THE MARYLAND NEWS SHEET

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TERMS

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BALTIMORE:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1862.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate the resolution of the House declaring it to be the purpose of Congress to impose a war tax of one hundred and fifty millions of dollars was passed by a vote of 39 to 1. The Senate soon after went into Executive session.

The nomination of Mr. Cameron as Minister to Russia, was finally confirmed by the Senate yesterday by a vote of 24 to 14.

In the House of Representatives various resolutions were offered and bills reported, none of which were of sufficient general consequence to require special notice, with the exception of the bill making appropriations for fortifications and works of defence for the years 1862 and 1863, which was passed.

In the State Senate Mr. Jenkins offered a series of resolutions requesting the representatives of the State in Congress to move for a cessation of hostilities, and calling upon the Government to negotiate with the seceded States, with a view to a settlement of their grievances. Referred to the Committee on Federal Relations. The Baltimore Police bill was made the special order of the day for Wednesday next.

In the House of Delegates a resolution was referred to the Committee on Federal Relations, proposing to instruct our Senators to secure a repeal of the reciprocity treaty with Great Britain.

The boat from Old Point brings news of some interest. The remainder of the Burnside Expedition had left Hampton Roads, with a favorable wind. The greater portion of the Chesapeake pilots who took the expedition down the bay have returned to this city. The steamer Constitution, with troops belonging to Butler's Brigade, arrived in the Roads yesterday. The French war steamer Guerriere de la Mer, is also anchored in the Roads. There was a flag of truce from Norfolk on Thursday bringing a number of released prisoners from Richmond, and nineteen other persons. The Southern papers received give the Confederate version of of the recent fight in Kentucky with the forces under Gen. Humphrey Marshall. The fighting is said to have been hot, and the result is claimed as a victory by the Confederates. The gunboat Rhode Island reached Old Point on Thursday bringing late advices from the fleets off Galveston, Ship Island, Mobile, Key West, Pensacola, &c.—Fort Pickens opened fire on a Confederate schooner on the 1st instant, the Confederate batteries responding. The fire was kept up during the day, Pickens firing the last shot as night came on. Little damage was done on either side. One report is to the effect that late in the evening the fire from Pickens set the town of Warrenton in flames, and that it was still burning on the 2d. As we have Richmond papers some ten days later, and as they make no mention of the affair, this second burning of Warrenton is at least doubtful. The Confederate steamer Jordan, which recently ran the blockade, is on the stocks at Wilmington, N. C., undergoing a thorough repair. It is said she received some damage in an encounter with the Federal gunboat Mount Vernon, (formerly one of the Cromwell Line,) on the 15th December, the latter vessel arrived in the Roads on Thursday from Wilmington, and states that some of the vessels of the Burnside expedition were off Fort Hatteras. An arrival at New York from Port Royal also reports having seen a part of the Burnside fleet in the vicinity of Hatteras on the 15th instant.

The London *Herald* continues to urge upon the British Government and people the necessity "of considering the position in which England will stand for the future towards the Northern and Southern sections of *the late United States.*" It matters not, according to the *Herald*, how the Trent affair is settled. Mr. Seward's official distrust, almost of dislike towards England, and there is too much reason for it, is now in power at Washington. will take the first opportunity that presents itself of doing an injury to England, provided it can be accomplished with comparative impunity to themselves. Under such circumstances, says the *Herald*, "the question now before us is simply this:—Shall we recognize the independence of the Confederate States?" The answer it proceeds to give is in the affirmative, and precedents are cited to show that the period for such a recognition has already arrived, and that the course it recommends is in strict accordance with the foreign policy of the United States.

If Mr. Seward has really been so particularly courteous as to grant permission for British troops to land at Portland and proceed thence by rail to Canada, he has certainly gained very little credit for the act from the Canadians. The Montreal *Pilot* doubts the truth of the story and expresses the belief that it is "one of the ridiculously lying telegrams" which our telegraph operators delight to manufacture. If, however, says the *Pilot*, Mr. Seward really did such a foolish thing it was not done as a matter of courtesy but as a deliberate insult to the British Government. Much more is said to the same purpose; but the sum and substance of the article is that the Canadians have no faith in the courtesies of Mr. Seward and are disposed to interpret them by contraries.

Colonel Wall, of New Jersey, who was arrested some time since by an order from Secretary Cameron and taken to Fort Lafayette, but who was released after having been incarcerated for a week, has addressed a memorial to the Legislature of New Jersey, asking that body to instruct the representatives of the State in Congress to inquire into the causes and authority for arresting her peaceable citizens.

If the statement be true which is made by the Fortress Monroe correspondent of the New York *Herald*, the defences of Norfolk have been greatly strengthened recently in anticipation of an attack from the Burnside Expedition. The same writer asserts that Roanoke Island, which the Northern journals allege is to be occupied by the Federal troops, has been evacuated by the Confederates.

