 3,500 bales is said to be her ordinary load. Ascending to the grand saloon, which extends nearly to the stern of the vessel, we found its great length gaily fitted up and furnished, and shining in white paint and gold, and silver plate, and every room on board occupied. A large number of ladies and gentlemen were in the saloon, and the usual drawing-room pastime of the Mississippi—a quadrille—was moving to the music of a rather ambitious band. In the barber's saloon a card table occupied an eager crowd, but we saw none of the traditional bowie knives or revolvers.

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