By a letter to the Louisville *Journal* we learn that several Confederate steamers freighted with arms, ammunition and clothing for the use of the troops under General Zollicoffer have ascended the Cumberland river, and that, although an attempt was making to intercept them, it was feared it would not succeed in consequence of the want of artillery on the part of the Federal troops which were despatched on that service. General Buckner at Bowling Green has also been heavily reinforced. The correspondent of the Nashville *Banner*, writing from Bowling Green, reports the arrival of one Tennessee and three Mississippi regiments, and of an entire Division seven thousand strong under General Bowers. He states also that McCulloch and Floyd, with their respective commands, were hastening to form a junction with Buckner at the same point. "Yesterday," adds the writer, "the entire force from camp Beauregard arrived." If these latter troops have really left their old camp and marched to the support of Buckner, the battle which was reported to be imminent when McClernand reached Mayfield with his division, in consequence of his proximity to Camp Beauregard, will not take place at all.

The boats composing the mortar fleet, now in process of construction at New York, will not be ready for sea in less than three weeks from the present time.

The British steamer Rinaldo having on board Messrs. Mason and Slidell reached Bermuda on the 9th instant and would sail for St. Thomas the following day. Our readers will remember that whilst the Northern journals were looking for her appearance at Halifax, and doubting whether she had been able to ride out the storm of the 1st and 2d of January, we expressed the opinion that she would first be heard from at Bermuda.

Mr. Robert Wilson, the President of the Missouri State Convention, has been appointed by Governor Gamble to fill one of the vacancies in the Senate occasioned by the expulsion of Messrs. Johnson and Polk.

We are now told, in spite of rumors to the contrary, that it is questionable whether Secretary Welles will be constrained to vacate his seat in the Cabinet. It is consoling to know, however, that the Morgan matter is considered "a sad indiscretion."

The New York *Express* reports that the health of General McClellan is still so frail, as to prevent him from exercising an active supervision over the army.

The gunboats composing the Cairo flotilla, are pronounced, by the correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, to be too frail to be able to resist the immense shower of heavy iron, that will be hurled upon them from the fortifications at Columbus. They are so slow that they can make, at low water, but four miles an hour, and would be wholly incapable of stemming the current of the Mississippi when its banks are full. If these gunboats are so defective, and the mortar-floats are abandoned, as we are told they are, the naval expedition down the Mississippi scarcely promises to achieve any very brilliant results.

The steamer Arabia, whose arrival at Halifax is announced, reports that the Confederate privateer Sumter had arrived at Cadiz, after burning three vessels during her voyage out.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

Correspondence of the Maryland News Sheet.

ANNAPOLIS, January 17, 1862.

COURT—A NEW RAILROAD TO WESTMINSTER—A BILL FOR THE SUMMONING OF JURORS, ETC.

The case of Wm. Davis, administrator of Elizabeth Davis, deceased, *vs.* Wm. H. F. Wilson *et al.*—before reported—was continued for the want of witnesses; and the case of Dr. Samuel Lynch, administrator of Mrs. Williams, deceased, *vs.* the Annapolis and Elkridge Railroad Company, for the recovery of certain moneys sustained in the loss of a negro man, the property of the plaintiff, was taken up before Judge Wm. H. Tuck, as special judge, and not concluded.

Parties were here to-day with a view of obtaining from the Legislature a charter for the construction of a railroad from Baltimore city to Westminster, Carroll county. The charter as asked for defines the location of the road to commence at the junction of the Davis and Nicodemus roads, in Carroll county, and near Westminster, from thence to connect with the Baltimore and Ohio railroad between Woodstock and Marriottsville. The commissioners are Messrs. James N. Burnham, Amerset R. Wattens and Wm. Fuller.

There was a large number of Baltimoreans here to-day, the most of whom came on business with the court.

Mr. Donaldson has reported a bill to amend the Public Code relating to the summoning, drawing and challenging of jurors. It provides that the County Commissioners, in each county, sixty days before the meeting of the Circuit Court of the county, shall select three hundred persons qualified to act as jurors, a list of whose names shall be certified to by the Clerk of the Court. On a day named the chief judge of the Orphans' Court, the Register of Wills and the Clerk of the Court are to meet in the court room, and after inscribing said names upon ballots, shall place them in a wheel to be procured by the Sheriff; the latter or a deputy is then to draw, one by one, forty ballots from said wheel, the names thus drawn to be recorded on two separate lists, one to be delivered to the Clerk of the Circuit Court to be recorded, and the other to the Register of Wills, who, within ten days, is to furnish a copy to the Sheriff. The latter officer, at least ten days before the Circuit Court meets, is to summon the said forty-eight persons to serve as jurors, and the Court is to direct its clerk to draw by ballot twenty-three jurors, to be empannelled and sworn as grand jurors for the term, and the remainder are to serve as petit jurors.

In the city of Baltimore, however, jurors are to be summoned as prescribed in the local laws of said city. The bill contains provisions for the punishment of any fraud or attempt at fraud in the drawings of jurors. No juror is to be excused from serving except in open court, and good cause shown; and if any juror summoned and not excused shall fail to attend until duly discharged, he shall be fined not less than $20 nor more than $200. The Circuit Courts are to have power to direct the summoning of talesmen when necessary, but such talesmen are not to be taken from parties present in the court-house. The right of peremptory challenge is to be allowed to any person tried on indictment for any crime or misdemeanor, where the punishment is confinement in the Penitentiary; the accused, however, shall not challenge more than twenty jurors without cause; and in all cases where the accused has the right by peremptory challenge, the State's Attorney shall have the right to challenge peremptorily any number of jurors not exceeding five.

WAR ITEMS.

FROM KENTUCKY.

Reinforcements Sent to Bowling Green.

The Bowling Green correspondent of the Nashville *Banner* reports the arrival of large reinforcements at the Confederate camp, showing that the Confederates are concentrating a strong force in Kentucky:

Vast reinforcements are pouring in at a rate more rapid than anything that has yet been witnessed. Their instructions are to be ready for any emergency. A few days since the Forty-first Tennessee—a full, brave and splendid-looking regiment—reached here. Just after them came three additional Mississippi regiments. Yesterday the entire force from Camp Beauregard arrived. General Bowers' entire division, 7,000 strong, are coming; two of the regiments arrived to-day.

They were the Twenty-second Mississippi, Col. Benham, and the Twenty-seventh Tennessee. The others will follow to-morrow. General McCulloch, the world-renowned Ben., is on his way here, with his redoubtable troops, and General Floyd and his forces. However, it is stated this evening that he had arrived at Gallatin, whence he would take up his line of march for Scottsville, Ky. Cavalry, artillery and heavy batteries are also daily coming in large quantities.

The Mortar-Fleet, at New York, under the supervision of Capt. D.-D. Porter, U. S. N., is rapidly approaching completion—but two or three weeks may elapse before it will be ready to take its departure. The mortars, which are to be placed amidships in each vessel, each weigh about 17,000 pounds, and they are boxed in as bomb projectiles, which are the most formidable missiles known to modern warfare. The following is a correct list of the officers and vessels so far as completed:—

Flagship, sidewheel gunboat Octorara, Commander D. D. Porter; George Brown, Lieut.

First Division, Lieut. Watson Smith commanding.

Schr. Norfolk Packet (flag vessel), Lieut. Watson Smith commanding; schr. Oliver H. Lee, Acting Master Washington Godfrey commanding; schr. Para, Acting Master G. N. Hood commanding; schr. C. P. Williams, Acting Master A. R. Langthorne commanding; schr. Arletta, Acting Master T. E. Smith commanding; schr. W. Bacon, Acting Master W. P. Rogers commanding.

Second Division, Lieut. Walter W. Queen commanding.

Schr. F. A. Ward (flag vessel), Lieut. Walter W. Queen commanding; schr. Sidney C. Jones, Acting Master R. Adams commanding; schr. Matthew Wasser, Jr., Acting Master H. H. Savage commanding; schr. Maria J. Carlton, Acting Master C. E. Jack commanding; schr. Orwetta, Acting Master's Mates E. Adams and S. Randall (no commander has yet been assigned to this vessel); schr. Adolphus Hugel, Acting Master H. B. Jenks commanding; schr. George Managhan, Acting Master John Collins commanding.

Third Division, Lieut. K. Randolph Breese commanding.

Schr. John Griffith (flag vessel), Lieut. K. Randolph Breese commanding; schr. Sarah Buren, Acting Master H. Brown commanding; brig Sea Foam, Acting Master H. E. Williams commanding; schr. Henry Janes, Acting Master H. H. Pennington commanding; schr. Dan Smith, Acting Master G. W. Brown commanding; schr. Racer, Acting Master A. Phinney commanding.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, January 16.—The bark John Truck, with the D'Epineul Zouaves, and the schooner Colonel Satterly, with the Signal Corps of General Burnside's expedition, the Hospital ship, and several other vessels of the fleet, left here with a favorable wind this morning.

The steamer Constitution, from Boston with troops, arrived in the Roads this morning. Her destination is not known.

A French war steamer arrived below this afternoon, said to be the "Guerriere de la Mer."

The regular Thursday flag of truce to-day took to Craney Island several passengers for the South, and the boat brought back the following released prisoners of war: Captain Brewer, Brigade Quartermaster, Rhode Island Brigade; Lieutenant Knight, of First-Minnesota regiment; Captain A. G. Kellogg, of Company K, Second Connecticut; and a private. Nineteen citizens also came over to go North.

The only news in the Southern papers is an exaggerated account of the affair in Eastern Kentucky between General Humphrey Marshall and Gen. Garfield, in which it is stated that Marshall was retreating when he was attacked. The fighting is said to have been very hot, and the Confederates, of course, claim to have gained the victory with a small loss.

One hundred and sixty-one prisoners of war are expected here to-morrow to be exchanged and sent North.

The gunboat Rhode Island arrived here from Galveston this morning. Her dates are Galveston, December 28th; Ship Island, December 31st; Mobile, 31st; Fort Pickens, January 2d; Key West, 8th, and Port Royal, January 12th. She brings a large mail and some interesting news.

The gunboats Louis, New London and Water Witch left Ship Island December 31 for Biloxi.—The result of their visit was of course not known, but as the Rhode Island was leaving the New London was seen returning with three schooners (supposed to be prizes) in tow.

The schooner Venus was captured off Galveston by the Rhode Island. She was bound from Point Isabel for Franklin, La., with a cargo of tin, copper, lead and wool, valued at $10,000. She was sent to Ship Island.

The Confederate steamer Florida was inside Horn Island, and United States gunboat Wissahickon was off that place, watching for her.

The Confederate batteries at Pensacola having repeatedly fired at our small vessels, Fort Pickens opened fire on the Confederate steamer Times, which was landing stores at the Navy Yard, on the 1st of January. The Confederate batteries responded, and the firing was continued till evening, Fort Pickens firing the last shot. The Confederate guns were well aimed, and most of their shells burst inside the Fort, but so well protected are the garrison there that only one man was wounded.—One of our shots made a large breach in Fort Barrancas.

In the evening our firing set Warrington on fire, and the conflagration continued to rage all night, and the place was still burning on the evening of the 2d, when the Rhode Island left. The light of the fire was seen at the distance of thirty-five miles out at sea! The Rhode Island will sail for Philadelphia this evening. In consequence of the fog yesterday, she was detained off the Capes all day.

The steam gunboat Mount Vernon, which arrived here yesterday to coal, left her station off Wilmington, N. C., on the 12th (Sunday last).—The gunboats Chippowa and Monticello were off Cape Fear and Fernandina, and Manda off New Inlet. The Mount Vernon encountered the storm on Tuesday night, and arrived here yesterday afternoon. She saw a part of the Burnside fleet off Hatteras.

The Mount Vernon also reports that she burnt a light-ship on New Year's night, which was being fitted out for a gunboat under the guns of Fort Caswell, at the mouth of Cape Fear river.

Several "contrabands" on the Mount Vernon say that the Confederate steamer Gordon is on the stocks at Wilmington for repairs, on account of damages received in an encounter with the Mount Vernon about the 15th of December.

A Forward Movement from Fortress Monroe Expected.

The Fortress Monroe correspondent of the New York *Herald*, in a letter dated January 13, says:

A rumor is rife to-day that we are to have a forward movement very shortly. In anticipation of coming events our troops are brushing up their arms and getting ready for any emergency. Several straggling vessels of the Burnside expedition have arrived this morning, and will leave as soon as the prevailing gale abates. The officers in command of the troops on board the belated crafts were instructed to report to Major General Wool for further orders. From "Dixie" I have received a piece of important intelligence, which may prove interesting in connection with the Burnside expedition, should the force comprising the fleet be destined to operate inside of the capes. As has already been published, the entrance to Elizabeth river is greatly obstructed. First, the batteries of Craney Island, Tanner's Creek, and Sewall's Point command the entrance. Second, the channel is obstructed by heavy ship's cables, leaving only a narrow passage in the centre for the passage of vessels. A line of entrenchments has been completed, commencing a quarter of a mile below the Naval Hospital, running three-quarters of a mile back of Portsmouth, and terminating about one mile above the navy yard. At the point where the railroad from Weldon to Portsmouth passes through this entrenchment, the Confederates have mounted three 32-pound rifle guns, and on the line of these entrenchments eight other pieces of ordnance of inferior calibre are in position. This line extends several miles. At the point where the railroad crosses, and where the three guns are mounted, a regiment of North Carolina volunteers are stationed. At Suffolk, on the same railroad line, seventeen miles from Portsmouth, about one-third of a regiment is encamped. Winter quarters have been erected on the fair-ground and Ward's farm, about one and a half miles back of Norfolk. The number of troops between Suffolk and Cape Henry, (a distance of thirty-four miles,) including those at Norfolk, Portsmouth, Craney Island, and the river batteries, amounts to about 19,000 men. If opinions of the entire population in this district are taken, whether armed or unarmed, one-half will be found to be good Union-loving people, and are only waiting an opportunity of manifesting it. The greatest distress prevails among the poor and working classes. They are in arms against their will. A number of troops arrived at Norfolk from Roanoke Island in a very distressed condition. Half-clothed, nearly starved, sick, and exhausted, these poor fellows are forced to undergo the hardships of a winter campaign; and is it to be wondered at that dissatisfaction exists among them while engaged in so unholy a cause? The evacuation of Roanoke Island is thus confirmed; but the Confederates will not allow so important a strategic point to remain unoccupied a long time.

Confederate Boats on the Cumberland.

Correspondence of the Louisville Journal.

CAMP BOYLE, COLUMBIA, January 9, 1862.—On Tuesday, the 7th inst., General Boyle received intelligence, through an express messenger from Burkesville, that a steamboat had passed by Burkesville on its way up the Cumberland river, with cannon, other arms, ammunition, and clothing for Zollicoffer. General Boyle at once detached Col. Haggard, of the 5th Kentucky cavalry, with five hundred of his men, to intercept the boat; and, at the same time, ordered forward to the mouth of Renix Creek, two and a half miles from Burkesville, the 3d Kentucky and 19th Ohio regiments, under the respective commands of Colonels Bramlette and Beatty. The want of a piece, or a few pieces of cannon, under General Boyle's command, may prevent the stoppage of these boats. The boat was said to carry six guns, and had been built at Nashville for the express purpose, having her sides planked up. No person was visible on her decks, and musketry will be of little or no avail against her. The sinking or capturing of this boat would have been an irreparable loss to Zollicoffer at this particular time. It is reported that other boats are on the way up the Cumberland. Gen. Thomas, with his division, passed this place, and is encamped in this vicinity. His force consists of eight or nine regiments, and one battery of artillery. General Manson's brigade is encamped a mile or so out from the town. Some demonstrative movement may be expected soon.

From the New York Herald, January 17.

The Steamship Saxonia at this Port—Arrival of Arms from Germany.

The Hamburg steamship Saxonia, Capt. Ehlers, which arrived at this port yesterday morning from Hamburg, brings on freight two complete batteries, consisting of sixteen pieces (supposed to be twelve-pounders), sixteen ammunition wagons and ninety cases of goods consigned to Hiram Barney; also a large number of other boxes and cases which are supposed to contain about twenty-five thousand stand of arms, together with some fifty bags of saltpetre. She also brings six hundred and seventy-five bales of cotton.

The importation of materials of war from Germany has recently been carried on to a large extent, and is seemingly on the increase. The Hammonia, which arrived at this port last week, brought from twenty to twenty-five thousand stand of arms and a large quantity of war stores. About thirty-five hundred bags of saltpetre have within the last few weeks been brought to this port by the vessels of the Hamburg line, consigned to "order." In the majority of these instances the claimants have taken charge of most of it, and are at present busily storing it.

The Hamburg came direct to this port without touching, as is usual, at Southampton. This precaution, no doubt, was necessary in consequence of the American property in arms on board the steamer, and on account of which the company feared trouble.

The Great Cairo Expedition.

THE GUNBOATS A FAILURE.

A Cairo correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* says, that the gunboats are not, in many respects, what the country has been led to believe. They look formidable enough, it is true; and a place which had no heavy guns to defend it, would soon be demolished. But if the fortifications at Columbus are what they are represented—having one hundred and seventy guns mounted, many of them of the largest size—they can blow the boats to atoms.

Besides, the 2½ inch iron plating extends only about half their length, covering the magazine and machinery, but leaving the forward portions, where the principal part of the guns are placed, without any protection except wooden walls about sixteen inches thick, which cannot resist the immense shower of iron hail that will be hurled against them.

Then again they are very slow, not being able at this low stage of water to make more than four miles an hour where there is little or no current, and the best judges now declare that they never can stem the Mississippi river when its banks are half full. If so, it would be impossible to encourage them to any advantage in front of an enemie's batteries, and to lie at anchor in the stream during an engagement would not be very desirable

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Washington Despatches to the New York Tribune.

SOLICITOR OF CUSTOMS AT NEW YORK.

The House Committee on Commerce this morning considered the bill for the appointment of a Solicitor of Customs in New York. It was changed in many particulars at the suggestion of the Secretary of the Treasury, and is shorn of its objectionable features. In respect to carrying out the provisions of the bill, additional clerical force is strictly forbidden, and no assistant is allowed.

REDUCING THE NUMBER OF CHAPLAINS.

The House Military Committee, at their meeting this morning, authorized Mr. Olin to report a bill reducing the number of chaplains to one to each brigade, and establishing hospital chaplains. This reduction has been asked for by many chaplains and clergymen, as well as hosts of officers.

NATIONAL ARMORY IN THE WEST.

The committee on the proposed National armory west of the Alleghanies has met a sufficient number of times to learn that its members disagree so thoroughly that it will be impossible to secure a majority in favor of any place. Probably the committee will recommend that three commissioners be appointed by the President to select a site.

GEN. SIEGEL.

Gen. Siegel is strongly pressed for a Major-Generalship by Senators and Representatives from the Northwest. Chicago, through Mr. Arnold, particularly urges his appointment.

Special Washington Despatches to the New York Times.

THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING.

Senator Sherman, from the Commission appointed to examine and report as to the compensation of all officers of the Government, reported an important bill this morning, in relation to the printing for the Government. This bill contemplates the following: That a daily paper be printed, under the superintendence of the Public Printer, to be entitled the *Congressional Record*, to contain the debates and proceedings of each House, in the form and style of the *Daily Globe*. The number of reporters of each House; their compensation; the mode of selection and duration in office to be fixed by each House respectively. The bill also provides that the engraving, lithographing and binding may be done under the same provisions. Mr. Sherman intends to urge immediate action on this bill, as by its adoption the Government will save nearly a million of dollars.

SECRETARY WELLES.

The belief is spreading to-day that Secretary Welles will not leave the Cabinet. The Morgan matter is considered a sad indiscretion, but should not be permitted to set aside the merit of an otherwise well administered Department. If Welles remains in, no further changes in the Cabinet are likely to occur.

A CONTRACT TO BE ANNULLED.

It is understood that the contracts let out by Secretary Cameron, for over a million Springfield muskets, and over a quarter of a million rifles and carbines, will be ordered to be annulled by Congress. They will not be available in the present war, and as they are to cost an average of seven dollars each above manufacturer's prices, they involve a loss of nearly nine million dollars to the Treasury.

From the Washington Star of Yesterday.

THE BURNSIDE EXPEDITION.

The latest information from the Burnside Expedition locates the greater portion of it off Hatteras Inlet. The recent storm can hardly have failed to delay and embarrass its movements somewhat.—To-morrow's news by the Norfolk flag of trucemay possibly announce its entrance into Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds, and by Monday next we may hear that Newbern or Washington, N. C., or both, are in General B.'s possession. If secesh has been able to concentrate a force that can impede his speedy progress from Newbern to Goldsborough, that has been accomplished with remarkable secrecy, indeed. Goldsborough once at Gen. Burnside's mercy, and the great coast line of secesh's railroad connections will be so "done for," as that all Secessia cannot put it in working order in six month's to come. The mere destruction of the bridges over the Tar and Neuse rivers will affect that so desirable object, to say nothing of the destruction of the so many miles of trestle work withing striking distance of Goldsborough.

THE LAST ON DIT.

We hear in every quarter that the Hon. Simon Cameron is deeply chagrined and mortified by the personal onslaught said to have been made upon him in secret session of the Senate, by Mr. Trumbull, in discussing the question of the confirmation of his nomination to the Russian Mission. It is alleged by Mr. Cameron's friends that the character and temper of Mr. Trumbull's opposition to his confirmation are unusual and unjustifiable, and grew out of personal pique against a gentleman to whom he is more indebted for his seat in the Senate, than to any other living man. So far as we can learn, no other Senator's opposition to his confirmation has been such as to stir up the ire of Mr. Cameron's personal friends.

THE WESTERN MOVEMENTS.

It is hardly possible that the public will hear of the occurrence of decided events in the approaching campaign of Gen. Halleck in less than a fortnight. The portion of his force that has already moved must be simply destined to occupy points immediately in front of Columbus, from which the ultimate forward movement on the line of the Mississippi will be made. There are many points to be quietly occupied and connections to be made on that line, and between Buell's and Halleck's armies, before blows can be prudently essayed by either of them.

From the New York Express.

The Health of Gen. McClellan.

The health of Gen. McClellan is not satisfactory, reports to the contrary notwithstanding. The typhoid fever has left him in that state of weakness which would make it death to him actively to supervise our now immense army. Gen. McDowell, practically, has the command of the other side of the river. He was pushed on last July against his judgment and will. Nothing now will push him on again, except express military orders—that is, he will not budge an inch upon any outside "Public Opinion."

RECOGNITION OF THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY RECOMMENDED.

From the London Morning Herald of December 28th—Lord Derby's Organ.

We think it incumbent on the British Government and people to consider very seriously the position in which it will stand for the future towards the Northern and Southern sections of the late United States. Whether or not the reply that we expect next week shall bring with it the certainty of war with the Northern Republic, it is equally important to shape our course with wariness, and to take care that our hesitation be over-punctilious ness do not expose us to the chance of an ignominious checkmate from the statesmen with whom we cannot hope to maintain very cordial relations for some time to come. A feeling of distrust, almost of dislike, to this country, crops out in every sentence of Mr. Seward's despatches; and those who best understand the men who now take the lead in the council of Washington assure us that there is only too much reason to suppose that, whatever their present attitude, they are likely to seize upon the first opportunity that presents itself of doing us an injury with comparative impunity to themselves. We are very sorry that this hostile feeling should be suspected. We are not aware that we have in any way wronged these Americans, or instilled their hostility. But so long as there exists a want of cordiality on their part, they must excuse us if we recommend that all precautions should be taken to prevent them from overreaching us. The question now before us is simply this: Shall we recognize the independence of the Confederate States? We think that this question equally presses for an answer whether or not we have to go to war with the North.

If the answer to Lord John Russell's demands should be one of peace, the question of the advisability of recognition is not the less entitled to grave consideration. There are arguments which may be urged for our adoption of one course or the other. In favor of suspending our action, it may be said that the North, especially if it makes amends for the Trent outrage, has a strong claim to our sympathy in its great troubles; that to recognize the South would be to weaken the hands of the Federals, and to throw our weight unfairly into the scales of the revolted provinces. It may be represented to us that it is impolitic to take open cognizance of a State that, after all, may enjoy but an ephemeral existence; that it were, at all events, wise to wait until the impossibility of the conquest of the South shall be more conclusively demonstrated. And yet we must admit that a pretty strong case could be made out for an immediate recognition of the Confederate Government, even whilst we are on peaceful terms with the North.

When Lord Russell, as early as in June last, declined to make any promise that he would not recognize the South, he had, doubtless, in view the uniform practice of this country to recognize all *de facto* Governments. A Power that has successfully maintained itself for nearly a twelvemonth against the stupendous efforts that have been made to crush it, is as much, and more, a Government *de facto* than was the Government of the Greek nation when recognized by the Great Powers in 1828, or the Republics of South America, whose independence was admitted long before Spain had given up the hope of subduing them; or that of Belgium when it revolted from Holland. The recent example of the Kingdom of Italy, recognized by England almost before it was formed, shows clearly what rule on this subject we have chosen to adopt in Europe.

We may conclude our precedents by quoting the example of Washington against itself. On June 18, 1849, Mr. Clayton spoke of the recent Hungarian revolution in the following terms: "If it shall appear that Hungary is able to maintain the independence she has obtained, we desire to be the very first to congratulate her." Mr. Buchanan accepted the face of the Provisional Government in France in 1848 the instant that he heard it had been proclaimed. "It was light and proper," he March 31 of that year, "that the minister in Paris, on receiving news that the Provisional Government of France should be the first to recognize, as far as his powers extended, the Provisional Government of the French Republic." Thus all precedent in Europe, and certainly the practice of the Federal Government itself, appears to warrant us in an immediate recognition of the Independent Confederate States. The American legist, Wheaton, lays down most explicitly the right of recognition as possessed by the foreign State, so that it cannot be construed, as Mr. Seward erroneously supposed, into an act of war against the opponents of the State recognized.

Certainly we are left to our free choice, and are not bound to do it unless we please. If we were sure that by the act of recognition we could discourage the continuance of a war which all impartial men now admit to be a hopeless and objectless, therefore wicked and cruel; if we could turn the tide of a torrent of revengeful passion, which, in the endeavor to glut its revenge, is inventing such wanton schemes of injury and torture as never before were heard of except among savages; if we would serve the interests of humanity and hasten the return of peace to a distracted continent—then, we should say, let us lose no time in exercising what would be something more than a right—a duty.

LIFE IN THE HAREM.

OBSERVATIONS OF AN ENGLISH WOMAN.

An English lady, Miss Rogers, sister to the British Consul at Damascus, gives some interesting accounts of life in the Eastern Harems. Here is something about

THE TOILET OF A BRIDE.

On subsequent and persevering inquiry among Arab ladies, I found out how it was that the bride's face looked so lustrous. I learn that girls are prepared for marriage with a very great deal of ceremony. There are women who make the beautifying of brides their especial profession.

A widow woman, named Angelina, is the chief artiste in this department of art in Haifa. She uses her scissors and tweezers freely and skilfully to remove superfluous hair, and trains the eyebrows to an arched line, perfecting it with black pigments. She prepares an adhesive plaster of very strong sweet gum, and applies it by degrees all over the body, letting it remain on for a minute or more; then she tears it off quickly, and it brings away with it all the soft down or hair, leaving the skin quite bare, with an unnaturally bright and polished appearance, much admired by Orientals. The face requires very careful manipulation. When women have once submitted to this process they look frightful if from time to time they do not repeat it; for the hair never grows so soft and fine again. Perhaps this is one of the reasons why aged Arab women, who have quite given up all these arts of adornment, look so haggard and witch-like. In some instances this ordeal slightly irritates the skin, and perfumed sesame or olive oil is applied, or cooling lotions of elder-flower water are used.

The bride invites her friends to accompany her to the public bath previous to the wedding-day, and sends to each one a packet of henna, two or three pieces of soap, and two wax candles. Angelina is generally the bearer of the message and of these articles, which are always to be paid for. I have now and then accepted such invitations.

Bridal parties assemble and sometimes pass three successive days in the luxury of the Turkish bath. Pipes, sherbet, coffee, and other refreshments are served, and songs are sung in honor of the bride, who is, of course, attended by Angelina, and forms the centre of attraction. Her hair is unbraided, she is slowly disrobed, and then, with her loins slightly girded with crimson silk, she is mounted on high clogs, and led through halls and passages gradually increasing in temperature, with fountains overflowing their marble floors; she is placed on a marble platform, near to a jet of hot water; fuller's earth is rubbed on her head, she is lathered with soap, and brushed with a handful of tow, then hot water is poured over her freely, she is swathed in long towels, and by slow degrees conducted back to a more moderate temperature, and lastly to a fountain of cool water. Her companions in the meantime undergo the same process. Then, shrouded in muslin, crape or linen, they sit together, smoking, till they are rested and refreshed.

A HAREM INTERIOR.

Miss Rogers gives a very bright and life-like picture of the interior of the harem of Mohammed Bek Abdul, the Governor of Azzebeh, whither she was invited.

They pounced upon me as if I were a new toy for them. They kissed me one after the other, and stroked my face. They had never seen a European, and told me that no daughter of the Franks had ever entered the town before.

They said: "Welcome, oh sister from a far country; this house is yours, and we are your servants." Then they asked me with whom, and how, and whence I had come? The ladies wore full long trousers, made of colored silk; short tight jackets, made of cloth or velvet, embroidered with gold; and flowers and jewels in their head-dresses. The servants wore cotton suits, and the slaves red cloth. They wondered to see my plain, long, dark riding-dress and hat. I told them I wished to change my clothes, as they were wet.

The boys went to order my portmanteau to be brought to the precincts of the harem, and then two slaves fetched it. As soon as I had unlocked it, the ladies, servants and children, one and all, began examining its contents. In a minute or two it was actually almost empty. Mantles, morning and evening dresses, night-gowns and collars were passing from hand to hand, and as the uses of them were not known, they were put on in all sorts of fantastic ways. One of the girls took a little lace collar and placed it tastefully on her forehead; she thought it was part of a head-dress. I was very much amused, but was obliged to put a stop to their mischief, by telling them to put everything back into the box; they did so directly. I had already discovered that Arab women are like children; they almost always submit immediately to gentle but unhesitating firmness.

Then I dressed in the same room; for they said they had not any other for their use. I fancy it was because they wished to see all my clothes and how I put them on, theirs being so very different to ours. They told me that I wore too many dresses at the same time. They wear only a shirt of thin cotton or crape made high to the throat, open at the bosom, and with long wide sleeves. Very full trousers, drawn in and tied round the waist and below the knee, but falling in graceful folds nearly to the ground; and an open short jacket, with a shawl tied round the waist like a sash or girdle. They kindly sent away my wet garments to be dried at the oven, and made a comfortable seat of cushions for me on the floor. One lady made some sweet sherbet of pomegranates and handed it to me. A second brought me coffee in a little china cup without any handle, held in another one (exactly the shape and size of a common egg cup) made of prettily embossed and chased silver.

THE WOMAN'S QUESTION IN THE EAST.

I observed that there was a little whispering and consulting going on among the women, and then Helweh came and sat by me and said, "Are you married?" I said "No;" and they answered, "Why, then, have you left your father and your mother? are they not kind to you?" I told them how good they were, and how my mother taught me to speak and read and write my own language, and the languages of other people. I tried to make them understand how English parents educate their children.

Werdeh said, "It is much better to marry and to stay at home than to travel about the country, for the dangers are great now in this time of war, and the women should stay at home."

Sit Sara said, "Werdeh has spoken wisely; why do you not marry?"

I answered, "Ya sitti, there are no men of my country here; how can I marry?"

Sara then said, "You speak our language like a stranger, but sweetly. An Arab would take you. Why do you not marry an Arab?"

I replied, (very much amused): "My mother is not here to find a husband for me. How can I marry?" I thought this would settle the question at once in their estimation; but Sit Sara said: "I will be your mother, and bring you to a husband. My brother is a Cadi, a great Judge of Nablus; he looks for a wife, and has only three. He will love you because you are white!"

I answered, laughingly: "Thank you, oh, my mother! what preparations must I make, and when must I be ready?"

Sit Sara considered for a moment and then said: "How many camels has your father got?"

I replied: "My father has no camels. In my country there are only three or four living camels, kept as curiosities in a house in a beautiful garden, with servants to watch over them and take care of them. We have a few stuffed camels also, in a large glass house."

At this they all laughed loudly, and cried, "Oh, most marvellous!"

Sara continued: "Are your father's olive trees new and fruitful?" "My father has no olive trees." At this they were still more surprised. Sara said: "Your father has gold. He will give you of his gold, and precious stones, and a red box full of clothes and towels, some silk cushions, a red wooden cradle, and much soap.